



Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in the Philippines

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10123

Project Type

FSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

Project Title

Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in the Philippines

Countries

Philippines,

Agency(ies)

UNDP,

Other Executing Partner(s)	Executing Partner Type
NGO to be selected	CSO

GEF Focal Area

Biodiversity

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Sustainable Land Management, Biodiversity, Biomes, Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Mainstreaming, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Communications, Civil Society, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender results areas, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Community-based adaptation, Livelihoods, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Sustainable Pasture Management, Sustainable Livelihoods, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Forest, Land Productivity, Land Cover and Land cover change, Tropical Rain Forests, Mangroves, Coral Reefs, Rivers, Illegal Wildlife Trade, Threatened Species, Productive Seascapes, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Productive Landscapes, Forestry - Including HCVF and REDD+, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Tourism, Fisheries, Demonstrate innovative approaches, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Partnership, Participation, Academia, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Indigenous Peoples, Awareness Raising, Behavior change, Education, Innovation, Capacity Development, Adaptive management, Theory of change, Indicators to measure change, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Beneficiaries, Women groups, Gender-sensitive indicators, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 1

Duration

48 In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

421,440

Submission Date

A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
BD-1-1	GET	4,436,210	5,400,000
	Total Project Cost (\$)	4,436,210	5,400,000

B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective

To build socio-ecological and economic resilience in four (4) selected landscapes and seascapes on the Eastern Seaboard of the Philippines - (1) Catubig Watershed Samar Island, (2) Aurora Province in the Sierra Madre, (3) Siargao Island Protected Landscape/Seascape - and along the West Philippine Sea - (4) Calamian Islands in Northern Palawan - through community-based activities for global environmental benefits and sustainable development.

Project Component	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection	Technical Assistance	<p>1.1 Ecosystem services and biodiversity within four targeted landscapes and seascapes (Catubig Watershed, Aurora, Siargao Island Protected Landscapes Seascapes and Calamian Islands) are enhanced through multi-functional land-use systems</p> <p>1.2 The sustainability of production systems in the target landscapes is strengthened through integrated agro-ecological practices.</p> <p>1.3 Livelihoods of communities in the target landscapes and seascapes are improved by developing eco-friendly, climate-adaptive small-scale community enterprises with clear market linkages</p>	<p>Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects in the selected landscapes that restore degraded landscapes, improve connectivity, support innovation in biodiversity conservation and optimization of ecosystem services (including reforestation of riparian gallery forests, forest fire control, enhanced connectivity for wetlands and priority conservation areas; water catchment protection; participatory monitoring of species; restoration of biological corridors)</p> <p>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 with native species; agro-ecological practices and cropping systems.</p> <p>1.3.1. Targeted community projects promoting sustainable livelihoods, green businesses and market access, including ecotourism; solid waste management and conversion; beekeeping; green value-added agro-businesses integrated into value chains, micro-processing.</p>	GET	3,115,909	3,517,407

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 and seascapes for effective participatory decision making to enhance socio-ecological landscape resiliency	2.1.1 A multi-stakeholder governance platform in each target landscape develops and executes multi-stakeholder agreements for execution of adaptive landscape management plans and policies; development of value-chain improvement strategies for resilience enhancing products; and enhanced community participation in land-use decision making and management	GET	1,109,053	1,625,450
		2.2 Knowledge from community level engagement and innovative conservation practices is systematically assessed and shared for replication and upscaling across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network	2.1.2 A landscape strategy developed by the corresponding multi-stakeholder platform for each target landscape to enhance socio-ecological resilience through community grant projects			
			2.2.1 Landscape/ seascape Learning Hubs support community level project management capacity building, project monitoring and learning			
			2.2.2 Knowledge from community project innovations is identified during participatory evaluations, codified and disseminated to multiple audiences.			
		2.2.3 Strategic initiatives are supported to upscale successful SGP project experience and practice including community-NGO-government policy dialogues				
				Sub Total (\$)	4,224,962	5,142,857
Project Management Cost (PMC) ⓘ						
				GET	211,248	257,143
				Sub Total(\$)	211,248	257,143

Total Project Cost(\$)

4,436,210

5,400,000

C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Government	Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Grant	Investment mobilized	1,000,000
Government	Department of Agriculture	Grant	Investment mobilized	500,000
Government	Department of Finance	Grant	Investment mobilized	300,000
CSO	Grantees	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	2,500,000
CSO	Grantees	Grant	Investment mobilized	500,000
CSO	Foundation for Philippine Environment	Grant	Investment mobilized	300,000
CSO	Forest Foundation of the Philippines	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	300,000
			Total Project Cost(\$)	5,400,000

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Co-Financing is sourced from three groups of co-financiers - (1) Philippine Government Agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Finance (DOF); (2) Civil Society Organisations which have complementary conservation and social mobilisation programs in the priority sites and (3) Civil Society Grantees which shall be providing the mandatory counterpart co-financing through non-cash in-kind support. For the CSOs with programs in the same sites, UNDP OPF7 funding will be complemented by additional funds (US\$ 800,000) and recurrent costs (US\$ 2,800,000). For recurrent costs this amount represents funds/ monies already invested by the CSO Co-Financier for their existing work in the area covering both program and administrative/ personnel costs. For the CSO grantees, these recurrent costs are mostly human resource, local materials and other support provided by or sourced by the CSO grantee. The amount of US\$2,500,000 as recurrent costs and US\$500,000 investment mobilised is based on the UNDP SGP5 figures of 50% counter-part contributions. The amounts from non-grantee CSOs (Foundation for the Philippine Environment and Forest Foundation of the Philippines) were negotiated by involving them in the entire planning process for OPF7. For the Philippine Government contribution of US\$1,800,000, these amounts were negotiated with the relevant government agency point person. All amounts, while negotiated or based on prior phase figures (counterpart contributions), shall be confirmed at CEO Endorsement.

D. Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)	Total(\$)
UNDP	GET	Philippines	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	4,436,210	421,440	4,857,650
Total GEF Resources(\$)					4,436,210	421,440	4,857,650

E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Amount (\$)

130,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

12,350

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
UNDP	GET	Philippines	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	130,000	12,350
Total Project Costs(\$)					130,000	12,350

Core Indicators

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas) **i**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
10000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified) **i**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
9,000.00			

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares) **i**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems ⓘ

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1,000.00			

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided ⓘ

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title	Submitted

Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas) ⓘ

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
10,000.00			

Indicator 5.1 Number of fisheries that meet national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations ⓘ

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)

Type/name of the third-party certification

Indicator 5.2 Number of Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) with reduced pollutions and hypoxia ⓘ

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (achieved at MTR)	Number (achieved at TE)

0	0	0	0
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LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE
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Indicator 5.3 Amount of Marine Litter Avoided ⓘ

Metric Tons (expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated ⓘ

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector ⓘ

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector ⓘ

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (direct)				
Expected metric tons of CO ₂ e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable) ⓘ

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
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Target Energy Saved (MJ)				
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Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable) **i**

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment **i**

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	8,000			
Male	8,000			
Total	16000	0	0	0

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

Please note that the following correspond to two footnote in the PIF Word document. The first addresses the targets, the second addresses the number of expected beneficiaries. 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.

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

The Seventh Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in the Philippines to be financed through this project, aims to empower communities and organizations along the Eastern Seaboard of the Philippines - (1) Catubig Watershed Samar Island, (2) Aurora Province in the Sierra Madre, (3) Siargao Island Protected Landscape/Seascape - and along the West Philippine Sea - (4) Calamian Islands in Northern Palawan - to take collective action through a participatory landscape planning and management approach aimed at enhancing socio-ecological resilience by producing global environmental and local sustainable development benefits.

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

Background:

Drawing lessons from execution of previous landscape planning and management strategies – known as Connectivity Conservation - and informed by the current state of biodiversity and development needs in the country, the Philippines SGP Country Programme in GEF-7 will continue to support community organizations in the three biogeographic regions prioritized in GEF-5. A fourth priority biogeographic region has been identified for community support to landscape resilience.

Thus, the priority areas for GEF-7 are:

- a) Catubig Watershed in Samar Island
- b) Aurora in Sierra Madre Mountain Range
- c) Calamian Group of Islands in Palawan
- d) Siargao Island Protected Landscape Seascape in Siargao

As mentioned in the evaluation report for SGP in GEF-5 the Connectivity Conservation approach necessitates a longer, more strategic presence in the project areas. “Connectivity Conservation’ is a widely used approach which describes the emerging scientific consensus among conservation researchers and practitioners that land and seascapes need to be integrated. This form of biodiversity conservation takes much more time than the typical 2-year period that has been allocated to deliver outcomes.” It is for this reason that SGP in GEF-7 intends to intensify its work in the previously supported biogeographic regions of Samar Island, Sierra Madre and Palawan in order to generate and consolidate gains in conservation, sustainable livelihoods and climate resilience. The SGP Country Programme in GEF-7 shall focus on four (4) landscapes and seascapes that have produced experiences and lessons ripe for upscaling or have existing work which requires further support and consolidation to reach the intended biodiversity conservation and sustainable development outcomes.

Over the course of the planning and consultation process for GEF-7, the following criteria were utilised in selecting the four (4) priority landscapes and seascapes:

1. Biodiversity, habitat diversity located within Key Biodiversity Areas (1) and critical habitats
2. Conservation efforts present and threats to biodiversity, habitats and climate vulnerability
3. Potential contribution to addressing poverty
4. Social dimension of conservation work – NGO presence, community awareness, indigenous peoples
5. Site-level local governance openness to community and CSO participation
6. Political situation conducive to project/program completion
7. Potential for strengthening and upscaling biodiversity-friendly and climate adaptive economic activities
8. Presence of similarly oriented environmental programs and initiatives in the project sites

The Connectivity Conservation approach aims at establishing and maintaining connectivity of large landscapes and seascapes. Thus, in the GEF-5 priority biogeographic regions of Samar Island, Sierra Madre and Palawan, SGP in GEF-7 will further identify and work in priority landscape and seascape components with the aim of expanding protection and sustainable use over Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and Critical Habitats (CHs). As such the SGP Country Programme in GEF-7 will work in KBAs and CHs to improve land and marine management in production landscapes and seascapes.

This approach bridges Protected Areas and Key Biodiversity Areas and Critical Habitats, which is supported by the recent passage into law of Republic Act 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018 which added 94 protected areas under the classification of National Park, providing for protection and management by government with public resources that can be mobilized for its protection. The protected areas are under the control and supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through its Biodiversity Management Bureau. This new law gives greater recognition and respect to the role of Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs) and Indigenous Peoples (IPs) in the governance, protection and conservation of heritage sites and biologically significant areas

within indigenous territories. The law provides for the creation of a mechanism for coordination and complementation between indigenous peoples traditional leadership and government agencies such as the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), local government units (LGUs), other government agencies and civil society organisations (CSOs).

This new law includes biogeographic regions prioritized by SGP for GEF-7 – specific areas in Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, Aurora, Quezon and Rizal provinces within the Sierra Madre Mountain range; the Biri Larosa Protected Landscape Seascape, Calbayog Pan-as Hayban Protected Landscape, Guiuan Marine Resource Protected Landscape Seascape and the Samar Island Natural Park within Samar Island; and Siargao Island Protected Landscape and Seascape. It has, unfortunately, not yet included sites in Palawan.

Of the areas supported by SGP in previous Phases, some shall remain in GEF-7 as Learning Areas. Learning Areas are sites supported under previous phases of the SGP that have already achieved outputs consistent with the level of sustainable development intended by the program and which now demonstrate actual proof-of-concept or best-practice for demonstration, upscaling or replication in the four (4) priority landscape seascape of GEF-7: (1) Catubig Watershed Samar Island, (2) Aurora Province in the Sierra Madre, (3) Siargao Island Protected Landscape/Seascape, and the (4) Calamian Islands in Northern Palawan.

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Catubig Watershed in Samar Island

Samar Island has a rich biodiversity profile and high potential for contributing to biodiversity conservation and helping to meet the country's Land Degradation Neutral (LDN) targets. The resulting improvement in ecosystem services will contribute to addressing the high poverty statistics on the island if community level projects are supported and policies successfully advocated that support community led initiatives. The island is located on the Philippines' eastern seaboard and faces high climate risk; it was pounded by Super Typhoon Haiyan (TY Yolanda) in 2013, the world's strongest typhoon ever to hit land. The total land area of Samar Island is 1,342,863 has, with 854,051 has classified as forest land and 488,812 as Alienable and Disposable Land (Public Lands not classified as forestland which can be privately owned). Existing protected areas on the island cover more than half a million hectares (566,660 has), including the Samar Island Natural Park (458,700 has inclusive of buffer zone), the Guiuan Marine Reserve Protected Landscape/ Seascape (60,448 has) and the Biri Larosa Protected Landscape /Seascape (33,492 has). There are 43 additional proposed protected areas in the island with a total coverage of 215,536 has.

Northern Samar, where the Catubig Watershed is located, is one of the poorest provinces in the country with a poverty incidence of 61.6 % (2015 NEDA report).

Catubig Watershed - The Catubig Watershed lies between 120 06' to 120 34' latitude and 1240 52' to 1250 10' longitude covering eleven municipalities namely: Catubig, Laoang, Pambujan, Las Navas, Palapag, Mapanas, Silvino Lobos, Jipapad, Maslog, San Jose de Buan, and Matuguinao. It has a total land area of 87,382 hectares, 36,206 or 41% of which constitutes the Samar Island Natural Park (SINP). The watershed supplies water to an extensive area of rice growing lands and towns downstream, popularly recognized as the rice bowl or 'rice granary' of Northern Samar covering about 8,000 hectares of rice fields.

Ecosystem Services Ecosystem services provided by the Catubig watershed include the provision of drinking and irrigation water to communities. The major impact area of the Catubig River is the Catubig valley consisting of 29,243 hectares of Alienable and Disposable lands, mostly of rice lands. In this large area of low-lying lands around the major river system is an irrigation development project currently implemented by the HCAAP or the Help Catubig Agricultural Advancement Project, a Php 2.187 billion project funded by JBIC. About 4,550 hectares in the municipalities of Catubig and Las Navas are also covered by the on-going irrigation and drainage project of HCAAP. This translates to a total area of 8,350 hectares or 43% of the total potential area for irrigation development

Causes of ecosystem degradation:

Timber Poaching. Las Navas, Northern Samar in the Catubig Watershed was identified as one of the “hotspots” for timber poaching. From 1995-2004, the total volume of confiscated forest products was 57,887 board feet or an average of 5,788 board feet per year. Confiscation of poached timber is very low when compared to Samar Island’s average deforestation rate of 2% per annum. This is due to the lack of field personnel from the Forest Protection and Law Enforcement Unit (FPLEU). Kaingin: Upland dwellers engage in slash-and-burn agriculture, known as “kaingin”. This system involves cutting and burning vegetation on small plots followed by planting root crops (commonly sweet potato, gabi, bagong and cassava). After two to three years of cropping, the farmers usually fallow the areas or plant them with abaca and/or coconut. Kaingin provides a source of livelihood for the farmers who do not have the opportunity to own coconut and/or rice lands in the lowlands. As such, continued migration of people to the uplands has fragmented forests. There is no statistical data on the extent of kaingin farming but the existing fragmented spots of clearings and coconut/abaca in the uplands attest to it. Wildlife hunting in the watershed for meat and the pet trade is clear. Barangays McArthur and San Andres in Las Navas are known to be major sources of wildlife for the pet trade. According to key-informants the most preferred wildlife in the market is the parrot, reaching about 140 pairs (P 1,500.00/pair) per year (for these two barangays). Other species like wild pig, wild chicken, edible lizards are only for local consumption. The upland dwellers/hunters sell their catch to Poblacions and to Manila.

Aurora province in Sierra Madre Mountain Range

The Sierra Madre Mountain Range (SMMR) is the country’s longest, contains the largest remaining cover of old-growth tropical rainforest with significant habitat diversity, and is a Key Biodiversity Area (Ong et al. 2002). At the center of the SMMR is Aurora province. It lies on the mid-eastern coast of Luzon some 232 kilometers from Manila, located between 150 31' 02" to 160 31' 00" N latitude and 1210 31' 02" to 1220 01' 30" E longitude. It is considered the gateway to the Pacific with a coastline spanning 410 kilometers. The province has a total land area of 323,954 hectares, representing about one percent of the country's total land area.(Aurora DRRM Plan 2015)

About 60% of Aurora’s land area is classified as forestland, with either steep or very steep slopes while 40% is considered as Alienable and Disposable, most of which being agricultural lands (DENR 2016). Aurora Province embraces 16% or 21 of the 135 proclaimed watershed forest reserves (WFR) in the Philippines (DENR 2013). The Diteki River WFR in San Luis municipality occupies 12,970 hectares while the Calabgan WFR in Casiguran municipality has 4,803 hectares. The DENR has identified a total of 70 watersheds throughout the province that do not have sufficient protection.

The majority of the forestland is covered by huge commercial IFMAs (Integrated Forest Management Agreements) such as the Industries Development Corporation (48,877 ha and 6,581 ha), Interpacific Forest Resources Corporation (IFRC) (34,531.03), RCC Timber Co. Inc (23,340 ha), Pacific Timber Export Corporation PATECO (9,280 ha), Chu Kwan Yu Lumber CKY (8,630). The total coverage of protected landscapes and watershed reserves is only 69,232 ha, while the IFMA tenured concessions are almost double the size at 133,090 has, excluding community based forest management agreements.

Seven of the eight municipalities of Aurora form the 410km coastline of sand and reef that plays a vital role in tourism. Long and Giri's study in 2011 mapped mangrove forest distribution in the Philippines using landsat imagery and found that Aurora's mangrove areal extension covers about 497.07 has or 0.19% of the national total mangrove areas in the country estimated at 256,185 ha (2) . It is home to a variety of mangrove species, including the endemic *Kandelia candel*, belonging to the Rhizophoraceae family.

Indigenous communities of Egongot, Dumagat and Alta are also present in the province with ancestral land covering Dilasag, Casiguran and Dinalungan (DiCaDi) at approximately 100,000 hectares with 78,000 hectares in the process of titling while 22,000 hectares have been awarded a Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT). San Luis has 30,073 hectares of which 5,648 hectares located in Dibut have a title. Dingalan has an estimated 54,000 hectares of ancestral domain claim. The 2002 Census in Agriculture identified 44,018 hectares of farmlands where 31,334 hectares are planted to permanent crops. Balete et al's (3) recommendation for the protection of the central SMMR considers the future economic and social well-being of the local communities that depend largely on the protection of the watersheds and the native fauna it supports. Hence, hunting activities should only be allowed according to the traditional practices of the surrounding indigenous peoples for family consumption and not for sale.

The central SMMR and the nearby coastal waters have not been spared from threats of biodiversity loss. Extirpation and declining populations of native wildlife species from the forests to the marine ecosystems have been observed. Many of these losses involve species that are culturally and economically important. Deforestation, massive conversion of forests to agricultural lands, slash and burn farming, timber poaching, charcoal making are among unsustainable practices that degrade forest habitat or cause soil erosion with silt eventually finding its way to the rivers and the sea. Fishery resources are declining due to destructive fishing, overharvesting, siltation and habitat degradation. Poor governance is a concern, particularly since the majority of the municipalities have yet to formulate or implement their Integrated Coastal Management Plans and Comprehensive Land Use Plans. The harmonization of these plans, focusing on the interactions between the forest, agriculture and marine ecosystems, also needs to be considered, thereby maintaining ecological integrity across ecosystems.

Calamian Group of Islands in Palawan

The Calamian group of islands is part of the Greater Palawan Faunal Region. It is recognized as a globally important center of species biodiversity and endemism. It is composed of the municipalities of Coron (68,910 ha) , Culion (49,959 has), Busuanga (39,290 has), and Linapacan (19,544 has) with a combined land area of 177,703 hectares. These islands are part of the province of Palawan, often referred to as the Last Ecological Frontier and declared by UNESCO as a "Man and Biosphere Reserve" due to its unique biodiversity and topography. It is situated in the "coral triangle" where there is vast diversity of marine flora and fauna. A special law (Republic Act 7611) was created in recognition of Palawan's critical value in order to sustainably manage its development direction without sacrificing its fragile environment.

Within the Calamian islands, the Coron Island Protected Area covering the island and surrounding islets has overlapping legal instruments. It is a National Reserve, a Tourist Zone, Marine Reserve, and Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve. It is also recognized as an Ancestral Domain of the Tagbanua indigenous group. There are several marine protected areas established with the assistance of ECOFISH. Coron Island Natural Biotic Area has been submitted to the Tentative List of UNESCO World Heritage sites. However, forest and mangrove resources are declining fast due to human intervention, poverty, and weak law enforcement. This area also suffers from growing climate change vulnerability coming from increasingly strong typhoons and ocean warming. According to marine biologists, a third of Philippine coral reefs have died due to coral bleaching in the past three years. It has been observed especially severe in the western seaboard of the Philippines (Palawan, Zambales and Batangas provinces) (4). Coral bleaching stems from the ocean warming observed in the 1998 massive coral bleaching during El Nino-related temperature anomalies in Northern Palawan, Kalayaan Island Group, Tubattaha Reefs, and Bolinao, Pangasinan (5). These stressors put marine and coastal ecosystems at greater risk, and place the livelihoods of many small fishers/poor coastal communities, especially in Northern Palawan, in an even more precarious situation.

Existing data sets on forest and natural resources in the Forest Land Use Plans (FLUPs) and local development plans of local government units are not updated and not comprehensive nor organized. This has become a significant problem as new projects/programs spend more time and resources than planned in data collection and analysis. LGUs also complain that NGOs and other assisting organizations/agencies do not turn over their data and documentation upon project completion. Underlying this is the often-discussed but unresolved issue of land tenure and access to natural resources, especially in the forest areas. This was one of the significant concerns raised in the Calamianes Stakeholders' Conference in Coron in August 2018.

SIPLAS - Siargao Island Protected Landscape and Seascape in Siargao Province

The SIPLAS or the Siargao Island Protected Landscape and Seascape is the largest marine protected area of the Philippines and has the largest mangrove reserve in Mindanao. It is also part of an important biogeographic region, which is the Eastern seaboard of Mindanao identified as an important biodiversity corridor in the Philippines National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity. This biogeographic region has also been previously identified by the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF) as a major center of endemism and also a hotspot. The CEPF describes Eastern Mindanao as forming "part of the Greater Mindanao Biogeographic Region. Its northern boundary is Siargao Island, and it extends south to where Mt. Hamiguitan rises. To the west, portions of the Agusan Marsh delineate the area." identified In Eastern Mindanao there are 15 extremely high priority-critical conservation priority sites and five extremely high priority-urgent sites. SIPLAS is included in the extremely high priority-critical areas for conservation.

Siargao Island was a wildlife sanctuary included in the initial components of the protected area system. It was later identified as one of the top priority protected area sites and eventually declared as the Siargao Islands Protected Landscape and Seascape (SIPLAS) in 1996. The SIPLAS management plan of 2015 indicates that "SIPLAS is one of the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), an Important Bird Area (IBA), and is included in the Conservation Priority Areas (CPAs) identified through the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priority-setting Program. It has 4,000 has of contiguous mangrove stand in Del Carmen with the overall mangrove cover of Siargao group of islands at 7,768 hectares. With its mangrove cover and forest land, SIPLAS contributes to water retention, erosion control and reduced flooding. These also support food security by maintaining crop diversity and species, play an important role in climate change adaptation and contribute to mitigation.

In 2010, the Siargao population was 110,653 with 2,211 households. Of the nine (9) municipalities covered by SIPLAS, two (2) municipalities are classified as 4th class municipality, five classified as 5th class, while two municipalities remain 6th class municipalities, classifying them among the poorest municipalities in the Philippines. These families are mostly dependent on their natural resources for their livelihood. 30% of the settlers benefit from agricultural activities by utilizing 64% of the total land area of Siargao or 39,788 hectares. Most of the farmers are producing coconut products. However, the coconut industry on the island is barely surviving due to high marketing cost in the mainland of Mindanao and lack of tenurial security given that the entire island is a protected area and large parcels of land are owned by a few prominent families. 4,128 hectares or 10% are utilized for rice production. Approximately 75% of the riceland is dependent on the onset of the rainy season, and a major concern for food security is that the island is not self-sufficient in rice production.

Fishing ranks second as a source of income in SIPLAS with 24% of the population municipal fishers. The local fishing in Siargao Island is affected by unsustainable resource utilization such as dynamite fishing. Communities are also engaged in livestock raising, non-timber forest product gathering and tourism. Identified barriers by the community are mainly lack of capital assets and lack of technology. Fisher folk are among the poorest of the poor, and they have no financial means to purchase bigger fishing boats that would allow them to safely go further out to sea, nor do they have the technical skills to process their harvests to increase their value.

Threats to SIPLAS include destruction and degradation from unsustainable resource extraction, unsustainable fishing and farming practices, and conversion of mangroves and forests to agricultural lands. Low income, poor access to basic social services, low environmental awareness, weak law enforcement, and lack of livelihood alternatives have all contributed to the increasing difficulty of protecting SIPLAS.

An emerging stressor on the ecosystems and biodiversity in SIPLAS is growing tourism with about 35,230 tourists arriving in Siargao in 2010. This provides an opportunity, however, for cultural and eco-tourism to educate people about the biological importance of the island. Growth in the tourism industry in SIPLAS means that there will be expansion of settlements and spread of commercial establishments along the coast. Most of these will be considered to be in high risk areas vulnerable to extreme climate hazards. Likewise, increasing population and settlement development also pose problems from solid and liquid waste in SIPLAS which will further contribute to ocean pollution and destruction of coastal habitats.

Summary of Challenges Faced in the Four Landscapes/ Seascapes

Drivers of Biodiversity Loss and Habitat Degradation	Samar-Catubig	Sierra Madre-Aurora	Palawan - Calamian Islands	Siargao island
Poverty	✓	✓	✓	✓
Timber poaching	✓	✓		
Kaingin / slash and burn production	✓	✓		
Charcoal production (Uling)		✓	✓	
Wildlife hunting	✓			
Unsustainable farming practices		✓		
Unsustainable fishing/ destructive fishing / overharvesting		✓	✓	✓
Siltation		✓		
Lack of environmental awareness of community				✓
Land and mangrove conversion		✓		✓
Poor governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Weak enforcement of laws;</i> • <i>Unorganised and not updated data sets</i> 	✓	✓	✓	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Weak local law on protection</i> • <i>Land Use plans not harmonised with protection targets</i> 				
Climate change vulnerability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Coral bleaching</i> • <i>Strong typhoons destroying habitats</i> 	✓		✓	✓

The above table shows the drivers of biodiversity loss and habitat degradation in the four (4) identified landscapes/ seascapes identified by GEF-5 program partners in the Philippines. Poverty has encouraged many resource dependent communities to resort to unsustainable livelihood practices which directly contribute to habitat degradation and destruction. Timber poaching and wildlife hunting continue to be major causes of forest ecosystem degradation and deforestation and biodiversity loss. Communities are engaged in timber and wildlife poaching for the quick income generated from this activity compared to other livelihood options. The rampant illegal trade in timber and wildlife fetches rapid and elevated income. Kaingin slash and burn production now threatens critical habitats. Upland rural poor communities resort to slash and burn since they lack land ownership or land use tenure in the more favorable agricultural areas.

Unsustainable farming and fishing practices are likewise resorted to due to the quick profit generated from these schemes. The long term effects of these practices on the viability of the land and sea resources are not fully understood by many community members. The options for alternative sustainable farming and fishing also appear to be more expensive, of lower yield and generally out of reach of the communities.

On the other hand, local and national policies adversely affect the sustainability of community efforts in protection and restoration. Community efforts in landscape and seascape protection face huge challenges when local or national policies run counter to these protection efforts. The promotion of land and mangrove conversion has contributed significantly to the reduction of governmental protection for key biodiversity areas and critical habitats. This has been apparent in the efforts of SGP's GEF-5 community partners.

The incompatibility of development and conservation policies is accompanied by generally poor or weak governance of natural resource management. There are poor enforcement capacities of government agencies, which places many community wildlife protection monitoring volunteers in harm's way. Many local level community protection officers have been killed in an effort to prevent timber and wildlife poaching in their locality. The lack of an interoperable information system has meant that community projects in restoration and protection spend huge resources in establishing baseline data for each project start up. Project gains are not fully monitored as the data sets are not interoperable. If a robust information system were to be in place, projects would have more time to spend directly implementing actual restoration and protection work.

Lastly, these priority areas show high climate change vulnerability, and many poor and resource dependent communities will be affected by the impacts of climate change. Coral bleaching from global warming of oceans is now clearly observed in the target seascapes. These areas have also experienced massive destruction of their resource base in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda). Destruction of corals resulted in very low fish catch in Samar and Palawan for several years after Typhoon Haiyan.

The problem to be addressed

Local resource dependent rural, coastal and upland poor communities are at the receiving end of the negative and devastating effects of habitat destruction and biodiversity loss. Nevertheless, much of the solution may also be found within these communities. Collective action by communities and civil society organisations may be geared towards addressing (1) unsustainable livelihood practices, (2) low community participation in conservation and development policies, and (3) poor natural resource management that fails to take into consideration community contributions to conservation and development. Solutions to these problems would lead to biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management, including agro-ecosystem management and integrated water resources management, and ultimately contribute to climate change adaptation and optimization of ecosystem services. These are pursued in the context of local sustainable development.

Community organizations and civil society support groups need to act in synergy to achieve impacts at the scale of landscapes and seascapes, and generate support among the different stakeholders at landscape/seascape levels to engage provincial, regional and national levels. To act effectively, community organizations and civil society support groups need the motivation, capacities, knowledge, financing and enabling factors and opportunities to work individually and collectively. Using SGP funding as well as cofinancing, community organizations and NGOs build their adaptive management capacities through learning by doing i.e. through analysis of their priorities and problems; identification of potential innovations to address them; project design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of results and performance; and renewed analysis and planning based on lessons learned.

By and large, community based organizations in the target landscapes often lack essential adaptive management capabilities in the areas of (1) identifying the full effects of unsustainable livelihood practices, (2) the technical know how, innovation and experimentation capacities in converting to sustainable, alternative sustainable livelihood practices, (3) the technical know-how in monitoring contributions to conservation, (4) effectively lobbying government for changes in policy that would harmonise conservation and development, and (5) organizational abilities to become effective agents for the coordinated, long term development or maintenance of socio-ecological landscape resilience. Community organizations are empowered by determining priorities and measures for action, developing strategies and plans, carrying them out, reflecting on impacts and knowledge gained, and planning and preparing next steps.

The essential problem to be addressed by this project is that the necessary collective action in the Philippines for adaptive management of resources and ecosystem processes for sustainable development and global environmental benefits is hindered by (1) unsustainable livelihood practices, (2) lack of know-how in alternative sustainable livelihoods, and (3) organizational weaknesses of the communities living and working in affected landscapes and seascapes to act collectively and strategically including to lobby for changes in policy in building social and ecological resilience.

The solution to the problem is for community organizations and civil society support groups in the four selected landscapes and seascapes located on the Eastern Seaboard of the Philippines - (1) Catubig Watershed Samar Island, (2) Aurora Province in the Sierra Madre, (3) Siargao Island Protected Landscape Seascape - and along the West Philippine Sea - (4) Calamian Islands - Northern Palawan - to develop and implement adaptive landscape and seascape management strategies that build social, economic and ecological resilience based on the production of global environmental and local sustainable development benefits including health and well-being. To pursue achievement of the outcomes of these adaptive landscape management strategies, community organizations will implement grant projects reviewed and approved by the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC), framed and supported by multi-stakeholder agreements involving local government, the private sector, NGOs and other partners, and evaluated as part of the broader collective process of adjusting management strategies to new information, knowledge, capacities and conditions.

To ensure long-term conservation of ecosystem services, sequestration of carbon, sustainable natural resource management and human well-being, there is an obvious need to involve local communities and provide them with appropriate incentives. A critical long-term solution for this is, therefore, to ensure that sufficient institutional and local capacities are available to harness innovative financing opportunities as incentives to local land users to conserve ecosystem function and resources and sustainably manage landscapes/seascapes. However, a great deal of coordinated and concerted effort is required in community capacity building to overcome the following barriers.

Barriers to achieving this solution include:

Barrier 1: Community organizations in the target landscapes and seascapes lack a larger, more long-term vision and strategy for ecosystem and resource management and suffer from weak adaptive management capacities exemplified by the proliferation of unsustainable livelihood practices and the lack of know-how in pursuing alternative sustainable livelihoods which contribute to conservation.

Communities in general engage in unsustainable farming and fishing practices as they are driven by pressures of poverty and lack the necessary know-how to engage in alternative sustainable farming and fishing. Local stakeholders may believe that sustainable farming and fishing are more expensive, generate lower yields and are inaccessible to the poorer segments of communities. This lack of know-how makes quick profits generated from unsustainable practices (timber and wildlife poaching) more attractive to engage in as the returns are relatively large and have a quick turnaround.

Barrier 2: Community organizations in the target landscapes and seascapes have insufficient capacities and voice to efficiently and effectively advocate policy changes at the local and national levels to support landscape and seascape resilience.

Local and national policies which adversely affect the sustainability of community efforts in protection and restoration need to be analysed, critiqued and changed or enhanced. Without the necessary policy change, community efforts in landscape and seascape protection will be weak and ineffective. Community organisations need to increase their capability to analyze and critique policy and advocate reforms to challenge land and mangrove conversion, raise questions regarding the potential incompatibility of development and conservation policies, and reform generally poor or weak governance over natural resources.

Barrier 3: Community organizations lack sufficient financial resources and technical knowledge to link with the private sector to lower the risks associated with innovating land and resource management practices and sustaining or scaling up successful experiences.

The target areas are predominantly inhabited by poor and marginalized communities. Introducing changes in livelihoods and production systems would require resources that are not present in the communities. There is a need for communities and their organizations to generate the necessary financial resources. However, they generally lack access to financing and mainstream markets to realize more viable sustainable livelihood approaches. Communities also currently have low knowledge and capacity to relate to and partner with the private sector who could support the building of their livelihoods into social enterprises.

These barriers result in the continued practice of unsustainable farming and fishing, poor coordination among stakeholders in the landscapes, inadequate training and skills, lack of awareness and information, inadequate funding and incentives and poor infrastructure. Community-driven development (CDD) and integrated landscape management (ILM) are necessary for enhanced socio-ecological resilience i.e. human well-being, food security, climate change mitigation and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services at community level and replicated at a larger landscape scale.

b) Baseline scenario and any associated Baseline Projects

The Philippines GEF SGP Country Programme

Programs supported under GEF-5 focused on three major biogeographic region in the country – Samar Island, Sierra Madre and Palawan. Within the biogeographic regions, the program supported 52 projects implemented in 120 communities across 13 sub-regional landscapes and seascapes of high biodiversity relevance. This support has led to the establishment or enhancement of at least 10 community managed protected or conservation areas encompassing at least 100,000 hectares and the rehabilitation and protection of at least 1,000 hectares of mangrove and/or seagrass areas within the 100,000-ha community managed protected or conserved areas. The GEF-5 projects likewise directly and indirectly reduced threats to biodiversity in some 400,000 hectares of production landscapes and/or seascapes through community management or co-management arrangements which mainstreamed biodiversity conservation objectives. There were also at least 30 community-based land use plans or indigenous peoples ancestral domain plans which incorporated biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation, and at least 30 communities produced and marketed biodiversity-friendly agriculture, fisheries, forestry and ecotourism products.

An external evaluation of the Philippines Upgraded Country Programme in 2017 produced the following key recommendations as inputs to the current proposal for the SGP in GEF-7. These include:

1. Continue to work in the same biogeographic regions to consolidate progress towards the intended outcomes of Connectivity Conservation. SGP should continue support to communities in the same major biogeographic regions in recognition of the nature of the Connectivity Conservation landscape approach as aimed at producing more strategic and sustainable results. The evaluation notes that the SGP intends to address significant resource management and conservation problems that require longer to fully resolve.
2. Bridge Protected Areas, Key Biodiversity Areas and Critical Habitats. The evaluation noted that not all of the grantee project sites were representative of priority biodiversity conservation areas. The most recent government-NGO study on de facto Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and Critical Habitats (CH) finds that they do not necessarily coincide with the current boundaries of official Protected Areas. This leaves many KBAs and CHs without any legal protection or resources to support community conservation. The evaluation emphasized the importance of the SGP ensuring that the projects it supports directly address problems in the KBAs and CHs.
3. Leverage other resources to achieve greater impacts over large target areas. The evaluation noted that since the Connectivity Conservation or landscape approach necessarily involves larger intervention areas, the magnitude of support needs to match prospective needs. The target outcomes would be difficult to realize if the Small Grants Program were the sole source of funding in support of community initiatives in these larger sites. In selecting the target landscapes in GEF-7, the SGP considers the possibilities of functional partnerships with other entities and programs with the aim of achieving well-rounded collective interventions and more sustainable outcomes.
4. Expedite Certification Precondition for Free Prior Informed Consent from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples when supporting communities in Ancestral Domain territories. The evaluation underscored that one of the most significant causes of delay in project implementation was the prolonged process for the issuance of Certificates Precondition (6) (CP) from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) for projects taking place on ancestral domain territories of indigneous peoples. If the SGP Country Programme will support indigenous communities in GEF-7, it will be indispensable to initiate steps as early as possible for the issuance of the Certificate Precondition, so as to reduce the time necessary for the completion of project start-up requirements.

5. Strengthen the links between SGP-supported Locally Managed Conservation Areas (LMCA) and local government land and marine planning. SGP in GEF-5 focused on supporting Locally Managed Conservation Areas (LMCA) and community co-management schemes. The evaluation noted that this is the “cutting edge of biodiversity conservation” but emphasized that this needs to be matched by an equally progressive integration of biodiversity conservation, ecosystem valuation and recognition of community rights and roles in resource management and conservation by the local government unit at the provincial and sub-provincial level to ensure the sustainability of biodiversity and development outcomes. Continuing to work in the same biogeographic regions in GEF-7 recognizes that the lobby and advocacy work already underway by SGP grantees with local government units is indispensable to strengthen policy work supportive of biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation and sustainable development.

6. Continue and strengthen SGP presence (hubs) in the key biogeographic regions. During the implementation of SGP in GEF-5, operational support hubs were created in the key biogeographic regions of Samar Island, Lower Sierra Madre, Upper Sierra Madre and Palawan. These hubs supported the grantee organizations more directly and immediately at an operational level. The hubs functioned as mechanisms through which “site-based conferences were conducted as part of the effort to recognize and apply best practice.” These learning hubs also functioned as venues where project implementers were able to discuss issues and find solutions to common project implementation challenges and work together on common policy hurdles. The evaluation recommended that the hubs should be continued and be given greater emphasis in GEF-7. Each hub could partner with academic institutions and develop training programs and ensure a more systematic sharing of best practices, appropriate methodologies in conservation and development work, and in monitoring biodiversity outcomes using the SMART and OS tools (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool/Open Standards for Conservation Practise Global Footprint).

In the area of biodiversity conservation, the external evaluation found that in working to address habitat destruction and land use change and overexploitation of species and habitats, the SGP Country Programme has contributed to removal of barriers from lack of capacity to form and manage community based PA, from lack of knowledge and market access for adoption of biodiversity friendly methods of production, and from lack of peer to peer capacity building and training for sustainable resource management. SGP has also supported enhancing the necessary tools to improve the willingness and capacity of communities to contribute to global environmental benefits by finding solutions to local environmental and sustainable development problems. This could be shown in, the formulation of various co-management plans, and the establishment of community conservation areas.

In the external evaluation, the development of landscape hubs was noted: “the project site hubs played a major role in supporting the grantees in implementation and monitoring of the results. The setting up of the hubs is a very effective solution for the landscape based approach to implementation of GEF-5 . . . The idea to set up the hubs for the SGP Country Programme is rather new but a good one given the landscape approach to implementation. The hubs not only acted as coordinators but also provided capacity building, networking, data gathering and knowledge sharing and to some extent monitoring the progress of projects within the landscape. Four hubs were selected, represented by three area CSOs with local knowledge and experience and one existing network organisation with membership.”

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

The SGP Country Programme in GEF-7 will support community organizations to enhance the socio-ecological resilience of the four target landscapes through community initiatives to produce global environmental and sustainable development benefits. The initiatives will be identified and implemented in support of landscape level strategies formulated by multi-stakeholder groups comprised of representatives of landscape communities, local government authorities, NGOs and the private sector. These strategies may include the following based on lessons learned from GEF-5 experience:

- i. Expanding the coverage of protection mechanisms over actual Key Biodiversity Areas and critical habitats/ maximizing the ENIPAS law

Habitat conservation, protection and rehabilitation of landscapes and seascapes ideally should lead to the expansion of protection mechanisms over areas identified as actual key biodiversity areas and critical habitats. The multistakeholder group in each landscape will identify conservation/ protection/ rehabilitation needs and activities for the KBAs and CHs found there. Landscape strategies are also likely to support the implementation of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System (ENIPAS law), including the participation of communities in the crafting of the implementing rules and regulations of the law, increasing community knowledge/ information about this law, and increasing knowledge of how communities can push for the expansion of buffer zones of Protected Areas.

The ENIPAS Law (Republic Act 11038), which was signed into law on 22 June 2018, added 94 Protected Areas (PAs) to the 13 previously legislated PAs, as permanent components of the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS), which have the nature of national parks as classified under the 1987 Philippine Constitution. The other land classifications are agricultural, timberlands and mineral lands. More importantly, the ENIPAS significantly amends Republic Act 7586 (the NIPAS Act of 1992) by mandating in Section 2 the recognition of conservation areas and management regimes being implemented by local government units (LGUs), local communities and indigenous peoples. Section 13 thereof further states that indigenous cultural communities (ICCs) and indigenous peoples (IPs) concerned shall have the responsibility to govern, maintain, develop, protect and conserve their ancestral domains and customary rights within Protected Areas in accordance with their indigenous knowledge systems and practices, and customary laws, with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and other government agencies merely giving assistance. In the past, the IPs were merely given representation in the DENR-led Protected Area Management Board (PAMB). The law was also silent on the primacy between the Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP) and the Protected Area Management Plan.

It is expected that many of the newly declared 94 protected areas under the ENIPAS law will overlap with existing indigenous territories. The full impact of the ENIPAS law on the territories and the manner of co-management schemes would need to be discussed and analyzed during landscape strategy formulation with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples to avoid displacement and marginalisation of indigenous communities in the protected areas.

- ii. Increasing support for indigenous peoples' socio-cultural values about biodiversity through support to local community managed areas

The ENIPAS law also provides for greater recognition of the role of indigenous communities in the management of critical, culturally important, biodiversity rich habitats. This recognition may be realized through their participation in co-management schemes, including mechanisms that recognize Local Community Managed Conservation Areas. Strategies might prioritize projects that would help in crafting co-management schemes and the creation of Local Community Managed Conservation Areas.

iii. Building CSO-PO-Government partnerships and increasing stakeholder participation

Governance can also be improved by strengthening multi-sectoral partnerships between community organisations, NGOs and government agencies. Stronger partnerships can facilitate greater participation by communities in consultation and decision-making processes. Support can be provided for projects that promote the building of such partnerships and the greater participation of communities in consultative processes.

iv. Biodiversity-friendly and climate-resilient livelihoods and enterprises

There were positive outcomes from the GEF-5 experience with biodiversity-friendly livelihoods and enterprises which now provide a foundation for GEF-7. The following are some examples:

- The manila hemp plantation initiated by EVPRD in Northern Samar provided an incentive for community members who have decided to desist from timber poaching inside the Samar Island National Park. Today, these community members are selling their abaca fiber to a trader who is demanding a larger supply.
- The women members of PAKIBA inside the Biri LaRoSA Protected Landscape and Seascape have entered into a MOA with the PAMB to manage and conserve a large mangrove forest. As an incentive, they engage in mudcrab fattening, among various livelihoods, and are now selling their crabs to tourists and the local market.
- The POs in Barangay Buenavista and Isla Filomena in the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park established their respective marine protected areas, which they offer to tourists for snorkeling. They are already generating substantial income from these projects.

v. Capacity building of communities and local government units

Communities and local government units lack capacities in analysis of environmental and sustainable development issues, natural resource governance, local policy development and local enforcement. The four landscape level Learning Hubs should lead capacity building in these areas. Initially identified capacity building would cover (a) analysing the impact of the ENIPAS law on protection and on indigenous rights, (b) participation of communities and NGOs in the process of crafting the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of the ENIPAS law, (c) maximizing the impacts and utility of other existing environmental policies, (d) developing community-level biodiversity information tools to measure the contribution of community efforts to actual protection of biodiversity, and (e) community contributions to strengthening an interoperable ecological information system. Community level projects supported by SGP in GEF-7 will work towards expanding the coverage of protected areas so that previously identified key biodiversity areas in landscapes and seascapes may be included under specific protected area instruments. This is especially relevant given the recent passage

of the ENIPAS law where options for more effective community participation in co-management schemes can usher in innovative and participatory conservation mechanisms. The program will also support projects which increase the productivity and sustainability of production systems and address land degradation drivers to lessen economic pressures on conservation areas. This could include engagement in organic agricultural production, permaculture methodologies, erosion prevention /soil preservation agricultural practices and diversification of farming systems. These reduce the use of chemical fertilizers, avoids monocropping, improves soil health and improves cost-benefit ratio in each production yield. Livelihoods and enterprises that are able to generate income, conserve resources, protect biodiversity, and are culturally appropriate and respectful of local cultures and traditions will be supported. These community projects must also ensure the recognition of women and indigenous peoples to participate, access resources and benefit from the services generated by an optimally functioning ecosystem.

To ensure resilience, community-based livelihood projects will be informed by assessments which ensure conservation contribution, sustainability and climate risk mitigation. Among the assessments which may be included in community initiatives are livelihood assessments, enterprise assessments, environmental impact assessments, climate risk assessments, clear product or service Value Chain analysis, livelihood plans, enterprise plans, market linkages, micro financing and linkages with the private sector and government development programs. Community level projects will support the generation of baseline data to be inputted into inter-operable information systems.

Community level livelihood and small scale enterprise plans and agreements will be supported that have clear and sustainable supply chains and product or service markets.

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

Outcome 1.1: Ecosystem services and biodiversity within targeted landscapes and seascapes along the Philippines eastern seaboard - Samar Island – Catubig Watershed, Sierra Madre - Aurora, Siargao Island - and West Philippine Sea - Palawan Calamian Islands - are enhanced through multi-functional land-use systems

Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects in the selected landscapes that restore degraded landscapes, improve connectivity, support innovation regarding biodiversity conservation and optimization of ecosystem services (including reforestation of riparian gallery forests, forest fire control, enhanced connectivity for wetlands and priority conservation areas; water catchment protection; participatory monitoring of species; restoration of biological corridors)

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

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; agro-ecological practices and cropping systems.

Outcome 1.3: Livelihoods of communities in the target landscapes and seascapes are improved by developing eco-friendly, climate-adaptive small-scale community enterprises with clear market linkages

Output 1.3.1: Targeted community projects promoting sustainable livelihoods, green businesses and market access, including ecotourism; solid waste management and conversion; beekeeping; green value-added agro-businesses integrated into value chains, micro-processing.

The GEF-7 SGP Country Programme recognizes that communities and non government organisations need to work in cooperation with other sectors in order to reach the intended outcomes in the target landscapes and seascapes. This is primarily expressed through the strengthening of multi-stakeholder governance platforms in the target landscapes/ seascapes. Multistakeholder discussions will lead to landscape agreements, adaptive landscape management plans and policies, landscape and seascape strategies, and a typology of community level projects developed and agreed by multistakeholder groups.

This component is also the basis for the creation of landscape level Learning Hubs to support community level project management capacity building, project monitoring and learning. There will be cross-landscape learning activities between community organizations from different landscapes. Lastly, it will support capacity building activities for the replication of innovative and successful GEF-5 projects to other landscapes/ seascapes for SGP GEF 7 phase.

Lessons identified during implementation of the different landscape strategies, agreements and landscape portfolios of projects will be codified and presented to a Community-NGO-Government policy dialogue forum that will be established and conducted regularly. At the same time, the multistakeholder governance platforms and the SGP Country Programme will identify strategic initiatives to upscale successful initiatives at landscape level or broader. Potential strategic initiatives will be identified and discussed during project preparation.

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

Outcome 2.1: Multistakeholder governance platform(s) strengthened/in place for improved governance of target landscapes and seascapes to enhance socio-ecological resilience/ for effective participatory decision making to enhance landscape resiliency

Output 2.1.1: A multi-stakeholder governance platform in each target landscape develops and executes multi-stakeholder agreements for execution of adaptive landscape management plans and policies; development of value-chain improvement strategies for resilience enhancing products; and enhanced community participation in land use decision making and management

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

Outcome 2.2: Knowledge from community level engagement and innovative conservation practices is systematically assessed and shared for replication and upscaling across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network

Output 2.2.1: Landscape/seascape Learning Hubs support community level project management capacity building, project monitoring and learning

Output 2.2.2: Knowledge from community project innovations is identified during participatory evaluations, codified and disseminated to multiple audiences.

Output 2.2.3: Strategic initiatives are supported to upscale successful SGP project experience and practice

d) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Program strategies

The SGP Philippines 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 the most vulnerable and least developed areas of Philippines 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 structures and institutions 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 the local communities.

The Philippines 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 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.”

The strategy for the Philippines SGP UCP in GEF-7 is fully aligned with the strategy and spirit of the GEF Impact Program 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.”

e) Incremental 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 and further strengthen the positive experiences under the components mentioned above and to add value, where appropriate and possible, to existing initiatives by the government, the private sector or CSOs in the identified landscapes in the four priority biogeographic regions along the Eastern Seaboard of the Philippines - Samar Island, Sierra Madre Mountain Range, Siargao Island - and along the West Philippine Sea - Calamian Islands Northern Palawan. The target landscapes will be further specified, studied and finalized during project preparation.

GEF incremental funding and co-financing will contribute to the long-term solution of adaptive management of the targeted landscapes in the Philippines for social, economic and ecological resilience, human well-being, and strengthening of community agency. GEF funding will provide small grants to NGOs and Community-Based Organizations to develop sustainable landscape management strategies and implement community projects in pursuit of strategic landscape level outcomes related to biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation. Funding will also be available for initiatives that build the organizational capacities of specific community groups as well as landscape level organizations to plan and manage complex initiatives and test, evaluate and disseminate community level innovations. 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 experience gained during previous phases of the SGP Philippines Country Programme.

Networking and convergence are identified as effective tools where Government and private agencies join hands with other partners for further replication and upscaling of the piloted innovations through SGP. Formal multi-stakeholder groups will be consolidated in each landscape that will incorporate local government, CBOs, NGOs, 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. Formal partnership agreements will be agreed and signed with communities as projects are identified and aligned with landscape level outcomes.

The financing arrangements for this project include grants from local organizations, and grants and in-kind contributions from governments and other agencies.

f) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF)

The global environmental benefits generated by the SGP Philippines Upgraded Country Programme through community-based landscape management initiatives and actions in selected priority sites in the Philippines can be estimated simplistically over the short term as a result of potential aggregated impacts from hypothetical future individual grant projects. However, overall benefits over the longer term will be a function of the synergies created between grant projects through programmatic approaches, such as the landscape/seascape management approach proposed here.

Under this approach, community groups, local authorities, indigenous peoples, and NGOs form multistakeholder partnerships and develop and implement landscape and seascape 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 for the global environment and socio-ecological resilience. These strategies will define 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 potentially possible. At the same time, the project's multistakeholder partnerships will explicitly 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 Philippines Country Programme. Prospective Global Environment Benefits from these initiatives will be more precisely defined during project preparation and implementation.

The SGP Philippines Upgraded Country Programme will seek to promote the conservation of globally significant biodiversity and the sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity by generating the following outcomes (to be further defined during project preparation) pursuant to the biodiversity focal area:

- Connectivity of the protected area system with actual key biodiversity areas and critical habitats that are outside the PA system
- Promotion of the community role in co-management processes and local community managed conservation areas
- Local and national policy advocacy activities for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use
- Institutionalised dialogue platforms between communities-NGOs-government
- Strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships

The Philippines SGP Upgraded Country Programme will also contribute concretely to the Aichi targets as follows:

- Target 1 - By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
- Target 4 - By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

- Target 7 - By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.
- Target 10 - By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.
- Target 16 - By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.
- Target 18 - By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.
- Target 20 - By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 from all sources and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resources needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.

g) Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

Innovation:

The project will develop and demonstrate innovative technological solutions as well as establish innovative mechanisms of generating or channeling financial resources at local levels to ensure sustainability. This will be demonstrated mainly in the area of low cost, energy efficient technologies for reduced GHG emissions, alternate and user-friendly value addition technologies, and agro-ecological practices, etc.

The project will have a strong focus on developing business models and market-based mechanisms for sustainable use of natural resources as well as enhanced livelihoods for marginalized communities in vulnerable and lesser developed areas of the target landscapes. SGP Philippines 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.

Sustainability:

Sustainability of landscape planning and management processes, as well as value-chain development strategies, will be enhanced through the formation of multi-stakeholder, interdisciplinary, participatory and inclusive partnerships, involving local government, CSOs, NGOs, the private sector and others at the landscape level. 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.

Community ownership is a critical factor contributing to the sustainability of project benefits. SGP Philippines will involve all community members (men, women, young and old) in all stages of the grant project cycle: design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Potential for scaling up:

Successful interventions under each thematic area can be replicated/upscaled in other landscapes and biogeographic regions of the country facing similar issues of development and environmental protection and management. Through improved financial capacities, grantees may ensure progressive innovation and broader adoption. Resources will be made available through the SGP strategic grant modality to finance key elements of the upscaling initiatives to reduce the risk to other donors and investors. Multi-stakeholder 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.

Footnotes:

(1) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Biodiversity Management Bureau (formerly the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau), teaming up with Conservation International Philippines (CI Philippines) and the Haribon Foundation, delineated terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in the Philippines in a 2006 publication entitled, "Priority Sites for Conservation in the Philippines: Key Biodiversity Areas." For more information, please see <https://fpe.ph/biodiversity.html/view/the-philippine-key-biodiversity-areas-kbas>. Note that KBA boundaries are not necessarily coincident with officially gazetted Protected Areas.

(2) I. FARIDAH-HANUM ET AL. (EDS.), MANGROVE ECOSYSTEMS OF ASIA, (2014),

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258925724_Philippines'_Mangrove_Ecosystem_Status_Threats_and_Conservation (last visited September 16, 2018).

(3) Danilo S. Balete, et.al., Chapter 3: The Mammals of the Mingan Mountains, Luzon Evidence for a New Center of Mammalian Endemism, (2011), https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.academia.edu%2F4139617%2FThe_mammals_of_the_Mingan_Mountains_Luzon_Evidence_for_a_new_center_of_mammalian_endemism&data=02%7C01%7Cgrace.tena%40undp.org%7C9f02e746cbec4913b8f208d61e213788%7Cb3e5db5e2944483799f57488ace54319%7C0%7C0%7C636729525356133023&data=Kwn4%2Fuahwi9JhUuFZaUpeY8Ao7%2BZAoWMSjrJOU9Ktpk%3D&reserved=0, (last viewed September 19, 2018)

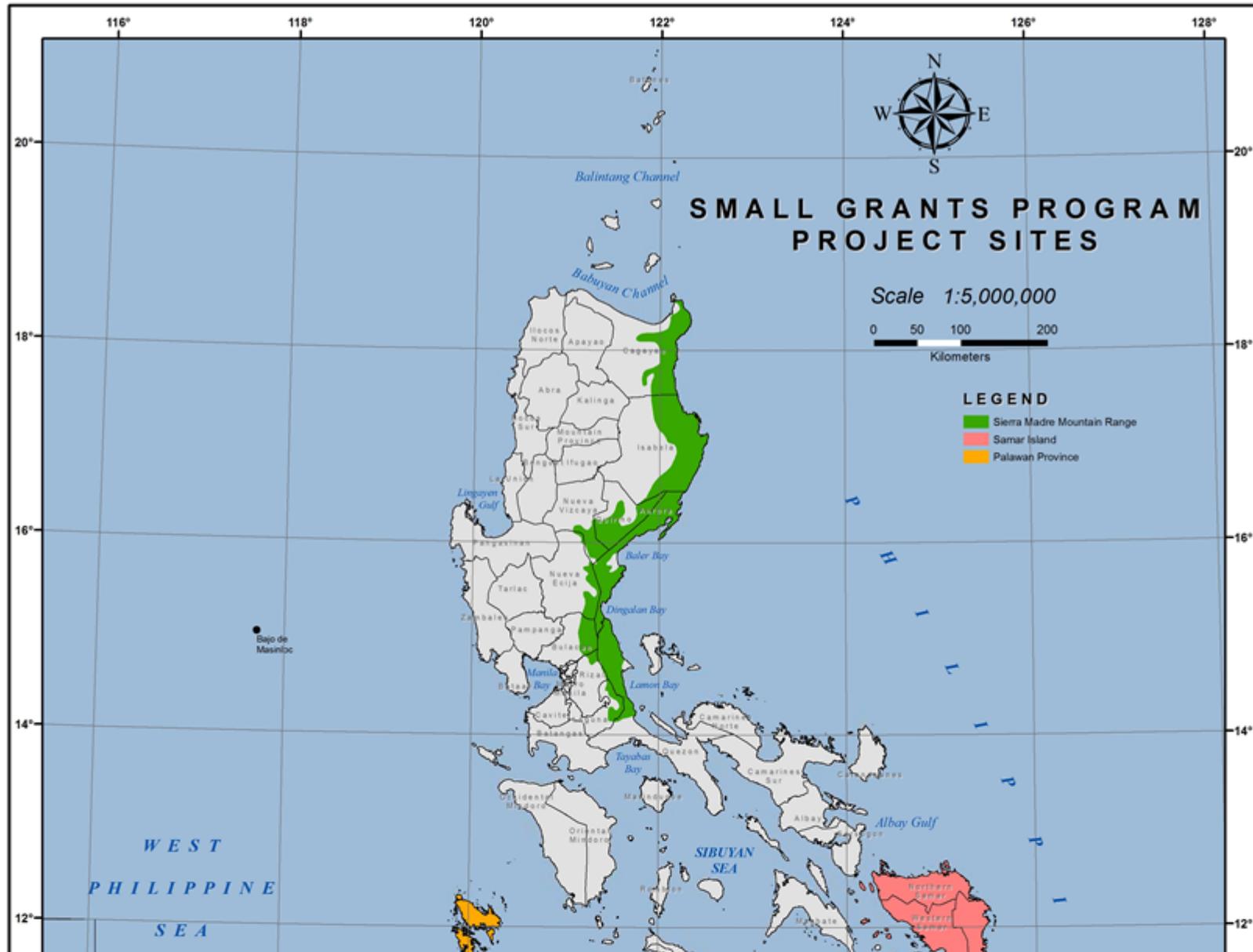
(4) Margaret Claire Layug, Coral bleaching killed 1/3 of PHL reefs in past 3 years –marine experts, (2018), <http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/scitech/science/643758/coral-bleaching-killed-1-3-of-phl-reefs-in-past-3-years-marine-experts/story/>, (last visited September 16, 2018).

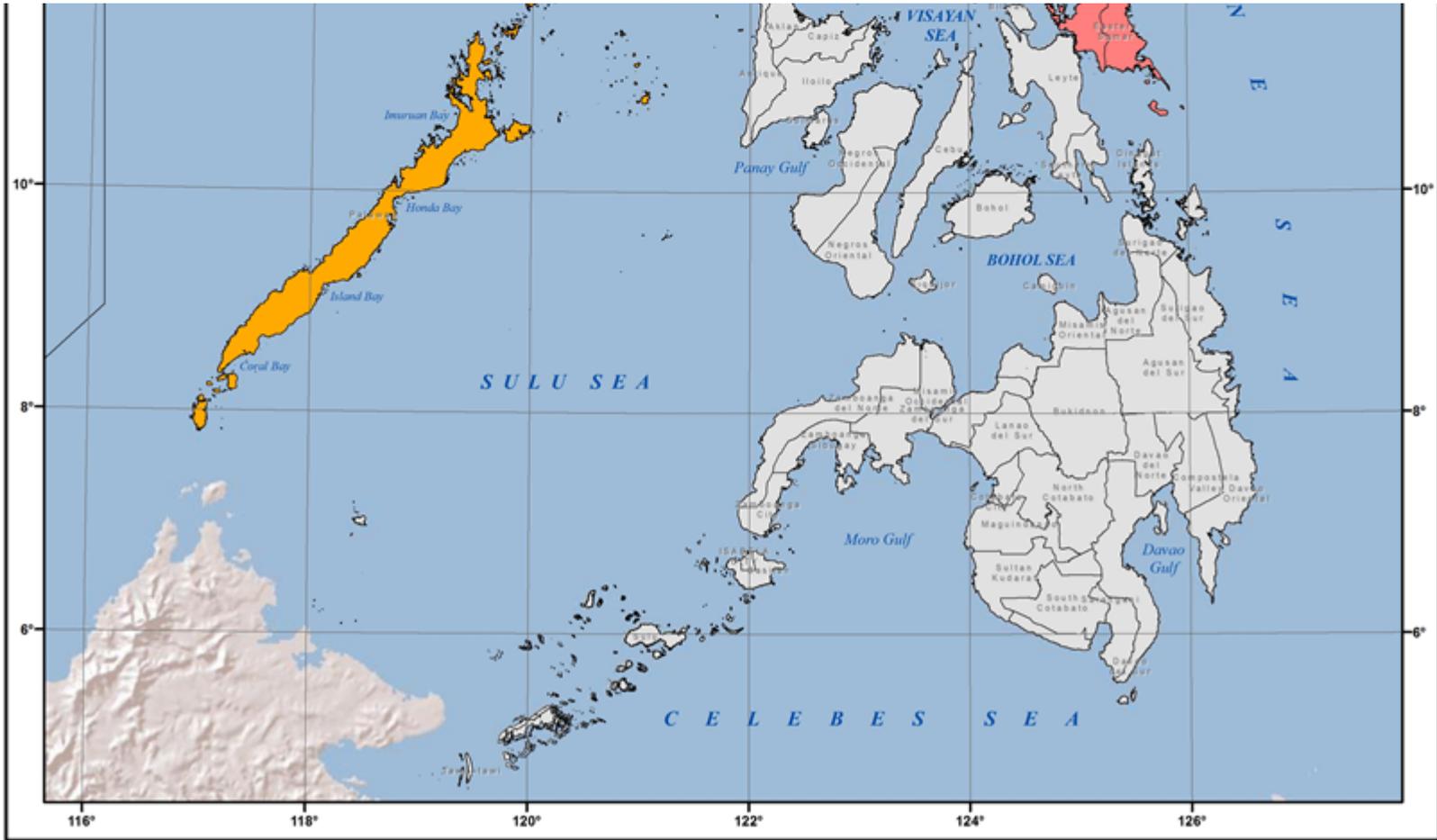
(5) Hazel Arceo, Miledel Quibilan, Porfirio M. Aliño, Goldee Lim, Wilfredo Licuanan, Coral bleaching in Philippine reefs: Coincident evidences with mesoscale thermal anomalies. *Bulletin of Marine Science*. 69. 579-593, (2001), https://www.researchgate.net/publication/233697808_Coral_bleaching_in_Philippine_reefs_Coincident_evidences_with_mesoscale_thermal_anomalies, (last visited September 16, 2018).

(6) Certification Precondition (CP) refers to the Certificate issued by the NCIP, signed by the Chairperson, attesting to the grant of FPIC by the concerned ICCs/IPs after appropriate compliance with the requirements provided for in NCIP Administrative Order No. 03, Series of 2012, The Revised Guidelines on Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) and Related Processes of 2012.

1b. Project Map and Coordinates 

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





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 Yes

If none of the above, please explain why: No

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 SGP GEF-7 Country Programme in the Philippines are the community-based organizations, local communities, indigenous peoples' communities and women's organisations themselves who will receive grants to produce benefits to local sustainable development and the global environment. Women and youth are indispensable stakeholders in the landscape/seascape planning and management processes. They will be encouraged to submit separate project proposals for specific initiatives. Primary stakeholders are located in the lowland and upland rural areas, coastal towns and seascapes in the four biogeographic regions of Samar, Sierra Madre, Palawan and Siargao Island and environs. Stakeholder organizations will be identified first based on the experience of SGP of nearly 20 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 mobilize and build capacities of peoples' organisations, community organisations and indigenous peoples' communities in pursuing local sustainable development in the areas, are also important stakeholders. These will include those CSOs/NGOs that have been supported in GEF-5 and have performed crucial roles in the establishment of the landscape Learning Hubs. Other CSOs/NGOs, who have the interest and capacities to provide key support services to community-based projects, including technical assistance and capacity development, are also included as valuable stakeholders. These NGOs will be identified during the process of project formulation and implementation to initiate with approval of this proposal.

Key supporting actors in this project will include relevant agencies of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Climate Change Commission (CCC), Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB), National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC).

Stakeholders:

Civil Society Organizations and Private Sector:

IP groups within the selected sites: Indigenous Peoples (IP) groups are primary stakeholders in the Project. They stand to benefit from the Project, and suffer the consequences of inaction on biodiversity conservation. They have strong historical and cultural ties to their domains, which coincide with the boundaries of existing PAs.

Their indigenous practices and knowledge systems are mainly consistent with conservation objectives. They will take an active role in the implementation of local actions to support integrated local development plans, in partnership with LGUs, local communities, DENR-PAWB field offices, and other local stakeholders, as appropriate. They will also be responsible for issuing the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) for the Project in selected areas (7).

Local NGOs and CBOs: Local NGOs and CBOs in lowland rural areas, upland rural areas and coastal zones are also project stakeholders.

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 favor 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; potential participant on policy platform.

Central Government Institutions and Agencies:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources: The DENR is the designated GEF Operational Focal Point for Philippines. The GEF Operational Focal Point is the Chair of the GEF Philippines National Steering Committee (NSC) and the project's national steering committee. The DENR is the national agency mandated to protect, conserve and manage the environment and natural resources of the country. The DENR and its concerned bureaus will be involved in the formulation of appropriate policy, guidelines and tools to improve and further enhance the implementation of its plans and programs including policies on biodiversity. The DENR field offices may support and assist the local government units (LGUs) to develop their capacities in applying these tools in order to promote mainstreaming of biodiversity in the production landscape plan of the LGUs.

Climate Change Commission: The lead policy-making body of the government tasked to coordinate, monitor and evaluate government programs and ensure mainstreaming of climate change in national, local, and sectoral development plans towards a climate-resilient and climate-smart Philippines. Its mission is to lead in the development and mainstreaming of evidence-based climate adaptation and mitigation policies through optimum coordination among key stakeholders towards achieving a climate-resilient and climate-smart Philippines with healthy, safe, prosperous, and self-reliant communities.

National Economic Development Authority (NEDA): NEDA is the agency overseeing the planning and monitoring of the UNDP Country Programme. NEDA will sit as member of the National Steering Committee. It will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Project, as part of its inherent role in the management of the ODA portfolio.

Department of Agriculture (DA) /Dep't Agrarian Reform (DAR): This is the agency in charge of agricultural development of the country. The DA/DAR will be a key partner in the implementation of the Project specifically in terms of policy support to the development of alternative biodiversity products from agriculture and fisheries.

Department of Science and Technology (DOST)/ Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI): This is the government agency responsible for the coordination of science and technology-related projects in the Philippines and to formulate policies and projects in the fields of science and technology in support of national development. The FNRI is an agency under the DOST which is tasked to undertake researches on the country's nutritional status with reference to malnutrition, develop and recommend policy options and provide science and technology services to relevant stakeholders in the areas of nutrition and food research. DOST can provide timely information around climate and the FNRI could provide support for food / agriculture based livelihoods and enterprises.

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI): DTI is the government agency mandated to ensure that the country is able to foster innovative industry and services sector. DTI would also be able to provide assistance in the development of biodiversity friendly and climate resilient livelihoods and enterprises.

Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG): This agency provides administrative supervision over all LGUs in the country. DILG will be a member of the NSC and it will have a key role in the facilitating resolutions relevant to LGU participation in PA management.

National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP): NCIP is the government agency responsible for the protection of IP's welfare. It will be a primary partner and will be a member of the NSC since most of the sites of the Project are ancestral domains. NCIP can help facilitate linkages with IP groups in the sites, support to policy development concerning IP management of PAs.

National Anti Poverty Commission (NAPC): NAPC is the primary government agency created under the Office of the President to serve as the coordinating and advisory body for the implementation of the Social Reform Agenda (SRA). It coordinates with different national and local government agencies and the private sector for for the full implementation of all government social reform and poverty alleviation programs.

Local Government

Local Government Units (LGUs): The LGUs have political jurisdictions in areas where the PAs/KBAs are located. They are mandated by law to spearhead the passing of local ordinances, develop and enforce regulations in their political jurisdictions. The LGUs can also provide logistical support to the projects in terms of technical expertise, facilities, or even vehicles when and if needed. They are responsible for comprehensive land use planning and in the formulation and implementation of local development plans. While the communities are the main target of capacity building activities in the Project, venues for discussions, collaborations and consensus building shall be included in the project. Mutual support and understanding between the LGUs and the local communities will increase the projects chances of succeeding in protecting biodiversity corridors, and promoting sustainable management within and around PAs/KBAs.

Leagues of Cities, Municipalities: The Leagues ensure there is national level representation in the discussion of policies and programs that affect LGUs. They will be an important partner in disseminating lessons, and advocacy in strengthening the capacities of LGUs in biodiversity mainstreaming. It will support lessons sharing through its existing mechanisms.

Academic and Research Institutions: The academic and research institutions help provide scientific foundations for project initiatives through their research and other academic work in the regions/provinces where the Project sites are located. They will be involved in the conducting of research and other studies, and in sharing of scientific information on the sites, especially so if the communities have contributed to the researches made. They will provide their expertise such as advisory support to selected Project activities.

Women and Youth: Women and youth will be given particular attention in the project so that their potential can be harnessed to contribute to improving sustainable management in the production landscapes.

Private sector: The private sector is definitely included in the value chain of biodiversity conservation and its involvement includes translating environmental benefits into monetary terms. The sectors' practices affect utilization of natural resources. Fortunately, more and more private sector organizations are espousing corporate social responsibilities that can be potentially harnessed to support conservation efforts directly. The Project will engage actively with the private sector to influence their actions, and explore potential investment opportunities on biodiversity business and other production systems. Their resources will be harnessed to promote investments in sustainable use, and provide alternative income generating opportunities to communities to steer them away from destructive practices.

Footnote:

(7) The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) requires that all development projects undertaken in areas with IP communities should have the FPIC

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 this project's design and implementation. SGP has been pioneering and highly recognized in mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in every step of the program cycle. A gender focal point is designated within 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.

Will there be private sector engagement in the project? (yes 1 /no 0). Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

Private sector engagement is a clearly envisioned output in the area of supporting biodiversity friendly and sustainable livelihoods. Private sector engagement is necessary in addressing the entire value chain of specific livelihoods and enterprises, thus engagement with the private sector is expected for all grants involving livelihoods and enterprise development. SGP in GEF-7 will ensure that linkage with the private sector will be established during project preparation.

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 2. Risks, rating and proposed mitigation measures

Identified risks	Potential consequence	Risk rating	Mitigation measures	Risk category
Low capacity and awareness of local NGOs and CBOs to in quantifying/ monitoring community conservation effort	Low capacity and awareness of local NGOs and CBOs may decrease demand for community driven projects as well as influence the need	L: medium	Risk mitigation systems in place will be strengthened to maintain or improve CBO and NGO performance. The Philippines SGP Country Programme works with all grantees to help build capacities by identifying appropriate technical support necessary in the areas of programme monitoring/ learning. Included in this effort are particular knowledge learning platforms in the area of ecological baseline information management. SGP country program will also link grantee partners to learn from each other (peer-to-peer), and working in a flexible manner that responds to the strengths and comparative advantages of grantees. The SGP Country Programme also reduces risk by supporting replication of good practices that have	Program

<p>s contribution to address global environmental problems in selected geographical areas.</p>	<p>s influence the pace and implementation of grant projects once approved.</p>	<p>m l: m e d i u m</p>	<p>The SGP Country Programme also reduces risk by supporting replication of good practices that have proven to deliver on GEF strategic priorities at the community level. The National Steering Committee (NSC), with representation from civil society leaders, government institutions, and donors further provides support for effective design and implementation of SGP-financed projects.</p>	<p>m m a t i c</p>
<p>High exposure and risk of the country to extreme weather events / climate anomalies which may affect eastern seaboard sites</p>	<p>Strong storms may damage production and conservation areas where grants will be implemented</p>	<p>L: m e d i u m l: h i g h</p>	<p>Stepping up community level/ site level conservation efforts and building livelihood capacity which are the core components of the country program are in and of itself risk mitigation efforts in the area of climate related hazards. Ensuring healthy mangroves, for example, is a risk reduction effort for storm surges. Climate risk will be factored in the planning process so that project level risk reduction activities will be emphasized.</p>	<p>C o n t e x t u a l</p>
<p>The continuation of the country's instability, either politically or economically.</p>	<p>Instability may have a negative impact on resource mobilization, on the implementation of SGP funded projects' activities in different regions, and may also affect the sustainability of projects.</p>	<p>L: m e d i u m l: h i g h</p>	<p>SGP plans to overcome these risks through the continuous efforts of the NC, NSC members and SGP team to encourage more civil society organizations to be engaged with the programme due to its significant role in the national development process—in partnership with the state and the private sector – as a result of their experience in welfare and social development programs.</p>	<p>C o n t e x t u a l</p>

<p>Legislation is passed restricting registration, imposing burdensome licensing requirements and exercising excessive bureaucratic procedures concerning the acceptance of grants and financial resources.</p>	<p>Greater obstacles to participation by civil society organizations in carrying out programmes and projects to protect the local and global environment may result in less participation in the SGP Country Programme.</p>	<p>L: I o w I: I o w</p>	<p>Part of the identified Outputs of the project is local and national level policy advocacy work. This would be complemented by efforts of the SGP Country Programme to institutionalize national consultations and policy dialogue among the Community-NGO-government stakeholders. Existing good relations of UNDP Country Programme with responsible governmental agencies also ensures cooperation and facilitate necessary procedures in policy consultations.</p>	<p>P r o g r a m m a t i c, c o n t e x t u a l</p>
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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 SGP since its inception in the Philippines has worked collaboratively with both government-financed and donor-funded projects in the country. For GEF-7, SGP will endeavor to collaborate with the following on-going GEF-financed projects:

1. UNDP/GEF Strengthening National Systems to Improve Governance and Management of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Conserved Areas and Territories (Philippine ICCA Project) – this project aims to strengthen the national systems to support the establishment and recognition of Indigenous Communities Conserved Areas (ICCAs). The project is enhancing the tools for ICCA documentation and conservation planning. The SGP can adapt and disseminate these tools which can be used by the IP communities to be supported in the targeted landscapes.
2. UNDP/GEF Strengthening the Marine Protected Areas to Conserve Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (SMARTSeas Project) – this project aims to strengthen management of marine protected areas and marine protected area networks. This also looks into innovative financing schemes to cover the recurring costs of effective management of locally-managed marine protected areas.
3. UNDP/GEF project on SLM titled Implementation of Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Practices to Address Land Degradation and Mitigate Effects of Drought from which useful lessons and strategies can be adopted to promote landscape level sustainable agriculture practices.

The SGP will also ensure coordination with the following non-GEF funded on-going and future programs and projects:

1. Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Programme (CMEMP) – This government-funded program aims to improve management of coastal and marine ecosystems and will run until 2028. This program has a component supporting community-based biodiversity friendly enterprises within protected areas and key biodiversity areas.
2. Enhanced National Greening Program – This a government-funded reforestation program that aims to increase forest cover, enhance biodiversity and provide livelihood to communities inhabiting the forest with tenurial instrument. This provides support to community-based forest management agreement holders by providing funds for agro-forestry and reforestation activities.
3. Biodiversity Financing Initiative – this is a UNDP initiative with funding support from Government of Germany which aims to increase and mobilize financing for biodiversity conservation. It also includes the localization of biodiversity and strategy action planning in which communities will participate. It will also help local governments and communities mobilize resources to support local initiatives on biodiversity conservation.
4. Coastal Resilience Project under the Green Climate Fund – this is a proposal submitted to GCF which aims to increase adaptation capacity of communities and ecosystems in disaster prone areas along the Eastern seaboard of the Philippines.
5. Fish Right – this is a project funded by USAID (implemented by the University of Rhode Island) which aims to improve the management and climate resilience of fisheries and coastal resources as well as increase the resilience and improve livelihoods of coastal and marine resource-dependent communities in three priority sites, one of which is the Calamianes Group of Islands in northern Palawan.

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

The work of SGP in the selected landscapes and seascapes where GEF-7 will continue to be implemented was found to be directly relevant to, and consistent with the Philippine's national priorities and policies related to global environmental issues and development priorities. The GEF-7 phase will continue to contribute to the Philippine Development Plan 2011-2016, 2017-2022 in strengthening and enhancing the protection of vulnerable and ecologically fragile areas, especially watersheds and areas where biodiversity is highly threatened. These areas are home to many indigenous peoples, highland communities and other beneficiaries of the GEF-SGP mechanism. GEF-5 projects also supported the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022.

The project is consistent with UN Sustainable Development Goals. It will contribute to the achievement of many SD goals in particular the following: SDG 1 - End poverty in all its forms everywhere, SDG 10 –Reduce inequality within and among countries, SDG-13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change impacts; SDG 14 – Conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development and SDG 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Similarly, the project will contribute in the implementation of the key priorities defined in the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, particularly Target 16 in enhancing ecosystem services of key biodiversity areas and Target 18 of improving human well being. It will contribute to the goals and targets of the PBSAP through the strengthening of mechanisms for community participation in managing key biodiversity areas in the targeted landscapes.

Lastly, SGP is expected to contribute to the National Climate Change Framework Strategy and National Climate Change Action Plan (2011-2028) as provided by the Philippine Climate Change Law. Specifically, improved landscape management is expected to help increase carbon sequestration through the restoration efforts in targeted landscapes.

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.

Each SGP grant project is designed to produce three things: global environmental and local sustainable development benefits (impacts); organizational capacities (technical, analytical, etc.) from learning by doing; and knowledge from evaluation of the innovation experience.

At the broader landscape level, the SGP Philippines Country Programme will produce a case study of the landscape planning and management experience in each of the selected landscapes. 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 (8). 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 to a tipping point 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, and each grant 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 and codified 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 knowledge fairs 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 at project design and based on a participatory methodology, so that the production of the case studies strengthen the community organization's 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.

At the global level, knowledge platforms including the SGP website and Communities Connect (a platform to share knowledge between civil society organizations around the world) will continue to be updated.

Footnote:

(8) UNU-IAS, Bioversity International, IGES and UNDP. 2014. Toolkit for the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS).

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).

Name	Position	Ministry	Date
Analiza Rebueta - Teh	Undersecretary for Climate Change Service & Mining Concerns and GEF Operational Focal Point	Department of Environment and Natural Resources	9/21/2018

ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

