

GEF experience in financing adaptation solutions in urban areas and settlements

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Rationale

- Cities are uniquely vulnerable to climate change.
 - Fourteen of the world's 19 largest cities are located in port areas.
 - Around 360 million people reside in urban coastal areas that are less than ten meters above the sea level.

Rationale

- Urban areas exert significant control over systems that are critical for resilience.
 - 60% of cities control water supply and wastewater treatment
 - Transportation, zoning, building codes and standards
- Cities are centers of innovation.
 - Solutions to climate change

GEF and Adaptation

- Long-standing experience in financing adaptation
 - Strategic Priority on Adaptation
 - Least Developed Countries Fund
 - Special Climate Change Fund

239 projects and programs, with 147, 66, and 26, from the LDCF, SCCF, and SPA, respectively (*June 2014 Figures*). These projects and programs finance a variety of adaptation activities in 109 countries, in accordance with UNFCCC guidance.

Programming Eligibility

Least Developed Countries Fund

- Designed to support projects addressing the **urgent and immediate adaptation needs** of the **Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**
- As a priority, the LDCF supports the preparation and the implementation of the **National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPA)**
 - **Country-driven strategies which identify urgent and immediate needs** of LDCs to adapt to climate change
- LDCs that have completed their NAPA are eligible for project funding under the LDCF

Programming Eligibility

Special Climate Change Fund

- **Funding windows:**
 - a) Adaptation, b) Transfer of technologies, c) Energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry, and waste management, d) Economic diversification for fossil fuel dependent countries
- As of date, only the **Adaptation (a) and Transfer of Technologies (b)** windows are active
- All Non-Annex I country who is party to the UNFCCC is eligible for project funding under the SCCF

Programming Eligibility - SCCF

- Water resources management
- Land management
- Agriculture
- Health
- Infrastructure development
- Fragile ecosystems (including mountain ecosystems)
- Integrated coastal zone management
- Climatic disaster risk management.

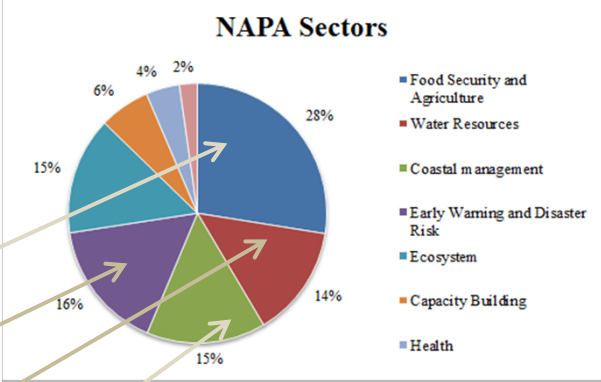
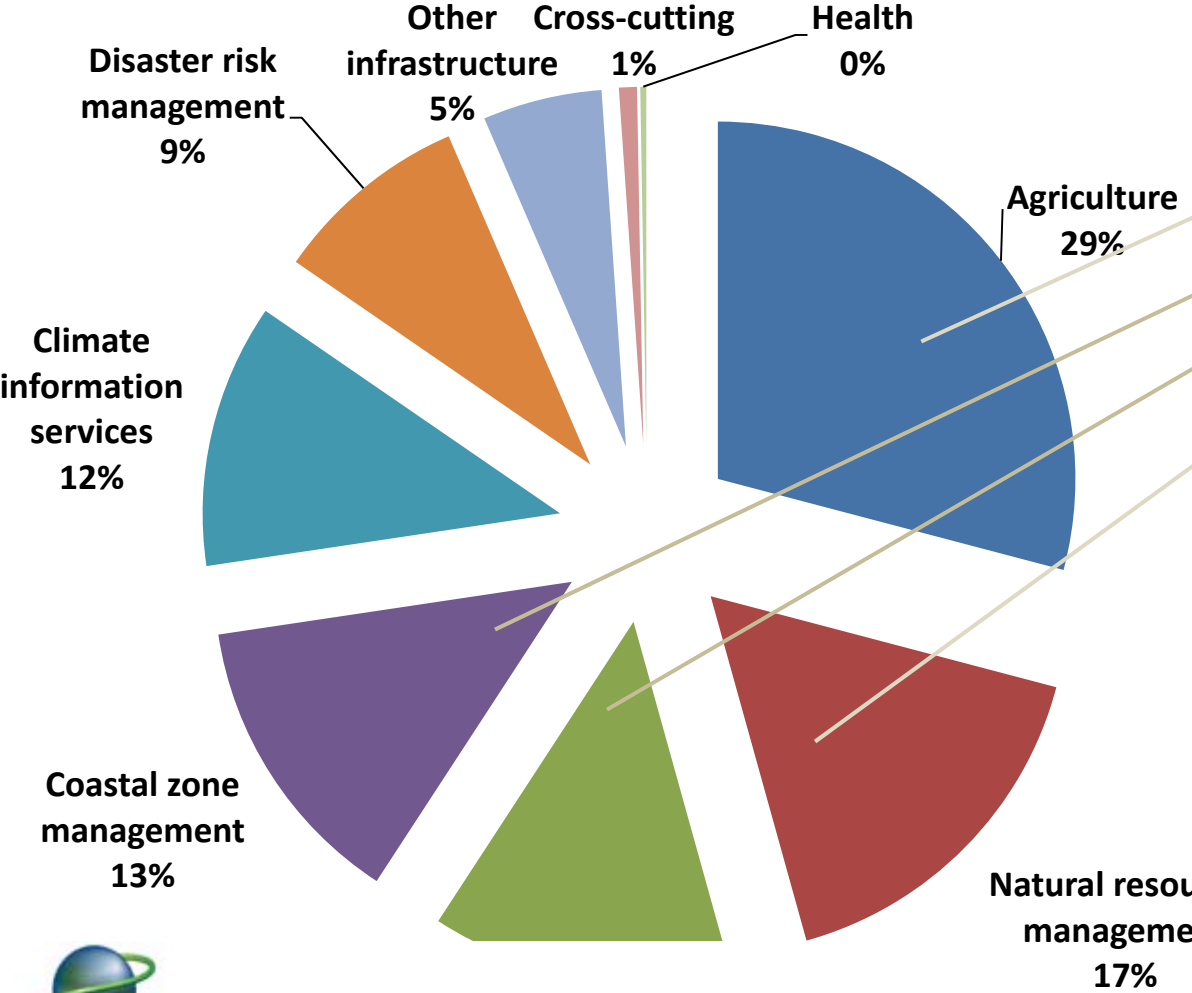
Programming Eligibility – SCCF-B

- transfer of environmentally sustainable technologies

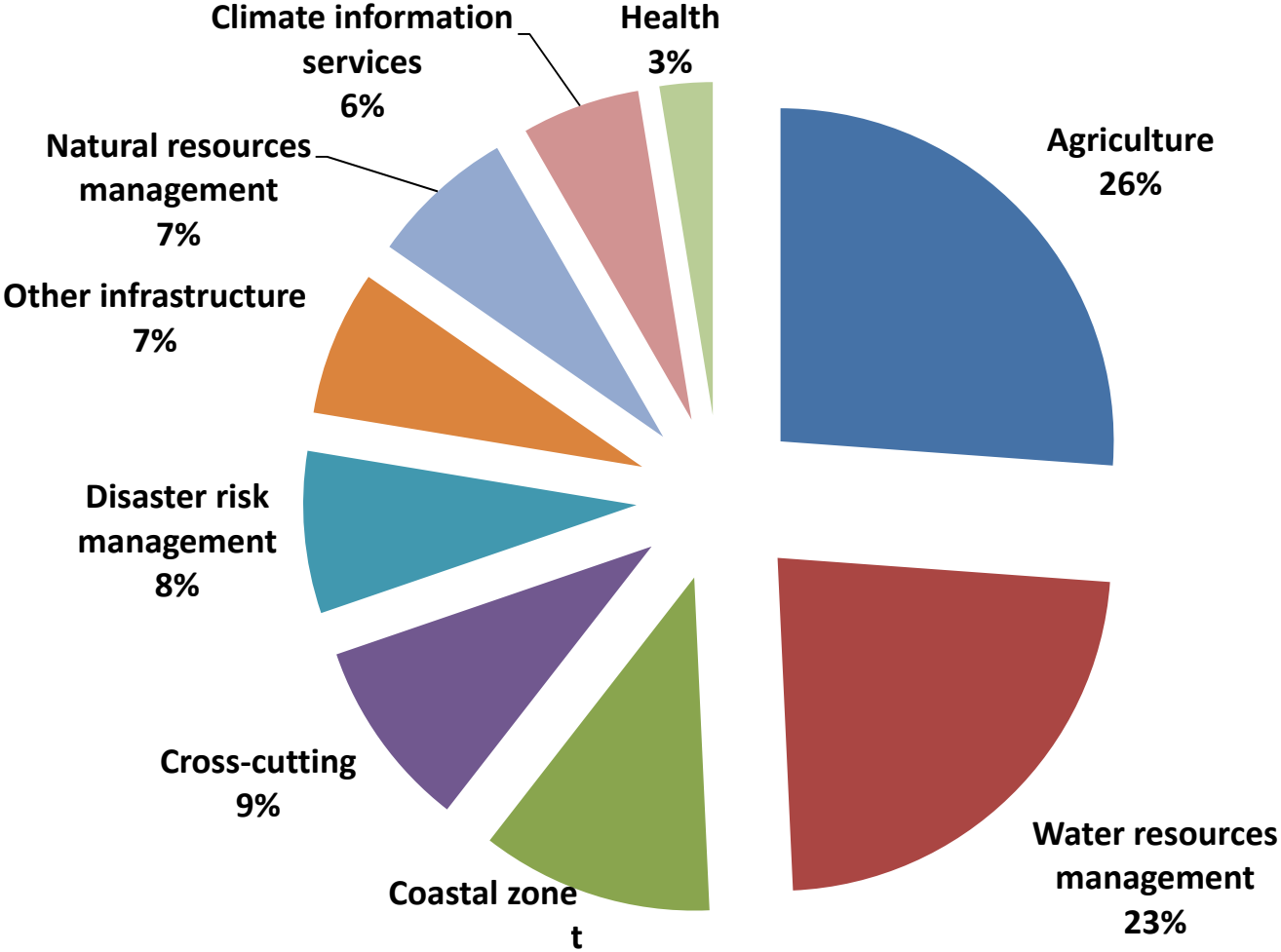
SCCF can support:

- implementation of the results of technology needs assessments;
- technology information;
- capacity-building for technology transfer; and
- enabling environments.

Distribution of LDCF funds by sector



Distribution of SCCF funds by sector



- Evaluating the design of the 239 projects in the GEF Adaptation program portfolio, projects were classified into one of three categories, according to its relevance to an urban context. These three categories include Core Urban Resilience, Directly Relevant, Indirectly/Non Relevant projects.

Core Urban Projects

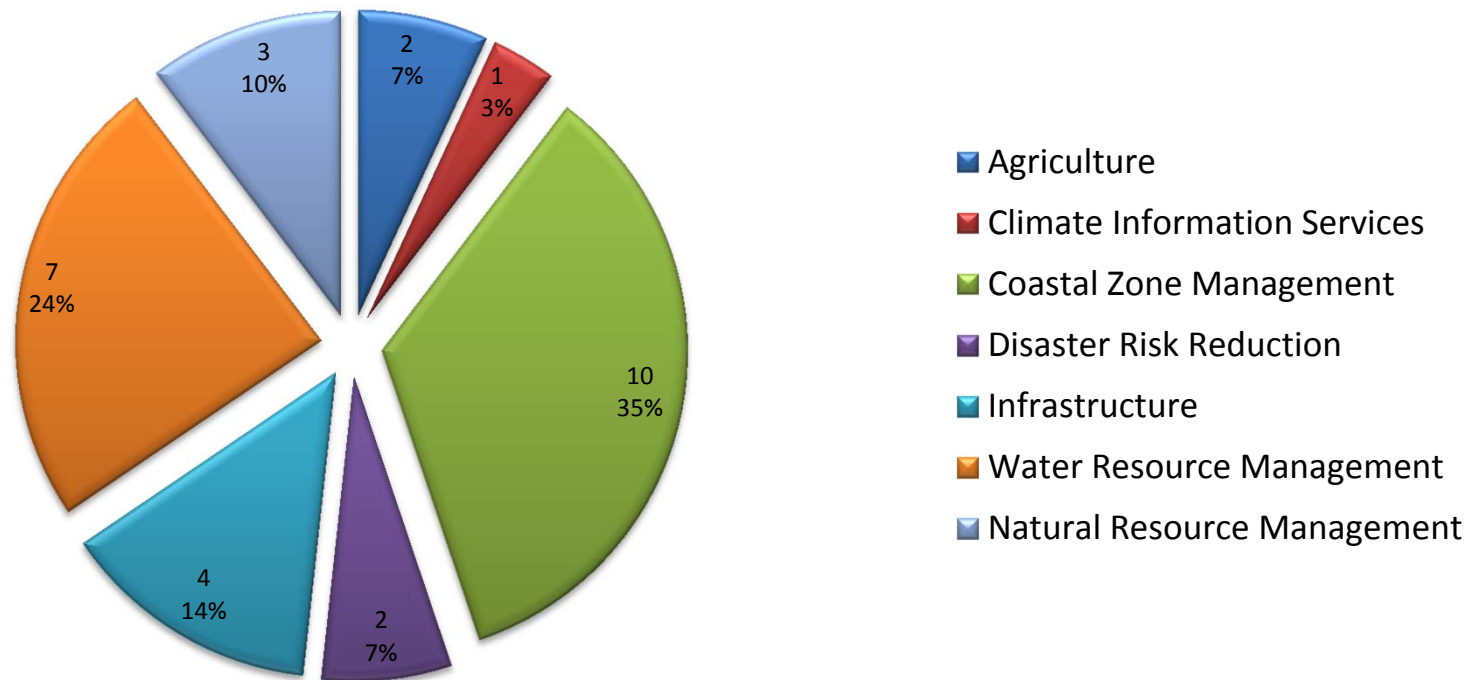
- 31/237 (13%)
 - 23 in the LDCF
 - 6 in the SCCF, and
 - 2 in the SPA fund.

Core Urban Projects

- The majority of CUR projects (83%) can be found within just four sectors:
 - Coastal Zone Management (CZM), Water Resource Management (WRM), Infrastructure, and Natural Resource Management (NRM)
 - CZM and Infrastructure sectors exhibit the highest frequency of CUR projects, at 40% and 50%, respectively WRM and NRM have a lower proportion of CUR projects, at 21% and 11%, respectively



Core Urban Resilience by Sector



Liberia: Enhancing Resilience of Vulnerable Coastal Areas to Climate Change Risks In Liberia

LDCF/GEF amount:: \$3.30 M (UNDP)

CC Vulnerabilities:

- Increased coastal erosion due to storms and SLR

Adaptation Actions:

- Development of climate resilient land use plans
- Training of key specialists dealing with land use planning, coastal zone management, coastal infrastructure development and land reclamation and mainstreaming into plans
- Demonstration measures pilots

Outcomes:

- Reduced impact of sea level rise on critical infrastructure and sustainable development



Cameroon: Enhancing Resilience of Low-income Communities to Urban Flooding in Yaounde

SCCF/GEF amount:: \$4.03 M (AfDB)

CC Vulnerabilities:

- Flooding, particularly informal settlements

Adaptation Actions:

- Integrating climate change risks into urban planning, policies and regulation, and CB
- Development of local adaptation plans
- Implementation of community-based adaptation measures, in tandem with larger-scale investments in flood risk management, water and sanitation

Outcomes:

- Enhanced community resilience to floods



Source: Wikimedia Commons

Mexico, Salvador, Jamaica: Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation

SCCF/GEF amount:: \$6.72 M (UNEP)

CC Vulnerabilities:

- Hurricanes, severe storms, heavy rainfall, flooding

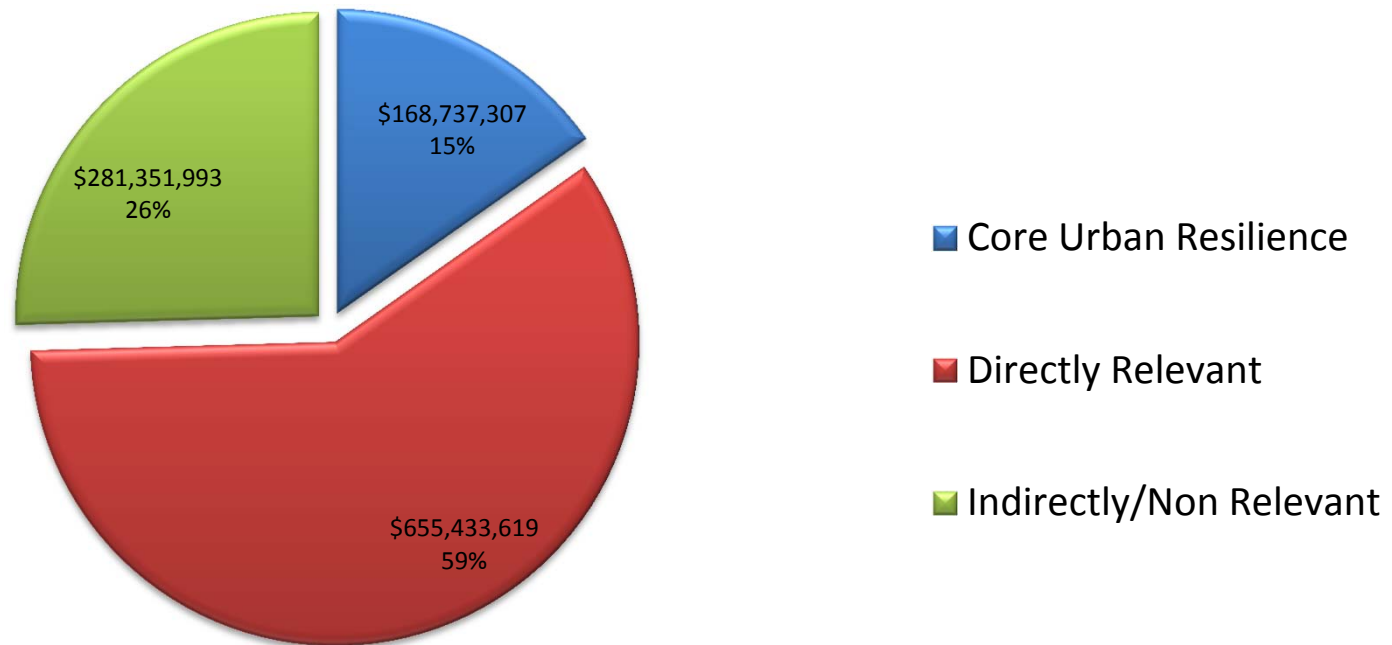
Adaptation Actions:

- Urban agriculture, wetlands management, afforestation

Outcomes:

- Physical resilience from floods
- Diminished erosion
- Increased water retention and quality
- Decreased thermal load

Total GEF Project Grant Funding



Belize: Energy Resilience for Climate Adaptation

SCCF/GEF amount:: \$8.76 M (World Bank)

CC Vulnerabilities:

- Hurricanes, secondary effects from power loss during disasters

Adaptation Actions:

- Establishing a mechanisms for adaptation planning at the ministry level for resilient energy planning in the long-term
- Demonstrate adaptation investments and technologies in the energy sector
- Alternative sources of energy, investing in smart grids, standards, specifications, and codes

Outcomes:

- Climate-resilient energy



Source: Wikimedia Commons

Colombia: Adaptation to Climate Impacts in Water Regulation and Supply for the Area of Chingaza - Sumapaz - Guerrero

SCCF/GEF amount:: \$4.2 M (IDB)

CC Vulnerabilities:

- Loss of hydrological buffering and regulation capacity of watershed → Diminished water supply to Bogota

Adaptation Actions:

- Ecosystem-based Adaptation: restoration and protection of wetlands
- Development and implementation adaptation measures from municipal governments
- Enhancing climate resilience of upstream rural communities and livelihoods

Outcomes:

- Hydrological buffering and regulation capacity maintained or increased under CC
- Transfer of technologies and production of knowledge



Sumapaz wetland
(Source: Wikimedia Commons)

Conclusions

- There is a strong urban dimension in GEF adaptation programming (74%)
- Taking a more strategic approach to urban adaptation could unlock the potential for synergies and leveraging co-benefits specific to the urban context

Future directions

- GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF
- <http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/10516>
- Integrated Approach Pilot on Sustainable Cities (contact: Chizuru Aoki caoki@thegef.org)

Thank you

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