



**REPORT OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY TO THE
TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE
UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE
CHANGE**

Reporting period: July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024

August 5, 2024

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACE	Action for Climate Empowerment
ACTFCN	African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AF	Adaptation Fund
AfDB	African Development Bank
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
BAEF	Barrier Analysis and Enabling Framework Report
BBNJ	Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction
BRS	Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions
BTR	Biennial Transparency Report
BUR	Biennial Update Report
CAF	Development Bank of Latin America
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBIT	Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency
CBIT TF	Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency Trust Fund
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCM	Climate Change Mitigation
CEIT	Countries with Economy in Transition
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CES	Country Engagement Strategy
CFCP	Climate Funds Collaboration Platform on Results, Indicators and Methodologies for Impact
CGE	Consultative Group of Experts
CI	Conservation International
CIF	Climate Investment Funds
CMA	Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement
CMP	Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol
COBIOCOM	Biocultural Corridor of the Central West of Mexico
CO ₂ eq	Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CTCN	Climate Technology Centre and Network
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DBSA	Development Bank of South Africa
EA	Enabling Activity
EbA	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ECA	Eastern Europe and Central Asia
ECW	Expanded Constituency Workshop
EOI	Expression of Interest
EST	Environmentally Sustainable Technology

ETF	Enhanced Transparency Framework
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FINTECC	Finance and Technology Transfer Centre for Climate Change
FSP	Full-Sized Project
FY	Fiscal Year
GBF	Global Biodiversity Framework
GBFF	Global Biodiversity Framework Fund
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GCP	Global Coordination Platform
GEB	Global Environmental Benefit
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEFTF	Global Environment Facility Trust Fund
GGA	Global Goal on Adaptation
GGP	GEF Gender Partnership
GGW	Great Green Wall
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GHGI	Greenhouse Gas Inventory
GRID	Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development
GSP	Global Support Program
GST	Global Stocktake
HCFC	Hydro-chlorofluorocarbon
HFC	Hydrofluorocarbon
IA	Implementing Agency
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
IDA	International Development Association
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IEO	Independent Evaluation Office
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFI	International Financial Institution
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
IP	Integrated Program
IPAG	GEF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPLCs	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JPC	Joint Programming Consultation
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LCT	Low-Carbon Technology
LDC	Least Developed Country
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LEG	Least Developed Countries Expert Group
LTS	Long-Term Strategy
LTV	Long-Term Vision
LULUCF	Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry

MCF	Multilateral Climate Fund
MDB	Multilateral Development Bank
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MFA	Multi-Focal Area
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPGs	Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (of the Enhanced Transparency Framework)
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
MSP	Medium-Sized Project
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
Mt	Megaton (10 ⁶ tons)
MTF	Multi-Trust Fund
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Program of Action
NbS	Nature-Based Solutions
NC	National Communication
NCSA	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDE	National Designated Entity
NFP	National Focal Point
NGCCFP	National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points
NGI	Non-Grant Instrument
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OFP	Operational Focal Point
PATPA	Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement
PCCB	Paris Committee on Capacity Building
PFD	Program Framework Document
PIF	Project Identification Form
PIR	Project Implementation Report
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PSES	GEF Private Sector Engagement Strategy
PSP	Poznan Strategic Program on Technology Transfer
PV	Photovoltaic
RCC	Regional Collaboration Center
SB	Subsidiary Bodies for Implementation and for Scientific and Technological Advice
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SCCF-A	Special Climate Change Fund Adaptation Program
SCCF-B	Special Climate Change Fund Program for Technology Transfer
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance
SCIP	Sustainable Cities Integrated Program
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals

SE4All	Sustainable Energy for All
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SIDS	Small Island Developing State
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SOFF	Systematic Observations Financing Facility
STAP	Scientific, Technical and Advisory Panel
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
TA	Technical Assistance
TAP	Technology Action Plan
TEC	Technology Executive Committee
TER	Terminal Evaluation Report
TNA	Technology Needs Assessment
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WASP	World Adaptation Science Program
WBCSD	World Business Council for Sustainable Development
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
YOUNGO	Official Children and Youth Constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report to the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) provides information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the reporting period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. This period corresponds to the second year of the eighth replenishment period of the GEF Trust Fund (GEFTF) (GEF-8) from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2026.
2. The GEF, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of UNFCCC, provides financing to country-driven climate change projects and programs.
3. The Paris Agreement and related COP decisions affirmed the role and contributions of the GEF in addressing climate change as part of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention. Additionally, the GEF, as well as the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), along with the Green Climate Fund (GCF), were designated to serve the Paris Agreement. The report presents activities undertaken by these funds and responses to decisions from the UN Climate Change conference held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, from November 30 to December 12, 2023.

Support for Climate Change Mitigation in the Reporting Period

4. In the reporting period, the GEF approved 34 projects and programs totaling \$702 million to support climate change mitigation (CCM) from the GEFTF, including GEF project financing, project preparation grants (PPGs), and Agency fees. Of this amount, \$185 million (or 26 percent) were drawn from the CCM Focal Area and the rest from other GEF focal areas and set-aside incentives.
5. These 34 projects and programs include eight CCM projects, one CCM program (including six child projects), 15 multi-focal area (MFA) projects, and ten MFA programs (including 68 child projects). Out of the 91 standalone projects and child projects, 14 were medium-sized projects¹ (MSPs) and 77 were full-sized projects (FSPs).
6. Together, the 23 projects and 11 programs are expected to leverage approximately \$5.9 billion in co-financing, resulting in a co-financing ratio of 1 (GEF) to 9.1 (co-financing). These new investments with expected CCM benefits approved in the reporting period are expected to avoid or sequester 404 megaton (Mt) CO₂ equivalent (eq) in total over their lifetime.
7. Through the GEFTF investments, the GEF and its partners are supporting GEF recipient countries in key CCM sectors. In the reporting period, the GEF has supported three projects and programs on technology innovation and transfer, two on renewable energy, one on energy efficiency, two programs on sustainable transport and urban systems, 22 projects and programs on agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU), and four on mixed or other sectors.

¹ At its 66th meeting in February 2024, the GEF Council considered document GEF/C.66/08/Rev.03, Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle, and approved an increase in the cap for MSPs from \$2 million to \$5 million.

Support for Climate Change Adaptation in the Reporting Period

8. This reporting period marks the midpoint in the implementation of the GEF-8 funding cycle and of the Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change of the LDCF and SCCF.

9. During this reporting period, both funds approved significantly large numbers and amounts of projects and programs to support climate adaptation priorities: The LDCF/SCCF Council and the GEF CEO approved/endorsed 38 projects and programs drawing approximately \$418.98 million funding from the LDCF and SCCF. In particular, the LDCF had the largest work program in its history approved by Council in June 2024, and the total annualized programming amount also was the highest since the inception of the fund.

10. 31 FSPs and 2 MSPs, totaling \$394.11 million, were approved by the LDCF. These LDCF projects and programs support national CCA priorities of least developed countries (LDCs), while contributing to strengthening institutional capacities, resilient recovery, and adaptation innovation in line with the LDCF priority areas and strategy goals.

11. Of the 33 LDCF projects and programs approved by the LDCF/SCCF Council, twenty-two are in Africa, five in Asia, three in Atlantic and Indian Ocean small island developing States (SIDS), while two are global projects. These LDCF projects and programs are expected to mobilize over \$1,806.26 million in indicative co-financing from the governments of the recipient countries, GEF Agencies, multilateral and bilateral agencies, private sector, and others.

12. In terms of impact from the activities, the 33 LDCF projects and programs approved in the reporting period are expected to reach 13.17 million direct beneficiaries (51.8 percent female); to bring approximately 3.54 million hectares of land and 67,000 hectares of coastal and marine areas under more climate-resilient management; to engage 2,044 private-sector enterprises in climate resilience action; and to train about 1.26 million people (50.8 percent female) in various aspects.

13. During the reporting period, the LDCF has continued to serve all 46² eligible LDCs to address their urgent and immediate CCA needs through targeted consultations and upstream engagement that encourages them to consider applying for LDCF support in line with operational improvements outlined in the 2018-2022 Adaptation Strategy. Overall, fourteen countries³ have accessed the full \$20 million cap for GEF-8, while sixteen⁴ additional LDCs have accessed part of the \$20 million cap to address their adaptation priorities.

14. As for the SCCF, the reporting period also marks an important moment in the history of the fund in which the LDCF/SCCF Council approved its first largest number of projects focusing on supporting CCA priorities of SIDS in the GEF-8 period. The SCCF approved four FSPs and one MSP, totaling \$24.87 million. Of those five projects, three are national projects; one is a multi-

² Bhutan graduated from LDC status in December 2023

³ Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mauritania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and South Sudan

⁴ Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Gambia, Guinea, Lao PDR, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Tanzania, Togo, and Zambia

country project covering five SIDS supported by SCCF Window A focused on the adaptation priorities of SIDS; while one is a global program supported by SCCF Window B focused on strengthening technology transfer, innovation, and private-sector engagement.

15. These SCCF projects are expected to mobilize over \$116.40 million in co-financing from governments, GEF Agencies, and multilateral and bilateral agencies. The impacts of these SCCF projects are expected to benefit 562,230 direct beneficiaries (48.86 percent female); to bring approximately 117,554 hectares of land and 1.82 million hectares of coastal and marine areas under more climate-resilient management; to train about 36,333 people (33.10 percent female) in various aspects of CCA; and to engage 15 private-sector enterprises in climate resilience action.

Enabling Activities and Support for the Enhanced Transparency Framework

16. Since its inception, the GEF has supported various EAs under the Convention, including the preparation of national communications (NCs), biennial update reports (BURs), technology needs assessments (TNAs) and biennial transparency reports (BTRs). EAs fulfill essential reporting and communication requirements under the UNFCCC and provide information to enable policy- and decision-making. In the reporting period the GEF financed, through the GEFTF, 22 EAs in the amount of \$28.4 million, inclusive of GEF project financing and Agency fees.

17. In December 2018, CMA 1-3 requested the GEF, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism that also serves the Paris Agreement, to support developing country Parties in preparing their first and subsequent BTRs. In the reporting period, the GEF has approved support to 33 countries to prepare their BTRs with \$33.2 million.

18. In addition to BTRs, the GEF has continued to support other EAs. As of June 30, 2024, cumulatively, a total of 207 BURs have been approved in 132 countries, a total of 558 NCs have been approved in 152 countries, and a total of 144 BTRs have been approved in 102 countries.

19. In the reporting period, 15 non-Annex I Parties submitted their NCs, 16 non-Annex I Parties submitted their BURs to the UNFCCC, and one non-Annex I Party submitted its first BTR. Since January 1, 2022, BUR support for Parties to the Paris Agreement has been phased out.⁵ By June 30, 2024, 47 BURs supported by the GEF were still under preparation.

20. The global support for the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), called the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) is under implementation until the end of 2026 and focuses on assisting countries in transitioning to the BTR and meeting ETF provisions. On May 20-21, 2024, the Global Transparency Forum took place in Tokyo, Japan, organized by the CBIT-GSP and hosted by the Ministry of Environment of Japan. Delegates from over 120 developing countries participated, with the objective of building momentum and capacities for the timely implementation of the ETF.

Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency

⁵ GEF, 2020, [Information Note on the Financing of Biennial Transparency Reports for Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement](#), Council Document GEF/C.59/Inf.19, paragraph 21.

21. In response to the COP 21 decision adopting the Paris Agreement, the GEF supported the establishment and operationalization of the CBIT as a priority reporting-related need during GEF-6. As of June 30, 2020, fourteen donors had signed their respective contribution agreements, and the Trustee has received the donors' full pledged amounts. Total donor contributions to the CBIT Trust Fund (CBIT TF) amount to \$61.6 million. The active CBIT portfolio continues to include projects supported by the CBIT TF which were approved prior to October 2018. The CBIT support was mainstreamed into the GEFTF from GEF-7 onwards.

22. As of June 30, 2024, the CBIT project portfolio comprised 96 projects, of which 88 are individual country projects, one is a regional project, and seven are global projects. Through its individual country projects and a regional project, the CBIT portfolio is providing support to 88 countries. Total CBIT support amounts to \$159.7 million, including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees. Out of the 96 projects in the CBIT portfolio, 20 projects have been completed, 63 projects are under implementation, and nine projects have been approved or endorsed by the CEO and are yet to start implementation. The remaining four projects have a cleared concept or are pending submission and review of their proposals for approval or endorsement by the GEF CEO. In the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat approved four CBIT country projects plus two global projects with \$12.7 million of GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

Technology Transfer

23. The transfer of low-carbon and climate-resilient technology has been a key cross-cutting theme for the GEF since its establishment, recognizing the importance of technology transfer as an essential element from the beginning of the UNFCCC process, as reflected in the Convention text. In the reporting period, for CCM, one Integrated Program, two programs, one program addendum and three projects include financing toward the GEF CCM strategy Pillar I (promoting innovation, technology development and transfer, and enabling policies for mitigation options with systemic impacts), totaling \$214 million in GEF funding, including PPGs and Agency fees, and \$2 billion in co-financing. This amount includes funding for four global projects. For CCA, twelve projects were approved that include financing toward the GEF CCA objective of strengthening innovation and private sector engagement that contributes to advancing technology transfer, innovation, and deployment, totaling \$176 million, inclusive of GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees, leveraging \$856 million in co-financing.

Private Sector and Blended Finance

24. Recognizing the growing need to effectively engage and mobilize the private sector, the GEF strengthened its support for innovative blended finance solutions in GEF-8. With a four-year funding level of \$196 million, the GEF has identified priorities for blended finance that cover Convention requirements and aim for multi-focal benefits, including new technologies and nature-based solutions (NbS).

25. In this reporting period, two calls for proposals received several innovative proposals addressing CCM, biodiversity, land restoration, agri-food systems, chemicals and waste, and NbS requesting in total \$240 million and \$4.4 billion in co-financing. Of the five projects selected, two CCM projects were approved by the GEF Council for a total funding of \$30.1 million, attracting co-financing of \$659 million. Private sector participation was a key requirement in each project,

with an expected co-financing share of almost 90 percent. CCM benefits for these projects are estimated to be 85 Mt CO₂ eq over the project lifetimes.

26. Furthermore, the third round of the Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation was launched in April 2024, with a call for concepts.⁶ The Challenge Program is a competitive process open to any proponents and has proven highly successful in engaging with a broader set of partners and in promoting innovation with the private sector. The third round seeks provide support totaling \$20 million from the LDCF/SCCF to selected proponents to catalyze adaptation innovation and financing.

GEF Small Grants Programme

27. The GEF-8 Replenishment emphasized the importance of local innovation and civil society in achieving Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs), and \$155 million was allocated to the Small Grants Programme (SGP) Corporate Program to mobilize civil society actions to address environmental degradation while promoting sustainable development and improved livelihoods. In addition, the GEF Council at its 63rd Meeting approved the selection of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Conservation International as additional SGP Implementing Agencies.

28. In the GEF-8, the SGP will provide grants ranging from \$75,000 to \$150,000 for strategic projects, aiming to scale up successful approaches across multiple communities within critical landscapes or seascapes. By involving civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs), the funding will address global environmental and sustainable development challenges, building on its experience in providing affordable clean energy to remote and vulnerable communities to scale up low-carbon transformation while de-risking private-sector investment and supporting innovative technologies, including energy access for health services and digital technologies.

Advancing Social Inclusion and Gender Equality

29. The GEF Secretariat has continued to advance its broader social inclusion agenda in the context of the UNFCCC process. The GEF Secretariat actively engages with the Official Youth Constituency of the UNFCCC (YOUNGO) to ensure that youth voices are represented in GEF processes and, in this regard, participated in a number of events and activities of YOUNGO and other youth groups.

30. Concrete opportunities for inclusion were also rolled out during the reporting period. The Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program was created in preparation for the seventh GEF Assembly to demonstrate GEF's commitment to engaging CSOs, indigenous peoples, youth, and local community groups in providing inclusive climate adaptation and global environmental benefits. Twenty-three CSOs were selected under the Challenge Program to receive grants of up to \$100,000 to expand their initiatives and to build a network for mutual learning and knowledge sharing. The Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program is supported by the LDCF and SCCF.

⁶ GEF, 2024, [Third Call for Concepts for the GEF Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation](#).

31. The GEF Secretariat also supported participation in its work of some members of the GEF CSO network and joined them in their events. The GEF Secretariat participated in events organized by people with disabilities and engaged with them on possible GEF support, including through the SGP.

32. With regard to promoting gender equality, as reflected in its Progress Report on Advancing Gender Equality submitted to its 66th GEF Council Meeting, 100 percent of projects at the CEO endorsement/approval stage, including those with CCA and CCM as focal areas and projects funded under CBIT, incorporated gender perspectives in their project descriptions, outputs, and activities. All projects were accompanied by Gender Action Plans.

33. Working closely with the GEF Gender Partnership, and the Gender Team of the UNFCCC Secretariat, the GEF Secretariat co-organized cross-learning, capacity-building, and awareness-raising activities where the GEF Secretariat elaborated on the entry points for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment through the GEF programming cycle, as well as through its inclusive Country Engagement Strategy.

Enhancing and Streamlining Access in GEF-8 Roll-Out

34. The GEF-8 Replenishment Resolution emphasized commitments to propose specific actions to enhance access, focusing on sustainability and inclusiveness in GEF programming. The GEF-8 Policy Recommendations highlighted the need for cross-cutting efforts to streamline and implement further efficiency measures across GEF operations. This includes a continuous commitment to improving operational efficiency and ensuring that GEF programs align with their mandates while being more inclusive.

35. During this reporting period, the GEF Secretariat made significant strides in enhancing operational efficiency, responding to requests from GEF-8 replenishment participants. In collaboration with GEF Agencies, the Secretariat introduced streamlined templates for the four project modalities: FSPs, MSPs, EAs, and Program Framework Documents (PFDs). These new templates, particularly for EAs, focus on essential information and incorporate Rio Markers for tracking benefits and synergies from GEF investments. The flexibility allowed in programming STAR focal area resources also facilitates simpler access, enabling countries to allocate resources across climate change, biodiversity, and land degradation more freely.

36. The harmonization of project cycles and guidelines across the LDCF, SCCF, and GEFTF has been further refined. The templates now support the design of multi-trust fund (MTF) projects to integrate CCM and CCA objectives more effectively. All project proposals now include a climate risk screening as a best practice. This streamlining aligns project proposals with national priorities, including NDCs, long-term strategies, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPAs), ensuring a country-driven process. Additionally, the GEF Council approved increasing the cap for MSPs from \$2 million to \$5 million, extending the benefits of the streamlined approval process to a larger number of GEF projects and of overall

volume of GEF financing.⁷

37. The GEF Council established an ad hoc streamlining working group to explore additional streamlining measures, with representation from both donor and recipient countries. This group will consult with GEF Agencies, GEF Focal Points, and other stakeholders to develop recommendations for future Council meetings. Concurrently, efforts are underway to assess efficiency gains from harmonizing GEF with other climate funds like the GCF. A Multilateral Climate Funds Workshop held in April 2024 highlighted the need for further analysis to identify streamlining opportunities across different funds, aiming for collaborative programming, improved stakeholder engagement, and enhanced in-country decision-making processes.

Complementarity in Climate Finance and Long-Term Vision

38. During the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat continued its engagement with the other multilateral providers of climate finance, with the view of advancing the collective efficiency and impact of their efforts to support developing countries finance climate action. Building on collaboration and exchange efforts from the previous years, the Heads of the four major multilateral climate funds (MCFs), namely the Adaptation Fund, Climate Investment Funds (CIF), GCF and the GEF, announced at COP 28 their commitment to work together to develop an ambitious and concrete action plan to enhance access to climate finance and increase the joint impact of the MCFs' work.⁸

39. The joint action plan, which has been presented to the MCFs' respective Governing Bodies in 2024 and to be endorsed before COP 29, aims to strengthen the complementarity and coherence among the funds; to move towards harmonizing their procedures; and to streamline access modalities. Five principles were agreed upon as providing a framework for fostering collaboration and for guiding decision making in the implementation of the action plan.

40. The draft action plan was presented as a decision document to the 67th GEF Council.⁹ The Council welcomed the report and the draft action plan and requested the GEF network to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities.

41. Regarding the MCFs' physical presence at COP 28, building on the successful experience at COP 25, COP 26, and COP 27 where the GEF co-hosted a joint pavilion with the GCF, a decision was taken to expand the shared space modality and to collaborate on a joint pavilion hosting the four largest MCFs. The four Funds hosted a pavilion together at COP 28, pooling their resources and thereby reducing the high costs of operating the pavilion space.

42. The GEF and the GCF have been working closely together over the past several years to

⁷ GEF, 2024, *Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs*, Council Document GEF/C.66/Joint summary, Decision 3/2024.

⁸ <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>.

⁹ GEF, 2024, *Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions*, Annex II, Council Document GEF/C.67/07/Rev.01.

enhance synergies and coordination with regards to climate financing, in line with COP guidance on complementarity and coherence. These efforts continued during the reporting period. In the reporting period, the GEF and the GCF organized the second Joint Programming Consultation, in the context of the “Collaborative and Coordinated Programming” pillar of the GEF-GCF Long-Term Vision (LTV), which includes a specific focus on facilitation of national investment planning. Joint annual LTV progress reports to the GEF Council and GCF Board were submitted to the 62nd and 64th GEF Council. In the reporting period, another annual LTV progress report was prepared and submitted to the 67th GEF Council.¹⁰

Developments in Multilateral Environmental Agreements

43. During the reporting period, the GEF has further operationalized the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), which was established in 2023 in response to a decision taken at CBD COP 16 in December 2022. The first work program for the GBFF was approved by the second GBFF Council, which was held on June 19, 2024. The GBFF projects may generate climate mitigation benefits, which are tracked and reported. The three projects approved in the first Work Program are expected to generate 54.5 Mt CO₂ eq in climate mitigation benefits.

Evaluations by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office

44. The GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) completed four relevant evaluations in the reporting period. The Evaluation of GEF Support to Climate Information and Early Warning Systems¹¹ found that GEF support for Climate Information and Early Warning Systems (CIEWS) demonstrated strong alignment with GEF Trust Fund and LDCF/SCCF strategies, was relevant to specific country contexts, and was effective in developing warning services through infrastructure and capacity building. The evaluation concluded that GEF projects should shift focus from only providing early warning information to fostering early actions during disasters. This involves prioritizing data usability, ensuring that national and local response plans are in place, and establishing effective communication systems.

45. The LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report (AER) 2024¹² presented a synthesis of five recent evaluations prepared by the GEF IEO that are relevant to work on climate change adaptation. The report emphasized the need for adaptive agricultural practices through the use of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) and identified cross-cutting priorities and considerations that may help address climate change adaptation effectively, including strengthening innovation, leveraging new technologies, fostering collaborations, ensuring participation of women and youth, and development of institutional capacities for long term sustainability.

46. The Evaluation of Cofinancing in the GEF¹³ found that projects addressing climate change mitigation attract higher levels of co-financing commitments than the GEF projects focused on

¹⁰ GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration between GCF and GEF 2024](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Inf.07.

¹¹ GEF IEO, 2024, [Evaluation of GEF Support to Climate Information and Early Warning Systems](#), Council Document GEF/E/C.66/04.

¹² GEF IEO, 2024, [LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report 2024](#), Council Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.36/E/inf.01.

¹³ GEF IEO, 2024, [Evaluation of Co-financing in the GEF](#), Council Document GEF/E/C.67/01.

other environmental concerns. The evaluation also identified that activities such as infrastructure development, technology demonstration, and the procurement of efficient equipment and vehicles attract substantial co-financing, whereas attracting co-financing for capacity building, legal and policy development, and project monitoring activities is more difficult. The evaluation found that the full realization of co-financing commitments shows a positive correlation with both the project outcome and the sustainability rating.

47. The report *Learning from Challenges in GEF Projects*¹⁴ identified eight guiding principles or lessons for the GEF Partnership. These include active engagement with high-priority but deeply complex environmental projects over time and through experimentation, and establishing clear scoping conditions under which outcomes can and cannot be expected. It also emphasizes setting realistic expectations and time frames aligned with problem complexity, contextual characteristics, and capability to deliver, and ensuring that design, scaling, and replication decisions are informed by comprehensive contextual analysis.

¹⁴ GEF IEO, 2024, [Learning from Challenges in GEF Projects](#), Council Document GEF/E/C.66/03/Rev.01.

INTRODUCTION

1. Global Environment Facility (GEF), as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), submits its annual reports to the Conference of the Parties (COP) in line with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the COP and the GEF Council.
2. This report to COP 29 covers the reporting period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, which corresponds to fiscal year 2024 (FY24). FY24 is the second year of the eighth replenishment of the GEF (GEF-8) programming cycle, which covers the period from July 2022 to June 2026. The GEF submitted the FY23 report to the UNFCCC Secretariat on September 5, 2023.¹⁵
3. This report covers the GEF support to climate change mitigation (CCM), climate change adaptation (CCA), technology transfer and capacity building. It also contains information on multilateral environmental agreement (MEA) landscape development relevant to climate change, the social inclusion agenda, the implementation of GEF-8, and outcomes of program evaluation by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO).
4. The report consists of four parts: (i) GEF's response to the guidance from COP 28 and from the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 5), as well as its response to the conclusions of the 59th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA); (ii) key updates ; (iii) GEF achievements; and (iv) evaluations by the GEF IEO.

¹⁵ GEF, 2023, [Report of the GEF to the 28th Session of the COP to the UNFCCC](#).

PART I: GEF’S RESPONSE TO COP/CMA GUIDANCE

1. GEF RELEVANCE FOR THE UAE CONSENSUS

5. At the UNFCCC COP 28 conference, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Parties agreed to the UAE Consensus, a package of decisions which most notably included the operationalization of the new funding arrangements, including a fund for responding to loss and damage and the outcomes of the First Global Stocktake (GST). Parties also agreed to a framework to “guide the achievement and review the overall progress of the global goal on adaptation (GGA)”, and to “launch a two-year work program with a view to identifying and as needed, developing indicators” for measuring progress towards the overarching targets of the GGA Framework.

6. Of particular relevance to the GEF, the interlinkages between climate change and nature were increasingly recognized in the decision package. The GST decision included a call to governments to consider ecosystems, biodiversity, and carbon stores, including forests, in the next round of nationally determined contributions (NDCs), which are expected to be submitted in 2025. The importance of nature-based solutions and ecosystem conservation towards achieving the Paris Agreement goal was reaffirmed, along with the need to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030.

2. THE PARIS AGREEMENT, COP 28, CMP 18 AND CMA 5 DECISIONS AND CONCLUSIONS OF SBI 59 AND SBSTA 59

7. The Paris Agreement and related COP decisions affirmed the role of the GEF as part of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention. In accordance with Article 9 of the Paris Agreement, the GEF is committed to serve the Paris Agreement as its financial mechanism.

8. The COP 28, CMP 18, and CMA 5 in 2023 provided specific guidance to the GEF, while the conclusions of SBI 59 as well as SBSTA 59 also contained matters of relevance to the GEF. Key elements of the COP 28 and CMA 5 guidance are summarized below:

- a) On the Enhanced Transparency Framework: the GEF was encouraged to (i) include information on lessons learned on Enabling Activities, in particular on costs, access modalities and support delivery, in its annual report and to participate in the UNFCCC-organized transparency workshops and dialogues in 2024 and 2025.
- b) On Technology Transfer: the GEF was requested to continue to support Technology Needs Assessments and Technology Action Plans, and to consider including in the GEF annual report to the COP information on support provided for research, development, and demonstration. In addition, the GST text decided to establish a Technology Implementation Programme, to be supported, inter alia, by the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC, including the GEF as one of its operating entities, to support Parties with their technology transfer needs.
- c) Regarding GEF Agencies: the COP encouraged the GEF to open a targeted round of implementing agency expansion within the GEF partnership, with a focus on underserved regions.

- d) On Adaptation and Loss and Damage: the COP requested the GEF to consider ways to enhance its ongoing work to fund activities relevant to averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage, consistent with its current mandates, and requested the GEF in administering the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) to take into account the GGA framework.

9. As the financing mechanism serving several multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), the GEF support for climate action through systemic interventions can also contribute to addressing other global environmental priorities. In particular, the GEF recognizes the interlinked global crises of climate change and biodiversity loss, and the potential for nature-based solutions (NbS) in delivering benefits for climate change mitigation (CCM), climate change adaptation (CCA) and other global environmental concerns.

10. The GEF continues to be responsive to previous relevant COP decisions and guidance, as well as those from the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) and CMA by incorporating them into its CCM and CCA strategies; through approval of projects and programs; and by adapting its policies and procedures as relevant and appropriate. Table 1 provides the updated GEF response to decisions by the COP, CMP and CMA, and SBI and SBSTA conclusions.

Table 1: Decisions adopted by UNFCCC COP 28, CMP 18 and CMA 5, Conclusions of SBI 59 and SBSTA 59, and GEF’s Response

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF’s Response
<p>COP 28 Decisions (2023)</p> <p>Decision 4/CP.28: Long-Term Climate Finance</p>	
<p>Paragraph 8:</p> <p><i>Welcomes</i> the recent pledges to the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the Adaptation Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund, and the Special Climate Change Fund;</p>	<p>Noted with appreciation.</p>
<p>Paragraph 10:</p> <p><i>Emphasizes</i> the need for further efforts to enhance access to climate finance, including through harmonized, simplified, and direct access procedures, to address the needs of developing country Parties, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States;</p>	<p>The GEF-8 Replenishment Policy Recommendations include a decision to explore areas for streamlining the GEF project cycle, with an objective of reducing transaction costs and facilitating faster access to GEF resources by countries.</p> <p>In response to Decision 4 and similar guidance received from the COP at different sessions, the GEF continues to pursue efforts to enhance access to climate finance both internally, through streamlining of its operations, policies, and procedures, and externally through its engagement with the other major multilateral climate funds towards increased complementarity and collaboration.</p> <p>Two related processes are underway. First, the GEF has been actively involved in mapping the streamlining potential of processes and practices between the multilateral climate funds (MCFs). This</p>

¹⁶ COP 28 decisions are available at: <https://unfccc.int/event/cop-28>

¹⁷ CMP 18 decisions are available at: <https://unfccc.int/event/cmp-18>

¹⁸ CMA 5 decisions are available at: <https://unfccc.int/event/cma-5>

¹⁹ SBI 59 conclusions are available at: <https://unfccc.int/event/sbi-59>

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
	<p>exercise is informed by the ongoing Long-Term Vision on complementarity, coherence, and collaboration between the GEF and the GCF (LTV). The collaboration among the MCFs expanded to also include the Adaptation Fund (AF) and the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs), following the joint declaration by the four heads of the MCFs at COP 28.²⁰</p> <p>Second, the GEF partnership has been exploring ways to enhance its internal effectiveness. One important measure that was considered and approved by the GEF Council at its 6th Council Meeting involved increasing the cap on the size of Medium-Sized Projects (MSPs) from \$2 to \$5 million.²¹ The financing ceiling for GEF Trust Fund MSPs was initially set at \$1 million and was later raised to \$2 million in 2012. This most recent increase in the MSP cap is expected to enable a greater number of projects and value of GEF financing to benefit from the more streamlined approval process.</p> <p>In addition, with the establishment of a simplified project and program cycle for the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), which is managed by the GEF Secretariat, it is expected that experiences with the deployment of these further simplified processes will be assessed and will inform the extent to which further simplification measures can be considered for the project cycle(s) of the GEF Trust Fund, Least Developed Countries Fund, and the Special Climate Change Fund.</p>
<p>Paragraph 13: <i>Also reiterates</i> that a significant amount of adaptation finance should come from the operating entities of the Financial</p>	<p>In administering the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund, the GEF stands ready to work with both donors and recipient Parties to increase the share of global adaptation finance</p>

²⁰ <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>.

²¹ GEF, 2024, *Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs*, Council Document GEF/C.66/Jointsummary, Decision 3/2024.

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
Mechanism, the Adaptation Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund, and the Special Climate Change Fund;	that it receives and channels in its capacity of operating entity of the Financial Mechanism.
<p>Paragraph 17:</p> <p><i>Reiterates</i> that the secretariat, in collaboration with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, United Nations agencies and bilateral, regional, and other multilateral channels, will continue to explore ways and means to assist developing country Parties in assessing their needs and priorities in a country- driven manner, including their technological and capacity-building needs, and in translating climate finance needs into action.</p>	This is for the UNFCCC secretariat. The GEF secretariat stands ready to continue collaboration with partners.
Decision 5/CP.28: Matters relating to the Standing Committee on Finance	
<p>Paragraph 13:</p> <p><i>Notes with concern</i> that the draft guidance for the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism prepared by the Standing Committee on Finance was not considered owing to a limited number of submissions and requests Parties and other constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to provide elements for the draft guidance well in advance of future sessions of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement to enable the Committee to fulfil its mandate in this regard.</p>	This is for Parties to consider.
Decision 6/CP.28: Report of the Green Climate Fund to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Green Climate Fund	
<p>Paragraph 10:</p> <p><i>Also requests</i> the Board to continue to enhance coherence and complementarity of the Green Climate Fund with other relevant bilateral, regional, and global funding mechanisms and institutions, wherever feasible and to the extent possible, inter alia through joint programmes, outreach, and information-sharing,</p>	While this guidance is not directed to the GEF, this is noted. Ongoing efforts to continue to enhance coherence and complementarity with the GCF and with other multilateral climate funds have been outlined above in this table of responses and in the body of this Report.

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
thereby improving access to climate finance and lowering transaction costs for developing countries.	
Decision 7/CP.28: Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Global Environment Facility	
<p>Paragraph 1:</p> <p><i>Welcomes</i> the report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-eighth session and its addendum, including the response of the Global Environment Facility to the guidance received from the Conference of the Parties;</p>	Noted with appreciation.
<p>Paragraph 2:</p> <p><i>Notes</i> the work undertaken by the Global Environment Facility during its reporting period (1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023), including:</p> <p>(a) Approval of 34 climate change projects and programmes under the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund, and the Special Climate Change Fund;</p> <p>(b) Continued integration of climate change priorities into its other focal areas and integrated programmes and the expected avoidance or sequestration of 1,007.4 megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent achieved through such integration;</p> <p>(c) Continued implementation of the long-term vision on complementarity, coherence, and collaboration with the Green Climate Fund;</p> <p>(d) Actions following cases of mismanagement of funding from the Global Environment Facility in projects managed by one of its implementing agencies;(e) Continued work to implement the recommendations in decision 24/2020 of the Council of the Global Environment Facility;</p>	Noted with appreciation of recognition of the work undertaken.

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
<p>Paragraph 3: <i>Welcomes</i> the successful start of the implementation of the eighth replenishment cycle, including the 11 integrated programmes, and <i>encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to continue to track and regularly report to the Conference of the Parties the climate-related benefits of the integrated programmes;</p>	<p>Noted with appreciation. The GEF continues to track the climate-related benefits of its integrated programs regularly, from initial GEF Council approval of a Program Framework Document (PFD) to terminal evaluation. Climate benefits figures are captured at the project, program, and portfolio level through Core Indicator 6 (Greenhouse Gas emissions mitigated or avoided, reported in tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂ eq), and reported in the GEF annual report to COP.</p>
<p>Paragraph 4: <i>Also encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to maximize global environmental benefits through its projects and programmes with a focus on the co-benefits relating to climate change;</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Paragraph 5: <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to continue its support to developing countries in implementing the reporting requirements under the Convention, consistent with its current mandates;</p>	<p>Regarding mobilization of finance for reporting and enabling activities under the UNFCCC, the GEF continued to review and approve projects in a timely manner during the reporting period. The GEF Trust Fund continued to support National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), through the programming of medium-sized and full-sized projects.</p> <p>Following the GEF's work in previous reporting periods to define and communicate modalities of support provided for BTRs, the GEF Secretariat continues to work closely with countries requesting support for BTR preparation, with a view to allowing sufficient lead-time for countries to prepare and submit their first BTR by the due date of no later than December 31, 2024. As of June 30, 2024, the GEF has approved BTR support to 102 countries for 144 BTRs, and three additional countries have submitted requests for GEF financial support for BTR preparation.</p> <p>The GEF also continued to provide funding to support countries through the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT).</p>

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
	<p>Each CBIT proposal submitted to the GEF Secretariat has received support, upon technical clearance, in line with the Paris Agreement decision to provide support upon request. As of June 30, 2024, the entire CBIT portfolio includes 96 projects covering 88 countries, 88 national projects, one regional project (covering four countries), and seven global projects, totaling \$159.7 million, including GEF project financing, Agency fees, and PPGs. Progress made on the CBIT, including portfolio analysis and outlook, is presented to the 67th GEF Council as an information document.²²</p>
<p>Paragraph 6: <i>Encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to consider ways to better serve different regions, including by taking into account the needs of and challenges faced by developing countries in implementing the transparency requirements under the Convention;</p>	<p>The GEF continues to engage with recipient countries, agencies, and partners to continuously improve the way it serves different regions with the implementation of the enhanced transparency framework. Specific information regarding the support available from the GEF for this purpose is being incorporated in briefing packages provided to countries during GEF's Country Support Program activities, such as national dialogues and expanded constituency workshops.</p> <p>In addition, and in response to guidance received, inter alia, at COP 28, the GEF continues to be actively engaged in a wide range of outreach activities with the UNFCCC Secretariat and other partners, to further disseminate to Parties information on support available. This includes, most recently, the participation of the GEF Secretariat in the delivery of four "Regional online workshops on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their governments for implementing the ETF, and in providing guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects," organized by the UNFCCC Secretariat between April 15 and 18 2024, as well as the GEF</p>

²² GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Inf.06.

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
	<p>Secretariat's virtual participation in the seventh Workshop of the Cluster Lusophone in Luanda, Angola, on April 12, 2024. The GEF Secretariat has also participated online in the meetings and webinars organized by the Regional Networks of the CBIT-GSP- global project.</p>
<p>Paragraph 7: <i>Also encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to continue to strengthen its Small Grants Programme to provide better support for youth, women and girls, local communities, and Indigenous Peoples;</p>	<p>The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) continues to serve as an important element of the GEF's enhanced efforts to support inclusion and strong engagement of civil society stakeholders and partners. SGP 2.0 Implementation arrangements for GEF-8, approved by the GEF Council,²³ incorporates renewed provisions to strengthen support to youth, women, and Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs).</p> <p>Additionally, emphasis on youth, women, and IPLCs were part of the criteria in the selection of two new GEF SGP Implementing Agencies in 2023, and of the finalization of the SGP 2.0 Operational Guidelines as well as the new SGP 2.0 Results Framework. The GEF Secretariat is also launching a new SGP CSO Challenge Program that prioritizes youth, women, and IPLCs while offering financing and opportunities for cross-learning and for creating new strategic partnerships for the GEF to deliver on GEBs.</p>
<p>Paragraph 8: <i>Welcomes</i> with appreciation the financial pledges to the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund made by Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, equivalent to USD 179.06 million;</p>	<p>The GEF takes note of the appreciation and looks forward to additional contributions to the LDCCF and SCCF in the GEF-8 period.</p>

²³ GEF, 2022, [GEF Small Grants Programme 2.0 Implementation Arrangements for GEF-8](#), Council Document GEF/C.63/06/Rev.01.

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
<p>Paragraph 9: <i>Commends</i> the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund for their enhanced support to developing countries and in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States for addressing the adverse impacts of climate change;</p>	<p>Noted with appreciation of recognition of the work undertaken. The secretariat is committed to continue to support least developed countries and small island developing States in their efforts to address climate adaptation priorities through investments, technical assistance, as well as direct capacity-building opportunities.</p>
<p>Paragraph 10: <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility, in administering the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund, to continue to support the least developed countries and small island developing States to utilize programmatic approaches to implement policies, programmes and projects identified in their national adaptation plans and adaptation components of nationally determined contributions;</p>	<p>Noted. The GEF continues to be supportive of programmatic approaches to adaptation in least developed countries and small island developing States, aligned with priorities identified in their NAPs, NDCs and their national priorities. In this reporting period, the GEF supported 3 multi-country projects and programs including the <i>Climate Change Resilience in the Caribbean Fisheries Sector project</i> that targets vulnerable small-fisherfolk communities of five Caribbean SIDS, the <i>Programme for innovation in climate adaptation and resilience building solutions</i> in five LDCs that will unlock the ingenuity and creativity of MSMEs to drive innovative climate adaptation and resilience building solutions, and the <i>Transformation approach to large-scale investment in support of the implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative</i> targeting eight African LDCs, which aims to restore landscapes and ecosystem services for resilient communities living in arid and semi-arid environments across the GGW region of the Sahel. The GEF has also been organizing regional adaptation strategy and programming workshops in LDCs and SIDS to discuss project-based as well as programmatic approaches to utilization of LDCF and SCCF resources.</p>
<p>Paragraph 11: <i>Invites</i> the Global Environment Facility to encourage its implementing agencies to facilitate more active engagement of women, youth, local communities and Indigenous Peoples in the formulation and implementation of its projects and programmes;</p>	<p>Noted. The GEF continues to encourage its Implementing Agencies (IAs) to increase their engagement with and support to women, youth, local communities, and Indigenous Peoples. The GEF's policies on Stakeholder Engagement, Gender Equality, Environmental and Social Safeguards, and its Principles and Guidelines for Engagement with</p>

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
	<p>Indigenous Peoples are designed to complement and reinforce key dimensions of these stakeholders' engagement with the GEF, particularly in the design and implementation of GEF projects and programs. The GEF also provides platforms, such as the seventh GEF Assembly, COPs, GEF Seminars and Workshops, for Implementing Agencies to showcase positive results from their projects arising from engaging and supporting women, youth, local communities, and Indigenous Peoples. The Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program was created in preparation for the seventh GEF Assembly to demonstrate GEF's commitment to engaging CSOs, indigenous peoples, youth, and local community groups in providing inclusive adaptation and environmental benefits. Twenty-three CSOs were selected under the challenge program to receive grants of up to \$100,000 to expand their initiatives.²⁴</p> <p>In addition, programs, and initiatives such as the Small Grants Programme (SGP) and the Gustavo Fonseca Leadership Program (FLP) specifically focus on youth, women, and IPLCs engagements and their empowerment.</p>
<p>Paragraph 12: <i>Welcomes</i> the continued support by the Global Environment Facility for climate-friendly innovation, and technology development and transfer and related capacity-building, including in partnership with private sector actors and others, and requests the Global Environment Facility to continue to provide such support, in particular for technology needs assessments, and technology action plans and their implementation;</p>	<p>The development and transfer of low-carbon and climate-resilient technology has been a key cross-cutting theme for the GEF since its establishment and continues to be at the core of the programming directions for GEF-8.</p> <p>In this reporting period, the GEF has been working closely with a GEF Agency on the submission and approval of the CEO Endorsement document for Phase V of the Global Technology Needs Assessment Project. Out of the 17 participating countries, twelve countries have used their STAR resources for the development of their TNAs.</p>

²⁴ [Winners of Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program announced in Vancouver](#)

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
<p>Paragraph 13: <i>Also requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to consider ways to enhance its ongoing work to fund activities relevant to averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage, consistent with its current mandates;</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Paragraph 14: <i>Encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to continue its efforts to further streamline, consolidate and increase the efficiency of its operations, including by simplifying the information requirements for designing and implementing its projects and programmes;</p>	<p>The GEF Secretariat takes note of the encouragement to continue its efforts to streamline its operational procedures and to increase efficiency of access to its funds, in consultation with the other GEF partners, particularly the GEF implementing agencies. The GEF-8 Replenishment Policy Recommendations include a decision to explore areas for streamlining the GEF project cycle, with an objective of reducing transaction costs and facilitating faster access to GEF resources by countries.</p> <p>In response to that decision and to similar guidance received from the COP at different sessions, the GEF continues to pursue efforts to further simplify information requirements for designing and implementing its projects and programs.</p> <p>During this reporting period, one significant measure that was considered and approved by the GEF Council at its 66th Council Meeting (February 2024) was increasing the cap on the size of Medium-Sized Projects (MSPs) from \$2 to \$5 million. ²⁵ The financing ceiling for GEF Trust Fund MSPs was initially set at \$1 million and was later raised to \$2 million in 2012. This most recent increase in the MSP cap is expected to enable a greater number of projects and value of GEF financing to benefit from the more streamlined approval process. At its 67th Council Meeting (June 2024), having considered document GEF/C.67/05, Streamlining the</p>

²⁵ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/Jointsummary, Decision 3/2024.

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
	<p>GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process, the GEF Council endorsed continued work by the Secretariat as outlined in that report, with support from Agencies and others as appropriate, encouraged Agencies to also identify areas for further streamlining and efficiencies within their own processes and communicate these to the Secretariat and Working Group and endorsed further development of proposals for decision in December 2024, considering advance consultation requirements for any proposals requiring changes to policy and guidelines.²⁶</p> <p>In addition, with the establishment of a simplified project and program cycle for the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), which is managed by the GEF Secretariat, it is expected that experiences with the deployment of these further simplified processes will be assessed and will inform the extent to which further simplification measures can be considered for the project cycle(s) of the GEF Trust Fund, Least Developed Countries Fund, and the Special Climate Change Fund.</p>
<p>Paragraph 15: <i>Welcomes</i> the ongoing efforts of the Global Environment Facility to improve its fiduciary standards, to which its implementing agencies are accountable;</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Paragraph 16: <i>Also welcomes</i> the ongoing efforts of the Global Environment Facility to continue assessing and addressing the risks induced by the current level of funding concentration among some of its implementing agencies;</p>	<p>Noted. The secretariat continues to make efforts in this regard and to provide information on the agency share of programming for each work program for the GEF TF, LDCF, and SCCF; the secretariat also provides information on agency share in its report to the COP.</p>

²⁶ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Jointsummary, Decision 24/2024.

COP 28 Decision ¹⁶ / CMP 18 Decision ¹⁷ / CMA 5 Decision ¹⁸ / SBI 59 Conclusion ¹⁹	GEF's Response
<p>Paragraph 17:</p> <p><i>Encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to continue to show appropriate flexibility with respect to geographical restrictions in implementing agencies to reduce agency concentration and enable wider geographical reach of its projects, in a country-driven manner;</p>	<p>In line with the GEF-8 Policy Recommendations, the GEF Secretariat continues to monitor and report on the strength of the GEF Partnership and on the achievement of the aspirational ceiling for any one Agency of no more than 30 percent of approved amounts in GEF-8. With respect to geographical restrictions for specific agencies, the GEF Council at its 64th meeting requested the Secretariat to take the necessary steps to remove the geographic restrictions applicable for the Development Bank of South Africa to enable it to implement GEF projects or programs in any country in accordance with its mandate.²⁷</p>
<p>Paragraph 18:</p> <p><i>Also encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to open a targeted round of implementing agency expansion within the Global Environment Facility partnership with a focus on underserved regions, with regard to implementing agency coverage, in line with existing policies and procedures;</p>	<p>The GEF continues to monitor the geographic and thematic coverage of the 18 GEF Agencies in accordance with the GEF-8 Replenishment Resolution adopted by Replenishment Participants and in accordance with its Council-approved policies and procedures. The GEF has been successful in the diversification of funding among existing Agencies and in rolling out a new Country Engagement Strategy in support of this objective, including further empowerment of Operational Focal Points. The GEF Council took a decision in June 2023 for the GEF to continue to monitor the strength of the relationship among the five dimensions of geographic coverage, thematic coverage, effectiveness, efficiency, and engagement, with an updated analysis to be considered by the GEF Council in advance of the GEF-9 replenishment negotiations.²⁸ Further consideration of a potential GEF implementing agency expansion round will be informed by the upcoming Comprehensive Evaluation for GEF 8 (OPS8), which the GEF IEO is expected to produce as part of the GEF 9 replenishment process.</p>

²⁷ GEF, 2023, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/Jointsummary, Decision 16/2023.

²⁸ GEF, 2023, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/Jointsummary, Decision 16/2023.

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<p>Paragraph 19: <i>Further encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to enhance the coherence and complementarity with other climate finance delivery channels with a view to enhancing the impact and effectiveness of its work and decreasing transaction costs, inter alia through streamlining and simplifying, where feasible and to the extent possible, its procedures and guidelines and takes note of these ongoing efforts;</p>	<p>The GEF continued to engage actively with the other Multilateral Climate Funds (MCFs) in response to guidance received from the COP at different sessions, with the view of increasing complementarity and collaboration and of moving towards harmonization. Increased GEF engagement efforts with the MCFs during the reporting period resulted in a joint declaration by the four MCFs Heads at COP 28, and the subsequent development of the “Multilateral Climate Funds Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence”. The Action Plan was presented to and welcomed by the GEF²⁹ and the CIFs³⁰ Governing Bodies on their respective June 2024 meetings. The Plan is expected to be presented to the GCF and AF Governing Bodies in the second half of 2024, and to be published by the Heads at COP 29.</p> <p>To support this strengthened engagement between the MCFs, specific governance structures were established, including a Committee of the Heads of the MCFs, which met twice in April and in May 2024, and a taskforce comprised of several working groups with participants from the funds’ secretariats. In addition, a meeting of the Co-Chairs of the MCFs was also held for the first time, on May 24, 2024.</p> <p>The four MCFs organized a joint Pavilion at COP 28, as a shared space to promote collaboration and to act as a one-stop-shop for countries, partners, and stakeholders to interface with the climate funds.</p> <p>The GEF-GCF LTV bilateral work also advanced in the reporting period, as detailed in Part II, section 2 of this report, and included the organization of one additional Joint Programming Consultation (JPC) in Uganda, which took place in Uganda on November 15 to 17, 2023,</p>

²⁹ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/JointSummary, Decision 31/2024.

³⁰ CIF, 2024, Joint Meeting of the CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees Tuesday, June 11, and Wednesday June 12, 2024, [Summary of the Co-Chairs](#), Agenda Item 2.

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	following the inaugural JPC in Rwanda carried out in the previous reporting period.
<p>Paragraph 20: <i>Notes</i> the adoption of the private sector engagement strategy of the Global Environment Facility at the 59th meeting of the Council of the Global Environment Facility and <i>encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to reinforce its efforts to mobilize and engage with private sector actors during its eighth replenishment cycle;</p>	<p>GEF's engagement with the private sector during the eighth replenishment cycle focused on the engagement of private sector actors at all scales, with an emphasis on landscape or value chain collaboration in key sectors relevant to the GEF's integrated programs, as well as in standalone projects. For GEF-8, 93 percent of GEF projects now engage the private sector and the private sector is expected to contribute nearly \$3.5 billion in co-financing, as of June 2024.³¹</p>
<p>Paragraph 21: <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility, from existing allocations in the Blended Finance Global Programme, to further explore risk-taking and to foster innovation in the context of its programming in order to use its concessional financing more effectively and mobilize additional private funds;</p>	<p>The programming of resources under the GEF's Blended Finance Global Program continued during the reporting period. As of June 30, 2024, out of the GEF-8 envelope of \$196 million, \$147 million have now been programmed in 9 highly innovative operations of which 5 projects are under the CCM focal area. The projects selected seek to support new technologies like green hydrogen in Chile, support financial structures that target Scope 3 emissions, or focus on replicability and scaling up of existing technologies in renewable energy and energy efficiency with high participation of the private sector.</p>
<p>Paragraph 22: <i>Welcomes</i> the policy on gender equality adopted by the Council of the Global Environment Facility and encourages the Global Environment Facility to ensure that all its implementing agencies apply this policy;</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

³¹ GEF, 2024, [GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard - June 2024](#).

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<p>Paragraph 23: <i>Also encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to further explore ways to provide support for assessing the needs and priorities of developing countries in a country-driven manner, including technology and capacity-building needs, and for translating climate finance needs into action;</p>	<p>The GEF continues to provide support to developing country Parties in assessing their needs and priorities in a country-driven manner, including technology and capacity-building needs, and in translating climate finance needs into action. Among other efforts, the GEF continues to provide resources for transparency-related capacity-building through the CBIT, for technology needs assessments (TNAs), and for other support initiatives as part of its Country Support Program, such as national dialogues and expanded constituency workshops (ECWs), in an effort to enhance the abilities of developing countries to assess their needs and priorities and to translate climate finance needs into action.</p>
<p>Paragraph 24: <i>Invites</i> Parties to submit to the secretariat their views and recommendations on elements of guidance for the Global Environment Facility via the submission portal no later than 12 weeks prior to the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (November 2024);</p>	<p>This is for Parties.</p>
<p>Paragraph 25: <i>Requests</i> the Standing Committee on Finance to take into consideration the submissions referred to in paragraph 24 above in preparing its draft guidance for the Global Environment Facility and to include in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties information on the steps it has taken to implement the guidance provided in this decision;</p>	<p>This is for the Standing Committee on Finance.</p>
<p>Paragraph 26: <i>Takes note</i> of decision 11/CMA.5 and decides to transmit to the Global Environment Facility the guidance from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement contained in paragraphs 2–12 of that decision.</p>	<p>This is for Parties.</p>

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Decision 9/CP.28: Enhancing climate technology development and transfer through the Technology Mechanism	
<p>Paragraph 5:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties to explore ways of enhancing the provision of technical and logistical support to their national designated entities and improving national-level coordination, including of national designated entities with operational focal points of the Global Environment Facility, national designated authorities of the Green Climate Fund, and designated authorities and national implementing entities of the Adaptation Fund;</p>	<p>This is for Parties. Through the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), National Designated Entities (NDEs) have been encouraged to liaise with their respective GEF Operational Focal Points (OFPs) to enhance collaboration through scaling up of projects and to develop common approaches to decision making on technology development and transfer. GEF national dialogues and expanded constituency workshops (ECWs), in addition, have been used as entry points to facilitate further coordination with GEF OFPs and to explore potential cooperation in a country-driven manner. Specifically, in the reporting period, the NDEs of Ghana, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nigeria, and Jordan participated in the national dialogues in their respective countries.</p>
<p>Paragraph 9:</p> <p><i>Notes</i> the insufficient transfer and deployment of technology in developing countries, <i>encourages</i> the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network to continue collaborating with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant financial institutions with a view to enhancing the capacity of developing countries to prepare project proposals and facilitating their access to available funding for technology development and transfer and for implement the results of their technology needs assessments and technical assistance of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, and strengthening the transfer and deployment of technology, and calls for regional balance in this work.</p>	<p>This is for the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network. The development and transfer of low-carbon and climate-resilient technology has been a key cross-cutting theme for the GEF since its establishment. It continues to be at the core of the programming directions for GEF-8. The GEF continues to explore opportunities for further collaboration in support of technology development and transfer with the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), as consistent with national priorities and based on country demand.</p>
Decision 10/CP.28: Linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism	
Paragraph 1:	Noted with appreciation.

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<i>Welcomes</i> the enhanced collaboration between the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network and the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund and invites them to continue their collaboration;	
Paragraph 2: <i>Notes</i> the collaboration with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism included in the joint work programme of the Technology Mechanism for 2023– 2027 and invites the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network to use such collaboration to support technology development and transfer in developing countries with measurable, time-bound, and result-oriented actions;	This is for the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network.
Paragraph 3: <i>Welcomes</i> the funding for technology development and transfer provided and mobilized by the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility in partnership with the Climate Technology Centre and Network;	Noted with appreciation.
Paragraph 4: <i>Notes with appreciation</i> the information provided by the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism on the linkages and collaboration between them in their reports to the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement;	Noted.
Paragraph 7: <i>Welcomes</i> the ongoing work of the Climate Technology Centre and Network as part of its project selected for support under the Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation of the Global	Noted.

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Environment Facility as well as the collaboration of the respective national designated entities and operational focal points in the context of the project;	
<p>Paragraph 8:</p> <p><i>Also welcomes</i> the collaboration between the Climate Technology Centre and Network and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism on identifying ways to enhance information-sharing and streamline coordination processes among national designated entities, national designated authorities of the Green Climate Fund and operational focal points of the Global Environment Facility and emphasized the importance of continued coordination among those national focal points;</p>	<p>Through the CTCN, NDEs have been encouraged to liaise with their respective GEF OFPs and to enhance collaboration through scaling up of projects and to develop a common approach to decision making on technology development and transfer. For example, GEF national dialogues and ECWs have been used as entry points to facilitate further coordination with GEF OFPs and to explore potential cooperation in a country-driven manner. Specifically, in the reporting period, the NDEs of Ghana, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nigeria, and Jordan participated in the national dialogues in their respective countries.</p>
<p>Paragraph 9:</p> <p><i>Encourages</i> the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network to consider opportunities to support developing countries in accessing funding from the Global Environment Facility and/or the Green Climate Fund for work on climate technology incubators and accelerators, taking into account the specific needs of the least developed countries and small island developing States;</p>	<p>This is for the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network.</p>
<p>Paragraph 10:</p> <p><i>Invites Parties</i>, the UNFCCC constituted bodies, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and other relevant stakeholders to submit via the submission portal by 1 February 2024 views on maintaining and enhancing collaboration and cooperation between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism, including on linkages between the</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

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Mechanisms, taking into account the guiding questions contained in the annex;	
<p>Paragraph 12:</p> <p><i>Also requests</i> the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network, in consultation with the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, to organize an in-session workshop at the sixtieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (June 2024) to take stock of the linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism taking into account the views expressed in the submissions referred to in paragraph 10 above.</p>	<p>In response to the relevant COP guidance, TEC and CTCN, in consultation with the SBI Chair, organized an in-session workshop and the GEF was invited to participate. GEF Secretariat staff, as well as representatives from the GEF Council, participated in the event and shared experiences and information regarding the continued GEF support for technology transfer and its central role within the GEF investment strategy for both climate mitigation and adaptation. Existing linkages between the Financial and Technology Mechanisms were highlighted, including the ongoing efforts to support capacity building and coordination between the two mechanisms' national focal points. Finally, the GEF provided an update on the status of the financial support provided for Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs), information about which is also included in Part III, Section 2 of this report.</p>
Decision 11/CP.28: Annual technical progress report of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building for 2023	
<p>Paragraph 2:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties, as appropriate, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the constituted bodies under the Convention, United Nations organizations, observers, and other stakeholders to consider the recommendations referred to paragraph 1 above and to take any necessary action, as appropriate and in accordance with their mandates.</p>	Noted.
Decision 12/CP.28: Terms of reference for the second review of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building	
<p>Paragraph 3:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties, constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, representatives of relevant processes under the</p>	Also noted.

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<p>Convention, and non-Party stakeholders to submit via the submission portal by 29 February 2024 views on the second review of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building based on the terms of reference contained in the annex for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its sixtieth session (June 2024).</p>	
<p>CMP18 Decisions Decision 3/CMP.18: Matters relating to the Adaptation Fund</p>	
<p>Paragraph 2: <i>Notes</i> the following information, actions and decisions relating to the Adaptation Fund Board presented in the report referred to in paragraph 1 above: (k) the continued enhancement of complementarity and coherence with other climate funds and building of linkages with other constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement;</p>	<p>While this guidance is not directly addressed to the GEF, this is noted as it relates to the ongoing efforts of the Multilateral Climate Funds to enhance complementarity and coherence and their collective impact.</p>
<p>Paragraph 15: <i>Welcomes</i> the work of the Adaptation Fund Board on complementarity and coherence with other multilateral climate funds with respect to accreditation and other areas of operations and encourages the Board to continue this work with a view to simplifying its access modalities, as appropriate;</p>	<p>While this guidance is not directly addressed to the GEF, this is noted as it relates to the ongoing efforts of the Multilateral Climate Funds to enhance complementarity and coherence and their collective impact.</p>
<p>CMA 5 Decisions Decision 1/CMA.5: Outcome of the first global stocktake</p>	
<p>Paragraph 50: <i>Recalls</i> the United Nations Secretary-General's call made on World Meteorological Day on 23 March 2022 to protect everyone on Earth through universal coverage of early warning systems against extreme weather and climate change by 2027 and invited</p>	<p>In line with its climate adaptation programming strategy (2022-2026) priority theme of 'Climate information and early warning systems', the GEF Secretariat continues to work closely with partners of the Hydromet Alliance and the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) to ensure coordinated and impactful support for</p>

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development partners, international financial institutions, and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to provide support for implementation of the Early Warnings for All initiative;	LDCs and SIDS that is also aligned with the Early Warnings for All Initiative.
<p>Paragraph 75:</p> <p><i>Emphasizes</i> the ongoing challenges faced by many developing country Parties in accessing climate finance and <i>encouraged</i> further efforts, including by the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, to simplify access to such finance, in particular for those developing country Parties that have significant capacity constraints, such as the least developed countries and small island developing States;</p>	<p>The GEF takes note of this guidance and reaffirms its commitment to the ongoing efforts to simplify, improve and increase access. Ongoing activities relevant for these efforts, both in terms of internal operational streamlining and external harmonization with other MCFs, are described above in this table in the section responding to COP guidance to the GEF (see responses to paragraphs 14 and 19 of Decision 7/CP.28: Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Global Environment Facility).</p> <p>At its 67th Council Meeting (June 2024), having considered document GEF/C.67/05, Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process, the GEF Council: endorsed continued work by the Secretariat as outlined in that report, with support from Agencies and others as appropriate; encouraged Agencies to also identify areas for further streamlining and efficiencies within their own processes and to communicate these to the Secretariat and Working Group; and endorsed further development of proposals for decision in December 2024, taking into consideration advance consultation requirements for any proposals requiring changes to policy and guidelines.³²</p>
<p>Paragraph 82:</p> <p><i>Recognizes</i> the importance of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the Adaptation Fund in the climate</p>	Noted with appreciation for the recognition.

³² GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Jointsummary, Decision 24/2024.

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<p>finance architecture, <i>welcomes</i> the new pledges to the Fund made at this session, <i>urges</i> all contributors to fulfil their pledges in a timely manner and invites the contributors to ensure the sustainability of the resources of the Fund, including the share of proceeds;</p>	
<p>Paragraph 83: <i>Strongly urged</i> the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to make full use of their current replenishment, calls on multilateral development banks and other financial institutions to further scale up investments in climate action and calls for a continued increase in the scale, and effectiveness of, and simplified access to, climate finance, including in the form of grants and other highly concessional forms of finance;</p>	<p>Noted. As of June 2024, at the midpoint of the GEF-8 replenishment cycle, 54 percent of the GEF-8 Climate Change Mitigation Focal Area resources have been committed to new projects and programs in developing countries.³³ For Climate Change Adaptation, approximately 49.5 percent of LDCF resources have been programmed. The share of MDBs and IFIs in the LDCF programming has also been significant in the GEF-8 period, with over 36 percent of the LDCF portfolio.³⁴</p>
<p>Paragraph 95: <i>Underscores</i> the importance of reforming the multilateral financial architecture, inter alia, multilateral development banks, acknowledges the updated vision statement by the World Bank to create a world free of poverty on a livable planet and by the multilateral development banks to strengthen collaboration for greater impact, and calls on their shareholders to expeditiously implement that vision and continue to significantly scale up the provision of climate finance in particular through grants and concessional instruments;</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

³³ GEF, 2024, [GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard - June 2024](#).

³⁴ GEF, 2024, [Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund, 36th LDCF/SCCF Council Meeting](#), Council Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.36/03.

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<p>Paragraph 105: <i>Encourages</i> the Technology Executive Committee, the Climate Technology Centre and Network and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to enhance the involvement of stakeholders as they take action to strengthen the linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism;</p>	<p>The GEF takes note of this guidance and stands ready to support the involvement of stakeholders as consistent with national priorities and the GEF's mandate.</p>
<p>Paragraph 110: <i>Decides</i> to establish a technology implementation programme, supported by, inter alia, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, to strengthen support for the implementation of technology priorities identified by developing countries, and to address the challenges identified in the first periodic assessment of the Technology Mechanism, and invites the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its sixty-first session (November 2024) to take into account the technology implementation programme in its consideration of the Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer, with a view to recommending a draft decision on the matter for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its sixth session;</p>	<p>The GEF takes note of this guidance and reaffirms its commitment to support the implementation of technology options as consistent with national priorities and based on country demand.</p>
<p>Paragraph 120: <i>Requests</i> the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the Adaptation Fund to further enhance support for capacity-building in developing countries and to provide updates thereon in their annual reports to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement and encourages Parties to further enhance support for capacity-building, including through international cooperation;</p>	<p>The GEF continues to support capacity building needs by integrating capacity building elements into its projects and programs, in a country-driven manner.</p> <p>Enabling activities and CBIT projects are entirely devoted to building and installing capacity-building under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. In addition, all approved GEF projects and programs, with very few exceptions, include components, outcomes and activities aimed at building and installing capacity to either limit or deal with the impacts or climate change, at national or local level.</p>

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	<p>The large majority of projects with climate mitigation objectives addresses technical training, education and public awareness, enhancement of policies and enabling environments and institutional capacity building. Projects supported by the CBIT focus on institutional capacity building and GHG inventories, emission database management and systems for collecting, managing, and utilizing activity data and emission factors. For climate adaptation projects, efforts include capacity building for implementation of adaptation measures in various relevant sectors; education; training and public awareness; and enhancement of enabling environments.</p> <p>Additional capacity support is also made available, specifically for climate change adaptation, through the GEF regional adaptation programming and strategy workshops in LDCs and SIDS, as provided for under its new dedicated program for the GEF-8 cycle.</p> <p>The GEF continues to track and report in its annual report to the COP activities that are related to the UNFCCC capacity-building framework and its 15 priority areas, as listed in decision 2/CP.7.</p>
<p>Paragraph 188: <i>Encourages</i> the relevant operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and the constituted bodies under or serving the Paris Agreement to continue to provide, within their mandates, capacity-building support for the preparation and communication of the next nationally determined contributions.</p>	<p>The GEF stands ready to provide capacity-building support for countries to prepare and implement their next round of NDCs. Countries can access resources from their GEF STAR allowances for this purpose and can continue to use CBIT resources for objectives that are closely related. Indeed, as of June 30, 2024, approximately 60 percent of CBIT country projects have included objectives related to NDC enhancement and policy analysis and review.</p> <p>The GEF has been invited by the UNFCCC Secretariat and the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centers (RCCs) to participate in and contribute to several workshops and events intended to raise awareness and to present the type of support available from different international organizations and development partners for the</p>

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	<p>preparation and implementation stages of the new round of NDCs, which is due for submission to the UNFCCC at the end of 2025.</p> <p>In addition, several ongoing GEF projects and programs include activities that are ultimately designed to support in-country processes contributing to the preparation of new or updated NDCs. One such example is the Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Program, under which 12 countries have been selected globally to implement national child projects. These countries, representing a balanced regional distribution, are receiving financing from the GEF to prepare or to enhance the ambition of their long-term low-emission development plans and NDCs through support targeting, inter alia, socio-economic modeling and data analysis, enabling informed decision-making and identification of the most cost-effective, socially-just, and climate-positive policy reforms, to be prioritized for inclusion in the upcoming or successive rounds of NDC updates.</p>
Decision 2/CMA.5: Global goal on adaptation	
<p>Paragraph 25: <i>Recognizes</i> the importance of the timeliness and predictability of adaptation finance and the need to accelerate efforts to enhance access to adaptation finance, with a focus on facilitating direct access by harmonizing and simplifying access procedures.</p>	Noted.
Decision 4/CMA.5: Sharm el-Sheikh mitigation ambition and implementation work programme referred to in decision 4/CMA.4	
<p>Paragraph 10: <i>Requests</i> the secretariat to organize, under the guidance of the co-chairs of the work programme, future global dialogues and investment-focused events in a manner that enables effective engagement of participants, including by (c) enhancing the investment-focused events, with a view to unlocking finance,</p>	Noted. The GEF stands ready to participate in and contribute to this work programme.

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including through presentations by Parties to potential financiers, and by inviting to the events more multilateral development banks, financial institutions and representatives of relevant multilateral climate funds, including the Green Climate Fund.	
Decision 8/CMA.5: New collective quantified goal on climate finance	
<p>Paragraph 14:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties, constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, climate finance institutions, observers, and other stakeholders, including from the private sector, to submit views in advance of each technical expert dialogue and meeting under the ad hoc work programme via the submission portal.</p>	Noted.
Decision 9/CMA.5: Matters relating to the Standing Committee on Finance	
<p>Paragraph 11:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties, constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, climate finance institutions, observers and observer organizations, and other stakeholders, particularly from the private sector, to submit via the submission portal by 31 March 2024 their views on the issues to be addressed during the workshops under the Sharm el-Sheikh Dialogue on Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the Paris Agreement</p>	Noted.
Decision 11/CMA.5: Guidance to the Global Environment Facility	
<p>Paragraph 1:</p> <p><i>Recommends</i> that the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-eighth session transmit to the Global Environment Facility the guidance contained in paragraphs 2–12 below;</p>	This is for the COP

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<p>Paragraph 2: <i>Welcomes</i> the support provided in accordance with Article 13 of the Paris Agreement through the Global Environment Facility to developing countries in relation to their implementation of the enhanced transparency framework during the reporting period (1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023), including support for: (a) Preparing biennial transparency reports, including through the combined application process for preparing multiple biennial transparency reports and the expedited process for projects related to biennial transparency reports; (b) Implementing 89 projects under the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency in 87 countries aimed at building national capacity to implement the enhanced transparency framework;</p>	<p>Noted with appreciation for the recognition of the efforts by the GEF to support the implementation of Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.</p>
<p>Paragraph 3: <i>Underlines</i> the importance of providing adequate and predictable support to developing countries for preparing biennial transparency reports;</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Paragraph 4: <i>Encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to continue efforts to provide, in an expeditious manner, adequate, predictable, and timely financial support to developing countries for preparing biennial transparency reports, and to enhance collaboration with its implementing agencies to promote timely delivery of support;</p>	<p>The GEF has continued to provide timely support to developing countries for the preparation of their BTRs during the reporting period. Following the work conducted in the previous reporting periods to define and adequately communicate modalities of support provision for BTRs, the GEF Secretariat continued to work closely with countries requesting support for BTR preparation, with a view to allowing sufficient lead-time for countries to prepare and submit their first BTR by the due date of no later than December 31, 2024. As of June 2024, the GEF has approved BTR support to 102 countries for 144 BTRs, and three additional countries have submitted requests for GEF financial support for BTR preparation.</p> <p>The GEF also continued to provide funding to support countries through the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT).</p>

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	<p>Each CBIT proposal submitted to the GEF Secretariat has received support, upon technical clearance, in line with the Paris Agreement decision to provide support upon request. As of June 30, 2024, the entire CBIT portfolio includes 96 projects covering 88 countries, 88 national projects, one regional project (covering four countries), and seven global projects, totaling \$159.7 million, including GEF project financing, Agency fees, and PPGs. Progress made on the CBIT, including portfolio analysis and outlook, is presented to the 67th Council as an information document.³⁵</p>
<p>Paragraph 5: <i>Underscores</i> the importance of the Global Environment Facility exploring alternative programming modalities, procedures, and processes for facilitating and expediting access to financial resources for enabling activities;</p>	<p>The GEF takes note of this guidance and reaffirms its commitment to its ongoing efforts to simplify and increase access to its resources, including for enabling activities. Operational improvements implemented in previous reporting periods within GEF-8 include: (i) the revision and streamlining of all funding application templates (including the forms available for the submission of PIFs for MSPs and FSPs, PFDs, and the template to request enabling activities), (ii) the introduction of the possibility for Parties to request their entire resource envelope for enabling activities and reporting within one 4-year GEF cycle (which includes one National Communication and two BTRs), with one single bundled application, (iii) the establishment of coordination practices between the GEF and its agencies to ensure support is provided to as many developing countries as possible, (iv) the provision of online and in-person workshops together with the UNFCCC, the CBIT Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) and GEF agencies to developing countries about support provided by the GEF to enabling activities and the CBIT, (v) bilateral meetings with developing countries, upon request,</p>

³⁵ GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency, Council Document GEF/C.67/Inf.06](#).

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	<p>to further explain modalities of support and offer advice and troubleshooting as needed.</p> <p>These measures have helped shorten the time from application to approval substantially, with averages for new submissions now ranging between 1 and 3 months.</p>
<p>Paragraph 6: <i>Encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to include in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-ninth session (November 2024) information on lessons learned with respect to enabling activities, in particular the costs, access modalities and delivery of support to prepare the first biennial transparency reports;</p>	<p>Please see Section III.5.</p>
<p>Paragraph 7: <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility in administering the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund to take into account, in the context of its adaptation strategy, the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience referred to in decision 2/CMA.5, and to explore ways to support Parties in achieving the global goal on adaptation;</p>	<p>Noted. The GEF appreciates the importance of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience for guiding the achievement of the global goal on adaptation and for reviewing overall progress in achieving it, as well as for guiding and strengthening efforts toward reducing vulnerability and enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience. As such, the GEF will continue to observe and to engage in discussions under the UNFCCC process related to the development of this goal, including with a view to informing the GEF's climate change adaptation strategy for the next GEF cycle.</p>
<p>Paragraph 8: <i>Encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to consider including in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties information on support provided for research development and demonstration;</p>	<p>While the GEF does not support basic research and development, some projects may include activities of relevance to applied research and piloting as demonstrations. They are included in project descriptions.</p>
<p>Paragraph 9: <i>Also encouraged</i> the Global Environment Facility to further explore ways to provide support for assessing developing</p>	<p>The GEF continues to provide support to developing country Parties in assessing their needs and priorities in a country-driven manner, including technology and capacity-building needs, and in translating</p>

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countries' needs and priorities in a country-driven manner, including technology and capacity-building needs, and for translating climate finance needs into action;	climate finance needs into action. Among other efforts, the GEF continues to provide resources for transparency-related capacity-building through the CBIT, for technology needs assessments (TNAs), and for other initiatives such as expanded constituency workshops (ECWs), in an effort to enhance the abilities of developing countries to assess their needs and priorities and to translate climate finance needs into action.
<p>Paragraph 10: <i>Further encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to further strengthen its approach to mobilizing private finance, including through blended finance, with a view to de-risking scalable projects in developing countries and contributing to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement;</p>	The programming of resources under the GEF's Blended Finance Global Program continued during the reporting period; as of June 30, 2024, out of the GEF-8 envelope of \$196 million, \$147 million have now been programmed in 9 highly innovative operations of which 5 projects are under the CCM focal area. The projects selected seek to support new technologies like green hydrogen in Chile; to support financial structures that target Scope 3 emissions; or to encourage replicability and scaling up of existing technologies in renewable energy and energy efficiency with high participation by the private sector.
<p>Paragraph 11: <i>Encourages</i> the Global Environment Facility to participate in the workshops referred to in paragraph 14 of decision 18/CMA.5;</p>	Noted. The GEF intends to participate in the referenced workshops.
<p>Paragraph 12: <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to consider ways to enhance the institutional capacity of developing country Parties to assist them in meeting their reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement in accordance with its Article 13, in the context of its enabling activities, and to report thereon in its annual report to the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-ninth session.</p>	<p>The GEF has continued to program resources to assist developing countries in strengthening their institutional capacity in relation to the reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement. As mentioned above in this table, the primary objective of the CBIT is indeed that of building such institutional capacity.</p> <p>Analysis of the CBIT portfolio shows that, as of June 30, 2024, CBIT support is primarily being used by countries to develop the necessary institutional arrangements and to build their technical capacity to track mitigation progress (80.4 and 90.2 percent of projects, respectively). Also, 28.3 percent of projects include developing</p>

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	projections or scenario modeling as a component. This is encouraging as it indicates that CBIT is assisting countries with some of the more advanced and complex aspects of the transparency requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.
Decision 12/CMA.5: Matters relating to the Adaptation Fund	
<p>Paragraph 2:</p> <p><i>Notes</i> the following information, actions and decisions relating to the Adaptation Fund Board presented in the report referred to in paragraph 1 above: (k) the continued enhancement of complementarity and coherence with other climate funds and building of linkages with other constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement;</p>	While this guidance is not directly addressed to the GEF, this is noted as it relates to the ongoing efforts of the MCFs to enhance complementarity and coherence and their collective impact.
<p>Paragraph 15:</p> <p><i>Welcomes</i> the work of the Adaptation Fund Board on complementarity and coherence with other multilateral climate funds with respect to accreditation and other areas of operations and encouraged the Board to continue this work with a view to simplifying its access modalities, as appropriate.</p>	While this guidance is not directly addressed to the GEF, this is noted as it relates to the ongoing efforts of the MCFs to enhance complementarity and coherence and their collective impact.
Decision 14/CMA.5: Enhancing climate technology development and transfer to support implementation of the Paris Agreement	
<p>Paragraph 5:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties to explore ways of enhancing the provision of technical and logistical support to their national designated entities and improving national- level coordination, including of national designated entities with operational focal points of the Global Environment Facility, national designated authorities of the Green Climate Fund, and designated authorities and national implementing entities of the Adaptation Fund;</p>	This is for Parties. Through the CTCN, NDEs have been encouraged to liaise with their respective GEF OFPs and to enhance collaboration through scaling up of projects and developing a common approach to decision making on technology development and transfer-related matters. For example, GEF national dialogues and ECWs have been used as entry points to facilitate further coordination with GEF OFPs and to explore potential cooperation in a country-driven manner. Specifically, in the reporting period, the NDEs of Ghana, Kazakhstan,

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	Lebanon, Nigeria, and Jordan participated in the national dialogues in their respective countries.	
<p>Paragraph 9:</p> <p><i>Notes</i> the insufficient transfer and deployment of technology in developing countries, encourages the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network to continue collaborating with the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and relevant financial institutions with a view to enhancing the capacity of developing countries to prepare project proposals and facilitating their access to available funding for technology development and transfer and to implement the results of their technology needs assessments and technical assistance of the Climate Technology Centre and Network, and strengthening the transfer and deployment of technology, and calls for regional balance in this work.</p>	<p>The development and transfer of low-carbon and climate-resilient technology has been a key cross-cutting theme for the GEF since its establishment. It continues to be at the core of the programming directions for GEF-8. The GEF continues to explore opportunities for further collaboration in support of technology development and transfer with the TEC and the CTCN, as consistent with national priorities and based on country demand.</p>	
Decision 15/CMA.5: Annual technical progress report of the Paris Committee on Capacity- building for 2023		
<p>Paragraph 2:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties, as appropriate, the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, the constituted bodies under the Convention, United Nations organizations, observers, and other stakeholders to consider the recommendations referred to paragraph 1 above and to take any necessary action, as appropriate and in accordance with their mandates.</p>	Noted.	
Decision 16/CMA.5: Agenda Item 12: Terms of reference for the second review of the Paris Committee on capacity-building		
<p>Paragraph 4:</p> <p><i>Invites</i> Parties, constituted bodies under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, the operating entities of the Financial</p>	Noted.	

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<p>Mechanism, representatives of relevant processes under the Convention, and non-Party stakeholders to submit via the submission portal by 29 February 2024 views on the second review of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building based on the terms of reference contained in the annex for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its sixtieth session (June 2024).</p>	
<p>Decision 17/CMA.5: Work programme under the framework for non-market approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 8, of the Paris Agreement and in decision 4/CMA.3</p>	
<p>Paragraph 8: <i>Recalls</i> decision 8/CMA.4, paragraph 8, which invited interested Parties, relevant bodies, institutional arrangements and processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement related to, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building, including United Nations bodies, multilateral, bilateral and other public donors, and private and non-governmental organizations to provide information on financial, technology and capacity-building support available or provided for identifying, developing or implementing non-market approaches for recording on the UNFCCC web- based platform;</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Paragraph 16: <i>Requests</i> the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice, as the convenor of the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches, to invite interested Parties, relevant bodies, institutional arrangements and processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement related to, inter alia, mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building, including United Nations bodies, multilateral, bilateral and other public donors, and private and non-governmental organizations, to have a focused exchange of</p>	<p>In response to the COP guidance, the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches, in consultation with the SBSTA co-chair, organized an in-session workshop on non-market approaches (NMAs) on June 4 and 8, 2024, during the 60th Subsidiary Body meetings in Bonn, Germany. GEF Secretariat staff was invited to participate and presented an overview of the GEF and its relevance to NMAs under Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement.</p>

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views on financial, technology and capacity- building support available or provided for identifying and developing non-market approaches, including on enhancing access to various types of support and identifying investment opportunities and actionable solutions that support the achievement of nationally determined contributions, as part of the in-session workshop referred to in paragraph 15(c) above.		
Decision 18/CMA.5: Provision of financial and technical support to developing country Parties for reporting and capacity-building		
<p>Paragraph 1:</p> <p><i>Welcomes</i> the action taken by the Global Environment Facility to provide support to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports and building their institutional and technical capacity for implementing the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement;</p>	Noted with appreciation for the recognition.	
<p>Paragraph 3:</p> <p><i>Appreciates</i> the efforts of the Global Environment Facility in developing an expedited process for projects combining multiple reports, including biennial transparency reports and national communications;</p>	Noted with appreciation for the recognition.	
<p>Paragraph 4:</p> <p><i>Acknowledges</i> the increase in the allocation to the climate change focal area set aside for enabling activities, including the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency, from USD 165 million in the seventh replenishment cycle of the Global Environment Facility to USD 220 million in the eighth cycle, and welcomes that, within the agreed resource allocation framework for the eighth cycle, USD 75 million has been allocated to the Capacity-building</p>	Noted.	

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Initiative for Transparency, a 36 per cent increase on the allocation in the seventh cycle;	
<p>Paragraph 5:</p> <p><i>Welcomes</i> the reports by the Global Environment Facility on its progress in supporting implementation of the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency;</p>	Noted with appreciation for the recognition.
<p>Paragraph 6:</p> <p><i>Appreciates</i> the oral report made by the Global Environment Facility at the fifty-ninth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation under the agenda items on the provision of financial and technical support for developing country Parties for reporting under the Convention and the Paris Agreement;</p>	Noted.
<p>Paragraph 7:</p> <p><i>Also appreciates</i> the launch of the Climate Transparency Platform, an online tool for facilitating reporting by developing country Parties under the enhanced transparency framework;</p>	Noted.
<p>Paragraph 8:</p> <p><i>Acknowledges</i> the existing financial, technical, and capacity-building support for developing country Parties to address challenges in implementing the enhanced transparency framework that is available through bilateral, multilateral, and other channels;</p>	Noted.
<p>Paragraph 11:</p> <p><i>Underscores</i> the importance of the Global Environment Facility continuing its efforts to provide adequate and timely support to developing country Parties for implementing the enhanced transparency framework, to further simplify the existing processes for approving projects under the Global Environment Facility and</p>	Regarding mobilization of finance for reporting and enabling activities under the UNFCCC, the GEF continued to review and approve projects in a timely manner during the reporting period. The GEF Trust Fund continued to support National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), through the programming of medium-sized and full-sized projects.

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<p>its implementing agencies, and exploring alternative programming modalities, procedures and processes for facilitating and expediting access to financial resources for enabling activities for supporting developing country Parties in meeting their requirements under the enhanced transparency framework and for building and enhancing their institutional and technical capacity for reporting under the Paris Agreement on a continuous basis;</p>	<p>Following the work conducted in the previous reporting periods to define and communicate modalities of support provision for BTRs, the GEF Secretariat continued to work closely with countries requesting support for BTR preparation, with the view to allow sufficient lead time for countries to prepare and submit their first BTR by the due date of no later than December 31, 2024. As of June 30, 2024, the GEF has approved BTR support to 102 countries for 144 BTRs, and three additional countries have submitted requests for GEF financial support for BTR preparation.</p> <p>The GEF also continued to provide funding to support countries through the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). Each CBIT proposal submitted to the GEF Secretariat has received support, upon technical clearance, in line with the Paris Agreement decision to provide support upon request. As of June 30, 2024, the entire CBIT portfolio includes 96 projects covering 88 countries, 88 national projects, one regional project (covering four countries), and seven global projects, totaling \$159.7 million, including GEF project financing, Agency fees, and PPGs. Progress made on the CBIT, including portfolio analysis and outlook, is presented to the 67th Council as an information document.³⁶</p> <p>Regarding the simplification of existing processes for approving GEF projects, the GEF continues its efforts to streamline its operational procedures and increase efficiency of access to its funds, in consultation with other GEF partners, particularly the GEF implementing agencies. The GEF-8 Replenishment Policy Recommendations include a decision to explore areas for streamlining the GEF project cycle, with an objective of reducing transaction costs and facilitating faster access to GEF resources by countries. In</p>

³⁶ GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Inf.06.

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	<p>response to that decision and to similar guidance received from the COP at different sessions, the GEF continues to pursue efforts to further simplify information requirements for designing and implementing its projects and programs.</p> <p>For this reporting period, one significant measure that was considered and approved by the GEF Council at its 66th Council Meeting (February 2024) was increasing the cap on the size of Medium-Sized Projects (MSPs) from \$2 to \$5 million.³⁷ The financing ceiling for GEF Trust Fund MSPs was initially set at \$1 million and was later raised to \$2 million in 2012. This most recent increase in the MSP cap is expected to enable a greater number of projects and value of GEF financing to benefit from the more streamlined approval process. At its 67th Council Meeting (June 2024), having considered document GEF/C.67/05, Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process, the GEF Council: endorsed continued work by the Secretariat as outlined in that report, with support from Agencies and others as appropriate; encouraged Agencies to also identify areas for further streamlining and efficiencies within their own processes and to communicate these to the Secretariat and Working Group; and endorsed further development of proposals for decision in December 2024, taking into consideration advance consultation requirements for any proposals requiring changes to policy and guidelines.³⁸</p> <p>In addition, with the establishment of a simplified project and program cycle for the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), which is managed by the GEF Secretariat, it is expected that experiences with the deployment of these further simplified processes</p>

³⁷ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/Jointsummary, Decision 3/2024.

³⁸ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Jointsummary, Decision 24/2024.

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	will be assessed and will inform the extent to which further simplification measures can be considered for the project cycle(s) of the GEF Trust Fund, the Least Developed Countries Fund, and the Special Climate Change Fund.	
<p>Paragraph 14: <i>Requests</i> the secretariat to organize an in-person workshop, to be held at the sixtieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (June 2024), as well as regional online workshops to be held prior to that session, with the relevant stakeholders, such as the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies, as appropriate, on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports and enhancing sustainable institutional capacity and national reporting systems within their Governments for implementing the enhanced transparency framework, and in providing guidance on the application process for transparency-related projects.</p>	<p>A GEF delegation participated in the 60th session of the Subsidiary Bodies of the UNFCCC (SB 60), held in Bonn, Germany, from June 3 to 13, 2024. Delegation members participated in various technical engagements, including those related to capacity building and transparency, among other issues.</p> <p>At SB 60, GEF staff was also invited to contribute to in-session workshops, including on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports. As is customary, the GEF was also invited to submit a written statement in relation to the SBI agenda item on Provision of Financial Support for Reporting (SBI 4b) and was further invited by Parties to provide an oral update outlining the status of programming of resources for enabling activities, under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and for the CBIT.</p> <p>In addition, the GEF has participated in four regional workshops organized by the UNFCCC in advance of SB 60, covering respectively (i) Latin America and the Caribbean and Northern America, (ii) Africa and Europe, (iii) Asia and Pacific and (iv) the Pacific, which were held between April 15 and 18, 2024.</p>	
<p>SBI 59 Conclusions Agenda Item 14 of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation: Matters relating to the least developed countries</p>		
<p><i>Expressed</i> appreciation to the entities undertaking activities to support the Least Developed Countries, including in accessing funding for adaptation action, such as the organization by the</p>	Noted with appreciation for the recognition	

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Global Environment Facility of workshops for African, Asian and Pacific Least Developed Countries, and requested the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to contribute to such activities, as appropriate;	
<i>Noted</i> that as at 4 December 2023, of the 46 Least Developed Countries, 5 had accessed funding related to the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) through the Least Developed Countries Fund during the eighth replenishment cycle of the Global Environment Facility (2022–2026);	Noted.
<i>Requested</i> the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to convene a meeting with the Adaptation Fund, the GCF, the GEF and other relevant organizations, as part of NAP Expo 2024, to identify ways to assist the Least Developed Countries in expeditiously implementing adaptation action based on priorities identified in their NAPs, and to include recommendations in its reports to the SBI with a view to addressing the challenges, gaps and needs that the Least Developed Countries continue to face in accessing funding for implementing NAPs;	The GEF appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Least-Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) members at the recent NAP Expo 2024 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, held in April 2024, to discuss ways to assist LDCs in expeditiously implementing climate adaptation action.
<i>Welcomed</i> the support provided by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to the Least Developed Countries for addressing identified data gaps and other gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs, including through the Open NAPs and NAP Data initiatives, and the continued collaboration of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group with the Adaptation Fund Board, Green Climate Fund and Global Environment Facility secretariats on enhancing access to funding by the Least Developed Countries for implementing NAPs under the NAP implementation pipeline development initiative and	The GEF looks forward to continued collaboration with LEG and other partners for enhancing access to the LDCF.

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requested the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to scale up these collaborative efforts;	
<p><i>Noted</i> with appreciation the financial pledges, totaling USD 141.74 million, made by the Governments of Belgium, France, Germany, Norway, Spain, and Sweden to the Least Developed Countries Fund at the Global Environment Facility pledging conference held on 4 December 2023, and called for additional contributions to the Fund.</p>	<p>The GEF takes note of the appreciation and looks forward to additional contributions to the LDCF and SCCF in the GEF-8 period.</p>

3. ENGAGEMENT WITH THE UNFCCC

11. Engagement with the UNFCCC process continued during the reporting period. A GEF delegation headed by the Lead Environmental Specialist on behalf of the GEF CEO participated in the COP 28 meetings, which were held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, on November 30 to December 12, 2023. The COP considered the GEF Report to COP 28 and provided guidance to the GEF on several substantive elements, as discussed below. The GEF Report highlighted various tasks carried out to respond to guidance from COP 27 and the GEF's continued efforts to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement, including in relation to the Paris Agreement's enhanced transparency framework (ETF).

12. The GEF Secretariat organized a Ministerial pledging event for the LDCF and the SCCF during COP 28. Pledges totaling \$141.74 million were announced from six countries to the LDCF and \$32.5 million from three countries to the SCCF.³⁹ The commitments made in Dubai to these two funds, providing targeted support for the world's most climate-exposed countries, extends the trend of increasing contributions to the LDCF/SCCF, which at COP 27 in Sharm El-Sheikh received a total of \$105.6 million.

13. The GEF delegation, including senior staff members, participated in various meetings at COP 28 and supported the negotiation process. During the Conference, the GEF submitted an oral statement on GEF initiatives and achievements to update Parties based on its annual report. The GEF delegation also participated in contact groups and other sessions, as requested, to provide briefings to Parties and to respond to questions on GEF activities, on its provision of support to Parties, and on its responses to COP guidance. Key negotiation topics the GEF Secretariat participated in or provided input to included, inter alia: finance and provision of support, loss, and damage; transparency; global goal on adaptation; technology transfer; and agriculture.

14. For the first time, the four major multilateral climate funds (MCFs), namely the GEF, AF, CIFs, and the GCF, organized a joint pavilion at COP 28. The joint pavilion had multiple positive outcomes, including ease of access for the public to the staff and experts from each fund, as well as the opportunity for each fund to host sessions to show their work and to open the floor to wider and more inclusive participation from the public and civil society. Notably, the pavilion hosted several joint information sessions, including on gender equality and women's empowerment, climate mitigation, climate adaptation, and nature-based solutions, and it allowed MCF staff to interact closely between themselves and with their counterparts. Events coverage, including participation in COP Presidency-led dialogues and consultations, and news articles related to GEF participation in COP 28, are available on the GEF website.⁴⁰

15. The GEF co-organized and participated in two UNFCCC official side events at COP 28. During the first, titled "Climate finance: the role of the climate funds in supporting developing countries," the Heads of the multilateral climate funds (MCFs) joined forces for the first time to announce their intention to adopt a joint action plan to enhance access to climate finance and to increase the MCFs' collective impact. Further information on GEF engagement with MCF related

³⁹ [Donors boost support to LDCF and SCCF.](#)

⁴⁰ <https://www.thegef.org/events/gef-unfccc-cop28>.

processes can be found in Section 2 below. The second official side event was jointly organized by the GEF and the GCF and provided an opportunity for the two organizations to present the results of a recent analysis on complementarity and coherence that was concluded in 2023 as part of the Long-Term Vision (LTV) on Complementarity engagement between the two funds.

16. In addition to joint events with the MCFs, the GEF hosted other high-level events at COP 28. These included “Addressing biodiversity and climate change synergistically: Scaling up implementation for success,” jointly organized by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Secretariat, the GCF, the GEF, the Secretariat of UNFCCC, and UNEP; and “Fostering South-South Learning: The collaboration between Cuba, Chile, and Panama under the CBIT-Global Support Programme,” showcasing South-South learning experiences by representatives from Cuba, Chile, and Panama.

17. Senior GEF staff also participated in several other high-level or mandated events at COP 28, most notably:

- a) Environmental Management Group High-Level Dialogue: Strengthening the UN System: Climate Action in Support of Parties to the UNFCCC, hosted by UNEP, on December 2, 2023.
- b) In-session workshop of the Glasgow Committee on Non-market Approaches (Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement) organized by the UNFCCC Secretariat, with a special focus on forests and related ecosystems, on December 4, 2023.

18. A GEF delegation also participated in the 60th session of the Subsidiary Bodies of the UNFCCC (SB 60), held in Bonn, Germany, from June 3 to 13, 2024. Delegation members participated in various technical engagements, including mandated events, side events, and bilateral discussions with Parties, agencies, and other stakeholders covering a wide range of topics, including those related to finance, technology transfer, matters relating to least developed countries, adaptation, capacity building, transparency, loss, and damage, among other issues.

19. At SB 60, GEF staff was also invited to contribute to in-session workshops, including on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism, on support available to developing country Parties for preparing their biennial transparency reports, and on non-market approaches under Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement. As is customary, the GEF was also invited to submit a written statement in relation to the SBI agenda item on Provision of Financial Support for Reporting (SBI 4b) and was further invited by Parties to provide an oral update outlining the status of programming of resources for enabling activities, under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and for the CBIT.

20. Besides participating in COP 28 and SB 60, GEF Secretariat staff continued to also participate and be observers in events and meetings to advance momentum and action on climate, including the UNFCCC Climate Dialogues and meetings of Constituted Bodies, such as the Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) and the Technology Executive Committee (TEC).

21. Following the work conducted in previous reporting periods to support the swift implementation of the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the Paris Agreement, the GEF

Secretariat continued to work closely with countries requesting support for preparation of BTRs and to provide funding to support countries through the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). Portfolio updates for CBIT and Enabling Activities programming are provided below in this report. In this regard, the GEF Secretariat also participated in the organization of and attended the first Global Transparency Forum on May 20 and 21, 2024 at UN University in Tokyo, Japan. The event was hosted by the Ministry of Environment of Japan and organized by the CBIT Global Support Program together with GEF, UNEP, UNDP, and UNEP-Copenhagen Climate Center. The Forum saw the participation of more than 180 delegates from over 120 countries, including the COP 28, 29, and 30 Presidencies, as well as key UNFCCC Personnel.

22. The Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC reported to the GEF 66th Council through a video intervention on COP 28, highlighting key decisions and their relevance to the GEF. The Executive Secretary discussed the global stocktake, the global goal on adaptation, arrangements to address Loss and Damage, and a just transition. He also outlined priorities of the upcoming COP on finance and on the expected role of the GEF in collaboration with other multilateral climate funds and the private sector. At the 67th GEF Council meeting, the UNFCCC Senior Director, on behalf of the Executive Secretary, addressed the Council through a recorded video intervention, summarizing key outcomes of SB 60, and reflecting on key priorities for the rest of the year in the lead up to COP 29.

Additional Meetings and Consultations

23. During the reporting period, GEF Secretariat staff participated in the following additional UNFCCC-related meetings, providing updates on the status of GEF programming; responses to COP guidance; thematic programming; and capacity building, among other topics:

- a) Second workshop on addressing loss and damage in the context of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4, held in Bangkok, Thailand on July 15 and 16, 2023.
- b) Third Meeting of the Transitional Committee (TC3), held in Bonn, Germany from August 29 to September 1, 2023.
- c) Workshop in French on climate transparency and the ETF hosted by the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), UNFCCC, CBIT-GSP, the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) and Citepa on August 31, 2023.
- d) 27th Meeting of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) from September 19 to 22, 2023 (virtual participation).
- e) 22nd Advisory Board Meeting of the UN Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN) from September 25 to 27, 2023 (virtual participation).
- f) Fourth Meeting of the Transitional Committee (TC4) on the operationalization of the new funding arrangements for Loss and Damage held in Aswan, Egypt from October 17 to 20, 2023.

- g) 1st and 2nd High-Level Meetings of the G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG): February 5 and 6, 2024 (virtual participation), and April 2 and 3 2024 (in person) in Brasilia, Brazil.
- h) 45th meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG 45) from February 20 to 23, 2024 in Bujumbura, Burundi.
- i) 1st and 2nd Technical Meetings of the G20's Task Force on a Global Mobilization Against Climate Change (TF-CLIMA): March 4 and 5 2024 (virtual participation), and April 5 and 6 2024 (in person) in Brasilia, Brazil.
- j) UNFCCC Meeting “NDC 3.0 – Preparing the Next Round of NDCs,” in Bonn, Germany, on March 4 and 5, 2024.
- k) UNFCCC TEC A.3.1. Activity Group (Early Warning System) meeting on March 14, 2024.
- l) Webinars on “The Support Ecosystem for the Next Round of NDC”, organized by the UNFCCC’s Regional Collaboration Centers (RCCs) from March 21 to 27, 2024.
- m) 28th Meeting of the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) from April 16 to 19, 2024 (virtual participation).
- n) 23rd Meeting of the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) Advisory Board from April 19 to 24, 2024 (virtual participation).
- o) NAP Expo 2024, in Dhaka, Bangladesh from April 22 to 25, 2024.
- p) Ninth Technical Expert Dialogue and the First Meeting under the Ad Hoc Work Programme on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance in Cartagena, Colombia on April 23 and 24, 2024.

24. During the reporting period, the GEF organized a regional adaptation programming and strategy workshop for the 15 Caribbean non-LDC SIDS from March 11 to 15, 2024, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, which focused on resource access and programming under the SCCF-A window. UNFCCC focal points participated in the workshop, and the opening segments included video participation by the UNFCCC Senior Director.

PART II: KEY UPDATES

1. STREAMLINING ACCESS AND PROCESS IN GEF-8

25. The GEF-8 Replenishment Resolution included commitments to propose concrete actions to improve access for consideration by the GEF Council. More specifically, the GEF-8 Policy Recommendations included a continued commitment to enhancing the sustainability and inclusiveness of GEF programming and to mandating cross-cutting efforts to streamline and to implement further efficiency measures throughout GEF operations.

26. In this reporting period, the GEF Secretariat continued to improve operational efficiency in line with the request of GEF-8 replenishment participants. In consultation with GEF Agencies, the Secretariat has taken steps to further simplify the GEF project cycle through streamlined templates for all four modalities: FSPs, MSPs, EAs, and PFDs.⁴¹

27. The new template for EAs enables applications to be focused on the most essential information.⁴² Rio Markers for the three Conventions were included in the templates for EAs, FSPs, MSPs, and PFDs to better track the multiple benefits and synergies from GEF investments. These synergies are further enabled by the full flexibility allowed in GEF-8 in the programming of STAR focal area resources, which further contributes to simplification of access, with countries now able to move resources freely across their climate change, biodiversity, and land degradation focal area allocations.

28. Applications to the LDCF, SCCF and GEFTF already follow the same project and program cycle policy and guidelines. The templates have been further harmonized across these funds to allow for the option to design MTF projects for better integration of CCM and CCA objectives. Furthermore, all project proposals now include a climate risk screening as a best practice.

29. This continuous work of streamlining also contributes to the alignment of project proposals with national priorities and with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Long-Term Strategies (LTS), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPAs), helping ensure a country-driven process.

30. In addition, at its 66th meeting in February 2024, the GEF Council considered document GEF/C.66/08/Rev.03, Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle, approving an increase in the cap for GEF Trust Fund MSPs from \$2 million to \$5 million. This increase is expected to enable a greater number of projects and a larger share of GEF financing to benefit from the more streamlined one-step approval process employed for MSPs.

31. The GEF Council also agreed to establish an ad hoc streamlining working group of interested Council Members and Alternates, equally representing donors and recipient countries, requesting that the Secretariat and this ad hoc working group elaborate additional measures for streamlining the GEF project cycle, in consultation with GEF Agencies, GEF Focal Points and

⁴¹ <https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/templates>

⁴² <https://www.thegef.org/documents/qef-8-request-enabling-activity>

others as appropriate, for consideration by Council at its 67th and 68th meetings. The working group has facilitated structured inclusive dialogue and deliberation among the GEF Secretariat and Council, in consultation with relevant Agencies and partners as appropriate, toward identifying and considering further options to streamline the GEF project and program cycles. At its 67th Council Meeting (June 2024), having considered document GEF/C.67/05, Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process, the GEF Council: endorsed continued work by the Secretariat as outlined in that report, with support from Agencies and others as appropriate; encouraged Agencies to also identify areas for further streamlining and efficiencies within their own processes and to communicate these to the Secretariat and Working Group; and endorsed further development of proposals for decision in December 2024, taking into consideration advance consultation requirements for any proposals requiring changes to policy and guidelines.⁴³

32. In parallel, work is underway to assess potential efficiency gains from harmonization of the GEF, the GCF, and other multilateral climate funds (MCFs). The ongoing efforts of the MCFs to enhance complementarity and coherence are described in detail in Section 2 below and the outcomes of this work can further inform the GEF's efforts to streamline its access and project cycle modalities.

Operationalizing the Integrated Programs (IPs)

33. The GEF-8 Programming Directions⁴⁴ include eleven Integrated Programs⁴⁵ (IPs), focused on tackling drivers of environmental degradation and advancing system transformation through an integrated approach. The IPs cover the full spectrum of the GEF mandate as financial mechanism of major multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), including the UNFCCC. They are also integral to the GEF-8 theory of change for achievement of a healthy, productive, and resilient environment that underpins the well-being of human societies.

34. The GEF-8 programming architecture builds on the successful approach in GEF-6 and GEF-7 of investing in integrated programming to maximize potential for more impactful outcomes in key economic systems. The eleven IPs are framed to collectively address major drivers of environmental degradation and deliver multiple benefits across the many thematic dimensions of the GEF mandate. The scope of issues covered will specifically address the interests and needs of LDCs and SIDS, and, as a result, support their post-COVID-19 pandemic green and blue recovery efforts and strengthen their role in safeguarding the planet. Furthermore, the thematic and geographical coverage of these IPs is consistent with global aspirations for development pathways that are nature-positive, climate-neutral, and with reduced pollution. More details on climate change-related dimensions of the IPs approved in the reporting period, including expected results, are available in Part III.

⁴³ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Jointsummary, Decision 24/2024.

⁴⁴ GEF, 2022, [GEF-8 Programming Directions](#), Council Document GEF/R.08/29/Rev.01.

⁴⁵ IPs are: 1) Food Systems, 2) Ecosystem Restoration, 3) Sustainable Cities, 4) Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes, 5) Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution, 6) Blue and Green Islands, 7) Clean and Healthy Ocean, 8) Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development, 9) Net-Zero Nature-positive Accelerator, 10) Wildlife Conservation for Development, and 11) Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains.

35. As part of the overall GEF-8 roll-out, the GEF Secretariat took several important steps to help prepare countries and Agencies for their programming. The first step was to issue a guidance note⁴⁶ for countries and Agencies on how the IPs will be operationalized in order to enable them to maximize their potential for achieving the outcomes established in the GEF-8 Programming Directions. The guidance note: describes how the focal areas will be programmed for the IPs based on indicative focal area amounts in the GEF-8 financial scenario; outlines the eligibility criteria for country participation based on the Programming Directions; and explains operational aspects related to selection of lead Agencies and countries, including an indicative timeline for roll-out of the programs.

36. Within the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat continued to finalize programming for the GEF-8 Integrated Programs. It did so first by selecting a Lead Agency for the Clean and Healthy Oceans IP; then by launching a second call for country expressions of interest (EOIs) in IPs and by promoting that call to countries, particularly those underserved by the first call. The second call for EOI involved five Integrated Programs: 1) Clean and Healthy Oceans, 2) Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes, 3) Food Systems, 4) Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development, and 5) Sustainable Cities. During the June 2023 GEF Council Meeting, the Lead Agency for Clean and Healthy Oceans IP was approved, following a request for proposals that was issued to all 18 GEF Agencies on April 13, 2023. This meant that the Ocean IP could now be included in the second call for country EOIs.

37. As with the first call for EOI in Integrated Programs, the GEF Secretariat on the second call provided detailed briefings during eight National Dialogues, one Extended Constituency Workshop (ECW) and two Constituency Meetings. In addition, the GEF Secretariat arranged two second-round EOI briefings for countries virtually on August 15 and 16, 2023. The briefings addressed program-level priorities to demonstrate the added-value of IP for countries, providing an opportunity for them to ask questions on issues specific to their national context. As a result of the briefings and meetings, countries were better able to identify and prioritize the Integrated Programs for which they are most likely to demonstrate efficient use of their STAR; were better able to maximize their potential for generating global environmental benefits (GEBs); and were more likely to contribute significantly to the program-level goals of each IP. Countries were also better prepared to respond to the call for expressions of interest once it was launched by the GEF Secretariat. This was particularly critical for LDCs and SIDS, to ensure they were prepared to fully explore suitability of the IPs for their national interest and, in some cases, for regional or transboundary engagement.

38. On July 24, 2023, the GEF Secretariat launched the second call for EOIs for five out of the eleven Integrated Programs, with a deadline for submission of September 8, 2023. In total, 44 EOIs were submitted by 37 (25.7 percent) of the 144 eligible recipient countries for participation in the five IPs. The 39 recommended EOIs included 34 countries, with 5 countries having two or more. More details on GEF engagement with countries in order to encourage their participation in GEF-

⁴⁶ GEF, 2022, [Guidance Note for Countries and GEF Agencies on Participation in the GEF-8 Integrated Programs](#), Council Document GEF/C.62/Inf.13.

8 IPs are available in the report on the process.⁴⁷

2. COMPLEMENTARITY OF CLIMATE FUNDS

39. During the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat continued its engagement with the other multilateral providers of climate finance, with the view of advancing the collective efficiency and impact of their efforts to support developing countries finance climate action. Building on their collaboration and exchange efforts from previous years, during an official side event at COP 28 titled “Enhancing access and increasing impact: the role of the multilateral climate funds,” the Heads of the four major MCFs announced their commitment to work together to develop an ambitious and concrete action plan to enhance access to climate finance and to increase the joint impact of the MCFs’ work.⁴⁸

40. To develop the Action Plan, staff from the Secretariats of the GEF, the AF, the GCF, and the CIFs met in Washington, D.C. at the GEF Secretariat’s offices for a four-day writing workshop, held between April 8 and 11, 2024. To support this strengthened engagement between the MCFs, specific governance structures were established, including a Committee of the MCFs Heads and a Taskforce comprised of several working groups with participants from the funds’ secretariats. The Heads Committee met twice, on April 21, 2024 and virtually on May 8, 2024. Principals discussed their joint and respective priorities while exchanging views on the content and objectives of the Action Plan, the timeline for implementation, and next steps.

41. The Action Plan was presented to the 67th GEF Council as a decision document⁴⁹. The GEF Council welcomed the document on June 18, 2024, requesting the GEF network to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities⁵⁰. The Action Plan was also presented to the CIFs Governing Body at their respective June 2024 meetings⁵¹, and it is expected to be presented to the GCF and AF Governing Bodies in the second half of 2024, before being published by the Heads at COP 29.

42. The following principles were agreed upon by the Principals of the funds, and reflected in the joint Action Plan, as providing a framework for fostering collaboration and guiding decision making in the implementation of the Plan:

- a) accountability, emphasizing the importance of holding all parties accountable for their commitments and outcomes;

⁴⁷ GEF, 2023, [Report on Assessment of Second Call for Expressions of Interests from Countries to Participate in the Integrated Programs](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/Inf.15.

⁴⁸ <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>.

⁴⁹ GEF, 2024, [Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions](#), Annex II, Council Document GEF/C.67/07/Rev.01.

⁵⁰ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the GEF Council Co-Chairs](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/JointSummary, Decision 31/2024.

⁵¹ CIF, 2024, Joint Meeting of the CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees Tuesday, June 11, and Wednesday June 12, 2024, [Summary of the Co-Chairs](#), Agenda Item 2.

- b) transparency, stressing the importance of transparent communication, decision-making processes, and reporting mechanisms for tracking progress and building trust among MCFs, their governing bodies, and stakeholders;
- c) flexibility, recognizing the evolving nature of the climate agenda and the need to adapt actions to changing circumstances and emerging evidence;
- d) inclusivity, prioritizing active consultations and stakeholder engagement to ensure that diverse perspectives and voices are heard and incorporated into decision-making processes; and
- e) recognition of diversity, acknowledging and recognizing that each MCF operates with its unique mandate, objectives, and governance structures.

43. The communication units of the four funds also worked to advance joint work and collaboration, to enhance complementarity and synergies. All four communication units established a working group to plan, design, and implement the outreach activities at and around COP 28. The joint MCFs pavilion enhanced visibility of tangible cooperation between the funds. The communication units of the four funds also collaborated on joint messaging and side events at COP 28, showing further collaborative activities to enhance climate finance access and climate action on a united front.

Long-Term Vision

44. The GEF and the GCF have been working closely together over the past several years to enhance synergies and coordination with regards to climate financing, in line with COP guidance on complementarity and coherence. These efforts continued during the reporting period.

45. In the reporting period, the GEF and the GCF organized their second Joint Programming Consultation, which took place in Uganda on November 15 to 17, 2023. The consultation was co-organized by the Uganda Climate Finance Unit and the two funds with support from the Taskforce for Access to Climate Finance, which was launched at COP 26. The GEF-GCF Joint Programming Consultation was carried out in the context of the “Collaborative and Coordinated Programming” pillar of the GEF-GCF Long-Term Vision (LTV), which includes a specific focus on facilitation of national investment planning.

46. The lessons of this work with pilot countries from the Taskforce were shared during a dedicated side-event held on December 5 at COP 28 entitled, ‘Streamlining access to climate finance and enhancing impact,’ together with the results of the independent analysis on complementarity and coherence of the two funds’ policies and processes that was concluded in 2023 as part of the LTV engagement between the two funds.

47. The LTV Steering Committee met in person on April 11, 2024 with the following agenda:
- a) Stocktake on the Long-Term Vision;
 - b) Long-Term Vision future and linkages with Multilateral Climate Funds’ work;

- c) Joint investment planning: next steps with pilots;
- d) Engagement with Taskforce and NDC Partnership;
- e) Other matters, including steering committee organizational updates.

48. In the reporting period, another annual LTV progress report was prepared and submitted to the 67th GEF Council.⁵²

49. In the reporting period, the GEF continued to invite the GCF to contribute to GEF country and regional engagement events, including at the occasion of a panel on coordinated programming at the Caribbean workshop on SCCF programming as part of the LDCF/SCCF Dedicated Programmes. The UNFCCC Secretariat was invited to deliver opening remarks at the workshop, which like GEF Expanded Constituency Workshops invited and sponsored UNFCCC country focal points to attend.

3. DEVELOPMENTS IN MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

50. During the reporting period, the GEF has further operationalized the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), which was established in 2023 in response to a decision taken at CBD COP 16 in December 2022. The first work program for the GBFF was approved by the second GBFF Council, which was held on June 19, 2024.⁵³ The GBFF projects may generate climate mitigation benefits, which are tracked and reported. The three projects approved in the first Work Program are expected to generate 54.5 Mt CO₂ eq in climate mitigation benefits.

4. ADVANCING SOCIAL INCLUSION AND GENDER EQUALITY

51. The GEF Secretariat has continued to advance its broader social inclusion agenda in the context of the UNFCCC process.

52. Specifically, the GEF Secretariat actively engages with the Youth Constituency of the UNFCCC (YOUNGO) to ensure that youth voices are represented in GEF processes, including in its Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECW) and its CSO Consultations ahead of the GEF Council, among others. In preparation for COP 28, the GEF Secretariat and The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy developed and ran a training course on Environmental Negotiation with young professionals as target participants, and more than 200 youth participants from 92 countries attended the on-line course. The GEF Secretariat also partnered with The Climate Reality Project and sponsored 13 youth negotiators to attend COP 28. The GEF Secretariat organized a Conversation of youth delegates with the Mayor of Paris where the mayor encouraged the youth leaders to continue their advocacy for raising the ambition of climate actions in their cities.

53. The GEF Secretariat actively engaged with youth representatives from Yale University in

⁵² GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration between GCF and GEF 2024](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Inf.07.

⁵³ GEF, 2024, [Joint Summary of the Co-Chairs](#), 2nd GBFF Council Meeting, Council Document GEF/GBFF.02/Jointsummary.

supporting GEF's side events at COP 28 and in running the joint climate funds' pavilion at the COP. The GEF Secretariat participated in a number of events and activities of YOUNGO and other youth groups at COP 28, where it shared opportunities for engagements with them, including in the design and implementation of GEF projects. For example, the revised Small Grants Programme (SGP 2.0) has more substantive focus on inclusion, including of people with disabilities and youth, as project grantees.

54. With regard to promoting gender equality, the GEF Secretariat has ensured the substantive inclusion of gender perspectives in all GEF-funded programs, guided by the GEF's Policy on Gender Equality and related programming guidelines. As reflected in its Progress Report on Advancing Gender Equality submitted to its 66th GEF Council Meeting, 100 percent of projects at CEO endorsement/approval stage, including those with CCA and CCM as focal areas, and projects funded under CBIT, incorporated gender perspectives in project description, outputs, and activities. All projects were accompanied by Gender Action Plans.

55. Working closely with the GEF Gender Partnership, and the Gender Team of the UNFCCC Secretariat, the GEF Secretariat co-organized cross-learning, capacity-building, and awareness-raising activities where the GEF Secretariat elaborated on the entry points for promoting gender equality and women's empowerment through the GEF programming cycle, as well as through its inclusive Country Engagement Strategy. In one of its ECWs, the GEF Secretariat provided a platform for the UNFCCC Gender Team and the National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points (NGCCFPs) to engage with the GEF Focal Points and the Convention Focal Points of the participating countries to the ECW.

56. At COP 28, in collaboration with the UNFCCC Gender Team, the Adaptation Fund (AF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and UNDP, a well-attended and appreciated Training for UNFCCC National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points was organized, with around 40 NGCCFP attending. The panelists presented their respective gender equality policies and requirements and shared opportunities for engagement with the three funds' focal points/designated entities to ensure that climate mitigation and adaptation projects implemented in countries align with the gender equality objectives and actions derived from the UNFCCC process. The GEF also participated as a panelist in a number of events held to raise visibility for gender-related policy and programming of the GEF. These included: i) Counting on a Sustainable Future: Global Conference on Gender and Environment Data; ii) Meet the Gender Experts, a Joint Climate Finance Pavilion event; iii) Rising Up to Advance Gender Safety in Climate Action; and iv) Bridging Gender Gaps in NDC Implementation: Lessons Learned from Community-Led Climate Technology Solutions.

57. Building on the COP 28 training for NGCCFPs, the GEF Secretariat served as a panelist at a training workshop organized by UN Women and the UNFCCC Secretariat for ten Asia-Pacific countries. That workshop aimed at supporting the countries in accelerating gender-responsive climate action and in implementing their nationally determined contributions (NDC). Three climate funds at the workshop – AF, GEF, and GCF – elaborated on their gender policies; on their project and program requirements for integrating gender perspectives; and on opportunities to collaborate with their focal points to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in projects.

PART III: GEF'S ACHIEVEMENTS

1. CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

Overview of GEF Support for Mitigation since GEF's Inception

58. Since its establishment in 1991, the GEF has been funding projects with CCM objectives in developing countries and countries with economy in transition (CEIT). As of June 30, 2024,⁵⁴ the GEF has funded 1,432 projects on CCM with \$8.48 billion of GEF support, including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees, in 155 countries. The GEF project financing leveraged \$66.91 billion from a variety of sources, including GEF Agencies, national and local governments, multilateral and bilateral agencies, the private sector, and CSOs. The average co-financing ratio of CCM projects has been 1 (GEF) to 8.7 (co-financing).⁵⁵ In addition, GEF support to Enabling Activities (EA)⁵⁶ is summarized in Part III Section 5.

59. Out of 1,432 CCM projects, 28.7 percent were located in Africa, 28.3 percent in Asia, 19.6 percent in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and 14.1 percent in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ECA), based on the number of projects. In addition, 133 projects with global or regional scope were funded, accounting for 9.3 percent of the overall CCM portfolio (Table 2). In terms of GEF funding provided, 23.7 percent were programmed in Africa, 31.1 percent in Asia, 21.2 percent in LAC, 10.8 percent in ECA, and 13.3 percent in global or regional projects.

60. Seventeen GEF Agencies have participated in the implementation of these CCM projects. UNDP, the World Bank, UNEP, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) have had the major shares of the portfolio in project development and implementation, as shown in Figure 1.

61. A growing share of standalone and child projects under programs are categorized as multi-focal area (MFA) projects, meaning that project components and funding support are aligned with CCM and other GEF strategic objectives, such as biodiversity, land degradation, and chemicals and waste. In addition, the use of GEF funding has evolved over the years from multi-focal area to integrated approaches. This evolution largely reflects the increasing need for GEF resources to harness better integration and opportunities for generating multiple global environmental benefits (GEBs). Table 3 shows the distribution of CCM focal area and MFA projects, as well as the allocation of resources for standalone projects versus allocation for programs and their child projects.

⁵⁴ Starting in this reporting period, the source of data in Part III Section 1 shifts to an online GEF database portal which supports improved operational efficiency and data quality as well as enhanced capture of results and access to data. The latest project, financing, and results information available at the end of the reporting period is extracted, aggregated, and presented. In addition, all CBIT projects funded by GEF are included in Part III Section 1, irrespective of the trust fund source. CBIT projects were funded by the CBIT Trust Fund (CBIT TF) in GEF-6, and since GEF-7 have been funded by the GEFTF and CBIT TF. These changes in data source and scope of coverage have resulted in some discrepancy with previous COP reports.

⁵⁵ The co-financing ratio is calculated in accordance with the GEF Updated Co-Financing Policy, excluding EAs, PPGs and Agency fees (GEF, 2018, [Updated Co-financing Policy](#), Council Document GEF/C.54/10/Rev.01).

⁵⁶ Such projects are submitted following the modalities of Enabling Activities.

62. Table 4 presents these 1,432 projects by GEF replenishment phase and categorizes them by sectors, including technology transfer and innovative low-carbon technologies, energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transport and urban systems, agriculture, forestry, and other land use (AFOLU), enabling activities, SGP, and mixed and others. The total includes projects with multiple CCM objectives and multi-focal area (MFA) projects that have direct impact on GHG emission reductions. As shown in Figure 2, the total combined share of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects has been significant, accounting for approximately 38 percent in terms of total number of projects and 32 percent in terms of total GEF funding for CCM-related projects. The AFOLU sector has accounted for 22 percent of the total project number and 31 percent of the funding. The sustainable transport and urban systems projects have accounted for 11 percent in terms of total number of projects and 11 percent of the funding.

Table 2: Cumulative GEF Projects on Climate Change Mitigation by Region
(Excluding EA projects)

Region ^a	Projects		GEF Amount ^c		Co-financing ^d		Co-financing ratio
	Number ^b	Share (%)	\$ million	Share (%)	\$ million	Share (%)	
Africa	411	28.7	2,007.33	23.7	15,836.82	23.7	8.7
Asia	405	28.3	2,634.17	31.1	27,963.14	41.8	11.7
ECA	202	14.1	914.08	10.8	7,327.95	11.0	7.5
LAC	280	19.6	1,794.96	21.2	11,379.71	17.0	13.7
Global	122	8.5	1,059.27	12.5	3,599.37	5.4	2.2
Regional	12	0.8	72.04	0.8	799.07	1.2	12.3
Total	1,432	100	8,481.86	100	66,906.05	100	8.7

^a The individual region rows include single country projects in that region; the “global” row includes multi-country projects spanning at least two regions; and the “regional” row includes multi-country projects in the same region.

^b The number of projects includes individual child projects under programs.

^c These amounts include all focal area contributions to climate change, including PPGs and Agency fees.

^d These figures include actual and expected co-financing.

Table 3: GEF Funding for Projects and Programs with Climate Change Mitigation Components

(Excluding EA projects)

	Number of projects					GEF amount (\$ million)	Number of programs	GEF amount for programs (\$ million)
	CCM standalone projects ^a	MFA standalone projects	CCM child projects	MFA child projects	Total			
GEF-4 (2006-2010)	119	11	66	24	220	1,029.37	16	409.16
GEF-5 (2010-2014)	171	68	7	26	272	1,604.98	8	167.04
GEF-6 (2014-2018)	101	63	10	39	213	1,332.43	8	463.87
GEF-7 (2018-2022)	82	24	55	41	202	1,007.08	9	594.06
GEF-8 (2022-2026) ^b	15	22	18	127	182	1,626.14	22	1,215.39
Total	488	188	156	257	1089	6,600.01	63	2,854.52

^a CCM standalone projects are funded entirely by CCM but are not part of a program.

^b Up to June 30, 2024.

Table 4: GEF Projects on Climate Change Mitigation by GEF Phase and by Sector
(Excluding EA projects) (in \$ million)

Phase		Technology transfer/ Innovative low-carbon technologies ^a	Energy efficiency	Renewable energy	Transport / Urban	AFOLU ^b	Enabling Activity ^c	Small Grants Programme ^d	Mixed and others ^e	Grand Total
GEF Pilot (1991 - 1994)	# Projects	2	7	12	2	2	3	0	3	31
	GEF amount	10.12	33.32	94.48	9.00	4.00	13.89	-	46.73	211.53
	Co-financing	-	188.20	1,331.98	2.00	0.09	-	-	-	1,522.27
GEF-1 (1994 - 1998)	# Projects	1	16	16	0	0	3	0	6	42
	GEF amount	3.75	134.42	146.90	-	-	4.50	-	26.98	316.55
	Co-financing	-	426.25	715.05	-	-	0.28	-	94.53	1,236.11
GEF-2 (1998 - 2002)	# Projects	6	32	42	6	1	6	0	6	99
	GEF amount	102.16	188.63	181.51	28.90	0.90	22.23	-	18.15	542.48
	Co-financing	827.42	1,796.87	877.29	19.29	0.96	12.60	-	56.96	3,591.37
GEF-3	# Projects	4	30	53	13	3	4	0	20	127

Phase		Technology transfer/ Innovative low-carbon technologies ^a	Energy efficiency	Renewable energy	Transport / Urban	AFOLU ^b	Enabling Activity ^c	Small Grants Programme ^d	Mixed and others ^e	Grand Total
(2002 - 2006)	GEF amount	64.64	230.67	250.32	87.86	15.47	13.29	-	90.69	752.94
	Co-financing	309.15	1,273.29	1,416.17	882.00	34.57	8.79	-	329.31	4,253.29
GEF-4 (2006 - 2010)	# Projects	10	83	47	19	31	5	3	22	220
	GEF amount	47.30	382.52	117.79	109.78	165.51	43.25	65.33	97.90	1,029.37
	Co-financing	217.15	3,736.58	855.68	2,017.62	1,248.64	16.89	44.50	527.40	8,664.46
GEF-5 (2010 - 2014)	# Projects	38	37	54	25	72	12	10	24	272
	GEF amount	227.55	193.52	171.00	122.68	519.52	83.52	158.96	128.23	1,604.98
	Co-financing	1,759.46	3,912.08	1,754.41	2,492.14	2,381.81	86.43	160.55	997.92	13,544.79
GEF-6 (2014 - 2018)	# Projects	12	27	32	30	73	2	13	65	254
	GEF amount	32.78	114.14	169.02	234.60	593.62	22.51	75.97	142.98	1,385.62
	Co-financing	258.40	1,282.57	2,858.81	3,562.71	4,035.24	4.14	105.29	723.20	12,830.35

Phase		Technology transfer/ Innovative low-carbon technologies ^a	Energy efficiency	Renewable energy	Transport / Urban	AFOLU ^b	Enabling Activity ^c	Small Grants Programme ^d	Mixed and others ^e	Grand Total
GEF-7 (2018 - 2022)	# Projects	19	21	23	44	35	0	8	55	205
	GEF amount	39.60	85.76	94.29	229.39	372.10	-	72.24	118.85	1,012.23
	Co-financing	270.17	953.64	1,424.97	2,774.15	3,792.79	-	95.10	203.16	9,513.98
GEF-8 (2022 - 2026)	# Projects	16	1	6	18	103	0	1	36	181
	GEF amount	83.13	16.00	67.34	86.30	941.14	-	137.54	292.50	1,623.95
	Co-financing	684.68	509.00	1,333.37	599.12	6,610.72	-	126.19	1,884.85	11,747.92
Total	# Projects	108	254	285	157	321	35	35	237	1432
	GEF amount	611.03	1,378.98	1,292.66	908.50	2,614.45	203.20	510.05	962.99	8,481.86
	Co-financing	4,326.43	14,078.48	12,567.72	12,349.03	18,106.31	129.13	531.62	4,817.33	66,906.05

^a ‘Technology Transfer’ (TT) means ‘special initiative on technology transfer’ up to GEF-4, ‘promoting innovative low-carbon technologies (LCTs)’ in GEF-5 and ‘promoting timely development, demonstration, and financing of LCTs and CCM options’ in GEF-6 and GEF-7.

^b These include projects under the CCM focal area objective focused on land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF), climate-smart agriculture, and projects receiving sustainable forest management (SFM) incentive.

^c These projects were submitted following the FSP or MSP modalities, rather than the EA modalities.

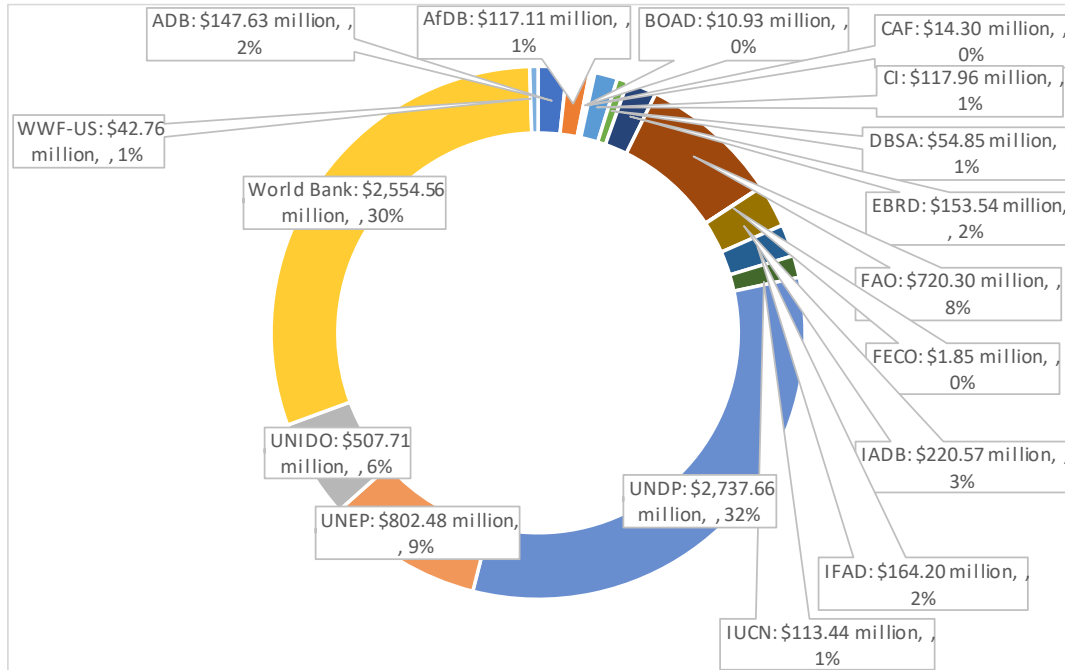
^d There were 11 SGP projects from GEF Pilot to GEF-3 that had CCM objectives. However, funding contributed for CCM was not recorded in these early periods. The total GEF amount for these projects was \$261 million, and they leveraged \$204 million of co-financing.

^e 'Mixed' projects are projects with multiple CCM objectives.

^f GEF amounts in this table include PPGs and Agency fees.

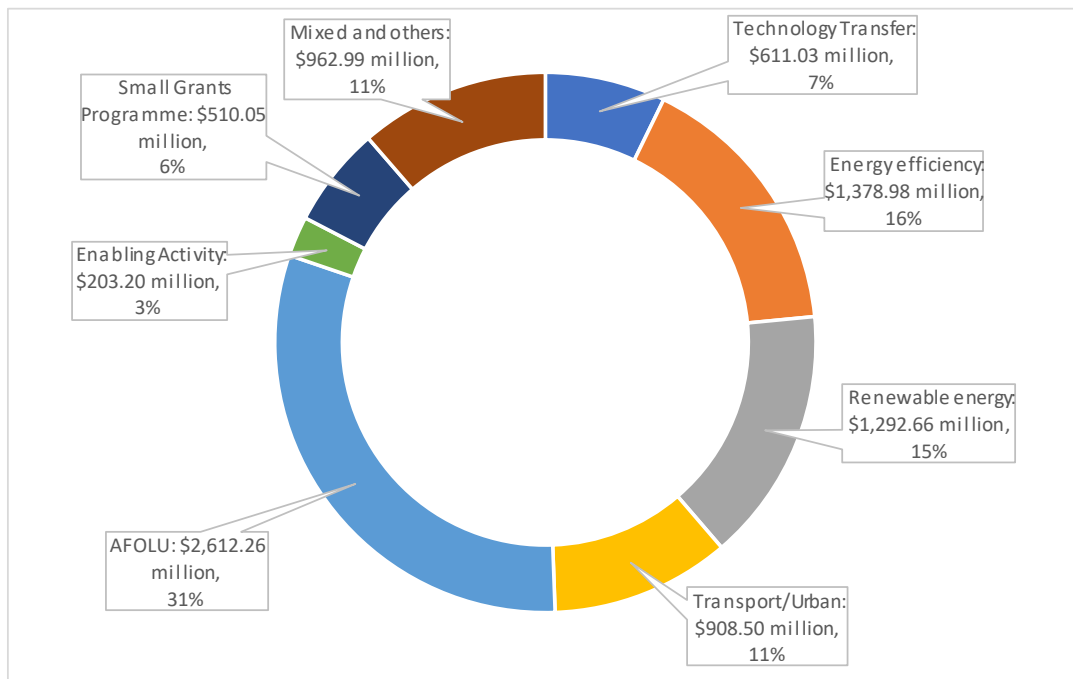
^g Co-financing figures in this table include expected co-financing.

Figure 1: Cumulative Agency Distribution of Approved GEF Projects and Programs on Climate Change Mitigation



*Calculated on the basis of GEF financing.

Figure 2: Cumulative GEF Projects and Programs on Climate Change Mitigation by Sector



*Calculated on the basis of GEF financing.

Climate Change Mitigation Programming in the Reporting Period

63. In the reporting period, the GEFTF programmed \$703.96 million, including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees, for activities expected to generate CCM benefits (excluding EA projects, which are covered in Part III Section 5 of this report), of which \$186.93 million (or 26.6 percent) were drawn from the CCM Focal Area and the CBIT set-aside with the rest from other GEF focal areas and set-aside incentives. This is largely due to the approval during the reporting period of several of the GEF 8 Integrated Programs, and the Integrated Programs include programming of significant GEF resources from other focal area, most notably biodiversity and land degradation, which contribute to generate substantial CCM benefits. Annex 2 lists the CCM-relevant projects and programs, CBIT projects, and EA projects approved under the GEFTF in the reporting period.

64. 35 GEF investments were approved in the reporting period, including nine CCM projects (including six CBIT projects), one CCM program (including nine child projects), 15 MFA or multi-trust fund (MTF) projects, and ten MFA programs (including 59 child projects). Out of the 92 standalone projects and child projects, 15 were MSPs, and 77 were FSPs. These new investments with CCM potential approved in the reporting period are expected to avoid or sequester 404 Mt CO₂ eq in total over their lifetime.⁵⁷

65. These 24 projects and 11 programs are expected to leverage approximately \$5.88 billion in co-financing, resulting in a co-financing ratio of 1 (GEF) to 9.1 (co-financing).⁵⁸

66. The 92 standalone projects and child projects approved in the reporting period are proposed from 61 countries across all regions and include regional and global projects. Regional distribution of GEF CCM-relevant investments is \$235.41 million (33 percent) for the Africa region, \$185.31 million (26 percent) for Asia and the Pacific, \$127.05 million (18 percent) for LAC, \$67.46 million for ECA (10 percent), and \$88.73 million (13 percent) for global projects.

67. 25 projects and programs out of 35 (71 percent) are categorized as MTF or multi-focal area, meaning that project components and funding support are also aligned with other GEF strategic objectives, such as biodiversity, land degradation, and chemicals and waste. There is one project that addresses both CCA and CCM objectives as a MTF project, (*Barbados - Accelerating transition to climate-resilient agrifood systems (BATCRAS)*, GEF ID 11270).

68. Out of 35 projects and programs, three focus on technology innovation and transfer; two on renewable energy; one on energy efficiency; two on sustainable transport and urban systems;

⁵⁷ The GHG emission reductions are based on the latest data submitted for approval, or submitted for CEO endorsement if the endorsement is cleared. While some standalone projects and child projects supported only by non-CCM GEF funding are also expected to contribute to climate mitigation, their expected emission reduction impacts are conservatively excluded in this section, but they are included in section “GEF-8 Investments Directly and Indirectly Related to Climate Change Mitigation”.

⁵⁸ The co-financing ratio is calculated in accordance with the GEF Updated Co-financing Policy, excluding PPGs and Agency fees (GEF, 2018, [Updated Co-financing Policy](#), Council Document GEF/C.54/10/Rev.01).

23 projects and programs on AFOLU; and four have mixed or other objectives. Table 5 summarizes estimated results per type of project and program. In the case of MFA projects and programs, the female and male beneficiaries from all focal areas are included.

69. The projects and programs approved in this reporting period are led by nine GEF Agencies. 25 projects and programs are implemented by a single Agency, while nine programs are multi-Agency investments. UNDP and FAO have the largest share in terms of the number of single-Agency projects and programs (9, or 35 percent each), followed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (three, or 12 percent). DBSA, UNEP, UNIDO, the World Bank, and WWF-US each have one project.

70. In addition to financing the implementation of projects, the GEF assists eligible countries at their request with the preparation of projects and programs through PPGs. In the reporting period, the GEF provided a total of \$14.16 million in PPGs from the GEFTF for the preparation of 31 projects and programs out of the 35 that were approved.

Table 5: Expected Results from Climate Change Mitigation Standalone Projects and Child Projects Approved in the Reporting Period

Type of Projects and Programs	Total Expected Emission Reductions (Mt CO₂ eq)	Number of Women	Number of Men	Total Number of Beneficiaries
Technology transfer/Innovative LCTs	20.0	125,960	37,740	163,700
Renewable energy	0.6	13,009	13,298	26,307
Urban/Transport	75.9	4,747,010	4,798,000	9,545,010
AFOLU	271.2	2,219,336	2,270,178	4,489,514
Mixed/others	36.5	7,965,022	8,090,537	16,055,559
Total	404.2	15,070,337	15,209,753	30,280,090

GEF STAR Support for Key Mitigation Sectors in the Reporting Period

71. The thematic scope of the GEF portfolio of CCM projects has changed significantly in GEF-8, compared to the previous replenishment cycles. In particular, the development of CCM projects has moved towards more integrated projects with multi-sectoral and multi-focal area approaches aimed at generating the transformation of key economic systems. CCM activities in key sectors supported by the GEF in the reporting period are presented below. CBIT and technology transfer are presented in Part III, Sections 5 and 6 respectively, as they are cross-cutting topics for both CCM and CCA.

Decarbonized Power Systems

72. The GEF approved one project focused on contributing to decarbonized power systems in the reporting period, with \$9 million in GEF STAR funding and leveraging \$20 million in co-financing. Expected GHG emission reductions amount to 0.5 Mt CO₂ eq. This project is aligned

with objective 1.2 “Enable the transition to decarbonized power systems” under Pillar 1 of the GEF-8 CCM Strategy. The project *Energy resilience and security for the residential and public sector in Antigua and Barbuda* aims to create a sustainable market mechanism for climate-resilient distributed renewable energy systems in Antigua and Barbuda, resulting in significant installation of such systems in the residential and commercial sectors – including amongst vulnerable populations and in storm shelters. The project features innovative policy and institutional interventions, including a bulk purchasing program of photovoltaic (PV) and storage equipment, a revolving-loan program to facilitate low-cost access to PV systems (via loans and delayed payment and through equipment distributor partnerships), and an end-of-life program for responsible disposal of renewable energy equipment.

Efficient Use of Energy and Materials

73. In the reporting period, the GEF approved one project and one program contributing to efficient use of energy and materials in industrial and urban applications. These investments are aligned with objective 1.1 “Accelerate the efficient use of energy and materials” under Pillar 1 of the GEF-8 CCM Strategy. The project *Private-Sector Energy Efficiency Programme Phase 2 (PSEEP2)* will establish and capitalize a risk-sharing facility to foster commercial lending for energy efficiency improvements by SMEs. This project establishes a technical assistance facility, funded in part by a \$1,000,000 STAR allocation, to train SMEs and conduct energy audits. SMEs can then seek loans from approved commercial lenders for investments in lighting, HVAC, motors, refrigeration, and other efficiency projects. With \$16 million in GEF STAR funding and leveraging \$509 million in co-financing, the project is expected to support at least 50 energy audits and yield commercial investments in at least 680 companies, benefiting 2,040 people (60 percent women), leading to mitigation of 83 Mt CO₂ eq.

Zero-Emission Mobility

74. In the reporting period, the GEF supported one program addendum focusing on electric mobility and one program promoting clean hydrogen to decarbonize hard-to-abate transport and industrial sectors. These programs are aligned with key objective 1.3 “Scale up zero-emission mobility of people and goods” under Pillar 1 of the GEF-8 CCM Strategy. The *Global Clean Hydrogen Programme* exhibits an innovative approach by supporting green hydrogen pilots in developing countries and by generating global lessons targeted at both developing countries and economies in transition. The program aims to bring about long-term system transformation by encouraging robust public-private stakeholder engagement and by providing recommendations on standards, skills development, policy, and environmental and social governance with the overall aim of transitioning transportation and industrial processes toward clean hydrogen. With \$15 million in GEF STAR funding and leveraging \$141 million in co-financing, the expected GHG emission reductions amount to 13.3 MtCO₂ eq.

Nature-Based Solutions

75. In the reporting period, a significant majority of GEF programs and projects contribute to promoting nature-based solutions (NbS) with high CCM potential, in addition to reducing biodiversity loss and land degradation. These investments are aligned with key objective 1.4. “Promoting nature-based solutions with high mitigation impacts” under Pillar 1 of the GEF-8 CCM

Strategy. For example, the project *Restoration of Wetlands and other important Amazonian Ecosystems - Capacity-building, innovation, development and technological transfer for ecological restoration and climate change mitigation* in Brazil aims at restoring wetland and lowland forest ecosystems and biodiversity in the Amazon mainland and coast through: strengthening capacity for ecosystem restoration; improving the enabling environment; and initiating restoration in overlooked areas of the Amazon. The project will develop a Strategic Plan for restoration of wetland ecosystems in the Amazon and promote its adoption by relevant stakeholders to support conservation of these ecosystems and their globally significant biodiversity. The project is expected to mitigate approximately 10 Mt CO₂ eq of GHG emissions.

GEF-8 Integrated Programs

76. The GEF-8 programming architecture builds on the successful approach in GEF-7 of investing in both integrated programming and focal area actions in order to maximize the potential for greater impact while fulfilling Convention-related needs and expectations. The GEF-8 Programming Strategy intends to encourage countries to move more of their programming towards eleven integrated programs (IPs) that address the major environmental needs of the planet for which the GEF has a mandate, including climate change. The IPs were identified through a consultative process involving experts from the GEF Partnership, which also reinforced the programs' critical importance for transforming key economic systems. Taken together, these 11 programs are responsible for mitigating approximately 1,177 Mt CO₂ eq (or 64 percent) of the expected CCM outcomes from GEF-8 programming.⁵⁹

77. In this reporting period, the remaining five out of the eleven IPs were approved, as well as an IP addendum. Collectively, these five IPs cover all GEF recipient country regions and include a total of 39 countries that will participate with child projects and leverage CCM resources. The total IP resources requested for these CCM-relevant child projects amounted to \$489 million. These five IPs are expected to mitigate approximately 309 Mt CO₂ eq. A short description of key contributions of these five IPs to climate change outcomes follows. It is important to note that while generating CCM benefits is a fundamental and primary objective for the Food System and Sustainable Cities Integrated Programs, the other three Integrated Programs approved during the reporting period have additional primary objectives, and only incidentally generate CCM benefits. This contributes to explain the noticeable differences in the volume and efficiency of climate mitigation results between the programs presented below.

Food Systems Integrated Program

78. The program will focus on transforming food systems globally from farm to table, so that they are sustainable, regenerative, nature-positive, resilient, inclusive, and pollution-free. The IP will address the underlying drivers of unsustainability along the whole length of the food system by applying a holistic and integrated approach to transforming and strengthening value chains, business models, incentive and finance frameworks, and policy and institutional conditions, all of which will support the application of models of integrated and sustainable landscape and farm

⁵⁹ GEF, 2024, [GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard - June 2024](#). Expected results available at the time of program or project approval are aggregated for the purpose of corporate scorecard.

management on the ground. With a GEF funding envelope of \$252 million, \$54 million of which is from the CCM focal area, this IP is expected to mitigate 174 Mt CO₂ eq.

Sustainable Cities Integrated Program (SCIP)

79. The *Sustainable Cities Integrated Program (SCIP)* aims to catalyze urban system transformation by supporting cities and local governments to: scale up their political commitment; undertake integrated urban planning; implement policies; and invest in nature-positive, climate-resilient, and carbon-neutral urban development. The SCIP is implemented through three components: 1) Supporting integrated and inclusive urban planning, strategies, and policy development; 2) Promoting investments in sustainable, nature-positive, and resilient urban development while adopting innovative financing mechanisms; and 3) Strengthening knowledge-sharing and capacity-building. With a GEF funding envelope of \$152 million, \$42 million of which is from the CCM focal area, this IP is expected to mitigate 126 Mt CO₂ eq.

Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program

80. The program aims to conserve wildlife and landscapes to maximize global environmental benefits, including climate change (GHG avoidance through habitat conservation), the conservation of globally important biodiversity (species and landscape conservation and sustainable use), and the prevention of land degradation (restoration of key wildlife habitats). Integration of wildlife conservation across landscapes and sectors, between countries and regions, and over supply chains is key to safeguarding healthy, stable, or increased populations of threatened wildlife; reducing threats from illegal, unsustainable, and high-zoonotic-risk wildlife use and trade; and enhancing community benefits to ensure societal buy-in for wildlife conservation. With a GEF funding envelope of \$135 million, \$9.57 million of which is allocated from the CCM focal area, this IP is expected to mitigate 61 Mt CO₂ eq.

Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program (CHO-IP)

81. The CHO-IP program focuses on tackling drivers of excessive nutrient loads (i.e., nitrogen, phosphorous, organic waste) entering coastal marine environments. Agricultural, industrial, and municipal sectors are major sources of this excess nutrient pollution, which creates nutrient over-enrichment that causes eutrophication, triggering harmful algal blooms and low levels of oxygen, or hypoxia, leading to declining coastal water quality and associated health impacts; damage to biodiversity, including seagrasses and coral reefs; fish kills; and loss of ecosystem services. With a GEF funding envelope of \$100 million, \$6.71 million of which is allocated from the CCM focal area, this IP is expected to mitigate 9 Mt CO₂ eq.

Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development (GRID)

82. The GRID program focuses on supporting countries to advance the transition towards sustainable transportation infrastructure that safeguards and enhances key coastal, marine, and terrestrial ecosystems. The IP will enhance biodiversity and mitigate and/or eliminate the potential adverse effects associated with the development of transportation infrastructure by focusing on upstream measures (policies and regulations, planning frameworks, capacity) that will trigger a system change downstream in how infrastructure is built, and natural infrastructure maintained.

With a GEF funding envelope of \$24 million, \$0.80 million of which is allocated from the CCM focal area, this IP is expected to mitigate 8 Mt CO₂ eq.

GEF-8 Investments Directly and Indirectly Related to Climate Change Mitigation

83. The GEF-8 Policy Recommendations requested the Secretariat to monitor that GEF investments directly and indirectly related to climate change, including mitigation (CCM) and adaptation (CCA), amount to a minimum of 80 percent of all GEF funding commitments in the GEF-8 period, with GEF investments directly and indirectly related to climate change mitigation (CCM) amounting to a minimum of 65 percent of all GEF funding commitments in the GEF-8 period.

84. As presented in the GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard,⁶⁰ GEF tracks GEF-8 financing contributing towards CCM and CCA as a principal or significant objective against the indicative targets covering GEF-8 investments to date, consistent with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Rio Marker methodology. At the end of the reporting period, i.e. over the first two years of GEF-8, the share of GEF investments directly and indirectly related to climate change amounted to 85 percent, and the share of GEF investments directly and indirectly related to CCM amounted to 80 percent, expected to deliver 95 percent of the GEF-8 target of reducing 1,850 MtCO₂ GHG emissions.

2. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

85. As an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC, the GEF has played a pioneering role in supporting CCA and has the longest-running portfolio of adaptation projects supported by a multilateral climate fund. It was entrusted with the management of two funds that prioritize CCA, the LDCF and SCCF, both established in 2001, as an outcome of the Marrakesh Accords. Since their inception, they have supported an extensive portfolio on climate resilience, with 524 projects totaling \$2.61 billion, including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees, and leveraging approximately \$14.33 billion in co-financing, which is not required.

86. The LDCF was established to support the special needs of LDCs, as enshrined in Article 4 of the UNFCCC and the LDC Work Programme. The SCCF was established to finance activities, programs, and measures in all non-Annex I countries relating to climate change that are complementary to those funded by the CCM focal area of the GEFTF, and through bilateral and multilateral sources. While the SCCF has four financing windows, CCA was prioritized, in accordance with COP guidance (decision 5/CP.9).⁶¹

87. In the GEF-8 adaptation strategy, the four SCCF windows were narrowed to two: SCCF Window A, which supports adaptation in non-LDC SIDS, and SCCF Window B, which supports

⁶⁰ GEF, 2024, [GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard - June 2024](#).

⁶¹ In accordance with the COP guidance, the SCCF finance activities relating to climate change that are complementary to those funded by the GEF in the following areas: (i) adaptation to climate change; (ii) technology transfer; (iii) energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry, and waste management; and (iv) economic diversification. COP 9 decided in Decision 5/CP.9 that “Adaptation activities to address the adverse impacts of climate change shall have top priority for funding” and “Technology transfer and its associated capacity-building activities shall also be essential areas to receive funding.”

innovation, technology transfer and private-sector engagement in adaptation. These windows were in line with the value-added that SCCF could bring in the context of gaps in the adaptation finance landscape. Each non-LDC SIDS has an initial access cap of \$3 million from the SCCF Window A. Also, in GEF-8, the initial access cap for each LDC is raised to \$20 million in grant finance from the LDCF. This figure is set in recognition of the Glasgow Climate Pact decision to double adaptation finance from 2019 levels by 2025.⁶²

88. During the reporting period, \$382.32 million was approved for 31 projects from the LDCF, and \$24.87 million from the SCCF to support 5 projects. The LDCF has the largest work program in its history approved by the LDCF/SCCF Council in June 2024, with \$203.92 million for 14 projects and programs in 17 countries⁶³.

89. Projects and programs supported through both Funds are designed based on the information and guidance provided in NCs, NAPAs, NAPs and NDCs, as well as other relevant assessments and action plans. They adhere to the guiding principles of country-driven actions, replicability, sustainability, and stakeholder participation, with a strong focus on gender equality, mainstreaming, and embracing whole-of-society approaches. These guiding principles have been elaborated in relevant GEF policies, as well as in the programming principles and strategies that guide GEF's support for climate change adaptation (CCA).

90. Progress is continuing to balance the distribution of LDCF and SCCF among Agencies with the aim of no Agency receiving more than 30 percent of the funding for the portfolio. The GEF-8 portfolio is well-balanced in this regard, as shown in Figures 6 and 7. Efforts are also being made to facilitate multi-trust fund (MTF) programming, recognizing the potential to address systemic challenges faced by countries, especially in efforts towards urban development and water resources management in SIDS, and food security in African LDCs.

91. The third round of the Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation, for \$20 million, was launched in April 2024. The Challenge Program has proven highly successful in engaging with a broader set of partners and in promoting innovation with the private sector. The GEF-8 Adaptation Strategy also introduced three budgeted dedicated programs, which seek to enhance outreach to countries to build capacity on adaptation, as well as to improve knowledge capture and sharing from the LDCF/SCCF portfolio while also expanding visibility of the Funds. These are discussed below.

92. Following the COP guidance to support the NAP process (decision 12/CP.18, paragraphs 1 and 4), the GEF provided support to countries to initiate or advance their NAP processes and their implementation. Further information on this support is contained in the Sub-section "Support to LDC Program and NAP Process."

93. The GEF continues to work with the LDC Group, the Adaptation Committee, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), and other relevant bodies under the UNFCCC and

⁶² UNFCCC, 2021, [Glasgow Climate Pact, COP26 cover decision](#), Decision-/CP.26.

⁶³ 14 national projects covering 11 LDCs (Angola, Cambodia, Chad, Comoros, Gambia, Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and Tanzania), and 2 programs covering 6 additional LDCs (Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania).

Paris Agreement to enhance the effectiveness of support provided through the LDCF and SCCF to developing countries towards the formulation of their NAP processes.

94. The GEF organized an additional three regional adaptation programming and strategy workshops for LDCs during the reporting period, as well as two similar workshops for non-LDC SIDS. Further information is provided in the sections on “Dedicated Programs,” below.

95. Further efforts were made to raise resources for the LDCF/SCCF in the reporting period. For instance, the GEF Secretariat organized a successful Ministerial Dialogue and donor pledging event on the margin of the COP 28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Eight donors, including Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Norway, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom, pledged a total of \$174.2 million to the LDCF and SCCF.⁶⁴ In addition, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the United States expressed political support for the two Funds.

Least Developed Countries Fund

96. As of June 30, 2024, cumulative pledges to the LDCF amounted to \$2,095.41 million, of which \$1,880.89 million have been received (Annex 5).

97. Since its inception, \$2,151.07 million has been approved for 422 projects, programs and EAs to meet the mandate of the LDCF, mobilizing an additional \$7,611.36 million in co-financing, which is not required. The LDCF has to date supported 51 countries⁶⁵ to prepare their NAPAs and funded two global NAPA projects, all of which have been submitted to the UNFCCC. As of June 30, 2024, \$12.06 million of LDCF funding is available for new approvals.⁶⁶

98. The annual and cumulative funding approvals under the LDCF as of June 30, 2024 are shown in Figure 3, which indicates a significant increase in the number of project and program concepts approved by the Council in FY24. The increased volume in LDCF programming is attributable in part to extensive outreach, capacity building, and visibility efforts undertaken by the GEF for the LDCF/SCCF during this reporting period.

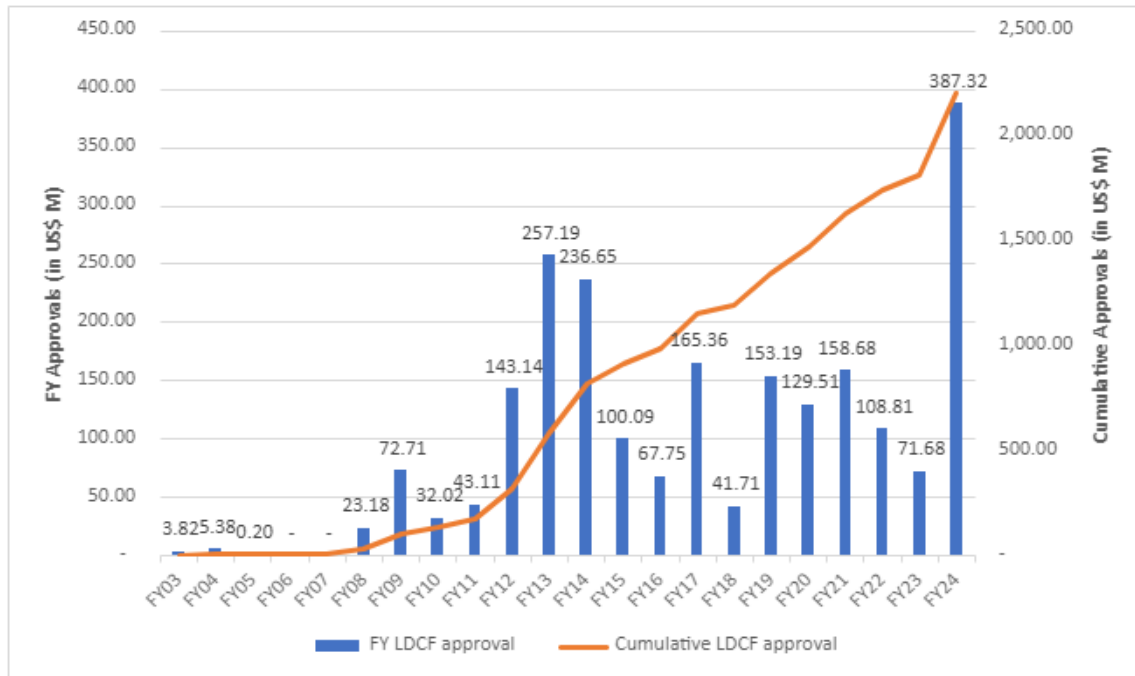
99. The cumulative distribution of funding across regions is shown in Figure 4. Africa has received the largest share of the LDCF financing of \$1,534.91 million, or 70 percent, which is in line with the geographical distribution of LDCs. In this reporting period, the regional distribution of CCA projects and programs approved under the LDCF shows that the Africa region received 70.0 percent of LDCF resources followed by Asia with 10.0 percent (Figure 5).

Figure 3: Annual and Cumulative Funding Approvals under the LDCF

⁶⁴ GEF, 2023, [Joint Statement on donor's pledge of \\$174.2 million and confirmation of support to the LDCF and SCCF](#).

⁶⁵ Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Yemen, and Zambia. No new NAPA preparation projects were supported in the reporting period.

⁶⁶ This figure provided by the GEF Trustee factors in the interest gained on the Trust Fund.



* Includes GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

Figure 4: Cumulative Regional Distribution of Projects and Programs Approved under the LDCF⁶⁷

⁶⁷ The figures in the regional distribution have not been updated for project cancellations and recent migration of information to the new GEF Portal from the previous database.

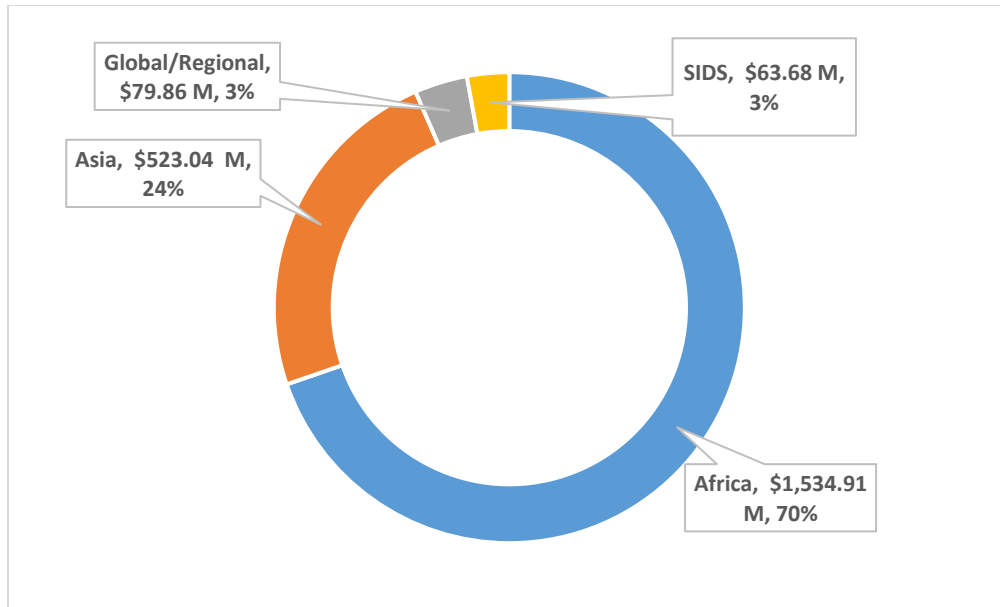
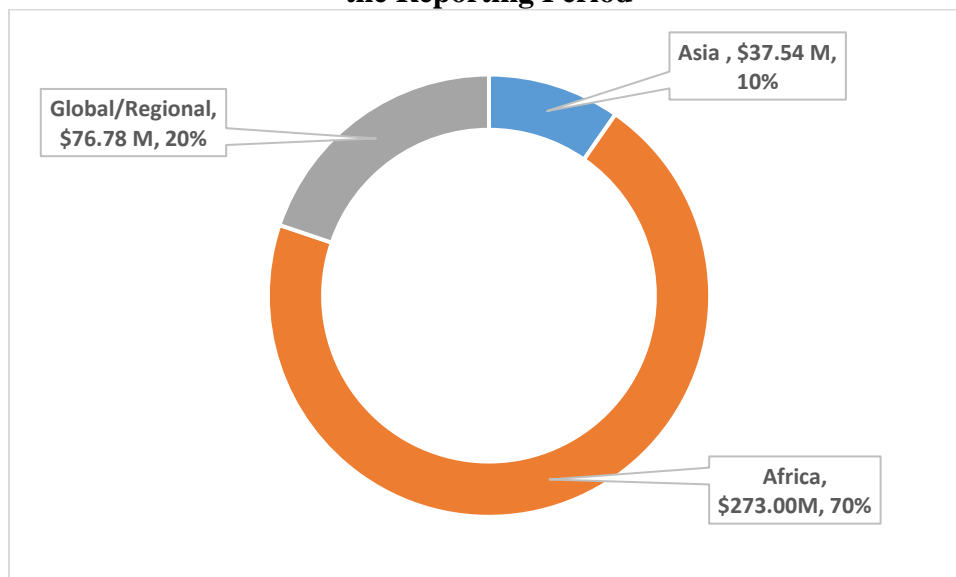


Figure 5: Regional Distribution of Projects and Programs Approved under the LDCF in the Reporting Period



100. The cumulative distribution of funding across GEF Agencies is shown in Figure 6. Since inception, the cumulative funding decisions by agencies shows that UNDP has implemented the largest portion (43 percent) of LDCF funding. The large historical UNDP share is in part due to the limited number of Agencies that were engaged in CCA in the early period of LDCF operations.

101. Over time, the number of GEF Agencies active in CCA has increased, contributing to a more balanced programming. For example, so far in GEF-8, the LDCF portfolio has seen a significant share of projects by multilateral development banks and international financing institutions (IFIs). In this reporting period, for the LDCF 12 out of the 31 FSP PIFs/PFDs approved

were submitted by an MDB/IFI; in total, 38.2 percent, \$152.23 million of LDCF resources was programmed by MDBs and IFIs. The distribution of funding across GEF Agencies in the reporting period is shown in Figure 7. In the reporting period, ten GEF Agencies were engaged in LDCF programming. UNDP programmed 20.0 percent of LDCF resources, followed by the World Bank with 19.0 percent and FAO with 16.0 percent. IFAD accounted for 12.0 percent of LDCF programming in the reporting period.

Figure 6: Cumulative Agency Distribution of Projects and Programs Approved under the LDCF

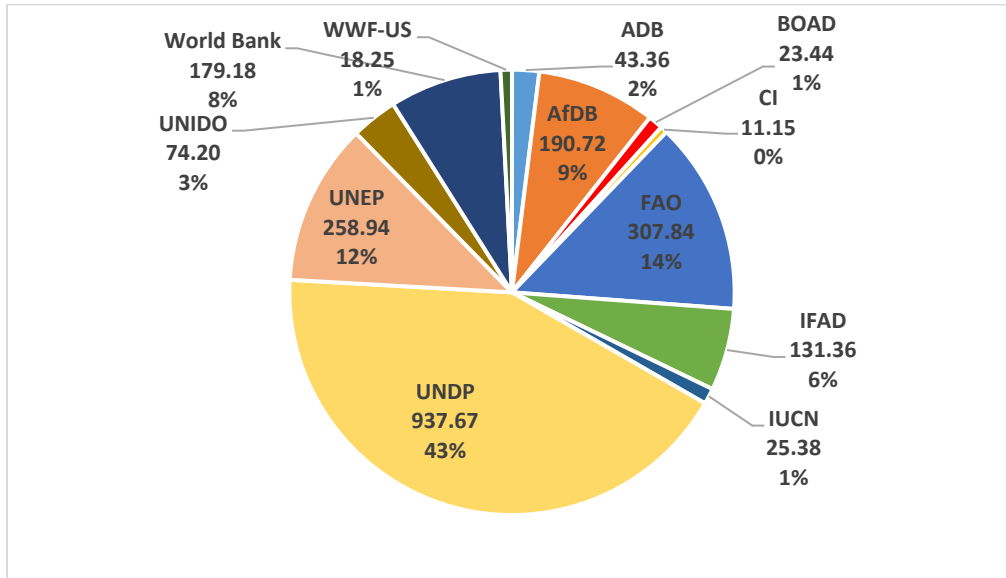
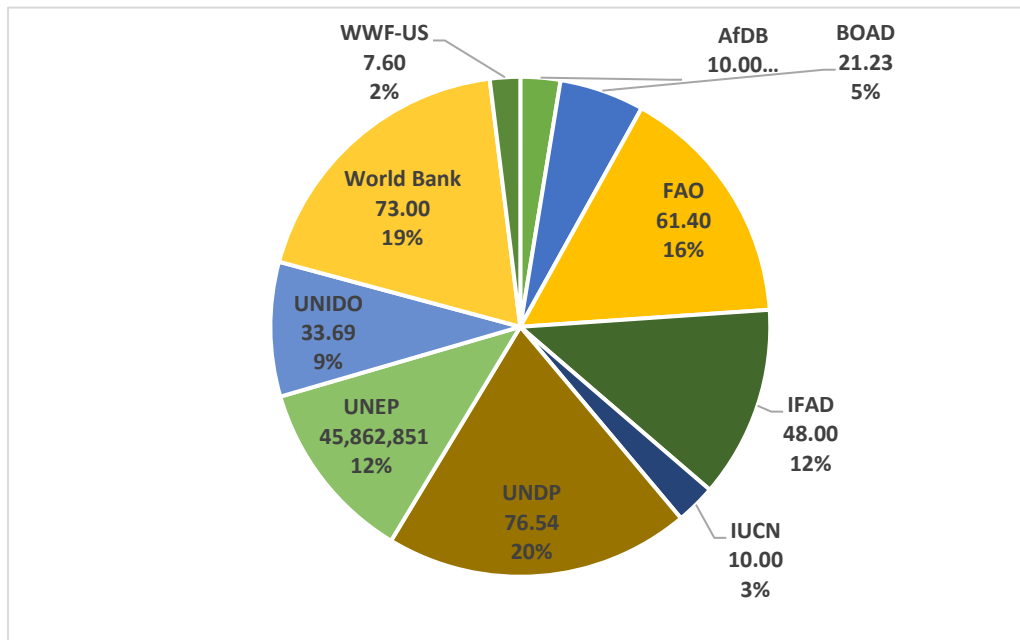


Figure 7: Agency Distribution of Projects and Programs Approved under the LDCF in the Reporting Period



102. As of June 30, 2024, 353 LDCF projects had been endorsed or approved by the CEO and are in some stage of implementation or already completed. The projects will benefit 73.73 million people; manage 12.73 million ha of land to withstand the effects of climate change; develop or strengthen 4,221 policies, plans, and processes to integrate and manage climate risks; train 3.43 million people to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and/or evaluate CCA measures; and engage 1,994 private-sector enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience action.

103. During the reporting period, LDCF continued to serve all 46⁶⁸ eligible LDCs in addressing their urgent and immediate climate adaptation needs. This was achieved through targeted consultations with LDCs and guidance to access LDCF resources in line with the GEF-8 Adaptation Strategy. With record-high volume of LDCF programming approved in FY24⁶⁹, the utilization rate for LDCF resources for national projects in GEF-8 has reached 49.5 percent⁷⁰. Overall, fourteen countries⁷¹ have accessed the \$20 million cap for GEF-8, while sixteen⁷² additional LDCs have accessed the LDCF resources under the \$20 million cap.

104. Table 6 presents a summary of the LDCF’s allocation of resources by country both in the GEF-8 period and cumulatively, since the fund’s inception.

⁶⁸ Bhutan graduated from the LDC status in December 2023.

⁶⁹ See Work Program Cover notes for the [35th](#) and [36th](#) Council Meetings

⁷⁰ Based on \$463.99 million LDCF programmed out of the expected \$920 million national programming, with the \$20 million initial cap per country.

⁷¹ Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mauritania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, and South Sudan

⁷² Angola, Benin, Central African Republic, Chad, Gambia, Guinea, Lao PDR, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia

Table 6: LDCF Resource Programming by Country as of June 30, 2024 ⁷³

Country	GEF-8 LDCF Resources Accessed (\$ Million)	Cumulative LDCF Resources Accessed since inception (\$ Million)
Afghanistan		26.52
Angola	10.00	50.63
Bangladesh		38.39
Benin	10.00	50.67
Bhutan	20.00	60.39
Burkina Faso	20.00	60.14
Burundi	20.00	49.99
Cambodia	20.00	57.04
Central African Republic	10.00	31.37
Chad	9.86	47.95
Comoros	20.00	60.15
Democratic Republic of the Congo		40.11
Djibouti	20.00	52.43
Eritrea		23.98
Ethiopia	20.00	60.13
Gambia	14.00	53.64
Guinea	11.00	46.57
Guinea Bissau		27.10
Haiti		33.68
Kiribati		32.50
Lao People's Democratic Republic	13.00	50.87
Lesotho	20.00	60.85
Liberia	10.00	38.11
Madagascar		29.82
Malawi	15.00	55.15
Mali	11.23	50.40
Mauritania	20.00	55.27
Mozambique	10.00	42.06

⁷³ Including project preparation grants (PPGs) and Agency fees.

Country	GEF-8 LDCF Resources Accessed (\$ Million)	Cumulative LDCF Resources Accessed since inception (\$ Million)
Myanmar		22.05
Nepal	10.00	50.88
Niger	10.00	49.91
Rwanda	20.00	61.01
Sao Tome and Principe	20.00	56.94
Senegal		40.18
Sierra Leone	20.00	56.78
Solomon Islands		33.33
Somalia	20.00	59.87
South Sudan	20.00	39.77
Sudan		42.15
Tanzania	9.00	35.14
Timor-Leste		37.27
Togo	5.00 ⁷⁴	35.20
Tuvalu		22.05
Uganda		40.20
Yemen		26.73
Zambia	17.24	54.53
Global	8.67	42.77
Regional		47.08

Achievements in the Reporting Period

105. This reporting period corresponds to the mid-point of the GEF-8 period and of the implementation of GEF's Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF since it came into effect in July 2022. In this reporting period, the LDCF received approximately \$115.86 million in new pledges.⁷⁵

106. The LDCF/SCCF Council, at its 36th meeting in June 2024, approved support for 14 LDCF projects and programs, amounting to \$206.92 million⁷⁶. Overall, the LDCF/SCCF Council approved 29 FSP Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and two Program Framework Documents

⁷⁴ Togo MSP ID 11549 (IFAD) was CEO PIF Approved on April 29, 2024.

⁷⁵ This includes pledges from Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.

⁷⁶ \$206.92 million for fourteen projects consists of: GEF project financing of \$186.05 million and Agency fees of \$16.97 million approved by the Council, in addition to the PPGs of \$3.57 million and the PPG fees of \$0.33 million.

(PFDs) in the reporting period, totaling approximately \$387.32 million⁷⁷ with the use of LDCF resources. This makes it the largest funding approval during a single fiscal year for the LDCF since its inception, demonstrating the keen interest of the LDCs to access resources to address their adaptation needs. It also shows the Fund's ability to technically review and approve a significantly larger number of proposals compared to previous levels. These projects addressed sectors and systems that include nature-based solutions, climate-smart agriculture, coastal zone management, ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA), building climate resilience in value chains of key crops, and contributions to food security through crop diversification and protection. Interventions are supported in both rural and urban landscapes integrated with policy measures, targeted capacity building, and engagement with local micro- and small enterprises led by women and youth and microfinance institutions.

107. Five of the 31 FSPs approved by the LDCF/SSCF Council were in Asia, 24 in Africa, while two supported global and regional programs. These activities are expected to mobilize over \$1,805.10 million in indicative co-financing from the governments of the recipient countries; from GEF Agencies; and from multilateral and bilateral agencies and others. The approved national projects and programs are supporting CCA priorities in 27 LDCs.⁷⁸

108. Twenty-two projects were CEO endorsed/approved, which comprised six MSPs projects, two of which were MTFs with the SCCF.

109. The projects approved in the reporting period all contribute to the LDCF priority areas and goals set forth in the 2022-2026 GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change. The three priority areas are:

- a) Priority Area 1: Scaling up finance;
- b) Priority Area 2: Strengthening innovation and private-sector engagement; and
- c) Priority Area 3: Fostering partnership for inclusion and whole-of-society approach.

110. Of the portfolio of projects approved in the reporting period, two support the utilization of programmatic approaches to addressing adaptation challenges in the LDCs, responding to the guidance for the Global Environment Facility at the COP 28.⁷⁹ One is a global program⁸⁰ focused

⁷⁷ Including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees

⁷⁸ Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Comoros, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Lao PDR, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Zambia.

⁷⁹ UNFCCC, 2023, [Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties and guidance to the Global Environment Facility](#), Draft decision -/CP.28. FCCC/CP/2023/L.6.

⁸⁰ *Programme for innovation in climate adaptation and resilience building solutions (PARS) (GEF ID 11566)*; GEF Agency: UNIDO; GEF Program Financing: \$30,107,798 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$138,029,840. Aligned with GEF-8 LDCF Climate Change Adaptation Strategy which prioritizes strengthening innovation and private sector engagement for adaptation, this program seeks to unlock the ingenuity and creativity of MSMEs to drive innovative climate adaptation and resilience building solutions. It focuses on four pillars that aims to transform and connect the markets for climate adaptation and resilience building solutions within and across

on adaptation innovation, and currently includes Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, and Somalia. The second, focused on the Great Green Wall of Africa, is a regional multi-trust fund program⁸¹ with the GEF Trust Fund, seeking to achieve both climate adaptation and global environmental benefits in biodiversity, climate change mitigation, and land degradation.

111. In terms of results and impacts from the LDCF projects and programs approved in the reporting period, expected contributions of the 32 LDCF FSPs to the core indicators are as follows:

- a) 13.14 million direct beneficiaries, of whom 6.74 million (51.3 percent) are female;
- b) 3.09 million ha of land under climate-resilient management and 67,000 ha of coastal and marine areas managed for climate resilience;
- c) 4,196 policies and plans that mainstream climate resilience;
- d) 1.21 million people with enhanced capacity to identify climate risks and/or engage in CCA measures, of whom 595,723 (49.2 percent) are female; and
- e) 1,986 private-sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action.

National Consultations

112. The LDCF project selection and approval process for GEF-8 continues to be based on the same work program model as GEF-7. Under this established process, projects are selected based on strategic prioritization factors and presented for approval by the LDCF/SCCF Council. The LDCF/SCCF Council has approved two work programs in the reporting period.

113. With the intent of leaving no LDC behind, the GEF has continued its targeted efforts in the reporting period to reach out to the LDCs, especially to those that are due for graduation from LDC

participating countries in this program. This program, through the global platform and four strategic child projects in Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, and Somalia, will catalyze local and global private sector investment in the development and deployment of climate adaptation and resilience-building solutions in LDCs across a range of sectors such as agriculture, water, and energy, where innovation and private sector engagement potential is very high.

⁸¹ *Transformation approach to large-scale investment in support of the implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative (TALSISI-GGW)* (GEF ID 11455); GEF Agency: UNEP, BOAD; GEF Program Financing: \$77,888,167 (LDCF: \$38,707,662; GEF TF: \$39,180,505); Co-financing: \$2,998,018,615. The proposed Great Green Wall program by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the West African Development Bank (BOAD) aims to overcome these barriers through a multi-trust fund program using resources from the GEF Trust Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund. The program's objective is to restore landscapes and ecosystem services for resilient communities living in arid and semi-arid environments across the GGW region of the Sahel using a transnational and coordinated approach, supported by adaptation activities, and strengthened local and regional capacity for SLM, natural resource management (NRM), and knowledge-sharing. Building on the existing baseline in the GGW Sahel countries, the program aims to achieve its objective through four interrelated components: 1) Strengthening the enabling environment for gender-responsive, climate-resilient restoration of landscapes across the Sahel; 2) Leveraging sustainable finance for scaling up investment in Climate Change Adaptation (CCA); 3) Increasing the resilience of ecosystems and communities through SLM practices, NRM, and EbA; and 4) Enhancing knowledge management and information dissemination across the GGW countries. Through these components, the program will adopt a comprehensive approach to address the multifaceted challenges of environmental degradation, climate change, and socio-economic vulnerabilities.

status in the GEF-8 period. In this context, the GEF proactively engaged with Sao Tome and Principe at the sideline of the regional climate change adaptation programming and strategy workshop held under the Dedicated Program, which will be described in the following section. The consultation ensured access to finance under the existing available resource cap under the LDCF in GEF-8 (\$20 million) as a way of facilitating smooth transition from the LDC status. As a result, the June 2024 LDCF Work Program included two national projects from Sao Tome and Principe accessing its full \$20 million. Similar consultative efforts were undertaken for Bhutan, which fully utilized its LDCF allocation prior to its graduation from the LDC status on December 13, 2023.

Special Climate Change Fund

Achievements since Inception

114. Since inception, the SCCF has approved a total of 101 projects with \$392.99 million in GEF finance,⁸² with an estimated \$2,831.07 million in co-financing.⁸³ Out of this, the SCCF-A (CCA needs of SIDS) has supported 86 projects with approximately \$325.48 million of GEF funding with an estimated \$2,402.19 million in co-financing; and the SCCF-B (Technology Transfer, Private Sector Engagement, and Innovation) has supported 15 projects with approximately \$63.18 million in GEF funding with an estimated \$430.91 million in co-financing.⁸⁴

115. This SCCF portfolio will directly reduce the vulnerability of an estimated 8.99 million people to adverse impacts of climate change; bring an estimated 5.28 million hectares of land under climate-resilient management; and train an estimated 252,050 people to identify, prioritize, implement, monitor and/or evaluate adaptation strategies and measures. In addition, SCCF projects will develop or strengthen an estimated 535 policies, plans, and processes to identify, prioritize, and integrate CCA strategies and measures.

116. As of June 30, 2024, \$396.35 million has been pledged to the SCCF, of which \$363.91 million has been received. The demand for SCCF resources continues to be far higher than the resources that are available. As of June 30, 2024, SCCF Window A, focused on the priorities of SIDS, has \$15.92 million for approvals by the Council or the CEO, and SCCF Window B, focused on technology, innovation, and private-sector engagement, has \$9.43 million available.⁸⁵

117. As detailed in the Annual Monitoring Review of the LDCF and SCCF for FY23,⁸⁶ projects supported by the SCCF have continued to deliver particularly strong results. Of the 20 project implementation reports (PIRs) received for the 23 SCCF projects under implementation in the last part of FY23, all the projects were rated as moderately satisfactory or higher in terms of their progress towards development objectives, while 90 percent were also rated as moderately

⁸² Based on information from the GEF portal.

⁸³ Based on information from the GEF Portal.

⁸⁴ Based on information from the GEF Portal.

⁸⁵ Based on information provided by the Trustee included in Annex 5 of the previous report.

⁸⁶ GEF, 2023, [FY22 Annual Monitoring Review of the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund](#), LDCF/SCCF Council Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.34/04.

satisfactory or higher in terms of their implementation progress. Moreover, each dollar in SCCF project financing mobilized \$6.3 in co-financing.

Figure 8: Cumulative Regional Distribution of Projects and Programs Approved under the SCCF-A as of June 30, 2024

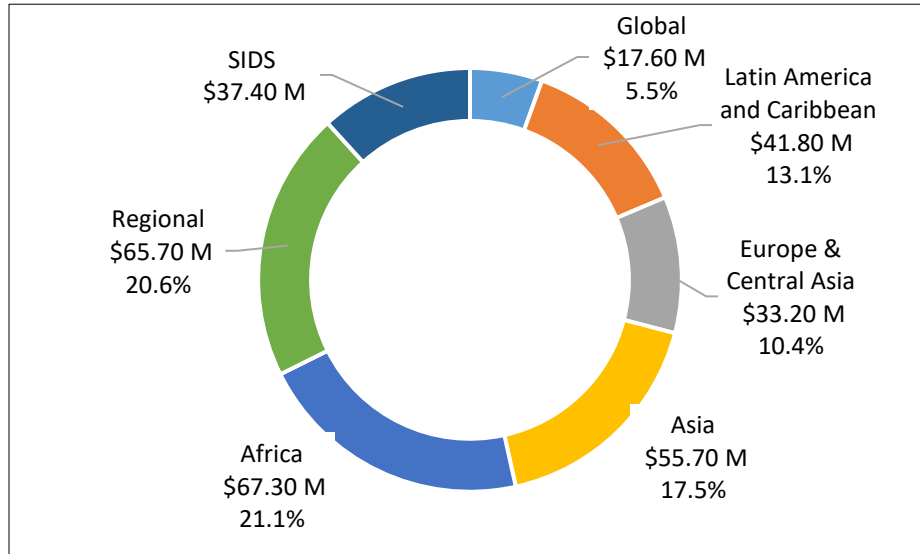
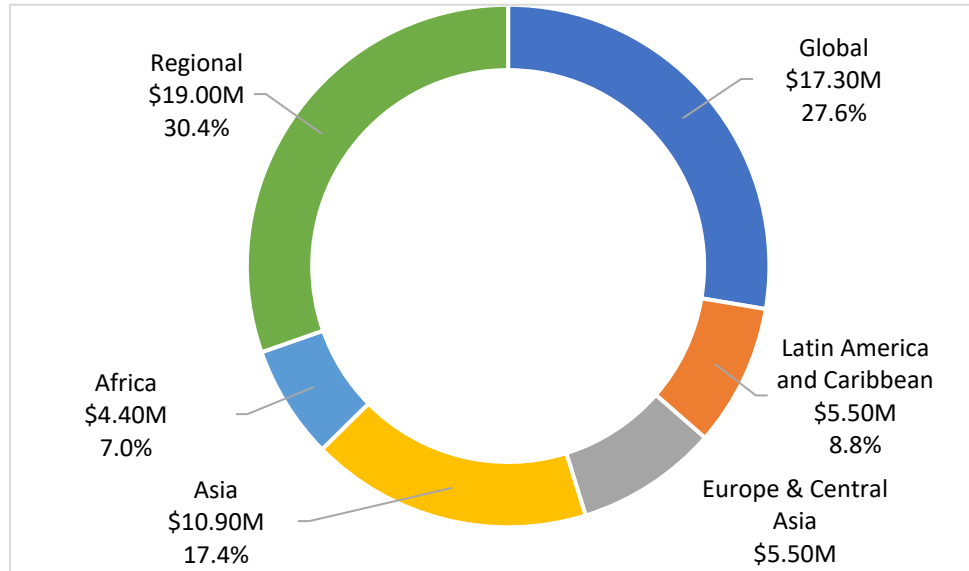
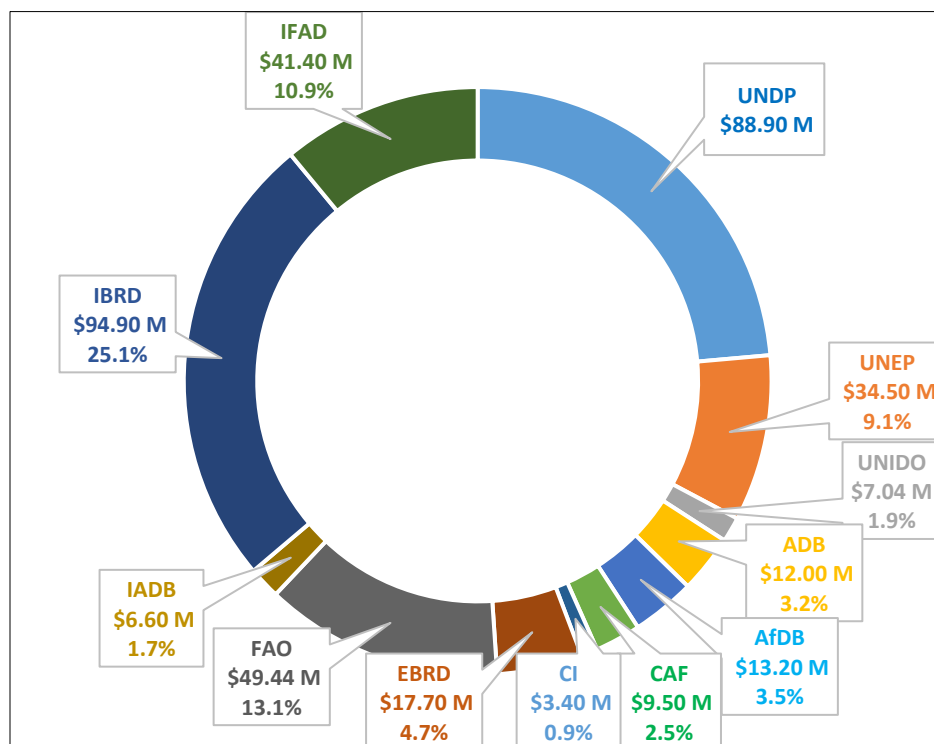


Figure 9: Cumulative Regional Distribution of Projects and Programs Approved under the SCCF-B



118. Cumulative Agency distribution of SCCF projects and programs is shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10: Cumulative Agency Distribution of Projects and Programs Approved under the SCCF⁸⁷



Achievements in the Reporting Period

119. Four new FSPs and one MSP totaling \$24.87 million in SCCF finance had their PIFs approved. Two of these projects were supported by SCCF Window A, which focuses on the adaptation needs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and the other two were MTFs with the GEF. The MSP was supported under SCCF Window B, which is focused on strengthening technology transfer, innovation, and private-sector engagement. These five new projects are expected to mobilize over \$125.41 million in co-financing; benefit 562,230 people (48.85 percent female); manage 117,554 hectares for climate resilience; develop or strengthen 67 policies or plans to mainstream climate resilience; and train 36,333 people (33.09 percent female).

Support to LDC Work Program and NAP Process

120. The original LDC work program was established in 2001, and the process to formulate and

⁸⁷ This figure is based on the information presented by the GEF Trustee included in Annex 5, not including PPGs and Agency fees.

implement NAPs was established in 2010. The updated LDC work program, adopted at COP 24 in 2018,⁸⁸ included support for the process to formulate and implement NAPs and related relevant CCA strategies, including NAPAs.

121. In line with key elements of the COP decision, the LDCF has extended support to LDCs in the process of formulation and implementation of NAPs and NAPAs, capacity-building initiatives to enable effective engagement, and strengthening capacity of meteorological and hydrological services on weather and climate information actions.

122. The LDCF and SCCF provide support to NAP processes in response to COP guidance.⁸⁹ The total funding from the LDCF for formulation of LDCs' NAP processes was \$60.3 million as of June 30, 2024⁹⁰ and focused on the identification and implementation of NAP priorities, as well as an additional analysis that may be needed to better align GEF proposals with priorities identified in NAPs. The SCCF support amounting to \$5.1 million complements the LDCF initiatives by assisting non-LDC developing countries with their country-driven processes to advance formulation of NAPs. These supports are in addition to targeted technical assistance for tailored one-on-one support that continues to be provided through the LDCF-financed NAP GSP.

123. In GEF-8, continuing with the practice from GEF-7, the GEF has shifted focus toward NAP implementation in collaboration with the GCF. All national projects approved during the reporting period align with, and contribute to, the implementation of national climate change policies and strategies, including NAPs and NAPAs, among other policy frameworks. The GEF Secretariat has continued to exchange information with the GCF to avoid duplication of support in the formulation of NAPs. This also responds to COP guidance requesting the GEF to simplify its access modalities.

124. During the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat participated in meetings and workshops related to the LDC Work Program and the NAP Process. These include the Forty-Fifth Meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group in February 2024 in Bujumbura, Burundi, and the NAP Expo 2024, which took place in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from October 22 to 25, 2024, as well as the Meeting of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) with the AF, the GCF, the GEF and other relevant organizations, organized virtually on May 15, 2024. In addition, the GEF actively participates as a member of the NAP technical working group in support of LDCs to formulate and implement their NAPs.

Dedicated Programs

Dedicated Program I

125. The GEF-8 Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change identifies the need to enhance the profile and visibility of the LDCF and SCCF. A communications strategy was prepared and approved by senior management of the GEF Secretariat during this reporting period and is being

⁸⁸ UNFCCC, 2018, [COP 24 Report](#), Decision 16/CP.24.

⁸⁹ UNFCCC, 2012, [COP 18 Report](#), Decision 12/CP.18, paragraph 1.

⁹⁰ This amount comprises projects that are explicitly dedicated, as the sole project objective or through dedicated components, to enhancing a country's NAP process. The countries that benefited from this funding are Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, and Senegal.

used to guide ongoing communications activities of the two GEF-managed adaptation funds to enhance their profiles and visibility.

126. The communications strategy defines actions to strengthen the identity of the LDCF/ SCCF, within the context of ongoing communications taking place. It confirmed that, while it is necessary to strengthen awareness and understanding about the two trust funds, these efforts need to be done as part of continued efforts to promote the GEF externally as a family of funds. Such actions require multifaceted messaging directed at strengthening perceptions of the LDCF and SCCF as important contributors to global action on climate change adaptation.

127. Featured stories during the reporting period were published on the GEF website to provide extensive coverage of developments in the LDCF and SCCF. This included the four regional programming and strategy workshops held in Cambodia (five Asian LDCs)⁹¹, Solomon Islands (four Pacific LDCs)⁹², Ethiopia (17 African LDCs)⁹³, Dominican Republic (15 Caribbean Non-LDC SIDS)⁹⁴, and virtually (8 Pacific, Indian, and Atlantic Oceans' Non-LDCs SIDS).⁹⁵ Other key stories include highlights of the successful pledging event for the two funds that was organized at the margin of COP 28^{96, 97} in Dubai, United Arab Emirates as well as lessons learned from projects supported by the funds.

128. During this reporting period, the GEF finalized the recruitment of a Senior Communications Officer to strengthen implementation of the LDCF/SCCF communications strategy. Work to increase the visibility of the LDCF/SCCF through a variety of means has commenced, continuing to build on the communications strategy as approved. During the 36th LDCF/SCCF Council meeting held in June 2024, strategic communication was produced to highlight the work program, which was the largest in the history of the funds, reflecting the growing demand and action by countries for the funds to strengthen their resilience to climate change.⁹⁸

Dedicated Program II

129. Significant progress has been made under the Dedicated Program on outreach and capacity support for LDCs and SIDS. A full series of regional programming and strategy workshops for LDCs and SIDS delivered during this reporting period were as follows:

- 5 Asian LDCs, hosted by the Kingdom of Cambodia, held in person from September 19 to 22, 2023, attended by more than 60 participants⁹⁹

⁹¹ GEF, 2023, [GEF workshop advances climate resilience steps for Asia](#).

⁹² GEF, 2023, [Pacific Least Developed Countries need to address climate and development challenges together](#).

⁹³ GEF, 2023, [17 African countries join workshop to enhance access to climate change adaptation funds](#).

⁹⁴ GEF, 2024, [GEF adaptation programming and strategy workshop provided insights on GEF's climate adaptation fund for Caribbean](#).

⁹⁵ GEF, 2024, [Pacific, Indian and Atlantic Oceans' non-LDC SIDS need to adapt to climate change](#).

⁹⁶ GEF, 2023, [In good news for adaptation, donors boost support for the LDCF and SCCF](#).

⁹⁷ GEF, 2023, [Joint statement on donors' pledge support for the LDCF/SCCF](#).

⁹⁸ GEF, 2024, <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/multimedia/record-least-developed-countries-fund-support-climate-change-adaptation>.

⁹⁹ Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Nepal

- 4 Pacific Island LDCs, hosted by Solomon Islands, held in-person from September 26 to 29, 2023, attended by more than 50 participants¹⁰⁰
- 17 Anglophone African LDCs and Yemen, hosted by the government of Ethiopia, held in person from October 2 to 5, 2023, attended by over 130 participants.¹⁰¹
- 15 Caribbean non-LDC SIDS, hosted by the Dominican Republic, in person from March 26 to 29, 2024, attended by more than 60 participants.¹⁰²
- 9 Pacific, Indian Ocean, and Atlantic Ocean non-LDC SIDS, held virtually on March 26 and 27, 2024 and April 16 and 17, 2024, attended by over 32 participants.^{103 104}

130. The overarching objective of the workshops has been to increase countries' knowledge of LDCF and SCCF programming and to strengthen their capacity to carry out climate change adaptation, planning, and programming projects with LDCF and SCCF funding in the GEF-8 period.

131. The regional programming and strategy workshops brought together more than 320 participants from 27 LDCs and 24 non-LDC SIDS, including: GEF Council members and alternates for the relevant GEF constituencies; UNFCCC Secretariat, GEF OFPs; UNFCCC national focal points; climate adaptation experts from various ministries and national institutions; civil society organization (CSO) representatives; and GEF Agencies. Through the workshops, participants acquired skills how to design and manage implementation of their national adaptation priority needs. They also learned how to enhance their access to adaptation finance and how to coordinate programming across various funding sources.

132. The workshops covered key topics such as: requirements for accessing LDCF and SCCF finance; the LDCF/SCCF project cycle; designing projects for impact; strengthening the scientific basis and climate change rationale of project concepts; coordination with Green Climate Fund (GCF) programming; and other key topics. The Chair of the LDC Group under the UNFCCC process and the Chair of LEG also provided guidance and insights on the CCA landscape, while the UNFCCC Secretariat provided opening remarks at the workshops.

133. The GEF agencies shared lessons from their implementation of projects at the workshops through learning stations that showcased LDCF/SCCF projects, providing participants with an

¹⁰⁰ Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, and Tuvalu

¹⁰¹ Attended by representatives of Angola, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.

¹⁰² Attended by representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

¹⁰³ The virtual workshop was organized in two parts with participants from Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Nauru, Palau, Seychelles, Mauritius, Maldives. Invitations were issued to Cabo Verde, Cook Islands, Fiji, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Seychelles, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

¹⁰⁴ In total, 43 LDCs were represented at the workshops, including in Dakar, Senegal in April 2023, attended by participants from 17 Francophone LDCs (Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, and Togo)

opportunity to learn about project activities, success stories, lessons learned, and challenges. The interactive sessions also allowed participants to reflect on and to share experiences from other projects, highlighting achievements, challenges, and sustainability of project interventions.

134. Participants also expressed their interest in learning more about specific themes related to CCA in the future. A survey conducted at the workshops showed that participants were interested to learn more about NbS, climate-resilient agriculture and livestock, and climate-resilient infrastructure and coastal zone adaptation.

Dedicated Program III

135. With almost 500 approved projects, most of which have been completed or are under implementation, the LDCF and SCCF portfolios provide a valuable resource of climate change adaptation experiences and lessons learned. In the GEF-8 period, the Secretariat continues to enhance portfolio- and partnership-oriented learning. The objective of this Dedicated Program is to enable the LDCF/SCCF and portfolio-level learning by creating, acquiring, and sharing knowledge and insights, with a strong focus on projects in the field. This learning aims to drive ongoing design and performance improvements of the LDCF/SCCF.

136. GEF OFPs, UNFCCC NFPs, other country representatives, and thematic technical specialists provided initial reflections through regional workshops delivered through Dedicated Program II and other forums on priorities for consideration as potential learning themes. The learning themes are also being informed through implementation of relevant projects supported by the LDCF and SCCF. Learning themes will be further prioritized through criteria such as importance in GEF-8; significance and urgency of knowledge gaps; and potential areas of importance looking into GEF-9.

137. For example, learning themes may include, but not be limited to: artificial intelligence to inform adaptation planning and decision-making; national CCA investment plan development; policy coherence for CCA and climate resilience; CCA impact measures and monitoring agriculture, food security and health; NbS; early warning and climate information systems; climate resilience of energy production, transmission, and storage; gender considerations for CCA and climate resilience; locally-led CCA; climate resilience debt swaps; climate resilience impact bonds; investment funds for CCA and climate resilience; green banking for localized climate adaptation and resilience; and climate resilience insurance.

138. Partnerships will be created to implement learning activities for each prioritized theme. Partners may include project partners and other thought leaders and conveners in the field of climate adaptation and resilience. Learning will be shared through white papers, blogs, journal articles, regional workshops, and technical clinics through Dedicated Program II, as well as through UNFCCC and other global and regional fora, with close collaboration and support from Dedicated Program I. Learning and knowledge-sharing activities will be carried out with a strong view to enabling South-South learning.

Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation and the Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program

Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation

139. The Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation was launched in 2019, in alignment with the approved adaptation programming strategy for GEF-7. The objective of this program is to catalyze innovation to harness the power of private-sector actors for achieving adaptation results. The Challenge Program tests and validates potentially scalable, bankable, or otherwise fundable investment approaches, business models, partnerships, and technologies. The Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation has been successful in engaging a range of new partners with whom the GEF had not yet been able to directly partner with through conventional programming.

140. All the 19 winning projects selected during from GEF-7 period have partnered with GEF Agencies in submitting projects that were fully CEO approved at the end of this reporting period, consistent with GEF standard policies and procedures.

141. During this reporting period, a project was CEO approved titled Amplifying the Impact of the GEF Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation through Learning and Knowledge Management¹⁰⁵, which will strengthen innovation and the role of the private sector in accelerating climate adaptation innovation through learning and knowledge management. Learning needs and opportunities identified and advanced through this project will complement activities of Dedicated Program 3 on Organizational Learning and Coordination.

142. The GEF-8 Climate Change Adaptation Strategy calls for the scale of support through the Challenge Program to increase from the \$20 million provided in GEF-7 to \$60 million under LDCF and SCCF financing scenarios A, and \$80 million under LDCF and SCCF financing scenarios B. This support is subject to availability of funds in the LDCF as well as in SCCF Window B.

143. During this reporting period, a third call for concepts for the Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation was launched.¹⁰⁶ This call is for a total of \$20 million, which is double the amount of support provided through each of the first two rounds of this Challenge Program. The third call, which opened on April 5, 2024 and closed on May 18, 2024, aims to support a wide range of innovative approaches including blending finance to catalyze private investment through risk sharing, design, or piloting of innovative finance models (e.g., climate resilience bonds; equity investment funds; debt restructuring; parametric and index-based insurance), strengthening consistency and use of robust metrics and standards, integrating climate change risk management, cost modeling, and ecosystem service valuation, and support inclusive finance, as well as incubating and accelerating micro, small and medium enterprises (particularly women and youth owned enterprises).

144. It is anticipated that proponents of winning concepts in the Challenge Program will be selected in the third quarter of 2024, who will be invited to submit projects in partnership with GEF Agencies. The winning concepts are expected to be announced at UNFCCC COP29 in November 2024.

¹⁰⁵ GEF, 2023, [Amplifying the Impact of the GEF Challenge Programme for Adaptation Innovation through Learning and Knowledge Management](#) (GEF ID: 11303); GEF Agency: UNIDO; GEF project financing (LDCF): \$2.5 million; Co-financing: \$4.15 million.

¹⁰⁶ GEF, 2023, [GEF Issues 3rd Call for the Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation](#).

Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program

145. The Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Program is an initiative funded by the SCCF and LDCF to demonstrate the GEF's commitment to work with non-state actors in advancing its mission for a healthy planet with healthy people. It was conceptualized to strengthen the inclusive nature of the Seventh GEF Assembly which was held in 2023 in Vancouver, Canada. The objective of this program is to catalyze inclusive innovative action on-the-ground, implemented by a wide range of partners, including community-based and civil society organizations, in delivering inclusive climate resilience and environmental benefits for people and ecosystems, while advancing a whole-of-society approach.

146. Under the program, 23 civil society organizations (CSOs) were selected as winners following a call for submissions through a process which engaged GEF Constituencies and a selection panel consisting of members of the GEF CSO Network, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, the Indigenous Peoples' Advisory Group, and the Gender Partnership, as well as youth representatives linked to international environmental Conventions. These winners were announced and recognized for their exemplary work at the Seventh GEF Assembly held in Vancouver, Canada, in August 2023 with the engagement of GEF Constituencies and with support from the Government of Canada.

147. Two MSPs totaling \$5.82 million of the LDCF and SCCF resources were endorsed by the GEF CEO during this reporting period. One of these projects will enable the transfer of a grant of up to \$100,000 to fifteen of the winners of the GEF Assembly Challenge Program, as well as access to networking, training, and knowledge exchange opportunities.

Partnerships to Enhance Action on Adaptation

148. The GEF remains actively engaged in partnerships to enhance action and thought leadership on CCA and climate resilience.

149. The GEF continued its engagement with the World Adaptation Science Program (WASP), a partnership including the GCF, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), UNEP, UNFCCC, United Nations University, and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The GEF attended and provided opening remarks at the WASP Fourth Annual Meeting from October 2 to 6, 2023. The GEF continues to serve on the WASP management group.

150. The LDCF/SCCF is supporting the MCF Partnership action plan, which aims to improve coordination, harmonize procedures, and streamline access modalities. The support has been included in the LDCF/SCCF business plan and budget.

151. The GEF continues to serve on the Advisory Council of the Global Resilience Partnership and on the Advisory Board of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility, which supports basic weather observations, particularly in LDCs and SIDS.

152. At COP28, the GEF signed the "Framework for Collaboration for Enhancing Systematic Observation" between the four climate funds (GCF, GEF, Adaptation Fund, Climate Investment Funds) with the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) of the WMO. In addition, it

continued to collaborate with WMO on producing the State of Climate Services Report for the year 2024 by providing relevant data, case studies, and insights. Furthermore, the GEF also held strategic meetings with the WMO team to explore opportunities for working together on specific projects at the global and regional level.

153. As a signatory organization of the “COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace,” the GEF is exploring with partners (e.g., World Bank, GCF, ADB), the challenges faced by countries in fragile and conflict-affected situations in accessing and deploying climate finance.

GEF-8 Investments Directly and Indirectly Related to Climate Change Adaptation

154. The GEF-8 Policy Recommendations requested the Secretariat to monitor that GEF investments directly and indirectly related to climate change amount to a minimum of 80 percent of all GEF funding commitments in the GEF-8 period, with GEF investments directly and indirectly related to CCA amounting to a minimum of 45 percent of all GEF funding commitments in the GEF.

155. As presented in the GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard,¹⁰⁷ GEF tracks GEF-8 financing contributing toward CCM and CCA as a principal or significant objective against these indicative targets covering GEF-8 investments to date, consistent with the OECD DAC Rio Marker methodology. At the end of the reporting period, i.e. over the first two years of GEF-8, the share of GEF investments directly and indirectly related to climate change amounted to 85 percent, while the GEF investments directly and indirectly related to CCA amounted to 74 percent.

3. BLENDED FINANCE

156. The GEF recognized and strengthened its support to innovative blended finance solutions in GEF-8. With a four-year funding level of \$196 million, the GEF has identified priorities for blended finance that cover Convention requirements and aim for multi-focal benefits, including new technologies and nature-based solutions (NbS).

157. In this reporting period, two calls for proposals received several innovative proposals addressing CCM, biodiversity, land restoration, agri-food systems, chemicals and waste, and NbS requesting in total \$240 million with \$4.4 billion in co-financing. Of these projects, the GEF selected and approved five projects for \$95.6 million with co-financing of \$1.7 billion.

158. Of the five projects selected, the following two CCM projects were approved by the GEF Council in February 2024 for a total funding of \$30.1 million, attracting co-financing of \$659 million. The projects selected seek to support financial structures that target Scope 3 emissions in the textile and apparel sector through a first-of-its-kind Global Supply Chain Decarbonization Platform. They also focus on replicability and scaling up of existing technologies in renewable energy and energy efficiency with high participation of the private sector. More detailed project summaries are included in Annex 2. Private-sector participation was a key requirement in each project, with an expected co-financing share of almost 90 percent. CCM benefits for these projects

¹⁰⁷ GEF, 2024, [GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard - June 2024](#).

are estimated to be 85 Mt CO₂ eq over the project lifetimes.

4. GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

159. The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), as a GEF Corporate Program, has been a unique and essential element of the GEF's Partnership since its establishment in 1992. The GEF SGP finances community-led initiatives to address global environmental issues through a decentralized, country-level delivery mechanism, usually supported by a country management team and a multistakeholder governance structure. The GEF SGP is designed to mobilize bottom-up actions by empowering local civil society and community-based organizations, including women, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and other marginalized and vulnerable populations.

160. The GEF-8 Replenishment reiterated the centrality of local innovation and civil society actions and coalitions in achieving Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs) and reconfirmed the important role that the GEF SGP serves supporting civil society to all areas of sustainable development and in delivering GEBs. The Replenishment concluded with \$155 million allocated to the GEF SGP Corporate Program and with agreement on the overarching objective of SGP 2.0 to: *“Catalyze and mobilize civil society actors and local actions needed to address major drivers of environmental degradation and help deliver multiple benefits across the GEF's mandated thematic dimensions, while promoting sustainable development and improved livelihoods”*.

161. The GEF Council at its 63rd Meeting in December 2022 subsequently approved the GEF SGP 2.0 Implementation Arrangements for GEF-8¹⁰⁸, affirming GEF's ambitious reform agenda around expansion, innovation, diversification, and optimization of the GEF SGP in GEF-8

Progress on the key features of SGP 2.0 in GEF-8

162. In line with SGP 2.0 Implementation Arrangements, in this reporting period the GEF Secretariat has led efforts towards implementing several of the key SGP 2.0 features, including:

- a) Selection of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Conservation International (CI) as the two additional SGP Implementing Agencies. These agencies, along with UNDP, and with the support of the GEF Secretariat, have begun to collaborate closely and to pool together their wide-ranging experience and technical know-how in benefit of the SGP, supporting its continued expansion and evolution as a flagship GEF program; and
- b) Ensuring allocation of \$135 million of SGP Core resources to be equally accessed by the 144 GEF-eligible countries. Access to these resources has been divided into two tranches, each capped at \$67.5 million. While Tranche One was approved in June 2023 and was opened to UNDP only, Tranche Two is open to all three SGP Implementing Agencies. The resources are being complemented by STAR resources when requested by countries.

¹⁰⁸ GEF, 2022, [GEF Small Grants Programme 2.0 Implementation Arrangements for GEF-8](#), Council Document GEF/C.63/06/Rev.01.

163. In GEF-8, SGP funds will provide grants of up to \$75,000 and provisions to a maximum of \$150,000 for strategic projects. These larger projects aim to allow for scaling up and replication of successful approaches, covering a large number of communities within critical landscapes or seascapes. These funds are channeled directly to CSOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) to undertake projects that address global environmental and sustainable development challenges.

Looking Forward

164. In GEF-8, low-carbon energy access coupled with co-benefits remains one of the five priorities and strategic approaches of SGP 2.0. Building on SGP's experience in supporting affordable clean energy in remote areas and vulnerable communities, grantmaking in GEF-8 at the national level will seek to scale up low-carbon transformation by de-risking private-sector investment and supporting innovation and adoption of cutting-edge technologies relevant to the community context, including energy access for health services and digital technologies.

5. SUPPORT FOR THE ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER ENABLING ACTIVITIES

Overview of GEF Support for Enabling Activities

165. Since its inception, the GEF has supported various types of climate change-related EAs, including NCs, BURs, BTRs, TNAs and NAPAs. They fulfill essential communication requirements under the UNFCCC and provide information to enable policy- and decision-making. In the reporting period, the GEF has significantly scaled up its support to BTRs under the Paris Agreement, providing both financial resources as well as awareness-raising and capacity-building activities.

166. Since its inception, the GEF has funded 431 EAs with \$551.2 million from the GEFTF and LDCF, including Agency fees. Of this amount, 380 EAs have been supported with \$540.9 million (Table 7 and Table 8) from the GEFTF, in support of NCs, BURs, TNAs and BTRs. According to both the Updated Co-Financing Policy and its previous iteration, co-financing is encouraged for EAs but is not required.¹⁰⁹

167. In the reporting period, the GEF financed, through the GEFTF, 33 EAs in the amount of \$33.2 million, inclusive of GEF project financing and Agency fees. Annex 2 lists EAs approved under the GEFTF in the reporting period.

168. Since GEF's inception and as of June 30, 2024, a total of 207 BURs have been approved for funding in 132 countries; a total of 558 NCs have been approved for funding in 152 countries; and a total of 144 BTRs have been approved for funding in 102 countries.¹¹⁰

¹⁰⁹ GEF, 2018, [Updated Co-Financing Policy](#), Council Document GEF/C.54/10/Rev.01; GEF, 2014, [Co-Financing Policy](#), Council Document GEF/C.46.09.

¹¹⁰ The difference between number of BTRs and number of supported countries is related to the fact that several countries have received support from the GEF for the preparation of two consecutive BTRs within the same submission.

169. Information on the status of resources approved by the GEF for the preparation of BTRs, BURs, and NCs for non-Annex I Parties will be submitted as an addendum to this report.

Table 7: Cumulative GEF Trust Fund Enabling Activities by Region

Region	Number of projects	GEF amount (\$ million) *	Co-financing (\$ million)
Africa	106	54.3	18.3
Asia	85	100.9	101.1
ECA	57	34.5	6.8
LAC	108	106.7	66.4
Global/ Regional	24	244.6	19.7
Total**	380	540.9	212.4

* Including Agency fees.

** Up to June 30, 2023.

Table 8: GEF Trust Fund Enabling Activities by Phase

Phase	Number of projects	GEF amount (\$ million)) *	Co-financing (\$ million)
GEF Pilot (1991-1994)	5	20.2	0.1
GEF-1 (1994-1998)	94	45.9	5.3
GEF-2 (1998-2002)	54	20.1	0.7
GEF-3 (2002-2006)	21	75.8	8.9
GEF-4 (2006-2010)	8	55.6	31.2
GEF-5 (2010-2014)	58	97.5	98.5
GEF-6 (2014-2018)	59	76.5	15.5
GEF-7 (2018-2022)	51	110.6	52.3
GEF-8 (2022-June 2024), ongoing	30	38.7	0.0
Total	380	540.9	212.4

* Including Agency fees.

170. The LDCF has supported the preparation of 51 national adaptation programs of action (NAPAs) since its inception, in the total amount of \$10.2 million. All requests for NAPAs from LDCs have been financed in the previous reporting periods and no additional request was received in this reporting period.

Enhanced Transparency Framework

171. The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) is the backbone of the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as defined in its Article 13, and it is the internationally-agreed mechanism to track the progress of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The GEF supports developing countries in building their institutional and technical capacities to meet the requirements of the ETF through:

- a) The Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT);
- b) Support for reporting obligations under the Convention, i.e., National Communications (NCs) and Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs);
- c) Global support for the ETF.

172. The ETF modalities, procedures, and guidelines for action and support referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement were adopted in December 2018 at COP 24 and CMA 1.3. The GEF, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, was requested to support developing country Parties in preparing their first and subsequent BTRs. This request was reiterated in December 2019 in decision 7/CMA.2.

173. A summary of the support modalities for the preparation of BTRs with the updated indicative costs is presented below¹¹¹:

- a) Under the first modality, countries can access up to \$600,000 for the preparation of a standalone BTR.
- b) Under the second modality, countries can access up to \$633,000 for the preparation of a combined BTR and NC.
- c) Under the third modality, countries can access financing of \$250,000 maximum, additional to an ongoing EA project.

174. In response to the CMA 3 guidance regarding the potential of combining the application processes for support to preparing BTRs and provision of an avenue for Parties to apply for funding for more than one report, the GEF Secretariat made available support for countries to access two BTRs and/or one NC (as applicable) as part of the same EA funding application.

175. In the reporting period, the GEF has approved BTR support for 33 countries with a total of \$33.2 million in resources.

176. Parties may submit an adaptation communication as a component of, or in conjunction with, other communications or documents, in line with Decision 9/CMA.1.¹¹² In the reporting period, 13 countries have expressed their intention to submit their adaptation communication as part of their BTR or NC.

¹¹¹ GEF, 2022, [Information Note on the Update to the Financing of Biennial Transparency Reports for the Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement](#), Council Document GEF/C.62/Inf.15.

¹¹² https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/9-CMA.1_English.pdf

177. The GEF provided an update to Parties during the 60th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) on the provision of financial and technical support to developing country Parties and responded to questions from Parties.¹¹³

Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency

CBIT Trust Fund Capitalization

178. The CBIT TF was established in September 2016, during GEF-6. From late 2016 to October 2018, the GEF had approved 44 CBIT projects using resources from the CBIT TF. Within two years of its establishment, the CBIT TF successfully programmed all available resources - amounting to \$58.3 million, or 94.6 percent of the total contributions. The amount includes GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

179. The remaining resources, amounting to \$3.2 million, have been set aside to cover CBIT TF administrative costs until the date of its termination on April 30, 2025, which is 18 months after the final Trustee commitment and cash transfer date of October 31, 2023.

180. The GEF-7 Programming Directions included specific provisions for CBIT support through the CCM focal area.¹¹⁴ The CBIT support was in line with the "Establishment of a New Trust Fund for the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency"¹¹⁵ document, which states that the CBIT efforts will be an integral part of the GEF's climate change support in GEF-7, financed by the GEF TF under regular replenishment. According to the agreed GEF-7 Resource Allocation Framework, \$55 million were notionally allocated to the CBIT. By the end of GEF-7, \$86.3 million had been programmed to support 44 CBIT projects, while ensuring continued support to reporting obligations under the UNFCCC, including for BTRs under the Paris Agreement.

181. The GEF-8 Climate Change Strategy is structured to support climate action in developing countries in line with the GEF's role as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC and responding to COP guidance. The GEF-8 framework is structured to address the ambition mechanism of the Paris Agreement; the communication of Long-Term Strategies (LTSs); the First Global Stocktake taking place in 2023; the deadline for submission of the first BTRs by December 2024; and the communication of the next round of NDCs (NDC 3.0) due in early 2025.

182. The GEF-8 strategy on CBIT support responds to the guidance received by the CMA. CMA 3, *inter alia*, welcomed the actions taken by the GEF to provide support to developing countries for the preparation of BTRs and to build their institutional and technical capacity for the ETF under the Paris Agreement, including through the CBIT.¹¹⁶ The CMA requested the GEF to continue to facilitate improved access to the CBIT by developing country Parties.¹¹⁷ It also requested the GEF

¹¹³ <https://www.thegef.org/events/consultation-gef-support-enhanced-transparency-framework>

¹¹⁴ GEF, 2018, *Summary of the Negotiations of the Seventh Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund*, Council Document GEF/C.54/19/Rev.02.

¹¹⁵ GEF, 2016, *Establishment of a New Trust Fund for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency*, Council Document GEF/C.50/05.

¹¹⁶ Decision 12/CMA.3, paragraphs 3 and 4: https://unfccc.int/event/cma-3#decisions_reports

¹¹⁷ Decision 12/CMA.3, paragraph 5: https://unfccc.int/event/cma-3#decisions_reports

to contribute to the consideration of reporting and capacity-building support provided to developing Party countries by “estimating the cost to developing countries of implementing the enhanced transparency framework, which includes establishing and enhancing a reporting system, as well as the full agreed cost of reporting and the cost of capacity-building for reporting”.¹¹⁸

183. The GEF-8 Programming Directions include specific provisions for CBIT support through the climate change focal area. According to the agreed GEF-8 Resource Allocation Framework, \$75 million have been notionally allocated to the CBIT – 36.4 percent higher than what was initially allocated for CBIT in GEF-7.¹¹⁹ Resources are allocated based on country demands, and countries that have completed their first CBIT project can submit requests for support for subsequent CBIT phases.

CBIT Portfolio Update

184. The total CBIT project portfolio as of June 30, 2024 comprises 96 projects in 88 countries - of which 88 are individual country projects, one is a regional project (including four countries) and seven are global projects. These 88 countries represent 57.9 percent of all 152 non-Annex I Parties that ratified the Paris Agreement. The total CBIT support amounts to \$159.7 million, including GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees. Out of the 96 projects to date, 44 were supported with CBIT TF resources and 52 were supported with GEFTF resources.

185. In the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat approved two PIFs in Türkiye and Turkmenistan with \$4.2 million of GEF financing, PPG, and Agency fees in total for both projects. In addition, six projects were approved by the GEF CEO¹²⁰ with \$12.7 million of GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

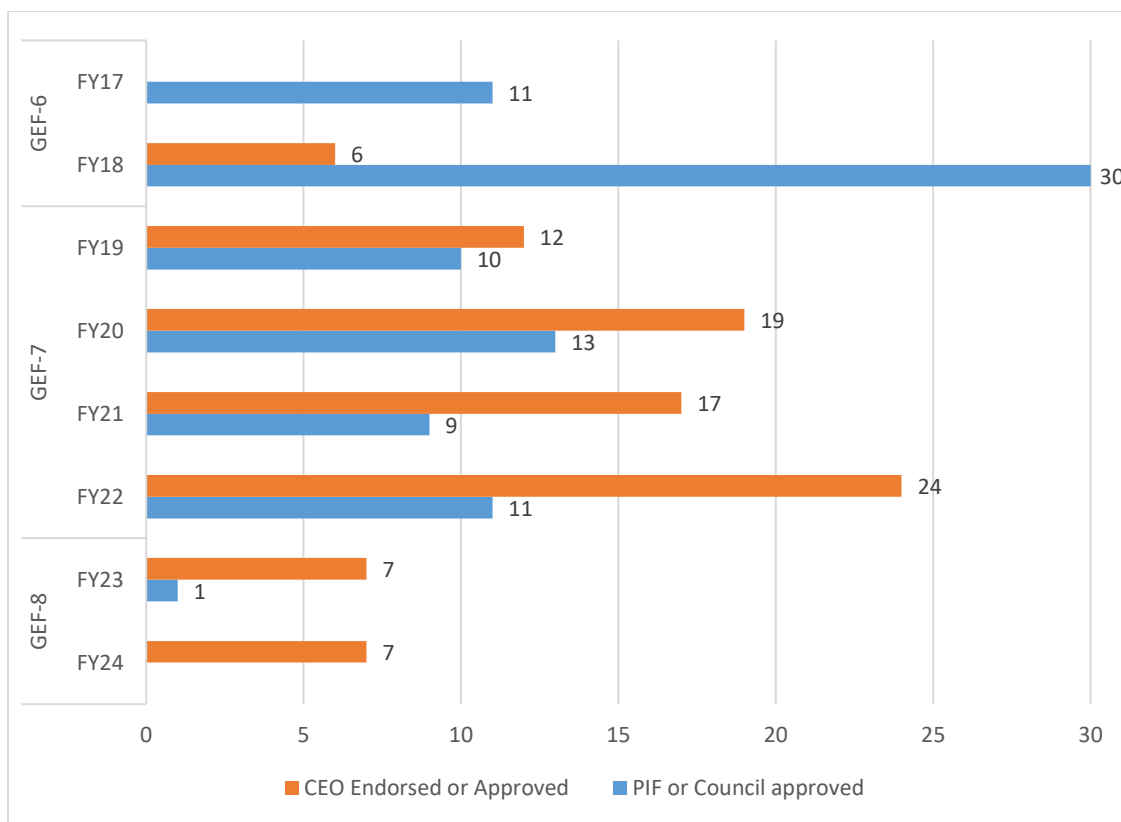
186. Out of 96 projects in the CBIT portfolio, 20 projects (20.8 percent of the portfolio) have been completed, 63 projects (65.6 percent) are under implementation, and nine projects (9.4 percent) have been approved or endorsed by the CEO and are yet to start implementation. The remaining four projects (4.2 percent of the portfolio) have a cleared PIF or are pending submission and review of their project proposals for approval or endorsement by the GEF CEO. This demonstrates that the portfolio is maturing, with many projects already in the implementation phase.

Figure 11: Project Status of CBIT Portfolio by Fiscal Year (FY17 to FY24)

¹¹⁸ Decision 12/CMA.3, paragraphs 7 (a): https://unfccc.int/event/cma-3#decisions_reports

¹¹⁹ GEF, 2022, [Summary of the Negotiations of the Eight Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund](#), Council Document GEF/C.62/03.

¹²⁰ These are 2-step MSPs in Lebanon, Lesotho, Solomon Islands, Tajikistan, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, and Vanuatu. Their PIFs were approved in previous reporting periods.



187. Through these projects, 29 LDCs and 16 SIDS (of which three are both LDC and SIDS) have been supported in their efforts to enhance transparency.

188. The Africa region has the majority of approved CBIT projects (33 projects, including one regional project; \$48.1 million), followed by LAC (24 projects; \$41.2 million), Asia (21 projects; \$35.4 million) and ECA (eleven projects; \$16.1 million). Seven CBIT projects (\$18.9 million) with a global scope have been approved.

189. 88 countries that have received support by the CBIT to date, which include China and India, the two largest emitters amongst non-Annex I Parties, have cumulative GHG emissions amounting to 54.0 percent of global GHG emissions and 82.9 percent of total GHG emissions from non-Annex I Parties that ratified the Paris Agreement, indicating significant coverage.¹²¹

190. CBIT projects are implemented by seven out of the 18 GEF Agencies. The UNEP implements the most significant share, with 37 projects, followed by the FAO, with 24 projects, the UNDP with 22 projects, Conservation International (CI) with eight, IADB with three, the Foreign Economic Cooperation Center Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (FECO) with one project, and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US) with one project.

¹²¹ Using 2019 data from the World Bank's Databank indicator "Total greenhouse gas emissions (kt of CO₂ equivalent)". Climate Watch Historical GHG Emissions. 2023. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute. Available online at: climatewatchdata.org/ghg-emissions. Retrieved April 2024.

191. The country projects respond to nationally identified priorities and are thus specific to each country's transparency-related capacity-building needs. Overall, the approved CBIT project proposals continue to address the eligible programming activities set forth in the CBIT Programming Directions.¹²²

192. Figure 12 illustrates the percentage of approved CBIT projects that included a particular type of activity in their proposal, while also showing the overall proportion of project activity types as they relate to one another. The percentages in the Figure represent a count of occurrences of type of activity across the portfolio and are not correlated to the amount of resources designated for specific activities. Since one project may correspond to several individual categories, the percentages overlap and do not add up to 100 percent.

193. To better understand the CBIT project portfolio, each project was categorized according to the prioritized areas of support. The area of support corresponds to the key elements of the ETF, including capacity building for national inventories, to track CCM and CCA progress, and to track progress related to support needed and received, and NDC enhancement and review.

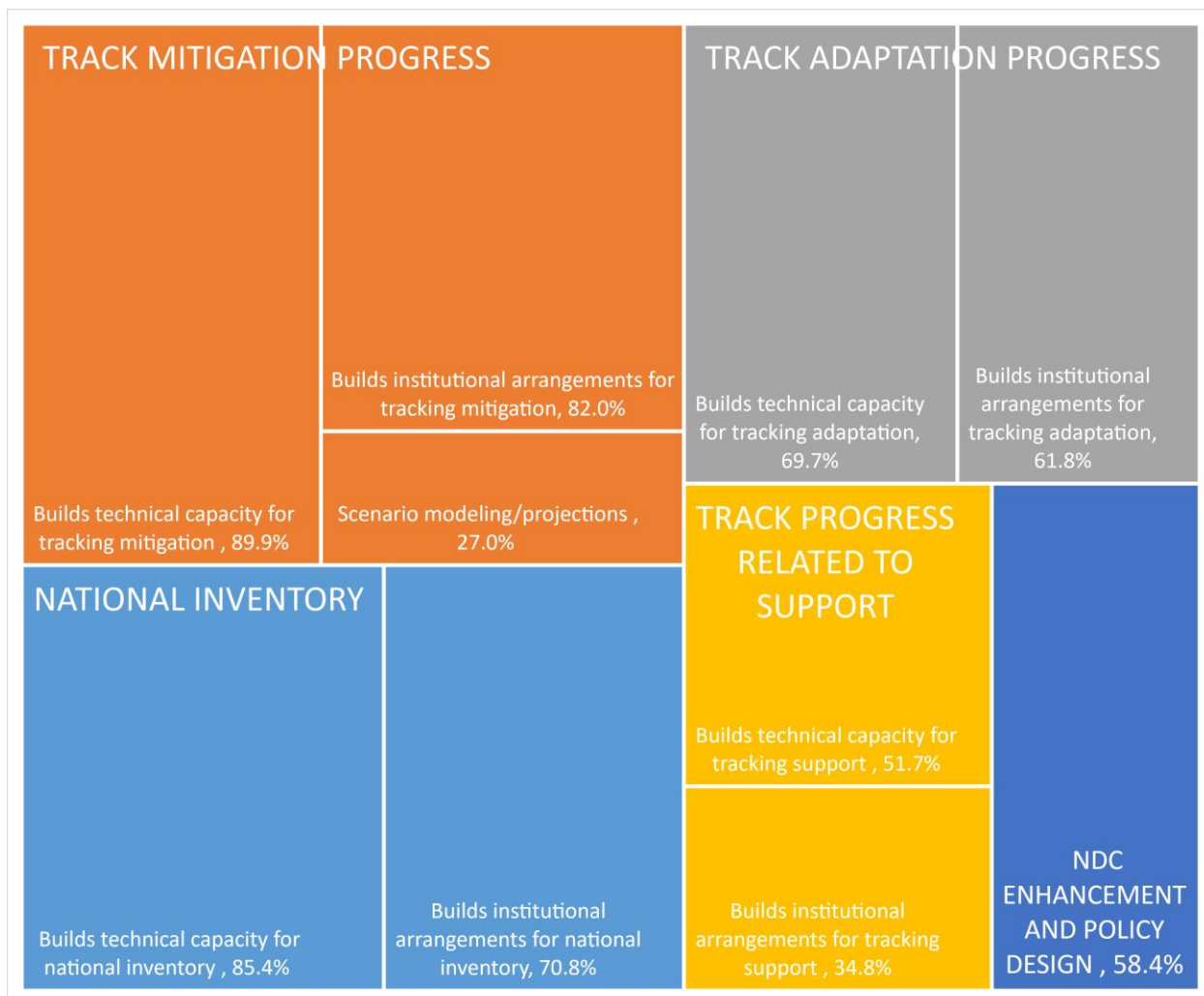
194. CBIT support is primarily used by countries to develop the necessary institutional arrangements and to build their technical capacity to track CCM progress (80.4 percent and 90.2 percent of projects, respectively). Furthermore, 28.3 percent of projects include developing projections or scenario modeling as a component. This is encouraging, as it indicates that the CBIT is assisting countries with some of the more advanced and complex aspects of the transparency requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

195. Since establishing national GHG inventories (GHGIs) is a first step in meeting transparency requirements, a high percentage of countries (87.0 percent) have a strong component related to building technical capacities for the national inventory and related institutional arrangements (72.8 percent). A significant number of projects also include a component for building capacities for tracking CCA progress - with 69.6 percent focused on building technical capacities and 62.0 percent on developing relevant institutional arrangements.

196. About 59.8 percent of CBIT country projects aim for NDC enhancement and policy review - an important aspect for longer-term impact of projects. Among individual country projects, 41.3 percent have included a specific component for enhancing measurement and transparency of GHG emissions from the AFOLU sector, reflecting the relative importance of this sector.

Figure 12: CBIT Project Priorities per Type of Activity

¹²² GEF, 2016, [Programming Directions for the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.50/06.



197. Early observations and findings from country case studies have been shared in the Progress Report on the CBIT prepared for the GEF Council.¹²³ Additional insights and lessons learned will be gathered from Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) as projects go through the required monitoring and evaluation activities of the project cycle.

CBIT Coordination

198. In the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat continued to carry out tasks associated with the CBIT, such as: reviews of CEO approvals of project concepts; monitoring and management of the project portfolio; consultations with countries and Agencies; reporting to the UNFCCC; and participation in UNFCCC-related activities. The Progress Reports on the CBIT were presented to every Council meeting, as an information document.¹²⁴ The GEF's Transparency web page was

¹²³ GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/Inf.14; and GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/Inf.06.

¹²⁴ Ibid.

regularly updated, including links to approved project documents.¹²⁵

199. The GEF has continued to facilitate coordination with other initiatives supporting transparency, including the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), the Coalition on Paris Agreement Capacity Building, Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA), the NDC Partnership, and others.

200. Opportunities for consultations among partners play an increasingly important role as implementation experiences and lessons learned become available. The GEF is committed to discussing ongoing and planned activities and sharing experiences with partners, particularly in order to enhance coordination of activities at the national and regional levels.

CBIT Outlook

201. Programming for CBIT resources has continued to progress over the second year of the GEF-8 period, responding to country requests to address their capacity needs and gaps well ahead of the transition to the ETF. As the first phase of CBIT projects is completed, the GEF Secretariat has started to receive and approve requests for the second phase projects from developing countries and at a global level.¹²⁶ The GEF Secretariat has engaged with countries that have not yet requested CBIT support to ensure that as many developing countries as possible receive the necessary support to meet the ETF requirements.

202. As GEF support for CBIT and reports (i.e., BTRs and NC) increased more than 30 percent in GEF-8 compared to GEF-7, there have been more opportunities for countries to explore interlinkages and further align their CBIT with BTR and NC projects.

203. The GEF will continue to facilitate coordination with partners, to respond to donor inquiries, to engage with the UNFCCC process and relevant meetings on transparency, and to disseminate targeted communication products on the CBIT and good practices on climate transparency. The GEF Secretariat will also continue to undertake monitoring and review functions of its portfolio in collaboration with the GEF Agencies. Regular reporting on the CBIT progress and results to the GEF Council, UNFCCC bodies, as well as coordination with partners will continue, with additional focus on implementation progress.

Awareness-Raising, Outreach, and Knowledge-Sharing Related to the ETF

204. The GEF CEO and Secretariat staff engaged in various awareness-raising, outreach, and knowledge-sharing opportunities during the reporting period, including the following:

- a) Launch of the CBIT Global Support Programme webinar for the Eurasia Network, on November 7, 2023

¹²⁵ <https://www.thegef.org/topics/capacity-building-initiative-transparency-cbit>

¹²⁶ During the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat approved requests for the second phase CBIT projects from Mongolia and Uruguay, and, at a global level, FAO received GEF CEO Approval for the second phases of the CBIT-Forest and CBIT/AFOLU projects.

- b) CBIT-Global Support Programme - Project Steering Committee Meeting on November 14, 2023.
- c) Launch of the CBIT Global Support Programme Webinar for the Lusophone Cluster on November 22, 2023
- d) In-Person COP28 GEF Support Event "Unlocking Enhanced GEF Support for Transparency: Streamlining Funding Processes and Enhancing Project Implementation" on December 5, 2023, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- e) In-Person Side Event at COP 28 – Paris Committee on Capacity-Building (PCCB): “Fostering South-South Learning: The Example from The Multilateral Collaboration Between Cuba, Chile, and Panama Under the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency- Global Support Programme”. South-South Capacities Day on December 8, 2023, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
- f) In-person Event BTOR – UNFCCC Meeting: NDC 3.0 – Preparing the Next Round of NDCs on March 4 and 5, 2024, Bonn, Germany.
- g) Webinar On Support Ecosystem for Next Round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the Latin America Region on March 26, 2024, for Sub-Saharan Africa on March 27, 2024, and for the Caribbean on March 28, 2024.

National Communications and Biennial Update Reports¹²⁷

205. Since January 1, 2022, BUR support for Parties to the Paris Agreement has been phased out and replaced with support for the BTRs.¹²⁸ Parties with ongoing GEF projects to prepare BURs are still expected to submit them to the UNFCCC, but can access additional financing to advance with the preparation of their first BTRs, while completing the final BUR. By June 30, 2024, 47 BURs supported by the GEF were still under preparation.

206. In the reporting period, 15 non-Annex I Parties submitted their NCs, and 16 non-Annex I Parties submitted their BURs to the UNFCCC, and one non-Annex I Party submitted its first BTR. The GEF, through its Agencies, continues to provide assistance to Parties in formulating project proposals identified in their NCs (in accordance with Article 12 of the Convention and decision 5/CP.11) and BURs.

207. In order to submit any project proposal for approval, GEF Agencies need to ensure the proposal’s consistency with a country’s national priorities. A country confirms its endorsement of a proposal by providing a letter signed by the GEF OFP. Following a proposal’s submission, the GEF, as a prerequisite for approval, examines and confirms its linkage to national priorities or programs. All projects approved by the GEF in the reporting period have been confirmed to

¹²⁷ The GEF plans to submit an addendum to this report on the status of resources approved by the GEF for the preparation of NCs, BURs and BTRs for Parties not included in Annex I by October 1, 2022.

¹²⁸ GEF, 2020, [Information Note on the Financing of Biennial Transparency Reports for Developing Country Parties to the Paris Agreement](#), Council Document GEF/C.59/Inf.19, paragraph 21.

explicitly correspond to national priorities, including those identified in NCs, BURs, BTRs, TNAs and NDCs, as applicable.

Global Support to the ETF

208. The Global Support Program (GSP) for NCs, BURs and NDCs provided support to non-Annex I Parties to prepare NCs, and BURs submitted to the UNFCCC. The Program also provided technical guidance and assistance for the identification of priority areas of support for the implementation of NDCs. The GSP started its operation in late 2015 and provided support to more than 140 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, LAC and ECA through a wide range of activities at national and regional levels. The Program concluded in September 2021, and detailed information on the outcomes and achievements of the GSP were presented in the GEF's Report to COP 27 (paragraphs 229-234).

209. The GEF is funding the continuation of the GSP, taking into consideration the ETF requirements for action and support which were established with Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The GSP and CBIT Global Coordination Platform (GCP) have been merged and entered a second phase. This merged support for ETF, called the CBIT GSP, is under implementation until the end of 2026, and focuses on the provision of global streamlined support, capacity building and coordination, to help developing countries meet enhanced transparency requirements under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement while still providing support to the preparation of NCs.

210. Capitalizing on the experience from the previous GSP, the key support modality is the ten Regional Transparency Networks that provide targeted support to countries and foster South-South exchange and learning within and across networks.

211. The ten Regional and linguistic Transparency Networks have been launched under the CBIT-GSP, and they have all started regional and in-country support activities. Activities were identified based on the results of comprehensive needs assessments in countries. Two of the networks, namely, the Francophone and Lusophone, are coordinated by the UNDP's Climate Promise Initiative.

212. In addition, several experience-sharing webinars were held in different networks to share good practices and lessons learned on countries' transparency efforts, including on: institutional arrangements; online MRV systems; NDC tracking; and gender in climate reporting. In-country support activities have been identified and are being provided in various areas, such as NDC tracking support, IPCC software training, BTR roadmap development, and support for institutional arrangements.

213. The CBIT-GSP also provides support to countries for peer review and quality review of their climate transparency reports. In the reporting period, CBIT-GSP conducted peer and quality reviews of reports, mainly for SIDS and LDCs.

214. Expanding on the CBIT Global Coordination Platform (GCP) and the GSP website, a new Climate Transparency Platform was developed and launched in June 2023 during subsidiary body meetings, providing a 1-stop shop for the global climate transparency community, with latest events, knowledge products, overview of transparency projects and of support providers as well

as dedicated network pages for South-South exchange and peer learning. Demonstration webinars on how to use the platform have been held for different user groups and networks to introduce and sensitize them to the functionalities of the platform.

215. On May 20 and 21, 2024, the first Global Transparency Forum took place in Tokyo, jointly organized by the CBIT-GSP, the GEF, UNEP and the UNEP Copenhagen Climate Center and UNDP, and hosted by the Ministry of Environment of Japan. More than 180 delegates participated from more than 120 developing countries, in addition to UNFCCC personnel, support providers, development partners, and contributors. The Forum's objective was to discuss progress made in enhancing transparency and associated capacities at the global and national levels, and to build momentum for the timely implementation of the ETF.

216. During the reporting period, the GEF CEO approved the second phases of the global CBIT Forest and AFOLU projects, implemented by FAO.

217. The second phase of the CBIT Forest Project held its launch event on April 30, 2024. The project has the objective of continuing aiding countries in enhancing the quality, availability, and accessibility of crucial forest data, including deforestation rates, forest degradation, carbon emissions, and restoration efforts through workshops, training, and forums for South-South cooperation. Additionally, it supports the enhancement of national forest monitoring systems leveraging satellite imagery, remote sensing, and GIS technologies.

218. The second phase of the CBIT AFOLU project was CEO approved on June 26, 2024, and will have the objective to continue addressing the challenges in the quantification of GHG emissions and removals, via assisting countries in developing adequate systems and tools to measure, collect, and monitor AFOLU data; promoting the implementation of institutional arrangements for AFOLU data management; and providing trainings and spaces for South-South cooperation in this crucial GHG emission sector.

Capacity building

219. Capacity building is a key theme of GEF projects, and it is embedded in the design of both CCM and CCA projects. In addition, capacity building for EAs and fulfillment of Convention obligations is identified as a distinct objective in a large number of projects.

220. The UNFCCC capacity-building framework identifies 15 priority areas for capacity building, as listed in decision 2/CP.7:

- a) Institutional capacity building, including the strengthening or establishment, as appropriate, of national climate change secretariats or NFPs;
- b) Enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment;
- c) NCs;
- d) National climate change program;
- e) GHGIs, emission database management, and systems for collecting, managing and

- utilizing activity data and emission factors;
- f) Vulnerability and adaptation assessment;
 - g) Capacity building for implementation of adaptation measures;
 - h) Assessment for implementation of mitigation options;
 - i) Research and systemic observation, including meteorological, hydrological and climatological services;
 - j) Development and transfer of technology;
 - k) Improved decision making, including assistance for participation in international negotiations;
 - l) Clean Development Mechanism;
 - m) Needs arising out of the implementation of Article 4, paragraphs 8 and 9, of the Convention;
 - n) Education, training, and public awareness; and
 - o) Information and networking, including the establishment of databases.

221. In the reporting period, the GEFTF, LDCF and SCCF portfolios supported 91 standalone and MFA projects (6 CBIT, 51 CCM and 34 CCA) with various capacity-building priorities listed above, in the form of technical assistance. The total GEF funding for supporting these capacity-building activities the reporting period amounted to approximately \$268.7 million.

222. These projects cut across 8 out of the 15 UNFCCC-defined priority areas for capacity building (a, b, c, f, g, k, n, and o). The majority of CCM projects addresses support for NCs, education, training and public awareness, enhancement of enabling environments and institutional capacity building. Projects supported by the CBIT focus on institutional capacity building and GHGIs, emission database management and systems for collecting, managing, and utilizing activity data and emission factors. For CCA projects, efforts include capacity building for implementation of CCA measures, education, training and public awareness, enhancement of enabling environments, institutional capacity building, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, and information and networking.

6. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

223. The development and transfer of low-carbon and climate-resilient technology has been a key cross-cutting theme for the GEF since its establishment. It continues to be at the core of the programming directions for GEF-8. The first pillar of the GEF-8 climate change focal area investment, titled “Promote innovation, technology development and transfer, and enabling policies for mitigation options with systemic impacts,” is entirely devoted to supporting technology development and transfer. The investment windows that are linked to Pillar I include:

promoting efficiency in the use of energy and materials, supporting the transition to decarbonized power systems, and further scaling up zero-emission mobility. In GEF-8, partnership with the private sector continues to be a key priority in promoting technology deployment and transfer.

224. Similarly, the GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF for the period of 2022-2026 is focused on promoting technology transfer and innovation. Support to technology transfer continues to be a priority of both the LDCF and SCCF. Specifically, priority area 2 of the SCCF programming strategy focuses on “Strengthening technology Transfer, innovation and private sector engagement”. The SCCF’s technology transfer window (SCCF-B) is expected to support this priority area.

225. Therefore, the entire GEF climate change portfolio can be characterized as supporting technology transfer as defined by the IPCC and by the technology transfer framework adopted by COP 7.¹²⁹

226. In the reporting period, for CCM, 1 Integrated Program, 2 programs, 1 program addendum and 3 projects with technology transfer objectives or elements were approved with \$214 million in GEF funding, including PPGs and Agency fees, and \$2 billion in co-financing.¹³⁰ This amount includes 4 global projects. The main technology elements of these projects are green hydrogen technologies, electric mobility systems, distributed renewable energy, and energy efficiency. Detailed project descriptions are provided in Annexes 2 and 3.

227. For CCA, 12 projects were approved that include financing toward CCA Objective 1.3, totaling \$176.3 million, inclusive of GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees, and leveraged \$856.3 million in co-financing. Out of 12 projects, 2 projects contributing to CCA Objectives 1.3 were MTF financing with support from the LDCF and GEF TF.

228. An example of a CCM project focused on technology transfer is the [Global Clean Hydrogen Program](#). The program aims at enhancing national institutional capacities, enabling policy frameworks, improving technological readiness and financial mechanisms for the successful uptake of clean hydrogen in developing countries to ensure their net zero development with social considerations and benefits. The program targets the production and application of hydrogen, with a focus on the industrial and transport sectors. It will be implemented in eight countries, i.e., Algeria, Egypt, Ecuador, Malaysia, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines, and South Africa. Each national project will have activities tailored to the country context and in line with the program’s thematic areas of (i) policy, (ii) technical readiness, (iii) pilot projects, and (iv) financing. The programmatic approach will also support the development of green hydrogen pilots and will develop global lessons targeted at developing countries and economies in transition. With GEF funds of \$15 million and close to \$141 million in co-financing, the Program is expected to result in approximately 13.3 million tCO₂ eq reductions.

229. An example of a CCA project on technology transfer approved in the reporting period is

¹²⁹ Decision 4/CP.7.

¹³⁰ These projects are aligned with Pillar I. They include projects categorized in the areas of efficient use of energy and materials, decarbonized power systems and zero-emission mobility.

the Program to strengthen smallholder resilience to climate change (RESI-2P), implemented by IFAD, and executed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Resources and Fisheries (MARA) of Burkina Faso. The project aims to enhance the adaptive capacity of the agriculture sector in Burkina Faso by helping small holder farmers diversify production, increase yields, and meet market and consumer demand. The project will support the development and adoption of resilient production techniques, including access to quality seeds, and will invest in promoting inclusive digital agriculture. The small holder farmers will be supported to adopt innovative CCA/ climate-resilient practices, adaptive technologies such as tailored climate information services and post-harvest technologies.

230. The GEF continues to explore opportunities for further collaboration in support of technology development and transfer with the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), as consistent with national priorities and based on country demand. The GEF Secretariat regularly attends the biannual Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and CTCN Advisory Board meetings.

231. The CTCN continues to encourage all National Designated Entities (NDEs) to liaise with their respective GEF OFPs to enhance collaboration through scaling up of projects and by developing a common approach to decision making on technology development and transfer-related matters.

232. The CTCN has been encouraged to utilize GEF national dialogues and ECWs as entry points to facilitate further coordination with GEF OFPs to explore potential cooperation in a country-driven manner. Specifically, in the reporting period, the NDEs of Ghana, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nigeria, and Jordan participated in the national dialogues in their respective countries. In addition, the CTCN is a member of the Steering Committee for some TNA projects, and more details are provided in the next section on TNA.

233. The GEF Secretariat participated in and/or observed key discussions supporting the development of technology transfer initiatives in the reporting period. Examples include:

- a) 27th meeting of the TEC on September 19-21, 2023;
- b) 22nd meeting of the CTCN Advisory Board on September 22-27, 2023;
- c) 28th meeting of the TEC on April 16-19, 2024; and
- d) 23rd meeting of the CTCN Advisory Board on April 19-24, 2024.

234. In May 2024 the GEF launched an Innovation Window with \$12 million of GEF financing that will prioritize activities that both directly and indirectly support and enhance the impact of GEF investments, considering the urgency to raise ambition and to influence transformative change in line with the multilateral environmental agreements for which GEF serves as a financial mechanism. Specific consideration will be given to five areas of innovation, including technological innovation, for example, through new products and processes and through significant technical changes in existing products and processes. This call for proposals closed on June 28, 2024.

Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs)

235. Technology needs assessments (TNAs) are long-standing and evolving processes under the UNFCCC, which follow a comprehensive, country-driven, participatory, and action-oriented approach, and result in the identification and prioritization of technologies needed for climate change adaptation and mitigation in different sectors of developing countries. The global TNA project aims to provide targeted financial and technical support for developing country Parties undertaking or updating their TNAs and preparing their barrier analysis and enabling framework and technology action plan reports.

236. The GEF, with its implementing agencies, has been the primary provider of support to developing countries for undertaking TNAs:

- a) 2001-2008: The first generation of TNAs were focused on supporting developing countries to develop a clearer understanding of their technological needs and priorities for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to climate change.
- b) 2009-present: The second generation of TNAs, supported through the Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer and the Global TNA Project, have placed a greater emphasis on implementation, including through translating the prioritized technology needs into implementation-ready programs and projects.

237. The GEF started supporting TNA projects in 2009, with the first TNA project under the Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer (PSP), *TNA Global Project Phase I*, approved by the LDCF/SCCF Council in April 2009 and endorsed by the CEO in September 2009. Project implementation by UNEP started in October 2009 and was completed in April 2013. Total SCCF-B funding for this project was \$9.0 million, inclusive of GEF project financing and Agency fees.

238. The second TNA project (*TNA Global Project Phase II*) to support 28 countries was approved by the GEF Council in April 2013 and endorsed by the CEO in August 2014. Total GEF funding for this project was \$6.69 million, inclusive of project financing and Agency fees. Project implementation began in November 2014 and was completed in 2021. Two countries that already participated in *TNA Global Project Phase I* (Kazakhstan and Lao People's Democratic Republic) were supported in concluding their TAP reports.

239. The third TNA project (*TNA Global Project Phase III*) to support 22 SIDS and LDCs and Ukraine was approved by the GEF Council in June 2016, endorsed by the CEO in March 2018, and completed in March 2023. Total GEF financing for this project was \$6.5 million from the CCM focal area set-aside and \$0.3 million from Ukraine's STAR allocation, inclusive of GEF project financing and Agency fees. The main outputs at the country level were completed as follows:

- a) 22 countries completed their technology needs assessments (TNAs) and barrier analysis and enabling frameworks (BAEFs) for mitigation and adaptation.
- b) 20 countries completed their technology action plans (TAPs).

- c) 17 countries completed the development of concept notes.
- d) 18 countries completed policy briefs. Many countries prepared several policy briefs. The 18 countries also held final workshops and roundtable events.

240. *TNA Global Project Phase III* drew upon the methodology developed under *TNA Global Project Phase I* and *TNA Global Project Phase II*, and further refined the methodology based on lessons and feedback from stakeholders. Specifically, the TNA Step-by-Step guide¹³¹ was updated, e.g., with new guidance on linking the TNA process with other national processes (e.g., NDCs, NAPs). Moreover, two new thematic guides were elaborated under *TNA Global Project Phase III*: *Preparing a gender-responsive TNA*,¹³² and *Finance Guide for Implementation of Technology Action Plans*.¹³³

241. Overall, the GEF has supported more than 95 developing countries to undertake TNAs through the Global TNA Project, which has been implemented in four phases. Under the GEF-8 Programming Directions, support for TNAs is available for LDCs and SIDS that have not yet undertaken a TNA and wish to do so. Other countries will continue to be able to use their national STAR allocations.

242. This reporting period corresponds to the implementation phase of the fourth global TNA project (*TNA Global Project Phase IV*) that supports 17 LDCs and SIDS, as approved by the GEF Council in June 2019 and subsequently endorsed by the CEO in July 2020. As of April 2024, 13 countries have completed their TNA reports and 9 countries have completed their Barrier Analysis and Enabling Framework (BAEF) reports. All 17 countries have selected sectors and recruited their expert consultants for adaptation and mitigation and have established TNA Steering Committees and TNA Sector working groups. 2 new thematic guidebooks have been developed: *Transformational Change: Guidance for Technology Needs Assessment*¹³⁴ and *Indigenous Peoples and Climate Technologies*.¹³⁵

243. Total GEF financing for this project is \$5.0 million from the CCM set-aside, inclusive of GEF project financing and Agency fees. The project completion date is December 31, 2024, and as of June 2024, all the resources have been disbursed. The project consists of one component: Technology Needs Assessments (TNA) and development of Technology Action Plans (TAP). The participating countries are:

- a) Africa and the Middle East: Comoros, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Lesotho, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen.
- b) Asia and the Pacific: Kiribati, Maldives, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands,

¹³¹ <https://tech-action.unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/09/2021-06-tna-indigenous-people-web.pdf>

¹³² <https://tech-action.unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2019/07/web-tna-gender-guidebook-01.pdf>

¹³³ <https://tech-action.unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/09/finance-guide-for-implementation-of-technology-action-plans.pdf>

¹³⁴ <https://tech-action.unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/01/transformational-change-guidance-for-tna.pdf>

¹³⁵ <https://tech-action.unepccc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/09/2021-06-tna-indigenous-people-web.pdf>

Timor-Leste, Tonga, and Tuvalu.

c) LAC: Bahamas and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

244. The CTCN is also a member of the Steering Committee for the *TNA Global Project Phase IV* project. Specifically, the CTCN is providing in-kind resources of up to \$910,000 consisting of staff-time/expertise to:

- a) Participate as resource persons in TNA-related global and regional workshops and events;
- b) Respond to TNA-related technical assistance requests submitted by participating countries;
- c) Facilitate access for participating countries to knowledge and information from different organizations and countries; and
- d) Disseminate TNA results and promote technology action plan (TAP) implementation.

245. In the reporting period, the *TNA Global Project Phase IV* project conducted the following capacity-building and outreach activities:

- a) Two “Second regional capacity building workshops” on barrier analysis and enabling framework conditions: in July 2023 in both Fiji and St. Kitts and Nevis.
- b) Two “Third regional capacity building workshops”: in September in South Africa and November in Thailand.
- c) Four technical support missions: two in the African region and two in the Pacific region, in collaboration with the Regional Centres.
- d) Online trainings were held in 8 countries with the virtual presence of the Regional Centres, and
- e) Ten bilateral meetings were held with TNA coordinators on the margins of COP 28.

246. The project has conducted the following outreach activities in the reporting period:

- a) Release of eight news stories and two podcasts on the TNA website¹³⁶;
- b) Launch of one TNA poster exhibition in UN City, Copenhagen, during the UNFCCC TEC 28 meeting;
- c) Virtual Event “Enhancing Means of Implementation through Technology Needs Assessments.” As part of the Asia Pacific Climate Week, an online session was

¹³⁶ www.tech-action.unepccc.org

organized jointly with the UNFCCC Secretariat focusing on TNAs in the Asia Pacific region;

- d) Four events co-organized during COP 28 to facilitate TNA experience sharing, and
- e) In addition, the TNA Global Project Phase IV has regular exchanges with the CTCN on how technical assistance can be provided to countries in support of implementing TNA outputs, including TAPs.

247. In the reporting period, the CEO endorsement request for *Phase V of the TNA Global Project* was submitted to the GEF. The project aims at supporting a total of 17 countries in developing or updating their TNAs. Total GEF financing for this project is \$5.6 million, \$3.9 million from STAR allocation and \$1.7 the CCM focal area set-aside, inclusive of GEF project financing and Agency fees. The *TNA Global Project Phase V project* builds on the four previous phases and will target:

- a) Countries that have already conducted a TNA in a previous phase (e.g., Phase I or II), which now require updating as new technologies become relevant and new national priorities and opportunities arise. The project will support updating and re-prioritizing technologies, assessing market conditions and enabling frameworks, and developing revised technology action plans with inputs to policy and implementable projects. There are twelve countries in this category: Azerbaijan, Ghana, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Tunisia, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Côte d'Ivoire, and Thailand. These countries are all using STAR resources.
- b) Countries that have not conducted TNAs in the past (Phase I to IV) and have therefore not conducted analysis of both CCM and CCA technologies, barriers and enabling frameworks, leading to TAPs. The countries in this category are Bahrain, Cook Islands, Eritrea, Micronesia (Federated States of), and Sierra Leone. These countries are using CCM set-aside resources.

248. The CTCN will have an advisory role in Phase V of the TNA Global Project and will continue providing support to countries in taking their TNA/TAP results forward. It will collaborate in technical assistance, knowledge sharing and networking activities. The CTCN will also provide in-kind co-financing in the amount of \$800,000 through its staff-time/expertise, consortium partners and network members to:

- a) Participate as resource persons in the TNA-related global and regional workshops and events;
- b) Respond to TNA-related technical assistance requests submitted by participating countries;
- c) Facilitate access for participating countries to knowledge and information from different organizations and countries; and
- d) Disseminate TNA results and promote TAP implementation.

Poznan Strategic Program on Technology Transfer

249. After COP 14 welcomed and renamed GEF's Poznan Strategic Program (PSP), the GEF submitted a plan for the long-term implementation of the PSP to COP 16.¹³⁷ The GEF submission included the following elements to further scale up investments in environmentally sound technologies (ESTs) in developing countries in accordance with the GEF climate change focal area strategy, and to enhance technology transfer activities under the UNFCCC:

- a) Support for climate technology centers and a climate technology network;
- b) Piloting priority technology projects to foster innovation and investments;
- c) Public-Private Partnerships for technology transfer;
- d) TNAs; and
- e) GEF as a catalytic supporting institution for technology transfer.

250. The GEF initially funded the PSP under GEF-4 (2006-10). The initial funding for the PSP totaled \$50 million, with \$30 million from GEFTF country allocations, \$5 million from the GEFTF set-aside and \$15 million from the SCCF, leveraging co-financing of \$228.8 million. GEF-5 funding for the elements of the long-term implementation of the PSP was primarily from a combination of country allocations under the STAR (for CCM projects) and global and cross-focal area set-asides (for the *TNA Global Project Phases I and II*). The SCCF and LDCF provided funding for CCA pilot projects. All CCM and CCA projects under GEF-4 and GEF-5 with technology-related objectives were part of the PSP.

251. Since GEF-6, technology transfer has been embedded in the GEF programming strategy, along with elements of the PSP, which are funded from country STAR allocations or set-asides in each funding period. Technology transfer projects continue to be country-driven and require demonstrating alignment to national priorities included in national climate strategies and plans, as well as TNAs.

252. Under the PSP, the GEF has supported four regional projects and the CTCN through a global project, listed in Table 9. Out of these five projects, three have been completed and two projects are still under implementation (Annex 4 provides further information on the ongoing projects). These projects received funding from the GEFTF for CCM as well as from the SCCF-B for CCA. The regional projects have been generating lessons learned to help inform the Technology Mechanism, in particular the CTCN, and have been facilitating the coordination and cooperation on climate technology development and transfer through regional and sub-regional coordination mechanisms and partnerships, such as: the establishment of a Regional Coalition on Circular Economy in the LAC region; targeted support to address specific barriers to adoption of

¹³⁷ UNFCCC, 2010, [Report of the Global Environment Facility on the progress made in carrying out the Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer](#), SBI Document FCCC/SBI/2010/25.

climate technologies in small and medium enterprises (SMEs) by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)'s FINTECC project; mainstreaming climate technology development, transfer and investment into planning in those Asian countries that received GEF's support under the Pilot Asia-Pacific Climate Technology Network and Finance Center of the ADB and UNEP project; among others.

Table 9: GEF Projects for Regional Climate Technology Transfer and Financing Centers¹³⁸

Title	Region	Agency	GEF financing (\$ million)		Co-financing (\$ million)	Status
			GEFTF*	SCCF*		
<i>Promoting Accelerated Transfer and Scaled-up Deployment of CCM Technologies through the CTCN</i>	Global	UNIDO	1.8	0	7.2	Completed - Terminal evaluation report (TER) available on the GEF Portal.
<i>Pilot Asia-Pacific Climate Technology Network and Finance Center</i>	Asia and Pacific	ADB/ UNEP	10.0	2.0	74.7	Completed - TER available on the GEF Portal.
<i>Pilot African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network</i>	Africa	AfDB	10.0	5.8	89.0	Under implementation - Completion date extended to December 2024**
<i>Finance and Technology Transfer Center for Climate Change</i>	ECA	EBRD	10.0	2.0	77.0	Under implementation - Completion date extended to December 2024***
<i>Climate Technology Transfer Mechanisms and Networks in LAC</i>	LAC	IDB	10.0	2.0	63.4	Completed - TER available on the GEF Portal

* Includes GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

** The Agency requested a one-year extension until December 2024. The Terminal Evaluation of the project is expected by the end of 2025.

*** The Agency requested a one-year extension until December 2024. The Terminal Evaluation of the project is expected by the end of 2025.

253. Under the PSP, eleven national climate technology projects have been implemented, in accordance with guidance from COP decision 2/CP.14. The funding from the GEFTF and SCCF-B for these projects amounted to \$51.6 million, inclusive of GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees,¹³⁹ and the total co-financing amounted to \$223.2 million and \$5.7 million,

respectively.

254. As of June 30, 2024, ten projects have been completed and a project in Côte d'Ivoire is under implementation. These ten projects were in Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Eswatini, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand.

255. These eleven projects have addressed both CCM and CCA and have been diverse and innovative. They have included renewable energy (solar, biomass, wind), energy efficiency (insulation materials, efficient and hydro-chlorofluorocarbon (HCFC)-free appliances), transport ("green" trucks), and composting. Membrane drip irrigation, flood- and drought-resistant crops with sustainable land management (SLM) practices were included as CCA-related technologies.

¹³⁸ Annex 4 provides more information on the status of the two Regional Centers still under implementation, i.e., Pilot African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network and Finance and Technology Transfer Center for Climate Change

¹³⁹ Details on financing are provided in Annex 4.

PART IV: EVALUATIONS BY THE GEF INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE

256. From July 2023 through June 2024, the GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) conducted four evaluations covering GEF activities in the climate change focal area.

Evaluation of GEF Support to Climate Information and Early Warning Systems¹⁴⁰

257. GEF has supported activities related to Climate Information and Early Warning Systems (CIEWS) through the GEF Trust Fund (GEFTF), the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). The evaluation examined how CIEWS were integrated into GEFTF-, LDCF-, and SCCF-funded projects, assessing the performance of these interventions in terms of relevance, results, and sustainability.

258. The evaluation found that GEF support for CIEWS demonstrated strong alignment with GEF Trust Fund and LDCF/SCCF strategies. GEF projects have been relevant to specific country contexts, responding to geographical and climate-related hazards as well as to national requests. The evaluation noted a strong correlation between project distribution and global climate-related hazards, particularly in Africa. While GEF projects have improved climate information generation and early warnings, the evaluation found that the projects did not fully integrate early action measures within their disaster event designs. Additionally, less attention has been given in project designs to knowledge transfer for appropriate disaster responses and to community-level risk awareness and capacity building.

259. The evaluation found that GEF projects were effective in developing warning services through infrastructure and capacity building. The projects demonstrated substantial catalytic potential, often serving as a foundation for larger-scale interventions financed by other climate funds. However, there were risks to long-term sustainability, especially in LDCs, due to challenges in securing funding for the operation and maintenance of CIEWS. Furthermore, the "last mile" challenge persists, particularly in transforming enhanced forecasting capabilities into actionable and accessible information for local communities.

260. The evaluation concluded that GEF projects could benefit from shifting their focus from solely providing early warning information to fostering early actions during disaster events. This involves prioritizing data usability, ensuring both national and local response plans are in place, and establishing effective communication systems. By doing so, GEF can enhance the practical application of CIEWS and improve disaster response outcomes.

LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report (AER) 2024¹⁴¹

¹⁴⁰ GEF IEO, 2024, [Evaluation of GEF Support to Climate Information and Early Warning Systems](#), Council Document GEF/E/C.66/04.

¹⁴¹ GEF IEO, 2024, [LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report 2024](#), Council Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.36/E/inf.01.

261. The AER presented a synthesis of five recent evaluations¹⁴² prepared by the GEF IEO that are relevant to work on climate change adaptation. The AER highlights the disruptive impact of climate change on food security, emphasizing the need for adaptive agricultural practices through the use of Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) that assist in the sustainable management and restoration of ecosystems. Furthermore, NbS interventions enhance ecosystem resilience, support biodiversity conservation, and deliver significant socioeconomic benefits, particularly in vulnerable regions.

262. The AER 2024 identified cross-cutting priorities and considerations that may help address climate change adaptation effectively. It found that strengthening innovation is vital and needs to be emphasized in future projects. Additionally, leveraging new technologies and fostering collaborations, particularly in the water-climate nexus, are crucial steps. The report highlighted that projects have achieved significant socioeconomic results when the active involvement of women is sought and ensured. It reports that youth engagement in GEF activities has so far been limited but has the potential to improve water security and mitigate pressure for migration. The report also underscores the importance of institutional capacity development for long-term sustainability.

Evaluation of Co-Financing in the GEF¹⁴³

263. The evaluation examined GEF's approach to co-financing, analyzed factors influencing co-financing commitments and their realization, and assessed its overall effectiveness in achieving its intended benefits. Several findings from the evaluation are relevant to GEF support for addressing challenges related to climate change.

264. The evaluation found that projects addressing climate change mitigation attract higher levels of co-financing commitments than projects focused on other environmental concerns. For example, while the overall analyzed portfolio¹⁴⁴ raised co-financing commitments of \$7.3 per \$1 of GEF grant, climate change mitigation projects raised \$9.6 per \$1 of GEF grant. The co-financing commitments raised by climate change adaptation projects were lower, at \$4.7 per \$1 of GEF grant, in part because a significant proportion of GEF investments in adaptation are in Least Developed Countries, where it is difficult to raise co-financing.

265. Another important finding of the evaluation was that the ability of projects to attract co-financing is greatly affected by the activities included in their design. The evaluation found that activities such as infrastructure development, technology demonstration, and the procurement of efficient equipment and vehicles attract substantial co-financing. In contrast, capacity building, legal and policy development, and project monitoring activities generally attract lower levels of co-financing. Similarly, projects involving investments in mature technologies, revenue-generating activities, and private sector engagement, particularly in upper-middle-income countries and emerging economies, attract higher levels of co-financing.

¹⁴² 1) Evaluation of the GEF's Approach and Interventions in Water Security; 2) Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation: GEF Support to Drylands Countries; 3) Evaluation of Community-Based Approaches at the GEF; 4) Learning from Challenges in GEF Projects; and 5) Evaluation of GEF Support to Climate Information and Early Warning Systems.

¹⁴³ GEF IEO, 2024, [Evaluation of Cofinancing in the GEF](#), Document GEF/E/C.67/01.

¹⁴⁴ The portfolio for analyzing cofinancing commitments consisted of 1,546 CEO Endorsed/Approved GEF-6 and GEF-7 projects.

266. The evaluation found that the full realization of co-financing commitments shows a positive correlation with both the project outcome and the sustainability rating. It reports that 34 percent of the co-financing commitments listed in project proposals do not materialize. The realization rate is especially low for loans, as these are prone to cancellation in instances of start-up delays and changes in political priorities. The evaluation found that the non-realization of co-financing contributions is partially addressed by GEF Agencies tapping into new sources of co-financing.

Learning from Challenges in GEF Projects¹⁴⁵

267. The evaluation analyzes data from 202 underperforming projects to understand how such projects identify and address their challenges. Projects exclusively funded from the climate change focal area account for 38 percent of the sample. Of the 12 closed projects covered for in-depth case study analysis, four focused on climate change.

268. The examples discussed in the evaluation report include the “Promoting Energy-Efficient Applications and Solar PV” project in Dominica (GEF ID 5686), which faced challenges due to changes in political leadership and the aftermath of two hurricanes that were not addressed in the project’s initial design. When confronted with these challenges, the project components were streamlined and re-sequenced, and result targets were adjusted. The project contributed to climate change mitigation by enhancing access to renewable energy and improving energy efficiency. Although the overall results were relatively modest compared to its original scope, it serves as a good example of responsive management—making the best out of a difficult situation. In Liberia, the project “Enhancing Resilience of Liberia Montserrado County Vulnerable Coastal Areas to Climate Change Risks” (GEF ID 8015) faced initial disagreements with the local community. However, the project addressed these weaknesses by responding to community needs, which helped it successfully deliver its outcomes and reduce local vulnerability. Upon completion, the project demonstrated the feasibility of affordable coastal defense structures to protect against erosion and flooding. Additionally, it built local capacity and strengthened national institutions to support ongoing sustainability.

269. The generic conclusions of the evaluation are also applicable to the Climate Change focal area activities. The report identified eight guiding principles or lessons for the GEF Partnership. These include active engagement with high-priority but deeply complex environmental projects over time and through experimentation, and establishing clear scoping conditions under which outcomes can and cannot be expected. It also emphasizes setting realistic expectations and time frames aligned with problem complexity, contextual characteristics, and capability to deliver, and ensuring that design, scaling, and replication decisions are informed by comprehensive contextual analysis. Additionally, it suggests viewing monitoring more as a learning tool and less as a compliance instrument, and the judicious and strategic pursuit of ambition and innovation. The report underscores the importance of having the necessary legal structures, administrative procedures, and direct political support in place to support a project, especially as the intervention evolves over time. Finally, it stresses developing credible measures of the extent to which emergent problems were solved during implementation, noting that learning how to address

¹⁴⁵ GEF IEO, 2024, [Learning from Challenges in GEF Projects](#), Council Document GEF/E/C.66/03/Rev.01.

everyday problems consistently well is the foundation on which more complex problems can be more confidently addressed.

ANNEX 1: GEF-8 FUNDING ENVELOPES AND ALLOCATIONS

The following table presents the initial STAR country allocations for all countries that receive an allocation in GEF-8.¹⁴⁶

Table A1.1: Initial GEF-8 STAR Country Allocations (\$ million)¹⁴⁷

Country	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Total
Afghanistan	2.00	4.00	4.96	10.96
Albania	1.00	3.00	4.24	8.24
Algeria	2.49	4.94	4.82	12.25
Angola	3.52	11.23	3.70	18.45
Antigua and Barbuda	2.00	4.00	4.42	10.42
Argentina	5.24	18.75	2.82	26.80
Armenia	1.05	3.00	4.24	8.30
Azerbaijan	2.33	3.00	3.88	9.21
Bahamas	2.00	5.58	2.00	9.58
Bangladesh	4.58	4.00	2.00	10.58
Barbados	2.00	4.00	3.25	9.25
Belarus	2.75	3.00	1.21	6.96
Belize	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Benin	2.00	4.00	6.63	12.63
Bhutan	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	2.17	15.59	2.86	20.61
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.00	3.00	1.46	5.46
Botswana	1.00	3.00	3.89	7.89
Brazil	15.19	62.59	2.06	79.83
Burkina Faso	2.00	4.00	7.74	13.74
Burundi	2.00	4.00	4.89	10.89

¹⁴⁶ GEF, 2022, [Initial GEF-8 STAR Country Allocations](#), Council Document, GEF/C.63/Inf.05.

¹⁴⁷ The figures presented here are rounded to two decimal places. On the GEF Portal, the figures are presented as the actual amounts.

Country	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Total
Cabo Verde	2.00	9.57	2.64	14.22
Cambodia	2.00	4.65	3.14	9.80
Cameroon	1.26	17.12	2.01	20.40
Central African Republic	2.00	4.00	2.89	8.89
Chad	2.00	4.00	5.39	11.39
Chile	3.51	18.84	3.27	25.62
China	47.02	43.64	3.03	93.68
Colombia	6.46	55.28	2.63	64.36
Comoros	2.00	4.08	2.00	8.08
Congo	1.00	3.89	1.00	5.89
Cook Islands	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Costa Rica	1.00	13.96	1.26	16.22
Côte d'Ivoire	1.00	7.61	4.25	12.86
Cuba	2.00	12.10	2.00	16.10
Democratic Republic of the Congo	4.53	22.60	2.26	29.40
Djibouti	2.00	4.00	3.87	9.87
Dominica	2.00	4.00	2.81	8.81
Dominican Republic	2.00	7.26	2.57	11.83
Ecuador	1.96	33.68	3.49	39.13
Egypt	4.46	5.40	4.40	14.25
El Salvador	1.00	3.00	1.13	5.13
Equatorial Guinea	1.00	3.00	1.00	5.00
Eritrea	2.00	4.00	3.92	9.92
Eswatini ¹⁴⁸	1.00	3.00	3.50	7.50
Ethiopia	4.19	14.88	4.73	23.80

¹⁴⁸ Eswatini was named Swaziland until 2018.

Country	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Total
Fiji	2.00	7.96	2.00	11.96
Gabon	1.00	5.23	1.00	7.23
Gambia	2.00	4.00	6.08	12.08
Georgia	1.09	3.00	2.92	7.01
Ghana	1.50	5.60	4.63	11.73
Grenada	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Guatemala	1.00	8.78	1.52	11.29
Guinea	2.00	5.54	3.62	11.16
Guinea Bissau	2.00	4.00	2.20	8.20
Guyana	2.00	4.07	2.00	8.07
Haiti	2.00	7.60	2.08	11.67
Honduras	1.00	12.80	2.10	15.90
India	41.65	43.78	3.89	89.32
Indonesia	20.05	82.15	1.45	103.65
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2.75	3.51	2.00	8.27
Iraq	1.00	3.00	2.43	6.43
Jamaica	2.00	6.50	2.95	11.45
Jordan	1.62	3.00	4.23	8.85
Kazakhstan	8.90	4.84	3.85	17.58
Kenya	3.06	13.42	4.82	21.30
Kiribati	2.00	4.58	2.00	8.58
Kyrgyzstan	1.02	3.00	4.69	8.71
Lao People's Democratic Republic	2.00	6.75	2.15	10.90
Lebanon	1.08	3.00	3.81	7.89
Lesotho	2.00	4.00	3.90	9.90
Liberia	2.00	4.63	2.00	8.63
Libya	1.00	3.00	1.80	5.80

Country	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Total
Madagascar	2.00	50.67	4.03	56.69
Malawi	2.00	4.40	5.52	11.92
Malaysia	5.01	19.90	1.41	26.32
Maldives	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Mali	2.00	4.00	5.69	11.69
Marshall Islands	2.00	4.41	2.00	8.41
Mauritania	2.00	4.00	4.52	10.52
Mauritius	2.00	5.79	2.00	9.79
Mexico	9.83	58.70	3.38	71.90
Micronesia (Federated States of)	2.00	5.15	2.00	9.15
Mongolia	1.60	4.72	3.77	10.08
Montenegro	1.00	3.00	2.29	6.29
Morocco	1.60	4.88	4.98	11.46
Mozambique	2.05	16.79	6.53	25.37
Myanmar	3.96	13.34	2.00	19.30
Namibia	1.00	8.90	6.55	16.45
Nauru	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Nepal	2.00	5.19	2.13	9.33
Nicaragua	1.10	6.92	1.75	9.77
Niger	2.00	4.00	6.39	12.39
Nigeria	8.30	8.36	4.76	21.41
Niue	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
North Macedonia	1.00	3.00	2.74	6.74
Pakistan	7.35	5.74	4.68	17.77
Palau	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Panama	1.00	14.15	1.28	16.43
Papua New Guinea	2.00	25.04	2.00	29.04

Country	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Total
Paraguay	1.82	3.27	3.06	8.16
Peru	4.17	43.28	2.81	50.26
Philippines	5.45	45.51	1.80	52.76
Republic of Moldova	1.08	3.00	4.71	8.80
Russian Federation	36.04	17.96	1.60	55.60
Rwanda	2.00	4.00	3.61	9.61
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2.00	4.00	2.07	8.07
Saint Lucia	2.00	4.00	2.11	8.11
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	2.00	4.00	2.39	8.39
Samoa	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
São Tomé and Príncipe	2.00	4.78	3.63	10.41
Senegal	2.00	6.02	6.15	14.17
Serbia	1.37	3.00	1.57	5.94
Seychelles	2.00	6.82	2.00	10.82
Sierra Leone	2.00	4.00	2.46	8.46
Solomon Islands	2.00	9.33	2.00	13.33
Somalia	2.00	8.88	5.10	15.97
South Africa	7.36	35.69	6.05	49.10
South Sudan	2.00	4.00	2.41	8.41
Sri Lanka	2.04	13.91	3.05	19.00
Sudan	2.00	4.37	3.89	10.26
Suriname	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Syrian Arab Republic	1.00	3.00	2.13	6.13
Tajikistan	1.00	3.00	5.01	9.01
Thailand	5.75	11.64	1.71	19.10
Timor-Leste	2.00	4.00	3.59	9.59
Togo	2.00	4.00	5.54	11.54

Country	Climate Change	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Total
Tonga	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Trinidad and Tobago	2.00	4.00	2.55	8.55
Tunisia	1.00	3.00	4.68	8.68
Türkiye	5.52	5.64	3.30	14.46
Turkmenistan	3.71	3.00	2.78	9.49
Tuvalu	2.00	4.00	2.00	8.00
Uganda	2.00	5.62	3.93	11.54
Ukraine	7.12	3.00	3.27	13.39
United Republic of Tanzania	4.81	23.93	4.85	33.59
Uruguay	1.35	3.36	1.00	5.72
Uzbekistan	5.13	3.00	5.03	13.16
Vanuatu	2.00	5.30	2.00	9.30
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	5.68	18.69	2.10	26.46
Viet Nam	14.74	17.72	1.98	34.44
Yemen	2.00	7.61	4.05	13.66
Zambia	4.04	7.80	5.65	17.49
Zimbabwe	1.59	5.43	6.19	13.22

Table A1.2: GEF-8 Resource Allocation Table¹⁴⁹

FOCAL AREA	GEF-8 \$5.330 Billion	
	US\$M	% of total
Total Biodiversity	1919	36.0%
BD STAR Country Allocations	1453	27.3%
BD-1: Integrated Landscape/Seascape Management	564	10.6%
BD-2: Cartagena Protocol/Nagoya Protocol	82	1.5%
BD-3: Domestic Resource Mobilization	165	3.1%
Integrated Programs	641	12.0%
BD STAR Set Aside	466	8.7%
EAs	60	1.1%
Global and Regional Programs	123	2.3%
IP Global Platforms	69	1.3%
IP Country Project Incentive	214	4.0%
Total Climate Change Mitigation	852	16.0%
CCM STAR Country Allocations	524	9.8%
Efficient use of energy and materials	103	1.9%
Decarbonized power systems	94	1.8%
Zero-emission mobility	94	1.8%
Nature-based solutions	68	1.3%
Integrated Programs	164	3.1%
CCM STAR Set Aside	328	6.2%
CBIT	75	1.4%
EAs	145	2.7%
Global and Regional Programs	22	0.4%
IP Global Platforms	33	0.6%
IP Country Project Incentive	53	1.0%
Total Land Degradation	618	11.6%
LD STAR Country Allocations	458	8.6%
LD-1: Sustainable land management	76	1.4%
LD-2: Restoration of production landscapes	44	0.8%
LD-3: Address land degradation, desertification and drought	76	1.4%
LD-4: Improve enabling framework for LDN	62	1.2%
Integrated Programs	200	3.7%
LD STAR Set Aside	161	3.0%
EAs	23	0.4%
Global/Regional Programs	27	0.5%

¹⁴⁹ The GEF-8 Resource Allocation Table will be revised in case any additional pledges are made. In GEF-8, GEF investments directly and indirectly related to climate change are expected to amount to a minimum of 80 percent of all GEF funding commitments in GEF-8, GEF investments directly and indirectly related to CCA are expected to amount to a minimum of 45 percent of all GEF funding commitments in GEF-8, GEF investments directly and indirectly related to CCM are expected to amount to a minimum of 65 percent of all GEF funding commitments in GEF-8.

IP Global Platforms	44	0.8%
IP Country Project Incentive	67	1.2%
Total Chemicals and Waste	800	15.0%
<i>Stockholm Convention</i>	413	7.7%
EAs	28	0.5%
Other Programming	385	7.2%
<i>Minamata Convention</i>	269	5.0%
EAs	20	0.4%
Other Programming	249	4.7%
<i>Montreal</i>	13	0.2%
<i>SAICM</i>	65	1.2%
<i>Contribution to IP Global Platforms</i>	14	0.3%
<i>Contribution to IP Country Projects</i>	26	0.5%
Total International Waters	565	10.6%
<i>Blue Economy</i>	186	3.5%
<i>ABNJ</i>	34	0.6%
<i>Enhancing Freshwater Security</i>	186	3.5%
<i>Contribution to IP Global Platforms</i>	34	0.6%
<i>Contribution to IP Country Projects</i>	124	2.3%
TOTAL FOCAL AREA RESOURCES	4753	89.2%
<i>Non-Grant Instruments Window</i>	195	3.7%
<i>Innovations Window</i>	12	0.2%
<i>Small Grants Program</i>	155	2.9%
<i>Country Engagement</i>	28	0.5%
TOTAL PROGRAMMING	5143	96.5%
<i>Corporate Budgets</i>	187	3.5%
<i>GEFSEC</i>	127	2.4%
<i>IEO</i>	30	0.6%
<i>Trustee</i>	15	0.3%
<i>STAP</i>	14	0.3%
GRAND TOTAL	5330	100.0%

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND APPROVED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

1. List of Climate Change Mitigation Projects Approved in the Reporting Period

Table A2.1: Climate Change Mitigation Projects and Programs Approved in the Reporting Period

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	Type^a	GEF Amount (\$ million)^b	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
CCM projects and programs							
11064	South Africa	DBSA	<i>Private Sector Energy Efficiency Programme Phase 2 (PSEEP2)</i>	EE	16	509	525
11270	Barbados	FAO	<i>Barbados - Accelerating transition to climate-resilient agrifood systems (BATCRAS)</i>	RE	4	20	24
11474	Antigua and Barbuda	UNDP	<i>Energy resilience and security for the residential and public sector in Antigua and Barbuda</i>	RE	9.4	20.1	29.5
11437	Global	UNIDO	<i>Global Clean Hydrogen Programme</i>	TT	15.0	141.2	156.2
CCM projects and programs Subtotal					44.4	690.3	734.7
Multi-focal area projects and programs							
11114	Mongolia	FAO	Rehabilitating and conserving the mountain landscapes in Khangai region of Mongolia for improved ecosystem services and community livelihoods	AFO LU	3	25	28
11116	Sri Lanka	UNDP	Promoting sustainable economic benefits through the conservation of critical biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Eastern Coastal Region of Sri Lanka	AFO LU	5	27	32
11148	Global	World Bank	Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program	AFO LU	68.6	390.1	459
11167	Brazil	FAO	Restoration of Wetlands and other important Amazonian Ecosystems - Capacity-building, innovation, development and	AFO LU	6	41	47

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	Type ^a	GEF Amount (\$ million) ^b	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
			technological transfer for ecological restoration and climate change mitigation				
11179	Algeria	UNDP	Restoration and sustainable forest management of the Algerian Aleppo pine forest, ecosystem	AFO LU	4	24	28
11210	Lesotho	IFAD	Sustainable Wool and Mohair Value chain Competitiveness project (WaMCoP)	AFO LU	6	67	73
11214	Global	FAO	Food Systems Integrated Program	AFO LU	214.9	1782.4	1997
11287	Global	World Bank	Sustainable Cities Integrated Program	TU	147.8	1149.8	1298
11326	Global	World Bank	IFC/GEF Green Global Supply Chain Decarbonization Platform	TT	16	151	167
11333	Ecuador	UNDP	Integrated landscape management in the Napo River Basin for sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation.	AFO LU	10	52	62
11335	Bosnia-Herzegovina	UNDP	Introducing Nature Based Solutions to Ensure Resilient Ecosystems, Green Recovery and Sustainable Livelihoods	AFO LU	5	40	46
11337	Regional	World Bank	Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3- Addendum Council Meeting Feb 5, 2024	AFO LU	4.0	20.8	25
11349	Global	FAO	Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program (CHO-IP)	AFO LU	44.3	189.1	233
11378	Regional	FAO	Central Asia Water and Land Nexus (CAWLN) for Ecosystem Restoration, Improved Natural Resource Management and Increased Resilience	AFO LU	9.4	62.6	72
11391	Regional	CI	Guinean Forests (GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program) Addendum (February 2024)	AFO LU	6.7	20.0	27
11395	Viet Nam	WWF-US	Enhancing biodiversity conservation and reducing climate vulnerability in Central Vietnam for sustainable development utilizing a landscape approach	AFO LU	10	73	83

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	Type ^a	GEF Amount (\$ million) ^b	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11398	Tajikistan	IFAD	Tajikistan Ecosystem Restoration and Resilient Agriculture (TERRA) Project	AFO LU	9	12	21
11422	Indonesia	IFAD	Lake Ecosystem Restoration in Indonesia through Integrated Governance, Landscape, and Community-based Approaches.	AFO LU	8	35	43
11426	Iraq	UNDP	Restoration and Preservation of Key Biodiversity Areas and Ecosystems in Anbar Province, Iraq.	AFO LU	6	46	52
11432	Colombia	UNDP	BioSouth: The Pacific-Andean-Amazonian Ecological and Cultural Connectivity Corridor	AFO LU	15	69	84
11450	Bolivia	UNDP	Support to the Productive Development Bank for the deployment of the Eco-efficiency Credit Programme in Bolivia	TT	7	65	72
11455	Regional	UNEP	Transformation Approach to Large Scale Investment in Support of the Implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative- TALSISI-GGWI	AFO LU	16.4	759.8	776
11467	Global	WWF-US	Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	AFO LU	12.3	16.1	28
11516	Global	UNEP	Global Programme to Support Countries to Upscale Integrated Electric Mobility Systems - Addendum June 2024	TU	3.5	8.2	12
11524	Kazakhstan	UNDP	Integrated Management of Seascapes of the Kazakhstani part of the Caspian Sea and Land Resources of Adjacent Territories	Mixed	8	51	59
11467	Global	WWF-US	Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	AFO LU	12.3	16.1	28
11516	Global	UNEP	Global Programme to Support Countries to Upscale Integrated Electric Mobility Systems - Addendum June 2024	TU	3.5	8.2	12
11524	Kazakhstan	UNDP	Integrated Management of Seascapes of the Kazakhstani part of the Caspian Sea and Land Resources of Adjacent Territories	Mixed	8	51	59
Multi-focal area projects and programs Subtotal					647	5176	5,823

^a AFOLU: agriculture, forestry and other land uses, EE: energy efficiency, Mixed: includes mixed objectives and CBIT projects, RE: renewable energy, SGP: Small Grants Program, TU: sustainable transport and urban systems, TT: demonstration, deployment and transfer of innovative LCTs

^b Including PPGs and Agency fees.

2. List of Enabling Activities Approved in the Reporting Period

Table A2.2: Enabling Activities Approved in the Reporting Period

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF amount ^a (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11305	Lebanon	UNDP	Project Title: Lebanon's First Biennial Transparency Reports, Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Reports, to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1.4	-	1.4
11309	Armenia	UNDP	Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report and the combined Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report of Armenia to the UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4
11310	Tunisia	UNDP	Tunisian First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and a combined Second Biennial Transparency Report (BTR2) /Fifth National Communication (NC5) (BTR1_NC5/BTR2)	1.4	-	1.4
11311	Cuba	UNDP	Cuban First and Second Biennial Transparency Reports and Forth National Communication (1BTR + 2BTR&4NC)	1.4	-	1.4
11312	Honduras	UNDP	Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report of Honduras and the Fourth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report as combined report under the UNFCCC (1BTR and 4NC/2BTR)	1.4	-	1.4
11313	Türkiye	FAO	Enabling the Republic of Türkiye to Prepare Its First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and the Joint Ninth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report (NC9/BTR2) to the UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4
11315	Botswana	UNDP	Development of the Fourth National Communication and the First Transparency Report (4NC/1BTR) as a combined report and the Second Biennial Transparency Report (2BTR) of Botswana under the UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF amount^a (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11317	Venezuela	FAO	Elaboration of Combined Third National Communication (NC3) and first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	0.7	-	0.7
11318	Belize	UNEP	Preparation of Belize's First Biennial Transparency Report and a combined Second Biennial Transparency Report and Fifth National Communication (BTR1 and BTR2/NC5) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1.4	-	1.4
11320	Uruguay	UNDP	First and Second Biennial Transparency Reports (1BTR+ 2BTR) of Uruguay to the UNFCCC, according to the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework	1.3	-	1.3
11321	Sri Lanka	UNDP	Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report, the Second Biennial Transparency Report and Fourth National Communication of Sri Lanka to UNFCCC (Sri Lanka: BTR1 + BTR2/NC4)	1.4	-	1.4
11330	Egypt	UNDP	Development of Egypt's First Biennial Transparency Report (1BTR), and a combined Second Biennial Transparency and Fifth National Communication Report to the UNFCCC (2BTR+5NC)	1.4	-	1.4
11334	Bolivia	UNDP	Fourth National Communication (4NC), and First and Second Biennial Transparency Report (1BTR and 2BTR) of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4
11479	Oman	UNIDO	Oman: Preparation of the First Biennial Transparency Report and the Third National Communication under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	0.7	-	0.7
11480	Bhutan	FAO	Enabling the Kingdom of Bhutan to prepare its Fourth National Communication (4NC) and First and Second Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1-2) to the UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF amount ^a (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11482	Jordan	UNDP	Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report of Jordan and the Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report as combined report under the UNFCCC (BTR1 – 5NC/BTR2)	1.4	-	1.4
11485	Algeria	UNDP	Support to the elaboration of the First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1), the combined Second Biennial Transparency and the Fourth National Communication report (BTR2/NC4) of Algeria to the UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4
11486	Nicaragua	FAO	Fifth National Communication and First and Second Biennial Transparency Report and (5CN-1BTR/2BTR)	1.4	-	1.4
11488	Thailand	UNDP	Thailand's First Biennial Transparency Report (1BTR) and combined Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report (5NC/2BTR) to UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4
11492	Colombia	UNDP	First Biennial Transparency Report "BTRI" and "BTR II/Fourth National Communication"	1.4	-	1.4
11496	Tajikistan	UNDP	Preparation of the First Biennial Transparency Report and the combined Fifth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report of the Republic of Tajikistan under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement to the UNFCCC	1.4	-	1.4
11500	Azerbaijan, Dominica, Grenada, Mozambique, Qatar, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Turkmenistan, and Tuvalu	UNEP	Umbrella Programme for the Preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	2.0	-	2.0

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF amount ^a (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11502	North Macedonia	UNDP	Development of North Macedonia's First Biennial Transparency Report and the combined Second Biennial Transparency Report and Fifth National Communication on climate change under the UNFCCC (BTR1 and BTR2/NC5)	1.4	-	1.4
11646	Guatemala	UNDP	Development of the First Biennial Transparency Report and the Fourth National Communication and Second Biennial Transparency Report as combined report under the UNFCCC (1BTR - 4NC/2BTR)	1.4	-	1.4
11649	Togo	UNDP	First and Second Biennial Transparency Report and Fifth National Communication (1BTR + 5NC & 2BTR)	1.4	-	1.4
11652	China	UNDP	Enabling China to Prepare Its First Biennial Transparency Reports on Climate Change under UNFCCC	0.3	-	0.3
Enabling activities Subtotal				33.2	-	33.2

^a GEF amount includes GEF project financing and Agency fees (there are no PPGs for EAs).

3. List of CBIT projects Approved in the Reporting Period

Table A2.3: CBIT Projects Approved in the Reporting Period

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF amount^a (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11070	Turkmenistan	FAO	Strengthening the capacity of Turkmenistan to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement.	2.0	1.3	3.3
11306	Uruguay	UNDP	CBIT 2 - Building institutional and technical capacities to meet the commitments under the Paris Agreement's Enhanced Transparency Framework	2.1	1.1	3.2
11308	Global	FAO	Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest): accelerating capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and awareness raising	2.2	5.2	7.4
11316	Global	FAO	Global capacity building towards enhanced transparency (CBIT-AFOLU+)	2.2	1.5	3.7
11319	Türkiye	FAO	Strengthening the capacity of the Republic of Türkiye to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) for measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) of climate change actions based on Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).	2.2	-	2.2
11377	Mongolia	FAO	Enhancing climate change transparency in Mongolia	2.0	1.4	3.4
CBIT Subtotal				12.7	10.5	23.2

^a GEF amount includes GEF project financing, PPG, and Agency fees.

4. Summaries of Climate Change Mitigation Projects and Programs Approved in the Reporting Period

South Africa: *Private Sector Energy Efficiency Programme Phase 2 (PSEEP2)* (GEF ID: 11064); GEF Agency: Development Bank of South Africa; GEF Project financing: \$14,678,968; Co-financing: \$509,000,000. The project will establish and capitalize a risk-sharing facility to foster commercial lending for energy efficiency improvements by SMEs. This project establishes a technical assistance facility, funded in part by a \$1,000,000 STAR allocation, to train SMEs and conduct energy audits. SMEs can then seek loans from approved commercial lenders for investments in lighting, HVAC, motors, refrigeration, and other efficiency projects. The lending will be back-stopped by the risk-sharing guarantee facility, with the commercial lenders accepting 30% of the total risk. The GEF non-grant funding helps capitalize the facility with concessional terms to make the facility attractive to commercial lenders. These risk-sharing facilities are a proven approach, but this project is innovative in focusing on SMEs in an under-served market. Reflows from the GEF non-grant investment are expected to be at least \$12 million with assumed default rate of 7% and could be higher if default rate is lower. The project is expected to support at least 50 energy audits and yield commercial investments in at least 680 companies, benefiting 2,040 people (60% women), leading to mitigation of 83 Mt CO₂ eq.

Barbados: *Accelerating transition to climate-resilient agrifood systems (BATCRAS)* (GEF ID 11270); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$2,627,226 (SCCF-A) and \$875,742 (GEFTF); Co-financing: \$15,000,002. Refer to Annex 3 (Summaries of SCCF Projects and Programs Approved in FY24) for the full summary of this project.

Antigua and Barbuda: *Energy resilience and security for the residential and public sector in Antigua and Barbuda* (GEF ID: 11474). Agency: UNDP. GEF Project financing: \$8,393,151; Co-financing: \$20,132,229. The project will create a sustainable market mechanism for climate-resilient distributed renewable energy systems, resulting in significant installation of such systems in the residential and commercial sectors – including amongst vulnerable populations and in storm shelters. The project focuses on policy and institutional interventions to reduce barriers and promote renewable energy, a bulk purchasing program of photo-voltaic (PV) panels and storage equipment, a revolving loan program to facilitate low-cost access to PV systems (via loans / delayed payment and through equipment distributor partnerships), the establishment of an end-of-life program for responsible disposal of renewable energy equipment, public awareness efforts, and monitoring and knowledge management. The project is expected to mitigate approximately 415,000 t CO₂ eq and benefit approximately 23,000 people directly (including over 15,000 women).

Global (Algeria, Ecuador, Egypt, Malaysia, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines, South Africa): *Global Clean Hydrogen Programme* (GEF ID: 11437); Agency: UNIDO; GEF Project financing: \$13,129,820; Co-financing: \$141,196,891. The Global Clean Hydrogen Programme aims to enhance national institutional capacities, enable policy frameworks, improve technological readiness and financial mechanisms for the successful uptake of clean hydrogen in developing countries, to ensure their net zero development with social considerations and benefits. The programme targets the production and application of hydrogen, with a focus on the industrial and transport sectors. The program's work will focus on green hydrogen and clean will be used as a synonym. The program's key targeted outcomes are: (i) Enhanced clean hydrogen enabling

environment of the participating countries for hydrogen production and local application; (ii) Technical readiness for the production and application (industrial or transport) of clean hydrogen improved; (iii) Industrial clusters and companies with great potential to transition to green hydrogen identified, assessed and support provided; (iv) Pilot projects on green hydrogen developed; (v) Bankable project preparation initiated; (vi) Financial mechanisms for clean hydrogen designed; (vii) Global stakeholders have improved understanding of the green hydrogen sector and south-south cooperation in developing the sector. The Global Clean Hydrogen Programme will support developing countries in achieving their NDCs and meeting their country-specific climate commitments in line with the Paris Agreement goals. The Programme is expected to result in approximately 13.3 tCO₂ eq reductions.

5. Summaries of Climate Change Mitigation Multi-focal Area Projects and Programs Approved in the Reporting Period

Mongolia: *Rehabilitating and conserving the mountain landscapes in Khangai region of Mongolia for improved ecosystem services and community livelihoods* (GEF ID: 11114); Agency: FAO; GEF Project financing: \$2,639,726; Co-financing: \$24,000,000. The project will empower local-national level stakeholders to take actions in rehabilitating degraded lands and promoting community-based natural resources management in the Khangai mountain landscapes of Mongolia. Execution of this project will be overseen by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, leveraging their expertise in environmental policies and legislations, as well as their established institutional framework for environmental management. The project will be implemented and achieve its goals through four main interconnected components (1) informed land management policy and planning – incorporating critical environmental concerns, and strengthening policy implementation and institutional mechanisms; (2) development and demonstration of sustainable and climate-adaptive methods – including nature-based solutions for rehabilitating lands degraded lands; (3) community-based models of sustainable natural resources management – using gender-sensitive approaches for development and demonstration; (4) knowledge management and learning. The project is expected to restore 38,000 hectares of damaged lands, improve the management practices of over 742,850 hectares, mitigate more than 4.9 Mt CO₂ eq over the 20-year period, and directly benefit 14,500 people (49.5 % female).

Sri Lanka: *Promoting sustainable economic benefits through the conservation of critical biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Eastern Coastal Region of Sri Lanka* (GEF ID: 11116); Agency: UNDP; GEF Project financing: \$4,507,534; Co-financing: \$26,500,000. This multi-focal area project is to conserve biodiversity and critical ecosystem services through an integrated, inclusive, and climate-resilient resource management approach that generates commensurate benefits for the local economy and communities in Sri Lanka. It targets two mosaic landscapes that encompass more than 15 protected areas, including five national parks, and host globally significant biodiversity, from coral reef ecosystems to the endangered Asian elephant and endemic toque macaque. The project blends interventions on governance, policies, and institutions with interventions on biodiversity finance at the landscape scale and will support on-the-ground activities within the framework of spatially explicit land and sea management plans. It will strengthen the management effectiveness of 15 terrestrial protected areas and one marine sanctuary over a total ca. 254,000 hectares, and improve practices over 96,000 hectares of terrestrial, coastal,

and marine areas. It will further restore 3,800 hectares of degraded wetland, forest and agricultural lands, mitigate more than 3 Mt CO₂ eq over a 20-year period, and directly benefit 8,500 people.

Global (Colombia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Guinea, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Paraguay, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Zambia): *Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program* (GEF ID 11148); Agencies: World Bank (lead), ADB, CI, IUCN, UNDP, UNEP, WWF-US; GEF Program Financing \$ 135,002,132; Co-financing \$ 892,098,548. The program objective is to conserve wildlife and landscapes by transforming the drivers of species loss and ensuring that countries and communities are benefiting from these natural assets. Integrated and innovative interventions through 15 country-level projects will remove barriers to transforming the way in which people coexist with wildlife and the global supply chains through which wildlife products are traded. The Program has four components or entry points for transformation: 1. Coexistence of people and wildlife in connected habitats; 2. Illegal, unsustainable and high zoonotic risk wildlife use and trade; 3. Wildlife for prosperity; and 4. Coordination and knowledge exchange for transformational impact. The program is expected to create 206,300 ha. of new terrestrial protected areas, improve practices over 19,336,738 ha. of terrestrial protected areas, restore 307,400 ha. of land and ecosystems, mitigate more than 61 Mt CO₂ eq over a 20-year period, and directly benefit 1,068,489 people (544,942 women and 523,547 men).

Brazil: *Restoration of Wetlands and other important Amazonian Ecosystems - Capacity-building, innovation, development and technological transfer for ecological restoration and climate change mitigation* (GEF ID 11167); Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$5,000,000, Co-financing: \$40,910,000. The objective of this project is to restore wetland and lowland forest ecosystems and biodiversity in the Amazon mainland and coast through strengthening capacity for ecosystem restoration, improving the enabling environment, and initiating restoration in overlooked areas of the Amazon. To achieve this objective, the project will deliver four components covering: (1) the development of a Strategic Plan for the restoration of wetland ecosystems in the Amazon, with focus on varzeas and mangroves, and promotion of its adoption by relevant stakeholders to support conservation of these ecosystems and their globally significant biodiversity; (2) the strengthening of technical capacities for ecological restoration and related value chains; 3) the development of technology and generation of background knowledge to improve restoration initiatives in Amazonian wetlands and lowland forest; (4) the restoration of the three targeted ecosystems of the project; (5) the communication of knowledge and project results, as well as good practices in restoration. The global environmental benefits of this project are: i) the restoration of 25,774 hectares in important Amazonian ecosystems; ii) the improved management of at least 1,869,230 hectares, avoiding emissions of 10 million tCO₂ eq. Direct project benefits will be delivered to 1,669 people.

Algeria: *Restoration and forest management of the Algerian pine forest with an integrated participatory approach promoting the Aleppo pine, NWFPs and ecosystem-based adaptation solutions to climate change* (GEF ID 11179). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$ 3,502,968; Co-financing: \$ 24,000,000. To combat land degradation and biodiversity loss partly caused by human activity and exacerbated by droughts, fires, and pest diseases, the project aims to promote inclusive conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of the Algerian Aleppo pine forest ecosystem. The project includes 3 components: i) policy, regulatory and institutional capacity strengthening to enable inclusive forest conservation, sustainable management, and forest

landscape restoration; ii) conservation, sustainable management, and forest landscape restoration across the Algerian Aleppo Pine Forest landscapes; and iii) knowledge management, awareness-raising. The project is expected to provide the following Global Environmental Benefits including 76,500 hectares of forest and forest land under restoration, more than 265,000 hectares of landscapes under sustainable forest management in production systems, and 16 Mt CO₂ eq emissions mitigated. The project will benefit the 850,000 individuals living in vulnerable conditions in the region, 50% of whom are women facing heightened vulnerabilities.

Lesotho: *Sustainable Wool and Mohair Value chain Competitiveness project (WaMCoP)* (GEF ID: 11210); Agency: IFAD; GEF Project Financing: \$5,329,452; Co-financing: \$67,444,000. The project objective is to promote inclusive, biodiversity friendly and environmentally sustainable growth of the wool and mohair value chain by improving sustainable land management, restoration of water and natural ecosystems, biodiversity conservation and catchment management. Through strategic key outcomes related to governance, environmental monitoring, market incentives, development of sustainable standards and Value Chain approaches, the project aims to increase the economic and climate resilience of wool and mohair farmers' livelihood. The expected Global environmental Benefits are: 157,000 ha of degraded land and ecosystems under restoration (including 4,500 ha of agricultural lands, 2,500 ha of forest and 150,000 ha of natural grass and woodlands); 7,000 ha of landscapes under improved practices; and 5 tCO₂ eq of GHG emission mitigated. 225,000 stakeholders are expected to benefit directly from the project (50% women).

Global (Angola, Argentina, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Nauru, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Türkiye, Uganda): *Food Systems Integrated Program (FS IP)* (GEF ID 11214); Agencies: FAO and IFAD (leads), IUCN, UNDP, World Bank; GEF Program Financing: \$ 252,162,398; Co-financing: \$ 2,201,647,507. The FS-IP will address the underlying drivers of unsustainability along the whole length of the food system by applying holistic and integrated approach to transform and strengthen value chains, business models, incentive and finance frameworks, and policy and institutional conditions. The FS-IP will achieve its goal through four interrelated components, including Strengthening the enabling environment to catalyze FS transformation at global, regional, and national levels (P1); Improved and increased financing deployed in support of food system transformation (P2); Transforming the management of landscapes, farming systems and value chains (P3); Leveraging and transforming knowledge systems (P4). The FS IP is expected to restore 870,434 hectares of degraded agricultural lands, forest and forest land, natural grass and woodlands, wetlands; and will improve the management practices of over 13,844,336 hectares of lands through improved management to benefit biodiversity (8,142,528 ha), sustainable land management in production systems (5,4417,194 ha), and HCV forest loss avoided (284,644 ha); and marine protected areas under improved management (4,220 ha). The program will mitigate more than 174 Mt CO₂ eq over the 20-year period, 220 metric tons of highly hazardous pesticides eliminated. Furthermore, the project will directly benefit 3,356,681 people (of which 49.1% are females) providing direct livelihood benefits.

Global (Algeria, Belize, Benin, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Gabon, Guatemala, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe): *Sustainable Cities Integrated Program (GEF ID: 11287)*; Agency: BOAD, DBSA, FAO, IADB, IUCN, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, World Bank; GEF Program Financing:

\$151,840,674; Co-financing: \$1,308,381,941. The program aims to catalyze urban system transformation further by supporting cities and local governments to scale up their political commitment, undertake integrated urban planning, implement policies, and invest in nature-positive, climate-resilient, and carbon-neutral urban development. The SCIP is implemented through three components: 1) Supporting integrated and inclusive urban planning, strategies, and policy development; 2) Promoting investments in sustainable, nature-positive, and resilient urban development and adopting innovative financing mechanisms; and 3) Strengthening knowledge-sharing and capacity-building. the SCIP is expected to mitigate 126 million tons of greenhouse gases, bring 367,802 hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration, 500 hectares under improved management practices and benefit nearly 27 million people in cities.

Global: *IFC/GEF Green Global Supply Chain Decarbonization Platform* (GEF ID 11326); Agency: World Bank; GEF Project Financing: \$14,678,889; Co-financing: 165,300,000. The project goal is to reduce Scope 3 emissions in the textile and apparel sector through a first-of-its-kind Global Supply Chain Decarbonization Platform. Scope 3 emissions, or the indirect GHGs that are emitted across an entire value chain are among the most extensive and challenging to mitigate. The platform proposes a financial mechanism that blends the financing from the IFC, a textile and apparel Brand (private sector company) and the GEF to provide long-term, green-linked loans to manufacturers, suppliers of the brand across emerging markets. The project will also take this opportunity to systematically move participating supplier factories to safer chemical alternatives in production, and to that aim, the GEF project financing includes \$ 1,000,000 for TA from the Chemicals and Waste focal area. The GEF non-grant instrument financing consists of a subordinated loan that will be on-lent alongside senior financing of the IFC to small-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the supply chain of the Brand. To ensure alignment of interests, the Brand will provide a first loss guarantee to the financing from IFC-GEF. Reflows from the GEF non-grant investment are expected to include the proceeds of the annual interest rate of the subordinated loan and the principal. The project is expected to mitigate 3 Mt CO₂ eq of GHG and reduce 0.01 metric ton of mercury while benefitting 150,000 people (80% female).

Ecuador: *Integrated landscape management in the Napo River Basin for sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation* (GEF ID 11333). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$8,982,420; Co-financing: \$51,641,021. The objective of the project is to promote integrated landscape management to achieve SLM and SFM, along with integrated management of water resources, through the improvement of governance, the diversification of livelihoods, the increase of the efficiency of productive systems and the conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity in the Napo River Basin. The project includes three components: i) multilevel governance and articulation framework for territorial management; ii) adoption of practices that contribute to comprehensive landscape management for SLM, SFM and biodiversity conservation; and iii) access to financing mechanisms to scale up actions that contribute to LDN and climate change adaptation. The project is expected to provide the following environmental benefits: 10,000 hectares of newly created terrestrial Protected Areas, 115,000 hectares of terrestrial Protected Areas under improved management effectiveness, 4,020 hectares of degraded agricultural lands under restoration, more than 45,000 hectares of landscapes under improved practices, and 0.6 Mt CO₂ eq emissions mitigated. The project will benefit 7676 individuals (40% women).

Bosnia and Herzegovina: *Introducing Nature Based Solutions to Ensure Resilient Ecosystems, Green Recovery and Sustainable Livelihoods* (GEF ID 11335). Agencies: UNDP, FAO; GEF

Project financing: \$ 4,834,530; Co-financing: \$40,150,000. The project objective is the integrated management of multiple use landscapes in Bosnia and Herzegovina to promote biodiversity conservation, improved land productivity, and economic benefits to local communities. This will be achieved by improving the management of Protected Areas, Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs), and by intervening in land degradation hot spots that support agriculture, forestry, animal-husbandry, and other economic activities. The project's intervention pathways entail improved governance, policies and capacities of institutions, promotion of Integrated Spatial and Land Use Planning (ISLUP); and improved financing and incentives for nature-positive practices. Through an integrated approach, the project aims to: (i) improve management effectiveness of more than 42,000 hectares in fifteen terrestrial protected areas; (ii) improve management effectiveness of over 151,000 hectares of KBAs and identified OECMs through national policies and practices; improve and restore 1,500 ha of degraded agricultural lands; (iii) mitigate more than 2.0 Mt CO₂ eq over 20 years; and (iv) directly benefit 100,000 people (50,000 men and 50,000 women) through improved natural resource management, sustainable agricultural, grazing and forest practices, livelihood improvement, and promotion of small scale enterprises.

Regional (Guyana): *Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3 - Addendum* (GEFID 11337); Agency – FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$3,519,722. Co-financing: \$20,800,000. The Amazon Sustainable Landscape Program (ASL3, GEFID 11198) was approved by the Council in June 2023. The inclusion of Guyana augments the collective efforts of the ASL Program in safeguarding the region's critical ecosystems. The additional Guyana project named “Advancing Guyana’s Development through Improved Forest Management” is aligned with the ASL3’s Theory of change and its four components. In targeted National Protected Areas, it will strengthen management including through the establishment of biodiversity credits mechanisms to fund conservation actions to Indigenous People and Local Communities. Restoration interventions will mainly be conducted in the surroundings of the Iwokrama reserve, severely degraded over the last 50 years by indiscriminate mining activities. The project will be completed by the development of sustainable value chains and will generate lessons from community-based monitoring and sustainable forest management. Guyana will add to the global environmental benefits already determined by the other participant countries: additional 1.8 million hectares of protected areas will improve their management effectiveness, 700 additional hectares will be restored, 200 hectares of landscapes outside PAs will be better managed to benefit biodiversity, generating in total 2.2 Mt CO₂ eq sequestered or emissions avoided; 10,000 beneficiaries are identified.

Global (Grenada, Jordan, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico, Moldova, Panama, Peru, Sri Lanka, St. Kitts and Nevis, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela, Viet Nam): *Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program (CHO-IP)* (GEF ID: 11349) Agency: World Bank, CAF, FAO, IADB, CI, UNEP, UNDP, EBRD, ADB. GEF Program Financing: \$100,338,691. Co-financing: \$748,061,993. The program will aim to curb coastal zone pollution from agriculture, industrial and municipal sources by facilitating and promoting policy and regulatory measures and infrastructure investments, combined with nature-based solutions. In doing so, the program will foster an enabling environment to advance countries’ efforts toward sustainable blue economy goals. The IP will help prevent new marine hypoxic zones, halt further oxygen depletion in current hypoxic zones, and promote innovations to assist countries to restore hypoxia-degraded ecosystems. And it will establish the global, regional, and national architecture to systematically do this within the three IP components: (1) Building awareness and knowledge to stimulate action

and inform decision making; (2) Enhancing policy and investment frameworks to incentivize pollution mitigation; and (3) Upscaling best management practices and investments to showcase effective solutions. The IP will create or put under improved management 520,193 ha of terrestrial protected areas; create or put under improved management 423,251 ha of marine protected areas; restore 96,711 of land and ecosystems; place 1,274,397 ha of landscapes under improved practices; place 6,629,347 ha of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity; mitigate 9,170,093 mt of GHG emissions; put three shared ecosystems under improved cooperative management; reduce 120 mt of chemicals of global concern; and directly benefit 616,752 people.

Regional (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan): *Central Asia Water and Land Nexus (CAWLN) for Ecosystem Restoration, Improved Natural Resource Management, and Increased Resilience* (GEF ID: 11378); Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$26,007,810; Co-financing: \$335,504,935. The program will promote water-land nexus approaches and facilitate their implementation in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya basins to enhance water security, increase resilience and improve rural livelihoods. The targeted key outcomes are: (1) strengthened transboundary and cross-sectoral cooperation within the Amu Darya and Syr Darya basins for advancing a harmonized approach to integrated watershed management (IWM) and exchanging relevant knowledge and best practices and standards across sectors and countries; (2) enhanced national and regional governance frameworks and mechanisms supporting IWM and improved stakeholder capacities to apply nexus approaches in support of national commitments and priorities; (3) improved tools and capacity for earth observation and evidence-based nexus decision making; (4) increased uptake and application of gender-responsive approaches and best practices for sustainable land management in agriculture and ecosystems restoration, including multi-stakeholder mechanisms and incentives, particularly to address LDN; and (5) restoration of key aquatic and terrestrial habitats and ecosystems services, protecting and promoting native biodiversity while improving livelihoods for rural communities. The program will restore 5,350 ha of land and ecosystems; place 1,329,000 ha of landscapes under improved practices; mitigate 11,118,670 t CO₂ eq of GHG emissions; put two shared ecosystems under improved cooperative management; and directly benefit 487,000 people (235,000 women).

Regional (Guinea Bissau, Togo): *Guinean Forests Biome – Addendum* (GEFID – 11391); Agencies - IUCN, FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$10,112,013. Co-financing: \$45,500,000. The Guinean Forests Biome programme was approved by the GEF Council in June 2023. This addendum is composed of two additional projects with “promoting and strengthening effective conservation of the Cantanhez Primary Forests in Guinea Bissau” with IUCN and “Strengthening conservation and resilience of forest landscapes in the subhumid mountainous zone of Togo” with FAO. This addendum will add 380,767 ha of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management in the Cantanhez landscape on the border with Guinea, and in and around the Faza-Malfakassa National Park in Togo; 20,000 ha of lands and ecosystems under restoration; 220,767 ha of terrestrial landscapes under improved practices; 27 Mt CO₂ eq; and 100,000 beneficiaries.

Viet Nam: *Enhancing biodiversity conservation and reducing climate vulnerability in Central Vietnam for sustainable development utilizing a landscape approach* (GEF ID: 11395); Agency: WWF-US; GEF project financing: \$9,000,000; Co-financing: \$ 73,000,000. The project objective is to establish a sustainable, replicable, and collaborative landscape-scale conservation model to promote biodiversity conservation and reducing climate vulnerability in Central Vietnam for sustainable development. The project has three components: Create the enabling environment for

biodiversity conservation via collaborative and adaptive landscape conservation/management approach; Sustainable landscape management, biodiversity conservation and application of innovative tools in key globally important wildlife habitats; Enhanced climate resilience and corridor connectivity; and awareness raising and knowledge management to improve landscape management. The focus of this project will be the Central Vietnam Landscape (CVL) which is a trans-boundary landscape that houses one of the largest continuous natural forest areas in continental Asia, renowned for its unique biodiversity and a natural carbon sink. The CVL transects Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue, and Quang Nam provinces, and the centrally administered municipality of Da Nang. The results expected include: 731,446 hectares of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management; 4,400 hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration; 130,532 hectares of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas); 896,208 CO₂e (direct) and 5,377,250 Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect); and 3000 people benefiting from GEF-financed investments (45% female).

Tajikistan: *Tajikistan Ecosystem Restoration and Resilient Agriculture (TERRA) Project* (GEF ID 11398); Agency: IFAD; GEF Project financing: \$8,019,178; Co-financing: \$11,978,050. The project objective is to generate multiple environmental and socio-economic benefits by applying integrated landscape management approaches for restoration of degraded grassland ecosystems in the Lower Panjriver sub-basin in Khatlon province – a global priority area for ecosystem restoration, and an important production area where trends in land degradation and overall ecosystem health are deteriorating. The effort will result in multiple land degradation neutrality (LDN), biodiversity, as well as climate change adaptation and mitigation benefits through integrated landscape management (ILM) approaches – in areas of high priority for biodiversity conservation. As a result, 14,000 ha of ecosystems will be restored, 117,000 ha of landscapes will be brought under improved management practices for biodiversity benefits, ecosystem management plans implemented for a further 1.3 million ha, protected area management effectiveness enhanced in 128,700 ha of existing reserves – resulting in the sequestration of 3.1 Mt CO₂ eq and supporting improved/sustained livelihoods for 315,000 people (50% women).

Indonesia: *Lake Ecosystem Restoration in Indonesia through Integrated Governance, Landscape, and Community-based Approaches* (GEF ID: 11422); Agency: IFAD; GEF Project financing: \$7,105,936; Co-financing: \$35,000,000. The overall project objective is to strengthen the enabling environment for sustainable lake ecosystem management in Indonesia, demonstration of integrated approaches in priority ecosystems, and upscaling facilitated through improved knowledge sharing and learning. The project will do this by: strengthening the enabling environment for integrated lake ecosystem management and governance; demonstrating multiple environmental and social benefits through implementation of integrated lake ecosystem management; and knowledge management and learning. Innovation will also be realized through demonstrating the role of local producers and communities in effectively managing lake ecosystems, coupling livelihood diversification opportunities and enhanced food and nutrition security with protection and restoration interventions. The demonstrations will ensure a community-driven approach which incorporates local knowledge. The project is expected to support at least the restoration of 6,480 ha, improved management of 130,907 ha of land, and the mitigation of 1.2 Mt CO₂ eq. The project will benefit 10,000 people (50% female).

Iraq: *Restoration and Preservation of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) and Ecosystems in Anbar Province* (GEF ID 11426); Agency: UNDP, GEF project financing: \$5,722,146, Co-financing:

\$ 45,900,000. The objective of the project is to enhance Iraq's natural ecosystem resilience by integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services concerns into environmental land use planning and sustainable land management policies and practices. The project has four components: i) strengthening the enabling environment at national and sub-national levels (Anbar Province) to enhance integrated natural resources management; ii) establishment of protected areas and improved KBA management through comprehensive planning, financing, and adaptive co-management approaches; iii) integrated landscape management and enhanced resilience of natural resource-based livelihoods in Anbar Province; iv) monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management. The global environmental benefits of this project are: i) 388,847 hectares of terrestrial protected areas created; ii) improved management of 11,430,153 hectares to benefit biodiversity; iii) 17,960 t CO₂ eq emissions avoided. It is estimated that 15% of the Anbar population will be directly benefiting from the project activities, i.e., 225,000 (with over 50% women).

Colombia: *BioSouth: The Pacific-Andean-Amazonian Ecological and Cultural Connectivity Corridor* (GEF ID 11432); Agency: UNDP, GEF project financing: \$13,736,697, Co-financing: \$69,060,096. The project's objective is to strengthen the ecological and cultural connectivity of the BioSouth Pacific-Andean-Amazonian Corridor. The project aims to achieve this objective through enhanced environmental governance and sustainable production landscapes. This approach will bring benefits for biodiversity, climate resilience, and local communities, ensuring gender equity and contributing to building peace. This will be achieved through five interrelated components: 1) strengthening governance and sectoral policies for the comprehensive management of biodiversity and climate resilience; 2) improving the conservation and restoration of biodiversity through ecological and cultural connectivity; 3) supporting biocultural sustainable production landscapes for a biodiversity-based economy and climate resilience; 4) promoting knowledge management and learning using an intercultural approach; and 5) Monitoring and Evaluation. This strategy will be implemented in five biodiversity-rich landscapes (Sibundoy Valley, Galeras-La Cocha, Andean, Coastal Piedmont, and Pacific) along the BioSouth Corridor and will deliver the following global environment benefits: i) 136,424 hectares of terrestrial protected areas and 190,282 hectares of marine protected areas under improved management; ii) 5,000 hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration; iii) 150,419 hectares of landscapes under improved practices; iv) 4.9 Mt CO₂ eq emissions mitigated. Three thousand (3,000) people will benefit from the project (50% women and 50% men).

Bolivia. *Support to the Productive Development Bank for the deployment of the Eco-efficiency Credit Programme in Bolivia* (GEF ID 11450). Agency: UNDP; GEF Project financing: \$6,208,382; Co-financing: \$65,123,963. The Banco de Desarrollo Productivo (BDP) Eco-Efficiency Programme is a financial loan product for micro, small, medium, and large enterprises, which aims to accelerate the adoption of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and low-pollution (circular economy) technologies in the agriculture, industrial, tourism, and recycling sectors in Bolivia. The success of the Eco-Efficiency Loan Programme is however currently limited due to financial and non-financial barriers and gaps that this project will tackle. The project's goal and expected paradigm shift is to improve the capacity of private sector firms and financial institutions, and the enabling environment to implement investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency – low emission technologies, and low pollution technologies and measures for the reduction and disposal of hazardous chemicals and waste in the productive sectors of Bolivia. The project addresses identified barriers to successfully implement BDP's Eco-efficiency Program under four

components: i) deployment of BDP credit line and client support services focusing on establishing adequate capacity, systems and networks for the planning, programming and implementation of low emission and/or low pollution technologies, including best available technologies and best environmental practices by private sector stakeholders; ii) development and enhancement of BDP capacities to improve technical expertise, and enable the design and implementation of eco-efficient credit lines; iii) Improvement of the regulatory environment for the adoption of LE/LP technologies for selected industries in Bolivia; and iv) knowledge management and sharing of lessons learned. By scaling up the circular economy model to support a climate-neutral, resource-efficient, and competitive economy, the project will benefit directly at least 3,600 people (1,800 women and 1,800 men) and generate global environmental benefits related to the reduction of more than 1.5 Mt CO₂ eq emissions directly and 2.5 Mt CO₂ eq emissions indirectly, while also eliminating hazardous chemicals and waste, including 0.414 metric tons of brominated flame retardants from waste electrical and electronic equipment and 12.55 gTEQ of UPOPs.

Regional (Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal): *Transformation Approach to Large Scale Investment in Support of the Implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative- TALSISI-GGW* (GEF ID: 11455); GEF Agency: UNEP, BOAD; GEF Program Financing: \$77,888,167 (LDCF- \$38,707,662; GEF TF- \$39,180,505); Co-financing: \$2,998,018,615. The Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) is a pan-African initiative that has evolved over the last decade into an integrated ecosystem management approach addressing the root causes of environmental degradation and strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities to the impacts of climate change. The program's objective is to restore landscapes and ecosystem services for resilient communities living in arid and semi-arid environments across the GGW region of the Sahel using a transnational and coordinated approach, supported by adaptation activities, and strengthened local and regional capacity for Sustainable Land Management (SLM), Natural Resource Management (NRM), and knowledge-sharing. Building on the existing baseline in the GGW Sahel countries, the program aims to achieve its objective through four interrelated components: 1) Strengthening the enabling environment for gender-responsive, climate-resilient restoration of landscapes across the Sahel; 2) Leveraging sustainable finance for scaling up investment in Climate Change Adaptation (CCA); 3) Increasing the resilience of ecosystems and communities through SLM practices, NRM, and Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA); and 4) Enhancing knowledge management and information dissemination across the GGW countries. The program will directly improve climate change adaptation of 4,850,250 beneficiaries (52% women) and bring 394,000 hectares of land under climate resilient management. It will bring 2,621,000 hectares of terrestrial protected areas under improved management; restore 264,800 hectares of land and ecosystems; implement improved practices across 6,938,600 hectares of landscapes; and mitigate 550,000 t CO₂ eq of Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

Global (Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Suriname, Ukraine): *Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development* (GEF ID: 11467); Agencies: World Wildlife Fund-US (lead), ADB, UNEP; GEF Program Financing: \$ 23,794,476; Co-financing: \$ 408,915,662. The objective of the Program is to advance the transition towards sustainable transportation infrastructure that safeguards and enhances key coastal, marine, and terrestrial ecosystems. The program is organized around four components: (1) improved enabling conditions for nature-positive/sustainable transportation infrastructure, (2) integrated and inclusive transportation infrastructure planning, (3) finance and de-risking mechanisms, (4) knowledge management, communications, and project and

program-level coordination. The program is expected to improve management of terrestrial protected areas covering 259,469 hectares, to restore 30,740 hectares of land and ecosystems, to improve management of 582,200 hectares to benefit biodiversity, to improve management of 71,976 hectares of marine habitat to benefit biodiversity. An estimated 8,115,017 expected tCO_{2e} is expected to be mitigated by Program activities. The program will also directly benefit 267,858 people (53% women).

Global (Palau, Rwanda). *Global Programme to Support Countries to Upscale Integrated Electric Mobility Systems - Addendum* (GEFID – 11516); Agencies – UNEP; GEF Program Financing: \$3,120,509. Co-financing: \$8,150,000. The GEF-8 Global Programme to Support Countries to Upscale Integrated Electric Mobility Systems was approved in June 2023 at the 64th GEF Council, aiming to (i) widen the set of countries working on the subject, (ii) support investment into upscaled integrated e-mobility projects and (iii) establish a global framework to address key challenges related to used electric vehicles, end-of-life electric vehicles and batteries & circularity. This PDF Addendum will onboard two additional countries, Palau, and Rwanda, further expanding the program’s coverage for SIDS and LDCs and bringing the total GEF financing for the GEF-8 program to over \$25 million. With this Addendum, the 2 additional countries are expected to generate additional reductions of more than 1 Mt CO₂ eq and to directly benefit 29,510 people (out of which 45% are women).

6. Summaries of CBIT Projects Approved in the Reporting Period

Uruguay: *Building institutional and technical capacities to meet the commitments under the Paris Agreement’s Enhanced Transparency Framework (CBIT 2.0)*. (GEF ID: 11306, UNDP, GEF Project Grant: \$ 2,085,500, Co-financing: \$ 1,100,000). The second CBIT Project in Uruguay will build on the progress made on its first CBIT project by enhancing the quality, transparency, and completeness of the technical inputs that are needed to report in the Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs): in terms of improving GHG inventories, impacts on climate change adaptation, the registry of support needed and received, and to update and implement the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) with as much institutional and technical capacity, information and data as possible, walking along a path to reach a climate resilient and low-carbon development. Gender, with an intersectional approach, will be mainstreamed into the project’s activities to be aligned with national climate change gender planning, including but not limited to activities related to strengthening of capacities via peer-to-peer exchanges.

Turkmenistan: *Strengthening the capacity of Turkmenistan to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement (CBIT 1.0)*. (GEF ID 11070, FAO, GEF Project Grant: \$ 1,995,250, Co-financing: \$ 600,000). The project aims to develop Turkmenistan’s institutional and human capacities for complying with Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) reporting requirements of the Paris Agreement, and implementation and monitoring of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) included GHG inventory, mitigation and adaptation activities for Biennial Transparency Reporting as well as transparency considerations on Article 6 and tracking climate finance and long-term Low Emissions and Development Strategies (LT-LEDS).

Türkiye: *Strengthening the capacity of the Republic of Türkiye to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) for measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) of climate*

change actions based on Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) (CBIT 1.0). (GEF ID: 11319, FAO, GEF Project Grant: \$ 2,185,250, Co-financing: \$ 1,210,000). The project aims to develop institutional and individual capacity building in the Republic of Türkiye to comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement by tracking the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) mitigation and adaptation actions and supporting the formulation of long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (LT-LEDS). The project has four components to strengthening national capacities for GHG inventories, mitigation, and adaptation actions for the country's Biennial Transparency Reports. Gender mainstreaming and the participation of the public, local administration, private sector, and non-governmental organizations in national, and international climate change actions are assessed throughout the project.

Global: *Building global capacity to increase transparency in the forest sector (CBIT-Forest): accelerating capacity-building, knowledge sharing and awareness raising (CBIT 2.0).* (GEF ID: 11308, FAO, GEF Project Grant: \$ 2,190,000, Co-financing: \$ 5,176,416). The project will build on the experience and results from the first CBIT- Global Forest project (GEF ID 10071; implemented between 2020 and 2022) focusing on developing capacities to work towards open and transparent data through innovative global composite learning programs; sharing knowledge surrounding forests and transparency; and cementing networks regionally and with new partners such as academia to ensure sustainability and transparency of forest reporting. National and global actors will have access to the best possible forest-related data, which will allow countries to report the latest information they have at any point in time. The project aims to support 1000 individuals, 20 national governments directly, and more broadly, 236 countries and territories that are part of the beneficiaries of the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) National Correspondent Network.

Mongolia: *Enhancing climate change transparency in Mongolia (CBIT 2.0).* (GEF ID: 11377, FAO, GEF Project Grant: \$ 2,000,000, Co-financing: \$1,408,000). The project aims to extend its support from the first CBIT project, towards the implementation and update of NDC measures and enhancing national capacity for reporting under ETF focusing on AFOLU and other sectors of the NDC. The project will achieve this objective by developing an integrated institutional capacity and data management system to coordinate the national ETF reporting, updating NDC and related policies including Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) (component 1); technical capacity building for regular BTR reporting, and ETF review processes (component 2); and enhancing transparency through knowledge dissemination (component 3). This project is expected to contribute to implementing priority NDC actions and low carbon emitting economic growth in the country in the long term. The expected People benefiting from GEF-financed project will be 350, of which 60% will be women, and remaining will be men.

Global: *Global capacity building towards enhanced transparency (CBIT-AFOLU+)* (CBIT 2.0). (GEF ID: 11316, GEF Project Grant: \$ 2,190,000, Co-financing: \$ 1,500,000). Via a gender-sensitive approach, the project will run country capacity gaps and needs assessments to support the institutionalization of their Biennial Transparency Report's (BTR) elaboration and timely submission. The project will also support countries on building capacities around the technical expert review (TER) through a program that will make use of the BTR Guidance and Roadmap Tool. In addition, gender-inclusive technical capacity building modules will be implemented to address the Modalities, Procedures, and Guidelines (MPGs) requirements for GHG inventory,

Adaptation Communications, and NDC implementation with the use of the NDC Tracking Tool. CBIT AFOLU+ will support the engagement of focal points of the CBIT projects implemented by FAO in the Climate Transparency Platform of the CBIT GSP.

ANNEX 3: LIST OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS UNDER THE LDCF AND SCCF APPROVED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

This Annex provides lists and summaries of projects and programs on CCA approved under the LDCF and SCCF in the reporting period.

1. List of LDCF Projects and Programs Approved in the Reporting Period

Table A3.1: LDCF Projects and Programs with PIFs Approved in the Reporting Period

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	LDCF Amount* (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11453	Benin	AfDB	Promoting Social and Ecological Resilience in Land-Water-Food systems in Blue Economy Sectors in Benin	10.00	41.12	51.12
11365	Burkina Faso	IFAD	Program to strengthen smallholder resilience to climate change (RESI-2P)	10.00	105.61	115.61
11397	Burundi	World Bank	Scaling up Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience and Land Restoration across Burundi's fragile colline landscapes	20.00	100.00	120.00
11400	Cambodia	FAO	Building climate resilience of communities in Cambodia's protected landscapes: biodiversity-friendly crop-livestock systems for adaptation ⁺	7.0	21.5	28.5
11423	CAR	IFAD	Livestock Support for Climate Change Adaptation and Enhanced Resilience Project (LISCADERP) in Central African Republic	10.0	35.5	45.5
11416	Ethiopia	UNEP	Scaling up the Green Legacy Initiative best practices to enhance the climate resilience of smallholder farmers and disadvantaged groups in Ethiopia	10.0	27.5	37.5
11399	Lao PDR	FAO	Climate Change Adaptation in Lowlands of Lao PDR	5.4	20.0	25.4
11387	Lesotho	IUCN	Nature based solutions for increased climate resilience in Vulnerable Rural communities of Lesotho	10.0	65.4	75.4

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	LDCF Amount* (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11447	Liberia	UNDP	Strengthening Agricultural Resilience Through Transformational Livelihood Adaptation in Liberia (SARTLA)	10.0	103.9	113.9
11436	Malawi	UNDP	Championing Local Adaptation for Productive Ecosystems and Enhanced Resilience (CLAP for Resilience)	10.0	55.4	65.4
11419	Mozambique	IFAD	Artisanal Fisheries Resilient Development Project (PROPEIXE)	10.0	54.4	64.4
11401	Nepal	FAO	Climate Resilient Transformation of Rice-based Farming and Food Systems in Central Nepal (CRAFT Nepal)	10.0	10.0	20.0
11409	Niger	FAO	Integrated management of the doumeraie of the Goulbi N'kaba watershed and adjacent ecosystems (Maradi region)	10.0	48.9	58.9
11446	Rwanda	UNDP	Building Community Resilience and Transforming Livelihoods through Systems-based Adaptation and Integrated Resource Management in Rwanda's Southern Province	20.0	67.1	87.1
11322	South Sudan	FAO	Climate Adaptation and Resilience Enhancement for South Sudan (CARES)	10.0	24.1	34.1
11418	South Sudan	IFAD	Strengthening Adaptation through Institutional Building and Resilient Livelihoods in South Sudanese Agro-pastoral Landscapes (SABRELA)	10.0	40.4	50.4
11489	Tanzania	FAO	Sustainable Land Management and improved Community Resilience in Dryland areas and livestock migratory hotspots of Tanzania	10.0	27.0	37.0
11576	Sierra Leon	World Bank	Third Additional Financing to the Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP)	20.0	60.0	80.0
11575	Guinea	World Bank	Guinea Water and Sanitation Project	11.0	200.0	211.0

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	LDCF Amount* (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11573	Lao PDR	WWF-US	Enhancing Integrated Watershed Management and Climate Resilience for Vulnerable Communities in the Nam-Poui, Nam-Poun, Nam-Lay and Nam-Houng Basins in Lao PDR	7.6	1.6	9.2
11564	Somalia	UNDP	Building Urban Resilience to Climate Change and Transitioning to Green Economy in Somalia	13.0	37.3	50.3
11552	Sao Tome and Principe	World Bank	Sao Tome e Principe – Development of the Transport and Coastal Protection Sector	14.0	30.0	44.0
11550	Chad	IFAD	Strengthening the resilience of smallholder farmers and ecosystems to the effects of climate change (STRADAP)	10.0	35.3	43.3
11545	Angola	FAO	Strengthening climate resilience of communities in Angola through community-based adaptation action	10.0	41.9	51.9
11544	Sao Tome and Principe	UNDP	Enhance the adaptative capacity to floods and water security in São Tomé and Principe	6.0	24.2	30.2
11532	Gambia	UNEP	Climate-resilient Banjul: Enhancing Urban Resilience in the Greater Banjul Area (CLIMB)	14.0	35.4	49.4
11522	Comoros	UNDP	Increased Access to Water Supply for Resilience in Comoros (IAWASuR)	10.0	63.0	73.0
11489	Tanzania	FAO	Sustainable Land Management and improved Community Resilience in Dryland areas and livestock migratory hotspots of Tanzania	9.0	27.0	36.0
11332	Cambodia	UNDP	Building resilient livelihoods through nature-based solutions in the Tonle Sap Basin and Siem Reap/Phnom Kulen landscape	7.5	15.0	22.5
11566	Global (Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Somalia)	UNIDO	Programme for innovation in climate adaptation and resilience building solutions (PARS)	33.7	138.0	171.7

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	LDCF Amount* (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11455	Regional (Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal)	UNEP, BOAD	Transformation Approach to Large Scale Investment in Support of the Implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative- TALSISI-GGWI	43.1	216.2	259.3
11396	Zambia	WB	Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia [†]	8.0	87.2	95.2
11498	Global	UNIDO	Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Programme in Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	1.8	1.2	3.0
LDCF projects and programs Subtotal				391.1	1,861.1	2,260.2

*: Includes GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees.

†: This is an MTF project/program. Only the LCDF component is included.

2. List of SCCF Projects and Programs Approved in the Reporting Period

Table A3.2: SCCF Projects and Programs with PIFs Approved in the Reporting Period

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	SCCF Amount* (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)
11270	Barbados	FAO	Accelerating transition to climate-resilient agrifood systems+	3.0	15.0	18.0
11402	Dominican Republic	FAO	Land Degradation Neutrality for Increased Resilience to Climate Change in Dominican Republic+	3.0	15.2	18.2
11411	Maldives	FAO	A Holistic Approach to Food Systems Resilience and Adaptation	3.0	3.0	6.0
11412	Regional	FAO	Climate Change Resilience in the Caribbean Fisheries Sector (CC4FISH-II)	14.0	85.8	99.8
11499	Global	UNIDO	Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Programme in Developing Countries	1.9	1.6	3.5
SCCF projects and programs Subtotal				24.9	120.6	145.5

*: Includes GEF project financing, PPG, and Agency fees.

†: This is an MTF project/program. Only the SCCF.

3. Summaries of LDCF Projects and Programs Approved in the Reporting Period

Benin: *Promoting Social and Ecological Resilience in Land-Water-Food systems in Blue Economy Sectors in Benin* (GEF ID 11453); GEF Agency: AFDB; GEF project financing: \$9,781,000; Co-financing: \$41,116,800. The project aims to enhance the resilience of the fisheries sector to climate change by implementing comprehensive adaptive strategies, strengthening institutional capacities, and advancing community-driven approaches. Through a multifaceted approach, the project seeks to catalyze community-centric initiatives, with consideration for the elevation of women’s roles, harness climate-smart innovations and resilient infrastructure, while providing the platform to foster knowledge sharing at the local, national, and regional levels. Overall, the project will introduce adaptation measures that will restore and build the resilience of ecosystems affecting fisheries resources, strengthen capacities, and resilience in aquatic food systems, and support effective knowledge management, communications and adaptive management for Benin’s fisheries resources. The project will deliver significant adaptation benefits to at least 1.2 million beneficiaries (50% women), strengthen the management of 65,000 hectares of coastal and marine areas for climate resilience, enhance the knowledge and capacity of 10,000 people (50% women), reinforce 8 key policies, plans, frameworks, and institutions for climate adaptation, and engage at least 10 private sector enterprises in climate adaptation efforts.

Burkina Faso: *Program to strengthen smallholder resilience to climate change (RESI-2P)* (GEF ID: 11365); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF Project Financing: \$ 8,932,420; Co-financing: \$ 105,610,400. The project aims to enhance the adaptive capacity of the agriculture sector in Burkina Faso through innovative agro-ecological adaptation solutions, improved governance, increased investments, and a whole-of-society approach, delivering food security and sustainable livelihoods. The interventions target two impacts which include resilient production systems and strengthening of value addition and market access for products based on sustainable solutions. These two impacts will be delivered in a synergistic manner to create both a “pull” effect from the market asking for more sustainable products and a “push” effect with sustainable products readily available. The total LDCF financing requested by IFAD for Burkina Faso for this project is \$ 10 million which will leverage an IFAD loan of nearly \$ 92 million which will run parallel to the LDCF investments for the period of 2024-2031. The project will deliver several benefits and co-benefits in terms of increased adaptive capacity, environmental restoration, and social inclusion. It will benefit 109,000 people (45 percent and 50 percent young people) in 36,556 poor rural households in Burkina Faso. The project investments cover 36 municipalities in two regions, the North and the Centre-West and will also support improved management of 30,802 ha of agriculture land.

Burundi: *Scaling up Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience and Land Restoration across Burundi’s fragile colline landscapes* (GEF ID 11397); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF project financing: \$ 18,348,624 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$ 100,000,000. The objective of the project is to scale-up integrated landscape management and enhance livelihood resilience of fragile communities in target collines (hills) of Burundi. This multisector rural development project focuses on Burundi’s most at-risk rural hillsides to address the vulnerability of colline communities influenced by multiple overlapping challenges, including demography, conflict, and national economic fragility. The project will strengthen/establish enabling environment for climate resilience, improved integrated management of priority at-risk watersheds, and enhance the

livelihood resilience of targeted communities. The project will also support the Government of Burundi to strengthen its capacity to anticipate, monitor, and act on intensifying climate change and land degradation risks while strengthening climate-resilient livelihoods to improve the economic prospects of households in targeted areas. The project will have a strong synergy with other World Bank's cross-sector investments in Burundi and other development partners' projects related to climate resilience and land certification in Burundi. The project is expected to benefit 250,000 people (50 percent female), place 203,000 hectares of land area under improved practices and climate resilient management, develop/strengthen 5 national policies/plans/ institutions frameworks and train 19,097 people (60 percent male).

Cambodia: *Building climate resilience of communities in Cambodia's protected landscapes: biodiversity-friendly crop-livestock systems for adaptation* (GEF ID: 11400); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$6,237,138 (LDCF), \$1,782,040 (GEFTF LD); Co-financing: \$21,500,000. The main objective of the project is to strengthen climate resilience of local communities, ecosystems, and livelihoods in protected landscapes in a manner compatible with biodiversity conservation goals through integrated approach. The project will be implemented in two protected areas of Boeung Per Wildlife Sanctuary and Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary within the Northern Tonle Sap basin. The project complements GCF-funded "Public-Social-Private Partnerships for Ecologically-Sound Agriculture and Resilient Livelihood in the Northern Tonle Sap Basin (PEARL) to strengthen climate resilient management of ecosystems, farmlands, and livestock. The interventions will directly benefit 84,835 people (50% women), restore 2,000 hectares of degraded land while bringing at least 92,300 ha of community protected areas under sustainable land management practices.

Central African Republic: *Livestock Support for Climate Change Adaptation and Enhanced Resilience Project (LISCADERP) in Central African Republic* (GEF ID 11423); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$35,450,000. The objective of this project is to strengthen the climate resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral communities by improving agriculture and livestock systems in eight Prefectures in Central African Republic. This will be achieved by enhancing an enabling environment for resilient livestock farming systems; strengthening gender-responsive community resilience by improving the resilience of livestock value chains; and improving gender-responsive financial investment flows to livestock and crop sectors. This project will draw learning on good practice for engaging across government, local communities, and other stakeholders to strengthen the resilience of the livestock sector to climate impacts, in a context of political instability and widespread extreme poverty. An innovative aspect of this project will be to improve the access of local communities, livestock producers and small holder farmers to financial services, capital, and accessible credit to enable their transition to more climate resilient practices. The project is expected to benefit 150,000 people (50 percent female), place 41 million hectares of agriculture land under climate resilient management, create 2 policies and plans, train 18,000 people (50% female), and engage 6 enterprises.

Ethiopia: *Scaling up the Green Legacy Initiative best practices to enhance the climate resilience of smallholder farmers and disadvantaged groups in Ethiopia* (GEF ID 11416); GEF Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Financing: \$8,932,420 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$27,500,000. The project aims to strengthen the climate resilience of Ethiopia's vulnerable communities in midlands and highlands through ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA). It will directly complement the Green Legacy Initiative (GLI) of the Ethiopian government which is aimed at socio-economic upliftment

of the population through nature-based solutions and the restoration of forest ecosystems. The proposed project will inform Phase 2 of the GLI, thereby ensuring that the socio-economic objectives are achieved under current and future climate conditions. The project will support scaling up climate-resilient GLI best practices, forest, and agricultural landscape management for ecological and socioeconomic resilience in Ethiopia's midlands and highlands and climate-resilient agricultural and nature-based livelihoods. It will address both urgent and future adaptation needs of the targeted beneficiaries by combining climate-sensitive restoration and management of upstream forests and agro-ecological landscapes with resilient agricultural and natural resource-based livelihoods downstream. The project will directly contribute to Ethiopia's climate adaptation objectives described in its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and set the country on a path towards building a resilient green economy. The project will be implemented in three Regions within 6 Districts (Woredas) across 67,200 ha of Ethiopia's midlands and highlands, benefitting 300,000 people (at least 50% women).

Lao PDR: *Climate Change Adaptation in Lowlands of Lao PDR.* (GEF ID 11399); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$4,781,507 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$20,000,000. The project aims to strengthen climate resilience of lowland communities in four districts of Sanamxay, B Chiangchaleunsook, Paksong and Pathoomphone given its economic significance to the country while increasingly exposed to climate extremes. Climate-smart and nature-based adaptation approaches in agrifood systems are the central focus of the project. It will collaborate with different stakeholders to promote "whole of society" approaches. The project draws upon lessons from the past GEF LDCF investments and expected to contribute towards strengthening collaboration with upcoming GCF investment to scale up and enhance agrometeorological advisory and early warning systems. The project is expected to directly benefit 138,000 people (50% women), bring 17,800 ha of land under climate resilience management, adopt 21 policies/plans/frameworks/institutions to strengthen climate adaptation and train 10,000 (50% women). In addition, the project will engage 4 private sector enterprises in climate change adaptation action.

Lesotho: *Nature based solutions for increased climate resilience in Vulnerable Rural communities of Lesotho* (GEF ID 11387). GEF Agency: IUCN; GEF project financing: \$ 8,974,312 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$ 65,357,500. Lesotho's economy and livelihood sectors including tourism, forestry, health, industry, ecosystems, and urban development are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, leading to the loss of vital ecosystem services, which threatens the survival of poor and rural communities. The project will implement structured nature-based solutions for increased climate change resilience, sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation in vulnerable rural communities of Lesotho. Through the project, existing barriers including weak implementation of policies and legislation, lack of capacities for effective implementation of NbS, and weak coordination mechanisms will be addressed by supporting the mainstreaming of NbS into policy and institutions for systemic and transformative uptake in national and community adaptation, mitigation and management of climate change impacts, biodiversity loss and land management. The project will also support the application of co-designed NbS and related integrated approaches for climate resilience, ecosystems and livelihoods development and sustainable land management. The project will achieve this through deployment of innovative financial instruments with the involvement of communities including youth and women. If implemented correctly, the project will directly benefit 300,000 people (60 percent female), manage 50,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen 5 climate

adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, and train or raise the awareness of 10,000 people (60 percent women) on climate change adaptation.

Liberia: Strengthening Agricultural Resilience Through Transformational Livelihood Adaptation in Liberia (SARTLA) GEF ID 11447); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$9,781,000; Co-financing: \$103,938,106. The objective of the SARTLA is to build climate resilience in natural-resource dependent rural communities of Liberia through systems-based, transformational adaptation in the agricultural, fisheries and ecotourism sectors. Specifically, the project will support the restoration of degraded ecosystems, work closely with local communities to co-develop locally appropriate livelihood options that maximize the productivity of food systems through value chain development interventions, and design and operationalize sustainable, innovative, and private sector-driven business and engagement models focused on climate-resilient livelihood improvement under UNDP's existing Growth Accelerator program. The project will deliver adaptation benefits to vulnerable communities in the agriculture and fisheries sectors, targeting 99,460 vulnerable people (56.36% women). The Project is also expected to place 3,640 hectares of land under climate resilient management, support the development of 3 inclusive adaptation policies relevant to the fisheries sectors, train 81,800 people (55.01% women) and engage 30 private enterprises.

Malawi: *Championing Local Adaptation for Productive Ecosystems and Enhanced Resilience (CLAP for Resilience)* (GEF ID: 11436); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$55,400,000. The project aims to support climate change adaptation of communities through integrated watershed-based approaches to rejuvenate agriculture and enhance investments in climate resilient livelihoods in partnership with the private sector. It will focus on the Bua River landscape in the Central Region of Malawi whose communities are among the most vulnerable to climate change impacts. It will strengthen resilience of 105,000 people with 56% of women and bring over 108,000 hectares of land under climate resilient management by strengthening governance of natural resources at local level for climate resilience, scaling up climate resilient agriculture practices and protection and restoration work in the Bua River catchments and adjacent riparian areas and wetlands, engaging private sector to strengthen climate resilient value chains and supporting participatory planning and a sustainable knowledge management system for durability of project outcomes. It will support private sector through a dedicated private sector engagement facility under the Malawi's Special Climate Change Finance and adopt innovative technologies such as remote sensing and use of integrated climate information services for climate-informed integrated planning, and policy coherence in management and monitoring of the ecosystem. Its activities will also contribute to whole-of-society approach with a focus on institutional strengthening and capacity building efforts at all levels; and building partnerships with local organizations and systems to address social equity.

Mozambique: *Artisanal Fisheries Resilient Development Project (PROPEIXE)* (GEF ID 11419); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF project financing: \$9,781,000; Co-financing: \$54,448,000. The objective of the project is to increase the sustainability and climate resilience of fishery value chains, by upscaling and promoting climate resilient technologies/practices, restoration of degraded ecosystems while also supporting diversification of green alternative livelihoods in five coastal provinces of Mozambique. By targeting climate resilient infrastructure, innovative mariculture technologies, improved climate information systems and gender-sensitive climate change adaptation initiatives, LDCF investments will complement IFAD's efforts, creating a

synergistic impact. The collaboration between LDCF and IFAD will ensure that climate resilience is integrated into the broader development framework, fostering transformational change in the artisanal fishery sector, and enhancing the overall sustainability and adaptive capacity of the communities. The project's focus on climate proofing and greening the fishery value chain and supporting local MSMEs through a graduation approach based on climate smart fishing techniques/practices to improve climate resilience are innovative. The transformative initiative emphasizes capacity development, research and development and policy development to enhance climate change adaptation in ecosystems. The Project is expected to bring positive adaptation benefits to 90,000 vulnerable people (50 percent women), place 2,000 hectares of coastal and marine area under climate resilient management, support the development of 14 inclusive adaptation policies relevant to the fisheries sectors, train 30,000 people (30 percent women) and engage 1,080 private enterprises.

Nepal: *Climate Resilient Transformation of Rice-based Farming and Food Systems in Central Nepal (CRAFT Nepal)* (GEF ID 11401); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$10,000,000. The project will promote transformation toward climate-resilient rice-based production landscapes in four districts of Mahottari, Sarlahi, Nuwakot and Parasi in central Nepal. It will address climate change induced problems at the landscape level to transform the rice-based cropping systems from subsistence-based low production to a more commercial model by promoting climate resilient production systems through inclusive, climate resilient value chains and Nature-based Solutions (NbS). The project promotes partnerships with all levels of governments, farming communities, cooperatives, and private sector actors to enable a whole-of-society approaches to improve value addition and supply chain infrastructure for rice-based systems. The project is expected to directly benefit 148,000 (59% Women) people, bring 10,000 ha of land under the climate resilience management, adopt 22 policies, plans, and frameworks that mainstream climate resilience and train or raise awareness for 4,840 (79% Women) people. In addition, 60 private sector enterprises will be engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience actions.

Niger: *Integrated management of the doumeraie of the Goulbi N'kaba watershed and adjacent ecosystems (Maradi region)* (GEF ID 11409); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$48,880,000. The objective of this project is to improve the climate resilience of rural populations through the restoration and integrated management of the Goulbi N'Kaba and adjacent ecosystems. This will be achieved by strengthening governance and integrated planning for climate-resilient development of rural communities; restoring forests and landscapes of rural communities; and strengthening climate resilient agro-sylvo-pastoral livelihoods. A central focus of the project is to ensure that restored ecosystems, the natural resources base and the communities that depend on them for their lives and livelihoods become more resilient to current and anticipated climate change impacts. A key to this project's success is the communal approach, in which municipalities are both the project owners of the actions and investments planned, as well as responsible for the execution of the activities they will carry out. The project is expected to benefit 301,320 people (50 percent female), place 270 million hectares of agriculture land under climate resilient management, create 19 policies and plans, train 150,000 people (50% female), and engage 150 enterprises.

Rwanda: *Building Community Resilience and Transforming Livelihoods through Systems-based Adaptation and Integrated Resource Management in Rwanda's Southern Province* (GEF ID:

11446), GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: 18,048,624; Co-financing: 67,100,000. The project aims to enhance climate change resilience for communities in Rwanda's Southern Province through sustainable livelihoods, integrated land management and improved access to finance. It will introduce an integrated approach to landscape management that will strengthen food and livelihood security under future climate conditions by building resilience across various sectors, landscapes, and value chains. It prioritizes value chain development, market access enhancement and the integration of water management and circular agriculture systems into local-level development plans, supporting national objectives in poverty reduction, sustainable land management and forest resource conservation. The project will also advance green investments and private sector engagement, in line with the GEF 8 priority and Rwanda's NDC. It will be implemented in collaboration with the GCF and will directly contribute to the Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration between the GCF and GEF. By contributing to GEF-GCF partnerships and streamlining knowledge-sharing and public and private investments, the project will generate long-lasting adaptation outcomes and impacts adaptation benefits. The project is expected to benefit 578,268 people, bring 6000 hectares of land under resilient management, and directly support at least 25 private sector enterprises.

South Sudan: *Climate Adaptation and Resilience Enhancement for South Sudan (CARES)* (GEF ID 11322); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$ 8,932,420 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$ 24,132,520. The complex dynamics between climate change, inadequate resource management, and low agricultural productivity in South Sudan due to recurring droughts, unpredictable rainfall patterns, and flash floods perpetuate environmental degradation, vulnerability, ecosystem fragility, communal conflicts over access to natural resources, and climate change induced migration. In addressing these challenges, the project will promote climate adaptation in the agricultural sectors by implementing nature-based solutions, integrated land use planning, and climate services to deliver food security and sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable people in areas prone to climate-related impacts. It will also leverage South Sudan's significant agricultural and forestry potential to enhance resilience and promote sustainable development by balancing the needs of farmers, pastoralists, and ecological preservation. The project will achieve its aim by implementing comprehensive measures, including capacity building, policy enhancements, multi-stakeholder dialogues, innovation promotion, and improve financial access in a conflict-sensitive manner to enhance resilience to climate change impacts and effectively address pressing societal challenges such as human health, food and water security, and disaster risk reduction. The project will further empower women across the agricultural value chain using gender-sensitive approaches including inclusive access to land, water, agricultural inputs, and finance. If implemented successfully, the project is expected to directly benefit 220,000 people (50 percent female), manage 1,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen 4 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 120,000 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation, and engage 4 private enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

South Sudan: *Strengthening Adaptation through Institutional Building and Resilient Livelihoods in South Sudanese Agro-pastoral Landscapes (SABRELA)* (GEF ID 11418); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$40,430,000. The objective of the project is to strengthen the agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and improve capacities for natural resources management while enhancing the resilience of the socioecological contexts of selected states in South Sudan. With this objective, the project will focus on improving

livelihoods through agriculture, peace building via asset building, and strengthening institutional capacity to improve sustainable management of natural resources. This will be achieved by focusing on strengthening policy and institutional capacities to support the growth and transformation of agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable rural communities in support of resilience building and resources management. The project will also support a private sector led market systems to build absorptive and adaptive capacities of local communities. To enhance community resilience and adaptive capacities, the project will support diversified and gender-responsive climate resilient livelihood opportunities and market driven agro-pastoral strategies including financial service models that are adaptable and tailored to the scales of production of communities to benefit vulnerable households. The project will employ Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to strengthen the adaptive capacities of the socioecological systems - taking advantage of the potential of NbS in providing socioeconomic benefits, while mitigating climate change, preserve biodiversity, and improve ecosystem resilience. The project is expected to directly benefit 20,000 people (50 percent female), manage 20,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen 3 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, and train or raise the awareness of 2,000 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation.

Tanzania: *Upscaling ecosystem-based adaptation to enhance ecosystem services and community adaptive capacity in Tanzania's Greater Serengeti Ecosystem* (GEF ID: 11531); GEF Agency: UNEP; GEF Project financing: \$9,767,264 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$24,250,000. The objective of the project is to create a transformative change in the climate resilience of rural crop and livestock farmers in the Greater Serengeti Ecosystem (GSE) by creating a sustainable model for upscaling successful Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) and community-based land management. The project is designed in respond to the impact of climate change that is exacerbating ecosystem degradation in Mara, Simiyu, and Arusha, diminish the resilience of critical ecosystems and increase the vulnerability of crop and livestock farming communities living in this region by causing economic insecurity and increased losses in livestock and agricultural productivity. The project will build resilience within the GSE using an integrated approach that combines strategies such as capacity strengthening, land use planning, ecosystem restoration, livelihood diversification, sustainable financing, and knowledge management at various levels (national, sub-national, and grassroots). The sustainability of project interventions will be facilitated by unlocking finance for climate adaptation at a local level. The successful implementation of this project activities is expected to directly benefit approximately 449,987 people (52 percent female), manage 24,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen 25 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 113,118 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation, and engage 8 private sector enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

Somalia: *Building Urban Resilience to Climate Change and Transitioning to Green Economy in Somalia* (GEF ID: 11564); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$ 12,673,000 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$37,300,000.0. Climate crises in Somalia have been shown to exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and social marginalization of vulnerable groups (women and children), causing massive population displacement and migration to urban areas. To address climate change impacts in urban areas of Somalia, the project aims to enhance the resilience of urban systems and improve the adaptive capacity of vulnerable urban communities and ecosystems to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change on urban areas. The project will introduce an integrated adaptation approach which takes Nature based Solutions (NbS) into consideration to build resilience of

communities and enhance adaptive capacities. These actions will be implemented through three main components including: 1) strengthening government and institutional capacities in climate change adaptation planning and programming; 2) enhancing urban climate resilience to floods through improved NbS adoption and management; and 3) leveraging sustainable finance through private sector investments. The project will also collaborate with GCF's EW4ALL initiative to mainstream NbS on productive and inclusive green enterprise development for job creation. The successful implementation of the project will deliver multiple adaptation benefits for 852,877 people (50 percent female), manage 5,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen 10 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 1,260 people (40 percent women) on climate change adaptation, and engage 5 private sector enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience actions.

Tanzania: *Sustainable Land Management and improved Community Resilience in Dryland areas and livestock migratory hotspots of Tanzania* (GEF ID: 11489); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF Project financing: \$8,019,178 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$27,000,000. Tanzania's rapidly expanding livestock sector is raising concerns over alarming rate of land degradation in the country's dryland areas, which are experiencing severe water scarcity that exacerbates the hardship faced by both natural ecosystems and agricultural activities, impacting livestock and crop productivity. The project aims to improve land management and strengthen climate data systems to ensure food security and sustainable livelihoods for over 1.5 million vulnerable individuals in climate-impacted dryland areas. The project will enhance legal and regulatory frameworks, specifically through the review of the Environment Management Act (EMA) Cap 191 and the Guidelines for Sustainable Management and Utilization of Rangelands in Tanzania. The project intends to address these challenges using three main project components including (i) strengthening sustainable land management capacity, (ii) implementing sustainable land management practices, and (iii) enhancing knowledge and participatory monitoring. Through these actions, the project is expected to directly benefit approximately 1.5 million people (50 percent female), manage 20,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen at least 2 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 175,000 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation, and engage 10 private enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

Zambia: *Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia* (GEF ID: 11396); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF project financing: \$7,235,114 (LDCF), \$1,903,881 (GEFTF BD), \$1,088,626 (GEFTF LD); Co-financing: \$87,200,000. The main objective of the project is to sustainably restore and manage the Miombo forest ecosystems and agro-pastoral landscapes and enhance resilience of the vulnerable communities through the integration of adaptation considerations in land use planning and sustainable management of natural resources. The project's focus is in the Copperbelt, Central and Muchinga Provinces of Zambia where communities are highly vulnerable and ecosystem degradation is high. With co-finance from the World Bank's Transforming Landscapes for Resilience and Development (TRALARD) project, it will strengthen the policy, legal and institutional environment for land rehabilitation, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation, promote an integrated landscape approach for sustainable ecosystem management practices and biodiversity conservation, and introduce community-based adaptation solutions including resilient livelihoods and climate risk insurance products for smallholders. The proposed multi-trust fund project will deliver multiple adaptation and global environmental benefits which include improved climate adaptation of 100,000 people,

629,400 hectares of land under improved management, and reduction of 1.2 million of greenhouse gas emissions.

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Angola: *Strengthening climate resilience of communities in Angola through community-based adaptation action (GEF ID: 11545)*; GEF Agency: FAO; GEF Project Financing: \$8,932,420 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$41,860,000. Angola is a large, biodiverse country with a fast-growing population and high levels of poverty, that is highly vulnerable to climate change, with recurrent cycles of droughts and floods and serious socio-economic and environmental consequences across the country. The Objective of this project is to enhance adaptive capacity and increase resilience of local communities' livelihoods, food security and nutrition to climate change. This will be achieved by improving the adaptive capacity of local communities through policy alignment, financing, and institutional capacity development; implementing a set of climate-resilient and sustainable land and forest management practices; and strengthening climate-resilient, sustainable, and inclusive agri-food value chains. The project will utilize an integrated multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach involving all relevant sectors and stakeholders in the project with communities at the core of decision making and implementation of interventions. An innovative aspect of the project will be increasing land tenure for smallholder farmers, which will enable public and private sector investment in sustainable management and climate resilient productive practices. The project is expected to directly benefit 180,000 people (50% female), manage 250,000 hectares for climate resilience, produce 4 policies/plans/frameworks/institutions for climate adaptation, train 100,000 people, and engage 10 private sector enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

Chad: *Strengthening the Resilience of smallholder farmers and ecosystems to the effects of climate change" (STRADAP) Project* (GEF ID: 11550); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF Project financing: \$8,000,000 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$35,166,600. Chad is considered one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, which manifests in increased rainfall variability and temperature. Persistent drought conditions in the northern Chad have accelerated desertification, leading to a reduction in areas suitable for agriculture and livestock farming, and a decline in grazing areas for

cattle further south. Rural communities, particularly women, youth and children are particularly hard hit, as 80% of the population live in rural areas and depend on agriculture, livestock farming and fishing for their livelihoods, all of which are important sectors for the country's economy. The proposed project seeks to promote climate adaptive, viable and resilient enterprises for youth and women that will create jobs and integrated with agro-pastoral and fishing value chains in Chad - thereby strengthening the resilience of degraded agro-pastoral production landscapes and the livelihoods of vulnerable 63 000 people (12 000 youth and women led households). The project will be implemented in three provinces; Lac, Hadjer-Lamis and N'Djamena that present a complex combination of adaptation challenges punctuated with extreme weather events, socioeconomic hardships, influx of refugees, political instability, environmental degradation, and weak institutional arrangements. The project components and activities will contribute to strengthening an enabling environment for building climate resilience with agro-slyvo-pastoral and fisheries value chains, and support the climate resilient livelihood and employment opportunities for rural youth Building on the youth agribusiness hubs approach, STRADAP will build on ongoing IFAD initiatives to increase the resilience and capacities of rural women and youth via green and digital skills, viable green business projects, green financing, renewable energy equipment and technologies, and business development of climate resilient agribusiness opportunities. Overall, the project is expected to directly benefit approximately 63,000 people (50 percent female), manage 1,500 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen at least 6 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 18,000 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation, and engage at least 3 private enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

Guinea: *Guinea Water and Sanitation Project* (GEF ID: 11575); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF Project Financing: \$10,092,000 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$200,000,000. The project will increase access to improved water services in Greater Conakry and to support the implementation of water and sanitation policy and institutional reforms. This will be achieved by increasing the scale and quality of water services in Greater Conakry; strengthening the securitization of the water resource in the face of increasing climate risks; and advancing institutional and policy reforms for water and sanitation. Although Guinea is endowed with abundant water resources, significant changes in rainfall patterns have been experienced in recent decades and are expected to continue in the future, coinciding with an increase in temperature and rise in sea levels, with the risk of saline intrusion into freshwater supplies placing further stress on water resources. LDCF support will strengthen community engagement in sound water resource management, as well as implement nature-based solutions to current and anticipated climate hazards that will improve soil stabilization and prevent sedimentation. GEF finance will be combined with and help catalyze \$200 million in co-finance from the World Bank. The project is expected to benefit 45,000 people (65.8 percent female), place 83,000,000 hectares of land under climate resilient management, and engage 22 private sector enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

Gambia: *Climate-resilient Banjul: Enhancing Urban Resilience in the Greater Banjul Area (CLIMB)* (STRADAP) Project (GEF ID: 11532); GEF Agency: UNEP; GEF Project financing: \$14,000,000 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$35,444,194. The Gambia is a small West African country situated predominantly within the low-lying, flood-prone Gambia River basin. This geographical setting, combined with socio-economic challenges in the region, renders the Gambian population particularly susceptible to climate change-induced impacts such as flooding, rising sea levels, and coastal erosion. The impacts of these climate hazards are most evident in the Greater Banjul Area

(GBA). Climate data indicate a trend of increasing temperatures and decreasing precipitation across The Gambia, with subsequent increases in rainfall variability. The primary objective of the proposed project is to enhance the climate resilience of communities in the Greater Banjul Area by scaling up investments in urban ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) solutions. The project strategy will address both existing vulnerabilities and those intensified by climate change, thereby enhancing the resilience of communities — particularly emphasizing the roles and needs of women and IPLCs — in the GBA against negative outcomes and fostering sustainable growth. These will be addressed through three components (i) strengthened the enabling environment for climate-resilient urban planning and sustainable development, (ii) increasing resilience through integrated ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA), and (iii) improving knowledge management and information dissemination. The proposed GEF project will enhance the resilience of target communities to climate change within the GBA using an integrated approach that combines: i) gender-responsive capacity-building initiatives; ii) sustainable land-management and natural resource use; iii) the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) technologies and iv) enhanced knowledge management. This integrated approach will ensure that proposed project interventions synergistically address barriers related to limited urban planning, insufficient financial resources for investment in EbA and limited public awareness of climate change adaptation strategies. The project is expected to deliver significant adaptation benefits to 350,000 people (49 percent women) including manage 3,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen at least 10 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 87,680 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation, and engage at least 10 private enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

Global, Lesotho, Malawi, Ethiopia, Somalia: *Programme for innovation in climate adaptation and resilience building solutions (PARS)* (GEF ID: 11566); GEF Agency: UNIDO; GEF Program Financing: \$30,107,798.00; Co-financing: \$138,029,840. The private sector, predominantly composed of micro, small, and medium-scale enterprises (MSMEs) in the LDCs, holds great potential to drive the development and deployment of innovative climate adaptation and resilience-building solutions. However, these enterprises face numerous challenges, including the lack of policy and regulatory support frameworks, limited access to financing and financial services, and insufficient market opportunities and technical assistance. Aligned with GEF-8 LDCF Climate Change Adaptation Strategy which prioritizes strengthening innovation and private sector engagement for adaptation, this program seeks to unlock the ingenuity and creativity of MSMEs to drive innovative climate adaptation and resilience building solutions. It focusses on four pillars that aims to transform and connect the markets for climate adaptation and resilience building solutions within and across participating countries in this program. Pillar 1 aims to create conducive policy and regulatory environment for MSMEs to stimulate the innovative and effective solutions. Pillar 2 will provide technical assistance, training and coaching for MSMEs to accelerate the development and deployment of impactful adaptation solutions. Pillar 3 aims to increase access to financing for MSMEs and end-users, through developing innovative financing instruments and providing financial services. Pillar 4 will promote program coordination, knowledge sharing and management, optimizing resources and connecting global adaptation markets through a global platform. This global platform and four strategic child projects in Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi and Somalia, the program will catalyze local and global private sector investment in the development and deployment of climate adaptation and resilience building solutions in LDCs across a range of sectors such as agriculture, water, and energy where innovation and private sector engagement

potential is very high. Example solutions encompass agro-climate services, water-saving technologies to tackle droughts and floods, as well as technologies addressing energy supply shortages and disruptions. The program is aligned with national priorities outlined in National Adaptation Plans, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and others. Through this program, it is estimated that over 491,100 direct beneficiaries would have access to local adaptation and resilience building solutions. The program builds on the previous LDCF funded projects on private sector and adaptation and is expected to add more countries going forward. The programmatic approach would have a demonstrable impact in unlocking the potential of private sector in adaptation and creating valuable knowledge and lessons to inform future programming.

Sierra Leone: *Third Additional Financing to the Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP)* (GEF ID: 11576); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF Program Financing: \$ 18,348,624; Co-financing: \$60,000,000. The objective of the project is to scale up application of nature-based solutions (NbS) in agricultural and landscape management practices to improve food security, enable sustainable livelihoods, and promote climate resilience in Sierra Leone. By investing in Nature Based Solutions, which capitalize on natural processes and system functions to manage agriculture landscapes, the project will potentially help to reverse the negative trends in productivity growth, reduce the environmental impacts of the sector and enhance its resilience to climate change. It aims to increase the adoption of regenerative agricultural practices, enhance uptake of integrated landscape management practices, improve incomes of farmers, with a focus on women and youth, and increase technical capacity among advisory services providers in Sierra Leone. Furthermore, by targeting key policy and institutional barriers and enhancing the knowledge base and financing options, the project aims to stimulate increased private sector investment in agriculture. A payment for ecosystem services mechanism will be piloted as a proof of concept to provide evidence for scale-up through government programs. The project will establish sustainable watershed management coordination capacity and enable climate resilient communities, ecosystems, and value-chains, and increase the area under inclusive and sustainable adaptation management practices. The project will receive co-financing from World Bank's West Africa Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) funded through IDA which includes \$60 million grant for Sierra Leone in its second phase of financing. The LDCF funding will serve as third additional finance to this IDA investment and will add strategic value in terms of integrating climate change adaptation and advancing nature-based solutions. The project will directly contribute to Sierra Leone's Agricultural Transformation Plan (2023), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), GEF-8 programming strategies for LDCF/SCCF (2022-2026), and the World Bank Country Partnership Framework (FY21-FY26). It is expected to enhance resilience of 329,200 people and strengthen capacity of 36,000 people, primarily agriculture extension workers, and bring nearly 3000 hectares of land under improved climate resilient management.

Cambodia: *Building resilient livelihoods through nature-based solutions in the Tonle Sap Basin and Siem Reap/Phnom Kulen landscape* (GEF ID 11332); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$ 6,684,703 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$ 15,000,000. The objective is to build climate resilience of local communities in the Tonle Sap Basin (TSB) through an integrated watershed management approach. The project targets TSB, an expansive area of economic and cultural importance of Cambodia, and is experiencing increasing temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns, and increasing frequency and intensity of extreme events such as drought and flood. This has a severe consequence on water resources and agricultural productivity as well as on the tourism industry, which is a major contributor to the local and national economy. The resultant impacts are

driving local communities to adopt maladaptive practices such as agricultural expansion into forest areas, fueling a negative cycle of degradation in the catchments. Against this background, the project will build climate resilience by contributing to national efforts to restore watershed ecosystems and their services in the TSB, with specific focus on Siem Reap province and the Phnom Kulen landscape. The proposed landscape and watershed management solutions will take a systems-based approach, accounting for governance, finance, and the people. The project intervention will also involve working with local communities. The project is expected to coordinate with ongoing LDCF and GCF investment to avoid duplications. It is expected to benefit 70,400 people (50 percent female), place 80,400 hectares of areas under climate resilient management and train 1,520 people (50 percent female). In addition, 7 policies and plans will be developed to strength climate adaptation.

Lao PDR: *Enhancing Integrated Watershed Management and Climate Resilience for Vulnerable Communities in the Nam-Poui, Nam-Poun, Nam-Lay and Nam-Houng Basins in Lao PDR* (GEF ID 11573); GEF Agency: WWF-US; GEF project financing: \$ 6,772,447 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$ 1,614,636. The objective of the proposed project is to enhance adaptation capacity of agriculture-dependent communities to floods, droughts, seasonal variations and to address uneven access to freshwater in key river basins in Sayaboury province. The project targets six districts in the Nam-Poui, Nam-Poun, Nam-Lay, and Nam-Houng basins in Lao PDR, which are highly vulnerable to the adverse impact of climate change with resulting consequences on reduced crop yields and increased poverty through decreased availability of fresh water. The impacts are expected to be severe on the upland and mid-slope ethnic groups and smallholder farmers, who depends on rural agriculture for their livelihood. The project will build resilience to climate-induced hazards through mainstreaming climate-informed Integrated water resource management (IWRM) policy, planning and implementation to reduce the crop losses. It will also catalyze communities' climate-resilient agriculture support by diversifying livelihood options. The project will prioritize women as a vulnerable group considering their high reliance on agriculture as a main source of livelihood and take. The project is expected to benefit 25,000 direct beneficiaries (50 percent female); 15,000 ha area of land and 1,000 ha of river basin managed for climate resilience; and at least 13 policies, plans, and frameworks that mainstream climate resilience.

Comoros: *Increased Access to Water Supply for Resilience in Comoros (LAWASuR)* (GEF ID 11522); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$8,019,178 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$27,000,000. This LDCF project will build climate resilience of water supply in Comoros, an African LDC SIDS that is exposed to extreme climate hazards and adverse climate change impacts and has low capacity to deal with these. The water supply sector in particular faces numerous challenges; climate change is resulting in longer dry periods (affecting, crops, runoff, and recharge) and higher-intensity rainfall events (resulting in greater flooding, infrastructure damage, soil erosion and higher sediment loads in rivers). Saltwater intrusion is reducing the quality of available water. The Government of Comoros, with support from GEF and GCF, has launched on a campaign to upgrade, repair, and build improved water infrastructure. Despite much recent effort, large gaps exist, which the current LDCF project seeks to help reduce, in close coordination with the GCF project. Project activities for this LDCF project include improvements to legal frameworks governing water management and allocation; a climate sensitive water supply data sharing system; sustainable financial mechanisms to ensure stable operation of utilities for water services; installation and management of water supply infrastructure (water pipes, reservoirs); and watershed restoration. Gender considerations will be mainstreamed across the project components.

The project will deliver direct climate adaptation benefits to 74,376 people (51% women), improve the climate-resilient management of 2,600 hectares of land, mainstream climate resilience in 1 policy, train 415 people (48% women) in identifying and addressing climate risks in the context of water supply, and engage ten private sector enterprises in adaptation activities.

Sao Tome and Principe: *Enhance the adaptive capacity to floods and water security in São Tomé and Príncipe* (GEF ID 11544); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$5,329,452 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$24,197,990. This LDCF project will enhance resilience to floods and droughts in Sao Tome and Principe, a highly climate vulnerable African LDC SIDS. Climate change projections for Sao Tome and Principe indicate that seasonal temperatures are likely to increase, precipitation likely to become more intense and variable, extreme events may be more severe and/or frequent, and sea level rise will continue. As a result, the country will likely experience more frequent tropical cyclones, heavy rainfall and storms, as well as more prolonged periods of drought. These can lead to flash floods, landslides, and extensive damage to infrastructure. Sao Tome already grapples with severe flooding. With half of its water treatment plants using surface water as their source, increased turbidity caused by flooding causes shutdown of their operations, resulting in discontinued water supply for the population. The LDCF project will increase (i) the resilience of urban communities to the impacts of climate change exacerbated floods and (ii) water security in São Tome and Principe, by: (a) improving legal and institutional frameworks for drainage and waste management; coordination systems for data driven planning; trainings for operationalizing and upscaling integrated water resource management and resilient urban planning; improving watershed management for aquifer recharge and to reduce rainwater runoff; installing drainage works to reduce flood risks in the main urban areas; and implementing a sustainable drainage waste management system in the city of São Tomé . In Principe, the project will also put in place control systems for monitoring water quality in two river basins. The project will deliver direct climate change adaptation benefits to 93,395 people (50 percent women), improve the climate-resilient management of 400 hectares of land, mainstream climate resilience in 3 policies or plans, train 502 people (50 percent women) and engage 28 private sector enterprises in adaptation. The project will mainstream gender considerations across its components and will coordinate closely with related multilateral initiatives in the country.

Sao Tome and Principe: *Development of the Transport and Coastal Protection Sector* (GEF ID: 11552); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF project financing: \$12,844,037 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$30,000,000. This LDCF project addresses the highly climate-vulnerable road transport sector in Sao Tome and Principe (STP), an African LDC SIDS. STP is vulnerable to natural climate-related hazards, such as coastal and riparian flash floods, severe storms, landslides, and droughts, which cause significant damage to homes, infrastructure, and livelihood assets. The country is experiencing climate change impacts such as sea level rise, changes in wave action, and changed river flood patterns are exacerbating an already eroding shoreline. The country's transport infrastructure, on which it depends for key socio-economic activity including tourism, is under significant risk from climate change; national infrastructure, including the port, airport, oil reservoirs and hotels, are located along the shoreline and directly exposed to sea level rise and flooding. Resilient roads can therefore play an essential role in reducing vulnerability while building the country's climate resilience more broadly. The LDCF project will support the integration of additional adaptation considerations in the context of the World Bank's Road development project in STP, though a mix of green (nature-based) and grey (infrastructure) solutions. These include stabilization of slopes to limit storm surge impact; planting climate-

resilient species; and improving drainage to cope with greater surface flows (this will also allow for the continuous use of public roads used to access schools). Studies analyzing gaps in community (including women's) engagement in climate-resilient road asset management will be undertaken, and training protocols developed on implementing nature-based approaches in the protection of climate vulnerable areas. The project will prioritize roads that provide access to schools that are particularly degraded and will incorporate measures to increase the safety of women and girls, to ensure sustainable and inclusive resilient development. The project will deliver adaptation benefits to 15,140 people (50 percent women), integrate climate resilience considerations in two policies or plans, and train 1,640 people (50 percent women) to identify and manage climate risks.

Global: *Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Programme in Least Developed Countries (LDCs)* (GEF ID: 11498); GEF Agency: UNIDO; GEF Program Financing: \$1,736,371 (LDCF); Co-financing: \$1,163,587.35. The objective of the project is to empower and support civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) in developing countries to implement high-impact and innovative initiatives that deliver climate change adaptation and environmental benefits in an inclusive manner. Implemented together with the SCCF supported project ((GEF ID: 11499), this project stands as a beacon for change, with a core mission of empowering 21 selected non-state actors – composed by civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) – globally, to catalyze innovative impactful initiatives that deliver climate change adaptation and environmental benefits in an inclusive manner. The project will support the implementation of 6 of the 21 high impact and innovative CCA inclusive initiatives from the least developed countries (LDCS). These initiatives were selected as winners through a global challenge organized as a special initiative under the Seventh GEF Assembly held in Vancouver Canada in 2023, and they will prioritize the inclusion of marginalized groups, ensuring the engagement of women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities, LGBTQ2S+ community, and people living with disabilities. The implementation of the project is expected to enhance resilience of 10,308 people (50 percent female), manage 403,345.00 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen 26 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 7,366 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation, and engage 1 private sector enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience actions.

4. Summaries of SCCF Projects and Programs Approved in FY24

Barbados: *Accelerating transition to climate-resilient agrifood systems (BATCRAS)* (GEF ID 11270); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$2,627,226 (SCCF-A) and \$875,742 (GEF Trust Fund); Co-financing: \$15000002. Effective climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector is inefficient, making Barbadian farmers vulnerable due to lack of knowledge and skills to adopt climate-resilient practices and technologies, as well as inadequate soil, water and nutrient management practices and low access to finance. To accelerate the transition to climate-resilient and low-emission gender-sensitive agrifood systems and strengthen the adaptive capacity of farmers in Barbados, the project aims to support climate-resilient and low emission, gender-sensitive food production, including increasing the climate-responsiveness of decision making. The project will achieve this by (i) increasing availability and use of agrometeorological data in decision making, (ii) provide hands-on gender-sensitive training programs, including demonstrations of climate-resilient and low-emission practices and technologies that increase

water and land productivity; (iii) strengthen organizational capacity of farmer associations to drive climate resilience; and (iv) establish a framework for upscaling of climate-resilient and low-emission gender-sensitive technologies for food production through local businesses, commercial banks and other private sector entities. The project is expected to directly benefit 3,052 people (30 percent female), manage 4,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, train 2,180 people (30 percent women) about climate change adaptation, and engage 10 private enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

Dominican Republic: *Land Degradation Neutrality for Increased Resilience to Climate Change in Dominican Republic* (GEF ID 11402); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$4,416,212 (SCCF-A: \$2,649,727; GEF Trust Fund: \$1,766,485); Co-financing: \$15,156,920. This project seeks to apply land degradation neutrality related and other adaptation approaches to build climate resilience of the food and agriculture sector for vulnerable communities of the Dominican Republic, a Caribbean SIDS. The Dominican Republic faces a range of climate change-induced threats, including sea-level rise, storm surges, flooding, and saltwater intrusion, which intensify existing stresses contributing to land degradation and disrupting livelihoods. Climate projections include reductions in annual precipitation and severe droughts, which will pose challenges to crop zones, damage infrastructure, and increase economic pressures as well as municipal management challenges. This multi-trust fund project will draw on SCCF-A and GEF Trust Fund Land Degradation resources to support a range of investment, policy, and capacity interventions to build resilience. Actions include decision support systems, land restoration with endemic species, silvopasture, drought and flood risk management, drought and flood early warning systems, and agricultural value chain diversification and improvement. The project will deliver climate resilience benefits to 19,732 people (50% female), improve the climate resilient management of 113,346 hectares of land, mainstream climate resilience in two policies, and train 1,500 people on climate risks and adaptation. It will also restore 1,960 hectares of forest and improve the sustainable land management of 15,700 hectares. The project will be co-financed by an indicative amount of \$15.1 million.

Maldives: *A Holistic Approach to Food Systems Resilience and Adaptation* (GEF ID 11411); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$2,639,726; Co-financing: \$3,000,000. With a maximum elevation of below 1.5 meters above sea level, the Maldives is highly vulnerable to sea level rise, storm surge, erratic rainfall, higher temperatures, saltwater intrusion, and other adverse impacts of climate change. This SCCF-A project will support food security by building climate resilience in agriculture and fisheries on the following southern atolls: Laamu, Gaafu Alifu, Gaafu Dhaalu, Gnaviyani and Seenu. It will support integrated food system approaches as well as “whole of society” and “whole island” approaches to improve food security in the face of climate change, by working with nature and addressing both environmental and health dimensions. The project will mainstream climate resilience in agriculture and fisheries policies and plans; strengthen food-system-related micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises; enhance tourism-sector related food supply chains; land use zoning; and establish farmers’ and fishers’ field schools, to define and promote climate-smart options for food production, farming, and fisheries. The project will directly benefit 5,751 people (30% female as), place 6,874 hectares of coastal and marine land under climate-resilient management, mainstream climate resilience in 11 policies and plans, train 4,026 people in identifying climate risks (35% female) and implementing adaptation measures and engage 5 enterprises in climate resilient action. The high ration of male beneficiaries is owing to the fact that in the Maldives, fisherfolk are predominantly men.

Regional (Caribbean – Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad, and Tobago): *Climate Change Resilience in the Caribbean Fisheries Sector (CC4FISH-II)* (GEF ID 11412); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$12,545,661; Co-financing: \$85,750,000. This project targets vulnerable small-fisherfolk communities of five Caribbean small island states. Climate change is exacerbating threats such as sea surface temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification, and extreme climatic events such as hurricanes and precipitation anomalies. The region has weak human and institutional capacity to cope with climatic hazards in the fisheries sector, and a weak enabling environment to mainstream climate resilience or nature-based adaptation solutions in fisheries. The project will strengthen regional and national enabling environments to support the adoption of climate- and disaster-resilient technologies and practices, by: (1) building climate- and disaster-resilient value chains; (2) enhancing the delivery of ecosystem services, and climate resilience measures; (3) strengthen the enabling environment and mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in the fisheries sector; and (4) supporting knowledge management, resource mobilization and scale-up in the region. Together, these measures are expected to catalyze transformation, enable ecosystem-based adaptation; improve socio-ecological system resilience, and generate sustainable fisheries livelihoods for all actors along the fisheries value chains, with better capacity to prepare for and respond to shocks and stressors supported by adaptive social protection. The project is expected to directly benefit 21,825 people (28.7 percent female, due to the high ratio of male fisherfolk), place 1,810,370 hectares of coastal and marine area under climate resilient management, and train 21,825 people on climate risk identification and adaptation measures. It contributes to several regional and national priorities and environmental commitments.

Global: *Inclusive GEF Assembly Challenge Programme in Developing Countries* (GEF ID: 11499); GEF Agency: UNIDO; GEF Program Financing: \$1,812,772 (SCCF-B); Co-financing: \$1,550,193.08. The objective of the project is to empower and support civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) in developing countries to implement high-impact and innovative initiatives that deliver climate change adaptation and environmental benefits in an inclusive manner. This project stands as a beacon for change, with a core mission of empowering 21 selected non-state actors – composed by civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) – globally, to catalyze innovative impactful initiatives that deliver climate change adaptation and environmental benefits in an inclusive manner. The project will support the implementation of 15 of the 21 high impact and innovative CCA inclusive initiatives. These initiatives were selected as winners through a global challenge organized as a special initiative under the Seventh GEF Assembly held in Vancouver Canada in 2023, and they will prioritize the inclusion of marginalized groups, ensuring the engagement of women, youth, indigenous peoples, local communities, LGBTQ2S+ community, and people living with disabilities. The implementation of the project is expected to enhance resilience of 511,870 people (50 percent female), manage 208.40 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen 54 climate adaptation related policies/plans and frameworks, train or raise the awareness of 6,802 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation.

ANNEX 4: CLIMATE TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITIES

1. This section summarizes the status of implementation of ongoing GEF-supported global and regional climate technology projects, as referred to in Part III and supported within the framework of the Poznan Strategic Program on Technology Transfer (PSP). It presents the progress made by the GEF Agencies in the delivery of these projects and summarizes experience gained and lessons learned so far. The information in this section is based on the data provided by GEF Agencies in response to a survey that was carried out by the GEF in April 2023. For information on the completed global and regional climate technology projects, refer to the GEF reports to COP 26, COP 27, and COP28.¹⁵⁰

Pilot African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network¹⁵¹

2. The African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network (ACTFCN) project is a pilot project that originates from the decision of COP 16 to establish a Technology Mechanism comprising a TEC and a CTCN to support CCA and CCM activities in developing countries. The overall objective of the ACTFCN is to support sub-Saharan Africa countries in scaling up the deployment of low-carbon and climate-resilient technologies to achieve reductions in GHG emissions and to decrease the vulnerability of countries and their populations to climate change impacts. AfDB's proposal to establish the ACTFCN was approved in 2012 by the GEF Council. The project was endorsed by the GEF CEO in April 2014, approved by AfDB's Board of Directors in June 2014 and started its operations in July 2014.

3. The project components include: (i) enhancing networking and knowledge dissemination with respect to climate technology transfer and finance; (ii) enabling the scaling-up of technology transfer through policy, institutional, and organizational reforms of the enabling environments at the national and regional levels through technical assistance; (iii) integrating climate change into investment programs and projects; and (iv) project management.

4. In this reporting period, the Agency requested a one-year extension until December 2024. The project completion has been extended from its original date of June 2017 to December 2024. The Terminal Evaluation of the project is expected by the end of 2025. As of April 2024, all resources have been allocated and about 72 percent have been disbursed.

Status Update

5. On climate change mitigation, the project has achieved significant results. As host of the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative in Africa, the AfDB is strongly involved in supporting the development of the Africa hub whose purpose is to support African countries through technical assistance, advisory services, policy dialogue and advocacy.

6. Furthermore, the project had a strong collaboration with the Sustainable Energy Fund for

¹⁵⁰ <https://www.thegef.org/documents/report-gef-26th-session-cop-unfccc> and <https://www.thegef.org/documents/gef-report-unfccc-cop27>

¹⁵¹ <https://www.african-ctc.net/>

Africa (SEFA), hosted by the AfDB, whose overarching goal is to contribute to universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy services for all in Africa, in line with the New Deal on Energy for Africa and Sustainable Development Goal 7.

7. Below is a list of the Climate Change Mitigation activities supported by the Center and implemented in Eritrea, Uganda, Ethiopia, and Lesotho.

Component	Project title	Beneficiary Countries	Status	Objectives/ Expected Outcome
3	Feasibility and design studies and preparation bidding documents for Dekemhare 20 MW solar plant project in Eritrea	Eritrea	Consulting Firm recruited. <i>completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the Republic of Eritrea in project (i) feasibility study for integration of 20 MW solar PV plant to the national grid; (ii) grid integration impact study; (iii) preparation of tender designs and the technical specifications based on best engineering practice; and (iv) preparation of bidding documents. <p>Feasibility Study Report</p>
1	Technical Assistance for Enhancing Knowledge and Networking Related to Technology Transfer for Climate Change Mitigation	Uganda	Consulting Firm recruited. <i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support capacity building to enable the creation of knowledge products related to climate change mitigation technology transfer in the energy sector. Support the creation of knowledge products to be used in the context of international carbon markets under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. <p>Sets of Article 6 tools ready to be applied to pilot Article 6 activities.</p>

1	Ethiopia TIMES Model for Energy Planning: Capacity Building for an Energy Secure Future	Ethiopia	Consulting Firm recruited. <i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the Republic of Ethiopia for enhancing knowledge, training and networking about the development and use of TIMES model for the country electricity sector. Basic Ethiopia TIMES model
3	Feasibility and design studies for developing and financing a 20MW grid connected solar PV power plant in the Kingdom of Lesotho	Lesotho	Consulting Firm recruited. <i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the Kingdom of Lesotho in (i) project feasibility study for integration of 20 MW solar PV plant to the national grid; (ii) grid integration impact study; (iii) preparation of tender designs and technical specifications; and (iv) preparation of all plant procurement arrangements. Feasibility Study Report

8. On the climate change adaptation component, the following progress has been achieved in the reporting period:

9. Three technical assistance (TA) projects have been completed. These TA looked at the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation technologies into disaster response and recovery projects in Seychelles; phytoremediation as an adaptation measure for climate change vulnerability at rural wastewater treatment plants in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries; and implemented an Adaptation Benefits Mechanism (ABM) demonstration project in the water sector in Nigeria.

- a) Three projects are underway and at the final stages of consultant procurement. One project will study the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation technologies into disaster response and recovery projects in Mozambique; another will develop a proposal for supporting climate resilient investments around the Tugwi-Mukosi Dam in Zimbabwe; and a third will launch a feasibility study for PIDACC Zambezi (Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse).
- b) Three projects have been cancelled due to insufficient time to recruit consultants and implement the projects before the grant comes to an end. These three projects are

replaced by smaller water projects with shorter turn-around periods. These projects include two technical assistance (TA) projects for the integration of climate change adaptation technologies and strategies into disaster response projects in Comoros and Madagascar; and a technical assistance (TA) project for the study of the long-term strategy of the water sector in the context of climate change in Senegal.

10. Below is a list of the status of the climate change adaptation activities supported by the Center:

Component	Project title	Beneficiary Countries	Status	Objectives/ Expected Outcome	Expected completion date
3	Technical Assistance for Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation Technologies into Disaster Response and Recovery Projects in the Republic of Seychelles.	Seychelles	<i>TA work completed.</i>		<i>Completed</i>
3	Assistance technique pour services de consultance pour l'intégration des technologies et stratégies d'adaptation au changement climatique dans les projets de réponse aux catastrophes dans les îles Comores. (DRM – East Africa Project)	Comoros	Cancelled due to a lack of time to complete selection contract negotiation and implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives and expected outcomes will be provided in the upcoming reports, once the water related activities will be identified. 	Nov. 2024*
3	Assistance technique pour services de consultance pour l'intégration des technologies et stratégies d'adaptation au changement climatique dans les projets de réponse aux catastrophes à Madagascar (DRM – East Africa Project)	Madagascar	Cancelled due to a lack of time to complete selection contract negotiation and implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives and expected outcomes will be provided in the upcoming reports, once the water related activities will be identified. 	Nov. 2024*

3	Technical Assistance for Developing a Project Proposal for Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation Technologies into Disaster Response and Recovery Projects in Mozambique.	Mozambique	Procurement process on-going for recruitment of Consulting Firm. Procurement is at contract negotiation stage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the Republic of Mozambique in the preparation of a project proposal to ensure climate change adaptation technologies are mainstreamed into the country disaster response and recovery project. ▪ Support the country in accessing climatic funds to make project resilient to climate change driven extreme events and hazards. 	Nov. 2024*
3	Technical Assistance for Developing a Project Proposal for Supporting Climate Resilient Investments around the Tugwi-Mukosi Dam in Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe	Procurement process on-going for recruitment of Consulting Firm. Procurement is at contract negotiation stage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the Republic of Zimbabwe in the preparation of a full project proposal to ensure climate change adaptation technologies are mainstreamed into the country investment projects around the Tugwi-Mukosi Dam region. ▪ Support the country in accessing climatic funds to make investment projects resilient to climate variability and 	Nov. 2024*

				change and to ensure their sustainability.	
3	Feasibility Study for Programme for Integrated Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in the Zambezi Watercourse - PIDACC Zambezi	Angola; Botswana; Malawi; Mozambique ; Namibia; Tanzania; Zambia; Zimbabwe.	Procurement is at contract negotiation stage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support ZAMCOM in project preparation studies to ensure adequate climate change adaptation technologies are integrated where appropriate. ▪ Support ZAMCOM in the preparation of a project proposal to ensure climate change adaptation technologies are mainstreamed into the PIDACC Zambezi projects. ▪ Support ZAMCOM in accessing climatic funds to make projects resilient to climate variability and change and to ensure their sustainability. 	Dec. 2024*
2	Assistance technique pour l'étude sur la Stratégie à long terme du secteur de l'eau dans le cadre des Changements Climatiques	Sénégal	Cancelled due to a lack of time to complete selection contract negotiation and implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Objectives and expected outcomes will be provided in the upcoming reports, once the water related activities will be identified. 	Nov. 2024*

1	Phytoremediation as an Adaptation Measure for Climate Change Vulnerability at Rural Wastewater Treatment plants in the Southern African Development Community countries	South Africa Malawi Mauritius Mozambique Namibia	<i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the five beneficiary countries in enhancing knowledge and networking about the use of phytoremediation technology as an adaptation measure for rural wastewater treatment plants in the Southern African Development Community countries. 	<i>Completed</i>
2	Implementation of an ABM Demonstration Project with focus on water in Nigeria - Promoting innovative water-related climate change adaptation solutions in Nigeria	Nigeria	<i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support the Republic of Nigeria in implementing an ABM demonstration project promoting innovative adaptation solutions in the water sector. ▪ Support the country in enhancing knowledge exchange and dissemination about adaptation actions and benefits. 	<i>Completed</i>

Outreach and Awareness-Raising Activities

11. In terms of outreach and awareness-raising activities, many activities were undertaken under this programme. Workshops and outreach activities were organized at the launch and completion each sub-project. These events were also an opportunity to raise awareness on mitigation issues. Furthermore, training sessions were regularly organized for stakeholders on topics like integrated climate risk management and planning and budgeting of adaptation technologies.

12. Awareness-raising campaigns are planned with the ongoing projects but also for upcoming water sector projects in Comoros, Senegal, and Madagascar. Events targeted are the Africa Climate Week and the upcoming COP 29 in Baku (Azerbaijan).

Regional Finance and Technology Transfer Centre for Climate Change (FINTECC)¹⁵²

13. The EBRD's FINTECC project was endorsed by the CEO in July 2013 and is under implementation. This project aims to accelerate investments in CCM and CCA technologies in the Early Transition Countries (ETC) and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean countries. It also aims to incentivize deployment of climate technologies with low market penetration, to create demonstration projects across these countries. The project components include: (i) regional technology transfer networks; (ii) technology transfer technical assistance; and (iii) financing pilot activities. The project has been extended from its original end date of 2016 to December 2023. In this reporting period, the Agency requested a one-year extension until December 2024 to allow successful completion of existing sub-projects benefitting from the project funding, and to enable the EBRD to allocate the remaining funding under the investment component to eligible sub-projects, considering the continued relevance of the project and the recent increased demand following the implementation delays in the previous years. The Terminal Evaluation for this project is expected by the end of 2025.

14. The request for the latest extension of the FINTECC project until December 2024 is grounded in several significant factors that have impeded its progress and efficacy. Despite proactive measures to accelerate project activities, including targeted technical assistance, robust marketing efforts, and direct engagement with potential beneficiaries, unforeseen challenges, particularly the far-reaching impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic, have disrupted timelines and hindered progress throughout the region. The pandemic-induced restrictions have severely curtailed operational efficiency, resulting in delays in project execution and impeding the attainment of desired objectives. Furthermore, specific geopolitical events have added further complexities, constraining project activities and investment dynamics. Considering these contextual challenges, an extension was needed to ensure the successful conclusion of ongoing sub-projects and the effective allocation of remaining funding to eligible initiatives. Moreover, the extension allows a comprehensive reassessment of the project's relevance considering evolving circumstances and enables the accommodation of heightened demand for climate technology investments. Ultimately, this extension has helped optimize the project's impact and enhance its

¹⁵² <https://fintecc.ebrd.com/index.html>

contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts across the targeted regions.

Status Update

15. The FINTECC project is a well-known facility in the region where it is operational. EBRD practitioners and clients are aware of the support that they can get and actively approach the EBRD to develop eligible projects. EBRD bankers and clients know about the support that they can get and actively approach the EBRD to develop eligible projects.

16. Around 78 percent of the investment grants have been used (committed and disbursed) so far across 33 projects, with a demonstration effect happening across the entire region wherever a project is active. The CCM impact projected from the 22 implemented projects which have concluded verification and received grants has reached 150,000 t CO₂ eq of GHG emission savings over the lifetime of the projects, equivalent to approximately 22 percent of the project's overall CCM target. However, when all 33 projects signed so far are considered, then expected GHG savings would make 248,330 t CO₂ eq, or 46 percent of the target. This additional GHG impact will be re-confirmed upon validation of the projects under development as they reach grant disbursement stage. The lower-than-expected CCM impact is likely to result from the persistent adverse economic conditions in ETC, which have the highest potential for GHG reductions.

17. The technologies supported through FINTECC in 2023-2024 include green buildings, circular economy elements like utilization of recyclable steel components and repurposed containers for interior of the building; geothermal heat pump systems; smart facades for the best possible energy performance; and translucent material for a day light exposure throughout the year. The technologies will contribute to 156 t CO₂ eq of GHG emission savings annually.

18. Progress towards CCA objectives has been difficult, despite efforts from the team. The overall number of CCA projects is five, with a total impact of 163.3 million m³ of water savings per year.

Outreach and Awareness-Raising Activities¹⁵³

19. Increased visibility is being given to climate technologies funded by FINTECC through active marketing of the program by the EBRD team, which engages directly with local businesses. Case studies for each project supported under FINTECC provide information about how the Centre has been supporting the adoption of advanced climate technologies, furnishing specific examples to potential clients as well as information to both the donor community and the wider public on how technology transfer can be operationalized. These case studies will continue to be published, in addition to news articles, other publications, and event announcements.

20. In September-October 2023, the EBRD conducted a series of offline events in Central Asia with local partner banks and SMEs representatives to facilitate knowledge sharing and increase the visibility of FINTECC programme. However, due to the upcoming closure of the program in 2024, the Bank has refrained from wider marketing campaigns in the media to avoid creating over-

¹⁵³ <http://www.ebrd.com/fintecc>

expectations in the market. Despite this approach, the solid pipeline of projects is expected to fully utilize the remaining funds by the program's active end date in December 2024.

21. Pending activities of FINTECC until the project's completion encompass a comprehensive approach that combines technical cooperation, business advisory services, and grant support. By leveraging these strategies and disseminating valuable information through multiple channels, FINTECC seeks to maximize the impact of climate technology transfer, catalyze sustainable development, and contribute to global efforts in combating climate change.

National Climate Technology Activities

22. All national technology transfer pilot projects supported within the framework of the PSP have now been completed, except one. The table below provides general information on the projects supported. Further information on the implementation status of the project under implementation, i.e., *Construction of 1,000 Ton per Day Municipal Solid Waste Composting Unit in Akouedo, Abidjan*, is provided below. For information on the national climate technology projects completed in other reporting periods, refer to the GEF Reports to COP 26, COP 27, and COP28.¹⁵⁴

¹⁵⁴ <https://www.thegef.org/documents/report-gef-26th-session-cop-unfccc> and <https://www.thegef.org/documents/gef-report-unfccc-cop27>.

Table A4.1: Projects and Programs Supported within the Framework of the Poznan Strategic Programme on Technology Transfer

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF PSP funding (\$ million)^a	Total GEF funding (\$ million)^a	Co-financing (\$ million)	Status
Ongoing projects							
4071	Côte d'Ivoire	AfDB	Construction of 1000 Tonne-per-day Municipal Solid Waste Composting Unit in Akouedo Abidjan	3.0	3.0	36.9 ^c	This project was endorsed by the CEO in October 2013 and the expected completion date is January 2025.
Completed projects							
3541	Russian Federation	UNIDO	Phase-out of HCFCs and Promotion of HFC-free Energy Efficient Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Systems in the Russian Federation through Technology Transfer	3.0	20.0	40.0 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in August 2010 and completed in 2016.
4036	Jordan	IFAD	Dutyion Root Hydration System (DRHS) Irrigation Technology Pilot Project to Face Climate Change Impact	2.4	2.4	5.5 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in August 2011 and completed in June 2018.
4037	Thailand	UNIDO	Overcoming Policy, Market and Technological Barriers to Support Technological Innovation and South-South Technology Transfer: The Pilot Case of Ethanol Production from Cassava	3.0	3.0	31.6 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in March 2012 and completed in May 2019.
4042	Cambodia	UNIDO	Climate Change-related Technology Transfer for Cambodia: Using Agricultural Residue Biomass for Sustainable Energy Solutions	1.9	1.9	4.6 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in May 2012 and completed in December 2018.

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF PSP funding (\$ million) ^a	Total GEF funding (\$ million) ^a	Co-financing (\$ million)	Status
4055	Senegal	UNDP	Typha-based Thermal Insulation Material Production in Senegal	2.3	2.3	5.6 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in August 2012 and completed in May 2019.
4114	Sri Lanka	UNIDO	Bamboo Processing for Sri Lanka	2.7	2.7	21.3 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in April 2012 and completed in March 2021.
4129	China	World Bank	Green Truck Demonstration Project	3.0	4.9	9.8 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in March 2011 and completed in December 2015.
4132	Mexico	IDB	Promotion and Development of Local Wind Technologies in Mexico	3.0	5.5	33.7 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in December 2011 and completed in October 2022.
4136	Chile	IDB	Promotion and Development of Local Solar Technologies in Chile	3.0	3.0	31.8 ^c	The project was endorsed by the CEO in June 2012 and completed in August 2020.
4682	Colombia, Eswatini, Kenya	UNEP	SolarChill: Commercialization and Transfer	2.8	3.0	8.0 ^b	The project was endorsed by the CEO in February 2014 and completed in September 2021.
Canceled projects							
4032	Cook Islands, Turkey	UNIDO	Realizing Hydrogen Energy Installations on Small Island through Technology Cooperation	3.0	3.0	3.5 ^b	The project was cancelled in March 2012 upon request from the Agency, following

GEF ID	Country	Agency	Title	GEF PSP funding (\$ million) ^a	Total GEF funding (\$ million) ^a	Co-financing (\$ million)	Status
							changes in the concerned Government's priorities.
4040	Brazil	UNDP	Renewable CO ₂ Capture and Storage from Sugar Fermentation Industry in Sao Paulo State	3.0	3.0	7.7 ^b	The project was cancelled in February 2012 upon request from the Agency. The project preparation identified investment costs far higher than initially expected, exceeding the available financing.
4060	Jamaica	UNDP	Introduction of Renewable Wave Energy Technologies for the Generation of Electric Power in Small Coastal Communities	0.8	0.8	1.4 ^b	The project was cancelled in October 2011 upon request from the Agency.
Total				36.9	58.6	241.4	
Total (cancelled projects excluded)				30.1	51.6	228.8	

^a Includes PPGs and Agency fees.

^b Co-financing amount at the approval by the GEF Council.

^c Co-financing amount at the endorsement by the CEO.

Projects under implementation

Côte d'Ivoire: Construction of 1,000 Ton per Day Municipal Solid Waste Composting Unit in Akouedo, Abidjan

23. The project has two sub-projects. The first sub-project aims to significantly improve road traffic flow in Abidjan, fight against air pollution, reduce youth unemployment and improve the income of the population, particularly women economic operators. This sub-project is subdivided into four (4) components: i) Implementation of infrastructure; ii) Right-of-Way Clearance; iii) Related Amenities and Gender Measures, and iv) Project Management and Institution Building.

24. The second sub-project relates to waste management. Since the end of the 1960s, the public landfill of Akouédo had been the principal outlet for household waste in Abidjan with approximately 18 million tons of waste dumped directly onto the ground. The second sub-project involves the construction and operation of a pilot 1,000 tons/day industrial composting unit in the said agglomeration, thus reducing anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, which cause climate change. This sub-project includes the following components: (i) sustainable integrated municipal solid waste (MSW) management framework for Abidjan; (ii) improvement of the door-to-door MSW collection system and installation of a sustainable information system; (iii) construction of a turnkey project for the MSW treatment and industrial composting unit; and (iv) technology transfer, capacity building and dissemination, transfer of technical and financial know-how, prefeasibility and pilot testing activities.

25. This project was endorsed by the CEO in October 2013. After several years of delay, the project conducted studies and carried out an environmental impact assessment, finalizing project preparation. Implementation was started in November 2016. The project suffered substantial delays, with the official start of the investment activities only in 2017. The project has been extended three times. In this reporting period, the Agency has requested a one-year extension until January 2025. The terminal evaluation for this project is expected by the end of 2025.

Status Update

26. The following activities have been completed:

- a) Drawing up a detailed Urban Plan for the Urban Unit: this activity began on January 30, 2022 and was completed on September 30, 2022. This activity covers the urbanized territories of the three landlocked Communes of Treichville, Marcory and Koumassi, and aims to equip them with urban planning and development tools, in line with the Urban Master Plan for Greater Abidjan. Capacity building for Autonomous Abidjan District (ADD)'s urban planning division: this activity started on June 30, 2023 and was completed on September 30, 2023. This activity aims to provide the 13 Communes and ADD departments with effective governance and integrated planning structures for the development and implementation of urban development plans in the Autonomous District of Abidjan.

27. The following activities are currently underway:

- b) Air quality assessment and improvement: this activity began on May 14, 2021 and was suspended on June 30, 2022. This study aimed to improve the living environment of populations in the Greater Abidjan region through institutional, regulatory, and operational legal measures to mitigate air pollution due to pollutant emissions (PM10, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, CO, CO2, VOC, N2O, NH3, Black Carbon) from vehicle traffic and industrial activities.
- c) Acquisition of air measurement equipment: this activity began on June 30, 2023 and was completed on April 30, 2024. This activity consists of supplying air quality measurement equipment for structures in charge of monitoring air quality.
- d) Drawing up a traffic plan for Abidjan: this activity began on October 19, 2021 and was completed on May 25, 2024. The aim of this study is to propose measures and equipment needed to improve urban mobility, road fluidity, and road safety for the people of Abidjan.
- e) Elaboration of an Abidjan Drainage Plan: this activity started on March 15, 2024 and is scheduled for completion on January 15, 2025. The purpose of the drainage plan and climate adaptation strategy is to provide the Autonomous District of Abidjan with a detailed, integrated primary, secondary and tertiary drainage plan capable of evacuating and regulating rainwater to prevent flooding during the rainy seasons, as well as a climate plan and climate adaptation strategy.
- f) Preliminary design study and final design study for the Yopougon BRT line: this activity began on March 15, 2024 and is scheduled for completion on May 31, 2024. This activity consists in carrying out preliminary technical studies with a view to creating a corridor specially dedicated to buses in Yopougon along the 5 km section.

28. Support for municipal waste composting: This activity began in May 2023. It involves the construction of a pilot composting unit for municipal waste in the Bonoua area. The aim is to set up a mechanism for the organic and energetic recovery of waste through biogas and compost, with a view to reducing methane and black carbon emissions.

29. It is worth mentioning that the Government of Cote d'Ivoire decided to close the Akouédo composting site in December 2018 to rehabilitate it. The closure and rehabilitation of the landfill was a result of both environmental considerations and the willingness of Ivorian authorities to improve the living conditions for a neighbouring population. Ivorian authorities requested the relocation of the site to a new landfill in Bonoua. To avoid problems encountered at the Akouédo landfill, the executing agency carried out an environmental and social impact assessment at Bonoua.

30. Additionally, in accordance with applicable policies, the African Development Bank (AfDB) requested: (i) an updated feasibility study on the Bonoua site, including the development of the new site and the potential waste to be treated at this site; (ii) the project implementation schedule at the new Bonoua site; (iii) the waste management strategy; and (iv) detailed implementation studies of the composting, among others. In May 2023, the land was secured by the government and was handed over to the project for development.

31. There have been significant delays in project implementation due to difficulties in fulfilling disbursement clauses, the relocation of the site, as well as protracted procurement. To help mitigate these problems, AfDB conducted fiduciary trainings and enhanced the capacity of the project implementation unit on AfDB's procurement procedures and rules.

32. It should be noted that, during the reporting period, the purchase of the composting plant has been completed. However, some difficulties have been noted with the service provider in charge of setting up the composting plant and training the personnel. These difficulties are well on the way to being resolved and should enable the plant to operate soon.

Outreach and Awareness-Raising Activities

33. Expected outreach and awareness-raising activities in 2024 for the Autonomous District of Abidjan are the following:

- a) Participation in a workshop on the Economics of Mobility and Public Transport to be held in Paris, France, from June 4 to 5, 2024.
- b) Participation in a workshop on Urban Management in the City of Brussels, on the 40th anniversary of STRATEC, specialized in urban parking and soft mobility, on June 30, 2024, in Belgium.
- c) Participation in the 12th World Urban Forum, to be held in Cairo, Egypt, from November 04 to 08, 2024.

ANNEX 5: STATUS REPORT ON THE LDCF AND SCCF FOR FY24¹⁵⁵

1. The Least Developed Countries Fund for Climate Change (LDCF) was established in November 2002 to address the needs of the least developed countries whose economic and geophysical characteristics make them especially vulnerable to the impact of global warming and climate change. The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), consisting of two active **funding** windows, i.e., Program for Adaptation and Program for Technology Transfer, was established in November 2004 to finance activities, programs and measures relating to climate change that are complementary to those funded by resources from the GEF Trust Fund and with bilateral and multilateral funding. The **GEF** administers both the SCCF and LDCF and the World Bank acts as trustee for both funds.

Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)

2. **Status of Pledges and Contributions.** As of June 30, 2024, pledges had been received from 28 Contributing Participants: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The total amount pledged to date is \$2.2 billion eq.¹⁵⁶ and signed contribution agreements for \$2.12 billion eq. Of this, payments amounting to \$2.07 billion eq. have been received from donors since inception of the Trust Fund. Annex A5.1 shows details of the status of pledges, contributions¹⁵⁷ and payments made to the LDCF since inception.

3. During the period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, the LDCF Trust Fund received pledges amounting to approximately \$142.72 million eq. This includes pledges from Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Spain, Slovenia, and Switzerland. The Trustee has received \$194.74 million eq. against signed contribution agreements during this period.

4. **Summary of Funding Approvals, Trustee Commitments and Cash Transfers.** As of June 30, 2024, cumulative net funding decisions by the Council and the CEO amounted to \$2.12 billion, of which \$1.90 billion was for projects and project preparation activities, \$191.53 million was for fees, and \$30.79 million was for administrative expenses and corporate activities of the **LDCF**.

5. Funding approved by the Council and the CEO is committed by the Trustee and transferred following established procedures for all financial transactions as agreed between the Trustee and the Agencies. The Trustee has committed a net total amount of \$1.72 billion, of which \$1.55 billion relates to projects and project preparation activities, \$135.50 million to fees, and \$30.79 million to cover corporate activities and administrative expenses.

¹⁵⁵ This status report was provided by the Trustee of the LDCF and the SCCF (World Bank). The GEF Secretariat did not edit this report.

¹⁵⁶ US Dollar Equivalent

¹⁵⁷ Represents the amounts for which donors have signed contribution agreements with the Trustee.

6. Cash transfers were made to Agencies on an as-needed basis to meet their projected disbursement requirements. Out of the cumulative commitments of \$1.72 billion, upon request from Agencies, the Trustee has transferred \$1.20 billion as of June 30, 2024. As a result, \$519.88 million remains payable to Agencies. Details of funding approvals, commitments and cash transfers can be found in table A5.2.

7. **Schedule of Funds Available.** Funds held in trust without restrictions total \$1.03 billion, comprising of cash and investments. Of this amount, \$1.01 billion has been set-aside to cover funding decisions by the Council or by the CEO. Consequently, net funds available for programming approval by the Council or the CEO amounts to \$21.05 million. Details on the funds available for Council or CEO approval as of June 30, 2024 can be found in table A5.3.

8. **Investment Income.** Pending cash transfers to Agencies, cash contributions paid to LDCF Trust Fund are held in trust by the World Bank and maintained in a commingled investment portfolio (“Pool”) for all trust funds administered by the World Bank. The assets in the Pool are managed in accordance with the investment strategy established for all the trust funds administered by the World Bank. The LDCF had cumulative investment returns from funds held in trust of \$159.06 million as of June 30, 2024.

Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)

9. **Status of Pledges and Contributions.** As of June 30, 2024, pledges had been received from 16 Contributing Participants: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The total amount pledged to date is \$431.45 million eq. and signed contribution agreements for \$422.48 million eq. Of this, payments amounting to \$401.23 million have been received from donors since inception of the Trust Fund.

10. During the period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, the SCCF Trust Fund received pledges amounting to approximately \$34.79 million eq. This includes pledges from Canada, Ireland, Spain, and the United Kingdom. The Trustee has received \$37.32 million eq. against signed contribution agreements during this period.

11. Table A5.4 shows details of the status of pledges, contributions¹⁵⁸ and payments made to the SCCF since its inception; Table A5.5 presents the contributions and payments information broken down by program.

12. **Summary of Funding Approvals, Trustee Commitments and Cash Transfers.** As of June 30, 2024, cumulative net funding decisions taken by the Council and the CEO amounted to \$393.78million, of which \$345.48 million was for projects and project preparation activities, \$34.05 million was for fees, and \$14.24 million was for administrative expenses and corporate activities of the SCCF.

13. Funding approved by the Council and CEO is committed by the Trustee and transferred following established procedures for all financial transactions as agreed between the Trustee and

¹⁵⁸ Represents the amounts for which donors have signed contribution agreements with the Trustee.

the Agencies. Out of total funding approvals of \$393.78 million, the Trustee committed \$368.53 million, of which \$322.38 million relates to projects and project preparation activities, \$31.91 million to fees, and \$14.24 million to cover corporate activities and administrative expenses.

14. The Trustee transfers cash to Agencies on an as-needed basis to meet the projected disbursement requirements of the Agencies. As of June 30, 2024, out of total cumulative commitments of \$368.53 million, the Agencies have requested, and the Trustee has transferred \$346.09 million. As a result, \$22.44 million remains payable to Agencies, pending their request. Details of funding approvals, commitments and cash transfers can be found in Table A5.6.

15. **Schedule of Funds Available.** Funds held in Trust without restriction comprising cash and investments for both the Adaptation and Transfer of Technology programs total \$86.20 million eq. Of this amount, \$46.07 million has been set-aside to cover funding approved by the Council. Consequently, net funds available for approval by the Council or the CEO amount to \$40.13 million. Details on the funds available for Council or CEO approval as of June 30, 2024 can be found in Table A5.7 which shows the funding status by program.

16. **Investment Income.** The SCCF shares the same investment management as the LDCF. Its overall investment return was \$29.17 million from inception to June 30, 2024.

Table A5.1: LDCF Status of Pledges and Contributions as of June 30, 2024 (amount in USD eq. Million)

1	Total Pledges Outstanding and Contributions Finalized			Pledges Outstanding		Contribution Agreements Finalized				
	2	3 = 5 + 7	4 = 6 + 9 + 11	5	6	7 = 8 + 10	Paid (Receipts)		Unpaid	
Contributing Participant	Currency	Total Amount in Currency	USD _{eq.} a/	Amount in Currency	USD _{eq.}	Total Contributions in Currency	Amount Paid in Currency	USD _{eq.}	Amount Due in Currency	USD _{eq.}
Australia	AUD	46.50	42.97	0	0	46.50	46.50	42.97	0	0
Austria	EUR	1.90	2.67	0	0	1.90	1.90	2.67	0	0
Belgium	b/ EUR	242.29	277.34	27.50 d/	29.45	214.79	189.79	221.12	25.00	26.77
Canada	c/ CAD	111.00	90.14	0	0	111.00	111.00	90.14	0	0
Czech Republic	EUR	0.02	0.03	0	0	0.02	0.02	0.03	0	0
Denmark	DKK	1,136.40	173.53	0	0	1,136.40	1,136.40	173.53	0	0
Estonia	EUR	1.00	1.14	0	0	1.00	1.00	1.14	0	0
Finland	EUR	44.60	55.75	0	0	44.60	44.60	55.75	0	0
France	EUR	110.85	122.87	35.00 d/	37.48	75.85	75.85	85.39	0	0
Germany	EUR	453.00	540.03	0	0	453.00	448.00	534.68	5.00	5.35
Hungary	EUR	1.00	1.34	0	0	1.00	1.00	1.34	0	0
Iceland	USD	1.18	1.18	0	0	1.18	1.18	1.18	0	0
Ireland	EUR	21.23	24.58	0	0	21.23	21.23	24.58	0	0
	USD	8.00	8.00	0	0	8.00	8.00	8.00	0	0
Italy	USD	3.00	3.00	0	0	3.00	3.00	3.00	0	0
Japan	USD	1.08	1.08	0	0	1.08	1.08	1.08	0	0
Luxembourg	EUR	1.00	1.58	0	0	1.00	1.00	1.58	0	0
	USD	4.12	4.12	0	0	4.12	4.12	4.12	0	0
Netherlands	EUR	55.20	73.17	0	0	55.20	55.20	73.17	0	0
	USD	100.20	100.20	0	0	100.20	85.95	85.95	14.25	14.25
New Zealand	NZD	8.10	5.81	0	0	8.10	8.10	5.81	0	0
Norway	NOK	280.00	39.94	0	0	280.00	280.00	39.94	0	0
	USD	2.00	2.00	0	0	2.00	2.00	2.00	0	0
Portugal	EUR	0.05	0.06	0	0	0.05	0.05	0.06	0	0
Qatar	USD	0.50	0.50	0	0	0.50	0.50	0.50	0	0
Romania	EUR	0.15	0.21	0	0	0.15	0.15	0.21	0	0
Slovenia	EUR	0.18	0.20	0	0	0.18	0.18	0.20	0	0
Spain	EUR	11.35	12.66	0	0	11.35	11.35	12.66	0	0
Sweden	SEK	1,767.00	209.01	0	0	1,767.00	1,767.00	209.01	0	0
Switzerland	CHF	43.73	46.15	11.13	12.38	32.61	32.61	33.77	0	0
United Kingdom	GBP	122.00	186.84	0	0	122.00	122.00	186.84	0	0
United States	USD	183.20	183.20	10.00	10.00	173.20	173.20	173.20	0	0
			<u>2,211.31</u>		<u>89.31</u>			<u>2,075.62</u>		<u>46.38</u>

a/ Paid in cash contributions (Receipts) are at the actual US dollar value. Pledges outstanding, contribution amounts pending FX and unpaid amounts are valued at exchange rates applicable as on June 30, 2024.

b/ Includes contribution of EUR 19.85 million from the Walloon Government of Belgium which has been fully received

c/ Includes CAD 6 million received from the Government of Quebec.

d/ Represents pledge from COP 28 held in December 2023

Table A5.2: LDCF Summary of Allocation, Commitments and Disbursements as of June 30, 2024 (amount in USD eq. Million)

Entity	Cumulative Net Amounts			
	Approved Allocations (1)	Commitments (2)	Transfers (3)	Amount Due (4) = (2) - (3)
Projects				
ADB	39.27	39.12	15.46	23.66
AfDB	172.54	163.61	94.88	68.73
BOAD	2.05	2.05	2.05	-
CI	10.23	10.23	1.08	9.15
FAO	263.99	213.85	126.59	87.27
IBRD	148.29	94.26	77.31	16.95
IFAD	106.57	70.84	43.70	27.13
IUCN	23.29	14.31	4.50	9.81
UNDP	856.67	715.94	561.89	154.05
UNEP	205.39	187.54	120.00	67.54
UNIDO	67.88	36.97	10.49	26.48
WWF	9.97	9.97	0.52	9.45
<i>Sub-total</i>	1,906.13	1,558.69	1,058.47	500.23
Fees				
ADB	3.41	1.80	1.31	0.49
AfDB	16.28	12.92	5.35	7.57
BOAD	0.16	0.00	-	0.00
CI	0.92	0.26	0.17	0.09
FAO	26.87	16.84	16.37	0.47
IBRD	15.20	9.99	7.24	2.75
IFAD	11.44	6.01	5.08	0.92
IUCN	2.10	1.03	0.68	0.34
UNDP	85.95	67.57	66.59	0.98
UNEP	21.41	17.51	16.96	0.55
UNIDO	6.28	1.21	1.03	0.18
WWF	1.51	0.37	0.15	0.22
<i>Sub-total</i>	191.53	135.50	120.93	14.57
Corporate Budget ^{a/}				
Secretariat	22.80	22.80	18.55	4.25
Evaluation	0.88	0.88	0.68	0.20
STAP	0.67	0.67	0.63	0.04
Trustee	6.44	6.44	5.85	0.59
<i>Sub-total</i>	30.79	30.79	25.71	5.08
Total for LDCF	2,128.45	1,724.99	1,205.11	519.88

a/ Includes amounts allocated to cover administrative expenses to manage the LDCF and Corporate activities, including annual audit.

Table A5.3: LDCF for Climate Change Schedule of Funds Available updated as of June 30, 2024 (amount in USD eq. Million)

Trust Fund for Least Developed Countries Fund for Climate Change Schedule of Funds Available as of June 30, 2024		(in USDeq.)
<u>1. Funds held in Trust</u>		1,032.99 ^{a/}
Cash and investments	1,032.99	
Promissory notes	0	
<u>2. Restricted Funds</u>		0
Reserve to cover foreign exchange rate fluctuations	0	
Set aside for approved activities pending requirements	0	
3. Funds held in Trust with no restrictions (3 = 1 - 2)		1,032.99
<u>4. Approved Amounts pending disbursement</u>		1,011.94
Amounts Trustee Committed	514.84	
Amounts pending Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement	420.14	
Umbrella Set-aside	76.96	
5. Funds Available for Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement (5 = 3 - 4) b/		21.05

^{a/} Amounts pending FX are valued at exchange rate as of June 30, 2024.

Table A5.4: SCCF Status of Pledges and Contributions as of June 30, 2024 (amount in USD eq. Million)

1	Total Pledges Outstanding and Contributions Finalized a/			Pledges Outstanding		Contribution Agreements Finalized				
	2	3 = 5 + 7	4 = 6 + 9 + 11	5	6	Paid (Receipts)			Unpaid	
						7 = 8 + 10	8	9	10	11
Contributing Participant	Currency	Total Amount in Currency	USDeq. b/	Amount in Currency	USDeq.	Total Contribution in Currency	Amount Paid in Currency	USDeq.	Amount Due in Currency	USDeq.
Belgium	EUR	31.00	41.21	0	0	31.00	31.00	41.21	0	0
Canada	CAD	47.70	37.96	0	0	47.70	28.50	23.93	19.20	14.02
	USD	4.82	4.82	0	0	4.82	4.82	4.82	0	0
Denmark	DKK	125.00	19.86	0	0	125.00	109.50	17.63	15.50	2.23
Finland	EUR	13.87	17.95	0	0	13.87	13.87	17.95	0	0
	USD	0.37	0.37	0	0	0.37	0.37	0.37	0	0
Germany	EUR	100.02	131.41	0	0	100.02	100.02	131.41	0	0
Ireland	EUR	4.19	4.55	0	0	4.19	4.19	4.55	0	0
	USD	2.13	2.13	0	0	2.13	2.13	2.13	0	0
Italy	USD	10.00	10.00	0	0	10.00	5.00	5.00	5.00 c/	5.00
Netherlands	EUR	2.40	3.13	0	0	2.40	2.40	3.13	0	0
Norway	NOK	198.00	34.59	0	0	198.00	198.00	34.59	0	0
Portugal	EUR	1.07	1.30	0	0	1.07	1.07	1.30	0	0
Slovenia	EUR	0.07	0.08	0	0	0.07	0.07	0.08	0	0
Spain	EUR	11.00	14.53	0	0	11.00	11.00	14.53	0	0
Sweden	SEK	40.00	6.12	0	0	40.00	40.00	6.12	0	0
Switzerland	CHF	26.46	27.52	8.07 d/	8.98	18.40	18.40	18.54	0	0
	USD	0.40	0.40	0	0	0.40	0.40	0.40	0	0
United Kingdom	GBP	14.00	23.54	0	0	14.00	14.00	23.54	0	0
United States	USD	50.00	50.00	0	0	50.00	50.00	50.00	0	0
			431.46		8.98			401.23		21.25

a/ Pledged contributions are made towards the Program for Adaptation and for the Transfer of Technology.

b/ Paid in cash contributions (Receipts) are at the actual US dollar value. Pledges outstanding, contribution amounts pending FX and unpaid amounts are valued at exchange rates applicable as on June 30, 2024.

c/ Contribution past due.

d/ Represents multi-year pledge announced during COP27 .

Table A5.5: SCCF Status of Contributions by Program as of June 30, 2024 (amount in USD eq. Million)

Contributing Participant	Currency	Total Contributions	Contribution Agreements Finalized			
			Paid (Receipts)		Unpaid	
			Amount Paid in Currency	USDeq.	Amount Due in Currency	USDeq.
I. Program for Adaptation						
Canada	CAD	31.00	21.00	17.72	10.00	7.31
Denmark	DKK	115.00	99.50	15.82	15.50	2.23
Finland	USD	0.37	0.37	0.37	-	-
	EUR	13.52	13.52	17.52	-	-
Germany	EUR	100.02	100.02	131.41	-	-
Ireland	USD	1.28	1.28	1.28	-	-
	EUR	4.19	4.19	4.55	-	-
Italy	USD	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00 c/	5.00
Netherlands	EUR	2.40	2.40	3.13	-	-
Norway	NOK	181.50	181.50	31.59	-	-
Portugal	EUR	1.07	1.07	1.30	-	-
Slovenia	EUR	0.07	0.07	0.08	-	-
Spain	EUR	10.00	10.00	13.23	-	-
Sweden	SEK	37.00	37.00	5.69	-	-
Switzerland	CHF	12.42	12.42	12.61	-	-
	USD	0.40	0.40	0.40	-	-
United Kingdom	GBP	14.00	14.00	23.54	-	-
United States	USD	50.00	50.00	50.00	-	-
				330.24		14.53
II. Program for Technology Transfer						
Belgium	EUR	31.00	33.22	41.21	-	-
Canada	CAD	16.70	7.50	6.22	9.20	6.72
	USD	4.82	4.82	4.82	-	-
Denmark	DKK	10.00	10.00	1.81	-	-
Finland	EUR	0.35	0.35	0.42	-	-
Ireland	USD	0.85	0.85	0.85	-	-
Italy	USD	5.00	5.00	5.00	-	-
Norway	NOK	16.50	16.50	3.00	-	-
Spain	EUR	1.00	1.00	1.30	-	-
Sweden	SEK	3.00	3.00	0.43	-	-
Switzerland	CHF	5.98	5.98	5.93	-	-
				71.00		6.72
TOTAL				401.23		21.25

a/ Pledged contributions are made towards the Program for Adaptation and for the Transfer of Technology.

b/ Paid in cash contributions (Receipts) are at the actual US dollar value. Pledges outstanding, contribution amounts pending FX and unpaid amounts are valued at exchange rates applicable as on June 30, 2024.

c/ Contribution past due.

d/ Represents multi-year pledge announced during COP27.

Table A5.6: SCCF Summary of Allocations, Commitments and Disbursements as of June 30, 2024 (amount in USD eq. Million)

Entity	Cumulative Net Amounts			
	Approved Allocations	Commitments	Transfers	Amount Due
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4) = (2) - (3)
Projects				
ADB	10.83	10.83	8.68	2.15
AfDB	12.08	12.08	8.98	3.11
CAFVE	8.96	8.96	8.96	-
CI	4.02	4.02	3.55	0.47
EBRD	16.14	16.14	15.94	0.20
FAO	45.98	22.88	22.36	0.52
IADB	6.03	6.03	6.03	-
IBRD	82.17	82.17	73.17	9.00
IFAD	37.18	37.18	37.59	(0.41)
UNDP	80.81	80.81	80.91	(0.10)
UNEP	31.34	31.34	31.34	-
UNIDO	8.29	8.29	4.18	4.11
WWF	1.65	1.65	0.89	0.76
<i>Sub-total</i>	345.48	322.38	302.58	19.80
Fees				
ADB	1.11	1.11	1.11	-
AfDB	1.13	1.13	0.53	0.61
CAFVE	0.53	0.53	0.53	-
CI	0.36	0.36	0.28	0.08
EBRD	1.58	1.58	1.56	0.02
FAO	4.07	2.32	2.32	-
IADB	0.60	0.60	0.60	-
IBRD	8.84	8.84	8.84	-
IFAD	3.79	3.75	3.75	-
UNDP	7.95	7.95	7.95	-
UNEP	3.13	3.03	3.03	-
UNIDO	0.79	0.55	0.36	0.19
WWF	0.15	0.15	0.15	-
<i>Sub-total</i>	34.05	31.91	31.01	0.90
Corporate Budget a/				
Secretariat	9.71	9.71	8.36	1.34
Evaluation	0.87	0.87	0.73	0.14
STAP	0.76	0.76	0.63	0.13
Trustee	2.91	2.91	2.78	0.13
<i>Sub-total</i>	14.24	14.24	12.50	1.74
Total for SCCF	393.78	368.53	346.09	22.44

a/ Includes amounts allocated to cover administrative expenses to manage the SCCF and Corporate activities, including annual audit.

Table A5.7: SCCF Schedule of Funds Available updated as of June 30, 2024 (amount in USD eq. Million)

(in mn USD eq.)

<u>Program for Adaptation</u>		
<u>1. Funds held in Trust</u>		60.24 <i>a/</i>
Cash and investments	60.24	
Promissory notes	0	
<u>2. Restricted Funds</u>		0
Reserve to cover foreign exchange rate fluctuations	0	
Set aside for approved activities pending requirements	0	
3. Funds held in Trust with no restrictions (3 = 1 - 2)		60.24
<u>4. Approved Amounts pending disbursement</u>		37.56
Amounts Trustee Committed	12.38	
Amounts pending Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement	25.18	
Umbrella Set-aside	-	
5. Funds Available for Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement (5 = 3 - 4)		22.67
<u>Program for Transfer of Technology</u>		
<u>6. Funds held in Trust</u>		25.97 <i>a/</i>
Cash and investments	25.97	
Promissory notes	0	
<u>7. Restricted Funds</u>		0
Reserve to cover foreign exchange rate fluctuations	0	
Set aside for approved activities pending requirements	0	
8. Funds held in Trust with no restrictions (8 = 6 - 7)		25.97
<u>9. Approved Amounts pending disbursement</u>		8.51
Amounts Trustee Committed	8.44	
Amounts pending Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement	0.07	
10. Funds Available for Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement (10 = 8 - 9)		17.45
Total SCCF Funds Available for Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement (5 + 10)		40.13
<i>a/</i> Amounts pending FX are valued at exchange rate as of June 30, 2024.		

ANNEX 6: STATUS REPORT ON THE CBIT TRUST FUND FOR FY24 ¹⁵⁹

Table A6.1: CBIT Status of Contributions as of June 30, 2024
(amount in USD eq. Million)

Contributing Participant	Currency	Contribution in Currency	Paid (Receipts)	
			Amount Paid-in Currency	Amount Paid-in USDeq. a/
Australia	AUD	2.00	2.00	1.53
Belgium	EUR	0.40	0.40	0.47
Canada	CAD	5.00	5.00	3.71
Germany	EUR	10.00	10.00	10.59
Ireland	USD	0.39	0.39	0.39
Italy	EUR	4.00	4.00	4.31
Japan	USD	5.00	5.00	5.00
Netherlands	EUR	1.00	1.00	1.04
New Zealand	NZD	0.13	0.13	0.09
Norway	NOK	9.00	9.00	1.09
Sweden	SEK	30.00	30.00	3.22
Switzerland	CHF	1.00	1.00	1.00
United Kingdom	GBP	11.00	11.00	14.27
United States	USD	14.88	14.88	14.88
				<u>61.59</u>

a/ Represents the actual US dollar value of paid-in cash contributions

¹⁵⁹ This status report was provided by the Trustee of the CBIT Trust Fund (World Bank). The GEF Secretariat did not edit this report.

**Table A6.2: CBIT TF Schedule of Funds Available updated as of June 30, 2024
(amount in USD eq. Million)**

Trust Fund for Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency		(in USDeq.)
Schedule of Funds Available as of		
June 30, 2024		
<u>1. Funds held in Trust</u>		7.22
Cash and investments	7.22	
<u>2. Approved Amounts pending disbursement</u>		3.02
Amounts Trustee Committed	3.02	
Amounts pending Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement	0.00	
3. Funds Available for Council/CEO approval and/or CEO endorsement (3 = 1 -2)		<u>4.20</u>