

COMMUNITY ACTION GLOBAL IMPACT



NATIONAL ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES

GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

DEON STEWART

Background

Created in 1992 after the Rio Earth Summit that changed the way the world dealt with environmental matters at the global level. Fund direct assistance to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) which are non-profits working in the thematic areas of the GEF SGP.

“Its known as the people’s GEF” since it does not have government influence as a majority in controlling review of approval of proposals. Provides opportunities to smaller community groups to achieve local projects in their communities.

SGP funds “small grants” up to a maximum of \$50,000, although in practice the average grant amount is in the \$20,000 to \$25,000 range.

A “strategic projects” window has recently been added for grant-making up to a maximum of \$150,000 to allow for scaling up and to support initiatives that cover a large number of communities within a critical landscape or seascape.

Small grants allow communities and CSOs, in particular those that are poor and vulnerable, to access the appropriate level of funding as they develop their capacity and for the programme to take measured risks in testing new methods and technologies and to innovate as needed.

SGP Strategic Focus

Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation

During OP6, SGP will identify important ecosystems and use a landscape and seascape (CLSC) approach for their protection and sustainable use. With this initiative, SGP will implement a truly multi-focal approach involving communities in buffer zones and corridors thus providing connectivity for complex landscape mosaics.

Climate Smart Innovative Agro-ecology

SGP's niche will be in the production buffer zones of its identified critical ecosystems, also in forest corridors in danger of fragmentation, often remote and unaddressed by other traditional donors. Small grants in this initiative will be applied in synergy with the GEF-6 SLM for Climate-Smart Agriculture program.

SGP Strategic Focus

Low-Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits

SGP will contribute to satisfying global demand for energy services for people without access to electricity and those that still rely on traditional biomass for cooking. SGP will focus on providing bottom-up energy solutions that are low-cost and provide high potential for carbon emissions reductions. SGP will align its efforts with the larger framework of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) to facilitate mainstreaming and scaling up.

Local to Global Chemicals Management Coalitions

SGP will focus its support on communities in the forefront of chemical threats either as users or consumers. Activities will include support for innovative, affordable and practical solutions to chemicals management in joint efforts with SGP's established partners such as the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN), as well as new partnerships including with government agencies, research institutions, the private sector, and international agencies.

Project Areas that can be funded by GEF SGP

The main focal areas of the programme are:

Climate change mitigation

conservation of **biodiversity**

protection of **international waters**

reduction of the impact of **chemicals** persistent
organic pollutants

prevention of **land degradation**

Capacity development

Types of organizations eligible for grants

The term CSO is broad, and includes various types of organizations.

The GEF Council in 1995 defines a CSO as:

“non-profit organizations whose mandate, experience, expertise and capacity are relevant to the work of the GEF”.

This includes

- Community Based Organisations (CBO)
- Civil Society Organisations (CSO)
- Local national non-profit organizations
- Non Government Organisations (NGO) networks, dedicated to preserving the environment or promoting sustainable development
- Indigenous peoples organizations
- Academic institutions

What does the GEF SGP fund and What cannot be funded?

Planning process

Stakeholder meetings

Materials and supplies

Equipment

Technical training workshops

Administrative costs up to 10%

National transportation

Sharing of experiences and networking

Capacity development

Labour, wages or salaries

Purchase of land

Purchase of vehicles (e.g. automobiles, water crafts, air crafts, submersibles)

Capital development (buildings etc.)

International travel

International consultants

Recurrent costs (e.g. rent, maintenance, etc.)

How are GEF SGP grants financed?

CSOs that are eligible can apply for up to \$50,000.00 in grant funding within a four year GEF funding cycle and benefit for up to three cycles

The GEF SGP requires that grants be financed 1:1 by the project (this can be a combination of cash and in-kind contributions to the project)

Successful CSOs will receive an initial disbursement up to 25% and subsequent disbursements through the life of the project subject to reporting

Project funds are sent directly to the CSOs

Project duration can be up to 12 months, excluding planning period which can be up to 3 months

Technical and Financial Reporting periods are usually quarterly

Project sustainability and business plans

The funds provided by SGP are primarily **seed funds**, designed to give the project a significant start.

Innovative **mechanisms to sustain the initiative** must be included in the planned project proposal.

GEF SGP Grants are **not to be the savior for the CSO**, CSOs should be in a position to function without the grant.

For every 5 minute execution, spend 50 hours planning.

In the long term projects can be grow and be up-scaled into medium and full size projects (another window of opportunity)

How to apply for a grant from the GEF SGP

registered CSOs inclusive of NGOs and Community Groups can apply

Contact the GEF SGP National Coordinator for application template

Review the GEF SGP **Country Programme Strategy**

Complete the Project Concept Form and submit it to GEF SGP with required documents

Plan and Develop Project Proposal using GEF SGP Template and Guidelines (assistance is available)

- Project Activities
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Project Risks and Assumptions
- Project Outcomes and Outputs
- Project Budget

Who Makes The Decision on Project Approval?

Each SGP country programme has a **volunteer multi-sectoral National Steering Committee (NSC)**

The NSC assures a “**country-driven**” approach to SGP implementation and allows civil-society leadership and capacity building in the management of a national program.

NSCs foster joint efforts between key national civil society leaders and government officials and serve as useful platforms for CSO-government dialogue.

The local NSC of Bahamian Experts representing various focal areas:

- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Gender
- Youth
- Land degradation
- Chemicals
- International Waters

The committee is composed of 80% CSO representatives

SGP Portfolio for The Bahamas

BASIC STATS

TOTAL AMOUNTS

AVERAGE AMOUNTS

Number of Projects

50

Total Amount in Grants

1 289 504 USD

26 316 USD

Total Amount of Cash Co-financing

641 603 USD

13 094 USD

Total Amount of Kind Co-financing

761 800 USD

15 547 USD

Total Amount of Co-financing

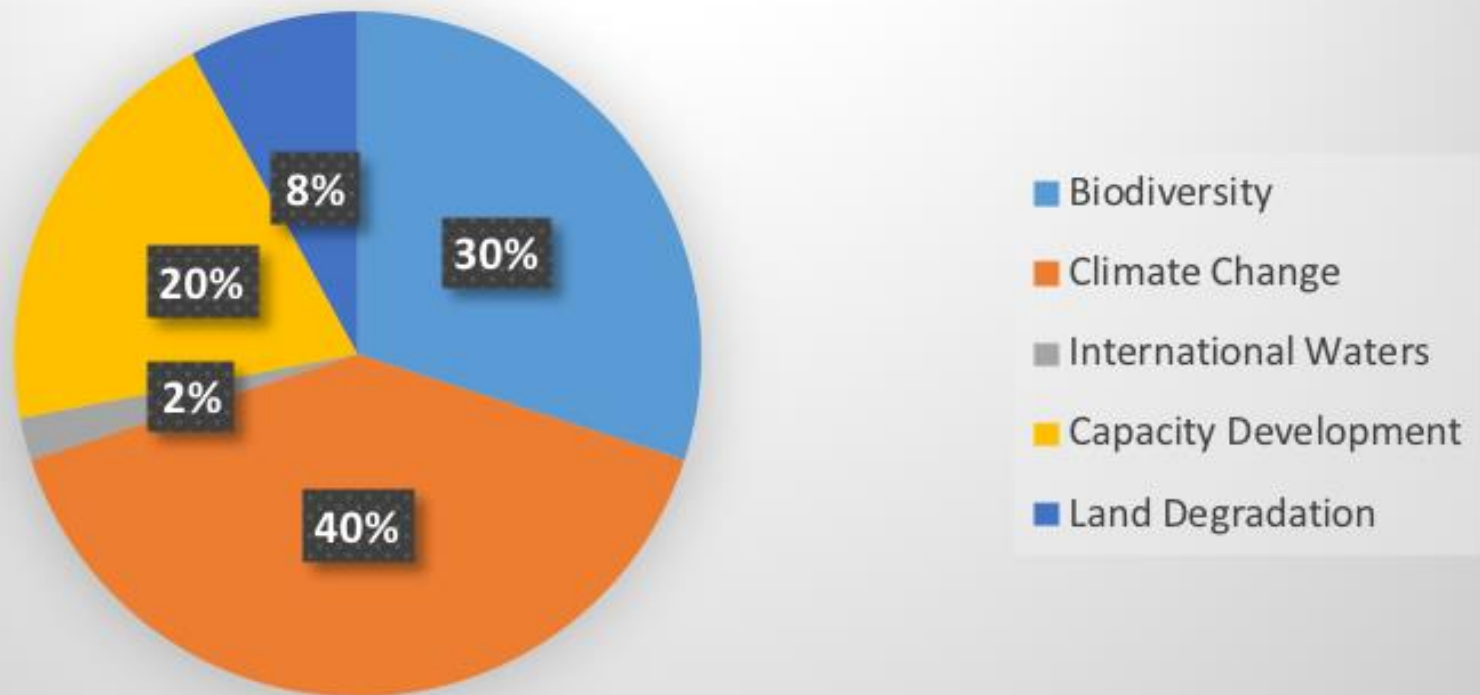
1 403 402 USD

28 641 USD



Project Portfolio

Number of projects



How to apply?

Complete 3 page project concept note.

- What is the focus of the project grant (Environmental Link is the driver)
 - What will the activities be to address the issue
 - Who will benefit from these activities
 - What are the anticipated results of your intervention
 - How will the results be measured
 - How will the results be made sustainable
 - How will the project be evaluated
 - How much will the activities cost?
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GEF SGP Application Dates

Concepts are accepted year round available on our website and can be received via email to deons@unops.org

If your concept is accepted, organisations are invited to present a proposal for consideration by the NSC

NSC meets twice a year to consider project proposals

Formal call for proposals done twice a year Fall and Spring

Next application deadline is 30th April 2018

Grants will be issued in Summer 2018

**DON'T DELAY
APPLY FOR YOUR GRANT
TODAY!**

Thank you for your participation
Discussion & Questions?

Acknowledgements

