



# The GEF Small Grants Programme

*Decentralized, democratic,  
country-driven programme*



**SGP** The GEF  
Small Grants  
Programme

## What really is GEF SGP?

## SGP is:

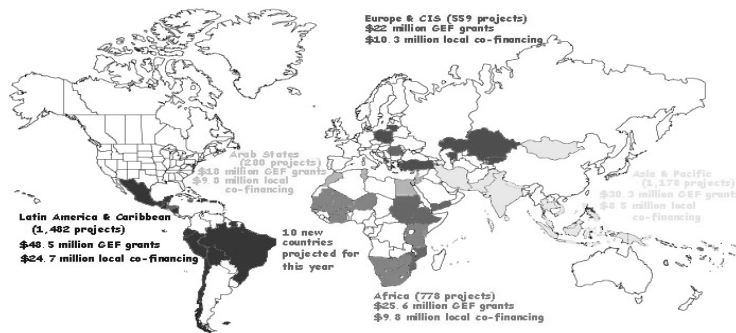
- **Part of GEF's funding modality, in addition to the Medium Sized Projects (MSP) and Full-Sized Projects (FSP)**
- **Level of grant: up to \$50,000; selected "strategic projects" – up to \$150,000**
- **Fast delivery mechanism – "shortest distance from idea into action"**

## SGP is also a Global Programme

95 countries at present, will be 115 by Feb. 2007

125 countries by Feb. 2008

*More than 6,000 projects to date*





# The GEF Small Grants Programme



- Local solutions to global environmental problems exist
  - Community-based initiatives and action
  - SGP grants: direct to (CBOs) and (NGOs)
- Process of implementation leads also to poverty reduction and local empowerment***



- “Reconciling environmental goals with poverty reduction is clearly a priority for almost all countries ... This is an arena where SGP is already demonstrating what is possible. SGP is clearly operating at the cutting edge of international efforts exploring the synergies – and sometimes even the incompatibilities – between environmental conservation and sustainable use and poverty alleviation at the local level.”

### *SGP Third Independent Evaluation*



## Nature of SGP projects

- **Grantees are local CBOs, NGOs, communities**  
– international NGOs can be partners giving support but not grantees
- **Release of funds direct to grantees; bank account must be set up**
- **Review and approval of proposals done at country level through the National or Subregional Steering Committees**

**SGP projects must truly involved community stakeholders in the design and and implementation processes: at least in-kind cofinancing required**





**Eligible projects can only  
be given grants if:**

- *Country is a participant to the GEF SGP*
- *There is already a National/Subregional Coordinator, a National Steering Committee and a Country Programme Strategy for the country*

**What then are the requirements for  
countries to be able to participate in  
SGP?**

## Prerequisite Criteria

- *Country should have ratified the Biological Diversity and Climate Change Conventions*
- *Government commitment to support SGP modality (i.e. multisectoral NSC with majority of non-governmental members)*

## Meetings with Key Government Officials and Agencies to assess commitment



## **Can a multisectoral NSC (National Steering Committee) with non-governmental majority be organized?**

The SGP NSC has the most expert, credible and influential people in the country serving as volunteers.

Can the country recruit and organize such a group?



A National Steering Committee meeting in Thailand

## **Prerequisite Criteria**

- ***Resource mobilization potential:***
  - ***Government and UNDP CO willing to cofinance and/or help attract other co-funding sources***

## **Meetings and Discussions with the UNDP Resident Representative and Focal Person**



## **Prerequisite Criteria**

- *Presence and adequate implementation capacity of local NGOs and CBOs*

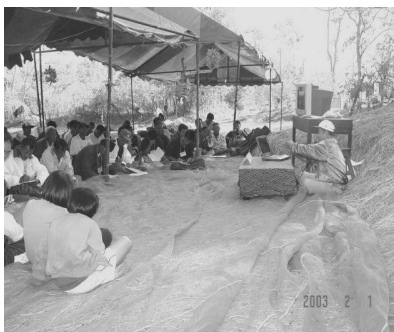
## Meetings and Workshops with CBOs/NGOs and other Civil Society members



## Checking the capacity and potential of stakeholders



## Explaining the SGP to community stakeholders and asking them how best it could be implemented



## Assessing the capacity of stakeholders for cash and in-kind cofinancing

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4. Gd. Liliyanti	10.000	23. Gd. Sidi	10.000
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6. Npm. Kencana	10.000	25. Gd. Sidi	10.000
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- A list of names and the contribution given to the SGP project activity
- Community members displaying posters depicting the success of their efforts

## Preferred Criteria

- *Existence of environmental threats/needs*
- *Existence of areas with significant global biodiversity*

**Assessing needs and potentials of community stakeholders especially of vulnerable groups: villagers living around a protected area (left),  
Carib chief with SGP NC and GM (right)**



## **Site visits to assess needs and potential project sites**



## **Preferred Criteria**

- *Presence of other relevant donor programs or of national env. fund or other local funding sources (private or public)*
- *Presence of one or more GEF projects*
- *Presence of other UNDP small grants programs*



## **Assessing existing projects for possible partnerships**



## **Final Processes**

- *Approval of appraisal and start up reports by SGP Central Programme Mgt. Team (2 weeks)*
- *Selection of National or Subregional Coordinator (1 – 2 months)*
- *Formation of National or Regional Steering Committee (1-2 months)*
- *Development and Approval of Country or Subregional Programme Strategy (2 – 3 months)*

## **Start of Grantmaking**

- **National Coordinator conducts info drive on SGP**
- *Stakeholders workshops* also organized
- *Planning grants* provided in certain cases

## **What can SGP support?**

*What are eligible projects?*

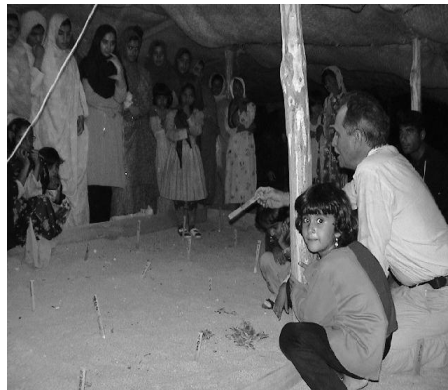
## Biodiversity Focal Area



## Marine Turtle Conservation



Manolo Ibiac holds a one-month-old olive ridley turtle



### Artificial Reef Project in Iran

- Since early 90s fishermen in Salakh village complain of reduction in fish stocks from damage to coral, industrial fishing.
- SGP is supporting village council to build artificial reefs with local materials to boost fish stocks.
- Fishermen themselves build the light-weight reefs, assemble them on their dhows, and place them on sea bed.
- Iranian Fisheries Organization interested in funding future projects, since communities can take the initiative themselves in a cost-effective way.
- 100 reefs placed on sea bed in May 2004.



### Pearls of the Persian Gulf

- First ever community-based project to produce pearls through aquaculture of oysters in Iran
- Aim to give fishermen community new source of income and relieve already heavy pressure on fish stocks
- Fishermen spend about 10 days a month on project, currently cultivating oysters.



## Mooring Bouys Project in Mauritius



## Golden Eagle Project in Kazakhstan

Example of Integrating Culture and Environment



## Agrobiodiversity: Conservation of Native Rice Varieties in Malaysia



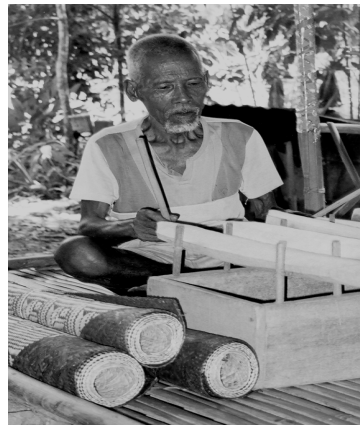
## Biodiversity Focal Area: Working on microenterprises, business plans, marketing



**Communities organized and given preference to set up sustainable businesses linked to ecotourism in a COMPACT (Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation) project in a World Heritage Site in Palawan, Philippines**



**Utilization of “minor” forest products for sustainable livelihoods**



## Climate Change Focal Area



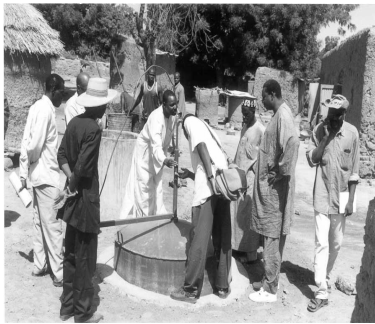


**Utilizing solar energy for drying agricultural crops and medicinal herbs**



**Providing Innab Al Kabear Village with Electrification through utilizing wind and Photovoltaic cells**





Community members in the peri-urban areas of Bamako experiment with a new biogas installation. An SGP project implemented by the Malifolkecenter has established 5 test sites. The community is involved in helping adapt this technology to the specific needs of this region.



Residents of the Kizil-Charba village in northern Kyrgyzstan who installed this microhydroplant as part of a hybrid biogas-micro hydro power system that they use for cooking and lighting

## Biogas Project in Kyrgyzstan



# Sustainable Transport Project in Lithuania



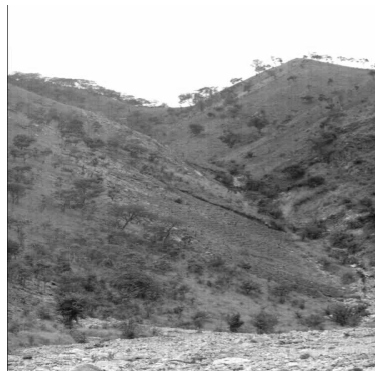
# International Waters Focal Area



*Protecting the Nile through a community sewerage system linked to an engineered wetland*



**Land Degradation Focal Area**





## **POPs Focal Area**



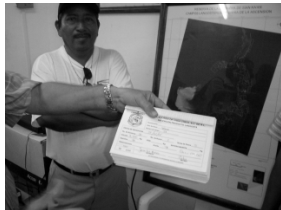
## **Combating chemical pesticides through promoting alternative organic farming in Khan Younis and Rafah**



**But note that in all these, poverty reduction and local empowerment are underlying goals**



- Indonesia SGP is experimenting with a way of developing projects with Sumatra IPs using video documentation of their proposal



- Fisherfolks in coastal Yucatan have developed a monitoring and database system for fishing ground management

**Priority for Women and Gender Concerns**



**SGP also has a Knowledge Management aspect so that local and global benefits of SGP demonstrated/applied**



- SGP community grantees as SD and GEF “promoters” – sharing lessons learned, influencing policy



- Active participation in international fora to influence global environmental governance
- Promoting “Glocalization”

**Partnerships with Other Major Global Programs/Institutions: Influencing Global Environmental Governance**



- SGP partnership with IPGRI



- SGP Partnership with the CBD Secretariat



## **Proposal Submission, Review and Approval**

- **Proposal submitted to the National Coordinator (NC) in the UNDP Country Office or in the NGO Host Institution**
- **Proposal screened by NC and technical group, site visits can be made**
- **Proposal finally reviewed by the National Steering Committee (NSC)**
- **Proposal approved by NSC (with conditions if need be) and the MOA signed by the UNDP Resident Representative**

## ***Welcome to the SGP Family!***

***A global network of communities, CBOs, NGOs, other civil society groups working with government and international institutions for environmental protection, poverty reduction and local empowerment, in essence - for sustainable development.***



**To know more about SGP go to: [www.undp.org/sgp](http://www.undp.org/sgp)**