

Project Progress Report

Please only describe your project’s activities during the last grant period. Enter your answers in the relevant shaded areas.
 You must complete the attached Section B – Project Financial Report Form.
 Please attach your organisation’s most recent audited and unaudited financial statements and annual report.
 Please limit the information you provide to a maximum of four pages (excluding the Project Financial Report Form and attachments).

SECTION A – Project Progress Report

1. Your organisation’s name:	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		
2. Project’s name:	UNDP Re-granting Partnership Phase II: Towards Sustainable Management of Belize’s Seascape		
3. Grant number:	OCAY-15-594		
4. Grant end date (dd/mon/yy):	31	12	2018
5. Date of report (dd/mon/yy):	1 st	February	2017
5a. Period covered by this report:	From:	21 03 2016	To: 31 st 01 2017

Under each expected project objective, briefly explain your progress in reaching the objective and its results, and describe any changes you propose to the project goals or objectives. (You may use additional space if you have more than three objectives):

6. Grant Purpose	To Re-Grant Oak Foundation resources through the GEF Small Grants Programme for strategic community seascape initiatives in line with the GEF SGP Operational Phase 6 Country Programme Strategy on a 1:1 co-financing modality.
7a. Objective 1	To support the creation of national environmental benefits and safeguarding the Belize Barrier Reef Reserve System World Heritage Site by partnering with CSOs to implement community-driven projects through a Community Landscape and Seascape Approach.
Principal accomplishments	In year 2016 / early 2017 , six (6) projects were vetted and approved by The National Steering Committee supporting this primary objective. A total of USD\$290,000 was committed as grants to The Sarteneja Fishermen Association, The Copper

Bank Fisherman Association, the Wabafu Fishermen Association, The Belize Audubon Society, the Turneffe Atoll Sustainability Association and the Monkey River Watershed Association. Funded were interventions targeting fishermen users of the Belize Barrier Reef Complex as well as stakeholders with a vested interest to safeguard the Complex. Two (2) of the projects funded responded to the threat of climate change on the attributes of coastal Belize.

First year projects implemented within the framework of the partnership agreement were designed to respond to three (3) priority areas of intervention:

1. *The promotion of coastal and marine habitat protection and restoration*
2. *Improving the health of Belize's coastal habitats and their resilience to climate change*
3. *Support of the essential elements for sustainable traditional, commercial and recreational fisheries*

In 2016, the Belize Fisheries Department rolled out nationally, the Sustainable Fishing for our Future: Managed Access Programme. This Programme is designed as a right based management program seeking to protect the rights of Belizean traditional fishers; and was thought necessary as the steady rise in the numbers of fishermen over the last decade has resulted in increasing fishing pressures and unsustainable growth within the sector.

In-line with the national strategy described above and in support of a community seascape approach, Oak Foundation (Oak) finances, during this commitment period was directed towards interventions which prepared fishing communities, artisanal fisherfolks and formalized fishermen groups, for their transition and effective participation in the national Managed Access Programme. Targeted capacity building initiatives facilitated their continued involvement in the management of fisheries resources and enabled their continued care and stewardship of this natural resource base, employing new tools and practices.

Programmatic interventions engaged more than 250 fishermen from the North, Central and Southern Fisheries zones in Belize in activities meant to:

- (i) build awareness and understanding of the new managed access programme,
- (ii) support fishermen compliance to new requirements/ conditions of their fisherfolk license,
- (iii) encourage use sustainable fishing methods,
- (iv) as well as prepare fishermen leaders to effectively represent their constituents at the level of manage access committees.

Fishermen directly supported through grant funding represents

more than 10 % of registered Belizean traditional fishers. It should be noted also that the programme was instrumental in the early piloting of managed access fishing and have assisted an additional 15% of fishers in capacity building for managed access in the last programme cycle, bringing the total of fishermen supported with capacity development for effective participation in managed access fisheries through OAK/ SGP partnership to approximately 25%.

Participating fishermen were also targeted with training in monitoring and data management. A pillar essential for the success and sustainability of the introduced managed access programme. Fishermen active support and participation is essential.

It is also notable that approximated 50% of those fishermen engaged are also targeted to participate in initiatives supporting the diversification of household incomes.

Belize is considered by the IPCC of the UNFCCC as being extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Belize's coastal ecosystems and resources are expected to be negatively impacted by processes of sea level rise, ocean acidification and warming, and recurring exposure to hydro-metrological events.

In this age of uncertainty as to the impacts of climate change on our coastal ecosystems and resources, partners have collectively prioritized actions which assess the potential effects of climate change and the capture and analysis of data. Information generated through these processes allows local communities and resource users to make predictions and to inform adaptation planning.

Two (2) projects granted within this period supports local efforts in planning for and managing the effects of climate change. The project titled, "Planning for the Impacts of Climate Change on Ecosystems linked to Sustainable Livelihoods of the Turneffe Atoll Marine Reserve", forges a partnership between resource users, resource managers and academia as a foundation supporting long term monitoring of sea level rise, elevated sea surface temperature and increasing CO₂ on crucial ecosystems known to support Belize's commercial fisheries sector/ fisheries livelihoods. The result of this pilot programme is expected to inform the design of a national monitoring programme.

The second project approved under the theme of climate change addresses community based adaptation and champions the involvement of local peoples in climate change adaptation. The "Developing a Roadmap to Restore the Natural Functionality of Monkey River Watershed" initiative engages the community in the development of innovations and the implementation of actions which provide solutions to local challenges exacerbated by climate change. This project is innovative in its design and

	<p>will be tracked as a case study for CBA to be shared nationally and internationally.</p> <p>All Oak approved grants were co-financed on a 1:1 basis by the GEF SGP programme in line with approval conditions under agreement OCAY-15-594.</p> <p>Additional finances were secured from GEF in 2016 securing co-financing obligations.</p>
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Shortfalls	<p>There was a reported lag in the conversion of soft pipeline concepts to full projects for consideration. This was due in part to disruption in the implementation cycle in the aftermath of Hurricane Earl. Hurricane Earl made landfall in Belize in August 2016 triggering the redirection of programming efforts to support of national recovery efforts. This meant a temporary suspension in works supporting proposal development. In response to this lag, a targeted call for concepts was launched by project proponents and UNDP support to grantmaking SoP's were updated allowing for greater efficiency and support to beneficiary organizations.</p>
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7b. Objective 2	<p>To build the institutional capacity of CSOs by employing an on the ground approach providing routine mentoring and supporting by the GEF SGP Team and on-site Mentors aimed at strengthening partnerships in coastal communities.</p>
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Principal accomplishments	<p>The SGP hosted a two-day Grantee Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building event during the implementation period. The workshop attracted the participation of more than 50 NGO/ CBO participants. This capacity building initiative allowed for the sharing of best practices and lessons learnt in applying for and implementing small grants. Participants were introduced to various financing windows and to tools supporting proposal development including the use of capacity assessments, gender analysis and results based management.</p> <p>During the 2016 reporting period UNDP in partnership with UNDESA also engaged the national NGO/ CSO network in a first round workshops aimed at socializing of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to engage CSO partners in a discussion on their roles as it relates to the localization of the SDGs.</p> <p>Working through a US Embassy initiative, initial steps were taken to formalize a national network of CSO Water Partners. This group of organization includes NGO/CBO and academia,</p>
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	<p>all with substantive programming investment in integrated water resource management. Further programmatic support is expected to be directed to the network secretariat in 2017.</p> <p>UNDP/GEF SGP continues its implementation of the “Grantmaker+” mechanism assisting with non-grant services. Majority of beneficiaries sought support in donor intelligence., i.e. the identification of donor and support institutions facilitating further resource mobilization.</p> <p>Grantmaker+ activities are continuously implemented by the organization as a component of portfolio management and networking. In-depth organizational capacity assessment of each proponent is applied at the time of their application for funding. UNDP new assurance policy now ensures that each assessment triggers the development of assurance plans which outlines areas for capacity enhancement. The GEFSGP Team has comprised a directory of Mentors groups who serve as intermediaries for those groups requiring capacity augmentation. One condition of the use of grant intermediaries is an exit strategy enabled by the building of proponent capacities during grant implementation.</p>
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Shortfalls	N/A
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8. What has your team learned during the implementation and evaluation of your project?

An internal annual project review of the Oak Re-granting Portfolio assisted in the identification of several key lessons for improved efficiency. As a programme the organization will increase transparency into the re-granting process by moving away from traditional practices of grantee “head hunting”. Starting January 2017, formal call for concepts will be launched on a trimester basis. In order to concentrate impacts, individual calls will service specific Oak / SGP strategic priorities.

Another means of magnifying portfolio impact is to link support to NGO/CSO to specific national sustainable development policies and programming direction. The application of grant support to entities working at a local levels of resource management contributes to broader national transformational impacts. A clear example of this is seen in the application of grant resources to support fishermen participation in sustainable fisheries management through the Managed access system.

9. How will your team use this information to change the way you work?

In 2017, UNDP introduced a process for the standardization of granting processes based on review findings. Key features of this process include the introduction of formal calls for proposal as a means of expanding beneficiary base as well as to invite innovation; and the introduction of a two (2) day in-house working session with each project proponent facilitating the development of project results frameworks. The provision of log frame development support to proponent organizations serves the purpose of improving the quality of proposals developed by partners. This will contribute to strengthened proposals and will also support the process of project alignment with broader programmatic and national priorities.

10. How will you share what you have learned inside and outside your organisation?

UNDP is a knowledge based organization with established knowledge platforms. The information generated is also shared on the Grantee Partners Network on a regular basis. Best practices and lessons will also be promulgated through planned stakeholder workshops and training sessions in 2017.

Within new projects UNDP /SGP is now promoting the elaboration of knowledge products for dissemination. Case studies and communication products will be promulgated through established networks and knowledge fairs.

11. If this is your final progress report, explain how your target group’s situation has improved and describe what impact your project has had. If not please leave blank.

N/A

Bank details

In order to permit the transfer of funds; please provide accurate and checked banking details for your organisation as follows:

12a. Name of Bank (Required):	Citibank N.A.
12b. Bank Address (Required):	111 Wall Street, New York, NY10043
12c. BIC/Swift Code (Required)*:	CITIUS33
12d. Sort Code (UK only):	
12e. IBAN (required for Europe and in other countries where available):	
12 f. ABA Routing Number (USA only)	ABA/ACH Routing Number: 021000089
12g. Account name (Required):	UNDP Contributions Account
12h. Account number (Required):	36349562

* This information is now required for all countries including the USA.

We recommend that you check this information carefully with your bank as errors can cause significant delays and incur avoidable costs.

Supporting Materials

https://sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_sgpprojects&view=projectdetail&id=24417&Itemid=272

https://sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_sgpprojects&view=projectdetail&id=24415&Itemid=272

<http://www.btia.org/the-belize-barrier-reef-20-years-as-a-world-heritage-site/>

<http://edition.channel5belize.com/archives/127530>

SECTION B – Project Financial Report

Please complete the attached Excel Form: *Project Financial Report* and submit it at the same time as this form.

Once you have completed Sections A and B please return the forms plus any attachments electronically to your Oak contact.

Full name of the person completing this report:	Diane Wade-Moore
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Date: (dd/mon/yy)	1 st	02	2017
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SECTION C – To Be Completed By Oak Staff

Oak assessment by:	
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Date of last contact: (dd/mon/yy)			
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Date of site visit: (dd/mon/yy)			
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Significant revisions (if any) to the grant terms agreed and Internal Audit comments

Summary of progress (150 words max)

Programme Officer’s Recommendation (50 words max)

Programme Officer Signature

Date: (dd/mon/yy)			
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