

2020

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF SGP in Sri Lanka**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 5529 |
| GEF ID | 9093 |
| Title | Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF SGP in Sri Lanka |
| Country(ies) | Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Integrated Strategies and SGP |
| Project Implementing Partner | UNOPS |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| The goal of this project is to support the achievement of global environmental benefits and the protection of the global environment through community and local solutions that work in harmony with local, national and global action. To that end, the objective of this project is to enable community organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience through design, implementation, and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development in three ecologically sensitive landscapes: the Knuckles Conservation Forest and its buffer zone, the coastal region from Mannar Island to Jaffna, and the Colombo Wetlands. This will be carried out through participatory, multi-stakeholder, landscape management. The proposed interventions are aimed at enhancing social and ecological resilience through community-based, community-driven projects to conserve biodiversity, optimize ecosystem services, manage land (particularly agro-ecosystems) and water sustainably, and mitigate climate change. The pilots will build on experiences and lessons learned from previous SGP operational phases, and lessons learned from the COMDEKS Programme, to assist community organizations in carrying out and coordinating projects in pursuit of outcomes they have identified in landscape plans and strategies. Coordinated community projects in the landscape will generate ecological, economic and social synergies that will produce greater and potentially longer-lasting global environmental benefits, as well as increased social capital and local sustainable development benefits. Multi-stakeholder groups will also take experience, lessons learned, and best practices from prior initiatives and implement a number of potential scaling up efforts during this project’s lifetime. |

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| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | Low |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** |
| **Objective****To enable community-based organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience through design, implementation, and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and local sustainable development in three ecologically sensitive landscapes: the Knuckles Conservation Forest and its buffer zone, the coastal region from Mannar Island to Jaffna, and the Colombo Wetlands.** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2019** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| A. Area, across three landscapes, of sustainably managed production landscapes that conserve biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services  | Socio-economic activities in the three landscapes lead to degraded habitats, including deterioration of ecosystem quality, increased risk of desertification, and increased risk of communities to the impacts of climate change | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 20,000 hectares, across three production landscapes, of sustainably managed production landscapes that conserve biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services, including 650 hectares of forest for carbon storage. | Target achieved and exceeded - 27,660 ha across the three production landscapes have been brought under sustainable management practices conserving biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem services (138% of the target). This includes: 1. SGP grants are currently being implemented by 25 CBOs/NGOs carrying out 25 projects that protect or promote sustainable use for biodiversity conservation or improved ecosystem functions covering an estimated 27,660 ha within the 3 landscapes. These initiatives include: 20,942 hectares for improved community conservation areas, 3,873 hectares for improved eco-tourism development, 31 hectares for improved non timber products and 700 hectares for protection from human-animal conflict, and 2,114 hectares under re-forestation. Some examples of projects include: - Coral reef and associated reef improvement and improvement of eco-tourism activities within the Mannar Island-Jaffna Landscape; - Rehabilitation of mangrove clusters along coastline of Maldiva to protect corals under threat from illegal fishing practices and to conserve sea turtles endangered from poaching activities; - Enhancing eco-tourism development in Colombo city through biodiversity and ecosystem services, wetland conservation and improvement, conservation and improvement of lakes and streams and attaining designation of Colombo as the first metropolitan wetland city in Asia; - Eco-tourism development of tourist attractions areas (such as conserved forests and waterfalls) in the Knuckles Conservation Forest; - Identification of endemic and red-listed fauna in the KCF that has led to government protection of their habitat as well as halting developments that adversely impact their habitats. | The target of 20,000 ha has been achieved and exceeded with an aggregate of 27,660 ha across the three landscapes brought under sustainable management practices conserving biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem services (138% of the target). A total of 26 projects out of 34 overall projects supported in OP6 are ongoing and supporting bio diversity conservation in the 3 landscapes and are distributed as 6 projects in Mannar landscape, 12 projects in Knuckles landscape and 8 projects in the Colombo landscape Following key achievements can be highlighted with reference to key projects in each landscape:  Mannar landscape: Voluntary Organization for Vulnerable Community Development (VOVCoD) has established green houses in three schools and have initiated home garden cluster programme to help school feeding programme of 3 schools (30 households per school). Furthermore, distribution of fruit trees, tree planting programme and establishment of a bio fence from Palmyra covering 2 hectares for elephants was setup while planting 10,000 mangrove plants in 30 km extent, which cover 100 hectares of ocean bed. The Zoological Students’ Association (ZSA) restored the lagoon of Kautharimunai with mangrove plants covering 50 hectares and established a monitoring unit in the university of Jaffna. Home-gardening for fishing community and Palmyra development programme from growing to processing to making handicrafts was also initiated in the same area. An environmental and conservation laboratory was also established under the project. The Ecological Association of Sri Lanka (EASL) conducted a survey on salt marshes, sand dunes and mangroves and mapped the biodiversity of coastal lagoons from Malwathuoya to Pooneryn in the Mannar District, which covers more than 4,000 hectares. Furthermore, it will be translated to an Atlas and submitted to government focal parties to support policy decisions with regard to environment sensitive areas. Knuckles landscape: The Center for Integrated Indigenous Knowledge System (CIIKS) developed soil conservation structures in line with development of the Kobonilla to Kandegama tourist track. Training has been given regarding soil conservation, community development and pepper cultivation. Nearly 80% of soil conservation work has been completed while the pepper improvement programme is being continued with the community. A fire belt has been laid using fire resistant plant species called “Hana” on a 4.5 km stretch covering 60 hectares. Fruit plants and Areca Nut plants have been planted through community interventions while forest trees have been planted in the Hare Park estate (nearly 12 ha) and along the Hasalaka river. The Kithul (Caryota) programme has been completed and provided with necessary Kithul extracting equipment for them (9 units by the project and 6 units Divisional Secretariat office) to extract the sap out of the flower to process jaggery and trickle. The National Ethnic Unity Foundation (NEUF) formed a CBO in the project site near the Ratna Ella Fall in Hasalaka and empowered the community in the village by ensuring a sustainable revenue source to ensure protection of iconic Ratna Ella fall and its surrounding area covering 300 hectares. The Ratna Ella fall is a high tourist attraction nature trail led through the village and with much tourism potential. Hence, an information outlet was set up at the start of the trail along with necessary facilities (safety gears) required for tourists, along with renovation of road for 150m and erection of display boards on environment conservation and guidelines. The livelihood aspect was looked into through the project by investing on income generating avenues such as renovating the camping site, developing & formalizing a traditional food outlet, supporting to develop and promote traditional handicraft industries, creating home stay facilities, preparing a plan and a system for proper waste management, promoting organic farming through provision of paddy seeds, training on producing organic fertilizer and maintaining a model liquid fertilizer producing center. The Dumbara Mithuro Organization engaged in demarcating reforestation area & buffer zone, reforestation activities, measuring water quality, installing boundary stones around watersheds and renovation of watersheds covering 60 hectares, soil conservation by installing wedges, trenches and live fences, fixing informative boards at Pitawala Pathana, developing organic home gardens, Producing value added NTFPs & medicinal products, training & facilitating youth for eco-tourism, and construction of a 50m protective stone wall at Pitawala Pathana. Eleven implementing organizations have reforestation targets of 2,214 hectares within their selected villages or nearby forests. Planting materials were produced in a central nursery in Mahalakotuwa village for Anuruddha Arana and Rangiri Thakshana Piyasa. Some organizations like the Nirmani Development Foundation and Peoples’ Livelihood Development Foundation (PLDF) produced 50% planting materials through grantees that have received funds while the remaining 50% were procured from close by nurseries. Main reforestation grounds were man-made clearings for agriculture within conserved forest areas. Replanting was done using the Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) technique that supports to cover the open patches introducing new plants while keeping existing plants. Existing plants were kept while removing invasive bushes and vines, which cleared lines for new plantings. Other than ANR done within conserved forest, many forest trees were planted along roads, water streams, private lands and paddy field reservations. Some species like jack have been destroyed by stray cattle and drought conditions but the beneficiaries have been advised to replant where there have been such destructions. The reforestation target for Knuckles landscape has been distributed among grantees within their area of operation. It was found that map data on potential bare lands for reforestation were already naturally regenerated. The challenge was securing suitable lands for reforestation within the project area and submitting requests to the forest department to grant permission for reforestation in suitable bare lands in Redbana village after joint field inspection with forest department. It has taken around 3 months to grant permission by the Forest Department for reforestation in new locations proposed by the project. This target would be achieved with close collaboration with the Forest Department.  |
| B. Area of degraded lands in three project landscapes that are benefiting from land rehabilitation activities | Landscapes have benefitted from small grant projects. In the three landscapes projects have not been as extensive or strategically coordinated to achieve landscape synergies and impacts | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 15,000 hectares of degraded lands in three project landscapes under sustainable land management benefiting from land rehabilitation activities. | Target on track - 10,036 ha across the three production landscapes have been brought under sustainable land management benefiting from land rehabilitation activities (67% of the target). This target will be achieved at the end of the project though the implementation of Strategic Projects. Initiatives towards this target include the following: Wetland rehabilitation is underway on approximately 6,864 ha through 18 SGP-supported initiatives mainly within the Colombo Landscape and Mannar Island-Jaffna Landscape, which include: - Revival of local rice cultivation in abandoned paddy fields in the Colombo Landscape aiming to restore urban wetlands; - Rehabilitation of flood mitigation functions of marshes and water tanks in Colombo; - Development of an arboretum of native wetland plant species for the Mannar Island-Jaffna Landscape that will be used to rehabilitate mangroves within the landscape. Land rehabilitation activities are being carried out on an estimated 1,582 ha through 7 projects within the Knuckles Landscape: - Projects in the Knuckles Landscape addressing human-animal conflicts in agricultural areas; - Eco-tourism and livelihood developments being promoted in 3 villages, along with enhanced ecosystem services in the Theligamu river, a highly sensitive catchment area in the Knuckles Landscape. Agro-forestry initiatives on 1,590 ha and organic vegetable cultivation being conducted in Thalangama in the Colombo Landscape. Additional areas of land rehabilitation are expected from strategic projects under Outcome 3. The promotion of agro-ecological practices is mainly conducted in the Knuckles landscape. These activities are being implemented in homes in Knuckles. In the Colombo Landscape, projects support cultivation of organic traditional paddy and conservation of water fronts for sustainability and productivity activities. | Target on track – 12,000 ha across the three production landscapes have been brought under sustainable land management benefiting from land rehabilitation activities (80% of the target). All three landscapes have contributed to these aggregate hectares covered so far and are on track to achieve the target by EoP. Knuckles Landscape: Rangiri Thakshana Piyasa was engaged in documenting traditional knowledge, soil conservation initiatives, establishment of stone bunds, wedges and live fences, home gardening, providing cash crop plants, providing rainwater harvesting tanks, planting trees at Theligamu river catchment area spanning 200 hectares and training women on reed & ola leaf handicrafts. Anurudhdha Arana Trust carried out soil testing, soil conservation initiatives formed through stone bunds, wedges and live fences; training farmers on composting & producing liquid fertilizer on 300 hectares; developing green home gardens; providing cash crop plants; providing rain water harvesting tanks; conducting entrepreneurship training programmes, promoting beekeeping, providing “Anagi – fuel efficient’ cook stoves. Moreover, 4,500 forest plants have also been planted. Community Development Center (CDC) was involved in capacity building of CBOs, preparing a plan for human – animal conflict, soil conservation initiatives, home gardening, cultivating minor cash crops, introducing a farming handbook, establishment of seed banks, publishing a book, facilitating for production and marketing of underutilized crops such as black pepper, turmeric, etc. and implementing soil conservation and agro-ecology on 500 hectares. The Knuckles Strategic Project carried out by Ekabadda Praja Kantha Maha Sangamaya (EPKMS) covers 4 villages in Wilgamuwa DS division: Sulugune, Uduwelwala, Moragahaulpotha and Godaulpotha. As part of land rehabilitation and soil conservation, the project has conducted rehabilitation of irrigational channels in Sulugune and repairing of Thalgune Tank. The major soil conservation programme of EPKMS is the groundnut development programme. In addition, construction of the Moragahaulpotha water tank for home consumption for the community and irrigation channel are key achievements. Additionally, 10 agro-wells have been constructed as part of agro-ecological practices. These agro wells will mitigate the severe erosion of the area caused by free flow of water originated from the forest area. Moreover, 30,000 plants were distributed for home gardening to cover 1,000 hectares. Colombo landscape: The Human Development Foundation of Sri Lanka (HDFSL) is implementing the Strategic Project carried out in the Colombo Wetland landscape. Abandoned lands were prepared for cultivation and harvested in Watareka and Panaluwa and some in Artigala area while some lands were prepared for harvesting in the next season, spanning across 500 hectares. “Koratu” farmers are using home base selling mechanism of their harvest and 17 new farmers to cultivate abandoned paddy fields at Watareka. A market place for selling the products generated through the project is being establish as a sustainable model of production to packaging to marketing while seeking further marketing mechanisms to ensure sustainability.  |
| C. Number of stakeholders actively engaged in and benefiting from local project activities | A number of awareness-raising activities have either been implemented or are underway, but these are not organized as a coherent landscape strategy/programme | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 250 individuals in each of the three landscapes actively participating and benefiting from local field-based project activities. | SGP grants thus far have benefited over 750 (400 women and 350 men) individuals across the communities of the 3 landscapes. Ongoing SGP activities for enhanced livelihoods and enhanced productivity development options are mainly focused on farming and eco-tourism related occupations, such as tour guides, handicrafts and traditional art, nature trail activities. Further details were outlined in the previous PIR. | The project has so far engaged a total of 1,737 community members (707 women and 1,030 men). Different approaches have been taken by each project to engage community and provide benefits in each location. They vary from livelihood improvement to awareness and capacity building to engaging in activities that would benefit the environment as well as people. The impact of these initiatives is distributed among landscapes under each project. Mannar landscape: VOVCoD: Awareness sessions on different subjects were hosted for the community including on mangrove restoration for 6 males and females, human–elephant conflict for 24 men and 12 women, and biodiversity and organic gardening for 36 women and 28 men. ZSA has engaged 50 men in establishing home gardens and 50 women in model organic gardens. Training has been provided on producing Palmyra-based handicrafts to 37 women while approximately 187 university graduates benefit from the environment and conservation laboratory established as well as model ecosystems placed in the university. Sobakantha Foundation has helped a total of 110 men and women by providing solar fish drying units along with fish storing structured huts for 25 individuals and 20 individuals through home gardening and by providing fruit plants. Colombo landscape: The Emotional Intelligence and Life Skills Training Team, as part of their project initiative for Youth Community Wetland Conservation (YCWC) around the areas of Kolonnawa marsh complex, has impacted 30 males and 14 females to become members and carry out conservation initiatives in the Kolonnawa area. Wanasarana Thurulatha Swechcha Society is implementing a project solely focusing on regenerating and cultivation on abandoned paddy lands has benefited 50 paddy farmers which includes 24 males. Furthermore, 8 males and 1 female vegetable farmer and 1 male and 7 female self-employed community members are benefited through the project. Knuckles landscape: The project implemented by Arunalu Community Development Center (ACDC) has impacted a total of 258 community members with 138 men and 120 women in the Rathninda and Atanwala area through soil conservation, eco-tourism development and reforestation and biodiversity initiatives. The Center for Integrated Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIIKS) has made an impact on 65 individuals through the fire belt, livelihood improvement and home gardening activities as well as many school kids through art competitions carried out in schools. The Dumbara Mithuro Organization has facilitated an eco-tourism guide programme for 50 individuals and equipped them with a license to operate in Knuckles through the Central Province Tourism Development Authority. Moreover, to safeguard traditional medicine and medical practices, two traditional ayurvedic doctors were supported and a new batch of apprentices are groomed to take the tradition forward. A lot more are benefited in the Narangamuwa area through conservation measures carried out on water springs which provides fresh water for many families for their daily household needs, including drinking water. Overall, 137 women and 153 men have been impacted.  NEUF has impacted 54 community members, with the majority being women (37). Out of the 17 men, 1 is engaged in managing a camping site while 1 woman is engaged in running an authentic food restaurant which is part of eco-tourism services. The majority (40) are engaged in home gardening, fruit planting, koratu and animal husbandry for livelihood activities. In addition, there are 4 women whose livelihoods depend on sewing. These ladies are currently sewing face masks as an alternative to their usual production of cloth bags, curtains and other cloth items during the Covid-19 pandemic. Anuradha Arana – The project impacted the community via home garden development, providing energy efficient cooking stoves, livelihood development, providing water supply and beekeeping initiatives, where 183 women and 103 men are benefited. CRPC – As part of eco-tourism activities, around 50 lifeguards have been trained and youth in the community have obtained alternate income out of it. Home garden development as part of livelihood development is a valuable approach. Overall, 88 males and 19 females have been benefited.  Community Development Center (CDC) – There are 39 benefactors overall out of the project, where 12 women and 27 men are involved in soil conservation measures and home garden development, Soil conservation practices, home garden development, cash crops development and growing of spice crops have impacted 55 women and 10 men in the community through the project carried out by CDC. The Grama Abhiwurdhi Foundation for Environment Conservation (GAFEC)-led project promoted livelihood development activities, benefiting 7 women and 28 men.  |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Outcome 1****Component 1** **Resilient rural landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection** **Outcome 1:** **Multi-stakeholder partnerships in three ecologically sensitive landscapes develop and execute management plans to enhance socio-ecological landscape resilience and global environmental benefits**  |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2019** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 1.1 A multi-stakeholder group on landscape planning and management organized for each of the selected landscapes | Networks of civil society associations, community-based organizations, and other non-governmental organizations were organized under the GEF 5 Small Grant Programme, but not in the project landscapes and they no longer convene | *(not set or not applicable)* | - One multi-stakeholder working group per landscape is operational with agreed TORs (3) - One comprehensive socio-ecological baseline assessment for each landscape (3) | Target achieved during the previous reporting period with three multi-stakeholder working groups operational in the three landscapes. Progress of the grantees work in the Colombo landscape was presented to the multi-stakeholder group on 21st December 2018. All Colombo grantees presented their progress and required technical input, and progress achievements and barriers were discussed at this meeting. The multi-stakeholder meeting for the Mannar landscape was held on 17th January 2019, where all grantees presented their work and the progress was discussed, chaired by the GA (Government Agent) of the District of Mannar. The multi-stakeholder meeting in the Knuckles landscape was held on the 21st of January in the Mathale District office, chaired by the GA of the District of Mannar. All grantees presented their work and the progress was discussed with the multi-stakeholder group. | The target was achieved during the first reporting period and collaboration with multi-stakeholder groups has been ongoing during this reporting period as well. Key highlights are as follows; Colombo landscape: Two (2) meetings were held in line with Wetland Day on 3 and 5 January 2020, where members from Sri Lanka Land Development Cooperation (SLLDC), National Resource Management (NRM), Central Environment Authority (CEA) and SGP grantees attended the meeting. Knuckles landscape: The 2nd Multi-stakeholder Meeting for Knuckles Landscape projects was held on 1st of August 2019 at the District Secretariat office in Matale with the participation of Additional District Secretary-Matale, Grama Niladhari (Village officers), GEF-SGP officials, consultants, Knuckles landscape grantees and the Knowledge Management partner-SLEES. Mannar: Meeting with GA and Mannar District Secretariat Office officials and GEF SGP representatives in September 2019 in Mannar.  |
| 1.2 A strategy to achieve greater social and ecological resilience for each landscape | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Three landscape management strategies and plans prepared and then approved by the National Steering Committee | Target achieved with three landscape management strategies currently under implementation, one in each of the three landscapes. Details were elaborated in the previous PIR. | This target was achieved with the three landscape management strategies developed for each landscape and currently being implemented. Three landscape management strategies and plans were prepared and then approved by the National Steering Committee in 2017 |
| 1.3 A typology of community level initiatives in each landscape needed to achieve landscape outcomes  | 0 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Landscape specific typologies (3) of community level projects and eligibility criteria formulated by multi-stakeholder groups in each landscape | Target achieved in the previous reporting period with typologies of projects developed for the three landscapes and informing on-the-ground grant activities. Details were elaborated in the previous PIR. | Target achieved in the first reporting period with typologies of projects developed for the three landscapes and informing on-the-ground grant activities. Landscape specific typologies (3) of community level projects and eligibility criteria were formulated by multi-stakeholder groups in each landscape  |
| 1.4 Formal cooperative agreements between community organizations and other partners in each landscape to pursue the outcomes of each strategy through community and landscape level projects | Experts and other specialists are available to provide ad hoc support to local initiatives but will require an institutional mechanism and remuneration | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least ten signed formal agreements between community organizations and other partners in each landscape to pursue the outcomes of each strategy through community and landscape level projects | Target on track with 8 projects with signed formal agreements between community organizations and other partners in each landscape to pursue the outcomes of each strategy through community and landscape level projects. The 8 projects have received US$ 250,800.57 cash and US$ 386,974.34 in-kind as co-financing. Knuckles: Cash - US$ 14,162.76. In-kind - US$ 261,424.33 Colombo: Cash - US$ 202,799.88 In-kind - US$ 86,675.86 Mannar: Cash - US$ 33,837.93 In-Kind - US$ 38,874.15 | This target has been achieved with 10 formal agreements signed, including Dumbara Mithuro receiving a formal agreement from the Provincial Department of Tourism through the KOICA-funded eco-tourism project worth LKR 500,000 and the Ayurvedic Department of the Central Province for continuation of activities carried out by traditional ayurvedic doctors during the reporting period. The President’s Office has provided LKR 2.1 million for rehabilitation of the Galamuduna Road as a result of project activities carried out at this location, and the Primary Development Ministry has provided Kithul utensils to produce Kithul honey The Midland Estate has formally provided in-kind support through plants and labour for the project carried out in the Midland Estate and Dankanda Lake area by Grama Abhiwurdhi Foundation for Environment Conservation (GAFEC). The District Secretariat Office has funded 6 Units of Kithul trickle and jaggery making pots and pans and 2 safety gears for extracting Kithul honey from the trees. A large private sector apparel company in Sri Lanka has entered into an agreement with the Zoological Students’ Association to finance to obtaining seedlings for mangroves while the Palmyra Development Board has provided training on making products and also agreed on a buy back mechanism by agreeing to buy the palmyra bags and mats at a higher price. The Wanasarana Thurulatha Swechcha Society (WTSS) has come to a formal agreement with a private sector company in providing machinery support for the project implemented in Homagama. The Turtle Conservation Project is engaged in a co-financing agreement with the Columbus Zoo in the USA. Panthera Foundation has assured co-financing to Small Cat Advocacy and Research (SCAR) on carrying out fishing cat conservation initiatives in Colombo Wetlands. The Herpetological Association of Sri Lanka engaged in an agreement with one of the largest local private banks in Sri Lanka with LKR 1 million in conservation initiatives on herpeto-fauna in the Knuckles landscape. The grantee expanded SGP work on herpeto-fauna conservation through co-financing. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | **Achieved** |
| **Outcome 2****Community-based organizations in landscape level networks build their adaptive management capacities by implementing projects and collaborating in landscape management** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2019** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 2.1 Area (hectares) under protection or sustainable use for biodiversity conservation or improved ecosystem function | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 10,000 hectares under protection or sustainable use for biodiversity conservation or improved ecosystem function – community conservation areas, ecotourism development, NTFPs, human-animal conflicts, etc. [MTR: At least 17,500 ha]  | Achieved and exceeded – 25,546 ha brought under protection or sustainable use for biodiversity conservation or improved ecosystem function (255% of the target). Additional 9 projects have been approved during this reporting period, totaling 25 organizations currently working on biodiversity conservation across the three landscapes. 12,290 of hectares have been conserved as community conservation areas by 12 organizations in Knuckles, while 547 ha in Colombo have been conserved by 8 grantees, and 8,105 ha in Mannar region by 5 grantees. 1,025 ha of ecotourism development in Knuckles and 2,085 ha in Mannar has been achieved. Sustainable production of Non-Timber Forest Products has been initiated, especially in the Knuckles landscape. Human-animal conflict reduced on 500 ha in Knuckles (Human-elephant) and 200 ha (Human-urban fishing cat and human-snake) in Colombo. The new conservation initiatives include: - Enhancing productivity and sustainability of agro-ecosystems in Udu Dumbara buffer zone and livelihood development. - Conservation of biodiversity and enhancing livelihoods through the development of integrated eco-friendly villages. - Introducing sustainable land management practices to Ilukkumbura & Mahalakotuwa areas - Biodiversity conservation on 100 ha of 3 villages of Udaththawa, Udagal Debokka, Galamuduna GN divisions of Minipe DS Division. - Converting abandoned tea lands of 100 acres in the Midland estate in Raththota into a land providing ecosystem services such as eco-tourism activities that improve conservation awareness while increasing livelihood opportunities for the communities. | The target has been achieved and exceeded. 25,546 ha brought under protection or sustainable use for biodiversity conservation or improved ecosystem function (255% of the target). Mannar landscape: SEDA, through its tree planting initiative, has planted 2,000 trees in 5 schools (on 5 hectares in total) located alongside the Jaffna and Mannar Road. Bio-fences have been established around the school premises to protect planted trees. Army camp near Kalliyadi school is helping in planting and maintenance while in others the principal and students are maintaining them. An awareness programme was conducted by VOVCoD, and 3 green houses were established for schools and cultivation has begun. Altogether, 60 grow bags out of 90 have been distributed and communities started cultivating vegetables at Kiranchi and Veravil villages. Fruit plants have been distributed among communities and palmyra seeds were planted along 4 km to form a bio-fence. The Ecological Association of Sri Lanka conducted a study to evaluate the present status of the coastal ecosystems in Northwestern Coastal Plain (NWCP). Eleven major coastal habitat types with a total extent of 34,467 ha were mapped and described in the NWCP. The entire area was GIS mapped indicating the sand dunes, mangroves and land use patterns of the area. The new species of mangrove – the Dwarf mangrove – was recorded in the Malwattu Oya Delta and the NGO is looking at gazetting this area as a protected site. Knuckles landscape: Dumbara Mithuro has completed all activities including removal of invasive species, construction of a protection wall and setting up of model herbal garden at the Pitawala Pathana area of 60 hectares. Reforestation has commenced near Redbana village and 500 plants out of 1,800 were planted so far. Training of 52 trackers for the Knuckles range was also completed. The Herpetological Foundation of Sri Lanka focused on the research of protecting herpetofaunal point endemic species for strengthening the conservation status of the Knuckles landscape in the entire Matale and Kandy districts. As part of the Herpetological Foundation project to discover new species not recorded before in the Knuckles World Heritage Site, and thereby to state the importance and requirement to protect the Knuckles which is so rich in Biodiversity, 10 new species have been recorded as an accomplishment of this project.  i) Six new snakes Two species published, Aspidura desilvai, Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/16gqhYYMIOtxLa1P\_YVr9PvxWwXGJxFKz/view  and Rhinophis gunasekarai Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IT0tMqdJEXKDXNddBPNlM7piMrP1k9-d/view Work in progress for the remaining two Rhinophis sp. (sheildtailed snakes), and two scolecophidians (blind snakes).  ii) One Lankaskincus sp. (Skink)  iii) Three new amphibians All belonging to the genus Pseudophilautus or shrub frog, where the smallest species will be named after the GEF Small Grants Programme as the project is funded by GEF SGP.  The Community Development Center (CDC) is working on 500 Hectares on reforestation and 100 hectares on agro ecology restoration Community plant nurseries were established and training was provided on bee keeping, processing Kithul products, and pepper cultivation. Rehabilitation of the elephant fence has commenced to protect the communities by the wild elephant. Colombo Landscape: The Organization for Aquatic Resources Management (OARM) has constructed safe habitats on 43 hectares for safe roosting and nesting for marshland birds. Roosting branches have been erected for birds and bat houses were constructed to prevent the decline of aquatic bird species in the marshland. A survey was conducted to assess the biodiversity of the project site. Invasive species (Wel-atha) was removed and indigenous marshland trees were planted to increase biodiversity. 2 Newspaper articles were published to create awareness among the general public. Soil mounds were built as hides for snakes and lectures were delivered to the community to conserve wetland snakes. Crossing cables were established for monkeys to mitigate human-monkey conflict. Artificial cement dens were constructed as breeding habitats for fishing cat and otter. Wood crafting out of invasive species and pan crafting trainings were provided for community members. Leaflets have been distributed and publicity boards have been erected to raise awareness. A park will be open for visitors to promote eco-tourism while ensuring the protection of the marshland. A documentary film is being prepared so that in October 2020 it can be widely circulated among school children and urban dwellers to showcase the importance of the Colombo Wetlands. The Emotional Intelligence and Life Skills Training Team (EILSTT) has raised awareness of the 64 hectares Kolonnawa wetlands by working with the community on the importance of solid waste management and established solid waste collection mechanism. An E-waste awareness and collecting campaign for school students and community was also carried out. Furthermore, they have established information boards in three languages, conducted an art and poster competition “wetland for future” and conducted a short film competition titled “Be a change maker”. The award ceremony was held for winners in three events around “World Wetland Day”. A plant nursery was established with feeder plants for butterflies and a butterfly garden is to be prepared. A loan system was established for 10 eco-friendly social entrepreneurs for business startup or support to existing businesses. The Center for Environment Justice (CEJ) has worked towards mobilizing communities around wetlands to conserve wetlands and generate a national level momentum towards conservation of Colombo wetlands. A network of vigilante committees has been established with constant guidance and monitoring by CEJ. An E-Justice Mobile App was created and introduced to the communities as an alternative method for resolution of disputes on wetland related issues. Complaints related to wetlands received through the mobile app, hotline, and written complaints were directed to relevant government agencies followed by an initial examination. Multi-stakeholder meetings were organized for major stakeholders, academics and interested parties to discuss about wetlands in a more holistic and scientific manner. More than 3 media visits to wetlands were organized to create awareness among general public and advocacy through government agencies. Several sign boards with messages and warnings for those who violate the law regarding the environment/wetlands have been exhibited in project areas. In addition, awareness materials and posters were distributed in schools, public areas and government agencies. The project undertaken by the Centre for Sustainability, University of Sri Jayawardenapura, was initially supposed to work on 110 ha of wetlands. However, due to land issues the SLLDC only released 30 hectares for project activities and with the restriction that no permanent structures can be erected. According to the university it would be challenging to continue the bio-remediation methods that were planned through landscaping by plants and contours. Nevertheless, the University is trying to work on the 30 hectares given, but due to COVID-19 progress is further challenged as students are not permitted to congregate in activities and as the access road now is not by land but through a small stream which makes the continuation of the project even more challenging. Discussions will be resumed with the Sri Lanka Land Reclamation Board once it is safer to start project activities with university students. |
| 2.2 Area (hectares) of reforested and/or afforested lands | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 10,000 hectares under reforestation or farmer managed natural regeneration [MTR: At least 2,500] | 2,114 hectares of reforestation activities have been carried out by 18 organizations in the 3 landscapes through small grants, with 2,030 ha in the Knuckles landscape through 10 projects, 62 ha in the Mannar landscape through 3 projects, and 22.3 ha through 5 projects in the Colombo wetlands landscape. The remaining grant funds will be committed on Strategic Projects, which focus on the gaps including reforestation and work towards achievement of the 2,500 ha by the end of the project period. The Strategic Projects are scheduled to start implementation in September 2019. | 2,214 hectares of reforestation have commenced which is 88% of the project target Knuckles landscape: It has become a challenge finding vacant land for reforestation as potential vacant land for reforestation shown on map data are naturally regenerated. A request was made to the Forest Department to grant permission for reforestation in suitable bare lands in Redbana Village. Based on a site inspection and after 3 months of discussions, permission was granted to reforest proposed lands by the project. Based on the approval, 4 organizations (Anurudha Arana, Rangiri Thakshana Piyasa, Dumbara Mithuro and Arunalu Community Center) carried out their reforestation activities in 600 hectares of land.  The project implemented by GAFEC completed its reforestation activity by re-planting 500 ha of abandoned tea land belonging to the Midland Estate run by the State Plantation Corporation. Shade Trees, tea and fruit trees were planted on this land as well as along the roadside towards the site. The project implemented in the Kobonilla / Harepark location is a wildfire prone area. The fire belt established through the fire resistant plant called Hana (Snake Plant) will help to conserve 100 ha through annual bushfire. Colombo Landscape: In the Colombo landscape, 150 ha of abandoned paddy lands were converted to non-chemical paddy and vegetation whilst improving the surrounding biodiversity. Mannar Landscape: In the Mannar landscape, 100 hectares a large extent of lagoon areis available for mangrove plantingplantation. Hence, mangroves were planted in selected lagoons covering about 120 ha. through 15,517 mangrove seedlings. In addition, 10,000 Palmyra (Borassus flabellifer) seeds were planted in over a distance of 3.7 km as an elephant fence. Sshade trees were planted in schools, home gardens and along the road to increase the shade of the area as it is a dry area. Approximately 12 ha. of home gardens were developed by planting Coconut and Mango trees, a. Along with 2,697 plants of shade trees such as Neem, Mee, Caya, Mahogani Kumbuk, Tespecia in schools.  |
| 2.3 Area (hectares) of degraded wetlands rehabilitated | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 3,000 hectares of degraded wetlands rehabilitated [MTR: At least 9,000] | Activities rehabilitating 6,864 ha of degraded wetlands currently under implementation (76% of the target): 9 projects in the Colombo and 4 projects in the Mannar region are currently working on degraded wetland rehabilitation activities, with 959 ha in the Colombo wetland landscape, and 5,700ha in the Mannar landscape. The activities in the Colombo wetlands include: Wetland rehabilitation for cultivation purposes, where decades of abandoned paddy fields in selected locations are rehabilitated, promoting cultivation of local rice varieties for income generation, reduce agro-chemical usage, and introducing and encouraging organic and ecofriendly farming practices. Traditional ecofriendly farming practices are encouraged in paddy wetland ecosystems. Indigenous fresh water fish conservation, butterflies and pollination species incensement are carried out. Tree planting, waste management, and invasive plant species removal has been conducted in wetlands of Colombo. Awareness programs focusing on youth, school students and social media groups were held. In the Mannar Coastal Area, the project implemented by the Ecological Association supports protection and conservation of the seascape and the coastal area from Mannar to Jaffna mainly through ecotourism activities. This will be surveyed through GIS identifying the salt marshes, invasive plants, sand dunes and land use patterns. Two MOAs have been signed for the Knuckles and Colombo Strategic Projects. The Projects will start work on the ground in late August/September 2019, focusing on closing the gaps towards targets, including wetland rehabilitation on 9,000 ha by the end of the project period. | Rehabilitation of 6,864 ha of degraded wetlands currently under implementation (76% of the target): 13 grants have been awarded to implement wetlands rehabilitation on 6,864 ha of land thus far. Projects that promote enhancing eco system services, productivity and sustainability in the wetlands through good governance, developing innovative alternative livelihood options and improving market access and climate change resilience. The outcome of these projects aims to promote “Colombo as a model wetland City” where community actions will contribute towards keeping the wetlands healthy and safe. A comprehensive biodiversity survey is being undertaken to conserve threatened species associated with the wetlands. The Human Development Foundation of Sri Lanka (HDFSL) has developed 42 ha of paddy lands and established organic paddy cultivation with traditional rice varieties. Special training was given to some farmers on new farming techniques through the Rice Research and Development Institute (RRDI), which also provided training to the Organic Centre at Makandura on organic vegetable cultivation. Two plots are now been farmed with organic vegetables. The Mannar Strategic Project, which is yet to be approved will be working on reservoir restoration to cover an area of 3,000 hectares for wetland rehabilitation. |
| 2.4 Area (hectares) of forest cover lands set aside for carbon sequestration | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 650 hectares of forest cover lands set aside for carbon sequestration leading to mitigation of at least 25,000 metric tons of CO2  | This target cannot be calculated yet, as projects currently under implementation are still pre-mature. There are no current projects on the ground thus far that have achieved measurable carbon sequestration. 2,114 ha are under reforestation within the buffer zone of the Knuckles forest alone, which will contribute to carbon sequestration in the future, and which will contribute towards achieving the target of 650 hectares of forest cover lands set for aside for carbon sequestration, leading to mitigation of at least 25,000 metric tons of CO2 throughout the project period. | This target has been achieved, as 650 hectares of forest cover has been set aside for carbon sequestration.  Planting of trees was done in three areas, i.e. space available in villages (Home Garden), space available in the buffer zones in between villages and the conserved forest and vacant areas in the conserved forest. Trees planted in the Home Gardens and buffer zones are basically utility tree species and forest tree species in the conserved forest. Also, some forest tree species and utility tree species were planted on marginal tea lands belonging to the Government-owned State Plantation corporation lands. In addition to the above land area, nearly 600 ha of forest lands were conserved by establishing a fire belt. This land extent was subjected to bush fire every year preventing reforestation and destroying additional area in each fire. 6,000 Hana seedlings known as Snake Plant in English (Sansevieria zeylanica) were planted along the fire belt. Natural rejuvenation of forest trees has been facilitated in 600 ha of lands. |
| 2.5 Area (hectares) of land rehabilitated through best practice soil conservation measures | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 2,000 hectares of land rehabilitated through best practice soil conservation measures and agroforestry [MTR: At least 2,500] | Land rehabilitation activities have been carried out on 1,582 ha through soil conservation methods (53% of the adjusted target). Ten projects on the ground in Knuckles and 3 projects in Colombo have contributed towards this target. The following activities have been carried out: Establishment of hedge groves on sloppy areas and planting trees around the village boundary. Placing stone beds to control soil erosion. Replantation on degraded lands to indirectly support soil conservation. Organic fertilizer usage, and capacity and awareness raising activities to reduce chemical use, as it negatively impacts species richness in the soil, leading to biodiversity depletion in the area. Agro-forestry initiatives and organic vegetable cultivation, mainly in a home gardening concept took place in almost all projects within the three regions. The Knuckles Strategic Project has been signed and this project will focus on closing the gaps towards targets, including soil conservation on 3,000 ha by the end of the project period. | Land rehabilitation activities have been carried out on 2,000 ha through soil conservation methods (80% of the target). EPKMS rehabilitated an irrigation channel in Sulugune. Soil conservation work is in progress in Uduwelwala, a water tank for home consumption and irrigation was constructed in Moragahaulpotha, and a plant nursery of lime was established covering 1,000 hectares of soil conservation. Seven agro-wells were constructed in Godaulpota and several long and deep (about 1m deep 1m wide) ditches were dug across the slope bordering the village and conserved forest area to intercept off farm water flow originating from the conserved forest area. This will reduce severe erosion caused by the water flows in the community area. Anurudha Arana and Rangiri Thakshana Piyasa covering 500 hectares of soil conservation established a 50-pot drip irrigation system including a 500l water storage tank. The system feeds enough water to grow crops required for own consumption during the dry season. Such 40 units were distributed among 40 beneficiaries in the village. The system could be upgraded to 500 pots when water source is enough to fill a 500l tank daily.  |
| 2.6 Area of land under improved grazing regimes | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 2,000 hectares under improved grazing regimes [MTR: 0] | No projects under this indicator and the target was adjusted to 0 based on Mid-term Review recommendations. | No Projects were submitted under grazing for the 3 landscapes, as the target was adjusted to 0 based on Mid-term Review recommendations. |
| 2.7 Area of agricultural land under agro-ecological practices and systems that increase sustainability and productivity and/or conserve crop genetic resources | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 8,000 hectares of agricultural land under agro-ecological practices and systems that increase sustainability and productivity and/or conserve crop genetic resources [MTR: At least 3,000] | 3 projects per landscape in Colombo and Mannar and 10 projects in the Knuckles landscapes, are promoting agro-ecological practices across a total commitment area of 1,590 ha (53% of the adjusted target). Committed systems that improve sustainability, productivity and conservation of crop genetic resources are covered. Conserving crop genetic resources of traditional rice varieties and sharing seeds with other communities is one of the key priorities in all 3 landscapes. Activities supported towards achieving this target include promotion of home gardening, non-chemical traditional paddy cultivation, and conservation of water fronts for sustainability and productivity activities in Colombo wetlands. The remaining grant funds to be committed on Strategic Projects will start implementation in Sep 2019, focusing on closing gaps towards targets, including agro-ecological practices on 3,000 ha by the end of the project period. | A total of 2,500 hectares have been brought under agro-ecological practices (83% of the target). EPKMS is promoting home gardening on 1,000 hectares in selected villages, contributing to conserving crop genetic resources. The community will be mobilized to grow 30,000 plants of minor export crops such as pepper on 1,000 hectares and plant 5,000 fruit plants. Production of value-added community agro-products such as coffee and lime will be carried out by the CBOs. The project expects to reach the export market, and this will bring a substantial economic benefit for the rural communities. The challenge faced was that many villagers did not have fruit species, spice and vegetables in their home gardens for their daily consumption. Therefore, the project came up with a solution of introducing many new fruit species. This was initiated by two grantees in the Knuckles area, namely Rangiri Thakshana Piyasa and Anurudha Arana. As part of it, a total of 45,965 trees have been disseminated among the community covering 500 hectares of agro-ecology. |
| 2.8 Number of individuals in the communities that have benefited from new sustainable alternative livelihood options | Procedures under the GEF 5 Small Grant Programme are known at the national level but less known in the new targeted landscapes and communities 50 civil society associations, community-based organizations and other non-governmental organizations benefited from grants under the GEF 5 programme but were scattered throughout Sri Lanka and their individual objectives and interventions were not strategically coordinated with each other | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 200 individuals in the communities have benefited from new sustainable alternative livelihood options | Target achieved and exceeded. The projects awarded thus far cover 571 individuals in the three landscapes. The activities are currently ongoing and livelihood options mainly focus on farming and eco-tourism related occupations, such as tour guides, handicrafts and traditional art, nature trail activities, etc. There are direct and indirect livelihood opportunities received by the communities. Direct livelihood opportunities include agriculture-related livelihood activities like home gardening and animal husbandry, establishment of supporting services and facilities for ecotourism, new value added and marketing of underutilized crops, waste management related enterprises, cultivation of wetland plants, and sustainable fisheries are the common livelihood development activities that have been initiated by the grantees in three landscapes. In addition to these, indirect livelihood opportunities were generated for some community members through conservation activities like nursery management for reforestation, improving ecosystem health. 3,006 ha have been committed in three landscapes for agro-ecological practices, where 332 community members in the 3 landscapes had the opportunity to improve their home gardens and improve livelihoods. With respect to ecotourism, 8 community members in Knuckles have been trained under the Forest Department as recognized tour guides Cultivation, harvest, value addition and marketing of wetland plants is a key livelihood development initiative of the project. Through support for enterprise development with value adding and marketing of underutilized crops and crop varieties, one grantee in Knuckles and three grantees in Colombo have started enterprises based on value addition and 3 community members in Colombo wetlands have established enterprises based on cultivation and sustainable harvest of wetland products. Waste management has been given due priority by the grantees. One of the key activities is compost production and sale. Under this project, 5 community members have been supported to facilitate compost production and sale. 3 community members in the Mannar landscape have been supported by the project with regard to establishment of sustainable fisheries, value addition and marketing. | This target has been achieved and exceeded. 835 livelihoods have been developed, which is 417% of the target. Knuckles and Mannar have significantly contributed to achieve this target through initiatives such as 100 home gardens, 1 unit of traditional food production and sales center, 10 homestays / camp sites and food processing outlet for tourists, 132 beekeeping units among 65 beneficiaries, assistance for 50 families in the Kithul tapping industry along with support to the handicraft industry in several projects in the Knuckles landscape and initiatives such as palmyra product manufacturing from handicrafts to palmyra drink, model home gardening, and solar dryers for processing dried fish for 50 families in the Mannar Landscape. Entrepreneurship development is one of the basic problem-solving approaches of the landscape. Loss of income opportunities in traditional living such as Chena cultivation and cardamom cultivation in dense forests as it was restricted for farmers, forced to find new income generation opportunities. Some of them were cultivating pepper in home gardens and other lands out of the forest boundary. Apart from which, kithul tapping, paddy farming, commercial vegetable cultivation, beekeeping, tourism and trekking are some of the livelihood options available to the village community. The project concentrates on livelihood activities familiar to the particular community and supports them to upgrade these, providing small inputs like technology, investment and the market opportunities. Livelihoods are different from place to place based on the resource availability, topography and socio-economic status. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Outcome 3****Multi-stakeholder partnerships develop and implement projects that catalyze the adoption of successful SGP-supported technologies, practices, or systems** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2019** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 3.1 Number of strategic projects supporting broader adoption of successful small grant project lessons | Local development activities receive ad hoc support from an informal network of local NGOS and CBOs in the project landscapes Better practices and lessons have been learned from the GEF 5 SGP | *(not set or not applicable)* | Three strategic projects to enable and facilitate upscaling of successful SGP-supported initiatives: potential lines of work include biodigestors; production, marketing and sale of underutilized crops or crop varieties; and value addition to products harvested sustainably from wetlands or forests | Two strategic projects approved, and one expected to be approved in August 2019. The Call for Proposals for Strategic Projects has been completed and the Strategic Projects for Knuckles and Colombo have been selected. The NSC is expected to select the Mannar Strategic Project in August 2019. The Upscaling Strategy, resource mobilization strategy and feasibility study and business plan for Colombo and Knuckles have been completed. Multi-stakeholder consultations for the 3 landscapes included consultations with 6 to 8 individuals with specialized knowledge of these landscapes who identified key needs for each landscape that should be further developed within the strategic projects. These priority needs include: The Colombo Landscape needs to work on facilitating networking of all existing wetlands as a means of biodiversity management in an urban area, with a focus on expanding existing project activities, and strengthening an integrated wetland approach; The Knuckles Landscape requires strengthening of its approaches to soil conservation and minimizing sedimentation of reservoirs, reducing land degradation, and promoting agro-biodiversity; The Mannar Island-Jaffna Landscape needs to mitigate water shortages through soil conservation, agro-ecology, rainwater harvesting and land rehabilitation from damage caused by overgrazing and over farming. Private sector partners to be involved by first helping the grantees to come up with a 3-year sustainability plan and with this business plan have a pitch in event calling the private sector to adopt a SGP project to ensure sustainability beyond grant implementation period. A Business Incubation programme was implemented for mature SGP grantees regarding avenues to becoming a social venture. 20 mature grantees were involved with the programme, where coaching sessions were conducted on registration, business plan development, and product development. Finally, 8 SGP projects have been selected for the pitch in event organized to seek co-financing opportunities for these NGOs. | 2 Strategic Projects are under implementation in the Knuckles and Colombo Landscapes. Knuckles Landscape: The Knuckles Strategic project includes establishment of 4 community-based organizations (CBOs) to strengthen the communities. 50 community members will be trained as leaders to lead and represent their communities in the CBOs. The community will be made aware of the soil conservation practices, water conservation and eco –friendly cultivation methods which could be used to increase yields of the paddy cultivations and home gardens. Both men & women will benefit from the project equally. The project proposes to develop the community by means of a family unit approach. Benefits and responsibilities of the project are equally distributed among both men and women. The project aims to complete 1,000 hectares of soil conservation and agro-ecology on 1,000 hectares. As for the up-scaling potential of this project the grantee is looking for private sector partnerships to establish market linkages for the agriculture produce. The grantee is also establishing 30 small women’s groups on micro-credit and knowledge sharing on conservation and through training hopes to disseminate this knowledge to the 13 Knuckles landscape projects. The final intention being to establish a women’s Knowledge bank in the Knuckles region Colombo Strategic Project: Project aims to restore 500 ha of abandoned paddy lands in four Gramasewaka Niladari (GN) Divisions in Homagama DSD through cultivating local paddy varieties while assisting to upscale other ongoing agriculture related SGP projects. In addition, organic vegetable cultivation is being promoted and a few farmer products, including dairy products, are to be introduced. The project also plans to empower women groups through introducing alternative livelihoods. During the Maha cultivation season of 2019/20, approximately 115.5 acres (or 46 ha) of abandoned paddy lands that had not been cultivated for 10-20 years were prepared for cultivation by clearing the undergrowth and rehabilitating the canal system to maintain appropriate water levels in collaboration with 94 farmers belonging to 4 farmer organizations. A traditional paddy variety “Red Kurulu thuda” was planted. Selected farmers were provided training on the "parachute rice transplanting technique” at the Rice Research and Development Institute (RRDI), Bathalegoda, as this technique is said to be cost effective and has the potential to provide high yields per hectare of land. The trained farmers provided a practical training session for the farmers who were unable to participate the training in Bathalegoda. The project developed a good collaboration with the Department of Agrarian Services and Agricultural extension officers of each village are supporting the project. Regular meetings are held with farmer organizations to discuss and overcome issues about paddy cultivation. Additionally, the Mannar Strategic Project is pending approval by the NSC. The project aims at restoring 3,000 hectares of wetlands in the Mannar district through tank rehabilitation. The project will also work on 500 hectares of soil conservation, 500 hectares of agro-ecology and 500 hectares of re-forestation.  |
| 3.2 Number of community members in each of the three landscapes who have participated in the design and implementation of their respective scaling-up strategic project | No attempts at stimulating broader adoption of small grant successes from the GEF 5 program have been attempted | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 250 local community representatives in each of the three landscapes have participated in the design and implementation of the scaling-up strategic project. | On track. At least 250 community members per landscape will be involved in and benefit from the Strategic Projects when they are fully operational in September 2019. | Target achieved in Colombo and Knuckles. The Strategic Project in Mannar is yet to be approved pending field verification and evaluation by the NSC, prior to approval. Colombo Strategic Project – Total 252 The target has been achieved with 228 paddy farmers (191 men and 37 women) and 19 Koratu farmers (13 men and 6 women), while 2 members maintain plant nurseries and 2 women on home gardening in the Colombo Wetland Strategic Project. Knuckles Strategic Project – Total 700 The Knuckles Strategic project impacts around 700 community individuals, 500 females and 200 males. There are 90 people in the community who directly benefit from agro-wells, irrigational canals, restoration of tanks and elephant fences, the activities as part of soil conservation, and land rehabilitation. 460 community members are engaged in home garden development, 40 in cash crops, 50 in spice crops and 60 in water supply benefactors.  |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | **On track** |
| **Outcome 4****Multi-stakeholder landscape policy platforms will discuss potential policy innovations based on analysis of project experience and lessons learned.** |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2019** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 4.1 Existence of operational multi-stakeholder governance platforms in the three landscapes, including local and higher levels of government, NGOs, academics, second level organizatios, and others | Mainstreaming of lessons learned and best practices of small grant projects under the GEF 5 programme was pursued through awareness-raising activities and not institutionalized as a formal mechanism with line ministries and agencies. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Three (3) multi-stakeholder governance platforms have convened at least twice per year and are institutionalized through formal agreements at the District and Division levels to ensure post-project continuance of their services | On Track. A mechanism to be developed after consulting the NSC on forming a multi-stakeholder platform involving high-level government officials which will ensure post-project continuation of services In the beginning of 2020 after the SGP projects have been under implementation on the ground and have begun producing results, these initiatives will be showcased to high-level governance platforms to encourage their collaboration to continue these initiatives after the project period. Measures will be taken to showcase the results of these projects in case study publications and elaborate the importance of these pilot initiatives in each landscape, highlighting the benefit and importance of including these initiatives in their policy work and master plans. | SGP is now producing results on the work started on the ground in 2018. These good cases will be documented as policy briefs in October 2020 and shared with 3 multi-stakeholder policy governance platforms. Since the presidential election happened in the beginning of the year and general elections last month the governance policy level persons have changed frequently. The General election happened just last month but after constitutional reforms in the next few weeks it is believed that there will be more stabilized governance structures. SGP then will approach the key Ministers of the Colombo, Knuckles and Mannar landscapes and present the policy briefs where SGP work is documented whist highlighting key strategy SGP interventions by October 2020. In the Mannar Landscape a key strategic policy intervention is by Ecological Association of Sri Lanka, which has completed mapping through GIS for the first time in Sri Lanka all the Sand dunes, mangroves and land use patterns of the coast of Mannar up to Jaffna. This is new data for the country and these findings have enabled to identify vulnerable and environmentally sensitive patches and have been documented including the dwarf mangrove which is recorded for the first time in Sri Lanka. Initial steps have been taken to inform the Forest Department and the Secretary Ministry of Environment in July 2020 to gazette this this site as a protected site. Steps were being carried out on this regard but after the General Election in August 2020 the line Ministries and Secretary have changed. Therefore after September 2020 SGP would have to again brief the new line Ministries the importance of gazetting the mangrove patch with the new found SGP data.  Due to COVID from the period March-August 2020 since SGP could not physically have policy level platforms due to social distancing and curfew restrictions SGP went on-line to initiate policy level awareness and information dissemination sessions in the 3 landscapes. The first such on-line platform was initiated on World Environment Day in June where Mr Mendis from Herpetological association through power point presentation via zoom spoke about the 7 new Species found in Knuckles and the importance of conservation. This webinar went live on UNDP Facebook page where several government officials, private sector, academic and civil society groups participated. The Private sector Dialog Axiata promised to fund Herpetological association with a weather gauge to help with further new discoveries. The special invite for this session was the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment.  For the Mannar landscape, Ecological Association did a similar presentation on the GIS mapping of the Mannar coast to Jaffna to inform government officials, academics, civil society organizations and UN agencies on the work in Mannar. Such a similar zoom meeting policy platform will happen in September for the Colombo landscape as well. These zoom meetings serve as information dissemination to policy and stakeholder platforms. Knuckles Landscape Policy Forum In the Knuckles landscape in October 2020 SGP will form the policy governance platform with the GA Knuckles and the Secretary to the Environment Ministry and other key stakeholders. The Environment Minister will also be briefed on SGP work and form a Knuckles Conservation Policy Governance Platform to sustain the work of SGP. Colombo Landscape Policy Governance Forum The National Wetland Committee Meeting is a national stakeholder dialogue comprising of key government officials, civil society that are working on protecting the Wetlands of Colombo. This will act as the policy forum in Colombo for SGP which is chaired by the Secretary Ministry of Environment. In 2019 three SGP grantees, Public Interest Law foundation, Emotional Intelligence and Wanansarna Thurulatha all made presentations on their work in the Wetlands. In August 2020 OARM, CEJ and Emotional Intelligence all SGP grantees made presentations on their work. It was decided at this meeting that SGP will share a policy document on the “wise use of wetlands” to be handed over to the Secretary Ministry of Environment in order to see where SGP projects can be synergized with the Colombo Wetland Plan. Mannar Landscape Policy Forum Similarly, in the Mannar landscape Ecological Association GIS mapping and SGP results will be documented in a policy brief and handed over to the policy forum which will comprise of the GA Mannar, Secretary Ministry of Environment and other key stakeholders in October 2020. |
| 4.2 Number of case studies summarizing lessons learned and best practices, based on evaluation of implementation results at the landscape level | Lessons learned from the GEF 5 Small Grant Programme have been promoted through brochures, booklets and ad hoc presentations in-country, but there is no specific communication strategy or plan for long-term promotion of best practices | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least one case study per target landscape summarizing lessons learned and best practices, based on evaluation of implementation results.  | A case study in each project will be written at the end of the project and documented and presented at a symposium Case study publications of prominent SGP6 projects are to be prepared in 2020 as a means to elaborate on the importance of the SGP6 pilot initiatives in each landscape, and their potential for strengthening related policy work and master plans for these landscapes, which may result in national recognition and interventions on a national scale. These case studies will be developed together with each grantee and the Knowledge Management group with the current plans for their delivery and publication in 2020, followed by a symposium to showcase their results. | Case studies are currently being developed by the Knowledge Management grantees in the landscape. There will be 12 projects documented in Knuckles 9 projects in Colombo and 7 projects in Mannar. The Knowledge Management grantees in Knuckles and Colombo have initiated to document the good practices and lessons learnt of all projects. These case studies will be presented at a Symposium scheduled for mid-2021 where key stakeholders such as the government/private sector and civil society organizations will be invited. A publication will result from this symposium. A communication strategy and a Knowledge management Strategy has been developed where SGP is closely working with the UNDP communication team to showcase good practices aiming at the government/ private sector and civil society. A Zoom Webinar has been introduced where SGP had invited other UN agencies/ Government partners/ private sector and civil society organizations to learn about SGP initiatives in the field. The first such zoom Webinar was held on 5th June, where the work of the Herpetological Foundation of Sri Lanka and their new findings was shared via zoom Link: https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=1176825256002604 A newsletter “What’s Up” every 2 months is shared by the Knowledge Management grantees to showcase the highlights of the work done in the 3 landscapes Link: http://gefsgpsl.org/MonthlyNewsletter.aspx  A series of newspaper articles covering the three landscapes on before, mid and after progress of the landscape has been published in the Sinhala newspaper Dinamina. |
| 4.3 Awareness and knowledge of best practices promoted through knowledge sharing events and capacity building activities. | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 500 project stakeholder participants have actively engaged in analysis of project experience and landscape management and have participated in platform workshops and dialogues Communication strategy is developed and operational | On track. A multi-stakeholder meeting for the Colombo Urban Wetland Landscape stakeholders was held on 21 December 2018 with the participation of stakeholders such as SLLRDC, the Colombo Divisional Secretariat, GEF-SGP, Colombo landscape grantees and the Knowledge Management partner, Surakshi GTE Ltd. 25 participants actively participated in the meeting as all projects were presented to the group. A multi-stakeholder meeting for the Knuckles Landscape stakeholders was held on 21 January 2018 at the District Secretariat Matale, joined by the Matale District Secretary, Laggala Divisional Secretary, Officers of GEF-SGP, UNDP, Forest Department, Department of Wildlife Conservation, Knuckles Landscape grantees and the Knowledge Management partner, SLEES. Project proponents currently executing grant projects presented their progress to the stakeholders and received feedback. A networking session was also organized at this event with the private sector. 45 participants were present in the meeting and actively involved as all projects were presented to the group  A multi-stakeholder meeting for stakeholders of the Mannar Island Landscape was held on 17 January 2019 at the Mannar District Secretariat, including 27 participants from District and Divisional Secretariats of Mannar, Divisional Secretariat, Poonarine, officials from MEPA, CCD, Sri Lanka Navy, consultants, GEF/SGP Secretariat, members of grantee projects and the knowledge management project, as well as Mannar Eco-Friends. Representatives from 5 grantee projects presented their project progress, issues and collaborations needs. 20 participants joined the meeting and were actively involved as all projects were presented to the group The 2nd International Conference on Social Enterprise & Social Finance under the theme of “Think Social Produce Social Buy Social” was held on 28-29 January 2019 at Waters’ Edge, Battaramulla. Organized by Lanka Social Ventures Ltd in partnership with British Council, Government institutions and private sector organizations, the conference was a platform to showcase inspiring stories, products and services of social enterprises, facilitate co-financing opportunities, and provide opportunities to expand business incubation activities. Recruitment of a communication expert in mid-2019 who will document and analyze the experiences, lessons and discussions from all SGP6 workshops and meetings and develop a communication strategy that will better define how SGP will communicate to stakeholders such as NGOs, private sector and the government and policy makers. Knowledge products are currently already being developed for this purpose in the 3 landscapes and will be published mid 2020: Knuckles- A map showcasing all 12 SGP projects and how they are interconnected in the landscape. The newly discovered species that have been found will be documented and shared in this platform, highlighting the importance of protecting the Knuckles landscape and its rich biodiversity. Colombo- The importance of the projects in terms of wetland rehabilitation will be studied and shared as a document. Mannar- The GPS survey of the coastline from Mannar to Jaffna highlighting the sand dunes, invasive plants, mangroves and land use patterns will be documented and shared in policy platforms. Important areas to be gazetted as a conservation area by the Government, if possible, with government intervention: Workshops for the Colombo Landscape on “Conducting Ecological Social Surveys in Colombo Wetlands and Introduction of floral and faunal species commonly found in wetlands in the Colombo landscape” (17 July 2018), and “Finalizing Baseline Questionnaires and Guidance on Data Analysis for the Colombo Landscape” (14 August 2018); Progress workshops in September 2018 in the 3 landscapes to accelerate learning and sharing experiences amongst grantees that were delivered by the 3 Knowledge Management grantees; A workshop on Eco-Tourism in October 2018 to guide the Knuckles Landscape grantees on eco-tourism; A newsletter on “What’s Up” at SGP, was launched in July 2018 as a monthly issue to inform stakeholders of ongoing work of SGP Sri Lanka; Building the capacity of the Sri Lanka Nature Forum and the SGP network, a collaboration of over 80 SGP NGOs through training on SGP focal areas, landscape approach training, business model training and up-scaling. Capacities will be built with the expertise of the NSC, SGP6 Technical Advisers and academia (through day training and field practicums), and a consultant to develop business models for SGP grantees and Sri Lanka Nature Forum personnel. These activities were initiated in late 2018 and are planned for continuation to the end of 2019. | Several initiatives were taken to create awareness and knowledge of best practices to promote knowledge sharing events and capacity, covering the following number of participants: 1733 participants- 801 women and 932 men (Colombo)  197 participants- 60 women and 137 men (Knuckles)  50 participants- 137 women and 13 men (Mannar)  Colombo Agricultural training programmes were carried out for Colombo based famers (https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Pjqn4e4kWz4ubRd5A9HzpSjtDTn4cQSW?usp=sharing) and awareness programme for sustainable waste management among community members (https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UVUrD87zRY2-3p5zYez4sD6k7fsKWUVN?usp=sharing) were carried out. 29 participants 14 women and 15 men A door to door awareness campaign on sustainable management of domestic waste, was held on 19th of February 2020 with the participation of Kolonnawa Youth. A Disaster Management workshop was held on 21st of February 2020 at Gothatuwa Purana Raja Maha Viharaya with the participation of Kolonnawa youth and their parents. 20 participants The final session of the awareness campaign for sustainable waste management and livelihood training was held on 20th February 2020 at Diyasaru Park. The programme which was organized by Surakshi (SRL/SGP/OP6/STAR/CD/2017/06), was conducted by Ms. Kanchana Weerakoon, president of ECO-V. Community members of GEF/SGP/UNDP Colombo wetland grantees participated in the event. At the end of the session, a bench was constructed at Diyasaru Park by using the Eco bricks that had been made by the participants, following a training at a prior session of the campaign. 19 participants- 14 women and 5 men  A workshop of environmental mediation organized by Center for Environmental Justice (CEJ: SRL/SGP/OP6/STAR/BD/2019/26) was held on 16th of January at the Center for Banking Studies, Rajagiriya. A collection of government officers including PHI officers, police officers, Grama Niladari, agricultural officers, and other government and public stakeholders had discussions to come up with solutions for wetland related issues. 30 participants A two-day camp was held at Thalangama on 17th and 18th January with the participation of gold medalists of the Environmental Pioneers Programme conducted by the Central Environmental Authority. 150 participants- 63 women 87 men “Sri Lanka NEXT - A Blue Green Era” Conference and Exhibition was held on 23rd and 24th October 2019 at the BMICH. Several GEF-SGP grantees displayed their products while creating awareness on environment and blue-green economy in order to achieve both economic and environmental sustainability of the country. Knowledge management teams of Knuckles & Colombo landscapes took part in educating the visitors about the environment conservation efforts behind the community products and the work carried out by GEF-SGP towards sustainable management and conservation of bio diversity of Sri Lanka. 500 participants  The programme, organized by Sri Lanka Land Reclamation and Development Corporation (SLLRDC) to commemorate the World Children's day 2019 was held at Diyasaru Park, Thalawathugoda from 1-6 th of October. Surakshi Gte. Ltd. acted as the coordinator between the grantees of GEF-SGPUNDP and SLLRDC. Grantees had exhibition and sales stalls displaying their products and project activities. The event highlighted the importance of protecting wetlands while providing a key opportunity for the kids to learn, experience and enjoy the wonders of urban wetlands. 585 participants- 235 women and 350 men Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation – Asia Pacific Conference 2019 was held at MAS Athena, Thulhiriya on 10-13 September 2019. Many local & foreign scientists, researchers, environmentalists & university students participated to this event. Several GEF-SGP grantees displayed their community products such as rush & reed handy crafts, kitul based products and traditional yam based food items etc. Knowledge management teams of Knuckles & Colombo landscapes took part in educating the visitors about the environment conservation efforts behind the community products and the work carried out by GEF-SGP towards sustainable management and conservation of bio diversity of Sri Lanka. 250 participants Lanka Social Ventures (LSV) launched their campaign, “My responsibility- think social, produce social, buy social” with the aim to promote and support entrepreneurship and innovation for social change and environmental sustainability. The event featuring an exhibition of social enterprises, discussions, information and guidance for social entrepreneurs, was held on 18th September at Arcade Independence Square. Several GEF-SGP grantees who are transforming towards social enterprises exhibited their products in this event. 150 participants  Knuckles  Eco –tourism Development Workshop was held at HARTI, Colombo on 7/11/2019for grantees (http://gefsgpsl.org/Workshop%20on%20Eco-Tourism%20Development%20for%20GEF-%20SGP%20Projects.aspx) and a Workshop on Eco- Tourism Activities for Knuckles Landscape Projects in Oak Ray Hotel in Kandy on 28 July 2019 (http://gefsgpsl.org/Workshop%20on%20Eco-%20Tourism%20Activities%20for%20Knuckles%20Landscape%20Projects.aspx) 21 participants- 7 women and 14 men The 2nd Multi-Stakeholder Meeting was held on 1 August 2019 at District Secretariat in Matale (http://gefsgpsl.org/2nd\_Multi\_projects.aspx) 23 participants- 6 women and 17 men Residential Workshop on Social Enterprise Formation was held at Sembuwatta Polo Bungalow, Elkaduwa on 30-01/09/2019(http://gefsgpsl.org/ResidentialWorkshop.aspx) 20 participants- 4 women and 16 men “World Mountain Day 2019 National Celebration programme held at Kelebokka 360 viewpoint in Panwila DS division of the Kandy District on 10/12/2019 and all Knuckles grantees were given the opportunity to take part the even while UNDP GEF/SGP played a leading role together with District Secretariat office in Matale to facilitate the event. The programme was attended by several key government officials and SGP Knuckles grantees were given the opportunity to display their initiatives which gave visibility on the work done in the landscape. (http://gefsgpsl.org/World%20Mountain%20Day%202019.aspx) A series of Zoom online meetings and webinars were conducted during Covid-19 lockdown period and following are some of the programmes; 20 participants  • Discussion on  Community Products  produced by GEF-SGP  Projects on 17/4/2020 • Progress Review and  COVID -19 Impact  Assessment Meeting on  16/5/2020 • Discussion on Display  Boards and  Communication  Materials on 22/5/2020 • A webinar on “How to  Identify Venomous  Snakes in Sri Lanka” on  31/5/2020 9.00- • A webinar on “Central  Highlands World  Heritage Site of Sri  Lanka and Biodiversity”  on 31/5/2020 • Webinar on “Community  Health and Air Pollution”  on 6/6/2020 • Webinar on Air quality of  Sri Lanka and Air  Pollution” 7/6/2020 Rangiri Thakshanma Piyasa (SRL/SGP/OP6/STAR/LD/2018/23) published a book titled “Dumbara Udasiya Paththuwe Asparsheeya Sanskruthika Urumaya” (Cultural Heritage of the Knuckles Region) capturing traditional knowledge unique to the Knuckles area. There are some ancient villages located in the Knuckles area and the descendants of the original settlers of the area still lives today. The day to day knowledge they gathered through generation to generation on the topics such as agriculture, weather forecasting, rituals and healing methods have been captured in this book. Moreover, the book consists of knowledge on traditional medicine, traditional medical practices, folklore, mythology and information on ancient villages located in the Knuckles area. GEF-SGP Sri Lanka was selected to showcase the restoration efforts carried out in the Knuckles landscape in the Flash Talk session at the Yale International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF) conference held on 1st of February 2020 at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, New Haven, Connecticut, United States of America. National Coordinator of the GEF-SGP Sri Lanka participated to the Flash Talk session and made her presentation on Community Efforts in Conserving the Knuckles Forest Range under the Flash Talk theme Local Restoration. 50 participants A workshop was held on “Eco- Tourism Activities for Knuckles Landscape Projects” on July 28, 2019 at Oak Ray Regency, Kandy. Grantee projects in the Knuckles landscape who had proposed eco-tourism related activities participated to the workshop. The workshop covered topics such as tourism in a global context, identifying unique experiences in the Knuckles region that could be offered to the tourists, good practices & standards of home stay operation etc. 23 participants- 4 women and 19 men  A multi stakeholder meeting was held on 01st of August 2019 at the Conference Hall, District Secretariat, Matale. All 13 Knuckles landscape projects, GEF-SGP officials, consultants and government officers from the District Secretariat, Divisional Secretariats & Forest Department participated to this meeting while Mr. I.D.P. Wijethilaka, Additional District Secretary, Matale chaired the meeting. All grantees presented on the progress of their projects and received individual comments. 20 participants A two-day Residential Workshop was held in Sembuwatta Polo Bungalow, Elkaduwa Estate, Elkaduwa, Matale on 30th September 2019 and 01st October 2019. The GEF-SGP Projects of Knuckles Landscape presented on their future activities and a discussion was held on matters of achieving indicator targets of each project. 20 participants 4 women 16 men  Mannar  Zoological Student Association (ZSA SRL/SGP/OP6/Star/BD/2018/04), Faculty of Science, University of Jaffna organized cross learning visit for the beneficiaries of palmyra handy craft production from Kautharimunai on 23rd Feb 2020. They visited 3 women lead enterprises processing palmyra by-products in Mannar District which were initiated by UNDP during 2007, named Ilanthalir Palmyra by-production Center at Tharavankottai , involved in production of dried palmyra yam (Odiyal), pulp and fiber production and two palmyra handicraft production centers at Naruvilikulam 30 participants- 27 women and 3 men One day training programme on management and maintenance of mangrove at the Mangrove Farm at Pallamadhu, Vidathaltivu, Mannar was held on 11th October 2019. 12 members from respective Fisheries Societies and Fisheries Unions of Valaippadu, and Kiranchi attended this training programme to protect their respective seascapes. 20 participants |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | **On track** |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 62.98% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 62.98% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 1,572,643 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** |
| PPG Amount | 60,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 2,497,078 |
| Co-financing | 3,300,000 |

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| **Key Project Dates** |
| PIF Approval Date | Jun 4, 2015 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Nov 18, 2016 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Jan 25, 2017 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Mar 20, 2017 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Jan 25, 2019 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | Jun 16, 2019 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Apr 25, 2022 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Jan 25, 2021 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | Jul 25, 2022 |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2019 to 1 July 2020)** |
| 2020-02-20 |
| 2020-03-24 |
| 2020-05-06 |
| 2019-08-13 |
| 2020-01-09 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks  | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Safety and Security | The majority of projects are ongoing with slight delays due to COVID. Travel restrictions and health situation has restricted some of the activities in Mannar and Colombo. One project in Mannar Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Foundation which was very slow in implementation will not be able to do the coast conservation study in the ocean in Vankalei Reef due to the COVID situation and diving restrictions to the ocean. Therefore, the NGO has decided to return the funds for the activities they will not be able to perform. One project in the Colombo landscape which is the Centre for Sustainability is working on restoring the wetlands through bioremediation in Rajagiriya. University Students have been discouraged to enter the wetlands due to COVID and project activities as stalled as a result. SGP responded to the COVID challenges, by conducting an overall assessment of the impact to projects, modifying training and M&E activities to be conducted virtually, extending project through MOA amendments as necessary etc. All except for the above 2 projects have responded to COVID and adapted accordingly. |
| Operational | As indicated in the SESP section below, complaints have been received regarding, inter alia, the evaluation process for the selection of the Mannar Strategic Project, which have resulted in major delays in the implementation of activities in the Mannar Landscape and in the achievement of the relevant targets. As a result, as UNOPS implements the GEF SGP, with UNDP oversight, in Sri Lanka, UNDP immediately shared the allegations with UNOPS. The UNOPS IAIG (equivalent to UNDP OAI) informed UNDP on the 29 July 2020 that UNOPS IAIG will undertake a remote forensic audit of the GEF SGP programme in Sri Lanka. The results of the audit will inform decisions regarding the selection of the Mannar Strategic Project. Additionally, the establishment of a grievance redress mechanism in the landscape is currently under discussion and a grievance mechanism will be established when future new grants are advertised |

# Adjustments

**Risk Management**

The Country Office is responsible for completing the Risk Management section of the PIR in consultation with the RTA.  Before updating the PIR, the Country Office must update project-level risks in the Atlas Risk Register line with UNDP’s enterprise risk management policy and have a detailed discussion with the RTA on risk management.  Next, the Country Office must select below the ‘high’ risks identified in the Atlas Risk Register as well as any other ‘substantial’ risks from the Atlas Risk Register identified by the RTA as needing to be addressed in the PIR.  Moderate and Low risks do not need to be entered in the PIR Risk Management section. After selecting the risk, a text field will appear where the Country Office should describe the risk and explain actions undertaken this reporting period to address the risk selected.

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| **Select the risk(s) from the options that match the 'high' risks in the project's UNDP Risk Register as well as any 'significant' risks from the register, as agreed with the RTA. Please describe the risk identified and explain the management approach agreed between the RTA and Country Office on managing/mitigating the risk.** |
| Safety and Security |
| Operational |

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The MTR took place during the previous reporting period, 5 months after the original expected date (due in January 2019), as the approval of grants was delayed by 6 months, and due to availability constraints of the consultant. The MTR recommended a project extension so that all grantees can complete project activities during the project period. An 18-month extension was approved in July 2020 and the new expected operational closure end date is June 2022. It further recommended some changes to select indicators, which were approved by the NSC 29-30th March 2019, and reflected in the previous PIR. Of the 36 community projects executed in GEF OP6, 28 will be finishing progressively over the next months up until January 2021. However, eight community projects need more time as they have faced delays due to various reasons including limited organizational/administrative capacity of the grantee organization; delays in approval of management plans by official authorities; natural hazards (drought). In addition, due to the heavy rainy during the harvesting season, which runs until March, three of these projects will need an additional season to complete successfully their agriculture-related activities. Moreover, the strategic project in the Mannar landscape has not yet been committed due to the capacity of the grantees and issues existing in the field. This project will need more than one year to complete project activities. Although the Strategic Projects in the Colombo and Knuckles landscapes have already been approved and are under implementation, it will require additional time to fully carry out activities and truly display the impact. The extension will allow the grantees to complete their projects smoothly and to demonstrate the results with strong evidence from the field, including the publication of all the systematizations and case studies. Once the grants are successfully completed, with the proposed extension, the SGP team will have time to complete the planned knowledge management (KM) products at the landscape level and the required dissemination to key stakeholders including authorities, academia and producers for replication and upscaling. The proposed extension will allow the appropriation, exchange and dissemination of learning and knowledge, and the discussion of public policy applications at the regional and national level, building on the landscape level work that has taken place during the first two years. |
| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The project was originally is expected to close operationally by 25 January 2021, so that the terminal evaluation was expected in 2020. However, the project has obtained a no-cost extension till 25th July 2022. Therefore, the terminal evaluation will not be commissioned in 2020 as originally expected. The terminal evaluation will be re-scheduled to take place by mid 2022/end /2021. Further, the project closure will also be pushed back to 2022. |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| During the reporting period, the project was granted a 18-month no cost extension until 25 July 2022, to compensate for delays in the start of the OP6 project, delays in the implementation a number of community level projects, and to allow the necessary time for consolidation of the results achieved to date and disseminate these in the three landscapes. Additionally, given the current situation with the COVID pandemic where social distancing and curfew remains in place, it has been a challenging task to do community work, especially in the Colombo and Mannar landscapes. The extension, initially recommended by the MTR, cleared by the NSC and the RTA, and approved by the UNDP GEF Directorate will also allow time for the project to implement the MTR recommendations, before the Final Evaluation. With the extension, it is expected that the desired outcomes and results will be achieved. With the new approved operational closure of July 2022, the Terminal Evaluation is now expected to be undertaken by April 2022, three months prior to operational closure. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2020 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2020 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*  |
| Overall Assessment | The project is rated as Satisfactory as activities are over the half-way mark, and all targets are expected to be achieved by the end of the project period. A 1.5-year extension was granted to the programme, shifting the programme end date to July 2022. This extension was granted due to the fact that some grantees needed extra time to work on restoration efforts and due to the COVID pandemic most work was stalled for nearly 4 months. The 18-month no-cost extension was requested, until 25 July 2022, to compensate for delays in project start and in the implementation of some community level projects, as well as to consolidate the results achieved to date and disseminate them in the three landscapes. Also given the current situation with the CO-VID pandemic where social distancing and curfew is in place it has been a challenging task to do community work especially in the Colombo and Mannar landscapes. Due to the uncertainty of the pandemic and adjusting to the “new normal” setting the programme envisages certain unforeseen delays mainly due to the uncertainly of the situation. Given the new timeline, progress towards individual targets is on track, with some targets achieved or exceeded already, and overall more than 75% achieved. The target on wetland restoration is yet to be achieved and this would be achieved mainly after the approval of the Mannar Strategic Project. As this is a larger project a considerable number of hectarage of wetland restoration is expected to be achieved by this project. Although the project is yet to be awarded by the NSC, the evaluation process for its selection has received some complaints, as described in the risk section, therefore the project has been stalled until the investigation is completed. As of to date, SGP Sri Lanka has supported 27 small grants projects, 2 strategic projects, 2 knowledge management projects and 3 projects to develop landscape strategies, totaling 34 projects. The small grants projects have been generating direct results for 1,737 beneficiaries (707 female and 1,030 male) in OP6 so far; as well as for 959 community members (537 female and 391 male) through the Strategic Projects that aim to bring SGP initiatives and best practices to policy level discussions. Outcome 1: The project has already achieved the end-of-projects targets during the previous reporting period, as the project has established multi-stakeholder partnerships in three ecologically sensitive landscapes and developed and executed management plans to enhance socio-ecological landscape resilience and achieve global environmental benefits. The multi-stakeholder working groups of each landscape are comprised of the nominee of the District Secretary’s office, academia, relevant government stakeholders and civil society. They have been an important and integral part of the programmes and have been consulted during the short-listing of community-based projects, providing advisory services to SGP Sri Lanka. The 3 groups have also been instrumental in advising on the essential key needs, from a social and environmental perspective, of the landscape providing guidance for the 3 strategic projects as well. The multi-stakeholder platforms meet at least twice a year to first review the projects and next evaluate the progress of projects in the landscape. This feature is a decision-making body in the landscape which provides guidance and transparency in the landscape level. Three landscape management strategies have been reviewed and approved by the SGP NSC during the previous reporting period and are currently under implementation, one in each of the 3 landscapes. Main expected outcomes of the strategies are protection and restoration of sensitive ecosystems and habitats and preventing further degradation of natural resources, sustainable land use practices to preserve and enhance agro-biodiversity and productivity, improving local livelihoods through eco-friendly community-based enterprises, and boosting the knowledge and capacity of the community and local institutions to increase resilience. These documents are now uploaded on the Sri Lanka SGP website. All projects have directed their activities in line with the recommendations of the 3 strategies. Typologies of projects for the three landscapes were developed and used when calling for concepts for the three landscapes. Project types include restoration of degraded lands, promotion of agro-forestry and agriculture, protection of wetlands, water conservation and improvement of livelihoods. All approved projects for funding have secured co-financing in terms of cash and in-kind from different stakeholders. 9 projects in Colombo, 7 projects in Mannar and 12 projects in Knuckles have all secured co-financing by other stakeholders in the landscape. Landscape synergies have been identified in all three landscapes. In Knuckles, a map has been created connecting all 13 projects and showcasing how they are connected by way of hiking trails, for example, as well as demarcating the landscape connectivity and the nature of the inter-connected trails. In the landscape of Colombo, a study has been conducted on how all the projects contribute towards wetland conservation and rehabilitation. A study on how the projects are linked to the Colombo Strategic Project has been completed and this will be used for policy decision making in the wetlands. In Mannar, the importance of the landscape in terms of bird diversity and the importance of the conservation of mangroves and water will be established. Outcome 2: Progress towards this outcome “Community-based organizations in landscape-level networks build their adaptive management capacities by implementing projects and collaborating in landscape management” is on track and nearly 75% complete. 28 organizations have started on-the-ground activities with 25 projects promoting biodiversity conservation on over 27,660 ha in the three landscapes, exceeding the target of 17,500 ha. Reforestation activities are being carried out by 18 organizations on 2,114 ha in the 3 landscapes through small grants, compared to the target of 2,500 hectares, which will be achieved by the end of the project. There are 18 projects on the ground presently working on degraded wetland rehabilitation activities on 6,864 ha towards the target of 9,000 ha. Thirteen (13) projects have been approved that carry out land rehabilitation activities on 2,000 ha thus far towards the target of 2,500 ha. Sixteen (16) projects contribute towards 2,500 ha of agro-ecological practices; systems that increase sustainability & productivity, and conservation of crop genetic resources towards the target of 3,000 ha. These targets on reforestation, wetland rehabilitation, agro-ecological practices, and improved agricultural sustainability and productivity are expected to be achieved by the end of the project period through the Mannar Strategic Project. Over 800 community members are benefiting across the three landscapes from projects promoting alternative livelihood options and increase in productivity. The activities are currently ongoing and livelihood options mainly focus on farming, and eco-tourism related occupations and increase in productivity consists mainly on agricultural produce. Product development from the landscape will be highlighted especially in the Knuckles landscape; products such as Knuckles pepper, turmeric and Kithul Treacle (Jaggery) will be promoted. Non-chemical paddy and recycling and reuse products will be promoted in the Colombo landscape. SGP is also supporting farmers to obtain the GAP (Good Agricultural Practice) certifications for these products. Outcome 3: Progress towards outcome 3 “Multi-stakeholder partnerships develop and implement projects that catalyze the adoption of successful SGP-supported technologies, practices, or systems” is on track. The Strategic Projects for Knuckles and Colombo have been selected; and the main aim of the Colombo Strategic Project is to convert abandoned paddy lands into farming covering 500 hectares. This project will be the marketing hub for all other small grants projects in the landscape. The Knuckles landscape project is mainly working on 1,000 hectares of soil conservation and agro-ecology. This project aims to open small micro credit facilities with all 5 community organizations paving the way for the sustainability of the project. The Mannar Strategic Project could not be finalized yet, but this project is looking at collaborating with the GCF Project on tank restoration in the Malwatu River Basin. The advertising for the project and short listing is complete and awaiting final NSC approval for the go ahead. So far, the two Strategic Projects have been serving 952 community members. The 3 multi-stakeholder groups in the three landscapes are already involved in identifying the key needs for the respective landscapes and supporting the selection of concepts that should be taken forward in their landscapes. For example, rehabilitation of connected wetlands in the Colombo landscape, soil conservation and reversing land degradation in Knuckles, and tackling water shortage in Mannar. They continue to be involved in the design and implementation of the strategic projects and the progress of all projects in the landscapes. In order to ensure sustainability of the SGP projects, business sustainability plans have been developed for 15 grantees and a private sector collaboration event is scheduled for the end of December 2020, providing an opportunity to collaborate with SGP projects and establish partnerships. This event was delayed due to the COVID situation in the country and will be done mid next year. Outcome 4: Progress towards outcome 4 “Multi-stakeholder landscape policy platforms will discuss potential policy innovations based on analysis of project experience and lessons learned” is a bit delayed. Multi-stakeholder policy platforms will be developed involving high-level government officials through the focal ministry for Environment, the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, which will ensure post-project continuation of services. The Colombo Policy Platform is part of the National Wetland Forum of the Ministry of Environment. SGP is part of this platform and informs of the SGP progress and possible policy interventions in the future. This is headed by the Secretary Ministry of Environment. In the Knuckles and Mannar landscape Policy platforms are yet to be initiated due to the political changes but will commence in September 2020. The policy platforms will consist of the GA of the landscape, Secretary Ministry of Environment and key stake holders. Initial zoom meetings have started with key stakeholders on the policy implications of SGP in the landscapes. In order to showcase policy-level SGP work in the Mannar landscape, the survey and GIS maps established by the Ecological Association of Sri Lanka will be shared with the relevant government authorities and gazetted as sensitive area, as soon as general elections are over. In the Knuckles landscape, the new species discovered by the Herpetological Foundation of Sri Lanka will be documented in the Red-List, and information will be spread widely on the importance of protecting the Knuckles Range amongst policy makers. In the Colombo landscape, the importance of conservation of the wetlands through the wise use of natural resources has been completed and will be highlighted by SGP projects documented and shared with policy makers.  Co-Financing and Partnerships: All projects approved for funding have secured co-financing in terms of cash and in-kind from different stakeholders. 9 projects in Colombo, 7 projects in Mannar and 12 projects in Knuckles have all secured co-financing by other stakeholders in the landscape. SGP has secured a partnership with Social Ventures Sri Lanka and British Council where grantees that were not able to secure grants from SGP have a way through mentoring and coaching on business incubation to be up-graded as social enterprises in the future. Moreover, SGP and the Sri Lanka Nature Forum completed a workshop on SGP and SDGs, based on which a publication will be finalized. SGP further has a collaboration with the private sector partner Nations Trust Bank but this was delayed due to the constraints in funds due to COVID. SGP is looking at pitching the 15 business plans completed to the private sector for future sustainability initiatives in October 2020. Additionally, the Ministry of Environment has collaborated with SGP in the Knuckles and Colombo Landscape to establish the Haritha Gamanaya (or the Eco Village concept) in SGP projects. SGP is also looking at collaborating with the Federation of Commerce, private sector and LIIN Sri Lanka to pitch in their business plans for commercial and project sustainability. The Nations Trust Bank, Dialog Axiata and Abans are private sector companies that have shown interest in taking some SGP initiatives forward as Co-financing partners namely for Ekabaddha Kantha with reforestation Herpetological Association with air quality monitoring and Human Development Foundation on making marketing linkages.  Knowledge Management: SGP partners with two Knowledge Management groups that work on Knowledge Management products in Colombo and Knuckles. A case study for each OP6 project will be developed together with each grantee and Knowledge Management group. These case studies will be published, and a symposium will be held to showcase the results by end of 2020. Moreover, the Knowledge Management Grantees in the landscapes will work on documenting all the results of the projects in each landscape and see how they all contribute towards the landscape approach, based on which the landscape case studies will be developed in collaboration with the UCP Global Coordinator and Technical Advisor and Knowledge Management Consultant. A Newsletter called “What’s Up” has been launched in June 2018 and is a bi-monthly edition to provide updates on SGP Sri Lanka and 23 issues have been released thus far. A comprehensive communication and Knowledge Management strategy has been developed and SGP is working closely with the communications expert in the UNDP Team. The UNDP Communication Team is working closely with SGP Sri Lanka to communicate lessons learnt to stakeholders such as NGOs, private sector and government and policy makers. More than 4 success stories have also been highlighted on the SGP and UNDP websites. Such case is the photo story on Sunethra from Human Development Foundation Renuka form Ekabaddha Praja Kantha Maha Sangamaya, Shantha form OARM and Anya from Small Cat Advocacy Group. https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/breathe-colombo-breathe With regard to gender equality and women empowerment, the Project Document has given due priority for mainstreaming gender and social inclusiveness into the project through outcomes, outputs and indicators and is complemented by a gender equality strategy. Gender sensitivity was considered as one of the key priority areas in landscape-level baseline surveys and is part of the grantee selection process for project funding. The Gender Analysis is completed and SGP Sri Lanka is working on implementing the recommendations. Two women-led grantees won 1st and 2nd place in the Social Entrepreneurship Conference held in Dec 2019 which highlights the importance women play in the development field. Delivery: Our expenditure to date is US$ 1,572,596 and commitment amounts to US$ 333,491, equaling US$ 1,906,087, which is 76% of the total budget of US$ 2,497,078. The MTR was completed in June 2019 and the SGP programme received a satisfactory rating. Some targets were adjusted based on MTR recommendations, as specified in the core indicator table and approved by the NSC on 29-30 March 2019, and reflected in the previous PIR. There were no changes at the objective level; overall target amounts remain the same for these indicators. The project was extended in June 2020 up to June 2022 due to the COVID situation in the country. |
| **Role** | **2020 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2020 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Global Environment Facility (GEF) supported “Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Sri Lanka” has the objective to effectively support generation of global environmental benefits and the safeguarding of the global environment through community and local solutions that complement and add value to national and global level action. The project was originally expected to close operationally by 25 January 2021. In line with the recommendations given by the mid-term review which was completed in June 2019 and the recommendations of the national steering committee including UNDP country office, project has obtained a no-cost extension from the UNDP GEF Executive Coordinator. Thus, the new closing date of the project is 25th July 2022. The project comprises four (4) outcomes which are to be achieved through implementation of identified interventions in three selected landscapes, by adopting lessons leant from the COMDEKS approach. In adopting the COMDEKS, which entails stakeholder engagement, capacity building, and scaling up; the project works in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders. The overall objective of the project is to improve three landscapes in terms of conservation of biodiversity and mitigation of land degradation. To date, the project has demonstrated a considerable progress towards achieving its goal, objective and outcomes. The project work closely with relevant government organizations and other stakeholders as required to ensure smooth implementation of identified projects. The project progress entails awarding and implementing of 28 community projects through community-based organizations /Civil society organizations in 03 landscapes. In addition, 02 strategic projects have been in progress successfully in Colombo and Knuckles landscapes aiming at improving biodiversity and reducing land degradation. Strategic project in Mannar landscape is yet to be started. Moreover, two small grants that are terminated need to be re-granted. Majority of the projects implemented have demonstrated high level of community participation. Livelihood activities and marketing strategies introduced by the project have benefited targeted communities in strengthening their livelihood and income security while contributing to biodiversity and land improvements in the particular landscape. Agriculture and eco -tourism are two prominent livelihoods options promoted among targeted communities. Both these livelihood options have higher scaling-up potential with the engagement of private sector. While, the project activities contributed to government’s National Policy Framework on “Vistas of Prosperity and Splendor”, project activities are also in line with global conventions of the UNCBD, UNFCCC and the UNCCD for which Sri Lanka is a signatory. Despite the progress achieved so far is considerable, the conceptualization of link between community projects and strategic project in the respective landscape hasn’t adequately analyzed and demonstrated particularly with regard to wider adoption/scaling-up. The scale and strategic fit of community projects to the overall landscape approach adopted by the project has limited ripple effect on the entire landscape. Therefore, it is recommended to conduct an impact analysis to assess effectiveness of approach adopted by the project, to help inform the design of OP7. Project is encouraged to document lessons learnt and best practices in line with the COMDEKS approach to inform OP7 project formulation. The Project has successfully facilitated partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders, all of whom have contributed to the effective implementation of OP6, including local NGOs /CSOs and academia, strategically selected to advance landscape strategies. However, the partnerships with private sector should be strengthened further to ensure sustainability of green value chains/jobs and eco-tourism related interventions. The level of engagement of government officials is also at a satisfactory level. Project is encouraged to partner with recently approved GCF project to be implemented through IUCN to upscale SGP initiatives in Knuckles landscape and recently approved GEF VI project and ongoing UNDP implemented GCF project to upscale SGP initiatives in Mannar Landscape. As the GEF/SGP programme by its very nature works with civil society organizations (CSOs), the project can further strengthen systems to engage systematically with the CSOs and build ownership of results. The management and governance arrangements of the project should be further scrutinized to enhance CSO participation, build rigor in oversight while promoting transparency and accountability of the programme to its stakeholders. Further areas for clarification include roles and responsibilities of GEF/SGP team, UNDP CO, National Steering Committee and the GEF operational focal point which is the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources. As per the recommendations given in the PIR 2019, the National Steering Committee to be re-shuffled as per GEF/SGP operational guidelines. In addition, a grievance redress mechanism should be established both at national and sub-national levels to receive and address the grievances timely and in a transparent manner. Gender incorporation is at a satisfactory level. However, the project has room for further improvement of gender consideration in project implementation, especially in terms of providing entrepreneurial/marketing support to women in beneficiary communities. This can be linked with the proposed private sector engagement with potential partners. Considering the considerable gender considerations in the project, project team is encouraged to work with CO to upgrade the gender market to GEN 2. Project is recommended to conduct a gender impact assessment of OP6 in order to inform the GEF OP7. Overall, implementation is on track with minor shortcomings and delays in terms of cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and with more attention on risk management. Therefore, project should pay more attention of improving the transparency and accountability of engaging civil society organizations. It is highly recommended to incorporate lessons leant from OP6 in developing the OP7 project.   |
| **Role** | **2020 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2020 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*  |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **Role** | **2020 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2020 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*  |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **Role** | **2020 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2020 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -*  |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **Role** | **2020 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2020 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | This is the third PIR for the Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Sri Lanka. As one of the SGP Upgraded Country Programmes, SGP Sri Lanka has been adopting a community-based landscape approach in OP6 to enhance and maintain socio-ecological resilience of three ecologically sensitive landscapes: the Knuckles Conservation Forest and its buffer zone, the coastal region from Mannar Island to Jaffna, and the Colombo Wetlands. As in the previous reporting phases, the project is granted a DO rating of SATISFACTORY, as the project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure, and continuous progress has been made during this reporting period. The current progress shown below, explains why the project manager, the UNDP Country Office and the Regional Technical Advisor (RTA), concur with a satisfactory DO rating. During this third year of implementation, the project has continued to make good progress towards its objective to enable community organizations in Sri Lanka to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience, through design, implementation and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development. During the reporting period, SGP Sri Lanka has supported 34 community-based projects (13 in Knuckles including one Strategic Project, 9 in Colombo including one Strategic Project, and 7 in Mannar, 1 Knowledge Management in Knuckles and 1 Knowledge Management in Colombo and 3 projects that did the landscape strategies for each landscape ), with additional 2 projects that are available as 2 projects were terminated in 2018 and balance funds available and a Strategic grant in Mannar, to enable community organizations and NGOs to develop and implement adaptive landscape/seascape management strategies that build social, economic and ecological resilience based on local sustainable development benefits. So far, 27,660 ha across the three production landscapes have been brought under sustainable management practices conserving biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem services (138% of the objective-level target of 20,000 ha). By project end, these initiatives are expected to have covered a total area of 35,000 hectares under resilient landscape management. With a total of 1,737 community members (707 women and 1,030 men) actively engaged in and benefiting from activities, the target to reach at least 250 beneficiaries in each landscape (750 in total) has been achieved and exceeded. The target area of degraded lands in three project landscapes benefitting from land rehabilitation activities (target: 15,000) is also on track with 12,000 ha across the three production landscapes having been brought under sustainable land management and/or benefiting from land rehabilitation activities through community projects (80% of the target). The target is expected to be achieved by the end of the project through soil conservation and land restoration activities, particularly through the two recently approved Strategic Projects. The project is designed to enhance capacity of community organizations for landscape management for socio-ecological resilience through 4 outcomes: 1): Multi-stakeholder partnerships in three ecologically sensitive landscapes develop and execute management plans to enhance socio-ecological landscape resilience and global environmental benefits; 2) Community-based organizations in landscape level networks build their adaptive management capacities by implementing projects and collaborating in landscape management; 3) Multi-stakeholder partnerships develop and implement projects that catalyze the adoption of successful SGP-supported technologies, practices, or systems; 4) Multi-stakeholder landscape policy platforms will discuss potential policy innovations based on analysis of project experience and lessons learned. With regard to Outcome 1, the project had already successfully achieved the EoP targets in its first year. In terms of landscape governance, three multi-stakeholder working groups are currently operational in the three landscapes (one in each landscape; target achieved) bringing together community organizations, indigenous peoples groups, NGOs, and local and provincial government authorities, as well as other stakeholders, following the implementation of the three Landscape Strategies finalized during the previous reporting period. Each Landscape Strategy defines four key landscape outcomes, as well as a typology of potential projects (target: achieved) that community-based initiatives will aim to achieve through collective action, in order to address challenges as diverse as the types of the target landscapes, ranging from soil and water degradation due to human activity and habitat loss impacting local biodiversity, to governance issues over local resources and reduced crop productivity due to soil degradation and climate change effects. The target of at least ten signed formal agreements between community organizations and other partners in each landscape to pursue the outcomes of each strategy through community and landscape level projects has also been achieved. With regard to outcome 2, project activities are on track through 28 community based-projects currently under implementation aimed at enhancing social and ecological resilience through community-based, community-driven efforts to conserve biodiversity, optimize ecosystem services, manage land (particularly agro-ecosystems) and water sustainably, and mitigate climate change. In particular, 28organizations are carrying out 26 projects supporting biodiversity conservation on-the-ground, with current progress of 25,546 ha in the three landscapes (target: at least 10,000 ha); reforestation activities have been carried out on a cumulative of 2,214 ha by 18 organizations in the 3 landscapes (adjusted target based on MTR: 2,500 ha), rehabilitation activities of degraded wetlands have so far covered 6,864 ha through 13 projects (adjusted target based on MTR: 9,000; previously 3,000). The target related to carbon sequestration has been achieved with 650 hectares of forest cover lands set for aside for carbon sequestration. Additionally, nearly 600 ha of forest lands were conserved by establishing a fire belt to protect this land from annual bush fire. Land rehabilitation activities have been carried out on 2,000 ha through soil conservation methods (80% of the target). Overall 16 projects are promoting agro-ecological practices and systems, with progress of 2,500 ha so far (adjusted target based on MTR: 3,000), with most progress made during the reporting period through promotion of home gardening, particularly of fruit and pepper but also through value-added community agri-products such as coffee and lime. Finally, 835 individuals across the three landscapes have so far benefited from the projects through alternative livelihood options (target: 200 individuals per landscape). With regard to outcome 3 related to strategic projects, the target of ‘three strategic projects to enable and facilitate upscaling of successful SGP-supported initiatives’ is on track. The methodology of upscaling has been established, and the Strategic Projects for Knuckles and Colombo are currently under implementation. The final Strategic Project towards the target – for the Mannar Landcsape – is currently under development, and the grant is yet to be approved due to complaints related to the selection process reflected in the risk and SESP section of this PIR . The strategic project in Mannar will aim to restore 3,000 hectares of wetlands in the Mannar district, as well as implement soil conservation, agro-ecology and reforestation activities on 500 ha each. In the Colombo Landscape, 252 farmers and gardeners (204 men and 48 women) have been engaged in the design and benefit from the strategic project (target: 250 in each landscape). In the Knuckles Landscape, 700 community members (500 women and 200 men) directly benefit from activities such as establishment of agro-wells and irrigation canals, home garden development, and other land rehabilitation measures. SGP is also exploring the possibility of upscaling best practices from mature SGP grantees outside of the strategic projects modality (amount up to US$150,000) through capacity development and business model trainings. As also suggested in the CO overall assessment above, the project team is encouraged to produce case studies highlighting the role of these projects, and supported activities in addressing market barriers, up-scaling appropriate technologies or specific successful lines of work, and/or advancing needed policy changes. With regard to outcome 4 on capacity building, policy influence and knowledge management, EoP targets are on track with minor shortcoming. As mentioned above, important steps were made by the project during the previous reporting period to support multi-stakeholder governance platforms, which will ensure post-project continuation of services, and three such platforms were established. These platforms will have a key role in terms of disseminating knowledge and experiences from project activities for further policy influence and upscaling. In the Mannar Landscape, as the Navy plays a central role in seascape protection, they are closely engaged in the formation of high-level multi-istakeholder platforms. Additionally, the Ecological Association of Sri Lanka has conducted GIS mapping of all the Sand dunes, mangroves and land use patterns of the coast of Mannar up to Jaffna, which is a novelty in Sri Lanka and will serve as important data to policy and decision makers. In Knuckles, significant steps have been taken to document best practices and lessons, which are expected to be presented to the multi-stakeholder platform to continue discussions on protecting the Knuckles World Heritage Site. Best practices and experiences of protecting wetland ecosystem services are being documented in the Colombo Landscape and will be shared by September 2020 with senior officials of the Urban Development Authority (UDA) and Central Environment Authority (CEA) to discuss sustainability measures of these projects. Additionally, work on case studies summarizing lessons learned and best practices in each landscape are being documented, which will be presented and discussed during a Symposium for key stakeholders scheduled for mid 2021.The project has also paid particular attention to provide capacity building opportunities, as evidenced in this PIR by the number of guidance workshops and trainings conducted by the project. More than 200 project stakeholders have so far received training and/or participated in workshops on analysis of project experience and landscape management, and additional capacity building workshops are planned in the coming months (target: 500). More specifically, on knowledge management activities, one of the strategic priorities for SGP is the generation and dissemination of the knowledge produced by its projects allowing for other communities and donors to replicate and scale up good practices. SGP Sri Lanka has continued to make important progress with regards to knowledge management and capacity building activities during the reporting period. For example, in the Colombo Landscape, the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation – Asia Pacific Conference 2019 was held at MAS Athena, Thulhiriya on 10-13 September 2019, with participation of local and foreign scientists, researchers, environmentalists, and university students. Four GEF-SGP grantees displayed their community products such as rush & reed handy crafts, kitul-based products and traditional yams food items, among others. At this event, the knowledge management teams of the Knuckles and Colombo landscapes shared knowledge on environmental conservation and sustainable biodiversity management efforts behind the SGP-supported community products. The project team is strongly encouraged to continue to give special attention to this aspect so that lessons learned can be used to communicate and scale up successful interventions in Sri Lanka and other countries around the world. While the multi-stakeholder governance platforms are currently functioning, the progress in terms of the development of multistakeholder policy platforms is somewhat delayed due to political elections that took place during the reporting period and covid challenges. The project team is encouraged to strengthen such platforms during the next reporting period taking advantages of the approved project extension. With regards to gender mainstreaming, SGP has been pioneering and highly recognized in mainstreaming gender equality and women’s empowerment in every step of the program cycle. A gender focal point is designated within the SGP National Steering Committee to ensure review of gender considerations in project selection. Gender equality and women’s empowerment is a critical element of SGP efforts in Sri Lanka. Following the RTA recommendation from the previous PIR, a landscape-wide gender analysis for the programme was completed in Feb 2019, during the previous reporting period,and action plans were developed in each landscape based on integration of gender issues in landscape baseline assessments. These action plans, currently under implementation, facilitate incorporation of gender aspects within all SGP projects during SGP6. Further efforts to encourage proposals by women-led organizations, and/or considering gender dimensions and promoting gender equality, involved including a gender focus as a specific selection criterion for NGOs applying to SGP grants. The International Conference on Social Entrepreneurship (ICSE) which took place in December 2019 with 200 participants focused on the theme ‘Women Entrepreneurship’. Three women, SGP grantees were featured in a story showcased at the conference. ICSE is a series of conferences initiated and led by the Colombo School of Business and Management (CSBM) with the aim of promoting entrepreneurship in Sri Lanka and the region. SGP Sri Lanka recognizes that women empowerment can be effectively achieved by enabling women entrepreneurs with financial stability and recognition. With that objective, SGP has organized a series of Virtual Webinar Series in May-June 2020 to sharpen the skills of Women Entrepreneurs. As in the coming months, the project will be developing the PPG for OP7, it is recommended that lessons learned and results from OP7 are used to inform the OP7 gender analyiss and action plan. IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. With regards to the timing of key milestones, the MTR was completed in June 2019 and the SGP programme received a satisfactory rating. Cumulative financial delivery is mostly on track, with minor delays experienced during the second half of the reporting period due to the COVID epidemic. As suggested in the adjustment section, an extension, initially recommended by the MTR, cleared by the NSC and the RTA, was approved by the UNDP GEF Directorate during the reporting period. The 18-month extension will allow time for the project to implement the MTR recommendations, before the Final Evaluation. With the extension, it is expected that the desired targets and results will be achieved. The extension, until 25 July 2022, will compensate for delays in the start of the OP6 project, delays in the implementation a number of community level projects, and to allow the necessary time for consolidation of the results achieved to date and disseminate these in the three landscapes. Additionally, given the current situation with the COVID pandemic where social distancing and curfew remains in place, it has been a challenging task to do community work in the second half of the reporting period, especially in the Colombo and Mannar landscapes. Of the 34 community projects executed in GEF OP6, 27 will be finishing progressively over the next few months up until January 2021. However, eight community projects need more time as they have faced delays due to various reasons including limited organizational/administrative capacity of the grantee organization; delays in approval of management plans by official authorities; natural hazards (drought). In addition, due to the heavy rainy during the harvesting season, which runs until March, three of these projects will need an additional season to complete successfully their agriculture-related activities. Moreover, the strategic project in the Mannar landscape has not yet been committed due to the capacity of the grantees and issues existing in the field. This project will need more than one year to complete project activities. Although the strategic projects in the Colombo and Knuckles landscapes have already been approved and are under implementation, it will require additional time to fully carry out activities and truly display the impact. The extension will allow the grantees to complete their projects smoothly and to demonstrate the results with strong evidence from the field, including the publication of all the systematizations and case studies. With regards to risk management, in addition to the COVID risk mentioned above, during the reporting period the UNDP Resident Representative in Sri Lanka received a compliant levied by the members of the Sri Lanka Nature Forum (SLNF) - a network of registered environmental organizations in Sri Lanka - against the UNOPS-executed UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme in Sri Lanka. The said allegations of “Wrongdoing, Irregularities, Discrimination, Fraud and Injustice”, is also addressed to the Ministry of Environment (Secretary and Additional Secretary). As UNOPS implements the GEF SGP, with UNDP oversight, in Sri Lanka, UNDP immediately shared the allegations with UNOPS. The UNOPS IAIG (equivalent to UNDP OAI) informed UNDP on the 29 July 2020 that they will undertake a remote forensic audit of the GEF SGP programme in Sri Lanka. UNDP will continue to keep GEFSEC updated as this unfolds. In addition, in line with the recommendation made by the UNDP CO above, the establishment of a grievance redress mechanism for identification, assessment, resolution and management of any complaints should be established both at national and sub-national levels to receive and address the grievances timely and in a transparent manner. During the reporting period, the SGP Sri Lanka National Coordinator has maintained effective work relationships with the NSC, the government, and the UNDP CO, working closely with UNDP CO staff to ensure greater engagement with the UNDP team in view of exploring synergies with UNDP’s ongoing programmes and projects. The project team is encouraged to continue to explore such synergies in the coming reporting period to promote the upscaling and replication impacts of the best practices, also exploring new partnerships with the private sector and the academia. With regards to the governance, while the NSC is actively engaged in the monitoring of the project, as also reflected by the number of NSC meetings, five, that took place during the reporting period, and as also pointed out in the last PIR, the project board (SGP National Steering Committee) needs restructuring. The project, under the leadership of the UNDP CO is highly encouraged to review the overall composition and the balance of the SGP National Steering Committee in Sri Lanka. While the current composition of the NSC includes mostly members from civil society, in line with SGP Operational Guidelines, the length of NSC members (including the Chair) should be reviewed, encouraging rotation. It will be important for the UNDP CO in Sri Lanka to lead such discussion during the next NSC meeting on the composition of the NSC. As per GEF-SGP Operational Guidelines, NSC members, including the Chair usually serve for a period of three years, renewable for another term. In general, periodically inviting new members is a sound and healthy policy that brings new ideas and expertise to programme implementation, and roughly one quarter of NSC members may rotate in any given year. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays which were reflected in the request for extension that took place during the reporting period. Cumulative financial delivery is proceeding as planned with minor delays as the implementation of community-based projects has been affected by COVID, as mentioned above. Cumulative disbursement as of June 30 against expected delivery as of this year was at USD 1,572,643 with a cumulative delivery of 62.98% against expected delivery as of this year, and against the total approved budget as per ProDoc. Finally, it is important to highlight that during the reporting period, SGP Sri Lanka has successfully mobilized OP7 resources, obtaining the OP7 endorsement letter from the GEF OFP for the total amount of $2,050,000. The two-step PIF for the Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Sri Lanka is currently under review by the GEF Secretariat. Pending endorsement of the PPG funds, it is expected that over the next few months, PPG stakeholder consultations will be carried out according to government directives due to COVID risks for the development of the full proposal. Final recommendations: To sum up, the project in on track to deliver on its EoP indicators with minor shortcomings that are expected to be addressed during the 18-month project extension. A number of recommendations are suggested below for adaptive management in the remaining of the project period. 1. Following the results of the COVID impact assessment, prepare an adaptive management plan in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic. An adaptive management plan should be prepared to describe mitigation measures and to identify potential unavoidable delays or changes to the scope of the project interventions; 2. Review the composition of the NSC in line with the SGP Operational Guidelines and recommendations made in the last PIR; 3. In line with the recommendation made by the UNDP CO above, the establishment of a grievance redress mechanism for identification, assessment, resolution and management of any complaints should be established both at national and sub-national levels to receive and address the grievances timely and in a transparent manner; 4. Taking into account the approved extension, it is expected that the SGP team will have time to complete the planned knowledge management (KM) products at the landscape level and the required dissemination to key stakeholders including authorities, academia and producers for replication and upscaling. It will be key for the project team to use the extension period effectively to promote the appropriation, exchange and dissemination of learning and knowledge, and the discussion of public policy applications at the regional and national level, building on the landscape level work that has taken place during the first two years. 5. Finally, SGP Sri Lanka should continue to liaise closely with the UNDP CO in order to strengthen partnerships and capitalize on potential for upscaling and replication through other FSPs. |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** [2018 12 22 - Report on the Study on Gender and SGP.pdf](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5529/214209/1729455/1744629/2018%2012%2022%20-%20Report%20on%20the%20Study%20on%20Gender%20and%20SGP.pdf)**Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** [UNDP-GEF-FeatureStory-FINAL.pdf](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5529/214209/1739217/1763982/UNDP-GEF-FeatureStory-FINAL.pdf) |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
|  |
| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN2:** gender equality as significant objective  |
| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |
| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.** **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.**  |
| SGP works with 3 women headed NGOs in Colombo 1 such women headed project in Mannar and 3 women headed projects in Knuckles. All together 712 direct beneficiaries and 340 indirect beneficiaries. Achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment is integral to the Sustainable Development Goals. Fulfilling gender equality is the best chance we have in meeting some of the most pressing challenges of our time; from economic crisis and lack of health care, to climate change, violence against women and escalating conflicts. Women are not only more affected by these problems, but also possess ideas and leadership to solve them. Ms. Renuka Badrakanthi, Ms. Damayanthi Godamulla and Ms. Sunethra Marasinghe have shown that women can break barriers, reach their fullest potential and build resilient communities. The three women featured in the story was part of the recently held International Conference on Social Entrepreneurship (ICSE) under this year’s theme ‘Women Entrepreneurship’. This conference was held in Dec 2019 in Marina Mall Colombo with over 300 participants and all 3 women are SGP grantees. The Minister of Health and the Netherlands Ambassador graced the occasion. ICSE is a conferences initiated and led by the Colombo School of Business and Management (CSBM) with the aim of promoting entrepreneurship in Sri Lanka and the region. In Renuka’s project much emphasis is laid on women empowerment through micro credit systems. Women are able to stand on their feet as there is a continuous funding source to encourage entrepreneurship. In Sunethra’s project women are empowered through introducing alternative livelihood methods so that one is not only dependent on agricultural harvest. Ms Sunethra received the award as the winner women social entrepreneur and Renuka as the 2nd best women social entrepreneur. In the SGP though decision making on conservation effort are largely male led the project has succeed in creating inroads for women’s inclusion in effecting change in the area of protecting their environment. A remarkable achievement in this respect is a group of women led lawyers who are environment activist known as the Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF), that have intervened conservation efforts in claiming a particular area as protected given it is a bio-diversity hotspot. These women have engaged actively with key stakeholders at policy level paving the way to ensure that the Madinnagoda Wetland is gazetted as a protected area. A land mark initiative of the project which is led by a woman activist and researcher through her CSO known as the ‘Small Cat Advocacy Group’ is the conservation of the ‘urban fishing cat’ which is found in the Colombo Wetland and is an endangered species. The research will add to new knowledge at global level for the first time on the movement, habitat of the species, including feeding breeding of the young. The project through lessons learnt in the area of recycling waste products (largely plastics) sees a heightened engagement and interest among young women who have led several initiatives such as eco bricks. 40 direct women beneficiaries In the hill country when taking the knuckles range initiatives, the project has broken barriers of male led conservation efforts by engaging with women’s groups and have changed the contours of decision making at district level forums on conservation. The project has strategically engaged with environment conservationist team where gender equality is maintained in finding new endemic species in Sri Lanka and disseminating it at global level. Of the 3 strategic projects chosen by the project to upscale, two are led by women. This is in fact a recognition of the project engagement with women-led groups that have in fact reached key strategic heights in engaging with government as well as private sector in addressing conservation issues. Human Development Foundation 46 direct beneficiaries and 57 indirect beneficiaries and in Ekbadda 500 direct beneficiaries and 157 indirect beneficiaries. In Mannar where conservation efforts take a backseat due to the 30 year conflict that have left many men and women facing key challenges of survival as well as the loss of family members due to the war, women are seen as change agents with greater transparency given the many challenges in taking forward the project. In the SGP project Soba Kantha where women are working on sustainable fish drying women’s presence and leadership is present that there is greater sustainability on the overall basis. 60 direct beneficiaries and 40 indirect beneficiaries.  Social Entrepreneur Conference Video for Ms. Sunethra - https://drive.google.com/file/d/14a7MWHq-  F1YiQVQ2H\_yS6sacyCgOEPru/view?usp=sharing Social Entrepreneur Conference Video for Ms. Renuka -  https://drive.google.com/file/d/1S1wpcBTgtxuIW0M8hK4CFcgllXI6arcA/view?  usp=sharing Social Entrepreneur Conference Video for Ms. Damayanthi -  https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hutOpq\_6lf9bff9YwjipgyIA69ZHE3hV/view?  usp=sharing Social Entrepreneur Conference Press Release -  https://www.lk.undp.org/content/srilanka/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2019/12/Recognizing-Women-Leaders.html Social Entrepreneur Conference News Article - https://www.pressreader.com/sri-lanka/daily-mirror-sri-  lanka/20191214/282140703266064 Shaping her Future Women’ Day 2020 -  • Exposure - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/shaping-her-own-future  • Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/photos/a.291902264177636/3062651387102696/?  type=3&theater  • Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/p/B9dX4asBvFC/  • Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1236452569897029632  Colombo Strategic Project - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/the-traditional-way-forward  |
| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| GEF SGP is working to mitigate the gender gap and always encourages the participation of women. It has been understood that women empowerment can be easily achieved by enabling women entrepreneurs with financial stability and recognition. With that objective, GEF SGP has organized a series of Virtual Webinar Series during the period May-June 2020 to sharpen the skills of Women Entrepreneurs. Initially, it was decided to conduct the programme as a workshop and conference, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic it was decided to conduct the programme as an Open Online Course. The main objective of the programme is to train the current women project leaders of GEF SGP OP6 and encourage them to train the women of their community. 20 ladies have been selected to participate for the TOT of Women Entrepreneurship. The TOT is conducted in two phases. 1. The Phase one is with collaboration with Good Market which is a largest ecofriendly retail chain in Sri Lanka where  the representatives from Good Market conducted with GEF SGP a virtual webinar on following thematic areas,  • Eco friendly packaging  • ISO and SLS Certification in spice, Kitual, honey, Rice and other food production  • Supply Chain of Good Market  • Branding and Marketing  • Opportunities in export market and the mechanism It is noteworthy to mention that other than women entrepreneurs, GEF SGP engaged other grantees, especially those who are planning to set up socio-enterprises (please check Private Sector Engagement) in the webinar series.  2. In the second phase an open online course has been launched in collaboration with Colombo School of Business and  Management, a prestige private university in Sri Lanka to give training for the 20 women entrepreneurs in the  following thematic areas:  • Emotional Intelligence and Work Balance  • Women Leadership and Leadership Qualities  • Finance for Non-Finance  • Public Speaking and Presentation Skills Qualified lecturers conducted the lectures and all the courses are available in the Cyber Teach, an online MOOC school. As part of the programme, a space from Cyber Teach has been purchased. Links : https://cyberlb.cyber.lk/playback/presentation/2.0/playback.html?meetingId=8f387c07bbfa1e4a676cc8c8ddde0df308cc0c1c-1591155677900  https://cyberlb.cyber.lk/playback/presentation/2.0/playback.html?meetingId=8f387c07bbfa1e4a676cc8c8ddde0df308cc0c1c-1592390813516  https://webinars.elearning.lk/portal/ser-ehw-jvt  https://cyberlb.cyber.lk/playback/presentation/2.0/playback.html?meetingId=8f387c07bbfa1e4a676cc8c8ddde0df308cc0c1c-1591789210719 The 20 women entrepreneurs have yet to send the one-year action plan on how they are going to train other women in their community for becoming women entrepreneurs.  |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **SESP:** [Annex 4 SGP Sri Lanka SESP ProDoc.doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5529/214209/1718980/1726551/Annex%204%20SGP%20Sri%20Lanka%20SESP%20ProDoc.doc) |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.**  |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| Yes |
| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.**  |
| COVID 19 Implementation  The majority of the projects are ongoing with slight delays due to COVID. Travel restrictions and health situation has restricted some of the activities in Mannar and Colombo. One project in Mannar, awarded to the Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation Foundation which was very slow in implementation will not be able to do the coast conservation study in the ocean in Vankalei Reef due to the COVID situation and diving restrictions to the ocean.Therefore, the NGO has decided to return the funds for the activities they will not be able to perform. One project in the Colombo landscape which is the Centre for Sustainability is working on restoring the wetlands through bioremediation in Rajagiriya. University Students have been discouraged to enter the wetlands due to COVID and project activities as stalled as a result but an overall assessment of the impact to projects, modifying training and M&E activities to be conducted virtually, extending project through MOA amendments as necessary etc. have enabled the remaining projects to perform within the target timeline.  An impact assessment after COVID was done by SGP Sri Lanka covering all proponents of the three landscapes. Please find report link here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LdmFwIShOfD5pwtPo5RAs-00qowfVPwF/view?usp=sharing  Considering the current Covid-19 situation and the impact it has made towards project implementation, the risk was assessed as Moderate to Low impact in Sri Lanka. Considering the project landscape approach, the Colombo landscape has been affected to a larger extent comparatively followed by Mannar. This is mainly due to the imposed curfew in the Colombo district which took place for over a 2-month period, as well as restrictions in travel movements between districts and provinces which has impacted some of the Mannar Projects as most of implementing agencies are located in a different districts/provinces. However, the Knuckles landscape has moderate to low impact considering project locations are very interior and remote and the impact from Covid-19 is almost none at the time. However, since some projects are based on eco-tourism initiatives and with the guidelines issued on social distancing, these have been impacted on their expected outcomes. All projects do fall into one or many of the criteria mentioned when assessing the impact. Even though all projects are affected in low to medium to high degree, the main point that should be highlighted is that, most of the projects have made slight adjustments to their activities to be in line with the current situation and to ensure each project achieves its expected outcome without letting the project become a failure. We find certain good cases as examples of turning the obstacle to an opportunity where a certain project in the Knuckles Landscape has helped some members in a village to improve their sewing products (handbags, dresses, etc.) to be sold to tourists. With the current situation and with no tourists coming to the village and when the business was facing a fall, the members changed their product manufacturing towards stitching masks and PPE kits which has now benefited them to a larger extent with high demand for the product. Another positive impact that can be highlighted through the Covid-19 situation is that the government is now encouraging people towards home gardening and agriculture initiatives. Most of our projects are based on these grounds and have received a positive feedback and also more encouragement from the community to implement the activities and also revise activities to meet the national initiatives through project level. Colombo wetlands have 2 projects that focus on abandoned paddy cultivation initiatives and with the govern backing, the project was able to be initiated positively despite curfew situation and also has led many farmers who initially opposed the project to voluntarily get onboard and expand the work. While highlighting on the positives of the situation, the projects are more or less facing downsides as well where human interactive initiatives such as workshops, trainings, eco-tourism and home-stay activities have been affected due to the prevailing situation. Grantees are following different risk mitigating measures to ensure the proposed activities could be achieved while ensuring safely and health and also by looking towards MoA extensions and activity modification methods to reach expected end results.  |
| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.**  |
| No |
| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.**  |
| N/A |
| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.**  |
| Not Applicable |
| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| N/A |
| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?**  |
| Yes |
| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.**  |
| The UNDP Resident Representative in Sri Lanka received a compliant levied by the members of the Sri Lanka Nature Forum (SLNF) - a network of registered environmental organizations in Sri Lanka - against the UNOPS executed GEF Small Grants Programme in Sri Lanka. The said allegations of “Wrongdoing, Irregularities, Discrimination, Fraud and Injustice”, is also addressed to the Ministry of Environment (Secretary and Additional Secretary). As UNOPS implements the GEF SGP, with UNDP oversight, in Sri Lanka, UNDP immediately shared the allegations with UNOPS. The UNOPS IAIG (equivalent to UNDP OAI) informed UNDP on the 29 July 2020 that they will undertake a remote forensic audit of the GEF SGP programme in Sri Lanka. Additionally, the establishment of a grievance redress mechanism in the landscape is currently under discussion. |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.** **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| The community-based projects supported by SGP Sri Lanka are starting to produce concrete results, directly benefiting more than 800 individuals from 30 community-based organizations by supporting biodiversity conservation; land, forest, and wetland rehabilitation; and alternative livelihood opportunities in the three landscapes of Mannar, Knuckles and the Colombo wetlands. Minimizing land degradation by soil restoration techniques and reforestation of the landscapes are some important expected results, which will help local communities to secure their livelihoods while protecting the ecosystems they depend on. Some interesting examples of projects supported through SGP during OP6 include the following: Community Resources Protection Foundation is engaged in a project to promote environmentally friendly eco-tourism in a very remote location in the Knuckles Mountain Range called Meemure. This site has very limited to no mobile connectivity as well as the road network to reach the location is very challenging. The prevailing tourism industry is not streamlined in a systematic manner and has resulted in adverse impact towards the environment, villages as well as tourists. Through an SGP initiative, it is expected to formalize the informal tourism system by setting up a registration center at the entrance to the village. This registration center will facilitate information pertaining to places that can be visited, food and lodging, and also provide tour guides and lifeguards during the stay, including education on DOs and DONTs. The village community will engage in this activity and the center will be operated through a society formed through the village and through this initiative, sustainable livelihood opportunities are created beyond the project period for 75 persons including 25 women while ensuring environmental protection and safely. The project implemented in the Rattota area on abandoned tea lands, which belong to the Midland Estate, is expected to restore 40 ha as environmental servicing land by ensuring reforestation, soil conservation and promoting the scenic beauty of the mountain range of Knuckles and the freshwater lake, which is habitat for many endemic fauna and flora. The rehabilitation of tanks, reforestation and soil conservation activities were purely carried out by 20 estate workers and the maintenance of the same is done through the Midland Estate. The abandoned site is now promoted as a tourist destination with facilities provided for camping including sanitary facilities. The neglected tea estate is now fed with life and also have ensured a source of income for at least the estate workers who are currently unemployed. Moreover, the estate is also keen in re-cultivating tea while giving the tourist the exposure and a feeling of living within a tea estate, as well as an economic benefit through the end product. The Community Development Center has engaged with the local community in the Ududumbara area in soil conservation, home gardening, and livelihood development activities. It is further supporting promotion of their home-grown organic products such as pepper, turmeric, curry powder, jaggery, etc., and ensuring that the community receives a solid market price for their products while improving the quality of products. Moreover, they were able to yield a better crop by introducing different soil conservation and natural trimming methods, which has also supported enriching and protecting of grounds. The project also supported construction of an elephant fence to protect villages bordering the Knuckles Conservation Forest, as frequent elephant trespassing had become a major threat for people as well as crops. With regard to the Colombo Wetland Landscape, the Heen Ela Marsh land is a highly rich habitat of fauna and flora population, which is located in the heart of Colombo. However, with human engagement and illegal practices, the habitat and its fauna and flora are highly exposed to threats. The project carried out by the Organization for Aquatic Resourcs Management (OARM) expects to restore and enrich the habitat to save the significant flora and fauna of this marsh land, which is home for 11 butterfly, 11 dragonfly, 26 fish, 2 amphibians, 20 reptile, 70 bird and 8 mammal species of fauna. Through the project, the marsh land is cleaned and invasive species are cleared. It is further in the process of promoting the location as an educational and a recreational site, which can be accessed through boats where community in the surrounding area will be benefited through the wetland while making an effort to save and protect it, while creating space for people to learn about the marshland, its importance and promoting environment protecting attitudes among them. Abandoned paddy land cultivation is a challenging task, especially with Colombo being a metropolitan city and the interest mainly lying in high rise buildings and commercial engagements. However, taking up the challenge in protecting the Colombo Wetlands, the Human Development Foundation of Sri Lanka is working in the Colombo Wetlands landscape to restore 151 ha of degraded abandoned paddy lands in Watareka Wetland in Homagama. These lands were abandoned from cultivation for over 2 decades and restoration of lands has been a challenge. However, the farmers who own these lands have shown great interest with the Covid-19 pandemic situation in cultivating and restoring these as agriculture lands and promoting non-chemical farming practices as well as local seed varieties that are high in nutritional content. The project is also providing a market platform to sell the products at a very competitive price as well as the opportunity to consumers to consume better quality products. The project will be solely carried out by the local farmers beyond the project period and they are keen in taking this initiative forward.  An interesting project is being carried out in the Mannar Landscape by the Voluntary Organization Vulnerable Community Development (VOVCoD), where a school feeding programme has been initiated in Kiranchi to grow vegetables in home gardens to support the programme. A drip irrigation system is used due to freshwater scarcity in the area, and excess harvest is sold in the market. Moreover, a community-driven elephant fence was established by planting Palmyra seeds and the responsibility of maintenance of the plants and clearing of passage is undertaken by the local community, where 566 families will reap benefits through saving lives and crops through elephant attacks. With coconut being a main commercial crop for the local community, training was provided to teach growing and maintenance methods to increase yields. 90 Fruit trees were also provided to 3 schools to be planted at the beginning of a new school year and instructions were given to all 3 principals to maintain them at least for a period of 5 years, whereby future generations will get an opportunity to reap the benefits of today’s initiatives. A Communication Strategy was designed and developed to set the workplan for 2019-2021 covering media and social media outreach, visibility and knowledge products. The strategy also outlines the budget required and key messages that will be communicated to better highlight the impact of the work done by GEF/SGP in Sri Lanka. Please find the COM Strategy here https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TKbUJ1AYO4qYAnoV4X1PCYhhpUnoNsDV?usp=sharing The following is the extract provided for the Women Entrepreneurship Awards Programme hosted by the Colombo School of Business and Management (CSBM) of the stories of three ladies who have been nominated and awarded Women Entrepreneur Awards. Extract - 1 &quot;When women recreate what it is that they can be, do and accomplish; they become agents of change, helping economies to grow and communities to thrive. These are the stories of three resilient women who have overcome many hurdles in life to shape their own future and create change in their communities. Transforming lives Renuka Gunawardena, 53, Rathnapura, Sri Lanka By the age of 20, Renuka had her first child. “When I was young, my family was living in extreme poverty”, she recalls. “Because of this, I had to get married at a very young age”. After marriage, Renuka and her husband had a family of their own with four children. When her fourth and youngest son was 5 years old, tragedy fell upon them. Renuka not only lost a husband, but a father to her children. Ever since, Renuka has played the role of both a mother and a father. “When my husband passed away, I had to raise 4 children by myself. Every day was a struggle and I had no hope for the future”, she adds. In 1996, Renuka was first involved with the United Nations Development Programme in Sri Lanka through a project focused on strengthening civil society. The project, targeted at the most impoverished areas in Sri Lanka, aimed to empower women economically and lift them out of poverty. Later, she would become a grant recipient of the Small Grants Programme. Through this, Renuka received extensive training on entrepreneurship and received microcredit to start her own enterprise. Later, she would also get a scholarship to study and expand her skills in Japan. Having been born and raised in a remote village in Rathnapura, she understood the daily struggle faced by families, especially of women. “Women and girls living in poverty miss out on their education because they have to look after household chores, and this affects their future career prospects” says Renuka. Over the years, Renuka was determined to make a difference in her community. “How can I help other women build a life of their own? How can I ensure that they don’t fall into the trap of poverty?”, were questions on her mind. Through her newly established ‘United Women’s Society for Community Development’, better known as the ‘Ekabadda Praja Sanwardhana Kantha Maha Sangamaya’, Renuka would work tirelessly to help uplift the lives of women in her community. For three years she reached out to poor women in the area. From the knowledge and skills, she has developed through the Small Grants Programme, she recognized each person’s strengths and talents and helped them progress further. “I worked with extremely poor women and initially started with household matters, because that’s what they were most used to. If they were good at sewing, I would help them expand their skills in that area to start their own business. They engage in a variety of activities including cattle farming and tree planting. My goal was to build their skills so they can be independent and not rely on aid. One of them even got a scholarship like I did to study in Japan”. Understanding inequalities among men and women, Renuka says that, “Women in poor families rarely get exposure to other career options away from their homes”. She has helped challenge traditional gender stereotypes by introducing women to explore career options in the tourism sector and by encouraging them to take on leadership roles. Over the years Renuka has trained over 2,000 women to start their own businesses. Those who were earning only Rs. 6,000 at the time are now earning over Rs. 300,000. The women I worked with were extremely driven and committed to their work. Having been through many hardships throughout their lives, up to date they make sure to save at least 1 rupee a day. For 23 years Renuka had struggled to make ends meet. Today she has transformed her life and many others. Her four children are now educated and have a career of their own. “More than the money that was given to me through the programme, I was able to improve my skills immensely. With that, I have been able to contribute to the betterment of women in my community”.  Extract - 2 Shaping new leaders Damayanthi Godamulla, 52, Aranayake, Sri Lanka “Life was not easy growing up for me”, Damayanthi recalls. “My father passed away when I was very young, and we had a lot of issues after that. I didn’t qualify for state university because I had two marks less and I followed a diploma that I never completed because of personal issues. In the early 90’s I was able to complete my university degree with support from a Government funded programme that later helped me find a job. After working for two years, I lost my job because there was not enough funding”, she adds. “This is when I realized that people living in poverty are at a great disadvantage”. “It was during one of the most challenging times of my life that I was introduced to the Small Grants Programme”, she says. The programme paved way for Damayanthi to pursue her dreams. The Community Development Center established by Damayanthi mobilized communities to conserve traditional yam varieties in Sri Lanka, with the aim of contributing to food security whilst enhancing livelihoods by providing self-generated employment opportunities. She started the project with support from her friends and was able to carry out extensive research on the topic and was able to find 50 varieties of yam. With that, she developed a training center and maintained a small farm. Fast forward to 8 years later, with support from private sector partnerships, Damayanthi was able to transform her business into a full-fledged enterprise. “As a woman who has faced many challenges in society, my mother used to always teach me the importance of helping others”, Damayanthi remembers with a smile. “And this is exactly what I wanted to do with my enterprise”. At the outset, Damayanthi worked with 100 families in her community in Aranayake and worked primarily in the most impoverished areas. Through her enterprise, Damayanthi’s main aim was to shape women leaders so that they themselves had the potential to help those in need. Many women farmers in the area had issues with cultivation due to soil erosion. Damayanthi worked with these farmers to help find solutions to these issues to cultivate a variety of yam. This helped increase their income as they were able to yield the benefits from their harvest. With hope to expand her enterprise, and provide employment opportunities for women, she engaged with women farmers involved in yam production and worked together to find innovative ways to introduce yam-based value-added products such as chips and other savory and sweet items to the market. These products are now being sold in many markets including the Colombo Good Market. Damayanthi’s work was recognized in 2008 at the Equator Initiative in Barcelona, Spain, where she we won the Equator Prize for outstanding success in reducing poverty through conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Ever since, Damayanthi has traveled to more than seven countries including India, Turkey and Japan to present her work. As time went by, Damayanthi was able to buy land in Aranayake to build her own house. After 10 years of marriage, she and her husband also decided to have a baby. She says, “If not for the Small Grants Programme, I would not be where I am today”. With her enterprise and financial independence, Damayanthi is now hopeful for her child’s future and she hopes to empower more and more women realize their full potential. Extract - 3 Fighting gender inequalities Sunethra Marasinghe, 48, Tangalle, Sri Lanka “When I was studying for my O/Levels I had a job that paid me Rs. 1500 a month. Everything I earned; I gave to my family. There were also a lot of times that I have had to stay home to take care of my family while my brothers went to school”. Living in poverty, Sunethra, at a very young age understood the hardships that her parents faced, to give them the best life they could. She saw the struggle her mother faced as a woman. “In society, women face a lot of discrimination. We were not seen as capable”. Sunethra was determined to break away from these traditional gender norms and prove that women could take on leadership roles. When she was studying for her A/Ls, Sunethra was heavily invested in community service. Sunethra was very was focused on self-employment and was driven to make a difference in her community. She remembers picking tomatoes with her friends and making tomato sauce that they would later sell, going from one home to another. After A/Levels, Sunethra graduated from the University of Kelaniya with a degree in Economics. In 1994, she was a grant recipient of the Small Grants programme. She was the founder of the ‘Human and Environment Development Foundation’, where she worked on environmental conservation while also improving people’s livelihoods through activities like cattle farming, cultivation and ecotourism. Through her work, she wanted to break barriers that were holding women back. “I wanted to find a way for women to start and go further in their career while also caring for a family”, she says. During the aftermath of the Tsunami in 2004, with support from the Small Grants Programme, Sunethra contributed immensely in rebuilding the lives of women affected by the disaster. “I identified their talents and invested in improving their skills so that they can become women entrepreneurs”. When Sunethra wasn’t involved in a project, she worked to enhance her knowledge on how to operate a business globally. “Sri Lanka has a lot of natural resources”, she would say. “I identified regions with an abundance of resources and helped women make a living”. She improved the livelihoods of small-scale fisheries and taught them how to operate a business and ensured the sale of high-quality value-added products to improve their income. These products are now available in many markets. Sunethra now has two children, a son and a daughter. In 2012 her husband passed away leaving her and their two children devastated. “I didn’t know what to do. I had nowhere to go and I felt like my life was over”, she adds. Sunethra found strength in her hardships. Twelve days later, she decided to take control of her life and went back to work to give back to her community. This was her purpose. “I had no place to live when my husband passed away. But I couldn’t lose hope. For the first time, I built a home by myself and I rebuilt our lives to protect my family.” The Small Grants Programme (SGP) embodies the very essence of sustainable development by &quot;thinking globally; acting locally&quot;. By providing financial and technical support to projects that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing people's well-being and livelihoods, SGP demonstrates that community action can maintain the fine balance between human needs and environmental imperatives. The Small Grants Programme is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme and funded by the Global Environment Facility. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.** **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| Feature Stories As per the strategy, a total of 6 photo stories were drafted and disseminated widely featuring the work undertaken by GEF/SGP in the Colombo Wetlands and the Knuckles. Below is a breakdown of the stories. Breathe Colombo Breathe : https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/breathe-colombo-breathe Wings of Change : https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/wings-of-change Backyard Wildcats : https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/backyard-wildcatsnbsp Guardians of the Knuckles : https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/guardians-of-the-knuckles-range Shaping her own future : https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/shaping-her-own-future The traditional way forward: https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/the-traditional-way-forward Audio Visual Products Colombo Wetlands : https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0xZYMxXMsg&t=7s Knuckles World Heritage Site: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQPCK3dquhw&t=19s Visibility Knowledge Management Strategy: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/15yYuO3i6B-7NSFPnu-Ed6yRyLZYaIsAx?usp=sharing Photo Stories Shaping her own future : https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/shaping-her-own-future The traditional way forward: https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/the-traditional-way-forward  Newspaper Articles  International Migratory Bird Day - 12 Oct 2019  Colombo Page - http://www.colombopage.com/archive\_19B/Oct11\_1570765391CH.php  Sunday Observer - http://www.sundayobserver.lk/2019/10/13/news-features/wings-change  DailyFT - http://www.ft.lk/environment/Wings-of-change/10519-687409  Daily News - https://www.dailynews.lk/2019/10/14/tc/199655/wings-change  News.lk - https://www.news.lk/news/political-current-affairs/item/27687-wings-of-change-world-  migratory-bird-day-2019  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/wings-of-change  SGP Twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1260544153143980032  SGP Twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1195673095966797825  UNDP Global Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDP/status/1259090751079800833  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1182836267928752131  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/posts/2734103893290782?\_\_tn\_\_=-R  Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/p/B3gJogJh5Pw/   16 Days of Activism 2019  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/backyard-wildcatsnbsp  UNDP Global Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDP/status/1210206821220278272  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1201394498594471936  UNDP Sri lanka Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/posts/2850292245005279?\_\_tn\_\_=-R  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/p/B5kJKE4Bn3Y/   International Wetlands Day - 02 Feb 2020  Daily Mirror - http://www.dailymirror.lk/news-features/the-Capitals-vanishing-wetlands-Last-  remaining-havens-and-the-battle-against-the-clock/131-182590  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/breathe-colombo-breathe  Youtube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0xZYMxXMsg&t=7s  SGP twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1227189331519004672  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1223972675393064961  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook (video) - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/videos/2386091985044966/  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (video) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B0ShkNKhmAH/  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (story) - https://www.instagram.com/p/ByUD5CHh9SM/   International Women’s Day - 08 March 2020  Daily Mirror - https://www.pressreader.com/sri-lanka/daily-mirror-sri-  lanka/20191214/282140703266064  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/shaping-her-own-future  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook -  https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/photos/a.291902264177636/3062651387102696/?type=3&theater  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1236452569897029632  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/p/B9dX4asBvFC/   Biodiversity Day - 22 May 2020  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1263708411088252929  SGP twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1234829705766952960  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/videos/303629193971067/  UNDP Sri Lanka Youtube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQPCK3dquhw&t=19s  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/guardians-of-the-knuckles-range  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook (story) -  https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/photos/a.291902264177636/2976630592371443/?type=3&theater  UNDP Global Exposure (English) - https://stories.undp.org/guardians-of-the-knuckles-range?source=share-UNDP  UNDP Global Exposure (Spanish) - https://stories.undp.org/guardianes-de-la-cordillera-knuckles  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (video) - https://www.instagram.com/p/CAesEobB-2M/  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (story) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B75CMs2hlpy/  UNDP Instagram (Global) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B9\_u3otgCgU/  UN Instagram (Global) - https://www.instagram.com/p/CCA3G8VFJPl/  World Environment Day - 05 June 2020  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/the-traditional-way-forward  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram - https://www.instagram.com/p/CBDBdUgB0hp/  UNDP Instagram (Global) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B6nxQdIDKzW/  NEXT Forum  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1187230350671400960 WhatsUp Newsletters  March/April 2020 : http://gefsgpsl.org/NewsPaper/Whats%20UP%20Newsletter%20Mar-Apr%202020.pdf  January/February 2020 : http://gefsgpsl.org/NewsPaper/Whats%20UP%20Newsletter%202020-Jan-Feb.pdf  December 2019 : http://gefsgpsl.org/NewsPaper/Whats%20UP%20Newsletter%20December%202019.pdf  November 2019 : http://gefsgpsl.org/NewsPaper/Whats%20UP%20Newsletter%20November%202019.pdf  October 2019 : http://gefsgpsl.org/NewsPaper/Whats%20UP%20Newsletter%20October%202019.pdf  August/September 2019: http://gefsgpsl.org/NewsPaper/Whats%20UP%20Newsletter%202019%20Aug-Sep.pdf  • Three-fold brochures were done for 3 landscape • 2020 Calendar • Exhibition panels (3) on each landscape. Below is a detailed breakdown of the coverage, reach and impressions: International Migratory Bird Day 12 Oct 2019  ColomboPage - http://www.colombopage.com/archive\_19B/Oct11\_1570765391CH.php  Sunday Observer (190,000) - http://www.sundayobserver.lk/2019/10/13/news-features/wings-change  DailyFT (35,000) - http://www.ft.lk/environment/Wings-of-change/10519-687409  Daily News (95,000) - https://www.dailynews.lk/2019/10/14/tc/199655/wings-change  News.lk - https://www.news.lk/news/political-current-affairs/item/27687-wings-of-  change-world-migratory-bird-day-2019  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com (1,554) - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/wings-of-change  SGP Twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1260544153143980032  SGP Twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1195673095966797825  UNDP Global Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDP/status/1259090751079800833  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter (19,498) - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1182836267928752131  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook (1,100) - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/posts/2734103893290782?  \_\_tn\_\_=-R  Instagram (615) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B3gJogJh5Pw/ 16 Days of Activism 2019  Sunday Times (200,000)  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com (2,428) - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/backyard-wildcatsnbsp  UNDP Global Twitter - https://twitter.com/UNDP/status/1210206821220278272  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter (8,988) - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1201394498594471936  UNDP Sri lanka Facebook (1,200) - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/posts/2850292245005279?  \_\_tn\_\_=-R  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (945) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B5kJKE4Bn3Y/. Wetlands Day - 02 Feb 2020  Daily Mirror (85,000) - http://www.dailymirror.lk/news-features/the-Capitals-vanishing-wetlands-  Last-remaining-havens-and-the-battle-against-the-clock/131-182590  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com (2,970) - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/breathe-colombo-breathe  Youtube (205) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0xZYMxXMsg&t=7s  SGP twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1227189331519004672  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter (1,626) - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1223972675393064961  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook (video) (760) - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/videos/2386091985044966/  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (video) (188) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B0ShkNKhmAH/  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (story) (1,299) - https://www.instagram.com/p/ByUD5CHh9SM/ Intl Women’s Day - 08 March 2020  Daily Mirror (85,000) - https://www.pressreader.com/sri-lanka/daily-mirror-sri-  lanka/20191214/282140703266064  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com (1,107) - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/shaping-her-own-future  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook (1,400) -  https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/photos/a.291902264177636/3062651387102696/?  type=3&theater  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter (1,608) - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1236452569897029632  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (873) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B9dX4asBvFC/ Biodiversity Day - 22 May 2020  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter (2,645) - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1263708411088252929  SGP twitter - https://twitter.com/GEF\_SGP/status/1234829705766952960  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook (2,400) - https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/videos/303629193971067/  UNDP Sri Lanka Youtube (622) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQPCK3dquhw&t=19s  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure (1,785) - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/guardians-of-the-knuckles-range  UNDP Sri Lanka Facebook (story) (19,700) -  https://www.facebook.com/UNDPSriLanka/photos/a.291902264177636/2976630592371443/?  type=3&theater  UNDP Global Exposure (English) (19,781) - https://stories.undp.org/guardians-of-the-knuckles-range?source=share-  UNDP  UNDP Global Exposure (Spanish) (14,836) - https://stories.undp.org/guardianes-de-la-cordillera-knuckles  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (video) (639) - https://www.instagram.com/p/CAesEobB-2M/  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (story) (1,741) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B75CMs2hlpy/  UNDP Instagram (Global) (2,566) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B9\_u3otgCgU/  UN Instagram (Global) (15.181) - https://www.instagram.com/p/CCA3G8VFJPl/ World Environment Day - 05 June 2020  UNDP Sri Lanka Exposure.com (593) - https://undpsrilanka.exposure.co/the-traditional-way-forward  UNDP Sri Lanka Instagram (910) - https://www.instagram.com/p/CBDBdUgB0hp/ NEXT Forum  UNDP Instagram (Global) (2,334) - https://www.instagram.com/p/B6nxQdIDKzW/  UNDP Sri Lanka Twitter (3,629) - https://twitter.com/UNDPSriLanka/status/1187230350671400960 |

**Project Location Data**

Provide the coordinates for the project’s geo-location sites.  Provide the coordinates in decimal degrees (Longitude and Latitude).  If you are not able to provide the coordinates in decimal degrees, you can alternatively provide them in the Degrees, Minutes, Seconds format.  If you have this information stored in a GIS file, upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv).  If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format.

|  |
| --- |
| **Please attach the GIS data. Any of the following formats are acceptable: shapefile (.shp)\*, .kmz, .kml. If helpful, see here a quick note on how to gather geo-reference info. \*Note that a shapefile is composed of several files: a .shp file should be zipped in a folder accompanied by the file extensions: .shx, .sbn, .prj, .dbf, .cpg, .sbx, .xml.** **If the project has multiple sites, please attach an Excel file with the coordinates for each site in either decimal degrees or in degrees, minutes, seconds format.**  |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **Provide geo-location in longitude, latitude, format.** **If you have this information stored in a GIS file, please upload it below (e.g. shapefile, kmz/kml, or csv).** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **Longitude** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **Alternatively, provide geo-location in degrees, minutes, seconds format. Please also provide information on what the coordinates point to in the space provided.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |
| **Seconds** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |
| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| No |
| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |
| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| Yes |
| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |
| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| No |
| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [5529 SGP Sri Lanka CEO final for resubmission 10 Nov 2016.doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5529/214209/1693604/1693887/5529%20SGP%20Sri%20Lanka%20CEO%20final%20for%20resubmission%2010%20Nov%202016.doc) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| The project has so far engaged a total of 1,737 community members (707 women and 1,030 men). Different approaches have been taken by each project to engage community and provide benefits in each location. They vary from livelihood improvement to awareness and capacity building to engaging in activities that would benefit the environment as well as people. The impact of these initiatives is distributed among landscapes under each project and explained more in details under DO stakeholder workshops. Majority of the projects are ongoing with slight delays due to COVID. A COVID Impact assessment was done for all three landscapes documenting the progress of each project and changes if any. SGP and Stakeholder Engagement opportunities undertaken during the reporting period: 28 January 2019 – Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment with National steering committee members which include representation from civil society organizations and NGO Networks, Ministry officials, private sector, academia and scientific advisers. GEF/SGP operations phase 7 was discussed and the suggestion of scaling up existing projects in the landscapes of Phase 6 was proposed. It was agreed to focus on all three landscapes which includes the Knuckles world heritage site, Colombo wetlands and the coast from Mannar to Jaffna and accordingly to revise the proposal with the inclusion of government facilitation and linking with the social enterprise model, ensuring the propose mechanism will complement with existing projects carry out in each landscape to avoid duplication. 06 May 2019 – Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment - Updated on the meeting that took place with the Secretary of Mahaweli Development and Environment where GEF/SGP submitted the OP-7 Concept paper along with the request letter provided by UNDP RR o/b of GEF/SGP. 13 June 2019- National GEF 7 stakeholder dialogue organized by the Ministry of Manhaweli and Environment was held at the banking studies institute, with Government/civil society/academia and private sector/GEF agencies representation and all GEF agencies presented their concepts to the forum for discussion 6 May 2020 – Zoom Virtual Meeting- National Steering Committee Meeting - National Coordinator updated the National Steering Committee on the request made by the GEF Secretariat during PIF submission to give equal weight for both focus areas (Biodiversity and Land Degradation) when implementing OP-7, considering the work involved in Knuckles and Colombo Landscapes. 17th January 2019- Multi Stakeholder Meeting for the Mannar Landscape A multi-stakeholder meeting was held on 17th January 2019 at the District Secretariat, Mannar. 27 participants from District and Divisional Secretariats of Mannar, Divisional Secretariat, Poonarine, officials from MEPA, CCD, Sri Lanka NAVY, CSO representation, consultants, GEF/SGP Secretariat, members of grantee projects and knowledge management project attended the meeting and DS, Mannar chaired the meeting. GEF/SGP OP6 management concepts and strategies and issues in the landscape was discussed. 21st of January 2019 - Multi Stakeholder Meeting for the Knuckles Landscape A multi Stakeholder Meeting for the Knuckles Landscape was held at District Secretariat, Matale on the 21st of January 2019. The main stakeholders, Matale District Secretary, Laggala Divisional Secretary, Officers of GEF-SGP, UNDP, Forest Department, Department of Wildlife Conservation, CSOs and the Knowledge Management partner, SLEES participated at this meeting. Project progress and future project interventions and issues were discussed. 28-29 January 2019 - Think Social, Produce Social, Buy Social” 2nd International Conference on Social Enterprise and Social Finance “Think Social Produce Social Buy Social”- 2nd International Conference on Social Enterprise & Social Finance was held on 28-29 January 2019 at Waters’ Edge, Battaramulla. It was organized by Lanka Social Ventures Ltd in partnership with British Council, Government institutions & private sector organizations. The conference was a platform to showcase inspiring stories, products & services of social enterprises emerging from community-based projects funded by the GEF-SGP. GEF-SGP grantee organizations, Human & Environment Link Progressive Organization (HELP-O), Community Development Centre (CDC), Human and Environment Development Organization (HEDO), People's Livelihood Development Foundation (PILF) & The Committee for People’s Rights participated as exhibitors. It was also opportunity for future collaborations in OP7 Phase. 02nd February 2019 - Colombo Wetland Fair The event was held at Diyasaru Park, Thalawathugoda on 02nd February to commemorate the World Wetlands Day (WWD) 2019. This was organized by the Ministry of Mega Polis and Western Development in collaboration with SLLRDC. GEF-SGP, UNDP was one of the co-organizers of the event. The theme for WWD 2019 was “Wetlands and Climate Change”, which highlights the important role played by wetlands, as natural solutions, in adapting to, and mitigating the impact of climate change and future possible interventions for the wetland. 6th & 7th of June 2019 - Two Day Residential Workshop for Knuckles Landscape Grantees A residential workshop was held on 6th & 7th of June 2019 at Information Centre in Pitawala Pathana, Matale for the Knuckles landscape projects. The purpose of the workshop was to facilitate collaboration with the Ecosystem Conservation and Management Project (ESCAMP) of the Forest Department which is also implemented in the Knuckles Conservation Forest. The projects presented on their activities on the fields of reforestation, livelihood development & eco-tourism. The officials of the ESCAMP project introduced their objectives and activities. Moreover, the projects were informed about the development of community products and value addition etc. This was a good opportunity to find collaborations for OP7. 11th June 2019 - National Conference on Colombo Wetlands Centre for Environmental Justice (CEJ) (SRL/SGP/OP6/STAR/BD/2019/26) invited decision makers, state agency representatives (SLLRDC, CEA, DWC and UDA), practitioners, academics, and developers, the general public and other interested parties to the National Conference on Colombo Wetlands on 11th June 2019. This event led to a multi-stakeholder initiative to safeguard Colombo wetlands. CEJ officially launched a mobile app CEJ e-Justice to report on issues related to wetlands and forests. 17th -18th June 2019 - Workshop on &quot;Managing Your Social Enterprise - Governance and Legal & Regulatory Requirements&quot; A workshop was organized by Lanka Social Ventures (LSV) on 17th -18th June 2019 at Renuka City Hotel, Colombo for the GEF-SGP projects involved in production and marketing of community products. The workshop consisted of sessions on governance of social enterprises, legal requirements, company registration, taxation & rules and regulations imposed by government institutions etc. The aim of LSV is to facilitate and mobilize the NGOs to become sustainable social enterprises especially in OP7 Phase. 11th and 12th of July 2019 - Two Day Workshop on ‘Branding & Marketing for Social Enterprises’ A two-day workshop was conducted on 11th and 12th of July 2019 in Hotel Topaz, Kandy, for environmental and eco-related organisations. This programme was conducted by Lanka Social Ventures, in association with GEF-SGP, to emphasis about branding and marketing for social enterprises. This workshop was attended by several GEF-SGP grantees from the current and previous operational phases. This workshop was one of the series of workshops being held for selected GEF-SGP grantees which is aimed at transforming civil society organizations into social Enterprises which would be a requirement in OP7. 26th and 27th July 2019 - Two Day Workshop on ‘Strengthening CSO Engagement on Achieving Sustainable Development Goals-Agenda 2030’ A two-day National CSO Consultation Symposium was conducted by Sri Lanka Nature Forum (SLNF), in association with GEF-SGP at Oak Ray Regency, Kandy on 26th and 27th July 2019. This programme was organized to strengthen CSO engagement on achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This symposium emphasized on how youth could be mobilized through various activities to attain the SDGs and how private sector can support to achieve the goals. It was attended by several CSO organizations. 28th July 2019 - Workshop on Eco- Tourism for Knuckles Landscape A workshop was held on “Eco- Tourism Activities for Knuckles Landscape Projects” on July 28, 2019 at Oak Ray Regency, Kandy. Grantee projects in the Knuckles landscape who had proposed eco-tourism related activities participated to the workshop. The workshop covered topics such as tourism in a global context, identifying unique experiences in the Knuckles region that could be offered to the tourists, good practices & standards of home stay operation etc. The grantees were advised on site specific suggestions & recommendations & best practices eco-tourism based on tourists’ view. This was aimed at OP6 and OP7 eco-tourism requirements. 01st of August 2019 - Second Multi Stakeholder Meeting for Knuckles Landscape A multi stakeholder meeting was held on 01st of August 2019 at the Conference Hall, District Secretariat, Matale. All 13 Knuckles landscape projects, GEF-SGP officials, consultants and government officers from the District Secretariat, Divisional Secretariats & Forest Department participated to this meeting while Mr. I.D.P. Wijethilaka, Additional District Secretary, Matale chaired the meeting. All grantees presented on the progress of their projects and received individual comments. A discussion on project progress, integrations, stakeholder collaboration, contributions and sustainability of project outputs to the next Phase OP7 was discussed. 26th September 2019 - Capacity Building on Mangrove Restoration and Climate Smart Agriculture A workshop on mangrove restoration and climate smart agriculture was held to the GEF-SGP grantees at the auditorium of Ahash Hotel in Mannar on 26th September 2019. Objectives was this workshop to build the community leaders’ capacity on mangrove restoration and climate smart agriculture. The mangrove restoration session was conducted by Professor K.B. Ranawana about importance of mangrove restoration and factors should be considered for mangrove restoration which would be an important element in OP7 as well. 10th of December 2019 - Celebration of International Mountain Day 2019 International Mountain Day 2019 National Celebration was held on 10th of December 2019 at the Kelebokka 360 viewpoint in Kelebokka Estate, Panwila, Kandy. Main ceremony was held at the Kabaragala Vipulananda Vidyalaya premises. The event consisted of various cultural items, a 6km hike to the 360 viewpoint and a para gliding event. Pull-Up banners displaying information about all 13 GEF-SGP projects working in the Knuckles landscape, their project activities and expected results was displayed at the event. This ceremony was jointly organized by the District Secretariat of Matale & Kandy, Biodiversity Secretariat of the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment, Forest Department of Matale, Kelebokka State Plantation, GEF-SGP, GAFEC Sri Lanka and civil society organizations of the Mathale District and a good opportunity to record the future requirements in the Mathale district for OP7. 17th and 18th January 2020 - A Wetlands Camp for School Children A two-day camp was held at Thalangama on 17th and 18th January with the participation of gold medalists of the Environmental Pioneers Programme conducted by the Central Environmental Authority. The camp was organized by People to People volunteers (SRL/SGP/OP6/STAR/LD/2018/16) with the collaboration of Surakshi to educate the children about the value of wetlands and the effort collectively taken to protect this Colombo Urban Wetland Cluster. Mr Jagath Gunawardana (Environmental Lawyer), Rukmal Ratnayake (Environmental biologist), Madawa Botheju (CEA), Hemantha Senevirathna (private sector) shared their knowledge and experience to motivate the young pioneers. A good opportunity to showcase the work of SGP and to discuss future requirements for the OP7 Phase. Also, as part of up scaling Private Sector involvement, GEF SGP is planning to hold a Private Sector Investor meeting. GEF SGP has already approached private sector actors who have demonstrated interest in collaboration for co-financing in cash and in-kind. The meeting was postponed due to Covid-19, and is planned to be held in September 2020 through Zoom. In addition, the projects with sustainable business plans will be given a chance to present and pitch their ongoing socio-enterprise at the Private Sector Donor Meeting to attract more investors for them. This would create sustainable private sector engagement with GEF SGP as well as will be a novel opportunity for the projects to run even after the grant funds end. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.