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Agenda Item 05

LDCF/SCCF ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT 2026

(Prepared by the Independent Evaluation Office of the GEF)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

TABLES

FIGURES

Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AER	Annual Evaluation Report
AfDB	African Development Bank
EbA	Ecosystem-based adaptation
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GCA	Global Center on Adaptation
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IEO	Independent Evaluation Office
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LDC	least developed country
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
OMVS	*Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Sénégal* (Senegal River Basin Development Authority)
OPS8	Eighth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SIDS	Small Island developing states
SMEs	small and medium enterprises
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WEAP	Water Evaluation and Planning

QUICK SCAN

1. The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) prepares an Annual Evaluation Report (AER) of the Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund (LDCF/SCCF). The AER 2026 centers on a core evaluative portfolio of 30 recently completed projects, complemented by evidence from 14 projects reviewed in recent IEO thematic evaluations. It also includes a dedicated performance analysis of 180 completed LDCF/SCCF projects from the Eighth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF (OPS8) cohort, and for the first time, introduces an adaptation results typology alongside a systematic assessment of transformational change aligned with the GEF-9 Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (2026–2030).

2. **The AER 2026 portfolio reflects a strategically focused and well-resourced set of interventions aligned with LDCF priorities each year.** The 30-project AER 2026 portfolio represents a total GEF investment of $174.4 million, complemented by $942.5 million in cofinancing. United Nations Development Programme and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations lead implementation, together accounting for more than half the portfolio. Geographically, Africa and Asia dominate, consistent with the LDCF's mandate to support the world's least developed countries. Agriculture is the most common intervention theme, followed by land and forest management, with the remaining projects addressing coastal zone management, disaster risk management, early warning systems, sustainable livelihoods, and water management.

3. **LDCF results show strong delivery, alongside some variation in sustainability and longer-term uptake.** Drawing on the broader OPS8 cohort of 180 completed LDCF/SCCF projects, the portfolio reflects strong overall results, with 83 percent of projects rated satisfactory. Sustainability is more variable: among 158 projects assessed, 61 percent were rated Moderately Likely or above, indicating a gap between effective delivery during implementation and the durability of outcomes after completion. A similar pattern is observed in monitoring and evaluation systems, where 79 percent of projects had satisfactory design but only 61 percent achieved satisfactory implementation. Evidence from a small subset of projects further highlights both the potential for results to extend beyond project boundaries and the institutional and policy-related factors that can constrain wider uptake.

4. **The portfolio shows strong delivery of results, with most projects meeting or exceeding targets across ecological and livelihood outcomes.** However, a gap persists between policy achievements and sustained operational practice, particularly where institutions lack resources or authority beyond the project period. Financial constraints remain the primary sustainability risk (63 percent), followed by institutional, social, and environmental factors. Despite this, several projects demonstrate viable pathways to sustainability through institutional embedding, integration into formal planning systems, and community-level incentives, while cases of weaker outcomes highlight the influence of broader economic and governance conditions.

5. **Gender inclusion is increasingly embedded in project design and delivery across the portfolio, though depth and consistency of implementation vary**. Gender-responsive implementation is broadly established, with 81 percent of the 30 reviewed projects rated in the satisfactory range. The strongest results are observed where projects move beyond participation targets to address structural constraints—such as time poverty, land tenure exclusion, and workload burdens—with examples from Chad, Bhutan, Nepal, and The Gambia illustrating how inclusion embedded within the theory of change can generate more durable outcomes than compliance-driven approaches. Nevertheless, a gap persists between design-stage commitments and implementation, with several projects falling short of women's participation targets. The portfolio also provides evidence on the inclusion of marginalized groups—including youth and indigenous communities—with the strongest approaches adopting intersectional frameworks that extend beyond gender as the sole lens.

6. **The adaptation results typology highlights a strong concentration of results in core adaptation areas, alongside more limited progress in finance and scaling dimensions.** The AER 2026 introduces a five-category adaptation results typology—institutional and policy change, capacity and knowledge, on-the-ground resilience, finance and market access, and catalytic or scaling effects—applied across the 30-project evaluative sample. Capacity and knowledge outcomes were delivered by all projects, on-the-ground resilience by 97 percent, and institutional and policy change by 90 percent. Finance and market access outcomes were less common (43 percent), as were catalytic or scaling effects (40 percent). When assessed by primary outcome, 83 percent of projects identified on-the-ground resilience as their main result, while none prioritized finance and market access or catalytic effects. Overall, the typology confirms that the portfolio is delivering on its core adaptation mandate, while also pointing to more limited progress in financial mobilization and scaling pathways—areas of growing importance as GEF-9 programming aims to extend impact beyond individual projects.

7. **Transformational adaptation outcomes remain limited, with most projects contributing incrementally rather than achieving system-wide change.** The portfolio shows limited evidence of fully realized transformational adaptation, with results concentrated in the incremental-to-emerging range. Seven projects (23 percent) showed no evidence of transformational adaptation; thirteen (43 percent) were classified as limited or incremental; and eight (27 percent) demonstrated partial or emerging contributions to transformational pathways. Two additional projects in Chad exhibit systemic design features, though their outcomes cannot yet be assessed. Among projects showing signals of system change, the most notable achievements involve formal shifts in the rules governing adaptation—such as a 2050 water management master plan adopted across all Senegal River Basin member states, county-level climate change fund legislation in Kenya, and the uptake of an adaptation investment taxonomy by major development finance institutions. Institutional mainstreaming emerges as the most consistent pathway, while market transformation remains

largely absent. These results reflect the broader context in which most projects were approved—during earlier GEF cycles, before transformational adaptation became an explicit objective—and underscore that such change remains uncommon across multilateral climate finance portfolios.

8. **Implementation challenges and emerging risks point to the need for more adaptive, context-aware project design.** Implementation experience highlights recurring structural constraints. Projects often required longer than planned timeframes, with procurement bottlenecks emerging as a systemic issue rather than an exception. External disruptions—including COVID-19, political instability, and economic shocks—further affected delivery, underscoring the importance of designing projects that can operate under conditions of uncertainty. Monitoring and evaluation systems, while generally well designed, are unevenly implemented and tend to emphasize outputs over outcomes, limiting both accountability and learning. Looking ahead to GEF-9, three issues stand out: the growing concentration of projects in fragile and conflict-affected settings, which introduces governance risks; the fragility of cofinancing, with commitments not always materializing; and a mismatch between investments in climate information and early warning systems and the institutional capacity required to sustain them.

9. **Conclusions and recommendations.** The LDCF/SCCF portfolio is highly relevant and consistently effective at delivering concrete adaptation outcomes aligned with country priorities. Five structural patterns frame the report's conclusions: results remain concentrated at the project level; a persistent gap exists between outcomes achieved and their sustainability; design is generally strong on delivery logic but less robust in anticipating implementation and sustainability risks; M&E systems are unevenly implemented and overly output-focused; and pathways to transformational change, while nascent in the institutional domain, remain largely undeveloped in financial and market dimensions.

10. Based on the findings and conclusions, the AER 2026 makes three recommendations:

(a) **Recommendation 1: Strengthen sustainability and scaling at the project design and review stages.** Building on the implementation support measures recommended in AER 2025 and reflected in the GEF-9 Adaptation Programming Strategy, the GEF Secretariat should ensure that the strategy's provisions on sustainability and scaling, including the dedicated section on sustainability of project outcomes (Section VII.F), the Project/Program-based Implementation Approach (PrIA), and enhanced monitoring commitments, are effectively operationalized during project design and approval. To translate these commitments into practice at entry, the GEF Secretariat should: (i) develop clear guidance or criteria to assess the adequacy of project-level sustainability strategies at the CEO endorsement stage; (ii) adopt realistic, risk-adjusted approaches in cofinancing, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected settings; and (iii) apply the new GEF-9 sub-indicators early to establish a portfolio-level baseline for post-project sustainability and scaling.

(b) **Recommendation 2: Strengthen quality-at-entry reviews to better align project design with implementation realities in LDCs and fragile and conflict-affected settings.** Building on the GEF Risk Appetite Framework (2024) and the time standards introduced in the GEF-9 Adaptation Programming Strategy, the GEF Secretariat should reinforce how projects submitted for CEO endorsement account for operating conditions in these contexts. This should complement existing efforts while ensuring that design assumptions are grounded in country realities. Specifically, the Secretariat should require that project proposals demonstrate: (i) realistic timelines calibrated to documented country-specific operating conditions; (ii) implementation arrangements aligned with institutional capacity, including consideration of dual execution modalities where appropriate; and (iii) contingency provisions, with built-in flexibility for reallocating resources to address risks such as procurement delays, cofinancing vulnerabilities linked to slow project start-up, and external shocks.

(c) **Recommendation 3: Strengthen the implementation and use of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems to improve outcomes and learning.** To address the gap between M&E design and implementation across the portfolio, the GEF Secretariat should take three specific actions: (i) assess, at quality-at-entry review, whether M&E staffing and budget provisions are adequate, going beyond proportionality to reflect the project's institutional context, with particular attention to LDCs and fragile and conflict-affected settings; (ii) include a systematic assessment of M&E system functioning as a standard element of Mid-Term Reviews; and (iii) link project-level M&E data to the portfolio-level analytics tools established under the GEF-9 Adaptation Programming Strategy, ensuring that project-level evidence feeds directly into portfolio-level learning and decision-making.

I. BACKGROUND AND SCOPE

1. **The Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) prepares an annual evaluation report (AER) of the Least Developed Countries Fund/Special Climate Change Fund (LDCF/SCCF) each year.** The AER reports on LDCF/SCCF performance through assessment of completed projects using information from terminal evaluations available from the IEO's biennially compiled terminal evaluation review data set. In alternate years, the AER reports on the funds through a synthesis of evaluation evidence from GEF Trust Fund evaluations that also cover LDCF/SCCF projects, complemented by targeted original analysis. Leveraging the GEF IEO's comprehensive work for the Eighth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF (OPS8) and aligned with the transition to the GEF-9 period, the AER 2026 also includes a dedicated analysis of the performance of 180 LDCF/SCCF completed projects within the OPS8 cohort. Consistent with the GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF for the GEF-9 Period (2026–2030), the report examines transformational change and introduces an adaptation results typology, offering actionable insights to inform future programming and investment decisions. Unlike previous reports, AER 2026 does not include a Management Action Record (MAR) tracking the implementation of LDCF/SCCF Council-approved action plans. Instead, the MAR for this cycle is being prepared as a thematic review of the recommendations and action plan implementation, to be presented at the end of the 2026 Council meeting. Accordingly, the regular MAR process has been consolidated to align with this timeline.

2. **The AER 2026 introduces a systematic analytical framework that, for the first time, characterizes results across the LDCF and SCCF portfolio.** Applied to the 30 recent completed projects forming the core evaluative sample of this report, this framework is further enriched by 14 LDCF/SCCF projects covered in recent IEO evaluations including the Evaluation of the Socioeconomic Co-Benefits of GEF-Funded Interventions, the Evaluation of GEF Support for Nature-Based Solutions, and the Evaluation of GEF Programs in Pacific Small Island Developing States. Building on this evidence, the report presents an adaptation results typology that classifies outcomes into five categories: institutional and policy change, capacity and knowledge, on-the-ground resilience, finance and market access, and catalytic or scaling effects. This framework provides a grounded, evidence-based picture of what the LDCF/SCCF investments deliver, while remaining within the AER's established scope and offering a practical analytical tool as the GEF-9 results framework takes shape. Alongside the typology, the report analyzes trends in performance and sustainability, innovation, and gender outcomes across the portfolio. By examining how past projects achieved—or fell short of—transformational adaptation and sustained benefits, AER 2026 serves as both a retrospective assessment and a forward-looking resource, linking the record of completed projects with the strategic priorities guiding new investments in the GEF-9 period.

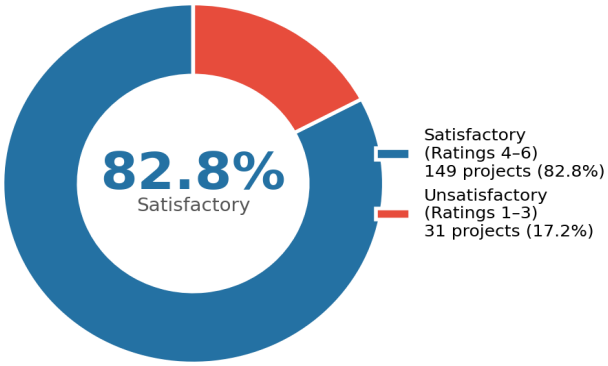
II. PERFORMANCE OF COMPLETED PROJECTS

1. RATINGS ON OUTCOMES

3. **Leveraging the comprehensive analysis conducted under OPS8, this chapter examines the performance of LDCF/SCCF projects across outcomes and sustainability dimensions.**[1] The timing of this AER 2026 coincides with the completion of the GEF-8 cycle, presenting a unique opportunity to draw on the most rigorous and wide-ranging assessment of LDCF/SCCF performance. Rather than duplicating this effort on a smaller scale, the report directly incorporates the OPS8 findings, providing a level of analytical depth and statistical robustness that a more limited sample could not provide. It is important to note that the scope of this analysis differs from the rest of the report. Instead of focusing on the 30 projects reviewed in the AER 2026 portfolio, this analysis draws on a broader portfolio of 180 completed LDCF/SCCF projects. This expanded scope strengthens the evidence base and allows for more reliable identification of performance patterns and trends across the funds. The analysis is based primarily on evidence from the terminal evaluations of these projects.

4. **Overall, the portfolio demonstrates a strong performance profile, with 83 percent of the 180 LDCF/SCCF projects assessed receiving satisfactory ratings (figure 1).** The mean outcome rating of 4.23 on a six-point scale places the typical project at the Moderately Satisfactory level (figure 2). Notably, the near-absence of projects at the extremes of the scale—with only 3 percent rated Highly Satisfactory and none rated Highly Unsatisfactory—suggests a portfolio that performs reliably within a mid-range band, pointing to both the consistency of project delivery and the continued headroom for stronger, more transformative results.

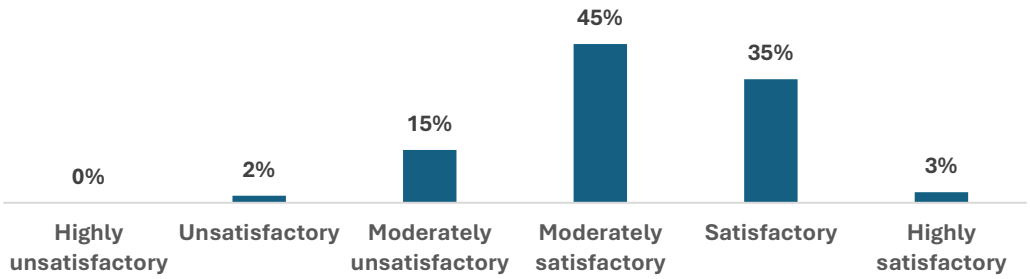
Figure 1: Overall outcome performance of LDCF/SCCF completed projects from OPS8



Source: GEF IEO analysis based on terminal evaluations.

[1] While the underlying dataset for this analysis draws on the same project universe as OPS8, there is one methodological distinction worth noting. OPS8 treats climate adaptation and multifocal area projects as separate categories, whereas this report also incorporates multifocal area projects that include an LDCF or SCCF funding component. As a result, the ratings presented in this chapter and in Annex C may not exactly match those reported in OPS8, though they are broadly comparable.

Figure 2: Distribution of outcome ratings of LDCF/SCCF completed projects from OPS8

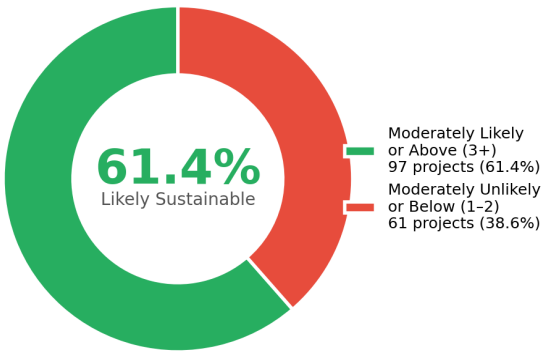


Source: GEF IEO analysis based on terminal evaluations.

2. RATINGS ON SUSTAINABILITY

5. **Overall, sustainability performance across the portfolio is mixed, with a majority of projects achieving moderately positive ratings. Among the 158 LDCF/SCCF projects with sustainability ratings, 61 percent were rated as Moderately Likely or above for sustainability, while 39 percent received ratings in the unlikely range (figure 3).**[2] On a four-point scale, the mean sustainability rating is 2.78 and the median is 3, placing the typical project at the Moderately Likely level. Moderately Likely is the most frequently assigned rating, assigned to 68 projects (43 percent), followed by Moderately Unlikely at 58 projects (37 percent). At the higher end of the scale, 28 projects (18 percent) were rated Likely, while only 3 projects (2 percent) received the lowest rating of Unlikely (figure 4).

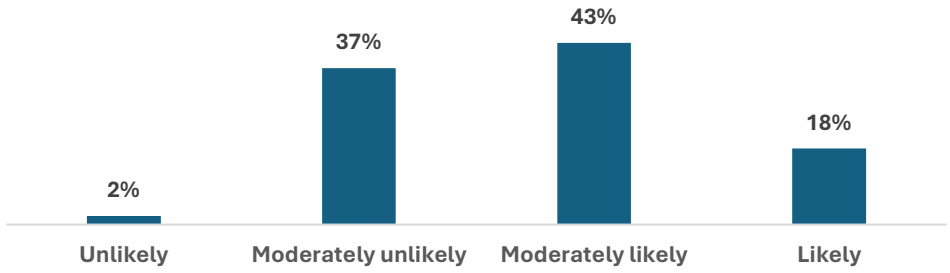
Figure 3: Overall sustainability performance of LDCF/SCCF completed projects from OPS8



Source: GEF IEO analysis based on terminal evaluations.

[2] Sustainability ratings across the portfolio are drawn from terminal evaluations prepared by different GEF Agencies, which do not all use the same rating scale. Since AER 2025, the GEF IEO moved from a 4-point to a 6-point scale, while some Agencies, including UNDP, continue to report on a 4-point scale. As a result, the same numerical value may correspond to different rating categories depending on the source.

Figure 4: Distribution of sustainability ratings of LDCF/SCCF completed projects from OPS8



Source: GEF IEO analysis based on terminal evaluations.

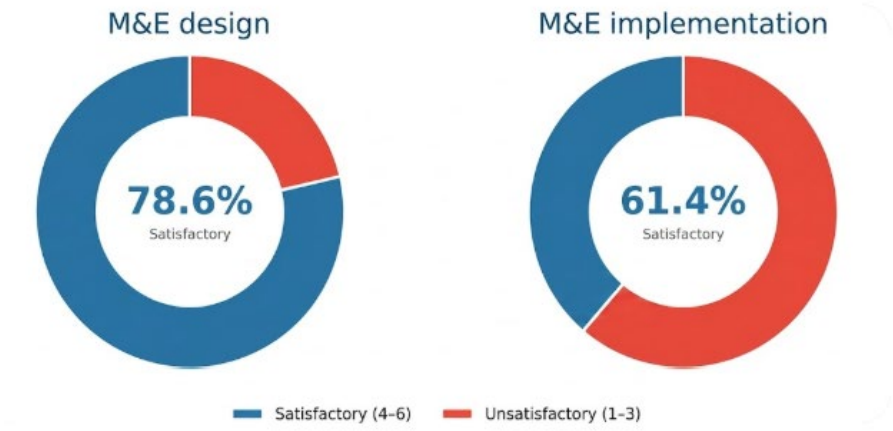
6. **A clear gap emerges when comparing outcome achievement with the sustainability of results over time. While 83 percent of projects achieved satisfactory outcome ratings, sustainability performance is notably lower.** This contrast underscores a persistent challenge within the LDCF/SCCF portfolio: while projects are generally effective in delivering their intended outcomes during implementation, sustaining those results beyond project completion remains more difficult. The substantial share of projects rated Moderately Unlikely (37 percent) points to ongoing sustainability risks—including insufficient institutional capacity, limited financial sustainability, or inadequate policy integration—which continue to affect a substantial portion of the portfolio. Efforts are underway to address these constraints, as reflected in the LDCF/SCCF Programming Strategy for the GEF-9 period, which emphasizes active GEF Secretariat engagement in portfolio and project monitoring, adaptive management support, and targeted guidance to project implementers to integrate best practices and strengthen the long-term sustainability of outcomes.

3. RATINGS ON MONITORING AND EVALUATION

7. **A notable divergence emerges between the quality of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system design and its effectiveness in practice.**[3] Across the LDCF/SCCF portfolio, M&E design is generally stronger than M&E implementation. For M&E design, 79 percent of projects received satisfactory ratings, with a mean score of 4.24 and a median of 4. Satisfactory is the most common rating, assigned to 45 percent, followed by Moderately Satisfactory with 32 percent. M&E implementation tells a different story. Only 61 percent of projects achieved satisfactory ratings, with a lower mean score of 3.73. Moderately Satisfactory is the most common rating at 37 percent; however, a notable 39 percent fell in the unsatisfactory range (figure 5). The 18-percentage point drop from design to implementation indicates that while M&E systems are reasonably well conceived, translating them into effective monitoring practices during project execution remains a challenge. This gap is largely associated with constraints such as limited resources, capacity constraints, and inadequate adaptive management.

[3] A scaling inconsistency applies to M&E implementation ratings. World Bank terminal evaluations report M&E implementation on a 4-point scale, while GEF IEO assessments use a 6-point scale. As with sustainability ratings, these should be read as broadly indicative rather than directly comparable across Agencies.

Figure 5: M&E quality of LDCF/SCCF completed projects from OPS8



Source: GEF IEO analysis based on terminal evaluations.

Box 1: Illustrative examples of broader adoption in LDCF/SCCF projects

LDCF/SCCF projects have generated broader adoption through several pathways. In Costa Rica, ecosystem-based adaptation measures developed under the ASADAS project (GEF ID 6945, United Nations Development Programme [UNDP]) were integrated into public and private sector policies on rural water supply infrastructure, with the risk management methodology subsequently adopted by the national emergency commission as a requirement for financing aqueduct improvements. In Chile, the fisheries and aquaculture adaptation project (GEF ID 6955, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO]) institutionalized intersectoral coordination mechanisms under regional climate change committees established by national climate policy. In Turkmenistan, climate-resilient agricultural technologies piloted under the SCRL project (GEF ID 6960, UNDP)—including laser land-leveling, solar water supply systems, and drip irrigation—were replicated beyond original pilot sites, with the government procuring additional equipment for deployment in other regions.

Financial and market-based uptake has also been documented, though less consistently. The Climate Resilience and Adaptation Finance and Technology Transfer Facility (CRAFT; GEF ID 9941, Conservation International) attracted $195 million in potential investment at terminal evaluation, well exceeding its original target. The Adaptation SME Accelerator Project (ASAP; GEF ID 10296, Conservation International) achieved replication of its adaptation taxonomy across development finance institutions to guide future investment programming.

Not all projects achieved meaningful broader adoption. In Senegal, the National Adaptation Plan project (GEF ID 6991, UNDP) had mainstreaming plans in place at completion—with committed funding sources and pending government approvals—but these had not translated into concrete uptake by the time of terminal evaluation. These cases illustrate that broader adoption depends not only on project quality but on the maturity of the institutional and policy processes through which uptake must occur.

III. AER 2026 PORTFOLIO REVIEW

8. **The AER 2026 portfolio consists of 30 projects: 22 funded exclusively by the LDCF, 3 by the SCCF, and 5 multitrust fund projects (table 1).** Collectively, these projects represent a total GEF

investment of $174.4 million, complemented by $942.5 million in cofinancing, reflecting a cofinancing ratio of approximately 5:1. By approval period, 18 projects were approved during GEF-5, 9 during GEF-6, 1 during GEF-7, and 2 during GEF-8.[4] A complete list of projects with their ratings is available in Annex C.

Table 1: Funding by source of the AER 2026 portfolio

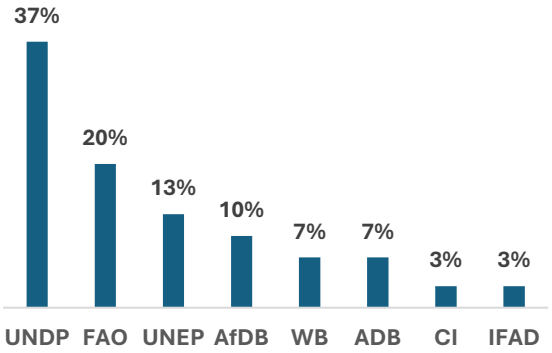
Fund source	Number of projects	Funding (million $)	Cofinancing (million $)
LDCF	22	117.4	665.9
SCCF	3	11.7	85.8
MTF[a]	5	45.3	190.8
TOTAL	**30**	**174.4**	**942.5**

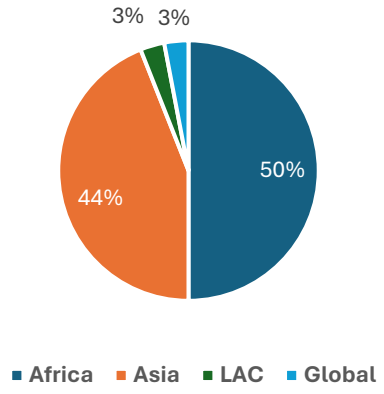
[a] Of the five multitrust fund (MTF) projects, four were developed with support from the LDCF and the GEF Trust Fund and one was funded by both the LDCF and SCCF.

Source: GEF Portal.

9. **Implementation is led by a core group of GEF Agencies, with UNDP and FAO alone accounting for more than half the portfolio—11 and 6 projects, respectively (figure 6).** The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) implemented four projects, the African Development Bank (AfDB) three, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) two, the World Bank two, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) one, and Conservation International one. Geographically, the portfolio is shaped by the predominance of LDCF projects, with Africa accounting for 15 projects and Asia for 13, alongside 1 project in Latin America and the Caribbean and 1 global project (figure 7).

Figure 6: Distribution by lead Agency……Figure 7: Distribution by region





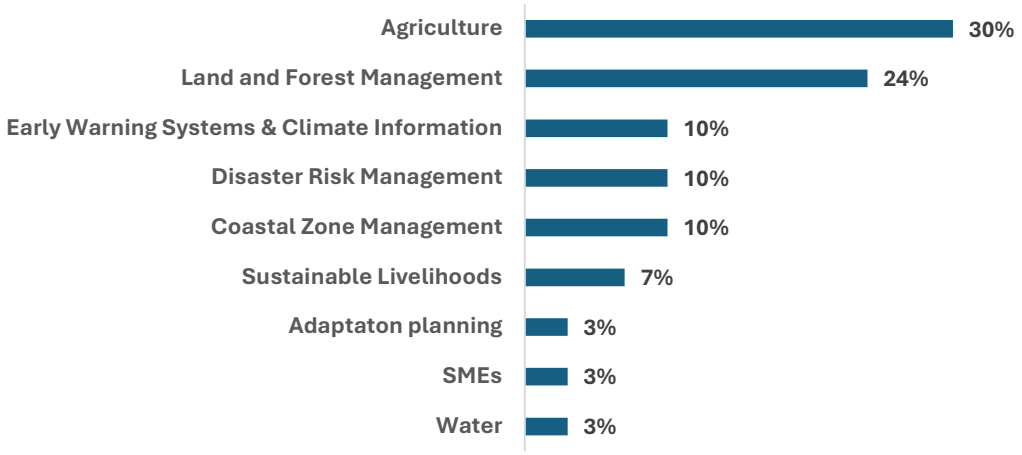
Source: GEF Portal.

10. **The portfolio demonstrates a diverse thematic distribution in its approach to climate change adaptation and resilience.** Projects address adaptation through a range of intervention areas, reflecting both sectoral priorities and contextual needs (figure 8). Agriculture represents the

[4] Of the 30 projects included in the analytical sample, 14 were previously covered in the AER 2025. Their inclusion here does not constitute a reassessment of performance ratings already reported. Rather, these projects are drawn upon for the specific purpose of classifying adaptation outcomes through the typology framework introduced in this report, an analytical function distinct from performance assessment, which is the mandate of the FY25 and FY27 editions. This approach is consistent with standard evaluative practice, whereby the same evidence base may be interrogated to answer different evaluative questions across successive reports.

most common entry point, accounting for nine projects, followed by land and forest management with seven. The remaining projects are distributed across coastal zone management, disaster risk management, and early warning systems and climate information, each with three projects, while sustainable livelihoods account for two and water management for one. The portfolio also includes two projects operating outside these core themes: one focused on the incubation and acceleration of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as an adaptation vehicle, and another focused on national adaptation planning and mainstreaming. This distribution reflects a broad and multisectoral approach to building resilience across the portfolio.

Figure 8: Distribution by main intervention theme of the AER 2026 portfolio



Source: GEF IEO portfolio review analysis.

Note: SMEs = small and medium enterprises.

IV. FINDINGS

1. OUTCOMES AND SUSTAINABILITY

11. **Across the AER 2026 portfolio, evidence shows that projects consistently delivered tangible results in transforming how vulnerable communities interact with their natural environment and economic systems.** The synthesis compiled for this report—drawing on OPS8 findings and presented as a continuity analysis of LDCF/SCCF performance trends—reveals consistent portfolio strength in translating investments into measurable physical and ecological outcomes at the community and system levels. These findings draw on two complementary sources: the core evaluative sample of 30 completed LDCF/SCCF projects assessed in this report, and 14 additional projects included in recent GEF Trust Fund evaluations. Results consistently met or exceeded original project targets. Country-level evidence illustrates the depth of on-the-ground change. For instance, in Nepal, findings from the Evaluation of the Socioeconomic Co-Benefits of GEF-Funded Interventions highlight two complementary projects: the Developing Climate Resilient Livelihoods in the Vulnerable Watershed project (GEF ID 6989, UNDP) constructed more than 110 catchment ponds, protected over 600 water sources, and introduced drought-tolerant crops across

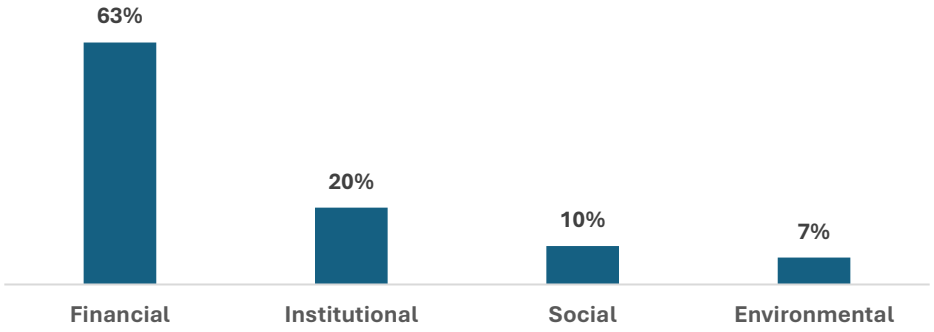
200 hectares, while the Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-Resilient Development in Kathmandu Valley project (GEF ID 8009, UNEP) restored nearly 14 hectares of degraded ecosystems and planted over 5,000 trees in urban areas. The Evaluation of the GEF Support for Nature-Based Solutions points to similarly notable scale in other contexts. In Ethiopia, the LDCF-funded project Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy Plans in Highland Areas (GEF ID 6967, UNDP) supported over 29,000 farmers in adopting climate-smart agriculture practices, planted 11.2 million indigenous trees across nearly 2,800 hectares, and constructed more than 2,000 kilometers of soil and water conservation terraces. In Bhutan, the project Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience of Forest and Agricultural Landscape and Community Livelihoods (GEF ID 9199, UNDP) placed 237,720 hectares of forest under sustainable, climate-resilient management through 28 local forest management plans, complemented by 58 kilometers of irrigation infrastructure and a diversified portfolio of livelihood activities ranging from organic farming to ecotourism.

12. **A consistent pattern across the portfolio highlights a gap between strong policy achievements and their translation into sustained operational practice.** While the AER 2026 portfolio demonstrates solid performance at the policy and planning level, these gains are not always matched by effective implementation on the ground. Projects have consistently contributed to the formal integration of climate change into national and subnational planning instruments: all 14 sectors of Samoa's national development strategy now include adaptation strategies, 89 local development plans in Guinea were revised to incorporate climate adaptation, and Kenya's Baringo and Turkana counties enacted dedicated climate change fund legislation. Yet the translation of these policy achievements into sustained institutional practice and dedicated public financing remained limited. In several cases, newly established coordination bodies or climate units lacked the resources or authority to function beyond the project period. A similar pattern is observed in early warning systems. Although infrastructure was frequently installed, full operational integration into national warning architecture remained incomplete in multiple projects at the time of evaluation. This includes meteorological stations in Guinea, hydrometeorological networks in Chad, and community-based systems in Afghanistan. This gap between output delivery and functional outcomes, between infrastructure installed and systems fully operational, and between policies adopted and budgets allocated represents the most consistent limitation in the portfolio's results, with direct implications for the sustainability of results beyond project completion.

13. **Financial constraints emerge as the most significant and persistent threat to the long-term sustainability of project outcomes across the portfolio**. The analysis shows that for 63 percent of projects (figure 9), the greatest risk to the sustained achievement of project goals are financial factors. These risks mainly stem from the absence of dedicated government budget lines for operation and maintenance, the failure of cofinancing commitments to materialize, and limited domestic climate finance mechanisms to carry forward project investments after closure. Institutional factors were identified as the primary risk in 20 percent of the projects, typically associated with weak organizational capacity, high staff turnover, or governance disruptions that undermine the continuity of newly established coordination structures. For 10 percent of the projects, the main risks are related to social factors, including political instability, community

resistance, and social conflicts. Environmental risks were cited by 7 percent of projects, referring to cases where competing land-use pressures or ecosystem degradation trends threaten to erode the ecological gains achieved during implementation. The concentration of sustainability risks in the financial dimension confirms a structural pattern observed across successive AERs. While projects routinely succeed in delivering outcomes and establishing institutional arrangements, the fiscal foundations needed to sustain those arrangements beyond the project period remain the portfolio's most persistent vulnerability. At the project level, this points to the need for stronger integration of financial sustainability planning at the design stage, including realistic cofinancing assumptions and explicit transition strategies toward domestic financing. At the fund level, sustained and predictable donor contributions to the LDCF and SCCF remain a separate but complementary condition—enabling the longer programming horizons and phased approaches that are better suited to bridging the transition from project-based support to domestically financed climate resilience.

Figure 9: Main sustainability risks in the AER 2026 portfolio



Source: GEF IEO portfolio review analysis.

14. **Despite these risks, the portfolio reveals several pathways through which projects have built foundations for environmental, social, and economic sustainability, though the depth and resilience of these foundations vary considerably.** The most promising mechanisms involve the institutional embedding of project functions within government structures and the integration of climate adaptation into binding planning instruments. In Samoa (GEF ID 5417, UNDP), the absorption of climate adaptation and disaster risk management project staff into the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment's Climate Change and GEF Division preserved technical capacity within government and ensured continuity of flood protection investments now maintained through annual budget mechanisms. In Nepal (GEF ID 5203, UNEP), the integration of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) into 141 community forestry management plans and the development of local adaptation plans of action anchored climate-resilient practices at the local level, with spontaneous replication of EbA techniques by neighboring communities providing encouraging evidence of ownership, although provincial and municipal engagement remained notably weaker than community-level enthusiasm (a gap that may constrain the upward institutional support needed to sustain local gains). In Bhutan (GEF ID 9199, UNDP), government cofinancing exceeding three times the grant value, combined with the establishment of a payment for ecosystem services mechanism and collaboration with the Bhutan for Life initiative, created diversified financing

pathways, though the cost of maintaining and replicating infrastructure such as human-wildlife conflict fencing and farm mechanization in remote areas without continued external support remains an unresolved concern. At the regional level (GEF ID 5133, World Bank), a 2050 master plan for the coordinated management of water resources in the Senegal River Basin and a water allocation tool (WEAP; water evaluation and planning) were institutionalized within the decision-making processes of the Senegal River Basin Development Authority (OMVS), illustrating how transboundary governance frameworks can generate sustainability dividends that outlast individual project cycles. This is so even as highly uneven counterpart funding performance across member states (i.e., with Mauritania contributing only 26 percent of committed amounts) signals that institutional anchoring does not automatically resolve the financial sustainability challenge.

15. **At the community level, the portfolio suggests that sustainability is strongest where projects create clear and direct economic incentives for continued ownership.** The Promoting Integrated Natural Resources Management in Support of Great Green Wall (GGW) in Chad (PINAMAC) project (GEF ID 11459, UNEP) established village savings groups and value chain linkages for gum, sesame, and onion, providing communities with an income-generation rationale to maintain restored landscapes. These gains were further reinforced by the project's institutional embedding within the Great Green Wall National Agency. Nevertheless, the fragile political and security context, reflected in the project's own substantial governance risk rating, echoes conditions that led to the termination of a comparable project in Afghanistan (GEF ID 6914, UNDP) and tempers confidence in the durability of these arrangements. In Kenya (GEF ID 9326, AfDB), household-level income-generating activities in Baringo and Turkana counties demonstrated self-sustaining momentum, particularly within the operation and maintenance frameworks of water user associations. In Nepal (GEF ID 5111, FAO), the farmer field school approach of the reducing climate vulnerability and increasing adaptive capacity project created self-sustaining knowledge networks anchored in registered community-based organizations, although the project's terminal evaluation acknowledged that livelihood activities require stronger market linkages and value chain support to become truly self-sustaining without continued external facilitation.

16. **These positive signals stand in sharp contrast to cases where weak or absent enabling conditions led to significantly diminished sustainability prospects.** For instance, in Senegal (GEF ID 5867, UNDP), most units established under the Ferlo–Saloum project were non-operational at completion due to seasonal constraints and market access failures, with revolving funds never established and community nature reserve committees lacking both legal status and sustainable funding. In the Democratic Republic of Congo (GEF ID 5451, World Bank), the National Agency of Meteorology (MettelSat) received zero government counterpart funding against a commitment of $1 million, staff salaries collapsed due to currency devaluation, and critical governance reforms remained unfinished at project completion. This pattern is symptomatic of broader monetary fragility in which locally denominated commitments lose real value faster than institutions can adapt, steadily eroding the socioeconomic gains that projects are designed to deliver. In Lebanon (GEF ID 5125, FAO), the economic crisis rendered the Smart Adaptation of Forest Landscapes project's core sustainability assumptions invalid, with the ministry of agriculture ceasing

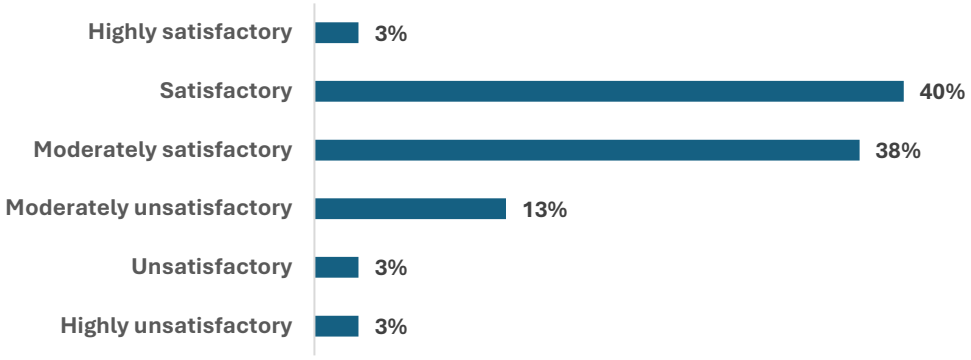
involvement entirely and forest management plans completed but not operationalized. The collapse of the Lebanese pound, which lost over 90 percent of its value, effectively nullified years of investment denominated in a currency whose purchasing power proved illusory. Taken together, these cases highlight that the sustainability of investments is ultimately determined not by the quality of project design alone, but by the financial commitment, institutional stability, and political continuity of the context in which projects operate. They further point to a deeper structural vulnerability: when macroeconomic instability erodes the value of financial resources and commitments, even well-designed interventions face constraints in sustaining outcomes over time. In this context, the portfolio's evidence base for post-project sustainability remains, in many instances, more aspirational than fully achieved.

2. ADDITIONAL DIMENSIONS[5]

17. **Across the AER 2026 portfolio, there is clear evidence of commitment to integrating measures that address women's needs and participation.** Based on the IEO's own assessment of terminal evaluations for the 30 projects reviewed, and drawing on ratings of the quality of gender-responsive implementation rather than the mere presence of a gender action plan at entry, 81 percent achieved a rating in the satisfactory range, with 40 percent rated as Satisfactory and 38 percent as Moderately Satisfactory. These findings indicate that a vast majority of projects have successfully implemented gender action plans or addressed women's specific vulnerabilities within their adaptation strategies. At the same time, 19 percent of projects were rated in the unsatisfactory range, highlighting gaps in the use of sex-disaggregated monitoring and in creating meaningful entry points for women's empowerment. Notably, many of the projects assessed were approved prior to the adoption of the GEF Gender Policy in 2017; successive AER cycles since then suggest a positive trend in gender performance among more recently approved projects, consistent with the strengthened requirements introduced by the policy. These findings indicate that, while attention to women's inclusion is broadly established, greater effort is needed to strengthen the depth and consistency of implementation across the portfolio. Figure 10 presents the distribution of IEO ratings on the quality of gender-responsive implementation across the 30 projects in the AER 2026 portfolio. Ratings reflect the depth and consistency of implementation of gender measures, not the presence or absence of a gender action plan at CEO endorsement stage, which is a standard requirement for all projects.

[5] The portfolio demonstrates a broad and increasing commitment to gender-responsive approaches, with most projects incorporating measures to support women's participation and address women's specific vulnerabilities. Evidence on the systematic inclusion of other marginalized groups—including youth, indigenous peoples, and local communities—is present in the portfolio but remains limited and uneven and was not assessed systematically in this report.

Figure 10: Projects including women in the AER 2026 portfolio



Source: GEF IEO portfolio review analysis.

18. **Projects that move beyond participation targets to address structural constraints and economic agency are better positioned to generate sustained and transformative outcomes for women.** LDCF/SCCF projects—particularly since GEF-5—show a clear progression in this direction, with the strongest results observed where attention to women is embedded within the theory of change of interventions, rather than treated as a parallel or compliance-driven requirement. In Chad, the PINAMAC project mandated at least 50 percent women's participation across beneficiary groups, governance committees, and income-generating activities while explicitly addressing barriers including land tenure exclusion, mobility restrictions, and time poverty. This was achieved through adapted facilitation approaches including the use of female facilitators, separate focus groups, and home-based livelihood options. In Bhutan, interventions as part of the sustainability and climate resilience project went beyond participation to address underlying workload constraints. Labor and energy-saving technologies such as electric fencing to reduce crop-guarding time, gender-friendly farm mechanization, and smartphone-operated drip irrigation directly addressed women's disproportionate workload rather than simply counting female beneficiaries. Similarly, in Nepal, women-led user committees under the watershed management project were found to be more effective and efficient than those led by men, while water source protection activities reduced women's fetching time by an average of 11 minutes per trip. In the adaptation agriculture project in The Gambia (GEF ID 5782, FAO), community vegetable gardens evolved into platforms for women's economic empowerment, with over 70 percent of beneficiaries being women who used the garden income for school fees, health expenses, and household needs. These examples illustrate that when projects move beyond participation targets to address structural constraints and economic agency, they are better positioned to generate sustained and transformative outcomes for women.

19. **Despite these advances, the portfolio reveals a persistent gap between commitments to women's inclusion at the design stage and the depth of implementation in practice.** Several projects illustrate how intended outcomes were not fully realized during execution. In Guinea (GEF ID 8023, UNDP), the terminal evaluation characterized the climate information and early warning systems project's 51 percent women participation target as "highly inappropriate" given that

partner institutions were composed of 89 percent men; in practice only 16 percent of participants were women. In the Democratic Republic of Congo's hydrometeorology and climate services project, only 12 women out of 339 total trainees received training, exclusively in administrative rather than technical meteorological skills. The project lacked analysis, action planning, and sex disaggregated indicators. In Benin (GEF ID 5232, AfDB), the number of women gardeners in the Ouémé Valley flood control project reached only 5 percent of the target. In Djibouti's rural livelihoods adaptation project (GEF ID 9325, AfDB), although 40 percent of trained households included women, this was achieved without a structured plan to guide meaningful engagement. Taken together, these cases point to a recurring disconnect between intent and execution, underscoring the need to move beyond design-stage commitments toward more consistent, well-resourced, and context-sensitive approaches that can effectively support women's participation and outcomes.

20. **Even among better-performing projects, the evidence suggests that advancing women's inclusion often stops short of achieving deeper, structural change.** Many projects succeeded in achieving numerical parity—a necessary but insufficient condition—without systematically addressing the underlying barriers that constrain women's sustained participation and leadership in governance. The ASAP project, for instance, exceeded its 25 percent women-led SME target yet its own terminal evaluation acknowledged that the baseline gender goals were not ambitious and fell short of the transformative approach the project claimed, with all three technical assistance grant recipients having male chief executive officers. These cases collectively suggest that targets and quotas without sufficient grounding in local context and institutional realities may not, on their own, produce meaningful and lasting change for women. A more effective approach would complement portfolio-level metrics with deeper, context-specific analysis developed in close coordination with implementing partners, to ensure that participation goals are realistic and transformative. This pattern—i.e., strong performance on metrics of women's inclusion, but weaker progress in addressing structural constraints—represents the portfolio's central challenge going forward.

21. **The portfolio provides useful insights into how projects have addressed the needs of marginalized and vulnerable groups.** Reflecting an intersectional approach that extends beyond standard beneficiary disaggregation, the STRADAP project in Chad (GEF ID 11550, IFAD) built its theory of change around youth green agribusiness hubs. Key features include a 30 percent youth inclusion mandate, specific female-youth provisions, and specialized tracks for women's mentoring and girls' education retention. In Nepal, the climate-resilient livelihoods project embedded a comprehensive gender equality and social inclusion strategy that systematically tracked outcomes by both gender and caste or ethnicity, with tailored livelihood interventions for indigenous marginalized communities such as Majhi and Dalit populations, moving beyond gender as the sole inclusion lens. Similarly, in The Gambia, youth constituted 55 percent of beneficiaries in the adapting agriculture project. In Vanuatu's protecting urban areas project (GEF ID 9197, ADB), universal access features (footpaths on all bridges, washing areas at waterway crossings, and pedestrian infrastructure) provided durable physical benefits for women and other vulnerable groups,

demonstrating how inclusion considerations can be embedded directly into infrastructure design in adaptation investments.

V. ADAPTATION RESULTS TYPOLOGY

22. **The AER 2026 portfolio's adaptation results can be systematically classified through a results typology that captures the scope and the underlying structure of what these funds actually deliver.** Building on the outcome and sustainability evidence presented above, this section introduces a classification framework that organizes adaptation impacts across five categories: institutional and policy change, capacity and knowledge, on-the-ground resilience, finance and market access, and catalytic or scaling effects (see Annex A). This framework aligns with established evaluative taxonomies (for example, Biagini et al. 2014) while evolving to reflect the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) emphasis on transformational adaptation. The resulting analysis is grounded in evidence from 30 terminal evaluations, and it provides the Council with a practical analytical tool as the GEF-9 operational framework takes shape.

23. **Across the AER 2026 portfolio, the typology confirms that the primary contribution of LDCF/SCCF projects lies in three areas: capacity building, physical resilience, and institutional reform.** The distribution of results reveals a consistent distributional pattern (table 2). Capacity and knowledge outcomes were delivered by all projects, confirming their role as a foundational prerequisite for climate-resilient development (Brooks et al. 2011). On-the-ground resilience measures were reported by 97 percent of projects while 90 percent of projects contributed to institutional and policy change, indicating that most interventions generate governance or policy outcomes alongside their field-level work. In finance and market access, outcomes were reported in 43 percent of projects and catalytic or scaling effects in 40 percent. This comparatively lower share reflects the portfolio's historical orientation toward direct delivery rather than systemic leverage. When examining primary outcomes, 83 percent of projects pointed to on-the-ground resilience as their main result, with capacity and knowledge accounting for 13 percent and institutional and policy change for the remaining 3 percent. No project identified finance and market access or catalytic effects as its primary adaptation outcome. This pattern aligns with the LDCF/SCCF mandate to deliver concrete adaptation in the most vulnerable countries. At the same time, it highlights an opportunity to strengthen pathways through which project-level achievements can generate broader multiplier effects and contribute to system-level transformation.

Table 2: Summary of adaptation impact types across the AER 2026 portfolio

Impact type	Components in projects	Primary outcome	Description
Capacity & knowledge	100%	13%	Training, awareness, knowledge products
On-the-ground resilience	97%	83%	Infrastructure, EbA measures, livelihood diversification, agricultural adaptation
Institutional & policy change	90%	3%	New/revised laws, policies, plans, institutional arrangements
Finance & market access	43%	0%	Climate finance, insurance, value chains, credit access
Catalytic or scaling effects	40%	0%	Replication, mainstreaming, uptake beyond scope

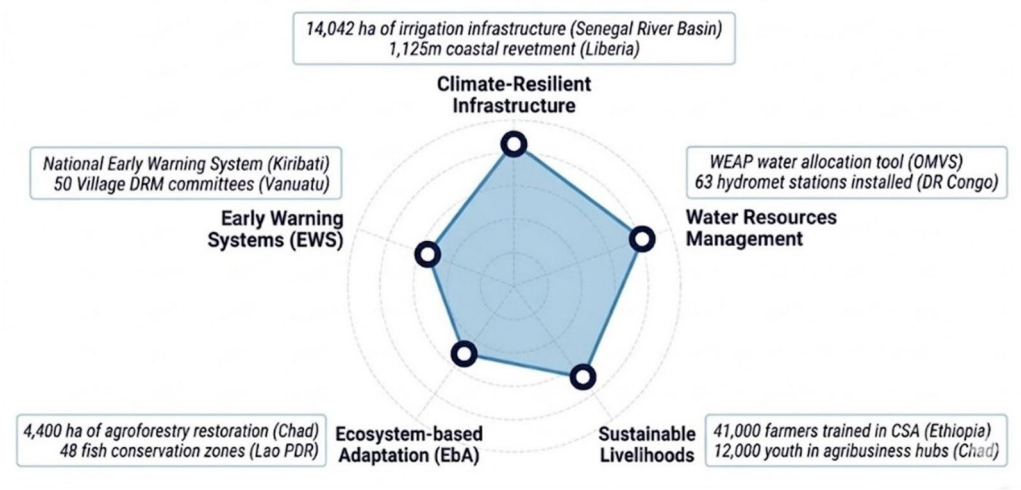
Source: GEF IEO portfolio review analysis.

Notes: Project examples and outcome data cited in the figure boxes are illustrative, drawn from individual projects to highlight strong practice within each capital category. They are not intended to represent portfolio-wide averages or typical results. EbA = Ecosystem-based adaptation.

24. **The strongest and most durable results across the portfolio emerge where different types of adaptation impacts reinforce one another, rather than operating in isolation.** Across the three dominant impact types, the most significant outcomes are found at the points of intersection, on that space where capacity investments support physical infrastructure, and where on-the-ground resilience measures are embedded within formal policy and institutional frameworks. In the capacity and knowledge domain, projects consistently delivered training at scale, bridging the adaptation gap through localized expertise. In Ethiopia's project on CCA (climate change adaptation) growth, over 41,000 individuals received climate-smart agriculture training through a trainer-of-trainers approach, while in Chad's STRADAP project, 12,000 youth were trained in land management and climate-smart production through dedicated agribusiness hubs. Climate information systems were strengthened across multiple contexts, from the 63 hydromet stations installed in the Democratic Republic of Congo to the WEAP water allocation tool institutionalized within the OMVS Permanent Water Commission in the regional Senegal River Basin project. These investments in human capital provide the essential baseline upon which physical infrastructure success depends. On-the-ground resilience outcomes were equally broad, including hard infrastructure such as the 1,125-meter coastal revetment in Liberia's enhancing resilience project (GEF ID 8015, UNDP) and the 14,042 hectares of irrigation and drainage infrastructure in the Senegal River Basin project. Alongside these infrastructure interventions were ecosystem-based measures, including the restoration of 4,400 hectares through agroforestry and assisted natural regeneration in Chad's PINAMAC project and the establishment of 48 fish conservation zones protecting 591 hectares of wetland in the Lao PDR's Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas project (GEF ID 5489, FAO). In the institutional domain, the most durable results emerged where projects achieved formal policy or regulatory change, creating institutional staying power that outlives the grant cycle. The adoption of the 2050 water development and management master plan by all four OMVS member states, the enactment of county-level climate change fund legislation in Kenya (GEF ID 9326, AfDB), and the

national fisheries conservation and management regulation adopted in Kiribati (GEF ID 5414, UNDP) represent landmark achievements for mainstreaming adaptation into national and local governance. The composition shown in figure 11 highlights the LDCF/SCCF mandate for concrete adaptation found at the portfolio level. By clustering results across physical, natural, and human capital, the portfolio achieves a layered approach to strengthening resilience that moves beyond single-sector interventions to create more durable, community-level impacts in least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).

Figure 11: LDCF/SCCF adaptation outcomes across physical, natural, and human capital



Source: GEF IEO portfolio review analysis.

25. **The typology also highlights areas where the portfolio's impact remains limited, particularly in the finance and catalytic dimensions, which are increasingly recognized as essential for scaling adaptation.** Outcomes on finance and market access, achieved by fewer than half of all projects, were often partial in nature, reflecting what emerging literature describes as the "missing middle" in adaptation finance, that is, the space where pilot mechanisms struggle to transition to commercial viability (UNEP 2023; GCA 2024). Where projects attempted to establish revolving funds, credit mechanisms, or value chain linkages, results frequently fell short of targets. In Senegal, the Saloum Delta mutual's credit line reached only 20 million FCFA (franc of the African Financial Community) against a 300 million FCFA target, and in The Gambia's adapting agriculture project, market linkages for vegetable garden produce were never formalized despite training on food processing and business plan development. Insurance and risk-transfer mechanisms were virtually absent from the portfolio, with only Chad's Community-based Climate Risks Management project (GEF ID 8001, UNDP) attempting agricultural insurance, a component that enrolled just 119 subscribers before the project's suspension.[6] This pattern suggests that without dedicated de-

[6] The suspension of the Community-based Climate Risks Management in Chad (GEF ID 8001) project was the result of fiduciary concerns that emerged during a 2024 investigation. The project was formally suspended in November 2024, following nine months of intensive inquiry beginning in February 2024 into financial management practices. This investigation led to a "high risk" rating in an August 2024 micro-assessment, prompting the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Chad to take the drastic step of terminating cash transfers to a national partner. The suspension of GEF funding fundamentally undermined the project's operational capacity, as the UNDP office lacked the resources to renew the contracts of the project management unit (PMU) staff, which

risking frameworks, project-level financial instruments remain vulnerable to the thin markets and high-risk profiles characteristic of LDCs. Catalytic and scaling effects, while present in 40 percent of projects, were similarly limited. The most credible examples involved policy uptake, such as Vanuatu's adoption of the infiltration basin approach as a government design standard and the replication of Nepal's integrated watershed management directive by local governments beyond the project area. However, follow-on investment remained largely aspirational rather than secured, and regional dissemination of project innovations was documented in only a handful of cases, most notably through the OMVS project transboundary framework and the institutional adoption of the ASAP project's Adaptation Solutions Taxonomy by organizations including the US Development Finance Corporation and BlackRock. This "scaling gap" (strong on direct delivery, weaker on financial mobilization and systemic replication) carries particular relevance as GEF-9 programming seeks to amplify adaptation impact beyond individual project boundaries through broader market and system integration (GEF IEO 2026; Scolobig et al. 2023).

VI. TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE

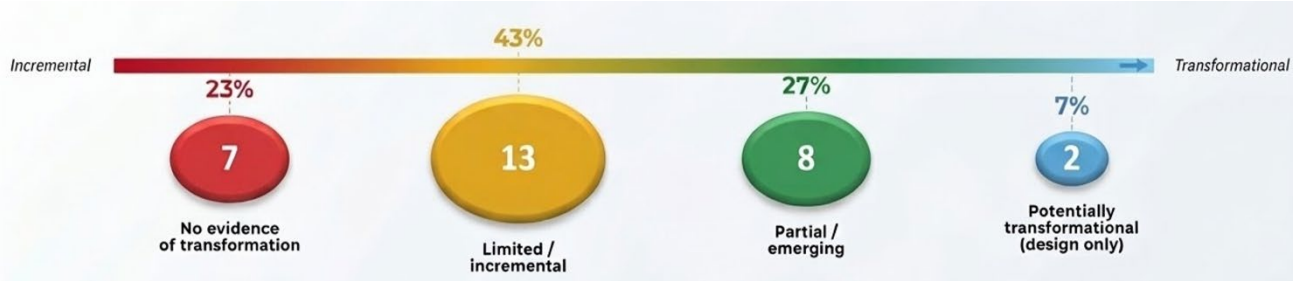
26. **A balanced interpretation of portfolio performance requires placing transformational change within the broader continuum of adaptation results.** Transformational change is not necessarily the primary objective of all interventions. As highlighted in recent joint analysis by the evaluation units of multilateral climate funds, transformation is best understood as a spectrum rather than a binary outcome, with incremental and transformational approaches serving distinct but complementary roles within a portfolio (Chaplowe 2025). This perspective is particularly relevant in the context of LDCs, where transformation is inherently shaped by prevailing structural conditions. In settings where basic adaptive infrastructure and institutional capacity remain limited, establishing these foundations—even through conventional project delivery—can be a necessary precondition for future systemic shifts (Kasdan, Kuhl, and Kurukulasuriya 2020). For the LDCF, and to a lesser extent the SCCF, this implies that portfolio value lies not solely in the smaller subset of projects demonstrating emerging transformational change, but also in the broader base of incremental interventions that build the institutional, human, and physical capital required for longer-term transformation.

27. **The AER 2026 portfolio shows limited evidence of fully realized transformational adaptation but does provide important signals of where such change may be beginning to emerge**. These findings should be interpreted with an important caveat: the majority of projects in this cohort were approved during GEF-5 and GEF-6, before transformational adaptation was established as an explicit programmatic goal in GEF-8. Assessing these projects against a transformational lens retrospectively sets a standard they were not designed to meet. This is not a challenge unique to the LDCF/SCCF portfolio—evidence across multilateral climate funds consistently shows that fully

subsequently expired at the end of March 2025. To manage the remaining risks, the office moved toward a direct payment modality, overseen by a risk management unit that enforces a "zero tolerance" policy on undocumented expenses. While the office has made significant progress in staff training, achieving 100 percent compliance among GEF project staff with training courses on fraud detection and prevention, the physical implementation of the project remains in a state of indefinite hiatus.

realized transformational change remains rare in adaptation programming more broadly, reflecting the structural complexity and long-time horizons that systemic change requires. Applying the GEF IEO framework for transformational change—which assesses whether interventions address root causes, shift underlying system dynamics, expand beyond pilot scale, and sustain results beyond project funding—reveals a portfolio operating predominantly in the incremental-to-emerging range (figure 12). Seven projects (23 percent) showed no evidence of transformational adaptation, typically delivering conventional outputs such as equipment, infrastructure, or training without influencing the institutional, financial, or governance systems that shape vulnerability. This pattern is illustrated in Guinea, where efforts to secure sustained government financing for climate monitoring institutions were unsuccessful, and in Senegal, where the project's intended innovative climate finance mechanisms did not materialize. Thirteen projects (43 percent) were classified as limited or incremental, delivering effective on-the-ground adaptation that addressed immediate vulnerabilities but remained within existing system structures. Eight projects (27 percent) showed partial or emerging contributions to transformational pathways, including institutional or policy shifts with the potential to influence how adaptation is governed, financed, or scaled. In addition, two projects in Chad (GEF IDs 11459 and 11550) were assessed at the design stage to have elements of systemic change; however, their outcomes cannot yet be assessed at this stage. As other IEO evaluations have found, transformational change requires sustained, long-term engagement beyond the time horizon of most standard project cycles.

Figure 12: Transformational change spectrum in the AER 2026 portfolio



Source: GEF IEO portfolio review analysis.

28. **A closer examination of the eight projects showing signals of system change suggests an explicit intention to address structural conditions, while reaching scale and sustainability remains the most persistent challenge.** All eight projects addressed root causes of climate vulnerability rather than just treating symptoms, from watershed degradation and fragmented governance in Nepal to the absence of standardized definitions for adaptation investment globally (ASAP project). In terms of depth, three projects achieved changes to the formal rules governing adaptation. The OMVS project secured the adoption of the 2050 master plan for sustainable water management by all four member states and institutionalized the WEAP water allocation tool within the Permanent Water Commission's decision-making processes. Kenya's Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change (RLACC) project saw the enactment of county-level climate change fund legislation in Baringo and Turkana; and the ASAP project fundamentally shifted how the private investment community classifies adaptation through a taxonomy adopted by the US Development Finance

Corporation, BlackRock, and the US National Climate Assessment. The remaining five projects achieved more partial forms of depth. Examples include Samoa's establishment of a permanent Climate Change and GEF Division within the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Bhutan's revision of national biodiversity corridor regulations and development of a payment for ecosystem services mechanism, and Kathmandu's allocation of 15 percent of municipal development budgets to ecosystem-based adaptation. While these represent meaningful governance shifts, they require further consolidation to become fully embedded. By contrast, progress on scale is more limited. Only two projects — the regional OMVS project and the ASAP project — demonstrated reach extending clearly beyond their original geography or sectoral scope. On sustainability, no project achieved fully confirmed post-funding resilience, with five showing partial and three showing uncertain prospects. This reinforces broader findings that financial and institutional foundations continue to represent the most significant constraint to sustained transformational change across the portfolio.

29. **The distribution of results across the portfolio suggests a pattern in the support provided to system change pathways.** The available evidence from projects reviewed in AER 2026 points to institutional embedding and policy mainstreaming as the most consistently observed pathways supported by the projects, while the projects have paid less attention to financial and market-based approaches. The GEF IEO identifies four primary mechanisms for transformational change: mainstreaming, scaling up, replication, and market transformation. In the AER 2026 portfolio, mainstreaming was by far the most common pathway, evident in Samoa's integration of climate adaptation across all 14 national development sectors, Nepal's incorporation of ecosystem-based adaptation into 141 community forestry management plans, and Bhutan's mainstreaming of climate considerations into local development planning across 12 districts. Replication showed promising but uneven signals, with Vanuatu's infiltration basin design adopted as a government standard and Nepal's integrated watershed management directive replicated by local governments beyond the project area. Scaling up (expanding the geographic or demographic reach of successful models) was documented in a limited number of cases, most notably through the OMVS transboundary framework and the ASAP taxonomy's global adoption. Market transformation, however, was virtually absent from the portfolio's realized outcomes, even where it had been central to project design. This aligns with the adaptation results typology which identifies finance and market access as the least developed area of impact across the portfolio. Furthermore, it is important to recognize that transformational adaptation in LDCs and SIDS cannot be achieved by any single fund or project acting alone. The incremental and emerging results documented across the LDCF/SCCF portfolio are best understood as transformational enablers within a wider financing architecture, laying institutional, governance, and capacity foundations that larger-scale and longer-term investments by complementary funds can build upon. As GEF-9 programming takes shape, the evidence suggests that LDCF/SCCF's strongest transformation potential lies in deepening and sustaining the institutional and policy gains that several projects have begun to achieve. At the same time, there is a clear need to strengthen financial and scaling pathways—through approaches such as dedicated

de-risking instruments, longer project horizons, and more explicit theories of change for market-level shifts—to bridge the gap between project-level results and system-level transformation.

VII. CHALLENGES AND EMERGING ISSUES

30. **Implementation experience across the portfolio highlights a set of recurring challenges that cut across regions, agencies, and thematic areas, reinforcing many of the outcome and sustainability constraints identified earlier.** A central issue is the persistent mismatch between the ambition of project design and the operational realities of delivery in LDC contexts. Projects frequently required substantially longer implementation periods than originally planned. In Nepal, the Kathmandu Valley EbA project doubled in duration from 48 to 96 months; in The Gambia's adapting agriculture project, implementation extended from four to nearly seven years; and in Benin, the Ouémé Valley flood control project experienced a three-year delay driven by the complexity of managing more than 300 procurement contracts, each requiring 4 to 12 months. Procurement bottlenecks emerged as a structural constraint rather than an exceptional risk, with FAO, ADB, and World Bank procedures each cited in multiple terminal evaluations as sources of critical-path delay. The evidence suggests that standard project cycle assumptions (particularly for infrastructure-intensive or multi-site adaptation investments) systematically underestimate the time required for technical studies, stakeholder consultation, competitive bidding, and the sequential phasing of complex field operations. Compounding these design-stage underestimates, the portfolio was heavily affected by external disruptions, with COVID-19 inflating costs and restricting international expertise in Guinea, prolonged drought and locust invasion overlapping with pandemic restrictions in Djibouti, and political upheavals disrupting implementation in Guinea, Chad, and Afghanistan, with the Afghanistan project ultimately terminated following regime change. These cascading shocks underline the emerging reality that adaptation projects in LDCs must be designed not merely to tolerate disruption but to function through it, with contingency provisions, flexible reallocation mechanisms, and realistic schedule buffers built into project architecture from the outset.

31. **A second cross-cutting challenge relates to the quality and consistency of monitoring and evaluation systems, which emerges as an operational weakness and a barrier to demonstrating LDCF/SCCF effectiveness.** Multiple projects lacked operational M&E frameworks for extended periods. Nepal's Kathmandu Valley project had no M&E expert for its first four years, Chad's community-based climate risk management project inflated impact figures by counting radio listeners in coverage areas as direct beneficiaries, and Lao PDR's wetlands project lacked baseline surveys for significant indicators, rendering objective assessment of change impossible. Results frameworks frequently relied on physical output metrics (meters of revetment installed, hectares restored, number of individuals trained) without intermediate outcome indicators that could capture behavioral change, institutional uptake, or biophysical improvement, making it difficult to distinguish between outputs delivered and adaptation outcomes achieved. The gap between M&E design quality and M&E implementation quality identified in the OPS8 analysis (79 percent satisfactory at design versus 61 percent at implementation) is confirmed at the project level, where

resource constraints, staff turnover during governance transitions, and the absence of dedicated M&E personnel consistently degraded monitoring practice. This evidence highlights strategic implications to be considered in future programming. Without robust, outcome-oriented monitoring data, the adaptation portfolio cannot systematically demonstrate what forms of investments generate the most durable benefits.

32. **Finally, the portfolio also brings into focus a set of emerging issues with direct implications for the design and delivery of GEF-9 programming.** First, the concentration of projects in fragile and conflict-affected states exposes the funds to governance and political economy risks that conventional project risk frameworks are ill-equipped to manage. The evidence shows that regime change, economic collapse, and security deterioration do not merely delay implementation but can invalidate core project assumptions entirely, as occurred when Lebanon's economic crisis rendered Ministry of Agriculture engagement impossible and when Guinea's post-coup government repurposed a rehabilitated meteorological building for a public garden. Second, cofinancing fragility emerges as a systemic concern rather than a project-specific risk. In The Gambia, all four original cofinancing sources, totaling $36.8 million, were lost due to delayed project start-up. In the Democratic Republic of Congo's climate information project, no government counterpart funding was provided despite a $1 million commitment. These cases suggest that cofinancing figures reported at approval may substantially overstate actual resources mobilized during implementation, highlighting the need for closer scrutiny as cofinancing expectations increase under GEF-9. Third, the experience with early warning systems and climate information services points to a recurring absorptive capacity constraint: investments in observation infrastructure have consistently outpaced the institutional capacity required to operate, maintain, and translate these assets into functional services. This pattern underscores the importance of adopting more calibrated approaches—linking technology investments to institutional readiness, ensuring sustained financing for operations, and strengthening links to regional and global support mechanisms such as the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF),[7] to avoid repeated investments in infrastructure that cannot be effectively sustained.

VIII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. CONCLUSIONS

33. **The LDCF/SCCF portfolio is highly relevant and consistently effective at delivering concrete adaptation outcomes aligned with country priorities—a core mandate these funds have broadly met.** The evidence also points to five structural patterns that cut across the portfolio and frame the conclusions that follow. Results remain concentrated at the project level, with limited translation into system-level or cross-boundary change. A persistent gap exists between outcomes achieved

[7] SOFF (Systematic Observations Financing Facility) is a United Nations multipartner trust fund co-created by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It serves as a foundational delivery mechanism for the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative by providing grant financing and technical assistance to close the global weather and climate data gap. SOFF supports the implementation of the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON), ensuring that member states have the essential surface-based and upper-air observational data required for high-quality aviation meteorology and multihazard early warning services.

during implementation and their sustainability beyond project completion, driven by financial, institutional, and operational conditions that are insufficiently established at the time of project closure. Project design is generally strong on delivery logic, though it does not consistently anticipate implementation realities, cofinancing fragility, or the conditions required for long-term sustainability. M&E systems, though generally well designed at entry, are unevenly implemented and overly focused on outputs, constraining both accountability and portfolio-level learning. Pathways to transformational change remain nascent: institutional mainstreaming shows the most consistent progress, while financial and market-based pathways remain largely underdeveloped. Together, these patterns point to a portfolio that is delivering well within its current model, with a clear next frontier in strengthening the foundations for sustained, scalable, and ultimately transformative adaptation.

Design

34. **Project design is generally effective in structuring interventions that deliver results, but less robust in anticipating sustainability and implementation risks.** Projects are typically well formulated, with clear objectives, logical intervention pathways, and alignment with national priorities. This is reflected in the portfolio's strong outcome performance. However, design is less consistent in addressing the conditions required to sustain results beyond project completion. Financial sustainability, institutional ownership, and operational continuity are often insufficiently specified at entry, limiting the ability of projects to transition from externally supported interventions to self-sustaining systems.

35. **Design assumptions frequently underestimate operational complexity and financing uncertainty.** Project timelines and implementation arrangements often do not fully reflect the realities of procurement processes, institutional capacity constraints, and multistakeholder coordination in LDC contexts. Cofinancing assumptions are also frequently optimistic, with commitments not materializing as planned. In addition, design does not consistently account for broader risks such as political instability, governance disruptions, or macroeconomic shocks, which in several cases have significantly affected implementation and sustainability. The GEF's adoption of a Risk Appetite Statement and Framework in January 2024 represents a relevant institutional development in this regard; whether its implementation translates into more realistic risk integration at the design stage and stronger cofinancing oversight will be an important area to monitor in future evaluative cycles.

Operational aspects and challenges

36. **Implementation is consistently affected by structural constraints that shape delivery, timing, and effectiveness.** Projects operate in environments characterized by limited institutional capacity, complex procurement requirements, and exposure to external shocks, including political instability and economic crises. These factors frequently result in extended implementation periods, delays in critical activities, and the need for adaptive adjustments during execution. The evidence

suggests that these constraints are systemic rather than exceptional, indicating a need for greater alignment between project design and operating conditions.

37. **Monitoring and evaluation systems limit the portfolio's ability to demonstrate results and support adaptive management.** Although M&E systems are generally well designed, implementation is uneven and often under-resourced. Projects frequently rely on output-based indicators, with limited use of outcome-level metrics capable of capturing behavioral change, institutional uptake, or long-term resilience. In some cases, the absence of baseline data or operational M&E systems further constrains the ability to assess progress. These limitations reduce the reliability and comparability of performance evidence and weaken the basis for learning across the portfolio.

Outcomes, impacts, and sustainability

38. **The portfolio demonstrates strong effectiveness in delivering tangible adaptation outcomes, particularly at the local and system levels.** Projects consistently generate measurable improvements in livelihoods, ecosystem resilience, and adaptive capacity. These outcomes are supported by investments in infrastructure, ecosystem-based approaches, and capacity development, and often meet or exceed planned targets during implementation.

39. **A persistent gap remains between the achievement of outcomes and their sustainability over time.** Sustaining results beyond project completion continues to be the most significant structural challenge across the portfolio. This gap reflects a recurring pattern in which projects successfully deliver outputs and immediate outcomes, but the systems required to maintain these gains—financial, institutional, and operational—are not fully secured.

40. **Financial constraints represent the most critical and systemic risk to sustainability.** The absence of dedicated government budget lines, the failure of cofinancing commitments to materialize, and the limited development of domestic climate-finance mechanisms constrain the continuation of project benefits. In some cases, macroeconomic instability and governance disruptions further undermine sustainability by eroding institutional capacity and financial viability. These patterns confirm that sustainability is less a function of project performance during implementation and more a function of the broader financial and institutional environment in which projects operate.

41. **Policy and institutional achievements are not consistently translated into functional systems.** Projects frequently succeed in integrating adaptation into policy and planning frameworks, representing important governance advances. However, these achievements are not always accompanied by the operational capacity, budget allocation, or institutional authority required for implementation. The resulting gap between policy adoption and functional outcomes—such as fully operational early warning systems or sustained coordination mechanisms—represents a central limitation affecting long-term impact.

42. **Portfolio results are concentrated on direct delivery, with limited development of scaling and financial pathways.** The portfolio is strongest in delivering capacity building, physical resilience,

and institutional strengthening. However, financial mechanisms, market development, and catalytic effects remain underdeveloped. Where such mechanisms are attempted, they often fall short of achieving scale or sustainability. These findings reflect the LDCF/SCCF's primary mandate to deliver concrete adaptation in the world's most vulnerable countries—a mandate the portfolio has broadly met. The structural gap between project-level delivery and system-level financial transformation is a well-documented challenge across the global adaptation finance landscape and is not specific to these funds. This limits the ability of projects to extend impact beyond their immediate scope and highlights a structural gap between project-level delivery and system-level change.

Transformational change

43. **The portfolio shows limited evidence of fully realized transformational adaptation, with emerging signals concentrated in institutional and policy domains.** No project demonstrates fully documented transformational change, although several show early indications of addressing root causes of vulnerability through governance reforms, policy integration, and institutional embedding.

44. **Transformational change is constrained by shortfalls in scale, sustainability, and financial pathways.** Most projects operate within incremental to emerging levels of change, addressing immediate vulnerabilities without fundamentally altering underlying systems. Even among stronger performers, expansion beyond project boundaries is modest and long-term sustainability remains uncertain. Institutional mainstreaming is the most common pathway to transformation, whereas financial and market-based transformation mechanisms are largely absent. This reflects both contextual constraints and the limitations of project-based approaches in achieving system-level change.

Women and inclusion

45. **The portfolio demonstrates a broad and increasing commitment to supporting women and inclusive approaches.** Most projects incorporate measures to support women's participation and address women's vulnerability, including targeted livelihood activities, capacity-building efforts, and actions to reduce barriers to participation. These approaches contribute to more inclusive adaptation processes and enhance the relevance and effectiveness of interventions.

46. **The depth and consistency of implementation vary, affecting the extent of outcomes achieved.** Stronger results are observed where interventions address structural constraints—such as access to resources, time burdens, and institutional barriers—and are embedded within core project activities. In other cases, implementation remains limited, with participation targets not fully achieved or not translating into sustained benefits.

47. **Inclusive approaches contribute to stronger sustainability when effectively implemented.** Projects that promote local ownership, economic incentives, and meaningful participation of women tend to show more durable outcomes. However, broader financial and institutional constraints continue to influence the sustainability of inclusive benefits, indicating that inclusion alone is not sufficient without supportive enabling conditions.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

48. Based on the findings and conclusions, the AER 2026 makes three recommendations:

(a) **Recommendation 1: Strengthen sustainability and scaling at the project design and review stages.** Building on the implementation support measures recommended in AER 2025 and reflected in the GEF-9 Adaptation Programming Strategy, the GEF Secretariat should ensure that the strategy's provisions on sustainability and scaling, including the dedicated section on sustainability of project outcomes (Section VII.F), the Project/Program-based Implementation Approach (PrIA), and enhanced monitoring commitments, are effectively operationalized during project design and approval. To translate these commitments into practice at entry, the GEF Secretariat should: (i) develop clear guidance or criteria to assess the adequacy of project-level sustainability strategies at the CEO endorsement stage; (ii) adopt realistic, risk-adjusted approaches in cofinancing, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected settings; and (iii) apply the new GEF-9 sub-indicators early to establish a portfolio-level baseline for post-project sustainability and scaling.

(b) **Recommendation 2: Strengthen quality-at-entry reviews to better align project design with implementation realities in LDCs and fragile and conflict-affected settings.** Building on the GEF Risk Appetite Framework (2024) and the time standards introduced in the GEF-9 Adaptation Programming Strategy, the GEF Secretariat should reinforce how projects submitted for CEO endorsement account for operating conditions in these contexts. This should complement existing efforts while ensuring that design assumptions are grounded in country realities. Specifically, the Secretariat should require that project proposals demonstrate: (i) realistic timelines calibrated to documented country-specific operating conditions; (ii) implementation arrangements aligned with institutional capacity, including consideration of dual execution modalities where appropriate; and (iii) contingency provisions, with built-in flexibility for reallocating resources to address risks such as procurement delays, cofinancing vulnerabilities linked to slow project start-up, and external shocks.

(c) **Recommendation 3: Strengthen the implementation and use of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems to improve outcomes and learning.** To address the gap between M&E design and implementation across the portfolio, the GEF Secretariat should take three specific actions: (i) assess, at quality-at-entry review, whether M&E staffing and budget provisions are adequate, going beyond proportionality to reflect the project's institutional context, with particular attention to LDCs and fragile and conflict-affected settings; (ii) include a systematic assessment of M&E system functioning as a standard element of Mid-Term Reviews; and (iii) link project-level M&E data to the portfolio-level analytics tools established under the GEF-9 Adaptation Programming Strategy, ensuring that project-level evidence feeds directly into portfolio-level learning and decision-making.

1. ANNEX A: GEF IEO ADAPTATION RESULTS TYPOLOGY

Conceptual Framework and Application to the LDCF/SCCF AER 2026 Portfolio

Classifying the outcomes of climate change adaptation investments has been a persistent challenge in evaluation practice. Biagini et al. (2014) provided the first systematic attempt, analyzing 92 GEF-financed adaptation projects across the LDCF, SCCF, and Strategic Priority for Adaptation to develop a typology of 10 adaptation action types, including capacity building, management and planning, policy reform, information, physical infrastructure, warning systems, green infrastructure, financing, technology, and community-based adaptation. That foundational work demonstrated that on-the-ground adaptation activities could be empirically classified into coherent categories, establishing a bridge between theoretical conceptions of adaptation and the practical reality of project implementation. Subsequent scholarship reinforced and extended this approach. Brooks et al. (2011) identified institutional capacity, knowledge systems, and governance structures as foundational prerequisites for effective adaptation, while Working Group II for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment Report (IPCC AR6; 2022) distinguished between incremental and transformational adaptation, emphasizing that achieving the latter requires moving beyond direct physical interventions to address root causes of vulnerability through institutional, financial, and systemic change.

The AER 2026 adaptation results typology builds on and consolidates these foundations. It synthesizes Biagini et al.'s original 10 categories into five higher-order impact types that capture both the traditional strengths of LDCF/SCCF programming and the emerging dimensions increasingly emphasized in the adaptation literature. The five categories are:

Institutional and policy change. Includes new or revised laws, policies, plans, and institutional arrangements. This category captures outcomes that alter the formal governance architecture within which adaptation takes place—from national climate strategies and subnational development plans to the establishment of dedicated coordination bodies and regulatory instruments. Drawing on the IPCC AR6 framing, institutional change is understood as a precondition for sustained and scalable adaptation.

Capacity and knowledge. Includes training, awareness, climate information systems, and knowledge products. This encompasses the human capital and informational infrastructure that enable communities, institutions, and governments to identify, assess, and respond to climate risks. Consistent with Brooks et al. (2011), the typology treats capacity and knowledge as a foundational layer that conditions the effectiveness of all other impact types.

On-the-ground resilience. Includes infrastructure, ecosystem-based adaptation measures, livelihood diversification, and agricultural adaptation. This is the category most directly aligned with the LDCF/SCCF mandate for "concrete adaptation" and captures the tangible, place-based interventions—from coastal revetments (i.e., retaining walls and similar structures) and

irrigation systems to agroforestry restoration and climate-smart agriculture—that reduce the physical exposure and sensitivity of vulnerable populations.

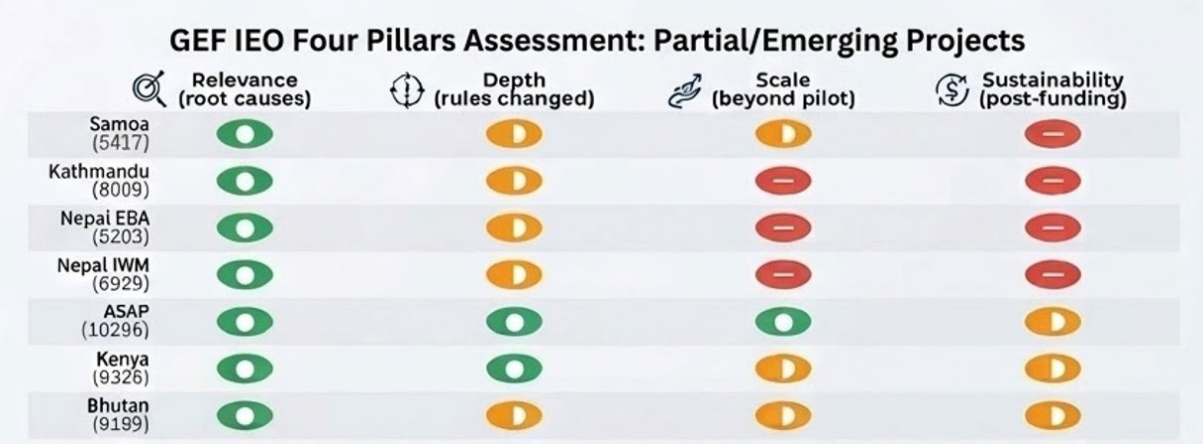
Finance and market access. Includes climate finance mobilization, insurance, value chains, and credit access. This category reflects the growing recognition in the adaptation literature that durable resilience requires economic instruments—revolving funds, risk transfer mechanisms, and market linkages—that sustain adaptation outcomes beyond the project cycle. The UNEP Adaptation Gap Report (2023) and the Global Commission on Adaptation (2024) identify this dimension as the "missing middle" in adaptation finance.

Catalytic or scaling effects. Includes replication, mainstreaming, policy uptake, and follow-on investment beyond the original project scope. This category captures the multiplier dimension—whether project-level results generate broader systemic change through policy adoption, spontaneous replication, or leveraging of additional investment. It operationalizes the IPCC AR6 concept of transformational adaptation by tracking whether interventions move from incremental, site-level benefits to system-wide shifts.

By consolidating 10 empirically derived categories into five analytically distinct impact types, the typology provides a practical lens for assessing what.LDCF/SCCF investments produce, where.the portfolio concentrates its effects, and which.dimensions.remain underdeveloped. The framework is applied to all 30 projects in the AER 2026 portfolio, using evidence from terminal and midterm evaluations to classify each project's delivered impacts and identify its primary adaptation outcome. The resulting analysis reveals a clear structural pattern: the portfolio's operational core lies in capacity, resilience, and institutional outcomes, while finance and catalytic effects represent a frontier where consistent delivery pathways have yet to emerge.

Sources: Biagini et al. 2014; Brooks et al. 2011; IPCC 2022; UNEP 2023; GCA 2024; GEF IEO 2024; Scolobig et al., 2023¡

2. ANNEX B: GEF IEO ASSESSMENT ON TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE



Source: GEF IEO.

3. ANNEX C: OUTCOME, SUSTAINABILITY, AND M&E RATINGS OF LDCF AND SCCF PROJECTS IN AER 2026

GEF ID	GEF replenishment period	Fund	Agency	Project title	Country	Grant (M$)	Outcome rating	Sustainability rating	M&E design at entry rating	M&E plan implementation rating
5111	GEF-5	LDCF	FAO	Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Adaptive Capacity to Respond to Impacts of Climate Change and Variability for Sustainable Livelihoods in Agriculture Sector in Nepal	Nepal	2.7	MS	ML	MU	U
5113	GEF-5	MTF	FAO	Enhancing Climate Change Resilience in the Benguela Current Fisheries System	Regional	4.7	MS	ML	MU	U
5125	GEF-5	SCCF	FAO	Smart Adaptation of Forest Landscapes in Mountain Areas (SALMA)	Lebanon	7.2	U	U	MU	MU
5133	GEF-5	MTF	World Bank	Senegal River Basin Climate Change Resilience Development Project	Regional	5.3	S	ML	S	S
5203	GEF-5	LDCF	UNEP	Catalysing Ecosystem Restoration for Climate Resilient Natural Capital and Rural Livelihoods in Degraded Forests and Rangelands of Nepal.	Nepal	5.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
5232	GEF-5	MTF	World Bank	Flood Control and Climate Resilience of Agriculture Infrastructures in Oueme Valley	Benin	7.2	MU	MS	MS	MS
5414	GEF-5	LDCF	UNDP	Enhancing National Food Security in the Context of Global Climate Change	Kiribati	4.0	MS	U	MS	MU
5417	GEF-5	LDCF	UNDP	Economy-wide Integration of Climate Change Adaptation and DRM/DRR to	Samoa	12.3	S	MU	S	MS

GEF ID	GEF replenishment period	Fund	Agency	Project title	Country	Grant (M$)	Outcome rating	Sustainability rating	M&E design at entry rating	M&E plan implementation rating
				Reduce Climate Vulnerability of Communities in Samoa						
5451	GEF-5	LDCF	World Bank	Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Services	Democratic Republic of the Congo	4.5	HS	ML	S	S
5462	GEF-5	LDCF	FAO	Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems to Improve Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in Lao PDR	Lao PDR	8.0	MS	MU	S	MS
5489	GEF-5	LDCF	FAO	Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas (CAWA)	Lao PDR	8.4	MS	MU	S	MS
5531	GEF-5	MTF	UNEP	Ecosystem Approach to Haiti Cote Sud	Haiti	6.2	S	MS	S	S
5782	GEF - 5	LDCF	FAO	Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change in the Gambia	The Gambia	5.3	S	ML	S	S
5867	GEF - 5	LDCF	UNDP	Promoting Innovative Finance and Community Based Adaptation in Communes Surrounding Community Natural Reserves	Senegal	10.9	S	ML	MU	MS
6914	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNDP	Adapting Afghan Communities to Climate-Induced Disaster Risks	Afghanistan	8.4	MS	MU	S	MS
6967	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNDP	CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	5.5	MS	MU	S	MS

GEF ID	GEF replenishment period	Fund	Agency	Project title	Country	Grant (M$)	Outcome rating	Sustainability rating	M&E design at entry rating	M&E plan implementation rating
6989	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNDP	Developing Climate Resilient Livelihoods in the Vulnerable Watershed in Nepal	Nepal	7	NA	NA	NA	NA
6991	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNDP	Senegal National Adaptation Plan	Senegal	5.7	S	ML	S	S
8001	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNDP	Community-based Climate Risks Management in Chad	Chad	5.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
8009	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNEP	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Climate-resilient Development in the Kathmandu Valley	Nepal	6.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
8015	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNDP	Enhancing Resilience of Liberia Montserrado County Vulnerable Coastal Areas to Climate Risks	Liberia	2	MS	U	MS	MU
8023	GEF - 6	LDCF	UNDP	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in Guinea	Guinea	3.8	MS	ML	S	MU
9197	GEF - 5	LDCF	ADB	Protecting Urban Areas Against the Impacts of Climate Change in Vanuatu	Vanuatu	4.2	S	ML	MS	S
9199	GEF - 6	MTF	UNDP	Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience of Forest and Agricultural Landscape and Community Livelihoods	Bhutan	3.9	HS	MU	HS	HS

GEF ID	GEF replenishment period	Fund	Agency	Project title	Country	Grant (M$)	Outcome rating	Sustainability rating	M&E design at entry rating	M&E plan implementation rating
9325	GEF - 5	LDCF	AfDB	RLACC - Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change in the Horn of Africa (PROGRAM) Djibouti	Djibouti	5	NA	NA	NA	NA
9326	GEF - 5	SCCF	AfDB	RLACC - Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change in the Horn of Africa (PROGRAM) Kenya	Kenya	2.6	S	L	S	NA
9512	GEF - 5	LDCF	ADB	Climate Resilience in the Outer Islands of Tuvalu	Tuvalu	0.5	NA	NA	NA	NA
10296	GEF - 7	SCCF	CI	Adaptation SME Accelerator Project (ASAP)	Global	5.3	S	ML	S	S
11459	GEF-8	MTF	UNEP	Promoting Integrated Natural Resources Management in Support of GGW in Chad (PINAMAC)	Chad	4.4	NA	NA	NA	NA
11550	GEF-8	LDCF	IFAD	Strengthening the resilience of smallholder farmers and ecosystems to the effects of climate change (STRADAP)	Chad	7.1	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: GEF IEO terminal evaluation review data set.

Notes: Grant is LDCF/SCCF/GEF funding approved at CEO endorsement, plus project preparation grant (PPG). Agency fees are excluded. M&E = monitoring and evaluation. Outcome, M&E design, and M&E implementation ratings are reported on a six-point rating scale: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). Sustainability ratings are reported on a four-point rating scale: Likely (L), Moderately Likely (ML), Moderately Unlikely (MU), Unlikely (U). ADB = Asian Development Bank; AfDB = African Development Bank; CI = Conservation International; FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; IDB = Inter-American Development Bank; IFAD = International Fund for Agricultural Development; LDCF = Least Developed Countries Fund; SCCF = Special Climate Change Fund; UNDP = United Nations Development Programme; UNEP = United Nations Environment Programme.

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