



Independent
Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report 2016

Program Evaluation of the SCCF

(Prepared by the Independent Evaluation Office of the GEF)

22nd LDCF/SCCF Council Meeting
May 25, 2017
Agenda Item 05 and 06

Introduction

- Fourth LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report
 - Report on performance of the funds and issues identified in the terminal evaluations reviewed

- Program Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)
 - Part of the Four-Year Work Program of the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the GEF as approved at the 18th LDCF/SCCF Council meeting

AER - Assessment of 2016 cohort of completed projects (1/2)

- **Assessment of documentation of 5 completed projects**
 - 5 LDCF projects (\$17.03 million in funding)
 - 4 national projects focused on climate risks and resilience
 - The global National Adaptation Plan (NAP) project, focused on assisting Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with country-driven processes to advance their NAPs
 - All national projects address primary priority areas as outlined in their respective NAPA country reports
 - 4 projects had outcome ratings in the satisfactory range
 - 3 projects had sustainability ratings in the likely range

AER - Assessment of 2016 Cohort of completed projects (2/2)

➤ Quality of M&E

- All 5 projects received 'M&E design at entry' ratings in the satisfactory range
- All 5 projects were equally rated in the satisfactory range for the 'M&E plan implementation' element.

➤ Innovative approaches

- Clear innovative elements were identified in 4 of the 5 completed projects
- Innovative approaches identified/innovations introduced are
 - Sustainable pisciculture methods
 - Short-cycle, high yielding and climate resistant crops and seeds
 - New participatory land use planning tools
 - The adaptation of climate early warning systems to forest management use

AER - Gender Considerations

- A quality-at-entry analysis shows that none of the five projects provide explicit gender considerations as part of the description of their project activities.
- None of the projects included an overarching women inclusion, empowerment, or gender mainstreaming strategy or approach
- The 5 projects part of the 2016 cohort were assessed against the new gender rating.
 - 4 projects were rated ‘gender aware’ and one project was rated ‘gender blind’ in a quality-at-entry analysis.
 - Upon completion, 1 project rated ‘gender aware’ improved to ‘gender sensitive’, while another project rated ‘gender aware’ was downgraded to ‘gender blind’.
 - None of the projects were rated ‘gender mainstreamed’

AER - Synthesis of Lessons Learned

Most lessons relate to standard good practices in project management, communication and stakeholder involvement, and M&E

- Project results need to be integrated into current or future government activities to increase ownership and potentially sustainability.
- Sensitization and trainings will not automatically translate into capacity. It would be useful for future projects to examine the variables that can be improved for long-term sustainable capacity-building.
- Project monitoring information can provide notice of possible risks maturing, and can feed into adaptive management mechanisms to mitigate potential damage.

AER - Management Action Record

The MAR tracks the adoption of the LDCF/SCCF Council decision on the Program Evaluation of the LDCF.

- Recommendation 1 on predictable, adequate and sustainable funding of the Fund. Efforts made to share information on pipeline. IEO encourages the Secretariat to develop a more systematic mechanism to promote the predictable, adequate and sustainable financing of the LDCF.
 - Rating - medium
- Recommendation 2 on understanding and application of the gender policy and the GEAP. Encouraging focus on gender gap analysis. The issuance of further guidance on the implementation of the gender mainstreaming policy would be helpful.
 - Rating - medium
- Recommendation 3 on PMIS accuracy. Work is progressing, but has not resulted in a clear picture of quality improvement.
 - Rating - negligible

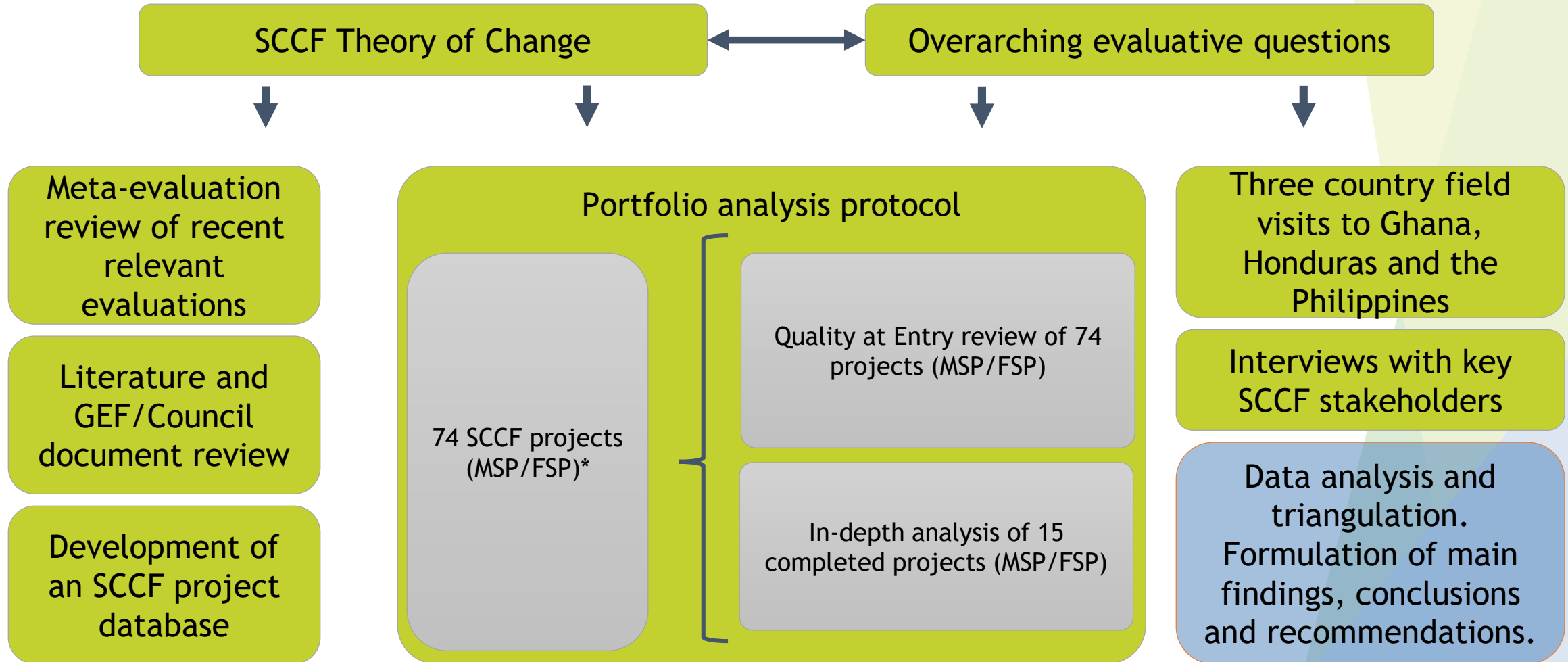
AER - Council Decision

- The IEO is not asking for a Council decision on the AER
- The IEO will continue developing the AER as the portfolio matures to become a robust source of information and a tool for decision making

SCCF Program Evaluation - Overarching Evaluative Questions

- **Relevance** - How relevant is SCCF support in light of UNFCCC COP guidance and decisions, and the GEF adaptation programming strategy?
- **Effectiveness and Efficiency** - How effective and efficient is the SCCF and its portfolio in reaching its objectives, based on emerging results?
- **Results and Sustainability** - What are the emerging results of the SCCF and its portfolio and factors that affect the sustainability and resilience of these results?

SCCF Program Evaluation - Methodology



* Included all CEO endorsed/approved, under implementation and completed projects. Total number of SCCF projects in PMIS - including cancelled, dropped, rejected and PIF rejected - equals 117.

SCCF Program Evaluation - Conclusions (1-4/8)

- **Conclusion 1:** SCCF support has been highly relevant to UNFCCC guidance, to GEF adaptation strategic objectives, and to countries' national environmental and sustainable development goals and agendas.
- **Conclusion 2:** The relevance of SCCF support to other, non-adaptation GEF focal areas - and to GEF's global environmental benefits - is limited.
- **Conclusion 3:** The SCCF's niche within the global adaptation finance arena has been its accessibility for non-Annex I countries, and its support for innovative adaptation projects.
- **Conclusion 4:** The SCCF portfolio is highly likely to deliver tangible adaptation benefits and catalytic effects.

SCCF Program Evaluation - Conclusions (5-8/8)

- **Conclusion 5:** The ultimate catalytic effect of scaling-up often demands further investments.
- **Conclusion 6:** The SCCF's effectiveness and efficiency has been seriously undermined by limited and unpredictable resources.
- **Conclusion 7:** The gender sensitivity of the SCCF portfolio has strengthened over time, with this improvement almost certainly influenced by the GEF's Policy on Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Equality Action Plan.
- **Conclusion 8:** There are significant discrepancies in project data from the GEF Secretariat's Project Management Information System (PMIS).

SCCF Program Evaluation - Recommendations

- **Recommendation 1:** Reaffirming and strengthening a recommendation from the previous SCCF Program Evaluation in 2011, the GEF Secretariat should prioritize the development of mechanisms that ensure predictable, adequate and sustainable financing for the Fund, given its support for, and focus on innovation.
- **Recommendation 2:** The GEF Secretariat should articulate and publicly communicate the SCCF's niche within the global adaptation finance landscape, to include an explicit statement regarding the SCCF's relation with - and complementarity to - the Green Climate Fund.
- **Recommendation 3:** The GEF Secretariat should ensure that PMIS data is up to date and accurate.

SCCF Program Evaluation - Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.22/ME/02, *Program Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Fund* and GEF/LDCF.SCCF.22/ME/03, *Management Response to the Program Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Fund*, takes note of the conclusions of the evaluation and endorses the recommendations.

A scenic landscape featuring a coastline with steep, grassy mountains. The foreground shows a grassy slope leading down to a body of water. The mountains are covered in green grass and have some rocky patches. The sky is filled with white and grey clouds, with some blue visible. The text "Thank you!" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Thank you!

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