Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

IEO Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

ENHANCING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THROUGH EXCELLENCE IN EVALUATION

Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

SEMI-ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT

December 2018

OVERVIEW

1. Evaluative Approach to Assessing GEF's Additionality
2. Evaluation of GEF's Support to Mainstreaming Biodiversity
3. Evaluation of the GEF-UNIDO Global Cleantech Innovation Programme

4. Evaluation Work in Progress
5. Knowledge Management
6. Peer Review of the Independent Evaluation Function

SECTION ONE

EVALUATIVE APPROACH TO ASSESSING GEF'S ADDITIONALITY

IEO Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Rationale

- Limitations of the Incremental Cost Approach in measuring direct and indirect impacts
- Incremental Cost Reasoning is often generic and 40% of projects have no quantitative environmental baseline
- Limited common understanding of additionality beyond the specific global environmental benefits.
- The GEF's contributions may have been under-estimated and GEF's additionality goes beyond incremental reasoning.

Interest across the partnership for a better representation of GEF's additionality in keeping up with the times….

The current thinking on additionality

- Expansion of the additionality concept in MDBs beyond project objectives

- Academic interest in broadening the concept of additionality

TYPES

- Financial and development
- Environmental
- Risk mitigation
- Policy setting
- Knowledge/innovation
- Standard setting
- …

Propose Six Areas of GEF's Additionality

Specific Environmental Additionality

Legal/Regulatory Additionality

Institutional/Governance Additionality

Innovation Additionality

Financial Additionality

Socio-Economic Additionality

GEF's additionality in Chemicals and Waste: Morocco

Legal/Regulatory Additionality

Institutional/Governance Additionality

Specific Environmental Additionality

Conclusions & Recommendation

- ✓ The broader approach to additionality developed would strengthen GEF's based approach in the GEF 7 programming directions.
- ✓ The 'Theory of Change' serves as a fundamental tool to assess the GEF's additionality and pathways for reaching project impact need to be spelled out clearly.
- ✓ Measurement of outcomes and impacts will be instrumental in demonstrating additionality.

***Recommendation**: The Council endorses the application of this approach to capture GEF's additionality in IEO evaluations. This will be reflected in the Evaluation Policy and in an update to the Terminal Evaluation Guidelines.*

SECTION TWO

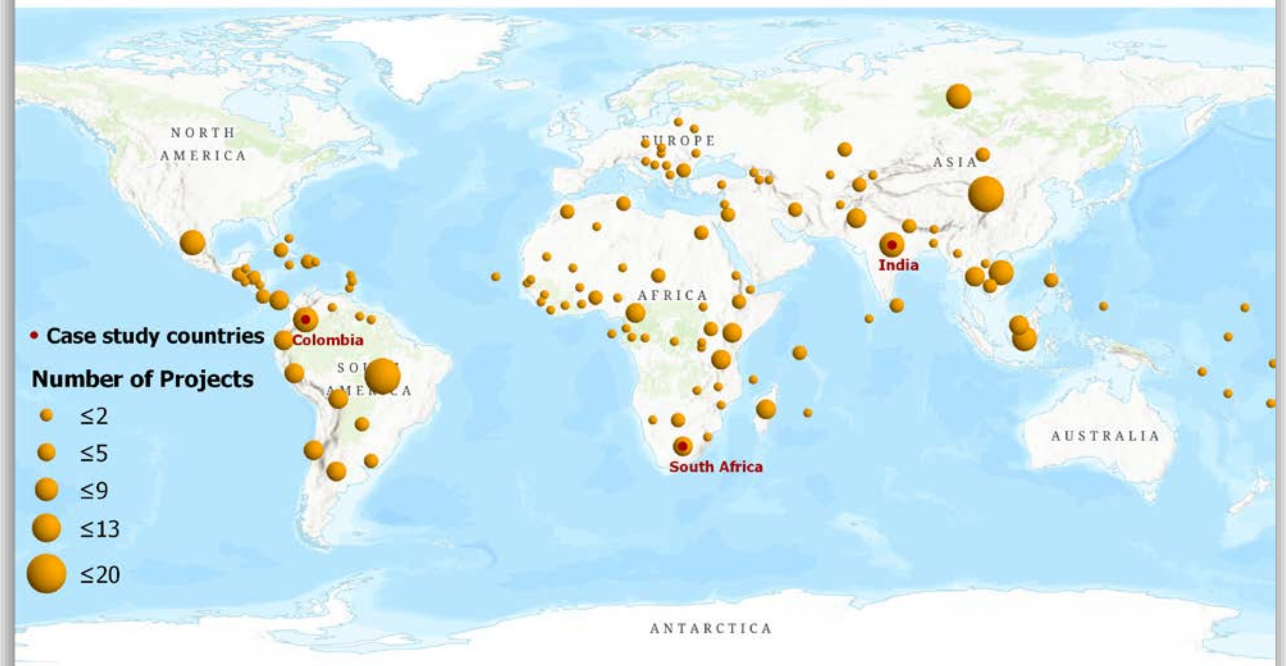
EVALUATION OF GEF SUPPORT TO BIODIVERSITY MAINSTREAMING

Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Background

- Biodiversity Mainstreaming in GEF has its roots in CBD as a concept (article 4)
- Gained momentum under GEF-3, has been an specific objective of the BDFA from GEF-4 onwards.
- The portfolio since GEF 3 comprises 471 projects with $2.34 billion in grants and $12.73 billion in co-financing.

Global distribution of mainsteaming biodiversity projects



Using a mixed method approach, the evaluation draws on portfolio analysis and in-depth country studies.

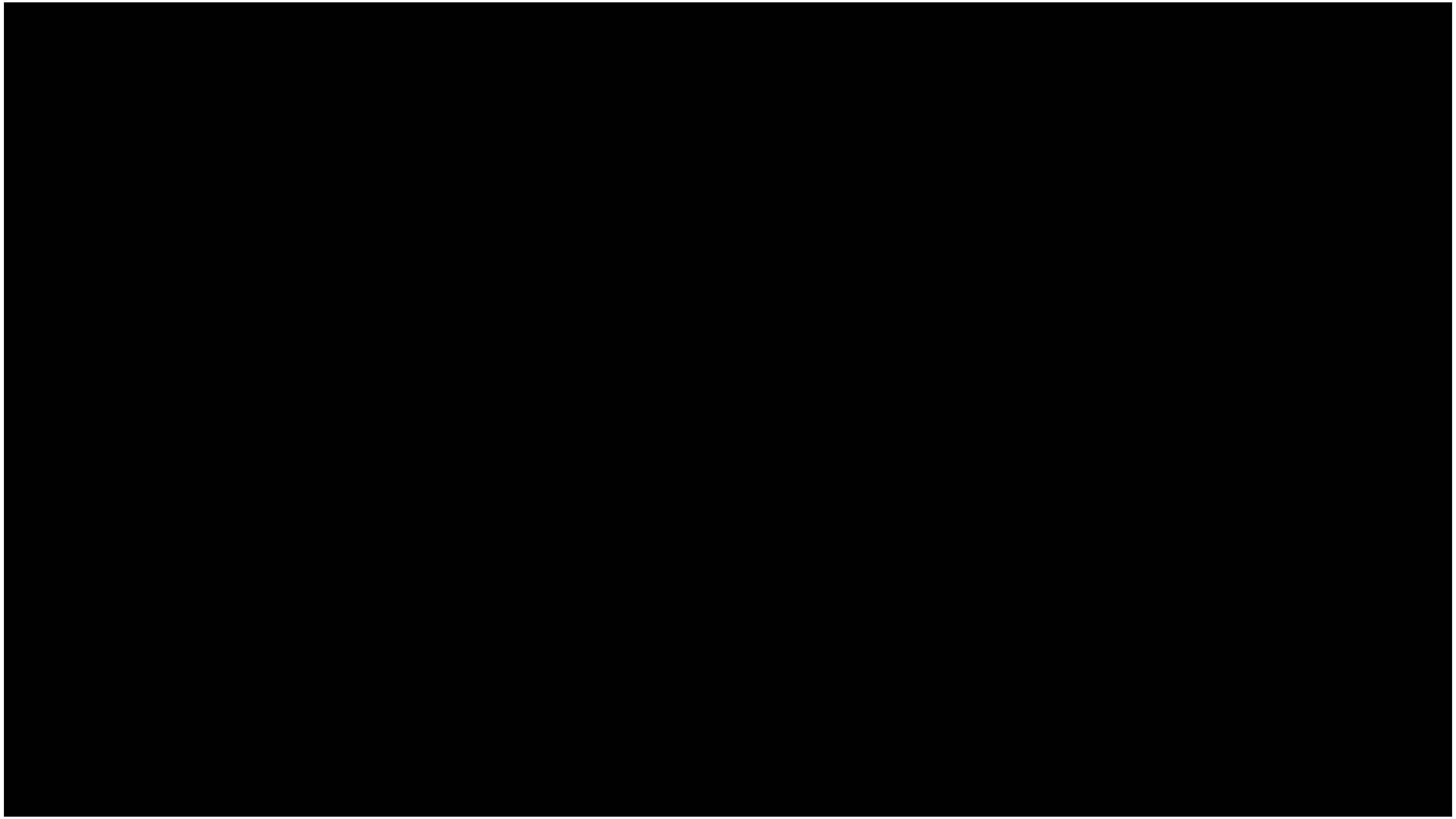
Portfolio

- Projects numbers and levels of grant funding have been consistent between GEF-3 and GEF-5, with a small increase in number of projects in GEF-6.
- Co-financing ratio is 1:6 during GEF-6, in line with targets
- Projects are proportionally distributed across GEF regions.
- Over half the portfolio is in forestry, agriculture or allied sectors.

Performance:

- 85% of the projects have satisfactory outcomes. High ratings in implementation and execution quality; lower ratings for M&E and sustainability.

Colombia: Case Study



South Africa: Case Study

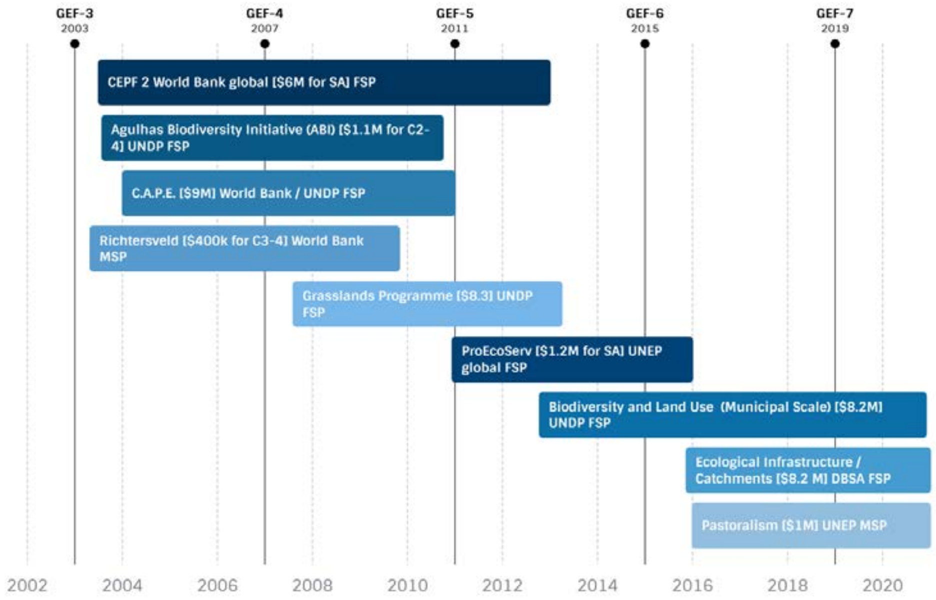
- Country context around biodiversity loss: high levels of poverty and inequality, low levels of education and employment, urgent need for rapid, broad-based economic growth, and for delivery of services

- The GEF biodiversity strategy and relevant programming played an important role in South Africa's biodiversity mainstreaming journey.

- GEF has supported 9 mainstreaming projects (USD 62 million in grants) with additional projects focusing on PAs with smaller mainstreaming components.

- Spatial planning, data and tools, and financial mechanisms have been the main mechanism for mainstreaming BD

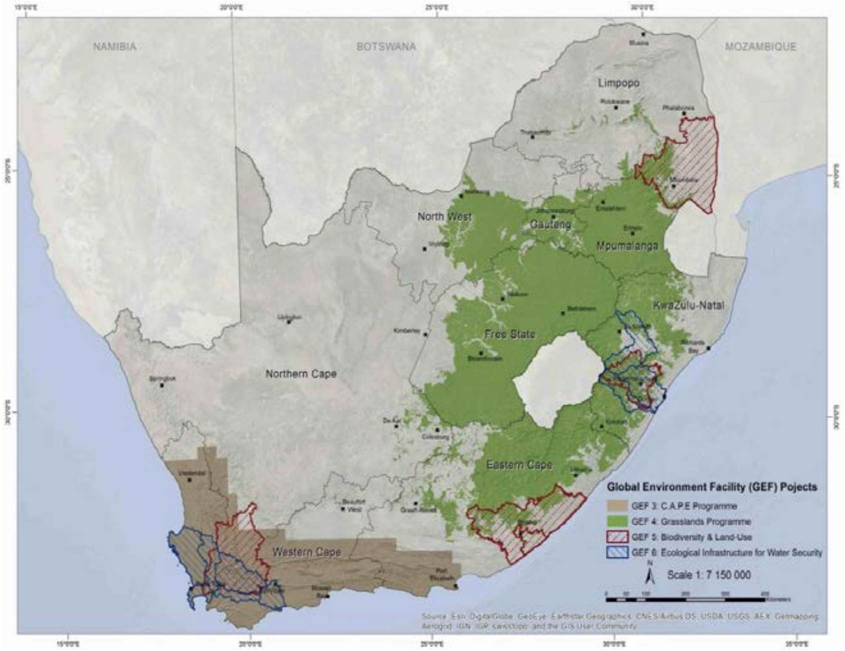
Timeline overview of GEF mainstreaming projects in South Africa (GEF-3 to GEF-6)



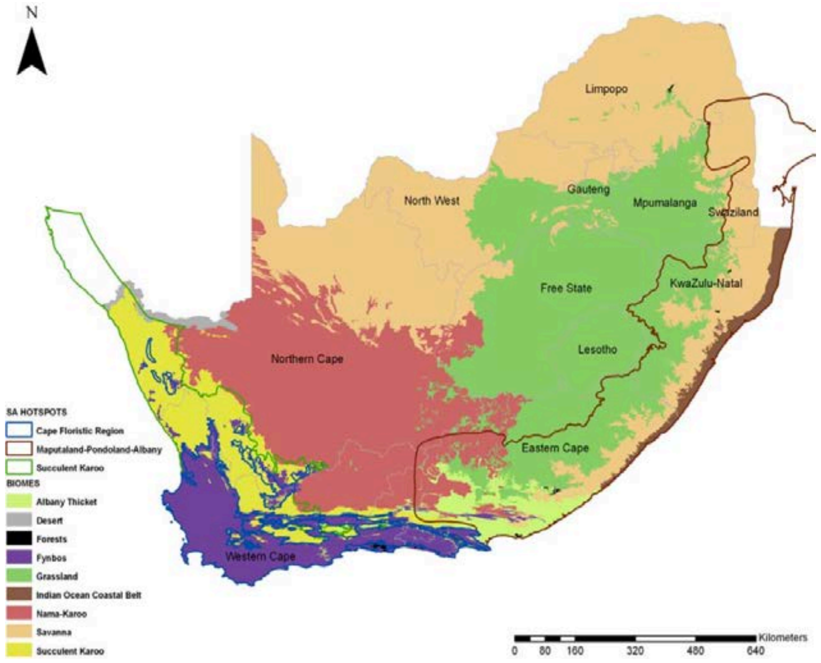
Projects listing components [C] are mixed mainstreaming / Protected Areas interventions.

South Africa: Case Study

Location of GEF biodiversity mainstreaming projects



Major biomes and globally-recognized biodiversity hotspots



- ***GEF projects are located in major biomes and globally recognized biodiversity hotspots reflecting high relevance***

South Africa: Findings

- High value added role in enabling South Africa's mainstreaming journey. *For e.g. the Table Mountain Fund, a unique financial mechanism for mainstreaming.*

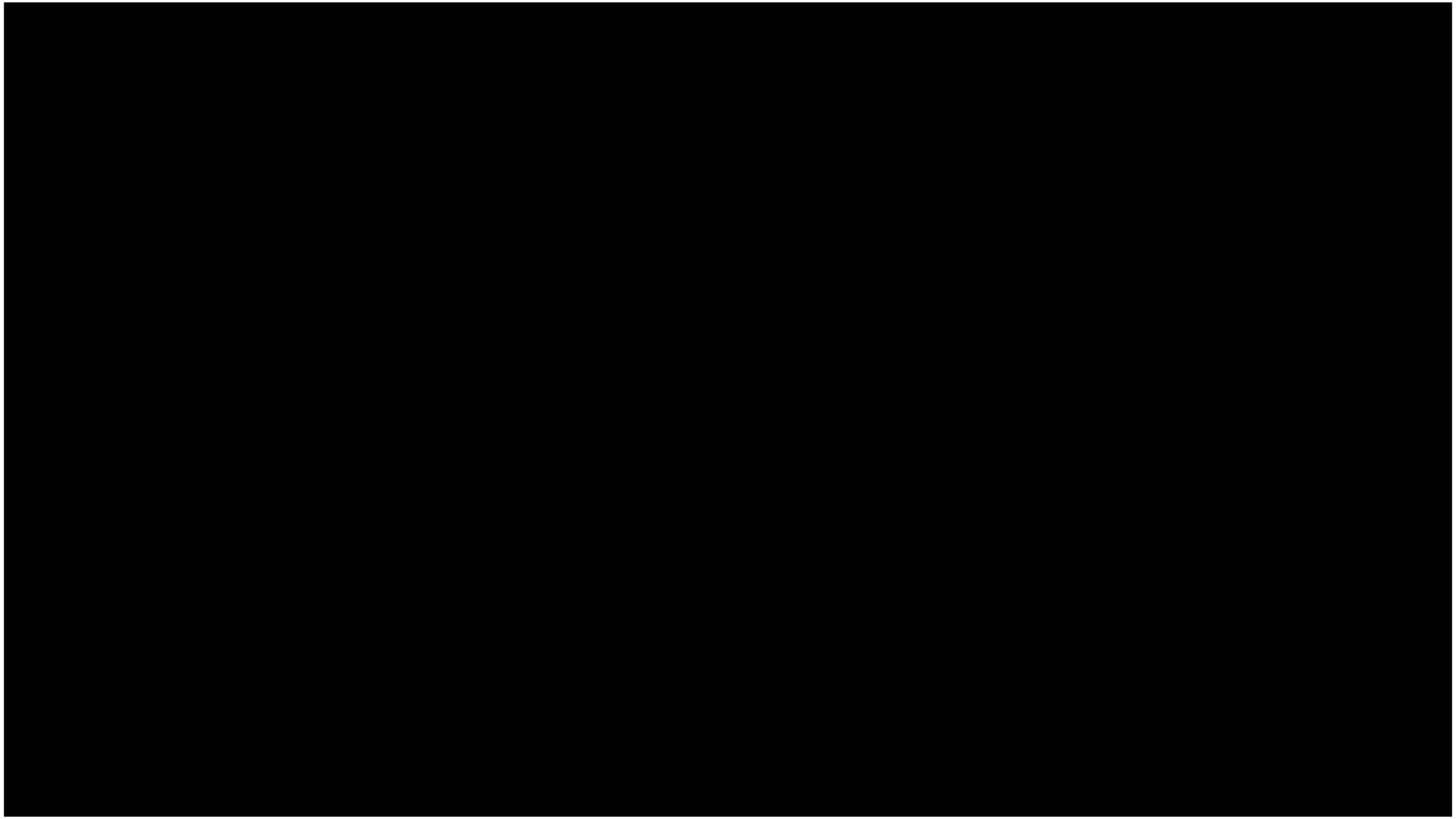
- Enabled private sector funding via co-financing in the mining, wine and tourism sectors

- Supported creation of a central knowledge hub assisting scale up.

Mainstreaming requires trust, mutual learning and integration across-sectors and institutions.

Biodiversity Mainstreaming

India: Case Study



Overall: Findings and Conclusions

- **Relevance:** Played significant role in the implementation of CBD, instrumental in supporting national policy reform and planning frameworks.
- **Additionality:** Contributed to legal-environmental, regulatory, governance, and socio-economic additionalities going beyond incremental cost benefits.
- **Project Design:**
  - Most projects explicitly designed to address recognized threats to biodiversity.
  - GEF Theory of Change provides a sound conceptual basis for project design; implementation is a challenge. e.g. in considering externalities
  - Current M&E framework has limited focus on quantitative measures, outcomes & impacts.

Factors Influencing Success

- ✓ **Alignment** with National plans/policies, development objectives
- ✓ **Sustainability** of resources – institutional, financial, human, longer project time frames
- ✓ **Long-term strategic partnerships** with credible/nationally recognized knowledge organizations with proven expertise in biodiversity conservation
- ✓ **Engagement** with key stakeholders groups or grassroots organizations/coalitions,
- ✓ **Collaboration** with central government to link relevant policy and planning bodies at the central/federal level with project execution
- ✓ Finally--good governance, political will, champions for change, cutting across institutional silos, and capacity are preconditions

Recommendations

- *Design mainstreaming interventions with a longer-term perspective and a resource envelope to ensure sustainability.*
- *Improve and strengthen M&E design and implementation.*
- *The GEF should continue to leverage its convening power to improve policy design and process and strengthen inter-ministerial and inter-sectoral collaboration.*
- *Include a systematic analysis of associated benefits and trade-offs in project design.*

SECTION THREE

EVALUATION OF THE GEF-UNIDO GLOBAL CLEANTECH INNOVATION PROGRAMME (GCIP)

Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Why Evaluate GCIP?

Part of IEO Evaluations of GEF'S Private Sector Engagement

GCIP targets cleantech for-profit SMEs/startups

GCIP targets Climate Change Focal Area

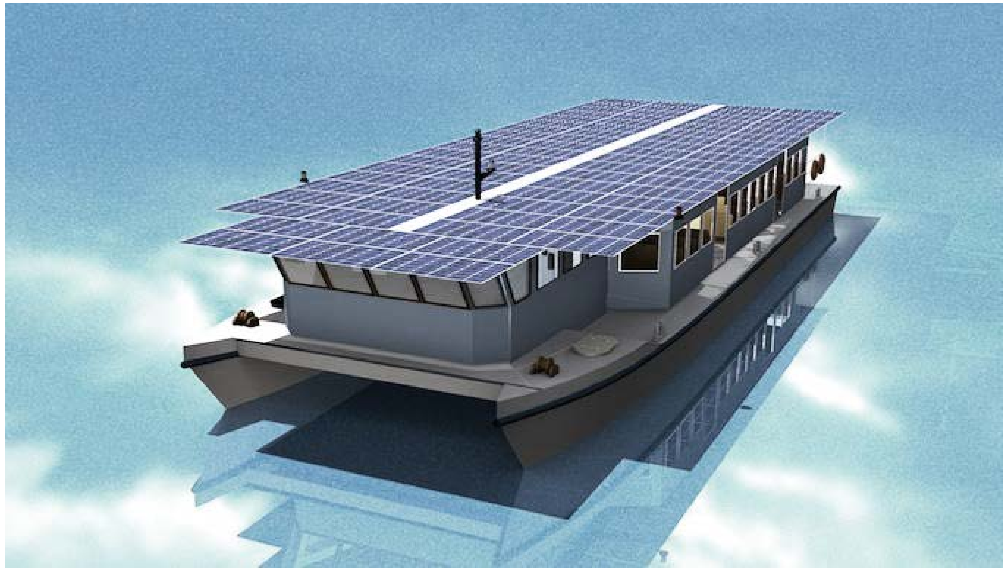
Evaluation Objectives & Methods

Key Evaluation Questions:

- Relevant?
- Effective?
- Direct and Indirect Impacts?
- Additionality?
- Sustainability of Outcomes?

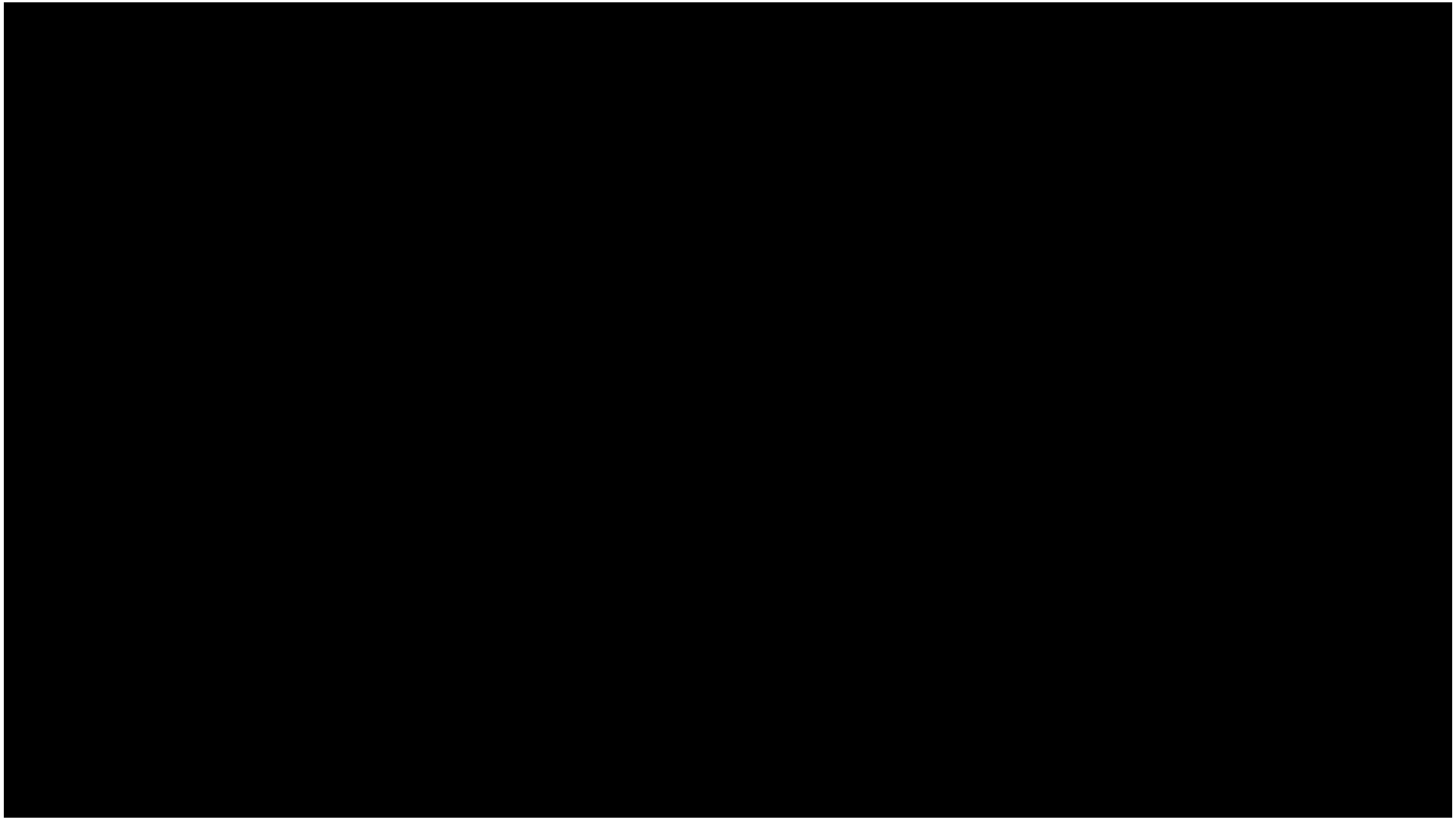
Mixed Methods Approach:

- Literature Review
- Project Documents Review
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Online Survey
- Collaboration with UNIDO on Terminal Evaluation Field Visits



NavAlt Solar. India's First Solar Ferry

Cleantech



Summarizing Evaluation Findings

There was a need and opportunity in the chosen GCIP countries to develop the cleantech space

All GCIP startups (795 in 2017; 25% women-led) are developing innovations with environmental and social benefits

Business Development Training, Mentorship and *Opportunities to Showcase Technologies* most beneficial elements

Findings Continued…

Project performance has improved over time through support for business acceleration, capacity building and institutional strengthening

GHG reductions are foreseen over a 10 year period

At least 12 startups were able to access finance ranging from $US 5,000-$US 1.9 million attributable to GCIP

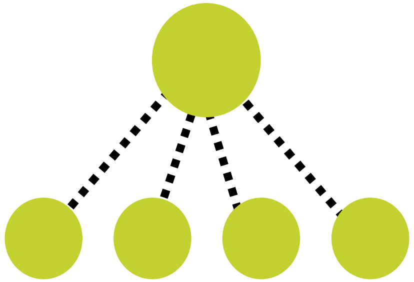
GCIP Additionality

GCIP Additionality

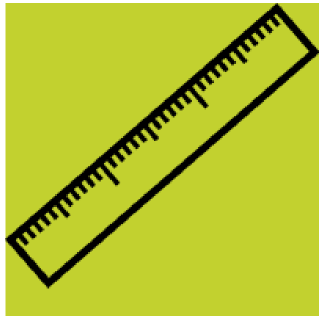
GCIP projects were designed to address additionality of GEF involvement in the projects

Challenges…

Policy and regulatory strengthening additionality was not realized in a meaningful way



Global coordination between country projects was not readily realized



Focus on tracking outputs rather than outcomes

Recommendations

Future programs similar to GCIP should use a globally coordinated approach

Allow sufficient time for policy strengthening and regulatory frameworks

Measure GCIP's direct and indirect impacts

GCIP should actively support national-level coordination

Expand the network of private sector partners

Deepen country engagement, including a plan and resourcing

Evaluations Underway

June 2019

Annual Performance Report with a focus on Transportation
Evaluation of GEF Support to Scaling Up Impacts
Value for Money Analysis of GEF Support to Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+ projects
The GEF Evaluation Policy

Fall 2019

Strategic Country Cluster Evaluations:

- African Biomes
- LDCs
- SIDS

Spring 2020

Evaluation of GEF Medium-Sized Projects

Knowledge Management

Sharing OPS6

http://www.gefieo.org/evaluations/ops-period/ops6

Knowledge sharing

IWC9

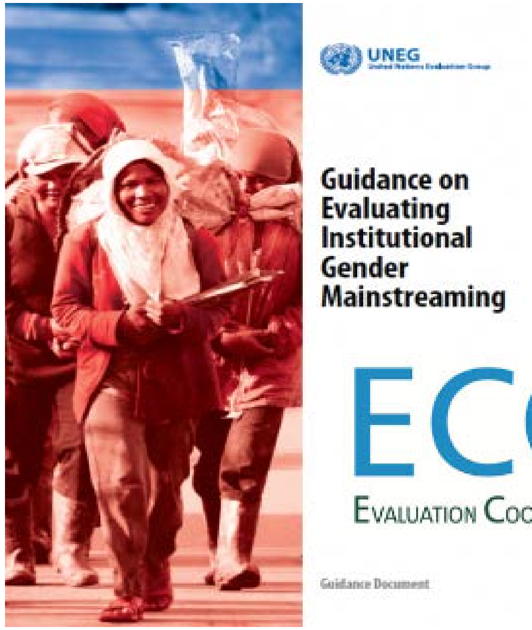
UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
Investing in biodiversity for people and planet
COP14 - CP/MOP9 - NP/MOP3
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 2018

COP24 · KATOWICE 2018
UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

GREEN CLIMATE FUND | Independent Evaluation Unit

Evaluation networks

Earth-Eval

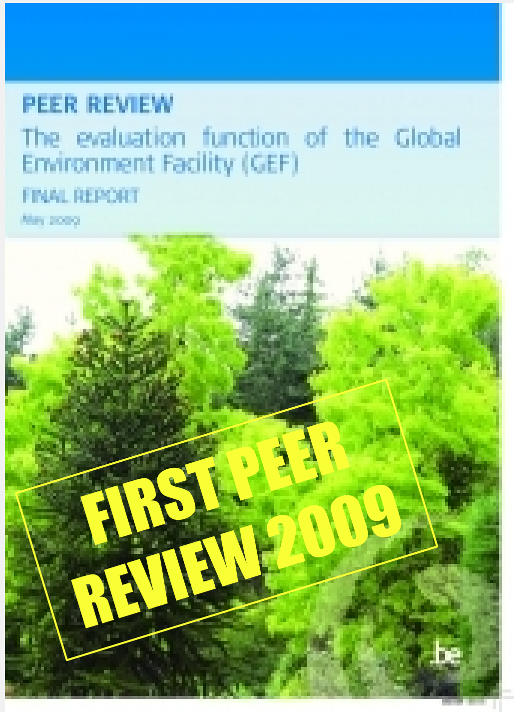


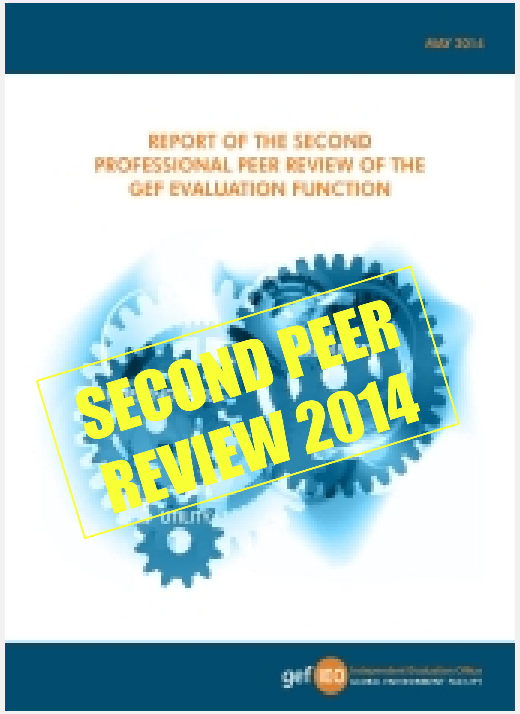
ECG
EVALUATION COOPERATION GROUP

Peer Review of the Independent Evaluation Function

Contributions to accountability and learning

DAC/UNEG Framework for Professional Peer Reviews





THIRD PEER REVIEW

TOR: June 2019

Estimated Budget: $125,000

Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

SEMI-ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT

December 2018

Independent Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL DECISION

The Council, having reviewed the "Semi-Annual Evaluation Report of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office: November 2018," endorses the recommendations of the evaluations included. The Council endorses the proposal for the peer review of the Independent Evaluation Office.