I. DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

Impact in general: Positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term effects produced by an intervention, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended (OECD/DAC 2002). This definition is used by the Development Assistance Committee Evaluation Network of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Evaluation Cooperation Group of the International Financial Institutions, and the UN Evaluation Group.

The goal of the GEF is to achieve **environmental impact,** which is defined as positive changes in biological, chemical and physical parameters that could take the following forms:

- **Stress reduction:** decrease, prevention or slowdown of the degradation, destruction or contamination of the components of an ecosystem *e.g. better protection/enforcement, improved management effectiveness, banning of destructive technology, waste treated, habitat restored*
- **Improved environmental status:** positive changes in the state of the ecosystem or any of its components. *e.g. improved water quality/ nutrient concentration, higher habitat cover, higher species population*

Over time, stress reduction leads to improvements in environmental status. Impact measurement thus has a **time dimension**, significantly longer than project duration, as many biophysical processes that the GEF aims to influence take a long time to mature—from 20 to 30 years before an ecosystem is brought back to a healthy status to 50 years before the ozone layer is restored. This time dimension is identified in terms of the following:

- **Direct impact:** changes attributable to an intervention; i.e. habitat restoration for a specific species, which can show quick impact (within a few years)
- **Long-term impact:** changes emerging over time through long-duration biophysical processes

Furthermore, impact has a **space dimension**; it can be measured at different geographical, socio-ecological, or administrative scales. Impact can be measured

- at single sites or local administrative units and markets,
- at multiple disconnected sites, local administrative units or markets,
- across landscapes or seascapes,
- across national, regional or global markets,
- across national administrative units,
- across regions, or
- worldwide.

The GEF aims to influence social-economic processes to effect changes in biophysical systems: climate, biodiversity-rich ecosystems, sustainable land use systems, and so on. **Large-scale impact**, occurring at a landscape, seascape, market, or higher scales is measured through both biophysical and socioeconomic parameters that identify the dynamics of the system. Large-scale changes tend to have no attribution as too many actors and processes of interaction occur, but may have identification of contribution.

Impacts may have local and global significance. Saving a unique local species has global impact; it has local impact as well, as it may be a source of eco-tourism income. **Globally significant impacts** have local impact as well, but not all **local impacts** have global significance. **Social and economic impacts** are studied to determine whether behavior changes reduce or enhance threats and whether they lead to sustainable development.

Although GEF support can aim at processes taking place at different levels (local, national, regional or global), the aim is to transform the ways and systems by which humans interact with the environment. GEF contributions to such transformations typically take place through the *broader adoption* of the outcomes of GEF support by stakeholders through the following processes:

Sustaining: Interventions originally supported by GEF continue to be implemented by stakeholders without GEF support to demonstrate the benefits and provide benefits for adoption by other stakeholders beyond the original project scope.

Mainstreaming: Information, lessons, or specific results of GEF are incorporated into broader stakeholder mandates and initiatives such as laws, policies, regulations, and programs. This may occur through governments and/or through development organizations and other sectors.

Replication: GEF-supported initiatives are reproduced or adopted at a comparable administrative or ecological scale, often in another geographical area or region.

Scaling-up: GEF-supported initiatives are implemented in larger geographical areas, often expanded to include new aspects or concerns that may be political, administrative, economic or ecological in nature.

Market change: GEF-supported initiatives help catalyze market transformation by influencing the supply of and/or demand for goods and services that contribute to global environmental benefits. This may encompass technological changes, policy and regulatory reforms, and financial instruments.

SOME WAYS BY WHICH GEF CATALYZES PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPACT

a) Promoting champions - developing capacities of existing leaders to eventually take on more prominent roles, and consequently advocate GEF-supported technologies and approaches in other arenas (note: capacities refers to leadership capacities/ opportunities rather than specific skills)
b) Building on promising initiatives - supporting components of existing initiatives that might otherwise not be supported by the original non-GEF funding sources
c) Raising profile of initiatives - attracting new cofinancing (in addition to the cofinancing identified in original project document), implementation priority, and other forms of stakeholder support from government and other stakeholders for existing initiatives
d) Removal of barriers - supporting components that enable the removal of specific obstacles that have blocked further progress, or that have prevented existing initiatives from moving forward
e) Accelerating innovation - introducing or supporting new elements or concepts into existing management regimes (often already tested elsewhere by other actors), and in this way dealing with the inherent risks and speeding up the adoption of these innovative elements that contribute to global environmental benefits that countries themselves may otherwise implement much later

I. Assessment of Project Impacts

8.1 Environmental Change. Describe the changes in environmental stress and environmental status that occurred by the end of the project. Include both quantitative and qualitative changes documented, sources of information for these changes, and how project activities contributed to or hindered these changes. Also include how contextual factors have contributed to or hindered these changes.

8.2 Socioeconomic change. Describe any changes in human well-being (income, education, health, community relationships, etc.) that occurred by the end of the project. Include both quantitative and qualitative changes documented, sources of information for these changes, and how project activities contributed to or hindered these changes. Also include how contextual factors have contributed to or hindered these changes.

8.3 Capacity and governance changes. Describe notable changes in capacities and governance that can lead to large-scale action (both mass and legislative) bringing about positive environmental change. "Capacities" include awareness, knowledge, skills, infrastructure, and environmental monitoring systems, among others. "Governance" refers to decision-making processes, structures and systems, including access to and use of information, and thus would include laws, administrative bodies, trust-building and conflict resolution processes, information-sharing systems, etc. Indicate how project activities contributed to/ hindered these changes, as well as how contextual factors have influenced these changes.

a) Capacities

b) Governance

8.4 Unintended impacts. Describe any impacts not targeted by the project, whether positive or negative, affecting either ecological or social aspects. Indicate the factors that contributed to these unintended impacts occurring.

8.5 Adoption of GEF initiatives at scale. Identify any initiatives (e.g. technologies, approaches, financing instruments, implementing bodies, legal frameworks, information systems) that have been mainstreamed, replicated and/or scaled up by government and other stakeholders by project end. Include the extent to which this broader adoption has taken place, e.g. if plans and resources have been established but no actual adoption has taken place, or if market change and large-scale environmental benefits have begun to occur. Indicate how project activities and other contextual factors contributed to these taking place. If broader adoption has not taken place as expected, indicate which factors (both project-related and contextual) have hindered this from happening.

1. Environmental Change

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE REPORTED [a]	DETAILS [b]	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	GEF-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE	NON-GEF ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE

[a] Reduction in environmental stress, improvement in environmental status, or maintained status (implying reduced stress), whether intended or unintended.
[b] Before/ after, quantitative/ qualitative, scale of change in relation to targeted area/ unit and scale of environmental concern being addressed

2. Socioeconomic Change

SOCIOECONOMIC CHANGE REPORTED [a]	DETAILS [b]	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	GEF-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE	NON-GEF ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE

[a] Income, education, health, community relationships, treatment of marginalized groups, gender roles, etc., whether intended or unintended.
[b] Before/ after, quantitative/ qualitative, scale of change in relation to targeted area/ unit and scale of environmental concern being addressed

3. Negative or Absent Impacts

NEGATIVE CHANGE REPORTED [a]	DETAILS [b]	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	GEF-RELATED FACTORS LINKED TO NEGATIVE RESULT	NON-GEF FACTORS LINKED TO NEGATIVE RESULT

[a] May refer to actual negative changes or to lack of improvements where change was expected, implying failure of interventions to achieve impact; includes both environmental and social impacts
[b] Before/ after, quantitative/ qualitative, scale of change in relation to targeted area/ unit and scale of environmental concern being addressed

4. Change in Capacities for Achieving Environmental Benefits

REPORTED CHANGE IN CAPACITIES [a]	DETAILS [b]	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	GEF-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE	NON-GEF ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE

[a] Awareness, knowledge, skills, infrastructure, information management systems, etc.

[b] Before/ after, quantitative/ qualitative, scale of change in relation to targeted area/ unit and scale of environmental concern being addressed; typically assessed through change in mass behavior (e.g. compliance with regulations, participation)/ institutional activities

5. Change in Governance Architecture Enabling Achievement of Environmental Benefits

REPORTED CHANGE RELATED TO GOVERNANCE [a]	DETAILS [b]	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	GEF-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE	NON-GEF ACTIVITIES/ FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE

[a] Refers to decision-making processes, structures and systems, including access to and use of information; includes laws, administrative bodies, policy frameworks, trust-building and conflict resolution processes, information-sharing systems, etc.

[b] Before/ after, quantitative/ qualitative, scale of change in relation to targeted area/ unit and scale of environmental concern being addressed; typically evidenced by enactment, implementation and/ or enforcement of legislation and other binding agreements, and regular allocation of resources for implementation

6. Broader Adoption of GEF-Supported Interventions Leading to Environmental Benefits

GEF-SUPPORTED INTERVENTION ADOPTED [a]	BROADER ADOPTION PROCESS TAKING PLACE [b]	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	GEF-SUPPORTED FACTORS/ ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTING TO BROADER ADOPTION	NON-GEF FACTORS/ ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTING TO BROADER ADOPTION

[a] Technologies, management approaches, financing instruments, implementing bodies, legal frameworks, environmental monitoring systems, skills training systems, etc.

[b] Type of broader adoption process/es, stakeholders adopting the intervention, scale of change in relation to targeted area/ unit and scale of environmental concern being addressed, any environmental and social impacts beginning to emerge

II. OVER-ALL RATINGS

1. Environmental impact

[X]	RATING	DESCRIPTION	EVALUATOR REMARKS
	High impact achieved	Stress reduction occurring or environmental status improving at a large scale (i.e. across the landscape/ seascape or market)	
	Impact achieved	Significant stress reduction occurring or environmental status improving at low scales (i.e. in specific or disconnected areas)	
	Some impact	Stress reduction occurring or environmental status improving at	

	achieved	low scales (i.e. in specific or disconnected areas) but extent of impact not significant compared to the dedicated resources	
	No impact achieved	No positive environmental impact observed	
	Negative impact	Some negative impacts observed	
	Unable to assess	Available information insufficient	

2. Broader adoption by stakeholders of GEF-supported initiatives

[X]	RATING	DESCRIPTION	EVALUATOR REMARKS
	Highly successful	Broader adoption of most GEF-supported initiatives taking place at a large scale (i.e. across a country, region or market)	
	Mostly successful	Broader adoption of some GEF-supported initiatives taking place at a large scale; other initiatives also adopted but mostly at lower scales	
	Successful	Broader adoption of GEF-supported initiatives taking place at low scales (i.e. within local administrative units or markets)	
	Partially successful	Plans for broader adoption well-established with supporting resources and institutional framework in place, but mostly not yet implemented	
	Unsuccessful	GEF-supported initiatives not adopted or expanded on by stakeholders beyond project duration and resources	
	None	No significant broader adoption taking place (Note: plans for broader adoption may exist but implementation unclear)	

III. PHASE 2

https://www.research.net/s/cpeP2I