

Terminal Evaluation Validation form, GEF Independent Evaluation Office

1. Project Data

Summary project data	
GEF project ID	5288
GEF Agency project ID	GCP/COL/041/GFF
GEF Replenishment Phase	GEF-5
Lead GEF Agency (include all for joint projects)	FAO
Project name	Implementation of the Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity Approach for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Caribbean Region of Colombia
Country/Countries	Colombia
Region	Latin America & Caribbean
Focal area	Biodiversity
Operational Program or Strategic Priorities/Objectives	BD-1, BD-2
Stand alone or under a programmatic framework	Standalone
If applicable, parent program name and GEF ID	
Executing agencies involved	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development – MADS (lead executing agency) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development – MADR National Natural Parks of Colombia - PNN Regional Autonomous Corporation of the Dique Canal – CARDIQUE Regional Autonomous Corporation of Sucre – CARSUCRE Regional Autonomous Corporation of Valles del Sinú and San Jorge – CVS Corporation for the Sustainable Development of Urabá - CORPOURABÁ Regional Autonomous Corporation for the Sustainable Development of Chocó - CODECHOCÓ Departmental Government of Bolívar Departmental Government of Sucre Departmental Government of Córdoba Departmental Government of Antioquia Departmental Government of Chocó Caribbean Regional System of Protected Areas – SIRAP Caribbean Institute of Marine and Coastal Research José Benito Vives de Andrés – INVEMAR
NGOs/CBOs involvement	<i>Herencia Ambiental Caribe and Fundación Proyecto Tití – both are local implementing NGOs working on KfW funded projects.</i>
Private sector involvement (including micro, small and medium enterprises) ¹	<i>ASPROCIG – new co-financing partner.</i> <i>Apropapur – new co-financing partner.</i> <i>Cabildo Mayor Indígena Mutatá – new co-financing partner.</i> <i>Cabildo Mayor Indígena Chigorodó – new co-financing partner.</i> <i>Cocomaunguá– new co-financing partner.</i> <i>PROMIGAS – additional co-financing partner</i>
CEO Endorsement (FSP) /Approval (MSP) date	4/13/2015
Effectiveness date / project start date	10/1/2015
Expected date of project completion (at start)	10/31/2019
Actual date of project completion	1/15/2021

¹ Defined as all micro, small, and medium-scale profit-oriented entities, including individuals and informal entities, that earn income through the sale of goods and services rather than a salary. ([GEF IEO 2022](#))

Project Financing			
		At Endorsement (US \$)	At Completion (US \$)
Project Preparation Grant	GEF funding	0.100	0.100
	Co-financing		
GEF Project Grant		6.052	5.942
Co-financing	IA own	0.380	0.433
	Government	50.688	26.608
	Other multi- /bi-laterals		
	Private sector		
	NGOs/CBOs		
	Other		
Total GEF funding		6.152	6.042
Total Co-financing		51.068	27.041
Total project funding (GEF grant(s) + co-financing)		57.220	33.083
Terminal evaluation validation information			
TE completion date		7/21/2021	
Author of TE		Office of Evaluation (OED), FAO	
TER completion date		11/15/2022	
TER prepared by		Nabil Haque	
TER peer review by (if GEF IEO review)		Neeraj Negi	

Access the form to summarize key project features here: <https://www.research.net/r/APR2023>.

2. Summary of Project Ratings

Criteria	Final PIR	IA Terminal Evaluation	IA Evaluation Office Review	GEF IEO Review
Project Outcomes	HS	HS	HS	S
Sustainability of Outcomes		L	L	L
M&E Design		S	S	S
M&E Implementation		S	S	S
Quality of Implementation		S	S	MS
Quality of Execution		S	S	S
Quality of the Terminal Evaluation Report			—	S

3. Project Objectives and theory of change

3.1 Global Environmental Objectives of the project:

The global environmental objective of the project is to reduce the degradation and fragmentation of strategic ecosystems in the Caribbean Region of Colombia (p.2 of ProDoc).

3.2 Development Objectives of the project:

The development objective was to implement a strategy of socio-ecosystem connectivity that include inter-institutional articulation, territorial planning, social participation with an intercultural vision, effective management of existing protected areas (PAs), creation of new PAs and the promotion of

sustainable production models (p.2 of ProDoc). This will sustainably increase and improve the provision of agricultural and forestry production goods and services in the Caribbean Region of Colombia (CRC).

3.3 Were there any **changes** in the Global Environmental Objectives, Development Objectives, or project activities during implementation? What are the reasons given for the change(s)?

No changes were made to environmental and development objectives.

3.4 Briefly summarize project's theory of change – describe the inputs and causal relationships through which the project will achieve its long-term impacts, key links, and key assumptions.

The theory of change for the project was developed during the Mid Term Review, which was updated by the TE (p.12 of TE). The project aims to achieve a reduction in the degradation and fragmentation of strategic ecosystems of CRC, by implementing a Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity (SEC) strategy which includes inter-institutional coordination, land use planning, social participation with an intercultural vision, effective administration and management of existing protected areas, the creation of new regional protected areas and the promotion of sustainable production models (p. 49 of ProDoc). This will be achieved through development and implementation of a Regional Strategy of Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity (RSSEC), which would serve as a guide to establish and maintain connectivity in the CRC. RSSEC will be incorporated in regional, departmental and municipal planning instruments benefiting incentive scheme for sustainable production and conservation. Civil servants will be trained at national, regional and municipal level about the management and implementation of the RSSEC. Existing Protected Area (PA) management will be strengthened, and six new PA will be created with effectiveness measured using GEF tool. Restoration actions will take place in riparian forests located in buffer zones. The project implemented agreements for the formation of conservation mosaics and management of resources with Afro-descendant and indigenous groups. The project will also carry out environmental education strategy to strengthen the capacities and the level of awareness of the target population. Although key assumptions were not explicit in initial project document, TE identified maintaining political will and ideal administrative and political scenario as key to achieving these outcomes (p. 12 of TE).

4. GEF IEO assessment of Outcomes and Sustainability

Please refer to the GEF Terminal Evaluation Review Guidelines for detail on the criteria for ratings.

The outcome ratings (relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and overall outcome rating) are on a six-point scale: Highly Satisfactory to Highly Unsatisfactory. The sustainability rating is on a four-point scale: Likely to Unlikely.

Please justify the ratings in the space below each box.

4.1 Relevance and Coherence	S
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The project is of relevance to global biodiversity and local communities, and the logic described in the theory of change was conceptually sound. The project contributed to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of Colombia's Caribbean region, which is relevant for the Strategic Objectives of FAO and the GEF objectives. The project arose due to the needs of the Colombian Government regarding specific problems linked to weak land use management in relation to environmental aspects; ineffective management of protected areas; weak inter-institutional coordination; and the lack of policies that address the fragmentation and degradation of the ecosystems among others (p.31 of TE). The project objectives, approach and interventions are aligned with five of the thirteen pacts identified in the 2018-2022 PND "Pacto por Colombia, Pacto por la Equidad" [Pact for Colombia, Pact for Equity]. The terminal evaluation rates relevance of the project as satisfactory, and this review concurs.

4.2 Effectiveness	HS
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The TE rates the project's achievement of outcomes as highly satisfactory, and the reported results go beyond targets. However, the TE also notes that the targets were deliberately kept low as the areas concerned were conflict-prone and experienced political challenges (p.26). RSSEC was designed in a participatory manner with the project partners and relevant stakeholders from other government areas and international cooperation. The normative impact of the strategy was visible in many subsequent policy documents, although the target number of planning instrument incorporation did not fully materialize (ten out of seventeen). These targets were ambitious for political and administrative processes that take years to change. A total of 194 civil servants from various administrative levels were trained on socio-ecosystem connectivity (121% fulfillment of target), out of which 96 were women. In pre- and post-project surveys, stakeholders expressed increased awareness about the importance of looking after the trees they planted and the role that these play in ecosystem connectivity. With regards to Protected Areas (PA), 774,232 ha of existing PA and 78,168 ha of new areas (19 new against target of 6) improved their management due to the project and to the co-financing by the counterparts (317% fulfillment). Seven conservation mosaics were created with a total area of 559,948 ha through four agreements signed among key territorial stakeholders. The project managed to intervene in 153 kilometers (target of 100km) of riparian forests, which involved gathering seeds of local species, their propagation through community nurseries, and their plantation on the banks of the rivers and their affluents (p.26 of TE). Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity (SEC) target areas increased by 1,894,336 ha in both marine and terrestrial landscapes. Alternative sustainable production plan (SPP) models were implemented in 8,572 ha by means of mixed vegetable gardens, silvopastoral systems, beekeeping, agroforestry systems with cocoa and jagua and aquaculture. A total of 34 Field Schools (FFS) were set up to train the farmers in these topics benefiting 1294 people belonging to ethnic groups. This led to documented co-benefit of increased food and nutritional security of some of the participating families. The income of participating families also increased by selling their products in local and regional markets. Greater storage of carbon because of project activities was also identified as a co-benefit (p. 28 of TE). This review maintains the TE rating of 'highly satisfactory' for effectiveness.

4.3 Efficiency	MS
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The TE provides a rating of ‘satisfactory’ for project efficiency, which is revised in this review as ‘moderately satisfactory’. Although 98% of GEF funding was spent, the expected co-financing didn’t materialize as planned leading to a revision of this figure. Only 54.5% of pledged co-financing materialized. Three governor offices identified in the project document did not contribute, and municipalities were not co-financers to the project leading to less visibility of instruments within their planning strategies. The project experienced delays in its early years due to the timely formation of a steering committee and the need to define the project intervention areas more precisely (p.29 of TE). Correspondingly, this led to some budget underutilization in the early years. On the other hand, the project gained additional resources due to the weakening of the Colombian peso against the US dollar. This led to an increase in FAO’s co-financing and the completion of a higher number of activities, thereby exceeding some targets.

4.4 Outcome	S
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The outcome of the project is rated satisfactory. Most of the targets proposed in the project were met with some exceeding expectations. The project contributed to improved management of protected areas with biodiversity conservation actions and the restoration of riparian forests. Sectorial policies now include elements of biodiversity and socio-ecosystem connectivity. It also contributed to increasing the diversity of crops that could be sown by the beneficiary households. Among other co-benefits, a 21% reduction in the use of agrochemicals for the management of pests and diseases was recorded as well as a 40% increase in the application of organic fertilizers and a 13% increase in the management of solid waste (p.28 of TE).

4.5 Sustainability	L
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The TE extensively discusses issues related to the sustainability of the project outcomes. However, there was little discussion on the risks associated with the social, institutional, financial, and environmental aspects of sustainability. This is consistent with the project management’s overall lagging on risk assessments. Failure to anticipate risks related to co-financing and changes in the government have been flagged elsewhere in TER and this has implications for assessing sustainability of project outcomes. The continuation of adopted practices was noted by the associations of producers, farmers, and fishermen. Additional projects from other development partners (GIZ and USAID) were reported that built on the outcomes of this project. The hiring of facilitators from the community was instrumental in realizing a major project outcome on mosaics. Connectivity of protected areas are incorporated in planning instruments at the national, regional, departmental and municipal scale. The project has contributed to making the matter even more visible, as the concept of connectivity is included in the draft document, “Towards a policy for the National System of Protected Areas of Colombia, 2020-2030 Vision”. It is expected that the Inter-sectorial Information, Monitoring and Evaluation Platform developed by the project will continue to promote cooperation among multiple institutions.

Collaborating with the private sector and utilizing the comprehensive compensation strategy practiced in Colombia, companies in the mining and energy sectors are now contributing to the socio-ecosystem connectivity of the Colombian Caribbean, with investment plans that exceed the lifetime of the project. Capacity building and institutional strengthening for environmental governance and socio-ecosystem connectivity will likely ensure the sustainability of project outcomes.

5. Processes and factors affecting attainment of project outcomes

Before describing the factors, you may choose to summarize reported outcomes and sustainability here: <https://www.research.net/r/APR2023>.

5.1 Co-financing. To what extent was the reported co-financing essential to the achievement of GEF objectives? If there was a difference in the level of expected co-financing and actual co-financing, what were the reasons for it? Did the extent of materialization of co-financing affect project's outcomes and/or sustainability? If so, in what ways and through what causal linkages?

There were several reasons identified for the non-materialization of co-financing, but only a few were discussed in the TE. Governor's Offices of the Departments of Córdoba, Bolívar and Sucre had new administrations taking office in January 2016, and they expressed their disagreement with the commitments made by their predecessors (p.38 of 2019 PIR). Letters of commitment of these partners included activities that did not contribute to the project objective such as building sewage systems and schools (p. 35 of TER). Some activities in Córdoba would be conducted using the budget that would be transferred to them from the mining and energy royalties, which would risk non-compliance with standards. These counterbalancing activities were not adequately considered using a robust methodology. The balancing exercise became political as offices declined to ratify corruption cases of the former government, considering them unrealistic or because they did not reflect the actions of the current government. In the last year of implementation MADS sent a letter to report on balancing items. However, the final certification letter still includes activities that did not contribute to the project.

Due to the difficulty of realizing commitments through formal documents, a reduction of USD \$20,876,761 on the value of counterparts was requested, revising the total co-financing figure to USD 30,270,570 (p.38 of 2019 PIR). This reduction was not noted and discussed in the Terminal Evaluation Report. The TER reports that drop in co-financing did not affect the project's outcome and sustainability, identifying balancing exercise to be main source of discrepancy between commitments and actual co-financing. However, MTR identified this to have an impact on the actions of the project and its geographical coverage.

5.2 Project extensions and/or delays. If there were delays in project implementation and completion, then what were the reasons for it? Did the delay affect the project's outcomes and/or sustainability? If so, in what ways and through what causal linkages?

At the design stage, the project had a very generic plan of action covering a wider geographic area (p. 29 of TER), which needed to be localized with specific action plans. This was complicated due to the lack of a steering committee in the first year of the project. The delay in the Project's initial activities and delays

in the procurement of certain inputs and services led to its eventual extension. The project was delayed twice, the most recent due to COVID-19 pandemic. However, the delays did not affect the outcomes and their sustainability significantly.

5.3 Stakeholder ownership. Assess the extent to which stakeholder ownership has affected project outcomes and sustainability. Describe the ways in which it affected outcomes and sustainability, highlighting the causal links.

The municipalities that participated in the project were not co-financing partners of the project, and as such, had no obligation to the project to update their land use plans or schemes. This has severely affected the coverage of the project, limiting its broader outcome. Apart from this shortcoming, this TER agrees with the TE observation (p. 42) that broad and diverse participation of interested stakeholders ensured a high level of appropriation of the socio-ecosystem connectivity approach.

5.4 Other factors: In case the terminal evaluation discusses other key factors that affected project outcomes, discuss those factors and outline how they affected outcomes, whether positively or negatively. Include factors that may have led to unintended outcomes.

The TE made several observations about the result framework not capturing positive intermediate outcome and co-benefits. Although some of these were featured in annual PIRs, there was a lack of structure for documentation in the early years.

6. Assessment of project's Monitoring and Evaluation system

Ratings are assessed on a six point scale: Highly Satisfactory to Highly Unsatisfactory.

Please justify ratings in the space below each box.

6.1 M&E Design at entry	S
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The TE did not distinguish between ratings of M&E design at entry and implementation. However, the contents of the M&E action plan were consistent in the project document and terminal evaluation. This review rates M&E design to be 'satisfactory'. The proposal for the monitoring and evaluation system detailed in the project document was robust for the nature of the project. It delegated monitoring tasks, established a reporting schedule, and budgeted \$110,450 for M&E activities. The project output and outcome indicators are SMART and have been designed to monitor both biophysical and socio-economic progress in building capacities for integrated management of natural resources and sustainable forest management. The means of verification for each indicator were also explicitly mentioned. The plan was also consistent with GEF requirements.

6.2 M&E Implementation	S
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TER reported on all the M&E activities mentioned in the project document, and their fulfillment status. While the project fulfilled most of the M&E deliverables, no annual co-financing reports were prepared,

which could have given periodic and comprehensive reports of the co-financing provided by the partners. The TER mentions that the progress of the project was monitored in detail which made it possible to prepare monthly, quarterly, and half-yearly reports. The risk monitoring system was not in place at the beginning, which was noted in the mid-term review (p.41 of TER). Ten of the eleven recommendations made in the MTR were fulfilled which included monitoring of co-benefits and progress towards impact. The review maintains the TER's rating of 'satisfactory' M&E implementation.

7. Assessment of project implementation and execution

Quality of Implementation rating is based on the assessment of the performance of GEF Agency(s). Quality of Execution rating is based on performance of the executing agency(s). In both instances, the focus is upon factors that are largely within the control of the respective implementing and executing agency(s). A six-point rating scale is used (Highly Satisfactory to Highly Unsatisfactory), or Unable to Assess.

Please justify ratings in the space below each box.

7.1 Quality of Project Implementation	MS
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The TE only dedicated a paragraph about the role of the lead GEF agency in project implementation. Early in the project, there were disagreements about whether FAO Colombia should direct and implement the project, which took some time to resolve (p. 30 of TE). This project is also FAO Colombia's first GEF supported project that came with some learning curve. A lot of discussion about implementation could be traced back to decisions made in the design stage. In particular, the letter of commitments for co-financing became a significant issue in implementation stage with regards to activities that did not contribute to project activities. The TE notes that project stakeholders were generally satisfied with FAO's implementation, while also highlighting the shortcoming of results framework during implementation.

The lead executing agency Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) made notable efforts in connecting the project to other government initiatives. Among the beneficiaries, the project is considered an FAO project and not a government project. Although FAO did little to contradict this perception, it reflects limited support from MADS in the regional and local processes implemented (p.32 of TE). The TE provides adequate details on the committee structure and participation and the complexities involved in managing institutions having diverse agendas and jurisdictions.

8. Lessons and recommendations

8.1 Briefly describe the key lessons, good practices, or approaches mentioned in the terminal evaluation report, including how they could have application for other GEF projects. Lessons must be based on project experience.

Although section 5 of the TER (p. 73) outlines six good practices and five lessons learned, these are interchangeable and can be summarized in four broad categories applicable for all GEF projects.

1) Ensuring extensive participation of the Steering Committee – The project experienced delays in setting up this committee as it comprised members of 14 government entities. It was very difficult to align the agendas to organize its meetings. However, in the end, the composition of the committee brought positive results as the level of authority ensured smooth progress of activities.

2) Activities that bolster local stakeholder involvement were crucial for project implementation. Example of such activities were identified to be - appointment of promoters and technical facilitators who belonged to the community itself; training of the stakeholders on matters of administration and accounting, organizing cultural events and, use of native language for indigenous communities in the training provided and in the development of educational and informative materials. The field schools were useful in encouraging cohesion and building trust among project participants.

3) When there are early indications that pledged co-financing will not materialize, it is helpful to find new co-financing partners to reduce the non-fulfillment gap.

4) Chain of custody of project documents – The TE could not assess the social and environmental safeguards plan due to its unavailability with the concerned person. The Lead Technical Officer changed during the project, but the information and documentation was not transferred fully. This carries the risk of the plan not being consulted and implemented in the project.

8.2 Briefly describe the recommendations given in the terminal evaluation.

Key recommendations in the terminal evaluation are summarized below -

1) The lack of visibility of planning instruments on municipal land use schemes arose due to differences in governance structure and approval processes for the instruments. Municipal authorities were also not

co-financers of this project, reducing their buy-in for incorporating these instruments. Projects should hold early consultations to pick up the feasibility of the use of instruments within a project timeframe.

2) The project developed the Regional Strategy of Socio-Ecosystem Connectivity (RSSEC) which should be institutionally formalized by the lead executing agency – MADS.

3) GEF's Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) should include guidelines that can properly rate protected areas that do not contribute to tourism and those that are not inhabited by indigenous groups. Adjusting the suitability of the tool came to the fore when two protected areas were found to not have fulfilled their targets due to these criteria.

4) A good methodological guide on reporting co-financing should be shared with project partners. A review phase is also proposed for the balancing items, and to the extent possible changes in government priorities.

5) Align conservation and biodiversity policies with agricultural and aquaculture policies to promote active involvement of separate ministries in such projects.

9. Quality of the Terminal Evaluation Report

Before rating the quality of the terminal evaluation, click here to summarize your observations on the sub-criteria: <https://www.research.net/r/APR2023>.

A six-point rating scale is used for each sub-criteria and overall rating of the terminal evaluation report (Highly Satisfactory to Highly Unsatisfactory)

Criteria/indicators of terminal evaluation quality	GEF IEO COMMENTS	Rating
1. Timeliness: terminal evaluation report was carried out and submitted on time?	The terminal evaluation was submitted in July 2021 which is within six months after project ended in January 2021.	S
2. General information: Provides general information on the project and evaluation as per the requirement?	The background provided about the project was detailed along with the method of evaluation and presentation of outcomes.	S
3. Stakeholder involvement: the report was prepared in consultation with – and with feedback from – key stakeholders?	The stakeholder list was present, and the methodology details the arrangements for gathering feedback which was done during the pandemic.	HS
4. Theory of change: provides solid account of the project's theory of change?	The evaluation team modified the ToC in the terminal report to include a meso level between outcome and impact.	S

5. Methodology: Provides an informative and transparent account of the methodology?	The methodology for the evaluation was well executed given the pandemic related challenges.	S
6. Outcome: Provides a clear and candid account of the achievement of project outcomes?	The achievement of the project against targets are presented in detail.	HS
7. Sustainability: Presents realistic assessment of sustainability?	Included subsections detailing sustainability in terms of social, institutional, financial & environmental.	S
8. M&E: Presents sound assessment of the quality of the M&E system?	Adequately described including the initial limitation on the lack of risk framework.	S
9. Finance: Reports on utilization of GEF co-funding and materialization of co-financing?	The project struggled with materialization of co-financing. Reasoning for this gap differs in the terminal evaluation and PIRs.	MU
10. Implementation: Presents a candid account of project implementation and Agency performance?	Although project implementation was discussed in detail, Agency responsibilities and performance was not adequately covered.	MS
11. Safeguards: Provides information on application of environmental and social safeguards, and conduct and use of gender analysis?	The evaluation team could not assess whether the measures and actions included in the environmental and social commitment plan were fulfilled.	MU
12. Lessons and recommendations are supported by the project experience and are relevant to future programming?	Some of the recommendations were similar as they described engagement strategies with partners and communities. However, they are all based on project experience.	S
13. Ratings: Ratings are well-substantiated by evidence, realistic and convincing?	Few ratings were given despite lack of documents and information. The safeguards section is a glaring example.	MS
14. Report presentation: The report was well-written, logically organized, and consistent?	The structure of the report was good and sufficiently detailed.	S
Overall quality of the report		S

10. Note any additional sources of information used in the preparation of the terminal evaluation report (excluding PIRs, TEs, and PADs).

ANNEX 1. GEF IEO THEORY OF CHANGE FRAMEWORK

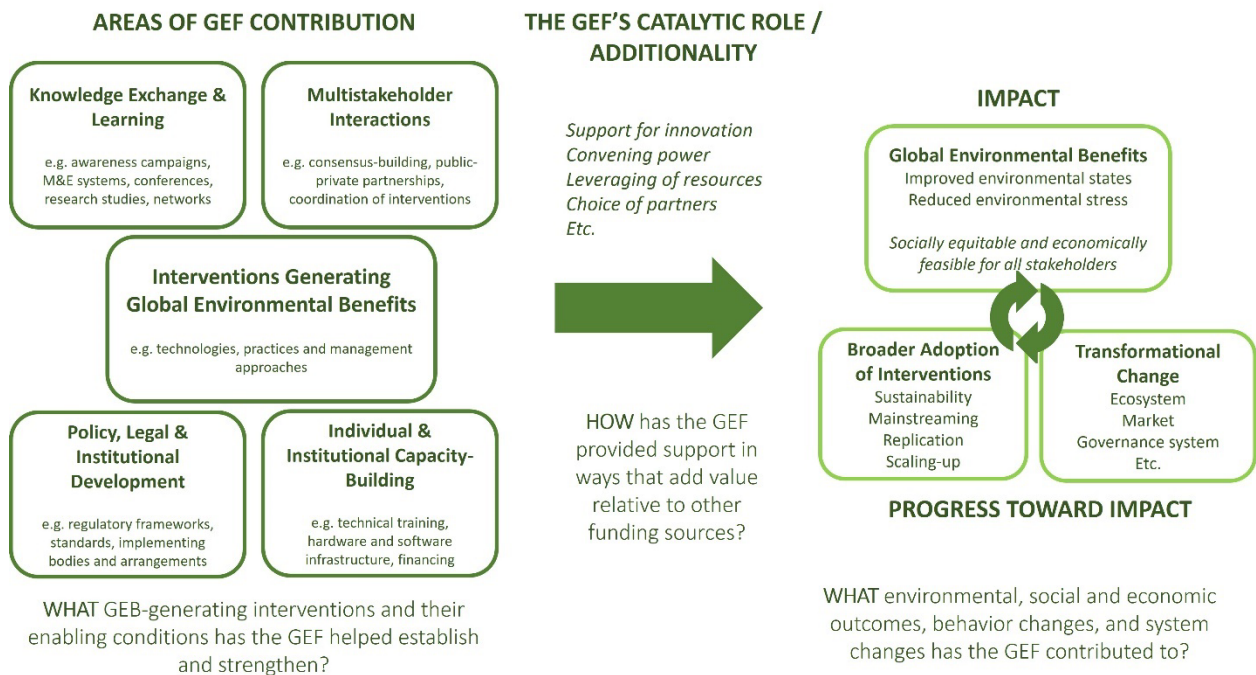


Figure 1. The GEF IEO's updated Theory of Change Framework on how the GEF achieves impact

The general framework for the GEF's theory of change (figure 1) draws on the large amount of evaluative evidence on outcomes and impact gathered over the years by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office. The framework diagram has been updated to reflect the IEO's learning since OPSS5 (GEF IEO 2014, p. 47-50) about how the GEF achieves impact, as well as the evolution of the GEF's programming toward more integrated systems-focused and scaled-up initiatives.

The framework outlines the three main areas that the IEO assesses in its evaluations: a) the GEF's contributions in establishing and strengthening both the interventions that directly generate global environmental benefits, and the enabling conditions that allow these interventions to be implemented and adopted by stakeholders, b) the GEF's catalytic role or additionality in the way that the GEF provides support within the context of other funding sources and partners, and c) the environmental, social and economic outcomes that the GEF has contributed to, and the behavior and system changes that generate these outcomes during and beyond the period of GEF support.

The circular arrow between impact and progress toward impact, as before, indicates how bringing about positive environmental change is an iterative process that involves behavior change (in the form of a broader group of stakeholders adopting interventions) and/or systems change (which is a key characteristic of transformational change). These three areas of change can take place in any sequence or simultaneously in a positively reinforcing cycle, and are therefore assessed by the GEF IEO as indicators of impact.

Assessing the GEF's progress toward achieving impact allows the IEO to determine the extent to which GEF support contributes to a trajectory of large-scale, systemic change, especially in areas where changes in the environment can only be measured over longer time horizons. The updated diagram in particular expands the assessment of progress towards impact to include transformational change, which specifically takes place at the system level, and not necessarily over a long time period.

The updated diagram also more explicitly identifies the link between the GEF's mandate of generating global environmental benefits, and the GEF's safeguards to ensure that positive environmental outcomes also enhance or at the very least do not take away from the social and economic well-being of the people who depend on the environment. Thus the IEO assesses impact not only in terms of environmental outcomes, but also in terms of the synergies and trade-offs with the social and economic contexts in which these outcomes are achieved.

ANNEX 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Intervention	Any programmatic approach, full-sized project, medium-sized project, or enabling activity financed from any GEF-managed trust fund, as well as regional and national outreach activities. In the context of post-completion evaluation, an intervention may consist of a single project, or multiple projects (i.e. phased or parallel) with explicitly linked objectives contributing to the same specific impacts within the same specific geographical area and sector. https://www.gefio.org/evaluations/gef-evaluation-policy-2019
Activity (of an intervention)	An action undertaken over the duration of an intervention that contributes to the achievement of the intervention's objectives, i.e. an intervention is implemented through a set of activities. E.g. training, (support to) policy development, (implementation of) management approach.
Outcome	An intended or achieved short- or medium-term effect of a project or program's outputs. https://www.gefio.org/evaluations/gef-evaluation-policy-2019
Impact	The positive and negative, primary and secondary long-term effects produced by a project or program, directly or indirectly, intended or unintended. https://www.gefio.org/evaluations/gef-evaluation-policy-2019
Environmental outcomes	Changes in environmental indicators that could take the following forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress reduction: reduction or prevention of threats to the environment, especially those caused by human behavior (local communities, societies, economies) • Environmental state: biological, physical changes in the state of the environment http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/ops5-final-report-eng.pdf
Social and economic outcomes	Changes in indicators affecting human well-being at the individual or higher scales, e.g. income or access to capital, food security, health, safety, education, cooperation/ conflict resolution, and equity in distribution/ access to benefits, especially among marginalized groups.
Synergies	Multiple benefits achieved in more than one focal area as a result of a <i>single intervention</i> , or benefits achieved from the interaction of outcomes from at least two separate interventions in addition to those achieved, had the interventions been done independently.

	http://www.gefio.org/evaluations/evaluation-multiple-benefits-gef-support-through-its-multifocal-area-portfolio-map-2016
Trade-offs	A reduction in one benefit in the process of maximizing or increasing another benefit. http://www.gefio.org/evaluations/evaluation-multiple-benefits-gef-support-through-its-multifocal-area-portfolio-map-2016
Broader adoption	The adoption of GEF-supported interventions by governments and other stakeholders beyond the original scope and funding of a GEF-supported intervention. This may take place through sustaining, replication, mainstreaming, and scaling-up of an intervention and/or its enabling conditions (see definitions below). http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/ops5-final-report-eng.pdf
Sustainability	The continuation/ likely continuation of positive effects from the intervention after it has come to an end, and its potential for scale-up and/or replication; interventions need to be environmentally as well as institutionally, financially, politically, culturally and socially sustainable. https://www.gefio.org/evaluations/gef-evaluation-policy-2019
Replication	When a GEF intervention is reproduced at a comparable administrative or ecological scale, often in different geographical areas or regions. http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/ops5-final-report-eng.pdf
Mainstreaming	When information, lessons, or specific aspects of a GEF initiative are incorporated into a broader stakeholder initiative. This may occur not only through governments but also in development organizations and other sectors. http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/ops5-final-report-eng.pdf
Scaling-up	Increasing the magnitude of global environment benefits (GEBs), and/or expanding the geographical and sectoral areas where they are generated to cover a defined ecological, economic, or governance unit. May occur through replication, mainstreaming, and linking. http://www.gefio.org/evaluations/evaluation-gef-support-scaling-impact-2019
Transformational change	Deep, systemic, and sustainable change with large-scale impact in an area of major environmental concern. Defined by four criteria: relevance, depth of change, scale of change, and sustainability. http://www.gefio.org/evaluations/evaluation-gef-support-transformational-change-2017
Additionality	a) Changes in the attainment of direct project outcomes at project completion that can be attributed to GEF's interventions; these can be reflected in an acceleration of the adoption of reforms, the enhancement of outcomes, or the reduction of risks and greater viability of project interventions. b) Spill-over effects beyond project outcomes that may result from systemic reforms, capacity development, and socio-economic changes. c) Clearly articulated pathways to achieve broadening of the impact beyond project completion that can be associated with GEF interventions. https://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/council-documents/files/c-55-me-inf-01.pdf