



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
EVALUATION OFFICE



IW SCS Impact Evaluation Phases and Products

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Overview of Evaluation Phases and Products



- Phase 1: Development of theory of change/ evaluation framework of GEF support for the main SCS IW project strands.
 - Tool to track which countries are adopting policies and programs that lead to investments and behaviors that improve environmental status
- Phase 2: Data Gathering. Using theory of change, triangulate data gathering along three lines of inquiry:
 - Portfolio analysis:
 - Broad picture of GEF support at various levels; map of interventions and outcomes
 - Examination of regional dimensions of GEF support, including:
 - Synthesis of environmental trends, regional institutional context, and progress in governance architecture (regional, national, local)
 - Country and thematic case studies, including:
 - Assess appropriateness and effectiveness of approach, and whether approach engages key stakeholders and is cast at the appropriate scale
 - Assess progress towards impact and likelihood of intermediate stages.
 - Identify opportunities for counterfactual analysis
- Phase 3: Analysis and Synthesis
 - Assess progress in reducing environmental stress
 - Assess factors and conditions contributing to/hindering reaching intermediate stages
 - Assess likelihood of preventing or delaying environmental degradation; identify what additional steps are needed
 - Identify lessons learned and knowledge products

Products of the Evaluation



Development of theory of change evaluation framework for GEF IW SCS support

- SCS theory of change should indicate **how and why** GEF support is expected to catalyze actions that address transboundary environmental priorities, including ensuring the sustainability of goods and services provided by the SCS.

Product: Assessment of the Context of GEF Support in the SCS



Characterization of SCS political, social, economic, and environmental services, and of the transboundary factors affecting them

- Services including fisheries, waste disposal, land reclamation and land-use conversion, tourism and recreation, natural disaster protection, transportation, and oil and mineral exploration.
- Drivers affecting the ecosystem's capacity to continue providing services
- Assess how conflicting territorial claims have affected coastal resource use and management

Situate GEF support in the SCS relative to other institutions

- Detailed inventory of (GEF and non-GEF) programs and projects in the SCS
- Assess significance of GEF's role relative to other institutions

Product: Assessment of the Relevance, Effectiveness, and Efficiency of GEF Support in the SCS

A faint, light-colored map of the South China Sea region is visible in the upper right corner of the slide. It shows the outlines of China, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, and the Philippines, with the South China Sea to the south.

- Portfolio Analysis of GEF SCS Support
- Broad picture of GEF support and progress towards impact.
- Assess whether projects have addressed the key elements of the GEF IW approach and develop hypotheses on the factors and conditions that affect impact.
- Approach elements include:
 - Foundational activities
 - Demonstrations
 - Investments

Product: Assessment of the Relevance, Effectiveness, and Efficiency of GEF Support in the SCS (continued)

Analysis of GEF Contributions to SCS Transboundary Environmental Governance

- Evolution of regional environmental governance
- Role of the GEF in supporting transboundary governance
- Effectiveness of current governance mechanisms and processes in
 - Reaching agreement
 - Engaging stakeholders
 - Coordinating action to reduce environmental stress and address critical factors affecting SCS services

Country and Thematic Case Studies on Progress toward Impact

- Country case studies to better assess effectiveness and contextual factors affecting progress towards impact
- Assess F-D-I causal sequence and whether support has catalyzed investments, reforms, and behavioral changes
- Identify steps needed to ensure sustainability of SCS services



Product: Assessment of Environmental Impact and Likelihood of Improving SCS Social, Economic, Environmental Services



Progress in Reducing Transboundary Environmental Stress

- Review extent to which approaches and technologies promoted are reducing environmental stress and risks
- Quantify stress reduction achievements and use remote sensing and GIS, where available

Identification of Intermediate Steps and Actions Needed in order to Reach Impact

- Given IW TOC, what actions still need to happen to reach impact?
- Are there any actors who need to be (better) involved?

Assessment of Likelihood of Delaying or Preventing Permanent Damage to the Environmental Services Provided by the SCS

- Feasibility of expert group assessment will be explored

Product: Identify Lessons from the SCS Evaluation Applicable to GEF Support to International Waters



- Interact with stakeholders to draw useful lessons
- Draw lessons from the past
- Identify opportunities for the future
 - I W Task force / 2nd Reference group meeting
- Identify missed opportunities

Stakeholder Involvement



- Three groups are designed as vehicles for stakeholder input and to support the evaluation. These groups will:
 - Comment on the approach paper draft and report
 - Provide suggestions on making evaluation useful to operations
 - Help establish contact with appropriate contacts
 - Help identify and facilitate access to information
- **Technical Advisory Group (TAG):** Consisting of 6 scientific and technical specialists, the TAG will provide quality assurance support on methodological, scientific, and technical issues.
- **IW Task Force:** Composed of IW focal area coordinators, the GEF Secretariat, and STAP, the IW Task Force will provide input into the selection of knowledge products as well as the water body to be evaluated; it will also comment on the approach paper and evaluation report and facilitate ongoing communication with GEF Agencies.
- **Reference Group:** This group will consist of 15-20 people, including representatives from the GEF Secretariat, GEF Agencies, key staff involved in SCS GEF projects, and some non-GEF stakeholder institutions. This group will play a critical role in the evaluation follow up.

Management of Evaluation



The core evaluation team will consist of:

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Several consultants will also be hired to produce subreports and gather data.

Evaluation Timeline



Date	Activity
Nov 2009	Upstream consultations on evaluation questions and water body to evaluate
Dec 10, 2009	Portfolio review and selection of candidate water catchments
Sep 2010	GEF IW theory of change for large marine ecosystems
Sep 29/30, 2010	Reference Group Meeting to discuss approach paper
Nov 2010	Portfolio Analysis and Mapping of SCS institutional actors and programs
Mar 2011	Characterization of the social, economic and ecological services of the SCS
Jun 2011	Analysis of GEF contributions to transboundary environmental governance
Aug 2011	Country case studies
Oct 2011	Assessment of likelihood of transboundary environmental impacts
Feb 15, 2012	Meeting of the Reference Group to discuss comments on the draft
Apr 2012	Report and Council paper prepared
Jul/Nov 2012	Publication and learning products



Thank you.

- For more information on this evaluation, please contact Aaron Zazueta, azazueta@thegef.org