

United Nations Development Programme

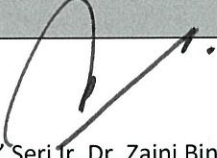
Project Document

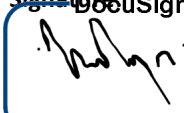

Project title: Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Malaysia		
Country(ies): Malaysia	Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity): United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	Execution Modality: Agency implementation
<p>Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD):</p> <p>UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025, Outcome #2: Priority Planet. By 2025, environmental sustainability and resilience are mainstreamed as a priority within the national development agenda, across all sectors and all levels of society.</p> <p>UNDP Malaysia Country Programme Document 2021-2025, Output 2.1: Transitioning national development towards a decarbonised and a resource efficient economy through the adoption of green growth strategies and practices across all sectors; Output 2.2: Natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems are sustainably managed, adequately protected and conserved for long term economic and environmental sustainability</p> <p>UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021: Signature Solution 4: Promote nature-based solutions for a sustainable planet; Output 1.4.1 Solutions scaled up for sustainable management of natural resources, including sustainable commodities and green and inclusive value chains; Signature Solution #5 (Energy), Output 1.5.1. Solutions adopted to achieve universal access to clean, affordable, and sustainable energy</p>		
UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category: MODERATE	UNDP Gender Marker: GEN 2	
Atlas Award ID: 00134613	Atlas Project/Output ID: 00126166	
UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number: 6477	GEF Project ID number: 10363	
LPAC meeting date: Expected June 2021		
Latest possible date to submit to GEF: June 2021		
Latest possible CEO endorsement date: December 2021		
Project duration in months: 48		
Planned start date: 2 June 2022	Planned end date: 1 June 2026	
Expected date of Mid-Term Review: 31 Dec 2024	Expected date of Terminal evaluation: 1 March 2026	
<p>Brief project description:</p> <p>The seventh Operational Phase (OP7) of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) in Malaysia aims to build upon the long-standing achievements of SGP in the country, specifically involving strengthening civil society organisations and improving socioeconomic conditions for local communities through implementation of participatory conservation, restoration, and climate change mitigation interventions.</p>		

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Starting in OP7, Malaysia has been included in the Upgraded Country Programme (UCP) of the SGP. With the aim of achieving impacts at scale and ensuring sustainability of results achieved, the programme level strategy of the UCP is based on a landscape approach, following the UNDP approach of community-driven planning and management of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes. The three selected landscapes (Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve in Sabah; Middle and Upper Baram River Basin in Sarawak; and the Klang Valley in Peninsular Malaysia) cover expansive and complex rural and urban geographies. Globally significant biodiversity in these regions faces a variety of threats influenced by a variety of drivers, e.g., infrastructure development and increased global demand for food and plantation commodities. These factors, many of which have been exacerbated by the impacts of climate change, have led to biodiversity loss, degradation of fragile ecosystems, and restricted opportunities for local communities to sustain nature-based livelihoods. Many of the local communities in the target regions also lack knowledge and access to clean energy solutions. The project strategy addresses the threats and barriers in the target regions to generate multiple benefits for biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, and the well-being of local communities through participatory, integrated land and resource management approaches implemented across socio-ecological production landscapes.

Reaching an estimated 10,000 direct beneficiaries, 50% of whom are women, the project will facilitate community-driven interventions that generate global environmental benefits, including bringing an estimated 43,000 ha under improved management practices to benefit biodiversity, restoring 1,000 ha of degraded ecosystems, and increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient solutions at the community level, resulting in the mitigation of more than 341,500 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent of greenhouse gas emissions (lifetime direct). The durability of the results achieved will be ensured through implementation of integrated landscape approaches, supported by multi-stakeholder governance platforms that foster enabling partnerships among civil society organisations, national and local government entities, private sector enterprises, and academic-research institutions.

(1) FINANCING PLAN		
GEF Trust Fund grant		USD 2,500,000
(1) Total Budget administered by UNDP		USD 2,500,000
CO-FINANCIERS THAT WILL DELIVER PROJECT RESULTS INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (FUNDS NOT ADMINISTERED THROUGH UNDP ACCOUNTS)		
GEF Agency (UNDP), in-kind (recurrent expenditures)		USD 200,000
Recipient Country Government (Ministry of Environment and Water), in-kind (recurrent expenditures)		USD 200,000
Recipient Country Government (Sabah Parks), in-kind (recurrent expenditures)		USD 100,000
Civil Society Organization (Habitat Foundation), grant (investment mobilised)		USD 100,000
Donor Agency (German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) ICCA GSI, grant (investment mobilised)		USD 500,000
CSOs (grantees), in-kind (recurrent expenditures)		USD 1,100,000
CSOs (grantees), grant (investment mobilized)		USD 550,000
(2) Total confirmed co-financing		USD 2,750,000
(3) Grand-Total Project Financing (1)+(2)		USD 5,250,000
SIGNATURES		
Signature:  YBHG Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Zaini Bin Ujang Secretary General Ministry Environment and Water	Agreed by Government Development Coordination Authority	Date/Month/Year: 20/4/22

Signature:  Signed by: Mr. N B 02D6548F04E455... UNDP Resident Representative	Agreed by: UNDP Malaysia	Date/Month/Year: 26/01/2022
Signature: Mr. Kirk Bayabos, Cluster manager, SDC NYSC UNOPS	Agreed by: UNOPS 	Date/Month/Year: 20 APRIL 2022
Key GEF Project Cycle Milestones: Project document signature: within 25 days of GEF CEO endorsement First disbursement date: within 40 days of GEF CEO endorsement Inception workshop date: within 60 days of GEF CEO endorsement Operational closure: within 3 months of posting of TE to UNDP ERC Financial closure: within 6 months of operational closure		

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Abbreviations and Acronyms:

AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use
BD	Biodiversity
BPPS	(UNDP) Bureau of Policy and Programme Support
BMU	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
tCO ₂ e	tons carbon dioxide equivalent
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CCA	Community Conserved Area
CCM	Climate Change Mitigation
COMDEKS	Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative
CRBR	Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CUZ	Community Use Zone
GDI	Gender Development Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GI	Geographical Indication
GII	Gender Inequality Index
ha	Hectare
ICCA	Indigenous and Community Conserved Area
ICCA GSI	Indigenous and Community Conserved Area Global Support Initiative
IP	Indigenous Peoples
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JKKK	Village Development and Security Committee (<i>Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung</i>)
KASA	Ministry of Environment and Water
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
KeTSA	Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources
KM	Knowledge Management
LD	Land Degradation
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MTR	Mid-term Review
MYR	Malaysian Ringgit
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NSC	National Steering Committee
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
OFP	Operational Focal Point
OP7	Seventh Operational Phase
PA	Protected Area
PDR	Project Delivery Report
PIMS	Project Information Management System
PIR	Project Implementation Review
POPP	Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

RTA	Regional Technical Advisor
SCP	Sustainable Consumption and Production
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEPLS	Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes
SES	Social and Environmental Standards (UNDP)
SESP	Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (UNDP)
SGP	Small Grants Programme
STAP	GEF Scientific Technical Advisory Panel
TBD	To Be Determined
TE	Terminal Evaluation
TK	Traditional Knowledge
UCP	Upgraded Country Programme
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP CO	United Nations Development Programme Country Office
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USD	United States Dollar
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

II. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

1. Malaysia is one of the megadiverse countries in the world¹, with rich terrestrial, coastal and marine habitats harbouring globally significant biodiversity. Malaysia's natural habitats support diverse array of flora and fauna, including estimated 15,000 species of vascular plants, 306 species of mammals, 742 species of birds, 242 species of amphibians, 567 species of reptiles, over 449 species of freshwater fish, over 1,619 species of marine fish and more than 150,000 species of invertebrates.²
2. The country has undergone significant population increase and socioeconomic changes in recent years. The population has increased from 23 million in 1998 to an estimated 32.7 million in 2020, and the per capita gross domestic product (GDP) has almost tripled.³ The transition towards a developed, high-income nation has exerted various pressures on our biodiversity, leaving many species vulnerable with some even facing threats of extinction. Nearly half of the nation's plant diversity is facing various levels of threat. Other pressures that threaten Malaysia's biodiversity include habitat fragmentation, invasive alien species, pollution, poaching, increasing competition for land as well as climate change. Furthermore, there is a general lack of awareness on the importance of biodiversity throughout the country as well as significant knowledge gaps. There are also weaknesses in management capacities and shortage of funding – both which are crucial to ensure that Malaysia's biodiversity is effectively conserved.
3. Climate change is also a significant threat to the people and ecosystems of Malaysia. Average temperatures are forecast to increase up to 2.6°C by the year 2050. Annual precipitation is predicted to fluctuate by 30% (with both more prolonged droughts and more intense floods). Since the 1990s, droughts have periodically resulted in fires that have destroyed large areas of forest and peatlands. These fires have also resulted in the phenomenon known as the "haze" which causes significant increases in respiratory illness.
4. The decade from 2008-2018 saw extreme weather patterns in terms of both temperature and rainfall. Over this period, there were increased minimum, mean and maximum air temperature and the intensity of rainfall also increased. Major floods occurred in 2010, 2012 and 2014, with the 2014 northeast monsoon floods being one of the worst in recorded history. The prolonged 2016 El Niño resulted in water shortages, heat waves and wild fires. Droughts from climate change are predicted to cause a 20% decline in yields from crops such as rice and oil palm. On the other hand, increased flooding would affect around 9% of the land area, affecting millions of residents and costing the country MYR 100 million (approx. USD 20 million) annually. Increased rainfall is also predicted to increase diseases such as malaria and cause a reduction in yields from crops such as rubber. Climate change also threatens to lead to rising sea levels, resulting in coastal erosion throughout much of Malaysia.
5. In supporting the efforts of government for long term sustainable development, enhanced governance will facilitate the shift towards sustainable growth and enable better natural resource management. The seventh Operational Phase (OP7) of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) in Malaysia has been conceived to engage non-governmental organisations and community organisations in three regions of Malaysia to take collective actions for adaptive landscape management through participatory landscape planning and project management by communities aimed at enhancing socio-ecological resilience producing local and global environmental benefits.
6. The SGP has extensive experience and is broadly recognised in Malaysia, with respect to strengthening the capacities of local communities to deliver mutually beneficial conservation and socioeconomic outcomes. The SGP has developed strong multi-stakeholder partnerships with local governments, national agencies and ministries, NGOs, the private sector and others. SGP interventions have been implemented in alignment with government priorities and programmes and supporting Malaysia in meeting international commitments. The view of national stakeholders shared during PPG phase consultations is that the SGP is a successful and visible

¹ Mittermeier, R.A. 1988. Primate Diversity and the Tropical Forest: Case Studies from Brazil and Madagascar and the Importance of Megadiverse Countries. Biodiversity (ed. Wilson, E.O.), National Academy Press.

² Source: National Policy on Biological Diversity 2016-2025. Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia.

³ Source: NBSAP and Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) Official Portal (www.dosm.gov.my)

programme that continues to generate positive environmental and development benefits, with strong buy-in and ownership at local and national levels.

7. Starting in OP7, Malaysia has been included in the Upgraded Country Programmes (UCP) of the SGP. With the aim of achieving impacts at scale and ensuring sustainability of results achieved, the programme level strategy of the UCP is based on a landscape approach, following the UNDP approach of community-driven planning and management of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS).⁴ The three landscapes selected for OP7 in Malaysia are listed below and shown on the map in **Figure 1**.

- Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah
- Middle and Upper Baram River Basin, Sarawak
- Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia

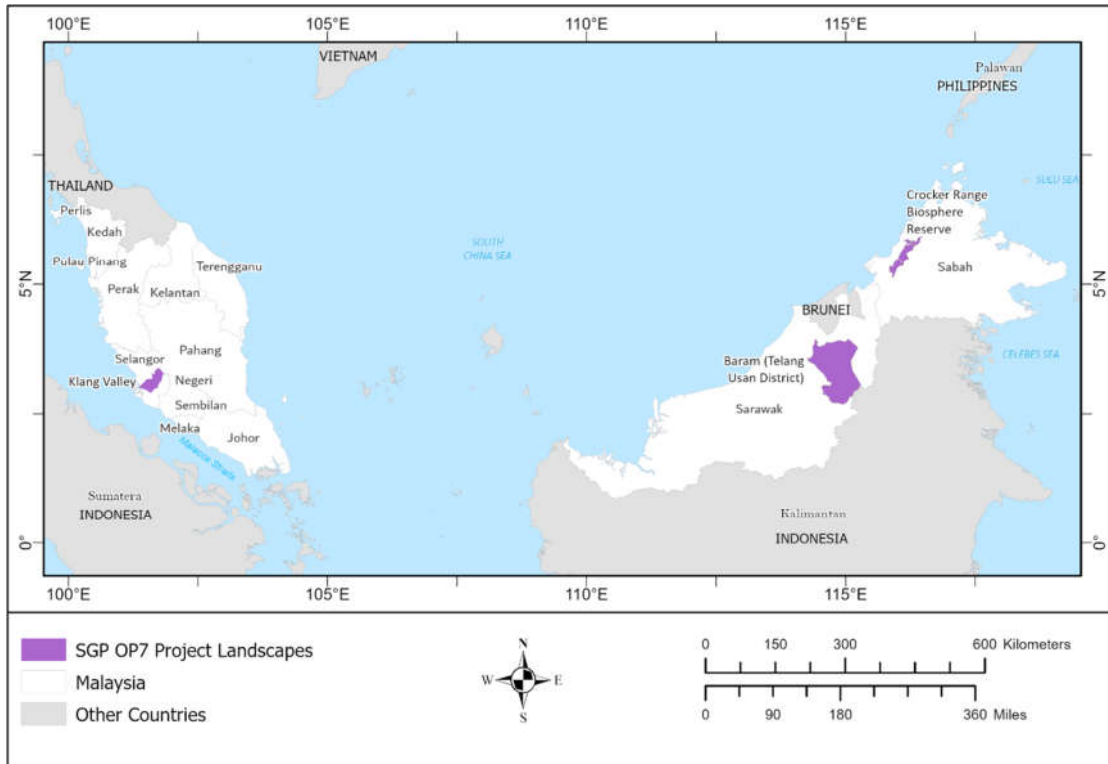


Figure 1: Country map showing target landscapes

Selection of project landscapes:

8. The three project landscapes have been selected in consultation with government and civil society partners and the consolidation of experiences and lessons learned from the on-going and previously supported community initiatives of GEF 5 and 6 for forthcoming replication, upscaling and mainstreaming. Over the course of the planning and consultation process for OP7, the following criteria were utilized in selecting the three priority landscapes:

- 1) The community land use patterns and practices, policies and laws on land, water and resources differs between Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. Selecting a landscape representing each region will enabling important lessons learned, case studies and reviews of policies for comparative purposes.

⁴ Socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes are commonly characterized as dynamic bio-cultural mosaics of habitats and land and sea uses where the interaction between people and the landscape maintains or enhances biodiversity while providing humans with goods and services needed for their well-being (UNU-IAS, Bioversity International, IGES and UNDP (2014) Toolkit for the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS).

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- 2) Richness of biodiversity, the important role of ecosystem services the landscape provided to the community and surrounding areas and potential for overcome climate change issues.
- 3) Potential contribution to addressing poverty and improving community livelihood issues.
- 4) Community readiness to take action or capabilities to implement SGP projects.
- 5) Availability of NGO partners capable of providing capacity building and guidance to the local communities in the selected landscapes.
- 6) Social dimensions of conservation work, e.g., NGO presence, community awareness, involvement of women and indigenous peoples.
- 7) Site-level local governance openness to community and CSO participation.
- 8) Potential replication and scaling up of SGP projects implemented in previous operational phases.
- 9) Potential for government and private sector partnerships.
- 10) Presence of similarly oriented environmental programmes and initiatives by government, NGOs, private sector and foundations.
- 11) Sufficient information and understanding about the selected landscapes (e.g., geography, people, economic activities, poverty, threats and biodiversity, livelihoods, governance).
- 12) Site accessibility and security.

Landscape 1: Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve (CRBR), Sabah

9. The Crocker Range was established as a forest reserve in 1969, designated as the Crocker Range National Park in 1984 and renamed Crocker Range Park in 1996. Managed by Sabah Parks, the Crocker Range Park is located in the interior, western region of the state of Sabah. It is the largest terrestrial protected area in Malaysia, stretching across eight administrative districts, namely Keningau, Tambunan, Tenom, Beaufort, Papar, Penampang, Tuaran and Ranau. The Park forms the core zone (144,492 ha) of the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve (CRBR). The CRBR was established as a UNESCO site under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme in 2014. Apart from the core zone, the CRBR also includes a 60,313-ha buffer zone and a 145,779-ha transition zone. The CRBR covers a total area of **350,584 ha** of mixed tropical dipterocarp rainforests and montane landscapes, extending approximately 120 km north to south, and 40 km east and to west. The topography of CRBR is undulating with different elevations ranging from 6 m to 2,076 m above sea level⁵. Some 27% of the total core area of CRBR is more than 1,000 m above sea level, with 16 peaks above this elevation⁶.

10. The core zone is strictly utilized for long-term research programmes, environmental education, tourism, etc. There are about 30 households of indigenous peoples residing in the core zone of the reserve – allowed to stay and practice sustainable natural resource utilization. There are 52 villages situated within the buffer zone, where common land uses include small-scale agriculture and rubber tree cultivation. The transition zone features at least 264 villages with subsistence small scale farming⁷. The total population in the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve is approximately 99,000.

11. There are four forest reserves in and around the CRBR, including: (a) Raflessia Virgin Jungle Reserve; (b) Crocker Range Virgin Jungle Reserve; (c) Kawang Domestic Forest Reserve, and (d) Lumaku Protection Forest Reserve. Raflessia and Crocker Range Virgin Jungle Reserves are totally protected areas owing to their unique ecosystems. Kawang Forest Reserve on the other hand is reserved for the purpose of community use while Lumaku Forest Reserve is reserved for the protection of watershed ecosystem services⁸. The four forest reserves are managed by the Sabah Forestry Department.

⁵ UNESCO (2014): <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/biosphere-reserves/asia-and-the-pacific/malaysia/crocker-range>

⁶ Usui, S., H. Sato, A. Lee-Agama & R. Chua. (eds.). (2006). Range Park Management Plan, Kota Kinabalu: Sabah Parks, pp.5-43.

⁷ UNESCO (2014): <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/biosphere-reserves/asia-and-the-pacific/malaysia/crocker-range>

⁸ Malim P (2002). Management of Forest Reserve around the Crocker Range Park. Workshop on Water Resources Management in and around Crocker Range Park, 22- 23 November

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12. The Crocker Range harbours globally significant biodiversity, designated as one of the 61 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Malaysia.⁹ CRBR encompasses a variety of ecosystems, supporting a significant number of endemic species and diverse tree flora. Lower montane forests are found in areas below 500 m in the CRBR. Between 500 to 1,000 m, there are upland mixed dipterocarp forests and beyond that, montane forests¹⁰. At the highest-elevation sites, the forest vegetation zone is upper montane rainforest, also known as “cloud-forest” or “mossy-forest”. It is classified as a primary forest and dominated by montane plants from the Fagaceae, Myrtaceae and Ericaceae. These sites have high abundance of bryophytes¹¹.

13. In terms of fauna, the core zone and its surrounding area are home to approximately 101 mammals, 259 birds, 47 reptiles, 63 amphibians, and 42 freshwater fish¹². The area supports a small population of orangutans (*Pongo pygmaeus*, IUCN Red List Critically Endangered CR), estimated to be around 180¹³, sun bears (*Helarctos malayanus*, IUCN Red List Vulnerable VU), and clouded leopards (*Neofelis nebulosa*, IUCN Red List VU)¹⁴. Endemic to Borneo, the Bornean ferret badger (*Melogale everetti*, IUCN Red List Endangered EN) one of the least known Bornean carnivores, is associated with upland and highland forests in and around Kinabalu Park and Crocker Range Park¹⁵. The core zone is also a suitable habitat of the threatened Bornean highland endemic Hose's civet (*Diplogale hosei*, IUCN Red List VU)¹⁶.

14. CRBR is also a main water catchment area for the west coast and interior of Sabah. The Crocker Range Park alone provides water for approximately one third of Sabah's population. There are four dams inside the park where people draw gravity water for household use and farming, and one in Penampang for commercial use¹⁷.

Threats and Root Causes: CRBR landscape

15. The CRBR faces threats from **illegal harvesting of forest resources** (poaching and timber extraction)¹⁸. In view of the high biodiversity with many rare and endemic species, the CRBR is subjected to illegal encroachment and poaching since it is conveniently located along the Kota Kinabalu-Tambunan-Keningau-Tenom highway (Federal Route No. 500). The **road networks** in Sabah are constantly being upgraded and expanded and some of them are located in and around the CRBR as shown in the following figure.

16. The area around CRBR has been encroached through **illegal logging** in the past. **Shifting cultivation** may have also contributed to the loss of the forests¹⁹. Chung et al. (2016) observed that the heavy clearing through nomadic agricultural practices by villagers living at the surrounding area of the Crocker Range Forest Reserve had rendered some of the forests there degraded and overgrown by secondary plant species²⁰. While traditional

⁹ Source: www.keybiodiversityareas.org

¹⁰ Chung AYC., Bosuang S., Majapun R. & Nilus R. (2016). Diversity and Geographical Ranges of Insects in Crocker Range Forest Reserve, Sabah, Malaysia, Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation. 15 Oct

¹¹ Pócs T., Lee GE., Podani J., Pesiu .E, Havasi J., Tang HY., Mustapeng AMA. & Suleiman M. (2020). A study of community structure and beta diversity of epiphyllous liverwort assemblages in Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. PhytoKeys 153: 63–83. <https://doi.org/10.3897/phytokeys.153.53637>

¹² UNESCO (2014): <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/biosphere-reserves/asia-and-the-pacific/malaysia/crocker-range>

¹³ Sabah Biodiversity Centre (2012). Sabah Biodiversity Outlook 2012

¹⁴ UNESCO (2014): <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/biosphere-reserves/asia-and-the-pacific/malaysia/crocker-range>

¹⁵ Wilting A., Hearn AJ., Eaton J., Belant JL. & Kramer-Schadt S. (2016). Predicted distribution of the Bornean ferret badger *Melogale everetti* (Mammalia: Carnivora: Mustelidae) on Borneo. Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, No. 33: 55–60

¹⁶ Mathai J., Niedballa J., Radchuk V., Sollmann R., Heckmann I., Brodie J., Struebig M., Hearn AJ., Ross J., Macdonald DW., Hon J. & Wilting A. (2019). Identifying refuges for Borneo's elusive Hose's civet. Global Ecology and Conservation 17 (2019) e00531

¹⁷ <http://www.bbec.sabah.gov.my/overall/bbec9/Water%20Resources.pdf>

¹⁸ Suis MAF., Nilus R., Sugau JB., Butin P., Miun P., Jumian J., Dolusim DC., Ah-Hing J. & Aribin J. (2019). Assessment of forest ecosystems in the southern part of Crocker Range Park, Tenom. Conference Paper· November. Forest Research Centre, Sabah Forestry Department

¹⁹ Water Resources Management in and around Crocker Range Park (2002): Workshop Proceedings. 22nd - 23rd November (<http://www.bbec.sabah.gov.my/overall/bbec9/Water%20Resources.pdf>)

²⁰ Chung AYC., Bosuang S., Majapun R. & Nilus R. (2016). Diversity and Geographical Ranges of Insects in Crocker Range Forest Reserve, Sabah, Malaysia, Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation, 13:135–155

practices such as harvesting of non-timber forest products and hunting for subsistence purposes are allowed in Community Use Zones (CUZs), rising market demand tends to intensify demand for agriculture land and force **expansion of agriculture into the forest**. The legal framework for the establishment of Community Use Zones (CUZs) was approved by the State Legislative Assembly in the 2007 amendment to the Parks Enactment, however CUZs are still a relatively new approach to safeguard forests from ongoing degradation while at the same time providing opportunities for the affected communities to improve their living conditions and livelihoods. In fact, there is no strong evidence suggesting that the CUZ approach has moderated divergent interest on the forest²¹. Findings from stakeholder interviews conducted during the project preparation phase of SGP OP7 indicated that **land rights** are still an issue facing the CRBR.

17. Degraded forests and secondary vegetation are prone to **wildfire**. Sui et al. (2019) observed that the eastern slope of the Crocker Range was razed due to repetitive wildfire events. The fire might have started at the forest edges or from commercial plantation estates. Patches of secondary vegetation in the study area have the tendency to become simpler in structure and less diverse over time, which is detrimental to both abiotic and biotic components in the ecosystems²².

18. **Climate change** is another driver of biodiversity loss and is projected to particularly affect highland species, such as the Bornean ferret badger, in the CRBR as the potential for upslope range shifts is limited²³.

CRBR landscape delineation

19. The CRBR landscape for the OP7 project covers the transition, buffer, and core zones of the reserve, the aim of strengthening engagement of local communities and reducing threats to globally significant biodiversity and important ecosystem services. Through consultations with Sabah Parks during the PPG phase, focused activities are envisaged in three key intervention areas, namely (1) Kinabalu Ecolinc, (2) Ulu Papar, and (3) Ulu Senagang-Mongool Baru Community Use Zone (see **Figure 2**).

²¹ Voo P., Mohammed AJ. & Inoue M. (2016). Community Use Zone (CUZ) Model and Its Outcome in Malaysia: Case Study from Crocker Range Park, Sabah, *Journal of Management and Sustainability*; Vol. 6, No. 3

²² MAF., Nilus R., Sugau JB., Butin P., Miun P., Jumian J., Dolusim DC., Ah-Hing J. & Aribin J. (2019). Assessment of forest ecosystems in the southern part of Crocker Range Park, Tenom. Conference Paper- November. Forest Research Centre, Sabah Forestry Department

²³ Wilting A., Hearn AJ., Eaton J., Belant JL. & Kramer-Schadt S. (2016). Predicted distribution of the Bornean ferret badger *Melogale everetti* (Mammalia: Carnivora: Mustelidae) on Borneo. *Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*, No. 33: 55–60

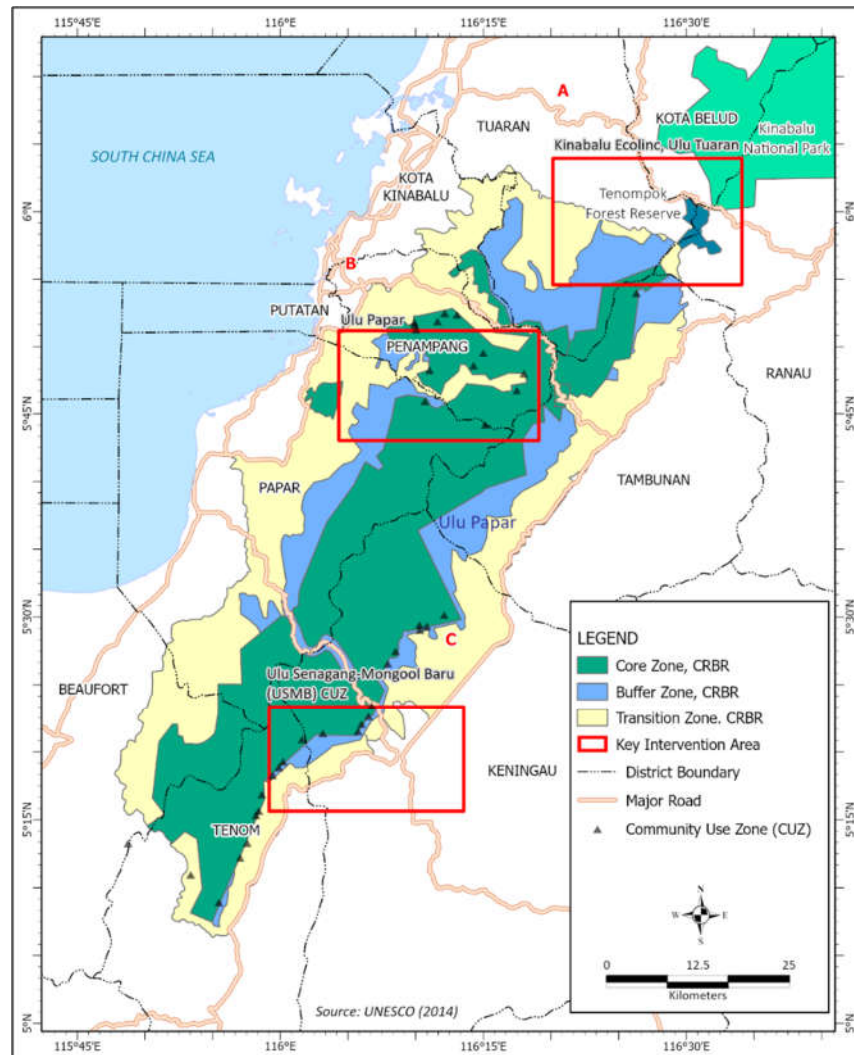


Figure 2: Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve landscape map

Landscape 2: Baram, Sarawak

20. The Baram landscape is defined by the district of Telang Usan, situated in the Miri Administrative Division in the northeast part of the state of Sarawak, in the interior of Upper Baram River basin. There are very limited biodiversity studies conducted in the Middle and Upper Baram landscape. However, the following studies/expeditions conducted in and around Middle and Upper Baram have shown that the area is rich in biodiversity. During the 1998 expeditions to the adjacent Pulong Tau National Park, a total of 67 species of birds from 29 families, of which 13 species (19.4%) are endemic to Borneo was recorded. Besides, 28 species of mammals, 12 of which are endemic to Borneo was also recorded. Examples were: Mountain Giant Rat (*Sundamys infraluteus*), Summit Rat (*Rattus baluensis*), and Civet. In addition to that, 18 species of frogs and four species of snakes discovered. Examples were: Wagler's Pit Viper (*Trimeresurus wagleri*), and Golden legged bush frog (*Philautus aurantium*). Insects such as Trilobite beetles (*Platerodrilus*), fruit flies (*Drosophila*), and weevils can also be found in this region²⁴.

21. A 2010 study conducted in the Sela'an Linau Forest Management Unit (FMU), a logging concession of 55,949 ha located in the Upper Baram (figure below), found that the majority of the area supports mixed dipterocarp forest (60%), with some montane forest (4%), tropical heath forest (kerangas) (21%), and slash and burn areas (temuda) (15%). The primary submontane forest with some montane forest in the higher elevation

²⁴ Malaysian Nature Society, Miri branch (1998). Expedition to the proposed Pulong Tau National Park. Sarawak, Malaysia

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areas (750–1550 m) had low anthropogenic disturbance. Roughly 3,000 ha of forest was destroyed during the 1997– 1998 El Niño event though secondary growth, regenerating forest had since reclaimed the area (Mathai et al. 2010)²⁵.

22. A wildlife monitoring programme conducted in 2010 in a logging concession in the Upper Baram of Sarawak found that Sun Bear, Yellow-throated Marten, Binturong, Masked Palm Civet, Common Palm Civet, Banded Civet and Short-tailed Mongoose were fairly widespread, and Hose's Civet, endemic to Borneo and listed on the IUCN Red List as Vulnerable, was recorded often at the site²⁶. Through opportunistic sampling, Asad et al (2015)²⁷ detected 36 reptile species (16 lizards, 18 snakes, and two turtles) comprising 12 families, including 12 species that are endemic to Borneo in Upper Baram. A total of 18 amphibian species comprising six families, including 11 species that are endemic to Borneo, were also detected. This represents 12.4% and 11.9% of all known Bornean reptile and amphibian species, respectively. All reptiles encountered (with the exception of two montane species, *Phoxophrys spiniceps* and *Popeia sabahi*) were lowland forest-dwelling species²⁸.

23. More recently, in August 2017, a 10-day botanical survey organized by Forest Department of Sarawak in Tama Abu Protected Forest in Ulu Baram (figure below) discovered four families of mycoheterotrophic plants of angiosperms group (Burmanniaceae, Orchidaceae, Polygalaceae and Triuridaceae). These comprise of seven genera and 12 species reported for this protected forest. Among the species, *Epirixanthes confusa* and *Gymnosiphon aphyllus* were recorded for the first time in Sarawak. Two species endemics to Bornean region, *Cystorchis saprophytica* and *Epirixanthes confusa*. Orchidaceae and Polygalaceae families are the most diverse families, with four recorded species for each. The expedition area was considered pristine as many large dipterocarp trees above 60 cm diameter could be seen in the area²⁹.

24. Inland waterway transport is the mode of choice for movement of people and goods in and out of Middle and Upper Baram. The Baram River provides cost-effective means for transporting large volumes of passengers. Express boat services utilise the many waterways to get to rural areas in Middle and Upper Baram inaccessible by road. Besides, the Baram basin's ecosystem is used in a number of ways, including for water supply, food, irrigation, tourism and waste disposal.

Threats and Root Causes: Baram landscape

25. **Logging and expansion of plantation commodities**, including palm oil and rubber, have resulted in significant deforestation, resulting in biodiversity loss and deterioration of ecosystem services, such as soil and water conservation.

26. Much of the area identified as rich in wildlife is inhabited by indigenous communities, in which **hunting** is widespread. Snares and nets are often used during hunting activities and being indiscriminate in what they catch. Existing wildlife protection laws and ordinances are broadly appropriate on paper, but implementation is highly patchy³⁰. The old and existing logging trails in the area have allowed access to the forests for hunting. Encroachment, shifting cultivation and natural disasters such as droughts and floods have also contributed to land use change and forest degradation in Middle and Upper Baram. Roughly 3,000 ha of forest in Upper Baram was destroyed during the 1997– 1998 El Niño event.³¹

27. The combined impact of **climate and land cover change** in highland forests in the central spine of the mountainous interior of Borneo (including Upper Baram) is said to have negatively affected species which are physiologically specialised to narrow environmental conditions (e.g., Hose's civet)³².

²⁵ Mathai et al. (2010).

²⁶ Sarawak Museum Department (2010). The Sarawak Museum Journal. Vol. LXVII, No. 88

²⁷ Asad S., Mathai J., Laird D., Ong N. & Buckingham L. (2015). Preliminary Herpetofaunal Inventory of a Logging Concession in the Upper Baram, Sarawak, Borneo. Herpetological Review 46(1)

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Ling CY., Tsukaya H., Maryan A. & Mustapeng A. (2019). Mycoheterotrophic plants of Tama Abu Protected Forest, Ulu Baram, Sarawak. Transactions on Science and Technology Vol. 6, No. 1-2, 119 - 126

³⁰ Mathai J., Niedballa J., Radchuk V., Sollmann R., Heckmann I., Brodie J., Struebig M., Hearn AJ., Ross J., Macdonald DW., Hon J. & Wilting A. (2019). Identifying refuges for Borneo's elusive Hose's civet. Global Ecology and Conservation 17 e00531

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

Landscape delineation: Baram, Sarawak

28. The OP7 landscape in the Baram River basin is delineated by the jurisdictional borders of the Telang Usan District, which covers an expansive area of 982,900 ha in the north-eastern part of the state of Sarawak, as shown below in **Figure 3**.



Figure 3: Baram landscape map

Landscape 3: Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia

29. The Klang Valley landscape is geographically delineated by Titiwangsa Mountains to the north and east and the Strait of Malacca to the west. It extends to Rawang in the northwest, Semenyih in the southeast, and Klang and Port Klang in the southwest. The conurbation is the heartland of Malaysia's industry and commerce. Based on the data from year 2016, the Klang Valley is home to roughly 7.2 million people (22% of total Malaysia population). The city remains as the economic and business hub of the country. Kuala Lumpur is a centre for finance, insurance, real estate, media and the arts of Malaysia. The infrastructure development in the

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surrounding areas such as the Kuala Lumpur International Airport at Sepang, the creation of the Multimedia Super Corridor and the expansion of Port Klang further reinforce the economic significance of the city.

30. There are four main forest landscapes in and around the Klang Valley landscape: (a) the Selangor State Park situated in the eastern fringe of the state; (b) mangrove forests along the state's coastline; (c) peat swamp forest in the northern and southern regions; and (d) remnants of lowland dipterocarp forest scattered across the landscape.

31. **Selangor State Park in the eastern fringe of the state.** The Selangor State Park, managed by the Forestry Department of Selangor, was gazetted by the state in 2007 under the National Forestry Act Enactment 2005 of Selangor. The Selangor State Park covers 108,000 ha of land, representing the third largest park in Peninsular Malaysia. It spans three districts, from Hulu Selangor at the northern tip of Selangor State, through Gombak, down to Hulu Langat in the south. The Park has many distinct physical features, including unique quartz ridges, montane sites and the southernmost foothills of the main range. It is classified as an Environmentally Sensitive Area Rank 1 under the National Physical Plan, i.e., no development, agriculture or logging shall be permitted, except for eco-tourism, research and education.

32. The Park is the largest stretch of contiguous forest tract remaining in Selangor, part of the expansive Hulu-Gombak-Sungai Lalang forest – designated as a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA)³³ – and is identified as a crucial link in the Central Forest Spine, which is supposed to connect fragmented forests and create viable habitats for wildlife. The Park consists of mostly lowland dipterocarp forest (mostly found at elevations below 300 m) and hill dipterocarp forest (at elevations of 300-750 m). A total of 3,140 vascular plant species, 114 mammal species, 355 bird species, 104 freshwater fish species, and 202 reptilian and amphibian species were recorded. Over 1,000 moth species are found in the forests of the Hulu Gombak area alone³⁴.

33. Selangor and the Federal Territories of Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya depend on the Park for their most basic needs of clean air, water and maintenance of local climatic stability. The Park is a catchment for water contributing to the upper reaches of all major rivers in Selangor, including Bernam River, Selangor River, Klang River and Langat River. The Park area also feeds the five water-supply reservoirs that provide 98% of the water supply to Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya. These dams are the Sungai Selangor, Batu, Klang Gates, Langat and Semenyih dams.

34. **Mangrove forests along the coastline.** Selangor has a large area of mangrove forest. Selangor has about 90 km long of coastline starting from the mouth of Bernam River in the north to Sepang River in the south, not including the coastline of the islands. Along this stretch, more than 60% is covered by mangrove forest³⁵, part of the North-central Selangor Coast KBA. Out of 796,084 ha of the total land of Selangor, mangrove forests corresponded to between 2% and 3% of the total land area³⁶. This forest type plays an important role in protecting coastlines from wave actions and acts as a buffer for the surrounding communities as well as a source of income for the state. Mangrove ecosystems provide breeding grounds and nursery sites for a variety of terrestrial and marine organisms, including many commercial species and juvenile reef fish. Mangrove forests accumulate carbon in tree biomass³⁷.

35. **Peat swamp forest in the northern and southern regions.** Peat swamp forests cover more than a third of the total permanent forest reserves in Selangor. The North Selangor Peat Swamp Forest is one of the main peat swamp forests in Selangor. It covers an area of 81,304 ha, comprising of Raja Musa Forest Reserve, Sungai Karang Forest Reserve, Sungai Dusun Forest/Wildlife Reserve and part of Bukit Belata Forest Reserve Extension. Peat swamp forests are also found in the southern region of Selangor. The peat swamp forest provides the following ecosystem services: a source of natural products (timber and non-timber forest products); source of

³³ KBAs are sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity, www.keybiodiversityareas.org

³⁴TrEES. <https://www.trees.org.my/programmes/communities-for-conservation/taman-warisan-negeri-selangor/role-of-the-park>

³⁵ Hamzah KA., Omar H., Ibrahim S. & Harun I. (2009). Digital Change Detection of Mangrove Forest in Selangor Using Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS), The Malaysian Forester 72 (1): 61-69

³⁶ Reza, MIH. & Abdullah SA. (2016). Developing Ecosystem Maps Using Eco-Geological Information for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources. Open Journal of Ecology, 6, 343-357. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/oje.2016.66033>

³⁷ Carugati, L., Gatto, B. & Rastelli, E. (2018). Impact of mangrove forests degradation on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning. Sci Rep 8, 13298. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-018-31683-0>

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freshwater supply; regulation of hydrology/flood mitigation; biodiversity conservation; carbon storage; ecotourism³⁸. Peat swamp forests are rich in flora and fauna. Valuable timbers such as Ramin, Meranti Bakau and non-timber forest products such as daun palas and fishes such as Tapah are found in these forests. Tapir (*Tapirus indicus*, IUCN Red List Endangered EN), sun bear (*Helarctos malayanus*, IUCN Red List Vulnerable VU), Wild Boar, white-handed gibbon (*Hylobates lar*, IUCN Red List Endangered EN), long-tailed macaque (*Macaca fascicularis*, IUCN Red List Vulnerable VU) are observed in the forests³⁹.

36. **Remnants of lowland dipterocarp forest.** Due to years of urbanisation and infrastructure development, the lowland dipterocarp forest that once dominated the Klang Valley landscape are now fragmented. These patches of lowland dipterocarp forests such as the Kota Damansara Community Forest, Shah Alam Community Forest, Bukit Cerakah Forest Reserve, forests in the buffer to the Selangor State Park, and Bukit Kiara still harbour rich biodiversity and offer great recreational, educational and aesthetic value to the urban population.

Threats and Root Causes: Klang Valley landscape

37. **Urbanisation** exerts great pressure to the natural ecosystems of the Klang Valley landscape. Pressures include increased demands for water, pollution, disposal of rubbish and fragmentation of forests. The construction of Phase 1 of the Kuala Lumpur Outer Ring Road has seen a de-gazettement of 106.6 ha of land from four forest reserves in Selangor, namely the Ampang, Bukit Seputeh, Ulu Gombak and Ulu Langat Forest Reserves.

38. Due to anthropogenic development activities (e.g., housing development, road constructions and golf course development), many of the natural ecosystems have become isolated and are suffering from diminishing functionality within the patch-mosaic matrix of the Klang Valley landscape. Reza et al (2016) estimated that the proportion of the built-up area in Selangor stood at 19.1% in 2005, much higher than the 4% recorded in 1995. Among the different ecosystems, the lowland area experienced most destruction. More specifically, the lowland dipterocarp forests, peat-swamp forests, and mangrove forests had been modified at a faster rate compared to other forest ecosystems⁴⁰.

39. Land development including for urban and suburban settlements, establishment of shrimp farms, and expansion of agricultural lands has been identified as the main factors contributing to the depletion of the mangrove areas. In addition, **natural phenomena** such as El-Nino and La-Nina and coastal erosion have also significantly deteriorated the prominence of mangroves in the region⁴¹.

40. A major threat to the peat swamp forest is **fire** which has impacted more than 5,000 ha of the forest over the past 10-15 years. Fires lead to loss of forest habitat and biodiversity and generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and smoke which affect the health of local communities⁴².

41. Some of the existing/proposed community forests (e.g., Shah Alam Community Forest, forests in the buffer to the Selangor State Park, Bukit Kiara) do not yet have the necessary legal protection for them to be protected permanently. Even for environmentally sensitive sites around the Selangor State Park such as areas to Batang Kali, Gading, Hulu Langat, Serendah and Sungai Lalang Forest Reserves, and whole of Semangko (Extension) Forest Reserve (about 15,355 ha) are yet to be gazetted by the Selangor State Government⁴³.

42. Some forests are **overused** and not well maintained and conserved. More often than not, they do not have a management plan/landscape development master plan. As a result, most of the development that has

³⁸ Selangor State Forestry Department (2014). Integrated Management Plan for North Selangor Peat Swamp Forest 2014-2023.

³⁹ Ibid

⁴⁰ Reza, MIH. & Abdullah SA. (2016). Developing Ecosystem Maps Using Eco-Geological Information for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources. Open Journal of Ecology, 6, 343-357. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/oje.2016.66033>

⁴¹ Hamzah KA., Omar H., Ibrahim S. & Harun I. (2009). Digital Change Detection of Mangrove Forest in Selangor Using Remote Sensing and Geographic Information System (GIS), The Malaysian Forester 72 (1): 61-69

⁴² Selangor State Forestry Department (2014). Integrated Management Plan for North Selangor Peat Swamp Forest 2014-2023

⁴³ TrEES. <https://www.trees.org.my/programmes/communities-for-conservation/taman-warisan-negeri-selangor/map-and-area>

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been implemented is on an *ad hoc* basis and seeks to satisfy users' demand. This has resulted in difficulty in creating recreational forest identity and fulfilling sustainable landscape development requirements⁴⁴. The Kota Damansara Community Forest management plan has yet to get the full buy-in from the Selangor Forestry Department.

43. ...
...

Landscape delineation: Klang Valley

44. Klang Valley is an urban conglomeration in Malaysia that is centred in Kuala Lumpur and includes its adjoining cities and towns in the state of Selangor. There are no official borders drawn, so in general it encompasses the federal territories and several other districts in its vicinity, namely Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, Federal Territory of Putrajaya, and the adjacent Selangor districts. The soft boundary delineation of this OP7 landscape is shown on the map below in **Figure 4**.

⁴⁴ Kher M. (2014). Sustainability of Three Recreational Forest Landscape Management in Selangor, Malaysia Journal of Design and Built Environment Vol. 14 (2), December

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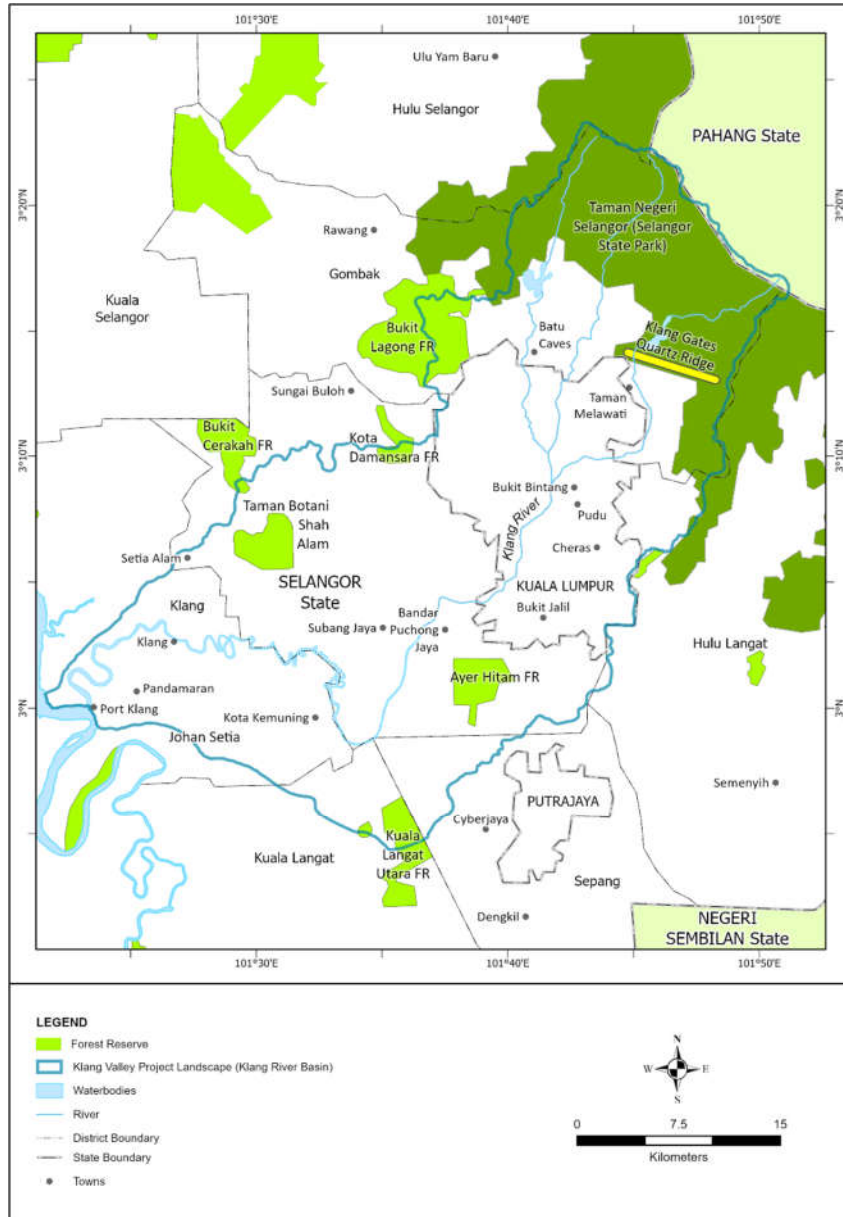


Figure 4: Klang Valley landscape map

More information on the project landscapes and threats and root causes is provided in the *Landscape Profiles* in **Annex 12** to the Project Document.

Baseline scenario

45. The results achieved during earlier SGP operational phases, and from investments of the Government of Malaysia and funding from other donors provide a solid foundation upon which the OP7 project will build. The Government of Malaysia is committed to improving biodiversity conservation, restoring degraded lands, and mainstreaming low-emissions development. These environmental objectives are underpinned by the government’s priority to increase the well-being of citizens across the country, particularly those in marginalized and under-developed communities. The SGP has a strong track record in Malaysia, developing capacities among the civil society sector for genuine participation in sustainable development initiatives throughout the country.

46. Through the focused investment of GEF resources, together with strong cofinancing, the OP7 project will bring together and build on baseline investments, demonstrating the multiple benefits associated with

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integrated landscape approaches, where landscape management is based on consensus among multiple stakeholders. Driven by bottom-up approaches in accordance with the SGP mandate of empowering local communities, the project will bring together multiple actors to collectively generate global environmental benefits and strengthen socio-ecological resilience.

Baseline - SGP in Malaysia:

47. The SGP Malaysia Country Programme has supported more than 233 projects since 1999 for a total amount in grants of USD 8,456,484 from GEF and USD 12,174,608 from co-financing in cash and USD 6,107,025 co-financing in kind. SGP has supported more than 160 grantee organizations in the three sub-national regions of Malaysia (Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak).

48. **Biodiversity:** SGP has contributed significantly to the eventual gazettement of **Tun Mustapha Marine Park (TMP)** with a protected area of 900,000 ha, by provide funding and technical support to local communities to build their capacities for co-management and alternative livelihoods development. It also helped to scale up community participation in resource management and capacity building to support the establishment of the TMP as well as to facilitate sustainable livelihood improvement. This has contributed to Aichi Target 11 where the total coastal and marine areas gazetted as protected areas in Malaysia increased from 1.1% in 2013 to 3.4% in 2017 due to gazettement of Tun Mustapha Park as protected area in 2016.

49. In terms of flagship species conservation, SGP supported projects that promoted the use of **turtle excluder devices (TEDs)** on commercial shrimp trawling to reduce sea turtle by-catch. The TED project has changed fishery policy and achieved nationwide impacts. Through capacity building for both the fisherfolk communities and authorities/policy makers, an NGO-led initiative was expanded to a national level and led to the establishment of a national policy on the use of TEDs on shrimp trawlers, beginning in Peninsular Malaysia. This project especially contributed to the National Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity in Malaysia (Plan 2) under the Strategy 2: Review and implement effective conservation and management measures.

50. SGP was one of the first to provide support for **mangrove** ecosystem regeneration in Malaysia through fishermen's associations. The positive impacts generated by this activity have attracted the interest of many private enterprises to fund, such projects under their corporate social responsibility. Knowledge of mangrove rehabilitation techniques, such as Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation, and traditional knowledge have been shared with many other communities as an effective way of mangrove rehabilitation. By using these techniques, local livelihoods have been improved through higher fish catch, promotion of ecotourism and production and sale of handicrafts in several sites located in Penang, Selangor and Johor.

51. The SGP Annual Report 2015 quoted the Sabah Bio-Cultural Law Project (SBLP) as an exemplary gender empowerment project. By using focus groups in the community, women are able to get involved in planning and decision-making processes. Participatory methods in training sessions, workshops, role-playing scenarios, and dialogues also increased the participation of women in the project planning process. As a result, when project implementation began, women were elected by the community to fill five representative positions on the Melangkap Bio-Cultural Committee, whose task was to ensure smooth relations between the project proponent and the five districts. The Sabah Biodiversity Centre is now using this protocol to set up Prior Informed Consent Protocols in other communities for the Access and Benefit Sharing Law that is currently under development in Malaysia.

52. SGP Malaysia also participated in the **SGP Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI)**. There are eight community-based ICCA projects implemented by indigenous peoples with focus on ICCA territory documentation, community protocol development, documentation of traditional knowledge and practices, and governance and management of ICCAs. A legal review of Malaysian laws related to indigenous customary land rights was also conducted to identify gaps and obstacles to the recognition of ICCA territory rights. The outputs of the ICCA project will provide valuable inputs to new government efforts in reviewing policy and laws on indigenous people land rights.

53. The Country Program has achieved good results in supporting local community adoption of various **sustainable livelihood** activities. SGP has funded projects on the promotion of ecotourism at Tasek Bera

(Pahang), Ulu Geroh (Perak), Sedili Kechil, Kg. Linting and Endau Rompin (Johor), Langkawi (Kedah), Sg. Nenggiri (Kelantan), Ma'Daerah (Terengganu), Kota Belud, Penampang, Kinabatangan, and Kudat (Sabah), Bau and Semantan (Sarawak). In addition, the development of environmental and conservation education programmes at the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) raised awareness on the importance of protecting Sun Bear habitats and preventing poaching and trafficking. The collaboration between the BSBCC and Sabah's State Forestry and Wildlife Department further led to a policy that supports the conservation of the Sun Bear.

54. **Climate Change:** The SGP portfolio has supported 11 micro-hydro, solar energy and biogas projects under the Climate Change focal area for over 3,000 local people that were without access to the electrical grid in remote locations. The power generated ranges from 3 kWh to 20 kWh. These projects reduce reliance on fossil fuels for lighting and reduce the burden to buy diesel to run generators with a cost saving of USD 100 – 200 per month per household. The reduced fossil fuel usage also contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as well as generating alternative income. The women were able to generate incomes from sewing and bakery, men were able to start businesses on carpentry and rice milling. The success of these projects also lies within project design that incorporates other cross cutting areas, such as protection of watershed catchments (an important element of conservation of biodiversity) and more importantly, enforcing ownership through active local community engagement. Through capacity-building and training, local communities have learned to manage renewable energy systems, ensuring the sound financial viability and the sustainability of micro-hydro systems, for example, through the establishment of community-based committees. The micro-hydro systems built with the support of SGP remain in operation more than 10 years after the end of SGP project support. Common principles and underlying modalities of community-based micro-hydro systems have been shared with government authorities. There are promising developments for replicating micro-hydro projects in another 20 villages in Sabah, and similar efforts are required in Sarawak.

55. **Land Degradation:** SGP Malaysia supported many projects on sustainable farming such as organic farming, agroforestry, System of Rice Intensification (SRI paddy), and production of natural fertilizers and pesticides. Many communities, especially indigenous groups, have increased their knowledge of resilience-enhancing farming practices and are able to become self-sustaining in producing rice, vegetables, fruits and livestock for their own consumption. A community-learning resilient farm in Penampang, Sabah, was established with support from SGP to provide consistent training for indigenous peoples and has served as seed bank for indigenous species in Sabah. Several Farmer Field Schools to promote SRI paddy planting were also established with SGP support in Selangor, Kelantan, Johor, Sabah and Sarawak to provide hands-on training for farmers on SRI methods of paddy planting. SRI methods enable the farmer to use less water (30% saving of water) and obtain higher rice yields in paddy planting.

56. **Chemicals and POPs:** SGP funded a project to raise the awareness of consumers, demonstrate viable and cost-effective alternatives to POPs products and reduce emissions of unintentional POPs and facing out of the use of mercury products. The project was conducted in five states: Penang, Perlis, Kedah, Perak and Selangor. A well-documented book was published with an explanation of POPs, advocating a POPs-free lifestyle. Provision of alternatives and lessons learned in this project can be facilitated for replication of good practices at the national, regional and global levels.

57. To ensure the influence of upscaling and policy on conservation while generating co-benefits in terms of additional income and capacity for the grantees, SGP will use the experience and resources from the past operational phases to identify potential projects to identify and link sub-national research and training organizations in project formulation and implementation.

Baseline - Government programmes:

58. Malaysia is committed to pursuing sustainable development and has continuously undertaken efforts in mainstreaming of biodiversity, to achieve a low-carbon, resource-efficient, resilient and sustainable economy in the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (2021-2025). The plan provides post-2020 a clear strategic direction and includes measures for further strengthening the enabling environment for green growth, adopt sustainable consumption and production (SCP) concepts, conserve natural resources and strengthen resilience against climate change and natural disasters. The Malaysian government intensified financing of rural electrification programs in the early 2000s, involving grid extension and the installation of stand-alone systems comprising solar PV, mini-hydro, and

hybrid systems. Significant gains have been made, but there remain gaps in coverage in remote areas including parts of the project landscapes in the states of Sabah and Sarawak in East Malaysia.

Baseline activities: CRBR landscape, Sabah

59. There have been at three major conservation programmes implemented in and around the CRBR, namely **Bornean Biodiversity and Ecosystem Conservation Programme (BBEC)** (Phases I-III – 2002-2017), **Kinabalu Ecolinc** (2014-2021) and **EU-REDD+ project** (2013-2020).

- Supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the BBEC was a bilateral technical corporation programme between the Government of Malaysia and Government of Japan. The programme sought to provide capacity building and enhance networks for the implementation of sustainable development for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation in the CRBR.
- Initiated by Sabah Parks with technical support of the European Union (EU), the aim of the Kinabalu Ecolinc project was to improve ecological connectivity between Kinabalu Park and Crocker Range Park.
- The Sabah-EU-REDD+ project was carried out concurrently with the Kinabalu Ecolinc project, a demonstration initiative involving community-conserved areas and community-based forest management under the REDD+ framework in Sabah, led by Sabah Parks in coordination with the EU-REDD+ project of Sabah Forestry Department. The Ecolinc project has been granted two time-extensions and is scheduled to close in November 2021.

60. The three initiatives listed above gave special attention to creating alternative livelihoods for local communities and strengthening their involvement in sustainable farming and forest management. The SGP OP7 projects may build upon the results of these three initiatives.

61. There are several CCM initiatives in Sabah that are complementary to the work of the SGP. In terms of renewable (RE), in addition to the micro-hydro projects, Green Empowerment has been working with the PACOS Trust and Tonibung to bring biogas digester technology to rural communities.

62. There are also several carbon sequestration projects in Sabah. To the east of the Crocker Range, the Innoprise-Face Foundation Rainforest Rehabilitation Project (INFAPRO) involves rehabilitating 25,000 ha of logged-over forest (with estimated avoided emissions of 4,140,409 tCO₂e). This project received validation from the Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS) in 2011 and has a crediting period of 30 years from 2007 to 2036. The carbon sales are being implemented by the Face the Future Foundation of The Netherlands which has been selling CO₂ certificates (known as “VERs: Verified Emission Reductions”, also “Voluntary Emission Reductions”) since 2005 and has marketed over 2 million VERs. The average price for VERs was around EUR 3 in 2017.⁴⁵

63. In addition, the Kinabalu Ecolinc landscape to the north of the Crocker Range was one of three focal sites for the Sabah-EU REDD+ project. This REDD+ project’s full title was “Tackling Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Community Development” and was carried out from 2014 to 2020 with a total amount of over EUR 4 million.⁴⁶ The project involved the establishment of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in selected communities; community-based restoration of degraded habitat in CCAs and adjacent areas; development of sustainable agriculture for livelihoods and enhanced land management; and enhancing forest-related community tourism options to support forest management. The EU project combined LIDAR and ground survey of forest in Sabah suggests an average carbon stock in the range of 100-200 t C per ha.⁴⁷

64. Finally the Crocker Range is within a 220,000-km² area that has been declared to be the “Heart of Borneo” (HoB) under by a 2007 declaration by the governments of Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia (with the support of WWF). The aim of the Heart of Borneo initiative is to conserve biodiversity through a network of

⁴⁵ REDD Desk, (2019). ‘INFAPRO Rehabilitation of logged-over dipterocarp forest in Sabah’: <https://theredddesk.org/countries/Malaysia>

⁴⁶ Sabah-EU REDD+ Project: Tackling Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Community Development, <http://www.forest.sabah.gov.my/REDD+/index.html>

⁴⁷ Jucker, T., Asner, G.P., Dalponte, M., Brodrick, P.G., Philipson, C.D., Vaughn, N.R., Teh, Y.A., Brelsford, C., Burslem, D.F., Deere, N.J. and Ewers, R.M. (2018). Estimating aboveground carbon density and its uncertainty in Borneo’s structurally complex tropical forests using airborne laser scanning. *Biogeosciences*, 15(12), pp.3811-3830.

protected areas, sustainable management of forests and other sustainable land uses. The Heart of Borneo involves several aspects related to the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector, and is also relevant to the Crocker Range landscape.

Baseline activities: Baram landscape, Sarawak

65. The Borneo Project, a US-based NGO has been supporting local communities in Middle and Upper Baram to preserve and conserve biodiversity and local ecosystems, promote sustainable livelihoods, preserve indigenous land rights and support cultural conservation efforts⁴⁸. Save Rivers, a local NGO, supports and empowers local communities to protect their land, rivers, and watersheds through capacity building, networking, research, education, and advocacy. Having succeeded in stopping the proposed Baram Dam, Save Rivers is now work with local and international partners to promote village-scale renewable energy systems, promote indigenous land rights and indigenous-led conservation, build capacity in rural communities, and further the protection of all of Sarawak's rivers⁴⁹. By and large, the focus of these two NGOs is very much on policy advocacy and campaigning.

66. Environmental NGOs such as WWF-Malaysia is actively involved in sustainable forest management, working with the Forestry Department, timber companies and local communities. WCS has left the area 10 years ago. Friends of the Earth Malaysia is more active in the lower part of the Baram River and does not have the resources to operate in Upper Baram. PACOS and Tonibung have only intermittent presence in the area.

67. In short, apart from the achievement by some of these NGOs and community leaders in getting the various multi-ethnic settlements of Penan, Kenyah, Kelabit and Saban to come together to develop the proposed Baram Eco-Community Forest, there are limited numbers of complementary biodiversity conservation baseline activities that the SGP OP7 could build upon in this landscape.

68. The OP7 project may collaborate with and build on the works of the NTFP-Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP). NTFP-EP is a collaborative network of over 60 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) working with forest-based communities to strengthen their capacity in the sustainable management of natural resources in the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Cambodia. The NEFP-EP established its presence in Miri, Sarawak in 2006. Its main areas of work include empowering its partners through information and knowledge exchange of appropriate resource management techniques and experiences, technical support and training, inputs in strategy discussions, documentation of best practices and success stories, mobilization of resources and contacts, advocacy support for local initiatives, and lobby for enabling policies⁵⁰.

69. There are several Sarawak-level policies, programmes and stakeholders that are relevant to CCM. In terms of RE, the Sarawak policy has been evolving. In 2008, the government launched the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) which envisioned the creation of several new mega-hydro projects including a hydroelectric dam on the Baram river. In 2016, following public opposition, the Baram Dam project was cancelled, and the government embarked on a programme named the Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme ('SARES') which involves support for solar and micro-hydro technologies for remote communities.⁵¹ Presently more than 1,700 households from 87 villages have been given access to 24-hour renewable energy under this initiative. Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) is the state-owned company responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity for the state of Sarawak. SEB aims to connect more than 30,000 additional rural households under this scheme by 2025.

70. In addition to these forest-based initiatives, there is the Sabah and Sarawak Biomass Industry Development Plan. This plan was developed in 2016 by Agensi Inovasi Malaysia (AIM), the Ministry of Industrial Development Sabah and the Sarawak State Planning Unit (SPU). This plan calls for the building of biofuel and biochemical plants in clusters across Sabah and Sarawak.⁵²

⁴⁸ <https://borneoproject.org/our-story/>

⁴⁹ <https://saverivers.org/about/>

⁵⁰ <https://ntfp.org/what-we-do/>

⁵¹ There are no similar state agencies in Sabah or Selangor

⁵² Recoda 2016. Launching of Sabah and Sarawak Biomass Industry Development Plan. Available online:

Baseline activities: Klang Valley landscape, Peninsular Malaysia

71. The Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) initiative provides a natural template for developing and managing community forests in Klang Valley. Through the joint effort of like-minded CSOs, NGOs and local communities, a remnant of lowland mixed dipterocarp rainforest of 800 acres (324 ha) in Kota Damansara was finally gazetted as a permanent reserve in February 2010.

72. There are also similar initiatives of other community groups (registered and unregistered) that the SGP OP7 projects may leverage. This includes, among others, initiatives by Friends of Bukit Kiara, Shah Alam Community Forest Society, Ampang Jaya Forest Collab, MyChangkul, and Urban Biodiversity Initiative, and Selamatkan Kuala Lumpur.

73. TrEES (Treat Every Environment Special) is an active member of the Save Selangor Forest Coalition which includes six other NGOs, including Pertubuhan Alam Sekitar Sejahtera Malaysia (GRASS Malaysia), Persatuan Aktivis Sahabat Alam (KUASA), Centre for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC), Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM), and Global Environment Centre (GEC). TrEES is also working to support grassroots initiatives in Ampang and Shah Alam.

74. The Habitat Foundation, one of the OP7 project's co-financing partners, has agreed to work together with SGP to promote community-based forest management in the Klang Valley.

75. PLAN Malaysia has carried out a study proposing that the forested headwaters of the Klang Valley catchment be designated as a UNESCO Geopark.

76. The Government of Malaysia and NGOs have several ongoing initiatives related to CCM in the Klang Valley. To date the government's efforts to increase rail-based public transportation are reported to have resulted in a reduction of 242.24 Gg CO₂eq of carbon emissions.

77. In 2019 the federal government has allocated about MYR 800,000 (approx. USD 200,000) to the Mineral and Geoscience Department of Malaysia (JMG) to build two tube wells in Johan Setia under its peat fire prevention programme.

78. An IFAD-GEF project (endorsed in Jan 2018) on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems is under implementation with the Global Environment Centre (several activities under this project are focused on Selangor and may be relevant to the Klang Valley).

Problems to be addressed:

79. The **essential problem to be addressed** by this project is that the necessary participatory action in Malaysia for adaptive management of natural resources and ecosystem processes for sustainable development and global environmental benefits is hindered by the organisational, technical, and financial management weaknesses of the local communities living and working in the target urban and rural landscapes to act strategically and collectively in building social and ecological resilience.

Long-term vision of the project:

80. The long-term vision of the OP7 project is to generate multiple benefits for biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, and the well-being of local communities through participatory, integrated land and resource management approaches implemented across socio-ecological production landscapes.

Barrier analysis:

81. The following barriers are currently impeding the achievement of this vision:

<https://www.recoda.com.my/launching-of-sabah-sarawak-biomass-industry-development-plan/>



82. **Barrier 1:** Community organizations in rural landscapes, as well as NGOs in urban areas, lack greater long-term visions and strategies for ecosystem and resource management and suffer from weak adaptive management capacities, i.e. to innovate, test alternatives, monitor and evaluate results and adjust practices and techniques to meet challenges and lessons learned.

83. **Barrier 2:** Community organisations have insufficient organizational capacities to plan, manage, and implement initiatives and actions of their own design in favour of landscape resilience objectives in rural areas efficiently and effectively, and are not genuinely involved in decisions related to natural resource management made by State governmental entities and timber companies.

84. **Barrier 3:** Community organisations and NGOs coordinate insufficiently with other community organisations to pursue collective action for global environmental and landscape management outcomes at a landscape scale.

85. **Barrier 4:** Knowledge from project experience with innovation/experimentation is not systematically analysed, recorded or disseminated to policy makers or other communities, organizations and program initiatives.

86. **Barrier 5:** Community organisations and NGOs lack sufficient financial resources to lower the risks associated with innovating land and resource management practices and sustaining or scaling up successful experiences.

87. These barriers result in poor coordination among stakeholders within the landscape, inadequate technical, managerial and other capacities, lack of awareness and information, inadequate funding and incentives, and poor implementation of projects and other initiatives.

National policy alignment:

88. The Malaysia SGP Country Programme will continue to support national priorities under OP7 and work in full partnership with all relevant government policies, plans, and programmes including but not limited to the following:

- **12th Malaysia Plan 2021-2025;** particularly with respect to the strategic thrust on pursuing green growth for sustainability and resilience.
- **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD 2016-2025;** aligned with the give overarching goals of the NBSAP, including stakeholder empowerment, reducing pressures on biodiversity, safeguarding ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity, ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilisation of biodiversity, and building the capacity of stakeholders. Moreover, Goal 1 and Target 2 call for the contributions of indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society in conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity, this project is targeted to build the capacity for collective actions for local community and indigenous peoples to provide efforts in biodiversity conservation. The NBSAP also highlights the need to develop community conserved areas as an integral part of the country Protected Areas system.
- **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under UNFCCC 2015,** which outlines how Malaysia intends to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030, which consists of 35% on an unconditional basis and a further 10% conditional upon receipt of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed countries.
- **National REDD Plus Strategy;** closely aligned with the three parts of the strategy: (1) actions to build synergies and coherence between Federal and State governments in addressing climate change, biodiversity, and forest policies; (2) actions to reduce emissions and enhance sinks in forests and conservation of biological resources; and (3) develop a sustainable financing mechanism.
- **Heart of Borneo Initiative;** assuring adequate and timely resources are channelled into biodiversity conservation in Sabah and Sarawak.
- **National Action Plan on Peatlands (NAPP) 2011-2020;** regarding assessment, protection, rehabilitation, integrated management, fire protection and control of peatland resources.

ICS

Relevance to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework:

89. The project is relevant with respect to several of the **sustainable development goals (SDGs)**, most notably SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), as outlined below in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Project contributions towards Sustainable Development Goals

SDG	Project Contribution:
	10,000 estimated direct beneficiaries, participating and benefitting in interventions on strengthening access to natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services. (aligned with SDG 1.1) Landscape strategies provide pro-poor and gender-sensitive frameworks for accelerating development in poverty-stricken areas. (aligned with SDG 1.b)
	Project will promote sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production and help maintain ecosystems and strengthen resilience to climate change. (aligned with SDG 2.4)
	50% of the envisaged direct beneficiaries are estimated to be female (5,000 individuals). Women empowerment is expected to be strengthened through increased autonomy on agricultural production systems and energy use, enhanced decision-making regarding credit, increased leadership through active participation in women's groups, and reduction in workload. (aligned with SDG 5.a)
	Local communities have increased access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services, through increased access to renewable energy and broader adoption of energy efficient solutions. (aligned with SDG 7.1)
	The landscape strategies will provide integrated frameworks towards social inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters. (aligned with SDG 11.b)
	An estimated 43,000 ha of landscapes will be brought under improved management practices, through implementation of sustainable land management, participatory management of natural resources, and participatory restoration-rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems. (aligned with SDG 12.2)
	Climate change measures will be integrated into the landscape strategies and implemented across the target landscapes. (aligned with SDG 13.2) Local communities will have increased awareness of climate change mitigation through learning-by-doing capacity building and training delivered through partnerships with expert organizations and interactions with the NGOs, local, state and national government and the private sector. (aligned with SDG 13.3)
	The project aims to improve management practices across 43,000 ha (aligned with SDG 15.2) and facilitate restoration-rehabilitation of 1,000 ha of degraded ecosystems (aligned with SDG 15.3). Biodiversity values will be integrated into the landscape strategies (aligned with 15.9), and co-financing from government, private sector and civil society will be mobilised to support conservation and restoration interventions (aligned with SDG 15.b).
	Enhancing South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to best management approaches, specifically participatory models strengthening socio-ecological resilience of production landscapes (aligned with SDG 17.6).

90. The project will also contribute to achievement of the targets outlined in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework⁵³, which was under development at the time of developing the Project Document. The project is aligned with the following draft 2030 Action Targets of the zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:

- **Target 1.** By 2030, [50%] of land and sea areas globally are under spatial planning addressing land/sea use change, retaining most of the existing intact and wilderness areas, and allow to restore [X%] of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial natural ecosystems and connectivity among them.

⁵³ CBD, 17 August 2020. Update of the Zero Draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD/POST2020/PREP/2/1. The term "post-2020 global biodiversity framework" is used as a placeholder pending decision on the final name at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.



- **Target 7.** By 2030, increase contributions to climate change mitigation adaption and disaster risk reduction from nature-based solutions and ecosystems-based approaches, ensuring resilience and minimizing any negative impacts on biodiversity.
- **Target 9.** By 2030, support the productivity, sustainability and resilience of biodiversity in agricultural and other managed ecosystems through conservation and sustainable use of such ecosystems, reducing productivity gaps by at least [50%].
- **Target 11.** By 2030, increase benefits from biodiversity and green/blue spaces for human health and well-being, including the proportion of people with access to such spaces by at least [100%], especially for urban dwellers.
- **Target 13.** By 2030, integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts at all levels, ensuring that biodiversity values are mainstreamed across all sectors and integrated into assessments of environmental impacts.
- **Target 19.** By 2030, ensure that quality information, including traditional knowledge, is available to decision makers and public for the effective management of biodiversity through promoting awareness, education and research.
- **Target 20.** By 2030, ensure equitable participation in decision-making related to biodiversity and ensure rights over relevant resources of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and girls as well as youth, in accordance with national circumstances.

III. STRATEGY

91. The project objective is “to enable community organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management in building socio-ecological resilience in i) the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah; ii) the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and iii) the Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia for global environmental benefits and sustainable development”. The project strategy as the GEF alternative aims, at removing the barriers outlined above in the Development Challenge section through achievement of the following mutually supportive outcomes:

Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection

Outcome 1.1: Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions

Outcome 1.2: Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level

Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management

Outcome 2.1: Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience

Outcome 2.2: Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches

Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation

Outcome 3.1: Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation

Incremental cost reasoning

92. Although government agencies and institutions can be seen to be taking concrete steps to tackle environmental problems by setting plans and strategies and implementing activities on the ground, these are often piecemeal and rarely comprise an integrated approach to enhancing socio-ecological resilience of rural and urban landscapes. Sectoral approaches are often top-down, which results in lack of local ownership since stakeholder agency is diminished, goals do not arise from stakeholder dialogues and felt needs, and local capacities are left limited. In the absence of GEF funding, local CBOs will not be able to overcome the barriers that block the design and implementation of community-driven resilience-enhancing activities. Local civil society will continue to be frustrated in addressing sustainable development problems affecting their communities, landscapes and the global environment. These organizations will not build their capacities through learning-by-doing and will be unable to play a vital role in changing people’s behaviour to favour sustainability and global environmental values. Government funding will continue to be spent ineffectively without tackling the landscape trends and patterns determining socio-ecological resilience. Government resources are rarely directed towards community engagement with global environmental protection. Without GEF resources, biodiversity loss will continue given the tendencies to involve communities only peripherally in addressing these problems.

93. Women and youth will be also affected by the absence of GEF funding since one of the main targets of SGP initiatives is their empowerment, in particular by assisting them to launch small-scale sustainable businesses. Without GEF funding, demonstration and application of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies are unlikely to occur at scale or as dynamically as occurs through the SGP networks of community organizations.

94. The business-as-usual scenario in the absence of the GEF Small Grants Programme will mean ongoing global environmental degradation from unsustainable production activities, primarily affecting biodiversity in the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve and the Baram watershed in Sarawak, but also in inhibiting the rehabilitation of biodiversity in the Klang Valley. Government or other top-down initiatives will enjoy only partial support from local stakeholders and their results will be diminished as a consequence. In the absence of proactive involvement by local stakeholders, the prospects of sustainability will be difficult. In the Klang Valley, in particular, the lack of community involvement and ownership of green space initiatives within a broad cityscape strategy to reinvigorate biodiversity in an urban setting will result in weak attempts and failure. The BAU scenario

for climate change would reflect diminishing or weak citizen engagement in energy efficiency and renewable energy alternatives in cooling, water heating, transport and lighting, while in remote areas of Sarawak or Sabah, communities will be unlikely to access electricity from renewable resources and, given the prohibitive cost of grid extension, remain unserved and dependent on fossil fuels for lighting, in particular.

95. GEF incremental funding and co-financing will be applied to overcome the barriers mentioned above and to add value, where appropriate and possible, to existing initiatives by the government, the private sector or CSOs in the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve (Sabah), Middle and Upper Baram (Sarawak) and Klang Valley (Peninsular Malaysia) in Malaysia.

96. The stakeholder consultations carried out during the PPG phase and baseline studies have identified a role for the SGP in helping to coordinate the activities of civil society organizations in the Klang Valley towards achieving a more inclusive and more organized stakeholder network working on community forest management, including the community forests buffering the Selangor State Park, which covers part of the Hulu-Gombak-Sungai Lalang Forest KBA. Civil society organizations are more active in the Klang Valley, as compared to the other two project landscapes. The SGP grants are expected to provide incremental support to ongoing initiatives in the landscape, facilitating increased protection of globally significant biodiversity and demonstrating low emission development approaches that can be upscaled elsewhere in the landscape and other parts of Malaysia. Through the SGP strategic grant modality, the OP7 project is envisaged to help develop a network/umbrella organization to act as a catalyst for grassroots community forest initiatives.

97. GEF incremental funding and co-financing will contribute to the long-term solution of adaptive management of three important targeted landscapes in Malaysia for social, economic and ecological resilience and human well-being. Resources are also allocated in the OP7 project budget through the SGP strategic grant modality to upscale proven technologies, systems or practices based on knowledge from analysis of community innovations from past experience gained during previous phases of the SGP Malaysia Country Programme.

98. Formal multi-stakeholder group partnerships will provide technical assistance, strategic guidance and financial support, where possible, to community-based organizations for individual community initiatives, as well as landscape level projects and strategic upgrading projects.

Overview of project strategy:

99. **Component 1.** Community projects will be supported in agreement with the relevant GEF focal areas, including biodiversity (BD) and climate change mitigation (CCM). The landscape strategies and multi-stakeholder platforms developed and established under Component 2 will provide guidance to the selection and prioritization of these actions to be addressed by the community-level projects. The project's landscape approach provides an ecological and socio-economic framework for participatory biodiversity conservation and restoration initiatives, sustainable agroecological practices, and restoration of degraded land and forest ecosystems. Activities under Component 1 are also designed to strengthen capacities for community-level renewable energy (RE) and energy efficient (EE) solutions. Community grants will enable development of proven technologies such as micro- and pico- hydroelectric generators, energy efficient lighting systems, etc., as well as the broader adoption of successful applications that were implemented in previous operational phases.

100. Capacity building is an important aspect covered in Component 1. Training will be delivered to CBOs for technical skills, as well as financial management and business development, with a particular emphasis placed on developing capacities of women micro-entrepreneurs.

101. **Component 2** focuses on facilitating participatory, multi-stakeholder governance across the target landscapes. Participatory landscape strategies will be developed based upon the results obtained through participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments. The strategies will include landscape-level priorities, complementary initiatives and cofinancing opportunities, and also highlight social inclusiveness, including promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. Through the multi-stakeholder governance platforms, successful interventions and approaches will be mainstreamed by linking up with local and national initiatives, as well as complementing COVID-19 recovery efforts.

102. The durability of the project results will be further enhanced through facilitating new and strengthened partnerships with governmental departments and agencies, civil society, private sector, donor, and academic-research institutes. The OP7 project will build upon the knowledge management approaches that are a hallmark of the SGP, not only in Malaysia but globally, recording best practices and lessons learned and sharing with the multiple stakeholder groups.

103. Under **Component 3**, participatory monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be implemented to ensure the envisaged project results are achieved and social and environmental safeguards are respected. The M&E inputs from the individual grant projects will be consolidated, interpreted, and reported towards achievement of the end targets specified in the project results framework.

Strategic projects facilitating durable impacts:

104. Resources have been allocated in the OP7 budget for strategic grants, to help facilitate durable impacts. The strategic grants are envisaged to be awarded to experienced NGOs for delivering technical and strategic support, guiding local stakeholders in the implementation of landscape approaches and delivering advocacy for policy reform and upscaling.

105. Terms of reference will be developed during project implementation for the strategic grants in consultation with the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC), Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU), the UCP Global Coordinator, and the UNDP Country Office (CO), and then awarded through competitive procurement and agreed by the NSC.

Theory of Change:

106. The proposed GEF alternative to overcoming the barriers hindering achievement of genuine sustainable development in the target landscapes is predicated on a participatory and integrated landscape management approach, as outlined in the project theory of change in **Figure 5**. As shown in this diagram, the theory of change for the project is broken down into the following three causal pathways: (1) enhancing landscape resilience, (2) mainstreaming the landscape approach, and (3) enabling adaptive management. The integrated landscape approach implemented during the OP7 project is envisaged to be upscaled and sustained after GEF funding ceases, leading to protection of globally significant biodiversity and adoption of low-emission solutions at scale, support by a strengthened enabling environment that ensures knowledge sharing, capacity building, and inclusive monitoring and evaluation for achieving durable long-term impacts.

Causal Pathway 1: Enhancing landscape resilience

107. Participatory models of conservation and restoration-rehabilitation of ecosystems under the project will feed into the government's commitment and regulatory frameworks, assuming that governance conditions in the target landscapes permit restoration and conservation and local stakeholders are motivated and committed to participate. Over the longer term, ecosystem functions and environmental services will be ensured through conservation and restoration, with co-benefits generated for participating local communities. The effectiveness of these models will depend on enabling policies and incentives that are assumed will adapt to changing circumstances over time. The theory of change is also driven by mainstreaming agroecological practices and other biodiversity-focused approaches into production sectors. Furthermore, there need to be clear linkages between conservation goals and social outcomes, e.g., diversification of livelihoods through sustainable use of natural resources, genuine participatory conservation arrangements involve local communities into decision-making – including women and other marginalised groups, and traditional knowledge is respected and protected.

108. Sustaining and upscaling the low emission RE and EE solutions at the community level are similarly a function of having local capacity developed for operating and maintaining the systems. Moreover, the systems or solutions need to be reliable and affordable. Changing behaviours and preferences is also critical, which takes time and concerted effort. The project will be promoting RE and EE solutions through awareness campaigns, workshops and community meetings. Having accessible incentive mechanisms is also considered an impact driver for achieving upscaling and sustaining low emission energy interventions.

Causal Pathway 2: Mainstreaming the landscape approach

109. One of the key assumptions outlined in the project theory of change for advancing from project level outcomes to longer-term outcomes and ultimately to durable impacts is that the landscape approach is mainstreamed, e.g., through integrating the landscape strategies and priority action plans into local development mechanisms. Sustaining the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms is also important in ensuring the landscape strategies are maintained. The project will endeavour to strengthen existing governance platforms rather than establishing new ones, and advocating for broader representation, including women and other marginalized groups. The role of “change agents” in facilitating the requisite stakeholder engagement is critical. Such change agents could be local government officials, members of local NGOs or CBOs, or other individuals or groups. Identifying and strengthening the capacity of change agents will be a part of the landscape approach in each of the target landscapes.

110. Further development of enabling partnerships is an important impact driver, supporting upscaling across the project landscapes. Durable partnerships will help ensure alternative livelihood models are sustained, and unsustainable approaches, such as poor agricultural practices and inefficient use of water resources, will be reduced.

Causal Pathway 3: Enabling adaptive management

111. Achieving durable changes in attitudes and practices depends on ensuring CBOs attain and keep abreast of knowledge and best practices and models. One of the enduring strengths of the SGP is the transfer of knowledge to local communities, including women and marginalized groups. The project will implement an inclusive knowledge management strategy that is also linked with the UCP and SGP knowledge management priorities, facilitating collaborative interactions across local, national, regional, and global levels. The receptiveness of stakeholders to knowledge inputs is an important impact driver in this regard, and it is assumed that human resources and institutional frameworks remain stable. Another important assumption imperative to ensure is that the causal linkage on this pathway is achieved in a macro-policy context that remains stable, i.e., committed to sustainably managing the globally significant biodiversity and important natural resources of Malaysia. The coordination, collaboration, and knowledge management strengthened in this project will foster systemic change and replication, thus maximising the effectiveness, durability, and scale of socio-ecological resilience.



Project Objective: To enable community organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management in building socio-ecological resilience in i) the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah; ii) the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and iii) the Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia for global environmental benefits and sustainable development

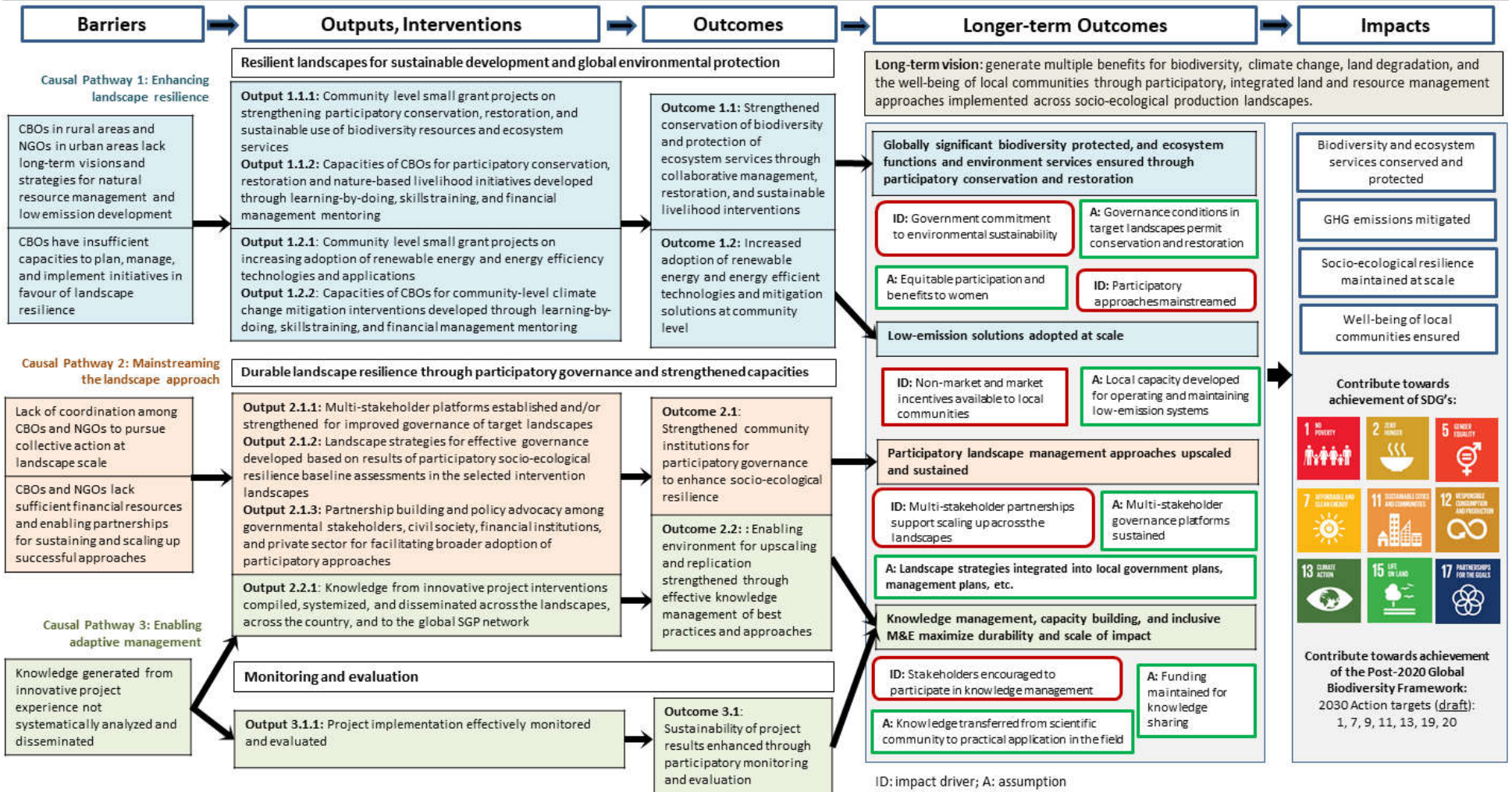


Figure 5: Project theory of change

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IV. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Results:

112. The SGP OP7 project strategy is predicated on strengthening socio-ecological resilience through developing the skills, capacities and resources required to conserve and restore critical ecosystems, sustainably utilize ecosystem services, improve the sustainability and productivity of agroecosystems and deploy clean, low-carbon energy solutions in the target landscapes.

113. **Global Environmental Benefits:** The project is aligned with the following GEF-7 focal area objectives:

- **BD-1-1:** Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors.
- **CCM-1-1:** Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs.

114. With respect to biodiversity, the project will seek to promote the conservation and sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity in part by strengthening biodiversity-based livelihoods. Indicative community projects include the following:

- Strengthened participatory conservation and restoration of forest ecosystems in partnership with Sabah Parks, to benefit biodiversity in buffer and transition zones of CRBR.
- Improved management of forest ecosystems to benefit biodiversity and promoting nature-based ecotourism options for local communities.
- Strengthened community forest management, building capacities for establishment of a Baram Eco-Community Forest.
- Securing and strengthening legal protection over the existing and proposed community forests and green spaces in the Klang Valley.
- Promoting volunteerism such as in planning and building of biking and hiking trails in community forests, producing campaign and promotional materials, organising community-based events such as outings and gotong-royong.
- Demonstrating the benefits of green spaces to the well-being of urban poor and how promotion of urban biodiversity can go hand in hand with initiative to alleviate urban poverty.
- Developing and implementing sound management plans and masterplans for the co-management of community forests and green spaces.
- Documentation of traditional knowledge related to biodiversity (e.g., traditional knowledge recordings, resource classification systems, etc).
- Through partnership with logging concession holders under the certification processes of the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), enhance social and economic well-being of local communities through sustainable management and utilization of forest resources.

115. With respect to climate change mitigation, indicative energy efficiency (EE), renewable energy (RE), and sustainable transportation interventions including the following:

- Fuel-efficient cook stoves.
- Energy-efficient lighting (LED) replacing incandescent lamps.
- Energy-efficient roofing and walls in urban areas.
- Micro- and pico- hydroelectric generators for off-grid communities.
- Solar PV for off-grid communities.
- Biogas (at community level) for cooking.
- Off-grid solar-powered combined cooling, heating and power (CCHP) systems.
- Gasification system & turbine generator producing both power and biochar (for use in agriculture).
- Advocating and policy reform for expanded and improved sustainable transportation options.

116. Mitigation of GHG emissions is also envisaged as a co-benefit of the project interventions in the AFOLU sector, including avoided forest loss through strengthened participatory conservation and avoided GHG emissions through participatory restoration-rehabilitation of degraded land.

117. The improved landscape management practices that benefit biodiversity are also envisaged to have co-benefits towards achievement of land degradation focal area objectives. Some of the viable interventions under OP7 include promoting sustainable agriculture for enhanced protection and participatory restoration of water catchment areas and other environmental sensitive sites; participatory restoration of degraded forest land as part of improved landscape management; sustainable utilisation of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) in buffer and transition zones of CRBR, strengthening livelihoods of local people, including for production of nature-based handicrafts; improved agroecological practices; and rehabilitation of degraded soils, including improved management of peatlands in the Klang Valley landscape.

118. The global environmental benefits generated by the SGP Malaysia Upgraded Country Programme (UCP) are estimated based on the expected aggregated benefits created by individual interventions implemented under the proposed participatory and integrated landscape approach. GEF support will be catalytic in mobilizing action at local levels to innovate new strategies and technologies to improve the management of vulnerable natural resources and ecosystems. More importantly, the programme will enhance the capacity of stakeholders in different sectors and at different levels (NGOs, CBOs, etc.) to promote adaptive participatory resource management and clean energy access. The lessons learned from the community and landscape level initiatives will be analysed by multi-stakeholder groups at landscape and regional levels for potential policy inputs and disseminated to other landscapes and communities where they will be upscaled, mainstreamed and replicated, as well as integrated into other local and national level programs.

119. The expected project results with respect to the GEF 7 Core Indicators are outlined below in **Table 2**, described in detail in **Annex 15** (*Estimations of end targets for the GEF 7 Core Indicators*), and recorded in the *GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet* in **Annex 16**. The types of interventions envisaged under OP7 were based on stakeholder consultations made during the project preparation phase, results achieved in OP6, and the professional judgement of the PPG team of consultants. It is important to note that the provisional descriptions are indicative. Consistent with the bottom-up approach of the SGP, the actual types and numbers of projects will depend on community demand, the priorities identified by the communities through participatory baseline assessments, and the quality of the proposals submitted.

Table 2: Description of end-of-project targets for GEF 7 Core Indicators

GEF 7 Core Indicators	Proposed end-of-project targets and descriptions
Core Indicator 3: Area of land restored (hectares)	End-of-project target: 1,000 ha The total estimated area of land restored is broken down by 500 ha of degraded agricultural lands restored (Sub-Indicator 3.1) and 500 ha of forest and forest land restored (Sub-Indicator 3.2). Restoration-rehabilitation projects are expected in each of the three landscapes.
Core Indicator 4: Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)	End-of-project target: 43,000 ha The total estimated area of landscapes under improved practices in OP7 is 43,000 ha, broken down by 24,000 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (Sub-Indicator 4.1), 8,000 ha of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification and that incorporates biodiversity considerations (Sub-Indicator 4.2), and 11,000 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (Sub-Indicator 4.3).
Core Indicator 6: Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated (metric tons of CO ₂ e)	End-of-project target: 341,500 tCO₂e (lifetime direct); 26,000 tCO₂e (lifetime indirect) Based on experiences during earlier SGP operational phases and potential in the project landscapes identified during PPG consultations, an estimated 6,500 tons of CO ₂ e (lifetime direct) and 26,000 tons of CO ₂ e (lifetime indirect) are estimated to be avoided through community RE and EE interventions (Sub-Indicator 6.2) - see breakdown of the estimations in Annex 15 . GHG emissions avoided through interventions in the agriculture, forestry, and land use sector (AFOLU) are included in the Core Indicator 6 estimations (Sub-Indicator 6.1). Using the FAO Ex-Ante Carbon Balance Tool (EX-ACT), roughly 335,000 tCO ₂ e over a 20-year lifetime are estimated to be avoided as co-benefits of the project interventions in the AFOLU sector (see Annex 15 for EX-ACT output).

GEF 7 Core Indicators	Proposed end-of-project targets and descriptions
Core Indicator 11: Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	End-of-project target: 10,000 (of whom 5,000 are female and 5,000 are male) The end target is based on experience during earlier operational phases; the project's gender mainstreaming target for the proportion of direct female beneficiaries is 50%.

120. **Project objective:** To enable community organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management in building socio-ecological resilience in i) the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah; ii) the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and iii) the Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia for global environmental benefits and sustainable development.

Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection

121. Under this component, landscape resilience will be strengthened through community-level small grant interventions aimed at achieving the mutually beneficial outcomes of sustainable socioeconomic development and conservation and protection of the ecosystem goods and services that many local communities rely upon. The small grant projects will cover the three GEF focal areas of biodiversity and climate change mitigation.

Outcome 1.1: Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions

122. The target landscapes each contain rich terrestrial habitats harbouring globally significant biodiversity, and many of the local communities in these areas are dependent upon natural resources for sustaining their livelihoods and well-being and are increasingly vulnerable to threats to these natural resources from unsustainable exploitation and the impacts of climate change. Through the landscape approach and in collaboration with the governance structures and strategic planning completed under Component 2, this outcome aims to strengthen participatory models of conservation, restoration, and sustainable use. In line with the COVID-19 green recovery efforts, the project is in a good position to promote sustainable natural resource management, including limiting encroachment into forest ecosystems, thereby safeguarding critical habitats and reducing human-wildlife interactions.

Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services

123. Under this output, community projects will be implemented on sustainable utilization of NTFPs, rehabilitation and managed regeneration of degraded terrestrial ecosystems, collaborative management of conservation areas, ecotourism and other conservation interventions. The actual interventions will be developed by local CBOs, based on the socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments of the target landscapes and in line with the priorities outlined in the landscape strategies. Provisional interventions across the project landscapes are discussed below.

- **Crocker Range landscape:** Through collaboration with co-financing partner Sabah Parks, one of the primary aims in this landscape is to improve management of Community Use Zones (CUZs) and reduce threats to biodiversity from unsustainable land use practices within the transition and buffer zones of the Crocker Range PA. Participatory conservation arrangements between Sabah Parks and CUZs, as well as other community-based organizations will be explored, as well as improvement of harvest practices of non-forest forest products (NTFPs), introducing and strengthening agroecological practices, and participatory restoration of degraded forests and forest lands. Additionally, capacities will be strengthened for local communities to be more involved in ecotourism experiences. In the northern part of the landscape, there are opportunities for the OP7 project to add value to ongoing efforts to improve connectivity between the Kinabalu Park and the Crocker Range park, e.g., through establishment of community conserved areas (CCAs).
- **Baram landscape:** The viable types of biodiversity projects under SGP OP7 include interventions on improved management of forest ecosystems to benefit biodiversity and promotion of nature-based ecotourism options for local communities through partnership with logging concession holders under

the certification processes of the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), enhancement of social and economic well-being of local communities through sustainable management and utilization of forest resources and conservation of globally significant biodiversity, improvement of agroecological practices and strengthening the livelihoods of local communities by enhancing the supply chains of their agricultural products, NTFPs, and handicrafts, and strengthened community forest management by building capacities for establishment of a Baram Eco-Community Forest.

- **Klang Valley landscape:** The SGP grants are expected to provide incremental support to ongoing initiatives in the landscape, facilitating increased protection of globally significant biodiversity. The project strategy aims to build on and upscale earlier achievements of SGP interventions, e.g., the Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) Society has been successful in protecting the Kota Damansara Forest through conservation, education, and research in partnership with other civil society organizations, national and local government entities, private sector enterprises, and the donor community. Indicative interventions also involve promoting improved management and participatory restoration of degraded peatland ecosystems in the lowland reaches of the landscape and improving management of community conserved areas (community forests) within the buffer zone of Selangor State Park.

124. Indicative activities under Output 1.1.1 include:

1.1.1.1.	In accordance with the priority actions identified in the landscape strategies produced under Component 2, provide assistance, e.g., through preparation grants, to CBOs for developing concepts and proposals for community projects on participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood interventions.
1.1.1.2.	Engage government, private sector, donor agencies, NGOs, and other partners to provide technical assistance and co-financing for community interventions.
1.1.1.3.	Award and implement community level conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood projects, with an emphasis on those run by women and other marginalised groups.
1.1.1.4.	Assist the CBO grantees in monitoring and evaluating the results of the participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood interventions.

Output 1.1.2: Capacities of CBOs for participatory conservation, restoration and nature-based livelihood initiatives developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring

125. Under this output, project resources will support capacity building of CBOs in participatory conservation, restoration, and nature-based livelihood initiatives. In collaboration with the strategic projects planned under Output 2.1.3, local CBOs will be connected with experienced NGOs, protected area management agencies, and other strategic partners for learn-by-doing capacity building on participatory conservation and restoration interventions. Skills training will also be facilitated through linkages with agricultural extension services, e.g., with respect to good agroecological practices, including post-harvest processing and marketing.

126. Indicative activities under Output 1.1.2 include:

1.1.2.1.	Facilitate learning-by-doing capacity building to local CBOs through linking up with experienced NGOs, protected area management entities, and other strategic partners, on participatory conservation and restoration techniques.
1.1.2.2.	Deliver capacity building on good agroecological practices and systems to CBOs, in partnership with local extension services, government departments, academic/research institutions and the private sector.
1.1.2.3.	Provide capacity building to CBOs (specifically women’s groups) on quality control, marketing, financial management, partnership building, etc., for strengthening initiatives regarding organic and green products and ensuring women’s participation and decision making in supply/value chains.
1.1.2.4.	Deliver capacity building on documenting traditional biodiversity knowledge among indigenous communities.

Outcome 1.2: Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level

127. The OP7 project will build on previous successful experience of SGP Malaysia with community-level climate change mitigation (CCM) interventions, including micro-hydro power generation, as well as solar PV, biogas and fuel-efficient stoves, to support implementation of energy-efficiency and renewable energy technologies in areas underserved by the national power grid. Building upon the analyses made during the project preparation phase, the project will support CBOs in identifying the appropriate technologies, plan and manage installation, develop operations and maintenance plans, as well as financing and cost-recovery plans.

Output 1.2.1: Community level small grant projects on increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and applications

128. Indicative types of community CCM projects under this output include fuel-efficient cook stoves, energy-efficient lighting (LED) replacing incandescent lamps, energy-efficient roofing and walls in urban areas, micro- and pico- hydroelectric generators for off-grid communities, solar PV for off-grid communities, biogas (at community level) for cooking, off-grid solar-powered combined cooling, heating and power (CCHP) systems, gasification system & turbine generator producing both power and biochar (for use in agriculture), and advocating and policy reform for expanded and improved sustainable transportation options.

129. Project interventions will be aligned with the COVID-19 recovery efforts in the project landscapes, e.g., exploring RE options for health facilities, enhancing energy access, etc. Provisional interventions across the project landscapes are discussed below.

- **Crocker Range landscape:** Pico- and micro-hydroelectric generation is a viable RE technology in the Crocker Range landscape, e.g., upscaling some of the existing work being done by civil society organizations PACOS Trust and Tonibung. Hybrid solar PV systems, used as a backup (hybrid) for the hydropower installations could be considered for low flow periods. Many villages in the landscape are planting rice, thus there is a potential for installing biogas reactors using the paddy husk as the substrate. A similar option for villages with excess agricultural biomass could involve a gasification system and turbine generator which would produce both power and biochar for use as a soil conditioner and in cook stoves. Other viable types of CCM interventions in this landscape to reduce the carbon footprint of cook-stoves could involve the provision of fuel-efficient stoves (rocket stoves, rammed earth or brick stoves, etc.). Such stoves could reduce firewood consumption by more than 50% compared with traditional open fires. Other RE and energy efficiency (EE) projects could include the provision of solar-powered LEDs which, when connected to the existing electricity supply could give savings of 80% compared with conventional incandescent lightbulbs.
- **Baram landscape:** In terms of viable types of RE and EE interventions in the Baram landscape, the potential is similar to that of the Crocker Range landscape. There is potential for installation of 15 kW hydro-electric generators, with the number of people served perhaps somewhat below the number in the Crocker Range. The need for hybrid solar PV schemes in the Baram may be lower since the rainfall in Sarawak is higher than in Sabah (which experiences a more pronounced dry season). Consultations with stakeholders during the PPG phase suggest that the number of villagers planting rice is declining which suggests a lower potential for biogas here. Depending on the availability of suitable biomass, the potential for gasification and generators to produce both power and biochar could be explored for use both as a soil conditioner and in cook-stoves. As with the Crocker Range, there is potential in the Baram for the provision of fuel-efficient stoves and solar-powered LEDs.
- **Klang Valley landscape:** In terms of specific RE SGP projects in the Klang Valley, the potential is less than the other two landscapes as most areas are already connected to the grid. The urban-heat island means there is a large potential for thermal insulation of roof and wall materials together with cool roofs (white roofs) or green roofs (rooftop gardens), which could lower heat wave maximum temperatures by >2°C or >2% of the energy required for air-conditioning. Similarly related to urban heat, there is potential for off-grid solar-powered combined cooling, heating and power (CCHP) systems. The Klang Valley is also an ideal site for establishing urban pocket forests and urban rooftop gardens, and urban re-wilding corridors, all of which would generate CCM benefits.

130. Indicative activities under Output 1.2.1 include:

1.2.1.1.	In accordance with the priority actions identified in the landscape strategies produced under Component 2, provide assistance, e.g., through preparation grants, to CBOs for developing concepts and proposals for community projects on RE and EE technologies and applications in the target landscapes.
1.2.1.2.	Engage government, private sector, donor agencies, NGOs, and other partners to provide technical assistance and co-financing for community interventions.
1.2.1.3.	Award and implement community level RE and EE projects, with an emphasis on ones run by women and other marginalised groups.
1.2.1.4.	Support the CBO grantees in monitoring and evaluating the results of the community RE and EE interventions.

Output 1.2.2: Capacities of CBOs for community-level climate change mitigation interventions developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring

131. Under this output, training will be delivered to CBOs on financial management and business development. Building capacities of women micro-entrepreneurs and training on accessing digital financial services will also contribute towards the COVID-19 recovery efforts in lesser developed communities. Partners involved in grant funding and microlending will be invited to participate in the training sessions, describing opportunities and terms and conditions for accessing available schemes.

132. Synergies with complementary government programs, private sector initiatives and other schemes will be facilitated through delivering training to CBOs to increase their understanding and awareness of such programs. Moreover, leading research technical institutes and civil society partners will be engaged to provide technical guidance and capacity building to CBO partners.

133. Indicative activities under Output 1.2.2 include:

1.2.2.1.	Provide capacity building to CBOs (including women and other marginalised groups) on RE and EE technologies and applications, assisting in the formulation of project proposals.
1.2.2.2.	Build understanding of CBOs (including women and other marginalised groups) for enabling their participation in government programmes and schemes, as well as other initiatives sponsored by private sector or other stakeholders.
1.2.2.3.	Provide training to CBOs on financial management and access to microcredit opportunities, specifically targeting women and other marginalised groups.
1.2.2.4.	Engage with research and academic institutes, delivering skills training to CBOs on innovative approaches and techniques.

Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management

134. Component 2 focuses on facilitating participatory, multi-stakeholder governance across the target landscapes. This process will include establishing multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms, carrying out updated participatory baseline assessments, and developing landscape strategies that outline priority issues and actions to focus on.

135. Project resources are also earmarked for potential “strategic projects”, in line with SGP’s operational guidelines. Strategic projects aim to bring broader adoption of specific successful SGP-supported technologies, practices or systems through engagement of potential policy makers, donor agencies, experienced NGOs, financial partners, private sector enterprises and associations, and academic-research institutes.

136. Knowledge and project lesson learned from the SGP project will be documented for evaluation, systematized and codified for dissemination at the landscape level; at the national level through the National Steering Committee, strategic partnerships and their networks, and national knowledge fairs where appropriate;

and globally through the SGP global network of SGP Country Programmes and UNDP's knowledge management system.

Outcome 2.1: Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience

137. The landscape approach requires engagement by multiple stakeholders, with cross-sectoral representation and from government, civil society, private sector, and academia. Multi-stakeholder collaboration will help leverage resources and facilitate impact at scale, further strengthened mainstreaming participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood initiatives into local planning frameworks.

138. Development of landscape strategies will be participatory and multi-stakeholder to ensure the widest possible buy-in, support and commitment to the strategic outcomes. Multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms will serve to establish ties between communities in the landscape, socialize information and learn about global environmental values and their relationship to socio-ecological resilience, and agree on actions or outputs to achieve the desirable future outcomes.

Output 2.1.1: Multi-stakeholder platforms established and/or strengthened for improved governance of target landscapes

139. An integral aspect of the project's landscape approach is establishment or strengthening of multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms, providing local communities enhanced opportunities to participate in development planning. Building upon the analyses carried out during the PPG phase on existing and potential governance mechanisms (see *Landscape Profiles* in **Annex 12**), the project will facilitate multi-stakeholder platforms in the project landscapes, with representation by local civil society organisations, state and local government departments, private sector enterprises and/or associations, women's groups, and others. Preference will be given to linking into and strengthening existing multi-stakeholder platforms. Options for multi-stakeholder platforms evaluated during the PPG phase for the three project landscapes are discussed below.

- **Crocker Range landscape:** There are existing Community Use Zone (CUZ) Management Committees functioning in the Crocker Range landscape. These committees are chaired by Sabah Parks, the state agency that manages the Crocker Range National Park, and includes representatives of the local communities, the Office of Native Affairs of Sabah, as well as other district and state level departments. The OP7 project could build upon these committees, e.g., facilitating a network which may function as the multi-stakeholder landscape platform.
- **Baram landscape:** The delineation of the Baram landscape was made on a jurisdictional basis, representing the administrative boundary of the Telang Usan District – thus facilitating meaningful involvement by the local government and facilitating opportunities for mainstreaming the landscape strategy into local development planning frameworks. Through a strategic grant modality, a qualified NGO is envisaged to be recruited to help facilitate the landscape approach, including the establishment or strengthening of a multi-stakeholder landscape platform in close cooperation with the district government, community groups, private sector enterprises (including timber companies), and also state departments (including the Forestry Department).
- **Klang Valley landscape:** Considering the expansiveness and urban complexities of the Klang Valley landscape, the composition of the stakeholder platform there is envisaged to be different as compared to the rural landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak. The Klang Valley platform will build upon existing coalitions of civil society organisations, to strengthen networking, partnerships, and advocacy capacities. Through the SGP strategic grant modality, the OP7 project is envisaged to help develop a network/umbrella organization to act as a catalyst for grassroots community forest initiatives.

140. Building capacity of the landscape governance mechanisms will also contribute towards COVID-19 recovery efforts, e.g., providing practical platforms for increasing awareness and outreach, particularly for lesser developed communities that are vulnerable to the health and safety and economic impacts of the pandemic and similar social disruptions.

141. Indicative activities under Output 2.1.1 include:

2.1.1.1.	Engaging with key stakeholders in the project landscapes, agree upon the best approach for multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms and prepare terms of reference for the platforms.
2.1.1.2.	Convene regular meetings of the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms, discussing landscape strategies, linking with complementary initiatives, facilitating capacity building, organising awareness campaigns strategic, etc.
2.1.1.3.	Sensitise and build capacity of stakeholders on gender mainstreaming and inclusion of indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups.
2.1.1.4.	Advocate and assist local government units in mainstreaming the multi-stakeholder platforms into local governance structures.

Output 2.1.2: Landscape strategies for effective governance developed based on results of participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments in the selected intervention landscapes

142. Building upon the information gathered during the project preparation phase for OP7, socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments will be carried out for the three project landscapes. The assessments will include participatory stakeholder mapping, discussions of socio-ecological resilience, scoring of resilience, deliberation of key issues in the landscapes and discussions of potential actions. A wide range of local stakeholders, including local communities, local government officials and community leaders will be invited to participate in the assessments. The types of information to gather during the baseline assessment consultations include:

- Community priorities, key environmental threats, socioeconomic conditions.
- Existing and planned projects and programmes in the target landscapes, and opportunities for collaboration.
- Capacities of the CBOs and other stakeholders.
- Potential local champions who could represent the interests of the communities and help facilitate the project interventions.

143. The results of the baseline assessments will be used to develop landscape strategies, aimed at enhancing the socio-ecological resilience of the target landscapes based on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, energy, and ecosystem services. The strategies will provide an outline of the biodiversity values and socioeconomic conditions, describe potential climate change impacts and low emission development opportunities, present the expected goals and outcomes, describe stakeholder roles and responsibilities and present priority community-based actions, including those associated with response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic. The terms of reference for the call for proposals for small grants under Component 1 will be updated according to the priority actions agreed upon in the landscape strategies. To ensure sustainability of the landscape approach initiated under the OP7 project, the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms will provide an interface for mainstreaming the landscape strategies into local development plans and advocacy initiatives.

144. Developing the landscape strategies will be carried out through participatory processes, to ensure the widest possible buy-in, support and commitment to the strategic outcomes. The process of developing the strategies will also serve to establish ties between communities in the landscape, socialize information and learn about global environmental values and their relationship to socio-ecological resilience, and agree on actions or outputs to achieve the desirable future outcomes.

145. Indicative activities under Output 2.1.2 include:

2.1.2.1.	Deliver training to the selected NGOs on the socio-ecological resilience assessment process.
2.1.2.2.	Carry out participatory baseline assessments of socio-ecological resilience for each of the target landscapes, ensuring equitable participation of women and other marginalized groups.
2.1.2.3.	Prepare baseline assessment reports for the target landscapes, including updated information on priority areas for biodiversity conservation, rehabilitation of degraded land, priorities for renewable and clean energy among local communities, opportunities for introducing or enhancing alternative livelihoods for local people, and incorporating gender-responsive processes.

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2.1.2.4.	Prepare landscape strategies for the target landscapes using the results of the baseline assessments and follow-up consultations with local stakeholders (government officials, NGOs/CBOs, women groups, and private sector), and including a gender mainstreaming and social inclusion action plan for ensuring representation and participation of women and other marginalised groups.
2.1.2.5.	Present the landscape strategies and action plans to the multi-stakeholder platforms and the SGP National Steering Committee for endorsement.
2.1.2.6.	Identify and train local champions in the target landscapes, with emphasis on inclusion of women and youth, for helping to facilitate the implementation of the landscape strategies.
2.1.2.7.	Prepare and disseminate information on the landscape strategies to stakeholders within the target landscapes, through print media, social media and local media outlets, taking into consideration interests and culturally appropriate communication approaches for women and other marginalised groups.
2.1.2.8.	Engage with local government officials and other key landscape partners, advocating for mainstreaming the priority actions of the landscape strategies into local development planning and budgeting frameworks.

Output 2.1.3: Partnership building and policy advocacy among governmental stakeholders, civil society, financial institutions, and private sector for facilitating broader adoption of participatory approaches

146. The durability and upscaling potential of the interventions implemented on the project will largely depend on enabling partnerships and successful advocacy for strengthening policy and incentive frameworks for sustaining and expanding participatory approaches. Under this output, resources are allocated for granting strategic projects aimed at for building and strengthening partnerships and leading advocacy initiatives with local, state, and national, regional, and international level stakeholders. A business development consultant will support the trainings and also help facilitate linkages with enabling partners from local and national governmental agencies, civil society, and private sector.

147. Indicative activities under Output 2.1.3 include:

2.1.3.1.	Through support from strategic partners, facilitate CBOs/NGOs in identifying and fostering potential partnerships to upscale successful interventions.
2.1.3.2.	Based on evaluations of portfolio results and lessons, prepare policy briefs to advance the enabling environment for incentivising participatory approaches.
2.1.3.3.	Advocate for policy reform through liaising with key stakeholders and convening stakeholder workshops, inviting local and national government officials, financial institutions, donor agencies, civil society, private sector, and research-academic institutes.

Outcome 2.2: Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches

148. Recording and disseminating the knowledge gained through the implementation of the community small grants is an important aspect of the SGP, as the GEF funding is primarily intended to catalyse investments for upscaling and replication.

Output 2.2.1: Knowledge from innovative project interventions compiled, systemized, and disseminated across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network

149. Under this output, CBOs will be trained on collecting, recording and documenting knowledge and experiences of community development initiatives. Resources are allocated for development of case studies and other knowledge products and disseminating them among relevant stakeholders groups, using print media, social media, radio, or other communication approaches. At least one of the knowledge products is envisaged to highlight women’s role in ensuring socio-ecological resilience.

150. Indicative activities under Output 2.2.1 include:

2.2.1.1.	Update the SGP knowledge management strategy for Malaysia and develop a communications strategy.
2.2.1.2.	Train CBOs (including women, indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups) on collecting and documenting information gained through implementation of community projects.
2.2.1.3.	Distil information from the individual case studies produced by the grantees in Component 1 into consolidated knowledge products highlighting best practices on adaptive management for landscape resilience, including at least one case study highlighting the role of women.
2.2.1.4.	Disseminate the case studies and other knowledge products among relevant stakeholder groups through appropriate communication techniques, including print media, social media and other local media outlets, and stakeholder gatherings.
2.2.1.5.	Participate in one SGP-UCP global workshop for sharing experiences and best practices, learning approaches implemented in other countries that could be replicated in Malaysia and fostering international and regional partnerships.

Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

151. The activities under this output are designed to put in place enabling procedures and protocols to facilitate effective monitoring & evaluation (M&E), as outlined in **Section VI: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan** of the Project Document.

Outcome 3.1: Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation

152. Outcome 3.1 focuses on delivering participatory and timely M&E feedback, consolidating inputs from the individual grantees and evaluating progress towards achievement of the overall project objective. The findings of the M&E activities will inform adaptive management measures, aimed at ensuring the durability of project results.

Output 3.1.1: Project implementation and results effectively monitored and evaluated

153. The project inception workshop is a critical M&E milestone on the implementation timeline, providing an opportunity to validate the project document, confirming governance implementation arrangements, including agreements with responsible parties; assessing changes in relevant circumstances and making adjustments to the project results framework accordingly; verifying stakeholder roles and responsibilities; updating the project risk assessment and agreeing to mitigation measures and responsibilities; and agreeing to the multi-year work plan. An inception workshop report will be prepared and disseminated among the NSC members.

154. The SGP National Steering Committee (NSC) will be the main platform for high-level and strategic decisions (see **Section VIII: Governance and Management Arrangements**).

155. The CMPU will oversee monitoring achievement of the performance metrics included in the project results framework, with direct input from the CBO grantees from M&E feedback from the individual projects. In addition, carrying out M&E of the implementation of the project safeguard plans, specifically the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Action Plan, is included among the activities under this output.

156. According to GEF requirements, two independent evaluations will be carried out of the project, a midterm review and terminal evaluation. At least one month before the midterm review (MTR) and terminal evaluation (TE), the project will contract a local institute, local consultant or other service provider to carry out assessments of the GEF core indicators and other results requiring verification/analysis.

157. This output also includes preparation and initial implementation of a sustainability plan for the project, providing guidance on ensuring the durability of the multi-stakeholder platforms, e.g., through advocating for “champions” in the project landscapes, facilitating mainstreaming of the landscape strategies into local planning and budgetary frameworks, promoting continued collective action among CBOs through participation on the

multi-stakeholder platforms and networking with other enabling partners, and identifying follow-up funding continued implementation of the knowledge management strategy and action plan, as a key component of the landscape strategies.

158. Indicative activities under Output 3.1.1 include:

3.1.1.1.	Organise the project inception workshop, including review of multi-year work plan, project results framework, gender analysis and gender action plan, stakeholder engagement plan, social and environmental screening procedure, etc., and prepare an inception report to provide guidance for initiating the implementation of the project.
3.1.1.2.	Organise NSC meetings, providing strategic guidance to the country programme management unit and approving project grants.
3.1.1.3.	Monitor and evaluate the project progress, risks and results, facilitating adaptive management, and prepare annual PIR reports and other project progress reports.
3.1.1.4.	Monitor the implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan.
3.1.1.5.	Monitor the implementation of the gender action plan, review annually and regularly update the SESP, with the support of a Gender-Safeguards Consultant.
3.1.1.6.	Assess midterm achievement of GEF core indicator targets and other project results.
3.1.1.7.	Procure and support an independent midterm review of the project, according to UNDP and GEF guidelines.
3.1.1.8.	Assess end-of-project achievement of GEF core indicator targets and other project results.
3.1.1.9.	Procure and support an independent terminal evaluation of the project, according to UNDP and GEF guidelines.
3.1.1.10.	Prepare and initiate the implementation of a project sustainability plan.

Partnerships:

159. The project strategy has a strong emphasis on building upon baseline activities implemented by project partners, as well as on establishing new and strengthening existing partnerships to ensure the sustainability of the results achieved. The project will collaborate with and build on the lessons of a range of related initiatives. The NSC has consistently promoted the collaboration of the Country Programme with government initiatives, as well as with GEF-financed and other donor funded projects and programmes. Members of the NSC endorse collaborative arrangements and partnerships to maximize the efficiency of the GEF SGP investment and ensure that experience and lessons learned are disseminated and absorbed by government programmes and institutions.

160. Some of the key related initiatives where partnerships will be fostered are listed below in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Intersection of related initiatives with project outputs

Other Initiatives	Main Partner(s)	Intersections with project outputs
Landscape 1: Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah		
Ecolinc Kinabalu	Sabah Parks	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Heart of Borneo Initiative	Sabah Forestry Dept., WWF	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
UNDP-GEF: FOLUR project (under development GEF-7)	Federal Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities, Sabah Forestry Dept.	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Landscape 2: Middle and Upper Baram (Telang Usan District, Sarawak)		
Heart of Borneo Initiative	Forest Dept. Sarawak, WWF	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1

Other Initiatives	Main Partner(s)	Intersections with project outputs
Baram Eco-community Forest	Save Rivers, Bruno Manser Fund	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
UNDP-GEF: FOLUR project (under development GEF-7)	Federal Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities, Sarawak Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Landscape 3: Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia		
Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) Reserve	KDCF Society	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Save Selangor Forest Coalition	Seven NGOs (TrEES, GRASS Malaysia, KUASA, COAC, MNS, SAM, GEC)	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Community-based forest management	Habitat Foundation	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Bukit Persekutuan Urban Community Forest Project	Malaysian Nature Society	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Urban Biodiversity Initiative (UBI)	UBI Services, Habitat Foundation,	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
UNIDO-GEF: GHG Emission Reductions in Targeted Industrial Sub-Sectors through Energy Efficiency and Application of Solar Thermal System in Malaysia	Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources,	1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
IFAD-GEF: Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems in Malaysia	Ministry of Environment and Water, Global Environment Centre	1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1

Risks:

161. The key risks that could threaten the achievement of results through the chosen strategy are described in the risk register in **Annex 6**, along with proposed mitigation measures and recommended risk owners who would be responsible to manage the risks during the project implementation phase. A few of the identified risks are operational, including the low level of technical and managerial capacity of some CBOs to implement grant projects. These risks will be mitigated through capacity building and qualified guidance delivered by the NSC, the SGP Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU), the UNDP Country Office, the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms, and other partners, including those engaged through strategic project modalities.

162. The social and environmental risks that were assessed as part of the social and environmental screening procedure (see **Annex 5**) are also consolidated into the risk register. The overall risk-rating for the project is “Moderate”. Six (6) of the identified seven (7) social and environmental project risks described through the SESP have been assessed as Moderate and one was rated as Low. To meet the SES requirements, the following safeguard plans have been prepared: (i) *Stakeholder Engagement Plan*, which has been developed as an Indigenous Peoples planning framework equivalent (see **Annex 8**); (ii) *Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan* (see **Annex 10**); (iii) Climate and Disaster Risk Screening (see **Annex 13**); and (iv) COVID-19 Analysis and Action Framework (see **Annex 14**).

163. The risk associated with vulnerable and marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, possibly being excluded from fully participating in decisions regarding priority actions on lands claimed by them and including utilisation of natural resources, is rated as moderate. The SGP in Malaysia has extensive experience in engaging with indigenous peoples’ communities. The SGP operational guidelines and UNDP policies and procedures provide further guidance on ensuring inclusive and equitable participation. Consistent with Standard 6 (Indigenous Peoples) of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) processes will be implemented for activities involving possible access restrictions to land, territories, and resources, and accessing of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples.

164. The project will institute adaptive management measures, building upon SGP's unique position in facilitating socio-ecological resilience and delivering global environmental benefits through community-driven initiatives. The project design is predicated on enhancing socio-ecological resilience. Facilitated by multi-stakeholder collaborative processes, the project strategy promotes landscape approaches for achieving sustainable management of natural resources. Bringing together cross-sectoral and multiple stakeholders into participatory processes will help enhance the knowledge of the risks associated with zoonotic diseases like COVID-19 and how landscape management approaches can help mitigate the risks and build social and ecological resilience of local communities. The project will also promote on-farm diversification and improved agroecological farming practices, which will contribute to increased food and income security of local communities, strengthening their coping capacities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other socioeconomic disruptions.

165. Risks associated with biodiversity conservation and natural resource management, climate change, and community health, safety, and working conditions will be addressed through application of UNDP social and environmental standards, mitigation measures and proactive stakeholder engagement during project implementation. Specific management measures are captured in the project design, including a Risk Register which captures all project risks, including the ones identified in the SESP, identifies risk management measures and risk owners. Standard M&E and adaptive management procedures will be applied during project implementation.

166. The risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, which coincided with the project preparation phase, are relevant with respect to operational, financial, and community safety aspects. Safeguards have been designed for implementing adaptive stakeholder engagement measures if the COVID-19 pandemic is prolonged or recurrent during the project implementation phase (see **Annex 14: COVID-19 Analysis and Action Framework**). For example, virtual meetings will be held where feasible, and as needed, developing Internet skills of women and disabled people and facilitating Internet access through local NGOs, etc. SGP Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be reviewed and updated to address risk of virus exposure. Hazard assessments will be required for project proposals involving gatherings of multiple people, and mitigation measures will be implemented accordingly, e.g., ensuring physical distancing, providing personal protective equipment, avoiding non-essential travel, delivering training on risks and recognition of symptoms, etc.

167. As outlined in the *Climate and Disaster Risk Screening* (see **Annex 13**), hazard levels associated with flooding and extreme weather conditions are high in some of the project landscapes and potential short-term incidents and long-term consequences would likely affect vulnerable communities the most, such as the poor, the elderly, women, and children. In severe cases leading to physical destruction, loss of lives, and migration, it would have impactful effect on the livelihoods and access to education of project beneficiaries. Risks associated with damage from potential hazards are relevant for some of the climate change mitigation interventions in rural areas, micro-hydroelectric power units, biogas digesters, and solar PV installations. There are also risks to the restoration-rehabilitation of degraded lands and forest areas. These risks could be mitigated by proper siting, selection of durable materials, installation of equipment on impermeable layers/platform, use of protective structures, integrating erosion control measures into the planned interventions, etc.

168. Community-based organisations will be required to assess in their project proposal documents the risks of climate and geophysical hazards on proposed infrastructure and assets and describe what measures are proposed to reduce and manage the risks. Climate and geophysical hazards will also be addressed in the project SESP, which will be reviewed annually. Moreover, the design and implementation of project interventions will be guided the CPMU and the NSC and supported by the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms.

Stakeholder engagement and south-south cooperation:

169. **Stakeholder Engagement.** A stakeholder analysis was undertaken during project preparation to identify key stakeholders, consult with them regarding their interests in the project and define their roles and responsibilities during project implementation. A list of key project stakeholders and their envisaged role on the project is provided below in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Key project stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities

Stakeholder	Description and envisaged involvement in project
Civil society	
Community-based Organisations (CBOs)	Main beneficiaries of project interventions. Responsibilities include effective implementation of SGP projects, skills-building, and use of easy-to-handle technologies, including training and documentation of experiences. They also are the primary agents for accessing markets and micro-finance. CBOs participate in landscape planning and analyses of lessons learned, dissemination of knowledge gained through peer-to-peer exchanges, etc. Signatories to community level partnership agreements.
Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)	NGOs lead and facilitate participatory baseline assessments and landscape planning processes; partners in multi-stakeholder partnerships for each landscape; are signatories to community level partnership agreements; provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; and are potential participants on policy platforms. Potential NGO stakeholders will include those with experience in the specific areas of action for socio-ecological resilient landscape management, including gender mainstreaming. NGOs will be engaged through strategic grant modalities, participation on multi-stakeholder landscape platforms, etc.
Federal, State and Local Government Units	
Ministry of Environment and Water (KASA)	The Ministry serves as GEF Operational Focal Point and has co-chaired the National Steering Committee of SGP Malaysia. The ministry is in the administrative structure of the Central Government and is responsible for planning, promoting, coordinating and overseeing implementation of the energy sector, science and technology, environment and climate change related policies and programme. The ministry also served as UNFCCC National Focal Point.
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (KeTSA)	The ministry is the UNCBD National Focal Point and is the lead ministry responsible for planning, promoting, coordinating and overseeing policy implementation on water management, land and natural resources including biological diversity. KeTSA is one of the project's co-financing partners and will be represented on the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC). And the project will engage with the Ministry in advancing the involvement of local communities in conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
Sabah Parks	Sabah Parks is a conservation-based statutory body established in 1964 with the purpose of conserving the scenic, scientific and historic heritage of the state of Sabah. Sabah Parks is the management entity for the Crocker Range National Park, and as one of the OP7 project's co-financing, the SGP will collaborate with Sabah Parks on strengthening engagement with local communities residing in and near the national park and the Biosphere Reserve.
Government Agencies	Including but not limited to the Forestry Departments of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak, Sabah Biodiversity Centre, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre at district and state levels: Primary participants in landscape planning exercises; first-order partners in the multi-stakeholder partnerships for each landscape; partners in landscape level projects; participants in landscape level policy platforms.
State and local government units	State and district government units and lower tier administrative units will be key partners on the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms and will be closely involved in the development of the landscape strategies and implementation of the project interventions.
Other stakeholders	
Private sector	Engagement will include invitation to be members of multi-stakeholder platforms for each landscape; signatories to community level partnership agreements, as appropriate; potential participants in policy dialogues. Private sector engagement will be facilitated during project implementation for leveraging resources and strengthening partnerships for increased livelihood opportunities for local communities. The SGP will also explore possible linkages with private sector corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives for wider resource mobilisation for grantee partners and for upscaling or replicating best practices.
Academic Research Institutions	University of Sabah, University of Sarawak, University Malaya, University Kebangsaan Malaysia and University Putra Malaysia: Assist in participatory baseline assessments and landscape planning processes; partners in multi-stakeholder partnerships for each landscape; build the capacity of community; develop low cost, easy-to-adopt technologies tested on farmers' fields as well as energy and waste management technology; provide technical assistance to

Stakeholder	Description and envisaged involvement in project
	community organizations for implementation of their projects; potential participant on policy platforms.
Other GEF and donor projects and initiatives	Synergies and complementary opportunities will be advocated among other GEF and donor financed projects and initiatives.

170. Effective and inclusive stakeholder engagement will be essential not only for achieving the project outcomes but also for sustaining and replicating the best practices and innovative approaches implemented on the project. A *Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex 8)* has been developed to guide the implementation team. Specific stakeholder engagement at the project output level is described below in **Table 5**.

Table 5: Planned stakeholder engagement across the project outputs

Output	Stakeholder roles
Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection	
Outcome 1.1: Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions	
<p>Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: Capacities of CBOs for participatory conservation, restoration and nature-based livelihood initiatives developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local CBOs: developing and implementing project interventions. • NGOs: providing technical assistance in project development and introduction of innovative approaches, policy reform and advocacy. • Federal ministries: advocating for policy reform regarding participatory conservation, e.g., community forest management. • PA management entities (including Sabah Parks): cooperating on participatory conservation initiatives with local CBOs and communities. • Local government units: facilitating community development and conservation initiatives, sustainable livelihood initiatives, solid waste management, gender mainstreaming, inclusion of Indigenous Peoples, etc. • Academic institutes and government agencies: providing technical assistance. • Private sector: strengthening or establishing new partnerships with CBOs, e.g., eco-tourism operators. • UNDP (and other bilateral and multilateral agencies): exploring synergies, sharing experiences and lessons learned.
Outcome 1.2: Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level	
<p>Output 1.2.1: Community level small grant projects on increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and applications</p> <p>Output 1.2.2: Capacities of CBOs for community-level climate change mitigation interventions developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local CBOs: developing and implementing project interventions. • NGOs: providing technical assistance in project development and introduction of innovative approaches, policy reform and advocacy. • Federal ministries: advocating for policy reform regarding low-emission development at the community level. • Local government units: facilitating community-level low-emission development, gender mainstreaming, inclusion of Indigenous Peoples, etc. • Academic institutes and government agencies: providing technical assistance. • Private sector: strengthening or establishing new partnerships. • UNDP (and other bilateral and multilateral agencies): exploring synergies, sharing experiences and lessons learned.
Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management	
Outcome 2.1: Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience	

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Output	Stakeholder roles
<p>Output 2.1.1: Multi-stakeholder platforms established and/or strengthened for improved governance of target landscapes</p> <p>Output 2.1.2: Landscape strategies for effective governance developed based on results of participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments in the selected intervention landscapes</p> <p>Output 2.1.3: Partnership building and policy advocacy among governmental stakeholders, civil society, financial institutions, and private sector for facilitating broader adoption of participatory approaches</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local CBOs: participating in the landscape baseline assessments and development of landscape strategies, representing the interests and concerns of local communities. • NGOs: providing technical assistance in the landscape baseline assessments and development of landscape strategies. • Local government units (LGUs): participating in the landscape baseline assessments and mainstreaming the landscape strategies into local development plans; promoting and assisting in ensuring equitable participation and generation of benefits for women, Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups. • PA management entities: participating in the landscape approaches, promoting participatory conservation initiatives. • Private sector enterprises and associations: participating in the landscape approaches.
<p>Outcome 2.2: Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches</p>	
<p>Output 2.2.1: Knowledge from innovative project interventions compiled, systemized, and disseminated across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local CBOs: receiving capacity building support and participating in skills training, financial management mentoring, and networking with enabling stakeholders. • NGOs: delivering training and other capacity building support services. • Federal ministries, state and local governments: facilitating policy reform and knowledge sharing for strengthening community involvement in sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, etc. • UNDP Country Office and Global SGP UCP: facilitating knowledge management and replication through linkages with other projects and initiatives; promoting knowledge management across the global portfolio, sharing best practices, lessons learned, and innovative approaches.

171. **South-South Cooperation.** The project will also link up with the South-South Community Innovation Exchange Platform launched by SGP Global during its Sixth Operational Phase (OP6). During OP7 this tool will be used to share information and to replicate the knowledge and innovation created, promoted, and/or tested by civil society and communities on the ground that could fill critical gaps in national action plans and produce timely and significant results. The goal of the South-South cooperation initiative is to support communities in mobilising and taking advantage of development solutions and technical expertise available in the South. In this regard, learning opportunities and technology transfer from peer countries will be further explored during project implementation.

172. The project will facilitate dissemination through global ongoing South-South and global platforms, such as the UN South-South Galaxy knowledge sharing platform and PANORAMA⁵⁴. To bring the voice of Malaysia to global and regional fora, the project will explore opportunities for meaningful participation in specific events where UNDP could support engagement with the global development discussion on socio-ecological resilience at the landscape level. The project will furthermore provide opportunities for regional cooperation with countries, e.g., Indonesia, that are implementing initiatives on conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity and community-level clean energy solutions in geopolitical, social and environmental contexts relevant to the proposed project in Malaysia.

Gender equality and Women’s Empowerment:

173. SGP Malaysia is widely recognized in the country for the programme’s focus on mainstreaming gender equality and women’s empowerment. During the project preparation phase of OP7, a *Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan* (see **Annex 10**) were prepared, building upon the experiences and lessons of the programme. The gender action plan for the project was developed in accordance with the SGP OP7 Technical Guidance Note on Gender, the UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2021⁵⁵, and the GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming.

⁵⁴ <https://panorama.solutions/en>
⁵⁵ UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2021

174. Women in the targeted landscapes are key players in managing basic household resources, as care takers, as well as participants in income-generating activities. Expansion beyond these roles is marked by cultural, physical, information and capacity barriers. Women are inhibited from being actively engaged in landscape management in decision making roles in particular by community norms and standards that strongly limit women's leadership of mixed groups and activities and inhibit their more active participation in mixed groups. Women's control of income-generating assets like land is also weak, and decisions regarding family-related expenditures and other financial matters are rarely under their sole control.

175. The gender responsiveness of the SGP is ensured through specific attention to gender throughout the grant project cycle and landscape management processes. The potential benefits to and impacts upon women are considered throughout the process of grant project design and implementation, and their roles within implemented community-based initiatives is monitored. The SGP will continue to ensure the equitable participation of women and other vulnerable groups in all landscape management discussions and activities by ensuring that their voices can be heard, where relevant in separate groups from men. Specific project ideas will be actively identified with women's groups that will respond to women's expressed needs in regard to landscape or resource management

176. A description of the gender situation in Malaysia, along with separate discussions for each of the target landscapes, are presented in the gender analysis presented in **Annex 10**. The gender action plan for the project recognizes the differences between labour, knowledge, needs, and priorities of men and women, and calls for:

- a. Consultation with women groups on needs and requirements associated with project interventions.
- b. Promotion of equitable representation of women and men in project activities and groups established and/or strengthened, including the landscape level multi-stakeholder governance platforms.
- c. Development of strategic and planning documents in consultation with women.
- d. Targeted budgeting of activities promoting active involvement of women and monitoring and evaluation of such activities.
- e. Participation, training and skills building of women identified and budgeted in relevant project outcomes.
- f. Encouragement of women participation in the recruitment of project implementation staff, including consultancies and other service providers.
- g. When applicable, equal payment of women and men.

177. Specific gender equality and mainstreaming actions include ensuring equitable representation of women in project decision-making bodies; ensuring equitable proportion of benefits realized from the project will be delivered to women; ensuring gender considerations are integrated into landscape strategies; promoting gender awareness throughout the project implementation phase and promoting equal opportunity for employment for positions within the project management office, consultancies and other service providers.

178. The CPMU will work with the gender focal point on the NSC to help ensure gender sensitivity in all projects for approval, and to identify lessons learned and knowledge attained for adaptive management and gender-specific policy recommendations.

179. The project will track the following gender indicators, enabling assessment of progress towards the GEF Gender Policy and to the UNDP Gender Equality Strategy (2018-2021):

- Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated)
- Number of women-led projects supported
- Number of projects that contributing to equal access to and control of natural resources of women and men
- Number of projects that improve the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance
- Number of projects that target socioeconomic benefits and services for women

180. These indicators are incorporated into the project results framework and the monitoring plan (see **Annex 4** to the project document). Progress will be monitored and evaluated during project implementation,



with results reported in project progress reports, and adaptive management measures implemented as needed. Resources have been allocated in the project budget for of a part-time Gender-Safeguards Consultant, to support development of landscape strategies, guidance in the preparation of proposals for community grants and monitoring and evaluation of implementation of community projects and achievement of the gender mainstreaming targets outlined in the Gender Action Plan.

181. During implementation, qualitative assessments will be conducted on the gender-specific benefits that can be directly associated to each grant project. These assessments will be incorporated in periodic M&E progress reports as well as in Midterm Review and in the Terminal Evaluation. The gender responsiveness of knowledge products generated through SGP initiatives will also be a key criterion in their design and development, and dissemination strategies will be adopted that ensure that project information reaches as many women as possible.

Knowledge Management:

182. Resources have been allocated in the OP7 project budget to further develop the Knowledge Management Strategy for SGP in Malaysia, and to develop a Communications Strategy. It will be important to address issues associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the knowledge management and communications strategies, e.g., including specific considerations for communication, public awareness and exchange of information under these circumstances. As COVID-19 is an evolving situation and could potentially exacerbate other vulnerabilities and risks, it will be important to remain abreast of the situation during project implementation and regularly review the risk and update mitigation measures as needed.

183. Each SGP grant project is designed to produce three things: global environmental and local sustainable development benefits (impacts); organizational capacities (technical, analytical, etc.) from learning by doing; and knowledge from evaluation of the innovation experience. Knowledge management, including the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned, will remain an essential element of the SGP Malaysia Country Programme during OP7. The knowledge management approach involves assessing and sharing lessons learned and best practices from target landscapes based on evaluation of implementation results and their contributions to Global Environment Benefits (GEB), local development objectives and landscape level outcomes, including the development of social capital.

184. Each small grant project will have as a primary product a case study that will be further systematized and codified for dissemination at the landscape level through policy dialogue platforms, community landscape management networks and multi-stakeholder partnerships, and knowledge fairs and other exchanges; at the national level through the National Steering Committee, strategic partnerships and their networks, and national knowledge fairs where appropriate; and globally through the SGP global network of SGP Country Programmes and UNDP's knowledge management systems.

185. The project will strengthen knowledge management platforms to facilitate links among communities, promote information sharing, and provide access to knowledge resources that are relevant to their individual projects. The knowledge obtained from project experiences and lessons learned will be socialized through SGP's well-established national network of stakeholders and SGP's global platform, and it will be used in upscaling successful initiatives. The increased capacity of community-level stakeholders to generate, access and use information and knowledge is expected to increase the sustainability of project activities beyond the life of the grant funding. Knowledge sharing and replication will help ensure that the impacts of the project are sustained and expanded, generating additional environmental benefits over the longer-term. At the global level, the project will contribute to knowledge platforms, including the SGP website and Communities Connect (a platform to share knowledge from civil society organizations around the world).

186. A case study of the landscape planning and management experience in each of the selected landscapes will highlight the processes of stakeholder participation, as well as the progress toward the targets selected during landscape planning, using the Satoyama Resilience Indicators.⁵⁶ A detailed analysis will be produced of the successes and failures in each landscape in regard to the generation of synergies between individual

⁵⁶ UNU-IAS, Bioversity International, IGES and UNDP. 2014. Toolkit for the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS).

community projects around landscape level outcomes, lessons learned, and future efforts to strengthen the landscape planning and management processes. The results of these studies will be published and disseminated throughout the country through print and digital media and SGP's institutional partners, NGOs, SGP-supported CSO networks, universities and others.

Innovativeness, Sustainability and Potential for Scaling Up:

187. **Innovativeness:** The OP7 project is the first GEF replenishment cycle in which the SGP in Malaysia functions as an SGP Upgraded Country Programme (UCP). The landscape approach proposed for the two forest landscapes (Crocker Range Biosphere and Middle and Upper Baram) and the urban cityscape of the Klang Valley is aimed at enhancing social and ecological resilience through community-based, community-driven projects to conserve biodiversity, optimize ecosystem services, manage land – particularly agro-ecosystems – and water sustainably, and mitigate climate change.

188. Using the knowledge and experience gained from global and national landscape level initiatives delivered by SGP – through its COMDEKS and COMPACT programs, GSI-ICCA initiatives and others – this project will pilot three distinct landscape planning and management processes in Malaysia and, building on experience and lessons learned from previous SGP operational phases in Malaysia, assist community organizations to carry out and coordinate projects in pursuit of outcomes they have identified in landscape/seascape plans and strategies. The capacities of community organizations will be strengthened through a learning-by-doing approach in which the project itself is a vehicle for acquiring practical knowledge and organizational skills in a longer-term adaptive management process.

189. This adaptive landscape planning and management process is quite innovative in the context of the two forest landscapes, as well as the urban cityscape, given that this kind of participatory, community-driven process has not been implemented at this scale or with this methodology.⁵⁷ The process is adaptive in that it incorporates new information, experience and lessons from community resource management but also evolves together with the organisational capacities of communities in the landscapes. In these three landscapes, stakeholders strengthen their abilities to analyse trends in land and resource use as well as their consequences, to plan strategically at landscape level but also at community level and to adapt through learning-by-doing to new circumstances, information and resources. This project will particularly support innovation in developing and applying practical solutions to issues of gender equality in terms of access to resources and project benefits.

190. SGP activities will build on experience and lessons learned from previous SGP operational phases in Malaysia and will continue to assist community organizations to carry out and coordinate projects in pursuit of outcomes they have identified in landscape plans and strategies. This will build community ownership of individual initiatives as well as landscape management overall. Coordinated community projects in the landscape will generate ecological, economic and social synergies that will produce greater and potentially longer-lasting global environmental benefits, as well as increased social capital and local sustainable development benefits. The capacities of community organizations will be strengthened through a learning-by-doing approach in which the project itself is a vehicle for acquiring practical knowledge and organizational skills in a longer-term adaptive management process. The project will consider previous community experiences and identify and support potential upscaling opportunities during this project's lifetime.

191. **Sustainability:** In order to ensure sustainability of community-based landscape management initiatives, the SGP Malaysia Country Program will actively develop and maintain broad-based relationships/partnerships that promote collaboration. For example, to ensure market access for agroforestry products, SGP will not only focus on local markets but also leverage the opportunity to establish market linkages with other private sector companies that are interested in integrating local products into their supply chain. Community ownership is a critical factor contributing to the sustainability of project benefits. SGP Malaysia will involve all community members (men, women, youth, indigenous and disabled people) in all stages of the grant project cycle: design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

⁵⁷ See for example <https://comdeksproject.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/communities-in-action-comdeks-web-v2.pdf>

192. The growing network of voluntary support, as a result of cooperation with more than a hundred NGOs, CBOs and indigenous peoples groups, has made it possible for SGP Malaysia to reach out to more vulnerable groups efficiently, particularly addressing gender and indigenous peoples' concerns. This network consists of scientists, practitioners in community-based entrepreneurship, project cycle development facilitators, government officials, indigenous people's groups, and decision makers. Sustainability will be maintained further by aligning the program with government policies, building the capacities of community and indigenous people's groups, and engaging the private sector, universities, and research institutes in providing services (including financial services from corporate and foundation).

193. **Financial dimension of sustainability:** The majority of the community projects are envisaged to include livelihood related activities, such as capacity building, skills development, market linkages, etc. Experience gained through the SGP interventions will strengthen the capabilities of CBOs to develop proposals and raise funds. The 1:1 co-financing requirement for each of the community projects will help promote enabling partnerships with governmental, civil society, donor, and private sector stakeholders. Moreover, the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms will provide direct linkages with local government development planning mechanisms and opportunities for funding upscaling and replication.

194. **Socioeconomic dimension of sustainability:** The landscape approach integrated into the project strategy is predicated on strengthening socio-ecological resilience. Involving multiple stakeholders in the landscapes-seascape in identifying priority issues and developing strategies for addressing them increases the overall social capital of the local communities. Contributing towards the COVID-19 recovery efforts, the project interventions, such as diversifying local food production, strengthens the resilience of the local communities.

195. **Institutional framework and governance dimension of sustainability:** Building capacities of local governance mechanisms and involving multiple stakeholders in the landscape platforms will enhance the likelihood that project results will be sustained after GEF funding ceases. Representatives of local government entities are important members of the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms, helping to foster linkages with complementary government programmes and to identify incentives for upscaling project interventions. These institutional level stakeholders will also have the opportunity to participate in capacity building activities under the project, providing them with an expanded knowledge base of innovative approaches and a broadened network of stakeholder alliances, including with the civil society, private sector, and other governmental partners, both at the national level and with counterparts in the other project landscapes. Mainstreaming the priority actions outlined in the landscape strategies into local development planning frameworks will further strengthen the durability of the institutional framework and governance dimensions requisite for effective landscape management approaches.

196. **Environmental dimension of sustainability:** A substantial number of the envisaged community projects involve activities that conserve biodiversity and protect and restore ecosystem services, e.g., improved sustainable land management, collaborative community management of natural resources, adopting sustainable agricultural practices, restoration-rehabilitation of degraded agricultural land and forest ecosystems. As outlined in the *Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (Annex 5* to the Project Document), biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation grants will be primarily carried out in partnership with expert organizations, e.g., conservation agencies, NGOs, and local government entities, thus building capacities and partnerships that will help ensure sustainability of the implemented interventions.

Moreover, the overall strategy is focused on enhancing the socio-ecological resilience of local communities. These efforts will strengthen coping capacities in response to long-term climate change and associated increased risks associated with climate and disaster hazards. For instance, climate-smart agricultural practices will enhance resilience. And the grant proposals will be required to include provisions for managing climate and geophysical hazards, which will help build capacities of local CBOs and ensure more durable landscape management practices.

197. **Potential for Scaling Up:** Successful interventions under each thematic area can be replicated/upscaled in other geographic regions of the country facing similar issues of development and environmental protection and management. Through improved financial capacities, grantees may ensure progressive innovation and broader adoption. Resources are allocated in the OP7 project through the SGP strategic grant modality to finance key elements of upscaling initiatives to reduce the risk to other donors and investors. SGP Malaysia has already

undertaken systematic outreach activities as an effort to promote scaling-up of community practices by involving government, research and technical support institutions, foundations, and NGOs.

198. There is a high likelihood that the experienced CSOs in the Klang Valley landscape will be able to raise co-financing contributions from the private sector, foundations, other donors. This would also help increase the visibility of the SGP in Malaysia in general – and possibly lead to partnerships in the other two landscapes as well. The project strategy also aims to build on and upscale earlier achievements of SGP interventions, e.g., the Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) Society has been successful in protecting the Kota Damansara Forest through conservation, education, and research in partnership with other civil society organizations, national and local government entities, private sector enterprises, and the donor community.

199. Multi-stakeholder partnership mechanisms for this project in the three targeted areas will be applied taking into account the following elements: (1) understanding the potential core values of each actor and their resources, such as specific technologies, practices or systems; (2) identifying potential scaling up opportunities, analysing and planning the scaling up process; and (3) implementing the scaling up program and evaluating its performance and impacts as a lesson learned or case study for adaptive management, policy discussion and potential replication of the model in other areas of the country. The scaling-up and replication strategy will be conducted by SGP Malaysia through advocacy and publication of best practices targeted to relevant stakeholders.



V. PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 5, SDG 7, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 15, SDG 17

This project will contribute to the following country outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD): UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025, Outcome #2: Priority Planet. By 2025, environmental sustainability and resilience are mainstreamed as a priority within the national development agenda, across all sectors and all levels of society. UNDP Malaysia Country Programme Document 2021-2025, Output 2.1: Transitioning national development towards a decarbonised and a resource efficient economy through the adoption of green growth strategies and practices across all sectors; Output 2.2: Natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems are sustainably managed, adequately protected and conserved for long term economic and environmental sustainability. UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021: Signature Solution #4 (Sustainable Planet), Output 2.4.1. Solutions scaled up for sustainable management of natural resources, including sustainable commodities and green and inclusive value chains; Signature Solution #5 (Energy), Output 1.5.1. Solutions adopted to achieve universal access to clean, affordable, and sustainable energy.

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
Project Objective: To enable community organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management in building socio-ecological resilience in i) the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah; ii) the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and iii) the Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia for global environmental benefits and sustainable development	Mandatory Indicator (GEF-7 Core Indicator 3): Area of land restored (hectares) SDG 15.3;	SGP has supported restoration of degraded land, e.g., in Padawan areas in Sarawak.	500 ha included among the approved projects by midterm, and end target validated through the landscape strategies	1,000 ha
	Mandatory Indicator (GEF-7 Core Indicator 4): Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (hectares) SDG 2.4; SDG 11.b; SDG 12.2; SDG 14.2; SDG 15.2; SDG 15.9; SDG 15.b;	Strengthening community forest management in Klang Valley; upscaling agrobiodiversity-based systems, and developing sustainable animal husbandry practices in Sabah;	20,000 ha included among the approved projects by midterm, and end target validated through the landscape strategies	43,000 ha
	Mandatory Indicator (GEF-7 Core Indicator 6): Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (million metric tons of CO ₂ e) SDG 7.1; SDG 13.2; SDG 13.3;	GHG emissions mitigated on projects implemented during earlier operational phases, including 120 kW of hydroelectric generation (12,000 tCO ₂ e) and several projects in the AFOLU sector.	150,000 tCO ₂ e direct lifetime GHG emissions mitigated estimated among the projects approved by midterm, and end target validated through the landscape strategies	341,500 tCO ₂ e direct lifetime GHG emissions mitigated (335,000 tCO ₂ e emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector, Sub-Indicator 6.1; 6,500 tCO ₂ e emissions avoided outside the AFOLU sector, Sub-Indicator 6.2) 26,000 tCO ₂ e indirect lifetime (outside AFOLU sector)
	Mandatory Indicator (GEF-7 Core Indicator 11): #direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as a co-benefit of GEF investment (individual people) SDG 1.4; SDG 1.b; SDG 5.a; SDG 7.1;	Approximately 50,000 beneficiaries during OP2-OP6 (53% female, 47% male)	5,000 direct beneficiaries (of whom 2,500 are female) identified in the projects awarded by midterm	10,000 (of whom 5,000 are female)
Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection				
Outcome 1.1: Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions	Indicator 5: Sustainable management of common resources , as indicated by the number of new partnerships between CBOs and enabling stakeholders (including with NGOs, protected area management entities, private sector enterprises, government departments, etc.) for participatory conservation and restoration initiatives, disaggregated by gender	SGP Malaysia has facilitated a wide range of partnerships.	3 identified in the set of approved projects in the first call for proposals	6 new partnerships between CBOs (including 3 women-led CBOs) and enabling stakeholders for participatory conservation and restoration initiatives

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
	Indicator 6: Strengthening gender quality and women's empowerment in control of natural resources , as indicated by the number of projects that are contributing to equal access to and control of natural resources by women and men SDG 5.a;	Gender mainstreaming has been a priority during earlier operational phases	5 of the awarded projects by midterm contribute to equal access to and control of natural resources of women and men	10 projects
	Indicator 7: Documentation of traditional knowledge related to biodiversity , as indicated by the number of systems developed or strengthened where traditional biodiversity knowledge is documented, stored and made available to local people (e.g., traditional knowledge recordings, resource classification systems, etc.). SDG 15.1;	SGP Malaysia has extensive experience supporting traditional communities.	1 project included among the approved projects by midterm	2 systems developed or strengthened
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.1	Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services Output 1.1.2: Capacities of CBOs for participatory conservation, restoration and nature-based livelihood initiatives developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring			
Outcome 1.2: Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level	Indicator 8: Livelihood co-benefits , as indicated by the number of households benefitting from alternative livelihoods supported by clean energy solutions	SGP Malaysia has granted funding for clean energy interventions during previous operational phases.	100 households (50% female HH members) identified in projects approved by midterm	200 households (50% female HH members) benefitting from alternative livelihoods supported by clean energy solutions
	Indicator 9: Strengthened resilience and increased energy security , as indicated by the number of community level renewable energy solutions (e.g., hydroelectric generators, off-grid solar PV systems, biomass gasification generator systems) operationalized. SDG 7.1;	SGP Malaysia has granted funding for RE interventions during previous operational phases.	2 projects approved by midterm	4 projects operationalized
Outputs to achieve Outcome 1.2	Output 1.2.1: Community level small grant projects on increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and applications Output 1.2.2: Capacities of CBOs for community-level climate change mitigation interventions developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring			
Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building, and knowledge management				
Outcome 2.1: Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience	Indicator 10: Participatory landscape management , as indicated by the number of landscape strategies developed or strengthened through participatory consultation and based on the socio-ecological resilience landscape baseline assessments endorsed by multi-stakeholder landscape platforms SDG 1.b; SDG 11.b; SDG 15.9; SDG 17.17;	Not applicable	3 landscape strategies developed	3 landscape strategies developed and endorsed by multi-stakeholder landscape platforms
	Indicator 11: Empowering women in natural resource governance , as indicated by the number of projects that improve the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance SDG 5.a;	Women's empowerment has been a priority during earlier operational phases	3 of the approved projects include measures aimed at improving participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance	3 projects implemented that improve participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance

	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target
	Indicator 12: Strengthening socioeconomic benefits for women , as indicated by the number of projects that target socioeconomic benefits and services for women SDG 5.a;	Gender mainstreaming has been a priority during earlier operational phases	5 of the approved projects address strengthening socioeconomic benefits and services for women	10 projects completed that strengthening socioeconomic benefits and services for women
	Indicator 13: Landscape priority actions mainstreamed into local planning instruments , as indicated by the uptake priority actions outlined in the landscape strategies into local development plans SDG 1.b; SDG 11.b; SDG 15.9;	Local and state government units are expected to have important roles on the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms	Priority actions described in the endorsed landscape strategies	3 local development plans, protected area management plans, or community forestry initiatives contain at least one priority action from the landscape strategies
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.1	<p>Output 2.1.1: Multi-stakeholder platforms established and/or strengthened for improved governance of target landscapes</p> <p>Output 2.1.2: Landscape strategies for effective governance developed based on results of participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments in the selected intervention landscapes</p> <p>Output 2.1.3: Partnership building and policy advocacy among governmental stakeholders, civil society, financial institutions, and private sector for facilitating broader adoption of participatory approaches</p>			
Outcome 2.2: Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches	Indicator 14: Mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment , number of women-led projects supported SDG 5.a;	Gender mainstreaming has been a priority during earlier operational phases	3 of the approved projects by midterm are led by women	6 of the implemented projects are led by women
	Indicator 15: Upscaling initiated , as indicated by the number of dialogues organized with government entities on upscaling best practices SDG 15.9;	Upscaling is enhanced under the socio-ecological resilience landscape approach, with engagement of multiple stakeholders and collective action to achieve impact at scale	1 dialogue organized	2 dialogues organized
	Indicator 16: Knowledge shared , as indicated by the number of project and portfolio experiences and lessons systematised and codified into case studies produced and disseminated, and cumulative number of views of the case studies from the SGP website, social media, or through direct dissemination SDG 17.6;	Knowledge management is one of the hallmarks of SGP, with each approved project required to develop a case study to document best practices and lessons	Case studies from completed projects under preparation, and views tracked on SGP website, social media, and through direct dissemination	10 case studies disseminated, with 500 cumulative views of the case studies on the SGP website, social media, or through direct dissemination
Outputs to achieve Outcome 2.2	Output 2.2.1: Knowledge from innovative project interventions compiled, systemized, and disseminated across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network			
Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation				
Outcome 3.1: Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation				
Output 3.1.1: Project implementation and results effectively monitored and evaluated				

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) PLAN

200. The project results, corresponding indicators and mid-term and end-of-project targets in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation. If baseline data for some of the results indicators is not yet available, it will be collected during the first year of project implementation. The Monitoring Plan included in **Annex 4** details the roles, responsibilities, frequency of monitoring project results.

201. Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the [UNDP POPP](#) and [UNDP Evaluation Policy](#). The UNDP Country Office is responsible for ensuring full compliance with all UNDP project monitoring, quality assurance, risk management, and evaluation requirements.

202. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements will be undertaken in accordance with the [GEF Monitoring Policy](#) and the [GEF Evaluation Policy](#) and other [relevant GEF policies](#)⁵⁸. The costed M&E plan included below, and the Monitoring plan in Annex, will guide the GEF-specific M&E activities to be undertaken by this project.

203. In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report.

Additional GEF monitoring and reporting requirements:

204. Inception Workshop and Report: A project inception workshop will be held within 60 days of project CEO endorsement, with the aim to:

- a. Familiarize key stakeholders with the detailed project strategy and discuss any changes that may have taken place in the overall context since the project idea was initially conceptualized that may influence its strategy and implementation.
- b. Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting lines, stakeholder engagement strategies and conflict resolution mechanisms.
- c. Review the results framework and monitoring plan.
- d. Discuss reporting, monitoring and evaluation roles and responsibilities and finalize the M&E budget; identify national/regional institutes to be involved in project-level M&E; discuss the role of the GEF OFP and other stakeholders in project-level M&E.
- e. Update and review responsibilities for monitoring project strategies, including the risk log; SESP report, Social and Environmental Management Framework and other safeguard requirements; project grievance mechanisms; gender strategy; knowledge management strategy, and other relevant management strategies.
- f. Review financial reporting procedures and budget monitoring and other mandatory requirements and agree on the arrangements for the annual audit.
- g. Plan and schedule Project Board meetings and finalize the first-year annual work plan.
- h. Formally launch the Project.

GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR):

205. The annual GEF PIR covering the reporting period July (previous year) to June (current year) will be completed for each year of project implementation. Any environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly, and progress will be reported in the PIR. The PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Board. The quality rating of the previous year's PIR will be used to inform the preparation of the subsequent PIR.

⁵⁸ See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

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GEF Core Indicators:

206. The GEF Core indicators included as **Annex 15** will be used to monitor global environmental benefits and will be updated for reporting to the GEF prior to MTR and TE. Note that the project team is responsible for updating the indicator status. The updated monitoring data should be shared with MTR/TE consultants prior to required evaluation missions, so these can be used for subsequent ground-truthing. The methodologies to be used in data collection have been defined by the GEF and are available on the GEF [website](#).

Independent Mid-term Review (MTR):

207. The terms of reference, the review process and the final MTR report will follow the standard templates and guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center \(ERC\)](#).

208. The evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The evaluators who will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project under review.

209. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the BPPS/GEF Directorate.

210. The final MTR report and MTR TOR will be publicly available in English and will be posted on the UNDP ERC by 31 December 2024. A management response to MTR recommendations will be posted in the ERC within six weeks of the MTR report's completion.

Terminal Evaluation (TE):

211. An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place upon completion of all major project outputs and activities. The terms of reference, the evaluation process and the final TE report will follow the standard templates and guidance for GEF-financed projects available on the [UNDP Evaluation Resource Center](#).

212. The evaluation will be 'independent, impartial and rigorous'. The evaluators who will be hired to undertake the assignment will be independent from organizations that were involved in designing, executing or advising on the project to be evaluated. Equally, the evaluators should not be in a position where there may be the possibility of future contracts regarding the project being evaluated.

213. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be actively involved and consulted during the terminal evaluation process. Additional quality assurance support is available from the BPPS/GEF Directorate.

214. The final TE report and TE TOR will be publicly available in English and posted on the UNDP ERC by 1 June 2026. A management response to the TE recommendations will be posted to the ERC within six weeks of the TE report's completion.

Final Report:

215. The project's terminal GEF PIR along with the terminal evaluation (TE) report and corresponding management response will serve as the final project report package. The final project report package shall be discussed with the Project Board during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project's deliverables and disclosure of information:

216. To accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also

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accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy and the GEF policy on public involvement.

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget:

217. The project monitoring and evaluation plan and budget are outlined below in **Table 6**. This M&E plan and budget provides a breakdown of costs for M&E activities to be led by the CPMU during project implementation. These costs are included under Component 3, which is dedicated for project M&E.

Table 6: Monitoring and evaluation plan and budget

GEF M&E requirements	Indicative costs (US\$)	Time frame
Inception Workshop	26,240	Within 60 days of CEO endorsement of this project.
Inception Report ⁵⁹	None	Within 90 days of CEO endorsement of this project.
M&E of GEF core indicators and project results framework	28,140	Annually and at mid-point and closure..
GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR) ⁶⁰	None	Annually typically between June-August
Monitoring of gender action plan, SESP, stakeholder engagement plan	20,140	On-going
Supervision missions ⁶¹	None	Annually
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR)	25,240	31 December 2024
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE)	25,240	1 June 2026
TOTAL indicative COST	125,000	5% of GEF project grant

⁵⁹ Included in the cost for the inception workshop.

⁶⁰ The costs of UNDP CO and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee

⁶¹ Ibid.

VII. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

218. **Implementing Partner:** The Implementing Partner for this project is **United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)**.

219. The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

220. The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

- Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.
- Risk management as outlined in this Project Document.
- Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.
- Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.
- Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.
- Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year.
- Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

221. **Project beneficiary Groups:** CBOs and NGOs in the target landscapes. These stakeholders, with support of the multi-stakeholder governance platforms in each of the target landscapes, as well as technical and strategic assistance from the SGP, will design and implement the projects to generate global environmental benefits and community livelihood benefits.

222. **UNDP:** UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes oversight of project execution to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with agreed standards and provisions. UNDP is responsible for delivering GEF project cycle management services comprising project approval and start-up, project supervision and oversight, and project completion and evaluation. UNDP is also responsible for the Project Assurance role of the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC).

Project organisation structure:

223. The roles and responsibilities of the various parties to the project are illustrated in the organogram shown below in **Figure 6** and described in the SGP Operational Guidelines (see **Annex 18** to the guidelines).

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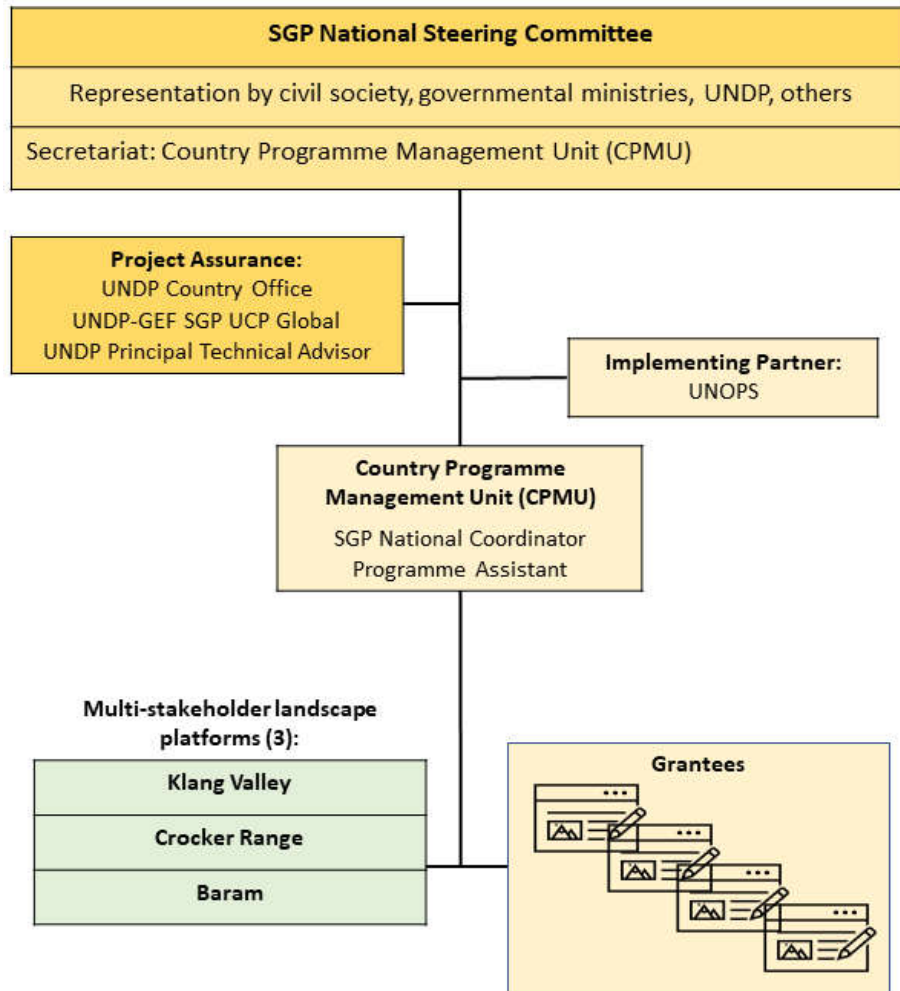


Figure 6: Project organization

224. **Project Board:** The Project Board (called **SGP National Steering Committee, NSC**) is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, NSC decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. Establishment and operations of SGP National Steering Committees are carried out in accordance with the SGP Operational Guidelines (see **Annex 18**).

225. In case consensus cannot be reached within the NSC, the UNDP Resident Representative (or their designate) will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, he/she will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.

226. Specific responsibilities of the NSC include:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints.
- Address project issues as raised by the project manager (also called SGP National Coordinator).
- Provide guidance on new project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks.
- Agree on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded.

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- Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF.
- Support coordination between various donor and government-funded projects and programmes.
- Support coordination with various government agencies and their participation in project activities.
- Track and monitor co-financing for this project.
- Review the project progress, assess performance, and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year.
- Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report.
- Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project.
- Provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- Address project-level grievances.
- Approve the project Inception Report, Mid-term Review and Terminal Evaluation reports and corresponding management responses.
- Review the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.
- Ensure highest levels of transparency and take all measures to avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest.

227. **Project Assurance:** UNDP performs the quality assurance role and supports the NSC and Country Programme Management Unit by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed, and conflict of interest issues are monitored and addressed. The NSC cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the SGP National Coordinator. UNDP provides a three – tier oversight services involving the UNDP Country Offices and UNDP at regional and headquarters levels. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution.

228. **Project extensions:** The UNDP Resident Representative and the UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator must approve all project extensions. All extensions incur costs, and the GEF project budget cannot be increased. A single extension may be granted on an exceptional basis only if the following conditions are met: one extension only for a project for a maximum of six months; the project management costs during the extension period must remain within the originally approved amount, and any increase in PMC costs will be covered by non-GEF resources; the UNDP Country Office oversight costs in excess of the CO's Agency fee specified in the DOA during the extension period must be covered by non-GEF resources.

229. **UNDP** will provide overall Programme oversight and take responsibility for standard GEF project cycle management services beyond assistance and oversight of project design and negotiation, including project monitoring, periodic evaluations, troubleshooting, and reporting to the GEF. UNDP will also provide high level technical and managerial support from the UNDP GEF Global Coordinator for the SGP Upgrading Country Programmes, who is responsible for project oversight for all SGP Upgraded Country Programme projects.⁶² The SGP Central Programme Management Team (CPMT) will monitor Upgraded Country Programmes for compliance with GEF SGP core policies and procedures.

230. In accordance with the global **SGP Operational Guidelines** (see **Annex 18**) that will guide overall project implementation in Malaysia, and in keeping with past best practice, the UNDP Resident Representative will appoint the **National Steering Committee** (NSC) members in consultation with the GEF Operational Focal Point. The NSC, composed of government and non-government organizations with a non-government majority, a UNDP representative, and individuals with expertise in the GEF Focal Areas, is responsible for grant selection and approval and for determining the overall strategy of the SGP in the country. NSC members serve without remuneration and rotate periodically in accordance with its rules of procedure. The Government is usually represented by the GEF Operational Focal Point or by another high-level representative of relevant ministries or

⁶² GEF/C.54/05/Rev.01 *GEF Small Grants Programme: Implementation Arrangements for GEF-7*, approved by GEF Council.

institutions. The NSC assesses the performance of the SGP National Coordinator with input from the UNDP RR, the SGP UCP Global Coordinator, and UNOPS. The NSC also contributes to bridging community-level experiences with national policymaking.

231. On an as-needed basis, the NSC can invite specialists having specific technical expertise to provide guidance on subjects being deliberated by the NSC or to deliver technical feedback as part of the NSC decision-making processes, e.g., evaluation of project proposals.

232. The UNDP **Country Office** is the business unit in UNDP for the SGP project and is responsible for ensuring the project meets its objective and delivers on its targets. The Resident Representative signs the grant agreements with beneficiary organizations on behalf of UNOPS. The Country Office will make available its expertise in various environment and development fields as shown below. It will also provide other types of support at the local level such as infrastructure and financial management services, as required. UNDP will be represented in the NSC and will actively participate in grant monitoring activities. The CO will participate in NSC meetings, promoting synergies with other relevant Programmes, and support the design and implementation of the SGP strategy, among other things.

233. The **Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU)** composed of an SGP National Coordinator and a Programme Assistant, recruited through competitive processes, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Programme. This includes supporting NSC strategic work and grant selection by developing technical papers, undertaking ex-ante technical reviews of project proposals; taking responsibility for monitoring the grant portfolio and for providing technical assistance to grantees during project design and implementation; mobilizing cash and in-kind resources; preparing reports for UNDP, GEF and other donors; implementing a capacity development Programme for communities, CBOs and NGOs, as well as a communications and knowledge management strategy to ensure adequate visibility of GEF investments, and disseminating good practices and lessons learnt. The terms of reference for the members of the CPMU are included in the overview of technical consultancies/subcontracts in **Annex 7**.

234. **Grants** will be selected by the NSC from proposals submitted by CBOs and NGOs through calls for proposals in specific thematic and geographic areas relevant to the SGP Country Programme strategy, as embodied in this document. Although government organizations cannot receive SGP grants, every effort will be made to coordinate grant implementation with relevant line ministries, decentralized institutions, universities and local government authorities to ensure their support, create opportunities for co-financing, and provide feedback on policy implementation on the ground. Contributions from and cooperation with the private sector will also be sought.

235. **UNOPS** will provide Country Programme implementation services, including human resources management, budgeting, accounting, grant disbursement, auditing, and procurement. UNOPS is responsible for SGP's financial management and provides monthly financial reports to UNDP. The UNOPS SGP Standard Operating Procedures guide the financial and administrative management of the project. UNOPS will provide a certified expenditure report as of 31 December of each year of implementation.

236. A key service of UNOPS is the contracting of SGP staff as needed and required by the Programme, and once contracted, UNOPS provides guidance and supervision, together with the UNDP CO acting on behalf of UNOPS, to the SGP country staff in their administrative and finance related work. UNOPS also provides other important services (as specified in the GEF Council document C.36/4) that include (1) oversight and quality assurance: (i) coordinate with the Upgrading Country Programme (UCP) Global Coordinator on annual work plan activities and (ii) undertake trouble-shooting and problem-solving missions; (2) project financial management: (i) review and authorize operating budgets; (ii) review and authorize disbursement, (iii) monitor and oversee all financial transactions, (iv) prepare semi-annual and annual financial progress reports and (v) prepare periodic status reports on grant allocations and expenditures; (3) project procurement management: (i) undertake procurement activities and (ii) management of contracts; (4) project assets management: (i) maintain an inventory of all capitalized assets; (5) project risks management: (i) prepare and implement an annual audit plan and (ii) follow up on all audit recommendations; and (6) Grants management: (i) administer all grants, (ii) financial grant monitoring and (iii) legal advice.

237. Under its legal advice role, UNOPS takes the lead in investigations of UNOPS-contracted SGP staff. UNOPS services also include transactional services: (1) personnel administration, benefits and entitlements of project personnel contracted by UNOPS; (2) processing payroll of project personnel contracted by UNOPS, (3) input transaction instruction and automated processing of project personnel official mission travel and DSA; (4) input transaction instruction and automated processing of financial transactions such as Purchase Order, Receipts, Payment Vouchers and Vendor Approval and (5) procurement in UN Web Buy.

238. UNOPS will continue with a number of areas for enhancing execution services started during the fifth Operational Phase, including: inclusion of co-financing below \$500,000; technical assistance to high risk/low performing countries; developing a risk-based management approach; strengthening the central structure to make it more suitable for an expanded Programme; resolving grant disbursement delays; enhancing country Programme oversight; improving monitoring & evaluation; increasing the audit volume and quality assurance work; and optimizing Programme cost-effectiveness. To facilitate global coherence in execution of services, guidance and operating procedures, UNOPS through a central management team and NSC, coordinates primarily with UNDP/GEF HQ respectively.

239. UNOPS will not make any financial commitments or incur any expenses that would exceed the budget for implementing the project as set forth in this Project Document. UNOPS shall regularly consult with UNDP concerning the status and use of funds and shall promptly advise UNDP any time when UNOPS is aware that the budget to carry out these services is insufficient to fully implement the project in the manner set out in the Project Document. UNDP shall have no obligation to provide UNOPS with any funds or to make any reimbursement for expenses incurred by UNOPS in excess of the total budget as set forth in the Project Document.

240. UNOPS will submit a cumulative financial report each quarter (31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December). The report will be submitted to UNDP through the ATLAS Project Delivery Report (PDR) system and follow the established ATLAS formats and PDR timelines. The level of detail in relation to the reporting requirement is indicated in the Project Document budget which will be translated into the ATLAS budgets. UNDP will include the expenditure reported by UNOPS in its reconciliation of the project financial report.

241. Upon completion or termination of activities, UNOPS shall furnish a financial closure report, including a list of non-expendable equipment purchased by UNOPS, and all relevant audited or certified financial statements and records related to such activities, as appropriate, pursuant to its Financial Regulations and Rules.

242. Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNDP or procured through UNDP funds shall rest with UNDP until such time as ownership thereof is transferred. Equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNDP or procured through UNDP funds will be disposed as agreed, in writing, between UNDP and UNOPS. UNDP shall provide UNOPS with instructions on the disposal of such equipment and supplies within 90 days of the end of the Project.

243. The arrangements described in this Project Document will remain in effect until the end of the project, or until terminated in writing (with 30 days' notice) by either party. The schedule of activities specified in the Project Document remains in effect based on continued performance by UNOPS unless it receives written indication to the contrary from UNDP. The arrangements described in this Agreement, including the structure of implementation and responsibility for results, shall be revisited on an annual basis and may result in the amendment of this Project Document.

244. If this Agreement is terminated or suspended, UNDP shall reimburse UNOPS for all costs directly incurred by UNOPS in the amounts specified in the project budget or as otherwise agreed in writing by UNDP and UNOPS.

245. All further correspondence regarding this Agreement, other than signed letters of agreement or amendments thereto should be addressed to the UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator and the UNDP Resident Coordinator.

246. UNOPS shall keep UNDP fully informed of all actions undertaken by them in carrying out this Agreement.



247. Any changes to the Project Document that would affect the work being performed by UNOPS shall be recommended only after consultation between the parties. Any amendment to this Project Document shall be affected by mutual agreement, in writing.

248. If UNOPS is prevented by force majeure from fulfilling its obligations under this Agreement, it shall not be deemed in breach of such obligations. UNOPS shall use all reasonable efforts to mitigate the consequences of force majeure. Force majeure is defined as natural catastrophes such as but not limited to earthquakes, floods, cyclonic or volcanic activity; war (whether declared or not), invasion, rebellion, terrorism, revolution, insurrection, civil war, riot, radiation or contaminations by radioactivity; other acts of a similar nature or force. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, UNOPS shall in no event be liable as a result or consequence of any act or omission on the part of UNDP, the government and/or any provincial and/or municipal authorities, including its agents, servants and employees.

249. UNDP and UNOPS shall use their best efforts to promptly settle through direct negotiations any dispute, controversy or claim which is not settled within sixty (60) days from the date either party has notified the other party of the dispute, controversy or claim and of measures which should be taken to rectify it, shall be referred to the UNDP Administrator and the UNOPS Executive Director for resolution.

250. This project will be implemented by UNOPS in accordance with UNOPS' Financial Rules and Regulations provided these do not contravene the principles established in UNDP's Financial Regulations and Rules.

251. UNOPS as the Implementing Partner shall comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations security management system.

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VIII. FINANCIAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

252. The total cost of the project is USD 5,250,000. This is financed through a GEF grant of USD 2,500,000 administered by UNDP and additional support of USD 2,750,000. UNDP, as the GEF Implementing Agency, is responsible for the oversight of the GEF resources and the cash co-financing transferred to UNDP bank account only.

253. Confirmed Co-financing: The actual realization of project co-financing will be monitored during the mid-term review and terminal evaluation process and will be reported to the GEF. Note that all project activities included in the project results framework that will be delivered by co-financing partners (even if the funds do not pass through UNDP accounts) must comply with UNDP's social and environmental standards. Co-financing will be used for the following project activities/outputs:

Co-financing source	Co-financing type	Co-financing amount	Planned Co-financing Activities/Outputs	Risks	Risk Mitigation Measures
UNDP	In-kind	\$200,000	Recurrent expenditures (in-kind) of the Country Office, e.g., staff salaries, logistical support, hosting costs, etc.	Inconsistent engagement with the SGP team, possibly leading to low delivery and other efficiency shortcomings. Lack of coordination with other UNDP projects.	The SGP Country Programme Management Unit is embedded with the UNDP CO. UNDP is a member of the NSC, enabling them to stay closely involved. And the UCP Global Coordinator will provide strategic guidance.
Ministry of Environment and Water (KASA)	In-kind	\$200,000	Recurrent expenditures (in-kind) of the ministry, e.g., staff salaries, logistical support, hosting costs, etc. Complementary synergies with KASA programmes and schemes.	Possible changes in officers at the ministry, leads to inconsistent involvement. Lack of coordination with other programmes and schemes.	The OFP of KASA is currently the co-chair of the NSC. The ministry has been closely involved throughout the PPG phase and during earlier SGP operational phases.
Sabah Parks	In-kind	\$100,000	Recurrent expenditures (in-kind), e.g., staff salaries, logistical support, hosting costs, etc. Complementary initiatives regarding engagement of local communities in the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve (CRBR).	Possible changes in officers at Sabah Parks, leads to inconsistent involvement. Lack of coordination with community development initiatives.	Sabah Parks will be invited to participate on the CRBR multi-stakeholder landscape platform; the Stakeholder Engagement Plan includes proposed entry points for engagement with protected area management entities.
Habitat Foundation	Grant	\$100,000	Investments mobilised on complementary programmes on sustainable livelihoods for enhanced socio-ecological resilience.	Planned investments do not materialise or are delayed.	Habitat Foundation will be invited to participate on the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms; the Stakeholder Engagement Plan includes proposed

Co-financing source	Co-financing type	Co-financing amount	Planned Co-financing Activities/Outputs	Risks	Risk Mitigation Measures
					entry points for private sector engagement, and the SGP Communications Strategy will include specific measures for private sector outreach.
ICCA GSI	Grant	\$500,000	Investments mobilised through the ICCA GSI, supporting interventions with indigenous communities, sharing lessons and best practices.	Planned investments do not materialise or are delayed	SGP Malaysia has experience with ICCA GSI during OP6.
CSO grantees	In-kind	\$1,100,000	Direct co-financing of community projects generally on a 1:1 basis.	Limited resources or channels to raise funding. Possible low participation.	The project will actively promote participation of local CSOs and NGOs. Training will be provided on developing proposals, and the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms provide mechanisms for partnership building.
	Grant	\$550,000			

254. **Budget Revision and Tolerance:** As per UNDP requirements outlined in the UNDP POPP, the project board will agree on a budget tolerance level for each plan under the overall annual work plan allowing the project manager to expend up to the tolerance level beyond the approved project budget amount for the year without requiring a revision from the Project Board.

255. Should the following deviations occur, the SGP National Coordinator and UNDP Country Office will seek the approval of the BPPS/GEF team to ensure accurate reporting to the GEF: a) Budget re-allocations among components in the project with amounts involving 10% of the total project grant or more; b) Introduction of new budget items/or components that exceed 5% of original GEF allocation.

256. Any over expenditure incurred beyond the available GEF grant amount will be absorbed by non-GEF resources (e.g. UNDP TRAC or cash co-financing).

257. **Audit:** The project will be audited as per UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies. Audit cycle and process must be discussed during the Inception workshop. If the Implementing Partner is an UN Agency, the project will be audited according to that Agencies applicable audit policies.

258. **Project Closure:** Project closure will be conducted as per UNDP requirements outlined in the UNDP POPP. All costs incurred to close the project must be included in the project closure budget and reported as final project commitments presented to the Project Board during the final project review. The only costs a project may incur following the final project review are those included in the project closure budget.

259. **Operational completion:** The project will be operationally completed when the last UNDP-financed inputs have been provided and the related activities have been completed. This includes the final clearance of the Terminal Evaluation Report (that will be available in English) and the corresponding management response, and the end-of-project review Project Board meeting. **Operational closure must happen with 3 months of posting the TE report to the UNDP ERC.** The Implementing Partner through a Project Board decision will notify

the UNDP Country Office when operational closure has been completed. At this time, the relevant parties will have already agreed and confirmed in writing on the arrangements for the disposal of any equipment that is still the property of UNDP.

260. Transfer or disposal of assets: In consultation with the Implementing Partner and other parties of the project, UNDP is responsible for deciding on the transfer or other disposal of assets. Transfer or disposal of assets is recommended to be reviewed and endorsed by the project board following UNDP rules and regulations. Assets may be transferred to the government for project activities managed by a national institution at any time during the life of a project. In all cases of transfer, a transfer document must be prepared and kept on file. The transfer should be done before Country Programme Management Unit complete their assignment

261. Financial completion (closure): The project will be financially closed when the following conditions have been met: a) the project is operationally completed or has been cancelled; b) the Implementing Partner has reported all financial transactions to UNDP; c) UNDP has closed the accounts for the project; d) UNDP and the Implementing Partner have certified a final Combined Delivery Report (which serves as final budget revision).

262. The project will be financially completed **within 6 months of operational closure or after the date of cancellation**. Between operational and financial closure, the implementing partner will identify and settle all financial obligations and prepare a final expenditure report. The UNDP Country Office will send the final signed closure documents including confirmation of final cumulative expenditure and unspent balance to the UNDP-GEF Unit for confirmation before the project will be financially closed in Atlas by the UNDP Country Office.

263. Refund to GEF: Should a refund of unspent funds to the GEF be necessary, this will be managed directly by the BPPS/GEF Directorate in New York. No action is required by the UNDP Country Office on the actual refund from UNDP project to the GEF Trustee.



IX. TOTAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

Total Budget and Work Plan		
Atlas Award ID:	00134613	Atlas Output Project ID: 00126166
Atlas Proposal or Award Title:	Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Malaysia	
Atlas Business Unit	MYS 10	
Atlas Primary Output Project Title	Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Malaysia	
UNDP-GEF PIMS No.	6477	
Implementing Partner	UNOPS	

Atlas Activity (GEF Component)	Atlas Implementing Agent	Atlas Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note:
Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection	UNOPS	62000	GEF	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	39,500	39,500	39,500	39,500	158,000	1
				71300	Local Consultants	0	4,800	4,800	2,400	12,000	2
				71600	Travel	2,120	2,120	2,120	2,120	8,480	3
				72600	Grants	190,800	381,600	381,600	318,000	1,272,000	4
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	3,120	3,120	3,120	3,120	12,480	5
				Sub-total, Component 1 GEF						235,540	431,140
Total Component 1						235,540	431,140	431,140	365,140	1,462,960	
Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management	UNOPS	62000	GEF	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	39,500	39,500	39,500	39,500	158,000	6
				71300	Local Consultants	3,200	9,600	11,200	8,000	32,000	7
				71600	Travel	10,600	10,600	17,692	10,600	49,492	8
				72600	Grants	71,550	143,100	143,100	119,250	477,000	9
				74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	6,400	9,600	9,600	6,400	32,000	10
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	10,300	10,300	13,600	10,300	44,500	11
Sub-total, Component 2 GEF						141,550	222,700	234,692	194,050	792,992	
Total Component 2						141,550	222,700	234,692	194,050	792,992	
Component 3: Monitoring & Evaluation	UNOPS	62000	GEF	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	3,950	3,950	3,950	3,950	15,800	12
				71200	International Consultants	0	17,000	0	17,000	34,000	13
				71300	Local Consultants	4,000	10,000	6,000	8,000	28,000	14
				71600	Travel	21,760	5,300	1,060	5,300	33,420	15
				75700	Training, Workshops and Confer	8,215	1,855	1,855	1,855	13,780	16
				Sub-total, Component 3 GEF						37,925	38,105
Total Component 3						37,925	38,105	12,865	36,105	125,000	
Project Management	UNOPS	62000	GEF	71400	Contractual Services - Individuals	11,850	11,850	11,850	11,850	47,400	17
				72500	Supplies	3,750	3,750	3,750	3,750	15,000	18
				72800	Information Technology Equipment	2,708	0	0	0	2,708	19
				73100	Rental & Maintenance-Premises	6,360	6,360	6,360	6,360	25,440	20
				74100	Professional Services	0	0	26,500	0	26,500	21

Atlas Activity (GEF Component)	Atlas Implementing Agent	Atlas Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Total (USD)	See Budget Note:
				72400	Communic & Audio Visual Equipment	500	500	500	500	2,000	22
Sub-total, Project Management						25,168	22,460	48,960	22,460	119,048	
Total Project Management						25,168	22,460	48,960	22,460	119,048	
PROJECT TOTAL						440,183	714,405	727,657	617,755	2,500,000	

Summary of Funds:

	Amount Year 1	Amount Year 2	Amount Year 3	Amount Year 4	Total
GEF	\$440,183	\$714,405	\$727,657	\$617,755	\$2,500,000
GEF Agency (UNDP)	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$200,000
Ministry of Environment and Water	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$200,000
Sabah Parks	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$100,000
Habitat Foundation	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$100,000
ICCA GSI	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	\$500,000
CSO grantees	\$247,500	\$495,000	\$495,000	\$412,500	\$1,650,000
TOTAL:	\$962,683	\$1,484,405	\$1,497,657	\$1,305,255	\$5,250,000

Budget note number	Comments
0	The 6% UNOPS fee and the Centrally Managed Direct Costs (CMDC) are incorporated in each individual budget line.
Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection	
1	71400. Contractual services – Individuals. SGP National Coordinator working with CSOs in preparation of project concepts and proposals, authorise project planning grants, establish close working relationships with stakeholders, and supporting SGP grantees in securing co-financing and project level partnerships (20 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 4,500 per month). Programme Assistant assisting the SGP National Coordinator in pre-screening project concepts and project proposals, advising potential grantees on project preparation processes and guidelines, processing payment requests from grantees and vendors, maintaining grant distribution database (20 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 3,400 per month). Total: USD 158,000
2	71300. Local consultants. Gender-Safeguards Consultant, providing guidance to CSOs on ensuring gender and other safeguards are addressed in project development, delivering gender and safeguards training (6 weeks at USD 2,000 per week). Total: USD 12,000
3	71600. Travel. Miscellaneous travel expenses for the activities under Component 1, at USD 2,120 per year for 4 years. Total: USD 8,480
4	72600. Grants. Community level small grants: under Outcome 1.1 for projects on strengthening participatory conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services, restoring degraded lands, enhancing soil and water conservation in agricultural landscapes, etc.; under Outcome 1.2, for projects on implementing renewable energy and energy efficient technologies. According to SGP Operational Guidelines, small grants can be awarded up to USD 50,000 per grant. Approximately 25 grants are anticipated under Component 1.

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Budget note number	Comments
	Total: USD 1,272,000 , comprising 70% of the total project budget (the 70% figure includes the strategic grants allocated under Component 2).
5	75700. Training, workshop, conference. USD 3,120 per year for the 4 years of project implementation are allocated for trainings, trade fairs, workshops and other capacity building and partnership development activities under Component 1. Total: USD 12,480
Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management	
6	71400. Contractual services – Individuals. SGP National Coordinator facilitating landscape baseline assessments, development of landscape strategies, convening of multi-stakeholder platforms, support capacity building (20 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 4,500 per month). Programme Assistant assisting the SGP National Coordinator in overseeing landscape approaches and stakeholder engagement in the project landscapes (20 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 3,400 per month). Total: USD 158,000
7	71300. Local consultants. Business Development-Financial Management Consultant , providing professional assistance to the CBOs on financial management, private sector engagement, business development, market access and upscaling (8 weeks at USD 2,000 per week). Knowledge Management-Communications Consultant , supporting development of a knowledge management strategy and communications strategy, distilling individual case studies into consolidated knowledge products, facilitating dissemination of knowledge products (8 weeks at USD 2,000 per week). Total: USD 32,000
8	71600. Travel. Miscellaneous travel expenses for the activities under Component 2, at USD 10,600 per year for 4 years, and travel expenses associated with one SGP UCP global workshop (USD 7,092). Total: USD 49,492
9	72600. Grants. Strategic grants awarded to strategic partners supporting landscape approaches, delivering advocacy for policy reform, and facilitating upscaling. According to SGP Operational Guidelines, strategic grants can be awarded up to USD 150,000 per grant. Approximately 3 grants are anticipated under Component 2. Total: USD 477,000 , comprising 70% of the total project budget (the 70% figure includes the community level small grants allocated under Component 1).
10	74200. Audio visual & print production costs. Audio-visual and print production for knowledge products used for disseminating information, awareness-raising and advocacy. Total: USD 32,000
11	75700. Training, Workshop, Conference. In support of the CPMU's work under Component 2, USD 10,300 USD per year for the 4 years of project implementation, for trainings, workshops, landscape meetings, trade fairs, workshops and other capacity building and partnership development activities; participation in one SGP UCP global workshop for sharing experiences and best practices, learning approaches implemented in other countries that could be replicated in Malaysia and fostering international and regional partnerships (USD 3,300). Total: USD 44,500
Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation	
12	71400. Contractual services – Individuals. SGP National Coordinator conducting periodic monitoring and evaluation missions, exercising quality control over the implementation of the project interventions, set annual performance metrics and learning objectives for the SGP country programme, carrying out M&E of GEF core indicators and project results framework (2 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 4,500 per month). Programme Assistant assisting the SGP National Coordinator in monitoring and evaluation and organising field missions, assisting in M&E of GEF core indicators and project results framework, providing logistical and administrative support to the CSOs regarding M&E, working with the Gender-Safeguards Consultant in monitoring and evaluating gender and project safeguard management plans (2 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 3,400 per month). Total: USD 15,800

Budget note number	Comments
13	71200. International consultants. Midterm review consultant, lead (5 weeks at USD 3,400 per week, in Year 2; Total: USD 17,000); Terminal evaluation consultant, lead (5 weeks at USD 3,400 per week, in Year 4; Total: USD 17,000). Total: USD 34,000
14	71300. Local consultants. Gender-Safeguards Consultant , providing support in monitoring project indicators, review and update of the SESP, and the implementation, review and update of the gender action plan (5 weeks at USD 2,000 per week; Total: USD 10,000). M&E Consultant , assisting in preparing project inception report, deliver technical assistance in evaluating achievement of GEF core indicator targets, prepare GIS maps showing locations of project interventions (5 weeks at USD 2,000 per week; USD 10,000). Midterm review consultant, local (2 weeks at USD 2,000 per week; USD 4,000); Terminal evaluation consultant, local (2 weeks at USD 2,000 per week; USD 4,000) Total: USD 28,000
15	71600. Travel. Travel expenses for project inception workshops (USD 5,860); NSC meetings (USD 14,840); M&E activities (USD 4,240), midterm review (USD 4,240) and the terminal evaluation (USD 4,240). Total: USD 33,420
16	75700. Training, Workshops and Conferences. Organizing the project inception workshops in Year 1, including the first project steering committee meeting (USD 6,360), and organizing NSC meetings (USD 7,420). Total: USD 13,780
Project Management:	
17	71400. Contractual services – Individuals. SGP National Coordinator supervising the SGP country programme, preparing the annual work plan, setting delivery and co-financing targets, reporting regularly to the NSC, UNDP Country Office, and UCP Global Coordinator, drafting the annual SGP country programme operational budget (6 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 4,500 per month). Programme Assistant assisting the SGP National Coordinator in day-to-day project management, providing guidance and control of project financial reports, preparing and delivering financial reports, drafting routine correspondence and maintaining project files (6 months out of a cumulative total of 48 months, at USD 3,400 per month). Total: USD 47,400
18	72500. Supplies. Office supplies for the CPMU, estimated at USD 3,750 per year for 4 years. Total: USD 15,000
19	72800. Information Technology Equipment. IT equipment for the CPMU. Total: USD 2,708
20	73100. Rental & Maintenance - Premises. Office rental and maintenance for the CPMU; at USD 6,360 per year for the 4 years of project implementation. Total: USD 25,440
21	74100. Professional Services. Financial audits at USD 26,500 during the 4-year duration project. Total: USD 26,500
22	72400. Communication & Audio Visual Equipment. CPMU related miscellaneous expenses including mobile telephone charges, email subscriptions, connectivity charges and courier charges, estimated at USD 500 per year for 4 years. Total: USD 2,000

X. LEGAL CONTEXT

Option a. Where the country has signed the [Standard Basic Assistance Agreement \(SBAA\)](#)

264. This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Malaysia and UNDP, signed on 12 September 2012. All references in the SBAA to “Executing Agency” shall be deemed to refer to “Implementing Partner.”

265. This project will be implemented by UNOPS (“Implementing Partner”) in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply.

266. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations or UNDP concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

XI. RISK MANAGEMENT

Option d. UN Agency other than UNDP, and IGO with signed SBAA with UNDP

267. UNOPS as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)

268. In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, UNOPS as the Implementing Partner will handle any sexual exploitation and abuse (“SEA”) and sexual harassment (“SH”) allegations in accordance with its regulations, rules, policies and procedures. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the UNOPS, as the Implementing Partner, will notify UNDP of any such allegations and investigations it may conduct further to such allegations.

269. UNOPS as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient that is not a UN entity:

- a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA, the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNOPS’s property in such responsible party’s, subcontractor’s and sub-recipient’s custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:
 - i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried.
 - ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party’s, subcontractor’s and sub-recipient’s security, and the full implementation of the security plan.
- b. UNOPS reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party’s, subcontractor’s and sub-recipient’s obligations under this Project Document.
- c. In the performance of the activities under this Project, UNOPS as the Implementing Partner shall ensure, with respect to the activities of any of its responsible parties, sub-recipients and other entities engaged under the Project, either as contractors or subcontractors, their personnel and any individuals performing services for them, that those entities have in place adequate and proper procedures, processes and policies to prevent and/or handle SEA and SH.

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270. UNOPS agrees to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the project funds are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1267/aq_sanctions_list.shtml.

271. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (<http://www.undp.org/ses>) and related Accountability Mechanism (<http://www.undp.org/secu-srm>).

272. The Implementing Partner shall: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

273. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

274. The Implementing Partner will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud or corruption, by its officials, consultants, responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. The Implementing Partner will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption and anti-fraud policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.

275. The Implementing Partner and UNDP will promptly inform one another in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud or corruption with due confidentiality.

276. Where the Implementing Partner becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, the Implementing Partner will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). The Implementing Partner shall provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.

277. UNDP shall be entitled to a refund from the Implementing Partner of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the Implementing Partner under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail the Implementing Partner's obligations under this Project Document.

278. Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the Implementing Partner agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to the Implementing Partner for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud or corruption, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

Note: The term "Project Document" as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

279. Each contract issued by the Implementing Partner in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from the Implementing Partner shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.

280. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.

281. The Implementing Partner shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled "Risk Management Standard Clauses" are passed on to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and that all the clauses under this section entitled "Risk Management" are included, *mutatis mutandis*, in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.



XII. MANDATORY ANNEXES

Annex 1: GEF budget

Annex 2: Project map and geospatial coordinates of project sites

Annex 3: Multi-year work plan

Annex 4: Monitoring plan

Annex 5: UNDP Social and environmental screening procedure (SESP)

Annex 6: UNDP Risk Register

Annex 7: Overview of technical consultancies/subcontracts

Annex 8: Stakeholder engagement plan

Annex 9: Stakeholder consultations during project preparation phase

Annex 10: Gender analysis and gender action plan

Annex 11: Procurement plan

Annex 12: Landscape profiles

Annex 13: Climate and disaster risk screening

Annex 14: COVID-19 analysis and action framework

Annex 15: Estimations of end targets for the GEF 7 Core Indicators

Annex 16: GEF 7 Core Indicator Worksheet

Annex 17: GEF taxonomy

Annex 18: SGP Operational Guidelines

Annex 19: Additional agreements (co-financing letters)

Annex 20: UNDP Check list for all projects pending GEF approval

Annex 21: On-granting provisions applicable to the Implementing Partner

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