

Empowered lives. <u>Resi</u>lient nations.

Annual Performance Report

gef

UNDP GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE UNIT



UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in nearly 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations. www.undp.org

Empowered lives. Resilient nations.



The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, is a catalyst for action on the environment — and much more. Through its strategic investments, the GEF works with partners to tackle the planet's biggest environmental issues.

May 2017

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COVER PHOTO: Farmers learn more sustainable practices, reversing degradation and improving economic wellbeing in Strumica River Basin, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Photo by Ljubo Stefanov/UNDP.

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Foreword



ADRIANA DINU

Year 2016 was a year of celebration! UNDP celebrated its 50th year as a leader in international development, while also marking the 25th year of our outstanding partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

As one of the founding members of the GEF, we are especially proud to celebrate the achievements of this great partnership. The partnership has enabled countries to deliver high quality results for our people and our planet. As outlined in this ninth annual performance report—and in several anniversary publications—the investments made over the past 25 years have helped to transform markets, empower and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities, and build the capacity of countries to safeguard their natural capital as the foundation of sustainable development. The GEF continues to play a critical role in providing financing to developing countries to achieve global environmental benefits that reduce or reverse the pressures on planetary boundaries.

In 2016, the new UNDP partnership with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) began to flourish. Eleven countries were successful in accessing US\$348 million of GCF grant financing, with the support of UNDP, to undertake innovative approaches focused on scaling up climate change adaptation measures—contributing to food and water security, improved coastal zone management, and reduced vulnerability of communities—and mitigation measures through reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and generating accessible, sustainable, and affordable energy. This was a wonderful first chapter of what will be an exciting, strategic and results-driven partnership with the GCF.

Addressing poverty and persistent inequalities when several planetary boundaries have already been transgressed is a daunting task. The good news is the world has never been so aligned around a vision as it is now. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are not just aspirational, but transformational; if fully implemented they will change the trajectory of development for all countries and peoples. The consonance of the SDGs and the Paris Agreement signals a new era of commitment and political will. The 2030 Agenda is notable for the extent to which it reflects a widespread acknowledgement by UN Member States that the health of the planet—from climate, to oceans, water, land, biodiversity and forests—is essential for sustainable development. Our work demonstrates that investments in the environment contribute to the achievement of SDGs 13, 14, and 15 and accelerate the achievement of the other SDGs including those aimed at eradicating poverty and hunger, and building strong institutions, peace, and stability.

UNDP's partnerships with the GEF, the GCF, and other vertical funds and partners demonstrate our shared commitment to advance the 2030 Agenda and support countries in turning the vision of long-term prosperity, human development, and environmental well-being into reality. This ninth annual performance report of the UNDP Global Environmental Finance Unit provides a snapshot of progress made in delivering impact in 143 countries through 810 projects representing a total investment of \$3.1 billion. We also include—for the first time—a corporate scorecard that tracks the efficiency and effectiveness of the portfolio of GEF-financed projects, demonstrating our commitment to deliver value for money to those who support us in our mission.

I continue to be inspired by every one of the magnificent people who have contributed so much on our shared journey to deliver high quality results for people and the planet. Thank you!

Adriana Dinu Executive Coordinator UNDP Global Environmental Finance Unit Sustainable Development Cluster Bureau for Policy and Programme Support UNDP

Alignment of our work with the Sustainable Development Goals

Relative circle sizes indicate the percentage of active GEF-financed projects that contribute to each SDG shown



OUR PLANET'S LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS



DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS AND SUSTAINING TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE



UNDP AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL VERTICAL FUNDS

UNDP partners with environmental vertical funds to support countries in accessing, combining and sequencing various sources of environmental finance and financial instruments for high-impact environmental benefits that advance sustainable development.

UNDP was one of the founding implementing agencies of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and in 2016 celebrated 25 years of partnership with the GEF. Since 1992, UNDP has mobilized a total of US\$6.6 billion in GEF resources, assisting 150 developing countries in addressing the key drivers of environmental degradation which undermine sustainable development. With a current market share of 39 percent, UNDP is the largest of the 18 GEF Agencies.

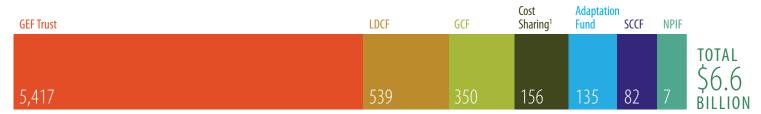
The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the newest vertical fund partner of UNDP. UNDP was the first UN agency to be accredited to the GCF and in 2016 became the first international Accredited Entity with approved projects to sign an Accreditation Master Agreement with the GCF. UNDP is one of only three international entities to have signed a Framework Readiness and Preparation Support Grant Agreement with GCF, governing UNDP's engagement as a delivery partner for climate readiness.

These environmental vertical funds require all Accredited Agencies (also called entities) to provide fund-specific services, and provide a fee to the accredited agency for the delivery of these services. In the case of the GEF managed funds, services are defined by the GEF Council and include corporate services such as portfolio-level financial and results reporting, and project cycle management services, such as project design, monitoring and evaluation. Similar services are required by the GCF and the Adaptation Fund.

UNDP Global Environmental Finance (UNDP-GEF) Unit

For managing the relationship with the environmental vertical funds, the Global Environmental Finance Unit in the Sustainable Development Cluster of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support works with countries to access environmental finance for sustainable development. The Unit provides GEF programming and implementation support services to countries in five thematic areas: sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystems; sustainable, affordable, and accessible energy services; scaling up climate change adaptation and mitigation; sustainable management of chemicals and waste; and improved water and ocean governance. The Unit also provides GCF programming and implementation support services covering sustainable, affordable and accessible energy; and scaling up climate change mitigation and adaptation. This work represents a major conduit of finance for implementing the four environmental outputs in the UNDP Strategic Plan.

Total Resources Mobilized since 1992



LDCF is the Least Developed Countries Fund; GCF is the Green Climate Fund; SCCF is the Special Climate Change Fund; NPIF is the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund.

¹ Cost-sharing is additional funding received for already approved GEF-funded projects from the Governments of Australia, Austria, Brittany, Canada, Denmark, Flanders, Norway, Switzerland and the United States, as well as the European Commission.

Managing for Results

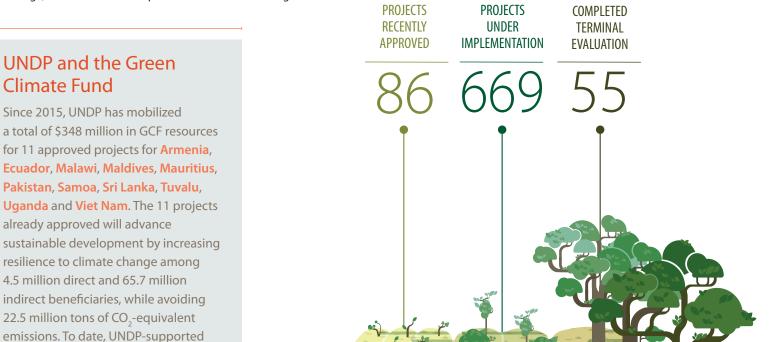
Projects financed by environmental vertical funds are required to follow the specific policies and procedures of each vertical fund in addition to UNDP policies and procedures. The UNDP-GEF Directorate closely monitors compliance with the vertical fund requirements to ensure that UNDP delivers high quality services to each vertical fund thereby maintaining UNDP's reputation as a reliable, effective, and efficient partner.

The Corporate Scorecard in Annex 1 highlights progress made by the UNDP portfolio of active GEF-financed projects against key project cycle milestones. Where appropriate, UNDP's performance is compared to the overall GEF average, which combines the performance of all 18 GEF Agencies.

Projects Covered in this Report

The 810 active projects within the scope of this report, listed in Annex 2, represent a total grant investment of US\$3.1 billion. Combined with an additional US\$14.1 billion in co-financing, this represents US\$17.2 billion invested in the environment and sustainable development priorities of 143 countries. Of the 810 projects, 344 submitted annual project reports to the relevant vertical fund, 62 a mid-term review (MTR) and 55 a terminal evaluation (TE) report.

PROJECTS



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