



# The United Nations Legal Identity Agenda

*Fulfil the promise to Leave No One Behind*

UNLIA Monthly Webinar Series 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2024

Indigenous Peoples, Leaving No-one Behind and Legal Identity

SDG 16.9 : Legal Identity For All, Including Birth Registration by 2030



UN Legal Identity Agenda



# The United Nations Legal Identity Agenda

*Fulfil the promise to Leave No One Behind*

**TARGET 16-9**


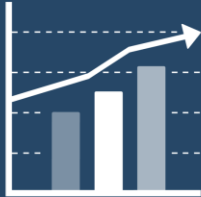
**16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS**



**PROVIDE UNIVERSAL LEGAL IDENTITY**

**TARGET 17-19**

**17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**



**SYSTEMIC ISSUES**

**FURTHER DEVELOP MEASUREMENTS OF PROGRESS**



# Defining legal identity



**Legal identity** is the basic characteristics of an individual's identity

Conferred through registration by an authorized civil registration authority

In absence of birth registration:

- May be conferred by a legally-recognized identification authority
- Linked to the civil registration system for holistic approach from birth to death



# UN Legal Identity Task Force

**Structure** *(14 UN Agencies and 2 Regional Economic Commissions):*

**Co-Chairs:** UNICEF, UNDP, DESA

**Members:**

- UN Agencies: DESA, DCO, IOM, OCHA, OHCHR, UNCDF, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women, WFP & WHO.
- Regional Economic Commissions: UNECA and UNESCAP
- UN Global Pulse

**Objectives**

- Promote a coherent approach to legal identity across the UN system & WBG
- Build on existing global, regional & country efforts
- One UN Voice for joint strategic advocacy & communications
- Enable joint UN support to countries for implementation

# UN Legal Identity Agenda Approach



A holistic approach

- to civil registration of all vital events,
- production of vital statistics,
- population registers and identity management apparatus from birth to death
- **full interoperability** in a simultaneous manner
- in line with international standards and recommendations and **in compliance with human rights of all people concerned**, including the right to privacy

## HOW WE OPERATE

SGP provides **direct access** for national NGOs, CBOs, and Indigenous Peoples for grants up to **\$50,000** (plus some **\$150K**)

Governance: projects approved by **National Steering Committee** with a non-governmental majority (incl. indigenous reps)

Over **27,500 projects** funded since 1992 in **127 countries** (\$850M+)

Implemented by **UNDP** on behalf of GEF partnership



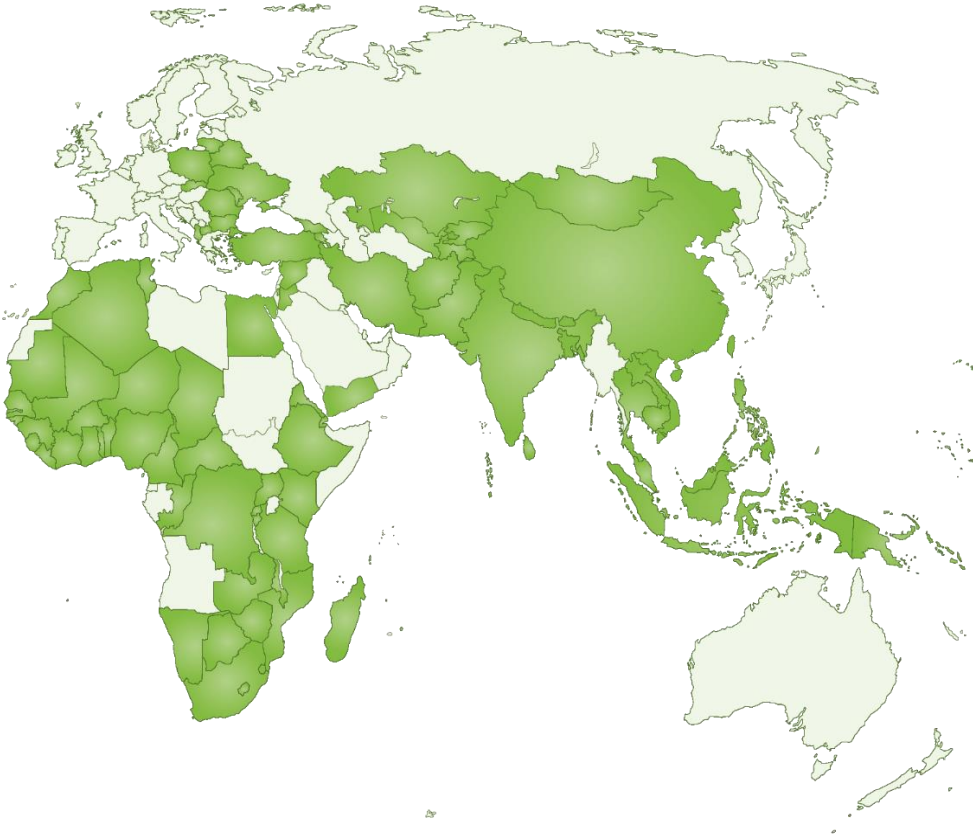
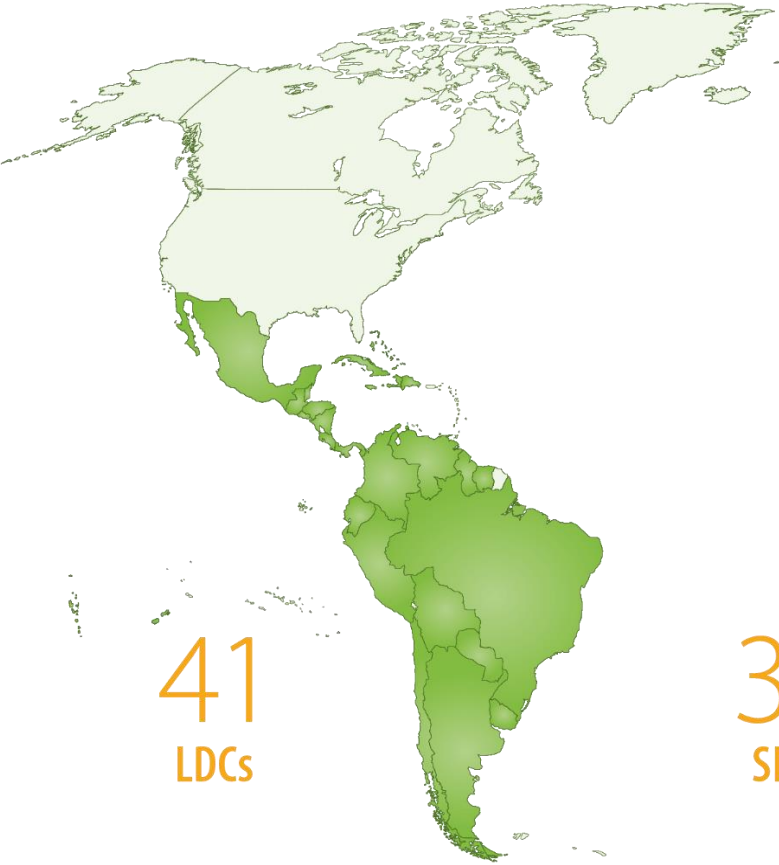
SGP 30 years of partnerships, experimentation, operational experience



COVERAGE 128 ACTIVE COUNTRIES

112 COUNTRIES IN THE SGP GLOBAL PROGRAMME

16 UPGRADED COUNTRIES

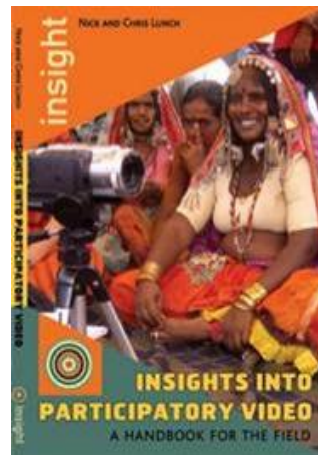


# GEF SGP portfolio support to indigenous peoples



Survey results: support to **indigenous peoples** approx 30% of SGP portfolio in 90 countries with IPs (independent consultant review May 2019)

Participatory video & other **innovative formats** for increased access for remote populations – room for improvement

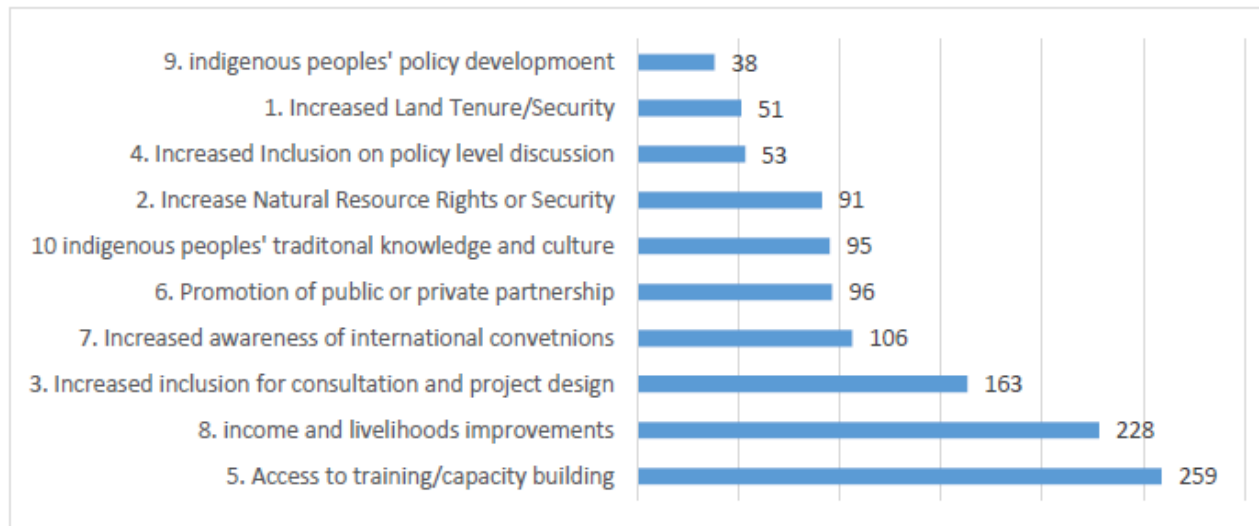




# GEF Independent Evaluation Office: review of overall portfolio with IPs (Nov 2017)

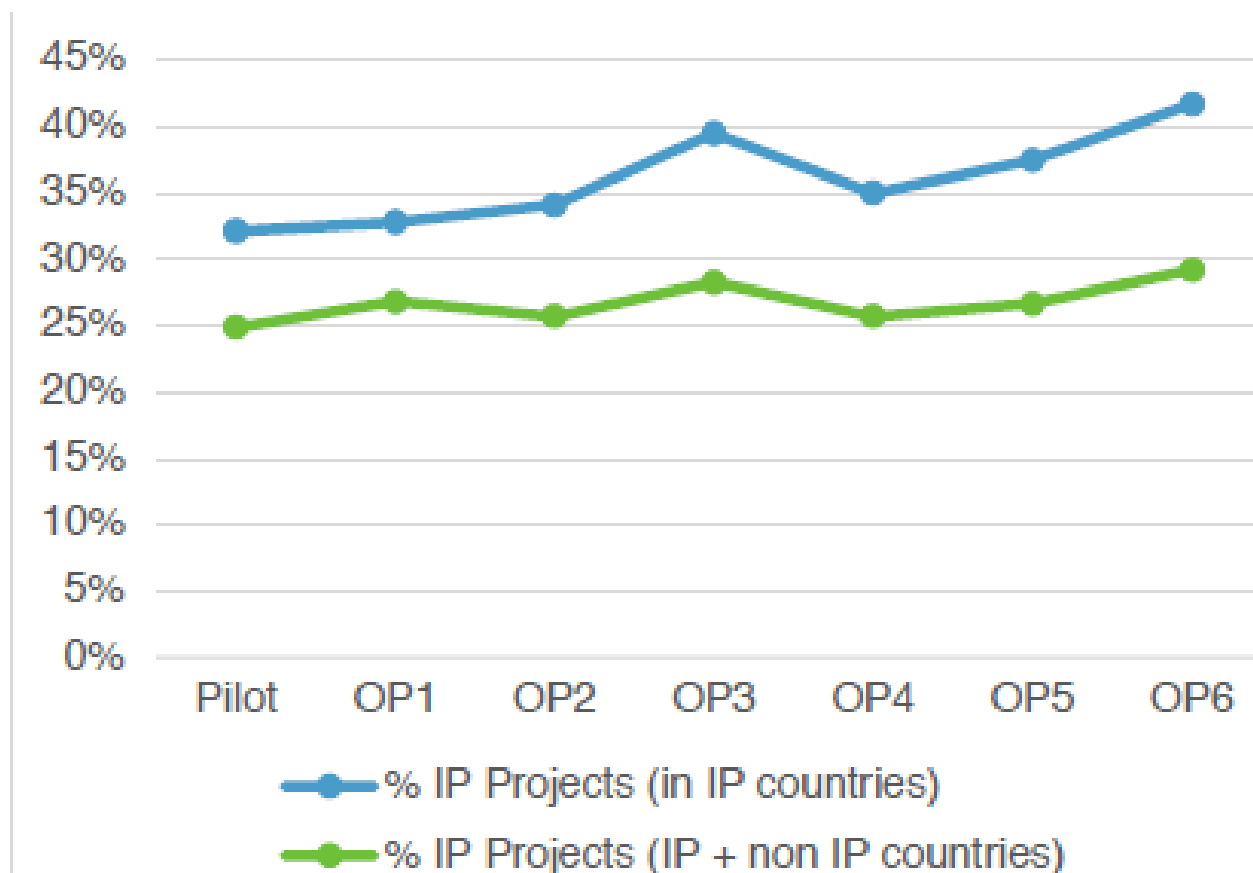
- Survey of all participating SGP country programmes
- IEO recognized SGP as the “**primary modality of engagement**” for IPs with the GEF (GEF/ME/C.53/Inf.07)

**Figure 15: Number GEF-SGP projects Benefiting Indigenous Peoples (Project IDs available)**



## Follow-up to GEF IEO 2017 study IPs: in-depth SGP review of engagement (Laura Ledwith, 2019)

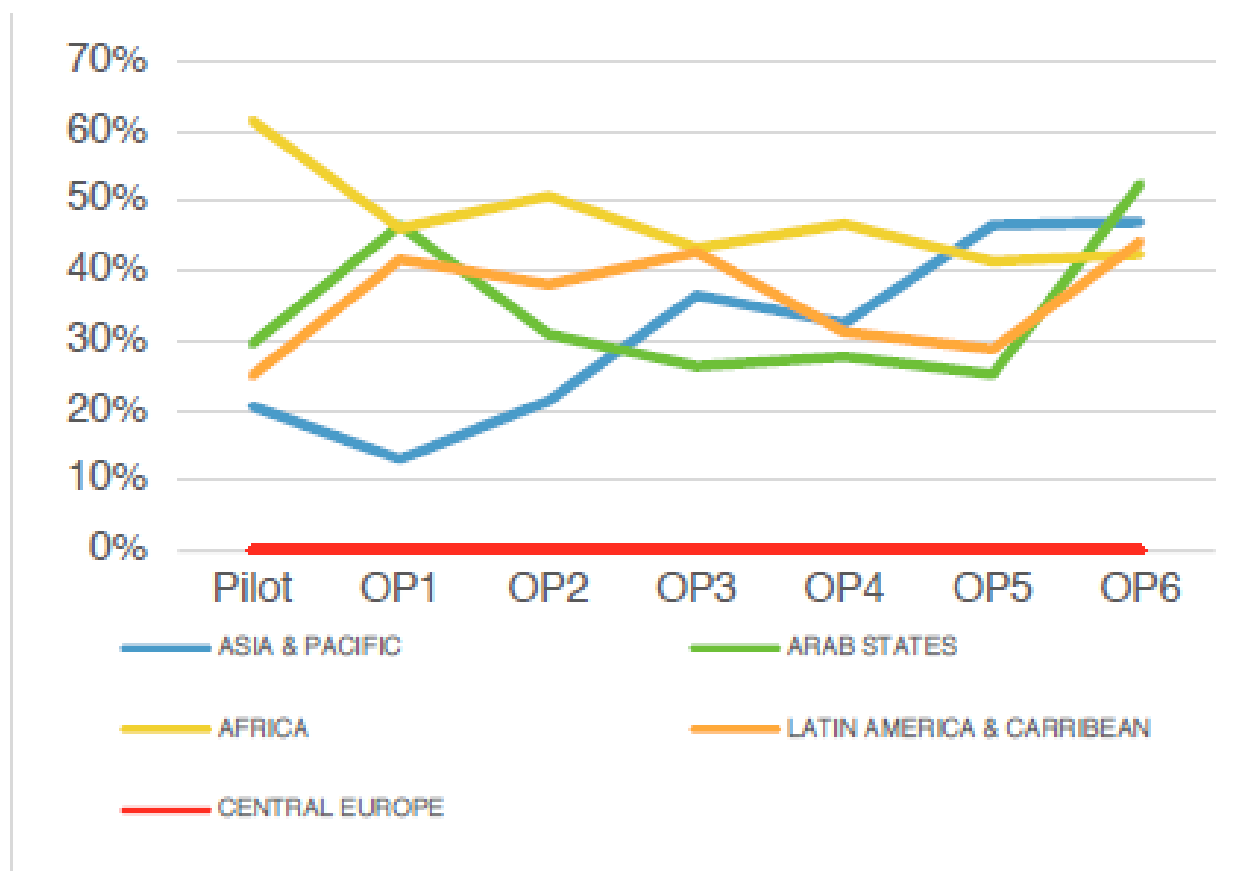
Figure 2: Percentage of SGP project that support IPs 1992-2018



Sources: SGP Project Database; SGP Country Programme staff and partners

## Follow-up to GEF IEO 2017 study IPs: in-depth SGP review of engagement (Laura Ledwith, 2019)

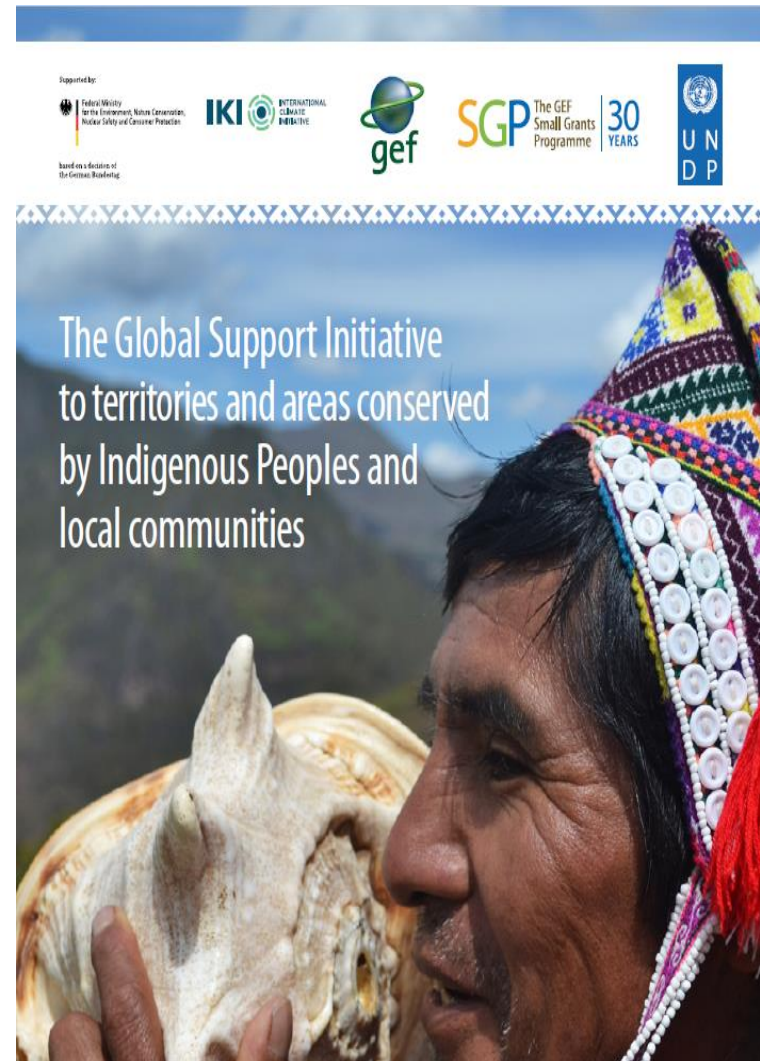
Figure 3: Percentage of SGP projects supporting IPs by Operational Phase and Region, 1992-2018\*



\* Only SGP Countries with Indigenous Peoples within its borders and that report  
Sources: SGP Project Database; SGP Country Programme staff and partners

# Small Grants Programme: 25 Years of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples

## The Global Support Initiative to territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities







# CHALLENGES OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AROUND LEGAL IDENTITY

Challenges (Visit, Time and Cost) in accessing to the civil registration centers to register their vital events, and identity authorities to renew their documents

Limited opportunities to accessing to public and private services

Marginalizes indigenous peoples further from getting out of poverty

Constrains exercising their basic human rights and advocating for and enjoying their community rights





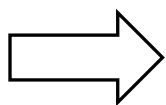
## Impact of the lack of legal identity on SGP

Supported indigenous peoples cannot access to public services

Supported indigenous peoples cannot open the bank account

Lack of 'address' make it difficult to obtain official documents

Difficulties to register 'community organizations'



SGPs have historically addressed these legal identity issues in its programming and have supported a number of indigenous peoples to facilitate access to public and private services by helping them to obtain the identity documents

Let's hear from SGP Mongolia, Namibia and Panama!

Supported by:



based on a decision of  
the German Bundestag

# SGP NAMIBIA - IPs (i)Legality status



Supported by:



based on a decision of  
the German Bundesrat

# SGP NAMIBIA - IPs (i) Legality status

- Most SGP Projects with IPs
- Aggressive campaigns from Government to have all Namibians especially marginalised communities ARE registered and have relevant documentation.
- SGP secretariate support in this regard not formalised
  - Political councillor's
  - Traditional councillors
  - Volunteers/Community Activist





Supported by:



based on a decision of the German Bundesrat

# SGP NAMIBIA - IPs (i) Legality status

**DELETION OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN DELETED FROM THE LIST OF REGISTERED VILLAGES**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

NAME/ID NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	AGE	SEX	ID
1) Agard Kwambaga	1987-01-05	35	F	X
2) Agard Mago	1988-08-11	34	F	X
3) Agard Tala				
4) Fries Tala	1987-08-08	35	F	X
5) Namukwa Mago	1988-04-08	34	F	X
6) Longo Mago	1988-11-08	34	F	X
7) Moko Mago	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
8) Namukwa Tala	1988-01-05	34	F	X
9) Luban Kwambaga	2011-10-05	11	F	N/A
10) Moko Tala	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
11) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
12) Moko Tala	1987-08-17	35	F	X
13) Luban Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
14) Fries Tala	1974-11-12	48	Male	Male
15) Agard Mago	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
16) Namukwa Mago	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
17) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
18) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
19) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
20) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
21) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
22) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
23) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
24) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
25) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
26) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
27) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
28) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
29) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A
30) Moko Kwambaga	2011-08-18	11	F	N/A



# 'Indigenous Peoples, Leaving one Behind and Legal Identity'

No-



# Active Projects

Since 2006 it has executed around 300 projects for approximately USD 6 million (average of 20k each)



There are currently **27** ACTIVE Projects at the level of the 3 landscapes

**931,154.00**



**FINANCIACIÓN**  
DE LOS PROYECTOS ACTIVOS

# 16 proyectos

16 PROYECTOS ONG	FONDOS
APRODISO	20,000.00
MAR ALLIANCE	30,000.00
NATURALEZA Y CIENCIA 507	20,000.00
COOPERATIVA PLAYA MUERTO	50,000.00
Fundación Reserva Hídrica de los ríos Cucuyal y Tortí Arriba de la comunidad de Tortí y Playa Chuzo	20,000.00
COOBANA	20,000.00
Caminando Panamá	4,750.00
Alianza para la Conservación y el Desarrollo (ACD)	30,000.00
FCA	21654.00
FUND PROECO AZUERO	20,000.00
ICEPED	20,000.00
PWC	30,000.00
Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples "Unión de los Pueblos (COOSMUP)	30,000.00
ASOCIACIÓN CENTRO DE ESTUDIOS Y ACCIÓN SOCIAL PANAMEÑO – ACEASPA	30,000.00
Fundación Almanaque Azul	150,000.00
FUNDESPA	150,000.00
FPCI	40,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>686,404</b>

# 11

PROYECTOS Organizaciones de base comunitarias	FONDOS
ACU	20,000.00
LA MAREA	20,000.00
Asociación Agroturística de Arimae (ASOATUR), OBC	20,000.00
Organización Ecológica Familia Miranda OEFAM, OBC	30,000.00
OMUB	20,000.00
ORG ECOLOGICA BONKING	16,000.00
ONADECSA	20,000.00
ADHESO	30,000.00
Asociación Ambiental Naso Tjër Di (AANAT)	28,750.00
Organización de Ecoturismo y Desarrollo Sostenible Naso OCEN, OBC (OCEN)	20,000.00
Tortugas Playa Venao AKA Save The Turtles Playa Venao	20,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>244,750</b>



Challenges	Contributions from SGP
<p>Ensure that UNDP country teams and collaborators have a comprehensive understanding on what challenges Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable local communities face around legal identity issues</p>	
<p>Promote understanding among country teams on the opportunities and challenges to improve access to legal identity among Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable local communities, including in UNDP's Local Action programming</p>	
<p>Introduce some of the good practices, programmatic procedures and innovative solutions adopted by the SGP from different countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-continuous support to CBO to achieve legal status and present documentation to open bank accounts</li> <li>- formal agreement with National Bank to facilitate procedures for indigenous and rural CBOs</li> </ul>

**UNLIA Webinar #9 Indigenous Community and Legal Identity**

**22 February 2024**

**Ganbaatar Bandi, National Coordinator**

**GEF SGP Mongolia**

Global Environment Facility's Small Grants Programme  
implemented by UNDP and executed by UNOPS

НҮБ-ын Хөгжлийн Хөтөлбөрөөс хэрэгжүүлж байгаа  
Даян Дэхийн Байгаль Орчны Сангийн  
Жижиг Төслийн Хөтөлбөр

2 more provinces added to  
the GEF SGP Geo-Focus  
Area from 2019

## GEF SGP Geographic Focus Area 2003-2022

### LEGENDS

SCALE 1:3 000 000

Mongolian border

Aimag border

Tourist camps

ULANBAATAR - Capital

/BULGAN/ - Aimag /province capital/

/Bogd/ - Sum Center

GEF SGP Geographical Focus Area Boundary  
ДДБС-гийн ЖТХ-т хамрагдсан нутаг  
дэвсгэрийн хил



- Mongolia's Population – 3.4 mln.;
- Territory -1.6 mln. km<sup>2</sup>;
- About 700 environmental NGOs (national and provincial level);
- 1629 community groups registered as Friendships (CBOs) dealing with environment protection and natural resources management;
- Over 1000 agricultural cooperatives;

Potential applicants (legally identified/certified) for SGP grants:

- National NGOs;
- Provincial NGOs;
- Friendships (registered/legal/ community groups);
- Agricultural cooperatives.



- SGP is operational in Mongolia since 2003 and has 518 grants implemented/being implemented;
- 231 national and provincial NGOs and 287 CBOs have been involved in SGP activities.
- In the past SGP Mongolia has assisted many communities to get legal identity

Who could not or still can not apply for SGP grants?!

- Those who are not member to any of the above mentioned;
- Those who face different kinds of difficulty to create a local certified entity or organization;
- Many herders and herder groups;
- Small farmers/vegetable/.

Then over some time there has slowly appeared a good opportunity for the above to be involved in SGP grants for two main factors:

- ❖ From 2015 SGP Mongolia has started slowly shifting to a landscape approach after successful implementation of COMDEKS grants which had given us a lot of knowledge and experience in acting at landscape levels /Socio-ecological production landscape/.
- ❖ After a little more than decade of SGP operation in Mongolia, there have been appeared/ still appearing/ skilled and experienced NGOs and even CBOs that have started helping/assisting others in implementation of SGP grants. In 2014, “Partnership for Development” GEF SGP Mongolia Community Network was established and 2 years later became “Partnership for Development” Umbrella NGO for the network.



Combination of landscape approach and skilled NGOs and CBOs or, in other words, advice, assistance and actions for new-comers by skilled and experienced organizations at a landscape level have resulted in inclusion and coverage of all those who are interested in grant activities at that particular landscape. By new-comers I mean not only new grantees, but those who can not apply for SGP grants as mentioned above: (Those who face different kinds of difficulty to create a local certified entity or organization; Herders and herder groups; Small farmers/vegetable/).

As the landscape approach application has been progressing, new wider action areas/themes/topics have come for SGP intervention. Some of them are:

- ❖ Integrated small river watershed management;
- ❖ ICCAs including sacred sights (in and around);
- ❖ Inclusive pasture management ( at landscape level bigger than before).
- ❖ The areas/topics in which SGP grantee NGOs and CBOs have expertise and experience have expanded and become applicable to a broader context.



# Different landscapes





The above-mentioned progress has made the inclusion of those interested in SGP activities, possible to be part of SGP grantees.

Previously, we selected one area/ecosystem/landscape and implemented several or many different grants inside the selected area, now we conduct one or two grant activities within selected landscape with inclusion of all groups of people/residents from the same landscape.

Some cases on inclusion of citizens and groups without collective identity

# Bee keeping









# Vermi-composting





# Briquetting





# Herders joining in action





THANK YOU

