**SGP OP8 Country Programme Strategy for**

**Global ICCA Support Initiative Phase 2 (2023-2028)**

**Country Name**

**(optional: photos)**

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ICCA GSI Phase 2 strategy should be around 10-15 pages

1. **BACKGROUND**

As a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) aligns its Operational Phase strategies with those of the GEF and cofinancing partners, and provides a global portfolio of *innovative*, inclusive*, and impactful* projects that address global environmental and sustainable development issues. Action at the local level by civil society and community-based organizations, including women groups, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities is recognized essential to form multi-stakeholder alliances to deliver global environmental benefits and contribute to the GEF-8 Programming Directions, [UNDP’s Strategic Plan 2022-2025](https://strategicplan.undp.org/) and [UNDP Nature Pledge](https://www.undp.org/nature/nature-pledge), targets agreed by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and national priorities to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other international commitments.

Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPs and LCs) play a crucial role in the conservation of biological diversity at local, national and global levels. The ICCA GSI (‘Phase 2’ of the partnership between the German BMUV IKI with the UNDP) will support inter alia the implementation of Targets 3, 21, 22 and 23 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework ([GBF](https://www.cbd.int/gbf)) in 50 countries.

Target 3 refers to the need to protect or conserve a minimum of 30% of the planet’s land and sea surface by the year 2030. Target 21 refers to the need to ensure that the best available biodiversity data, information and knowledge are readily available to decision-makers and other relevant actors to support informed biodiversity policy, planning and decision-making processes, as well as for monitoring, reviewing and reporting progress in implementation. Target 22 refers to the need for equitable, inclusive and effective involvement of IPs and LCs in decision-making about nature conservation and biodiversity. Target 23 to the need to ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework through a gender-responsive approach. Gender responsive is the process of ensuring that programmes, policies and institutions take into account the different needs and experiences of people based on their gender identity.

The primary focus of the ICCA GS Phase 2 is the provision of small grants directly to civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples and community-based organizations. The initiative also works closely with a range of global partners including the Global ICCA Consortium, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) with respect to reporting on CBD targets by governments and non-state actors, as well as international NGOs such as IUCN.

1. **SUMMARY: Key Results/Accomplishments (1 page)**

Please describe briefly the history and some of the key results achieved by the SGP and ICCA GSI Phase 1 (where relevant) since start of the country programme, including but not limited to: a) starting year; b) total projects; c) total grant amount, including cofinance; d) key thematic focus, including focal area distribution; e) key global environmental benefits/results by focal areas; f) socio-economic results (e.g. beneficiaries, number of CSOs/CBOs); g) key achievements in broader adoption (e.g. scaling up, replication, and mainstreaming of SGP projects); h) national and international awards; and i) lessons learned.

1. **COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT (2 pages)**
   1. **Alignment with national priorities**

Please describe briefly the alignment of the ICCA GSI Phase 2 strategy with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and contribution of the national Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Targets 3 (protected and conserved areas), 21 (knowledge and information), 22 (governance) and 23 (gender).

* 1. **Gaps and opportunities**

Given the country environmental priorities, what are the key gaps and opportunities (relate this also to assessments of accomplishments above) and promote meaningful involvement of communities and civil society organizations to further implement the national NBSAP and GBF priorities.

In alignment with the agreed global OP8 Country Programme Strategy, please describe the ICCA GSI Phase 2 strategy based on needs and opportunities at the country level. Please also identify potential for complementarity and synergy of the selected ICCA GSI Phase 2 with GEF, UNDP Country Office/UN Agency, government funded, and any other donor/NGOs funded projects and programmes for collaboration and cofinancing, as well as to avoid duplication.

1. **ICCA GSI PHASE 2 PRIORITY GEOGRAPHIES** (2 pages)

Please refer to the guidance/check list on *Criteria for Selection of Landscape and Seascapes*, and describe the process for selecting the priority geographic areas [[1]](#footnote-1) in which most of ICCA GSI Phase 2 grant-making will be focused, with particular attention on measures taken to ensure objectivity, transparency, and the fullest participation of relevant stakeholders.

Key criteria for landscape/seascape selection will include among others: biodiversity significance (e.g. Hotspots, Key Biodiversity Areas, etc); areas of high land/forest degradation; high poverty/low human development index; presence and availability of organizations and vulnerable groups. Please describe any consultation processes conducted with the ICCA Consortium, national ICCA network, and/or Technical Advisory Group (TAG) supporting the SGP NSC.

Please provide a

1. Map of the area(s)
2. Coordinates of the area(s), and
3. Total hectarage of the area(s)
4. Typology[[2]](#footnote-2) of landscapes/seascapes.

Briefly describe the process adopted to conduct and/or update the baseline assessment, including the participatory engagement of stakeholders (within the landscape/ seascape but also those external but influencing the landscape/seascape) leading to the formulation of the ICCA GSI Phase 2 strategy.

1. **KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT** (1 page)

Please describe the ICCA GSI Phase 2 plans to capture, share, and disseminate the lessons learned and good practices identified through the country portfolio of SGP projects with civil society, government, private sector, and other relevant stakeholders (i.e. process for generating knowledge; type of knowledge products; knowledge fairs; peer-to-peer exchanges; use of demonstration sites) so as to generate greater impact, and foster replication and scaling up of innovations.

1. **COMMUNICATION PLAN** (1 page)

Please describe your strategy to communicate and engage with key stakeholders and CSOs in your country and selected land/seascape to promote participation, build relationships and foster partnerships; as well as to articulate the contribution of the SGP to national priorities, GEF programming, and UNDP strategies. The plan could include developing key messages, identify target audiences, and implement appropriate activities including storytelling and visual media, website and social media, events, reports and publications, newsletter, and many other innovative ideas.

1. **RESOURCE MOBILIZATION** (1 page)

Please describe the ICCA GSI Phase 2 resource mobilization and partnership plan to enhance the impact and sustainability of the SGP OP8 Country Programme grantmaking.

* 1. **Secured and planned cash and in-kind co-financing**

Please describe secured/planned cash and in-kind co-financing to the GEF and BMUV IKI resources at 1) Project, 2) Landscape/seascape, and 3) Country levels.

* 1. **Cofinancing Opportunities**

Please describe concrete activities and approaches to enable cofinancing from:

* GEF and non-GEF resources (multilateral/bilateral donors, foundations) to implement the CPS Strategic Initiatives and help address the UN 2030 SDGs;
* Approach to recover costs to co-finance a share of the SGP country programme non-grant costs (i.e. UNDP resources, national host institutions, government contributions, bilateral donors);
* Potential private sector funding (e.g.in support of successful sustainable enterprises for scaling up).

1. **PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** (1 page)

The SGP team including the NSC and Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) can be leveraged to assist communities and CSOs develop proposals to access other donors and funding facilities. While the funds may not go directly to SGP, this activity can be considered part of resource mobilization as there is increased flow of resources to SGP stakeholders through its support. Describe concrete activities and approaches to enable these opportunities.

1. **MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN (2 pages)**

Please refer and reflect the SGP M&E Country Programme Guidelines (2019) and Guidance for the ICCA Security and Resilience Index in development of this section.

* 1. **Monitoring Approaches at Project and Country Levels**

Please explain how the progress will be tracked at project level, and results aggregated and analyzed at the country programme portfolio level. Please pay particular attention to aspects related to data quality assurance. Please also elaborate on the systematic process of recording project and country level data in SGP database as an ongoing undertaking.

Please explain how ICCA GSI Phase 2 projects will be monitored and M&E capacities of SGP grantees will be strengthened (this is a critical step to ensure participatory, representative and credible data). Please provide details on expected frequency of monitoring visits (please think across a cluster of projects) and plans for any portfolio evaluations. To be cost effective, please consider joint- monitoring partnerships with other grant-makers, foundations, academic institutions etc.

Participatory monitoring and observation of ethical guideline are important characteristics of SGP M&E. Please describe within the country context, how local stakeholders, community members including vulnerable peoples will participate in defining project results; what method/periodicity will be administered to make monitoring community-owned; and how will progress be reported.

* 1. **ICCA GSI Phase 2 Results Framework**

Please define ICCA GSI Phase 2 results framework based on indicators and targets keeping the points below in mind:

* Please concretely define ICCA GSI Phase 2 results framework in alignment with the SGP OP8 global indicators and targets.
* Please define additional indicators and targets specific to country or landscape/seascape context beyond the SGP OP8 global indicators and targets (these may be defined through a detailed baseline assessment process).[[3]](#footnote-3)

1. **National Steering Committee endorsement**

*Note: The signature of NSC members are required as endorsement of the ICCA GSI Phase 2 strategy duly reviewed and agreed at the National Steering Committee meeting.*

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| **NSC members involved in ICCA GSI Phase 2 development,**  **review and endorsement** | **Signatures** |
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| (Add more rows as necessary) |  |

1. ICCA GSI Phase countries can focus on existing landscape/seascape where the SGP country programme is already focused, or select a new OP8 landscape/seascape focus through stakeholder consultations. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Typology here means the kind of landscape (mountain, low-lying plain, valley, riverine, etc.) and seascape (wetland/mangrove, river basins, bays, seagrass to corals, etc.). There could also be a combination of a landscape with a seascape (i.e. from upper watersheds to coastal mangrove, seagrass and coral ecosystems) which is actually preferred as it covers the continuum of related ecosystems and communities. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Where relevant, specific targets and indicators relevant to grant making in the selected OP8 landscapes/ seascapes may be developed with reference to ICCA GSI Phase 1 (2014-2023) baseline assessment and results framework. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)