

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF SGP in Egypt**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 5471 |
| GEF ID | 6956 |
| Title | Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF SGP in Egypt |
| Country(ies) | Egypt, Egypt |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Integrated Strategies and SGP |
| Project Implementing Partner | UNOPS |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| Collective action by civil society and governments is required to achieve and maintain the resilience of socio-ecological landscape systems in rural and urban areas in Egypt. As such, the support of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) is sought to enable community organizations in Egypt to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience, through design, implementation and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development. The SGP Programme intends to invest in strategic projects to catalyze and connect local projects to each other and to other large-scale initiatives to bring about sustainable impacts over a broader area over the long run. While the SGP cannot bring about landscape changes by itself, it is geared to advance tactical projects in given geographic areas, which will synergize with various levels of local action to bring about measurable progress in landscape resilience. The project will be implemented in four strategic landscapes in the Delta, Fayoum and Upper Egypt governorates. Low-emission technologies will also be demonstrated and/or tested and implemented in the urban centres of Greater Cairo and Fayoum City.  Local organizations and communities will be the main vehicles of this project as they will be the agents who identify needs, design approaches for collective action, implement interventions and reap the sustainable development benefits. The key feature of the SGP will be for community- based organizations to pilot, test, innovate and analyze new initiatives through a process of learning-by- doing. Successful initiatives are going towill be replicated and up-scaled in other locations within the governorate and landscapes. However, concentrating the majority of the interventions in defined geographic areas (landscapes) will allow results to accrue and produce a critical mass of experience and lessons. By employing a landscape approach, the SGP Egypt will enable local actors to better understand the complex relationship they have with a given environment and how best to effect sustainable impacts on the landscape through their individual and combined efforts.  Beyond the activities piloted in the landscapes, there will be contributions to the national level as well. Lessons learned in the landscapes will be cross-referenced, and shared, and best practices and lessons learned will be used to inform the policy context at the national level. |

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| Project Implementing Partner | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

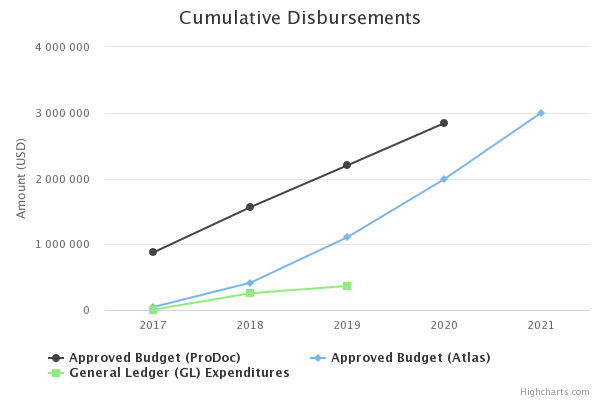
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | Moderate |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **To enable community organizations in Egypt to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience through design, implementation and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| A. Area under resilient landscape management whose biodiversity, agro-ecology, and sustainable livelihoods are protected. | 5,000 ha sustainably managed in the three targeted rural landscapes. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 45,000 ha with sustainable management activities under implementation in the three target rural landscapes that promote long-term biodiversity conservation/agro-ecology and alternative sustainable livelihoods. | Sustainable Management activities are planned in the 3 targeted rural landscapes; Fayoum,Upper Egypt (Minia, Qena and Luxor Governorates), Delta Landscape (Skarkia, Dakahlia and Kafr El Skeikh governorates), covering an expected area of 45,000 ha by the end of the project. On-the-ground activities are yet to be implemented which will contribute to the expected target.  A first landscape baseline assessment workshop for the development of the landscape strategy, took place in Fayoum on 28 June 2018. Over 70 participants attended this consultation, representing local authorities concerned with agriculture, water resources and irrigation, tourism, youth, social solidarity, health, National Council for Women, media representatives, NGOs, university of Fayoum, GEF FSPs implemented in Fayoum, the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (Regional Branch Office), Nature Conservation Sector, etc. Participants highlighted urgent challenges related to agriculture and land degradation, also the importance of having modern irrigation systems to conserve water and reduce pollution of water canals. Those challenges, among others, are being included into the landscape strategy.  The second landscape baseline assessment workshop for Upper Egypt landscape was organized in Luxor on 11 July 2018. Multi-stakeholders Representatives of Minia and Qena governorates attended this workshop to develop a landscape strategy based on community needs and challenges, in coordination with local and national plans. Over 100 participants discussed challenges and potential opportunities for future partnerships as well as community-based initiatives needed to achieve sustainable livelihoods. They highlighted the importance of promoting biogas units, especially as no biogas units were installed in Luxor and Qena governorates in previous phases and based on experiences from the Minia governorate. Also, lining of irrigation canals and using modern methods to conserve water and energy were highlighted as essential. Initiatives that take into consideration gender and women & youth empowerment through providing sustainable jobs should be a priority.  The third landscape baseline assessment workshop targeting rural landscape for the Delta governorates was held in Dakahlia on 26 July 2018. Over 80 participants representing multi-stakeholders from Dakahlia, Skarkia and Kafr El Sheikh governorates were present in the workshop. During the intensive discussions, participants highlighted the significant challenge facing Lake Burullus and the need for community-based initiatives to reduce the pollution of the lake due to lack of sanitation services as well as projects to improve the livelihoods of fishermen. Recycling of agricultural wastes was also recognized as an urgent need to reduce air pollution due to burning of waste.  The landscape strategies, currently under development, are expected to be finalized by September 2018. | Progress towards this target is on track, with sustainable management activities expected to cover an area of 45,000 ha by the end of the project. As on the ground activities are yet to be implemented on the ground, more information on the area in ha under resilient landscape management will be reported in the next PIR. Progress made so far towards this target is summarized below.  The Landscape Strategy for Building Social, Economic, and Ecological Resilience has been finalized after organizing 4 multi-stakeholder consultations in the 4 targeted landscapes (Greater Cairo, Fayoum, Delta and Upper Egypt). The Strategy as well as the Gender Assessment and Action Plan were approved by the NSC in December 2018. The Strategy prioritized the list of community level projects developed and agreed by multi-stakeholder groups (together with eligibility criteria) as outputs to achieve landscape level outcomes.  In line with the prioritized list, 11 community-based projects have been approved by the NSC so far in rural landscapes. However, another 15 projects concerning the installation of biogas units and waste management were postponed for the upcoming NSC meeting planned in September 2019 for final decision. These projects will contribute to sustainable management activities in the three target rural landscapes to promote long-term biodiversity conservation, agro-ecology and alternative sustainable livelihoods, targeting 15,000 to 20,000 hectares. Additional hectares are expected to be targeted with the next call for proposals. |
| B. Number of communities whose resilience is strengthened by experimenting, innovating and learning through landscape planning and management processes in the five rural/urban landscapes. | Four communities participating in community based rural and urban landscape planning and management processes experimenting and innovating with technologies and alternative sustainable practices. | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 20 communities participating in community based landscape / seascape planning and management experimenting and innovating with technologies and alternative sustainable practices. | Activities are yet to be implemented on the ground.  The targeted 4 landscapes include 10 governorates. At least 2 local communities will be involved in each governorate. During the preparation phase for the landscape baseline consultation workshops, the SGP Team in coordination with relevant stakeholders; governorates, local authorities, other GEF FSP projects, NGOs, community leaders, etc. identified participating and targeted communities. In the first landscape consultation workshop implemented in Fayoum, over 70 representatives from 4 different communities have participated and contributed to identifying needed sustainable practices for future implementation through community-based projects implemented by NGOs.  In the second landscape workshop, for Upper Egypt landscape over 100 participants representing 9 different communities were present.  In the third landscape workshop for Delta landscape, over 80 participants attended from 8 communities.  In the fourth landscape workshop for Greater Cairo landscape, over 70 participants were representing 6 communities. | In the development process of the Landscape Strategy for Building Social, Economic, and Ecological Resilience, which took place from 28th June 2018 – 26th July 2018, representatives from at least 20 communities were involved. 17 project proposals have been approved by the NSC to date, involving 35 communities in rural and urban landscapes. These communities’ resilience will be strengthened through engagement in project activities and will experiment several innovations, technologies and alternative sustainable practices such as solar water heaters, solar pumping for irrigation water, using LED saving bulbs, promote the use of bikes as sustainable means of transportation, etc. |
| C. Increased use of renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies at community level implemented in the target landscape by type and technology. | Five communities using renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies in the target landscapes, by type of technology. | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 20 communities using renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies in the target landscapes, by type of technology. | The first call for proposals is planned to be launched in September 2018 just after finalizing and approving the Landscapes Strategies for the 4 landscapes, expected to be approved by the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC) during the first half of September. | Six projects were approved by the NSC members in July 2019. These projects target 16 communities using renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies. These include:  LED energy saving bulbs:  Three Energy Efficiency Projects have been approved in Delta, Fayoum and Upper Egypt landscapes. Those projects aim to promote the use of LED saving bulbs and provide them to poor families through soft monthly installments; those projects not only increase energy efficiency, but have a great impact in decreasing the economic burden on those families suffering from high electricity bills. Projects will provide approx. 34,000 LED bulbs through a revolving funds mechanism  Solar water heaters: 2 of those projects will provide solar water heaters through monthly installments. Projects will provide 25 SWHs to 25 households.  Solar pumps for irrigation water: This unique project in Egypt will irrigate nearly 210 Hectares in the Upper Egypt landscape.  LED street lighting: the project will install 20 LED street light poles.  Another two projects are focusd on solar energy; one will promote the use of 20 rooftop solar panels on households and a public building.  Projects will use the revolving funds mechanism. SGP Egypt has been using this very successful mechanism throughout previous phases. The mechanism is implemented by the project to increase the number of beneficiaries by using the contribution paid on installments by the benefitted families to provide more families with support. It ensures sustainability of activities even after the grant is finished.  The project will install solar panels in connection with the available electricity network. An agreement will be signed with the local authority responsible for electricity at the governorate.  The number of communities is expected to increase during OP6. |
| D. Increased number of communities, within the target landscapes participating in capacity development activities, to improve the technical, social and financial sustainability of their organizations. | 20 CSO representatives participating in trainings to improve the financial and administrative sustainability their community organizations. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 250 producers trained in agro-ecological practices and systems  100 livestock producers trained in sylvopastoral systems  At least 70 CSO representatives participating in trainings to improve the financial and administrative sustainability of their community organizations;  eight workshops for knowledge sharing, exchange of experiences and fora in which project participants have participated. | Trainings to improve the technical, social and financial sustainability of CSOs are planned by the Project Management Team to be conducted starting October 2018 for the first set of CSOs applying for the SGP grants. At least 40 CSOs representatives are expected to participate in the first training for the first approved set of initiatives.  Community based initiatives will include also trainings and capacity building activities targeting different segments of community members (farmers, producers, women, youth, etc..) to develop their capacities towards sustainable practices in their communities. | Capacity building trainings to improve the technical, social and financial sustainability of CSOs are planned to be implemented by the programme in September and October 2019 for the first set of grantees and partner NGOs. At least 40 CSO representatives are expected to participate.  All approved community-based initiatives also include approx. 30 capacity building activities targeting different segments of community members (farmers, producers, women, youth, etc..) to develop their capacities towards sustainable practices in their communities:  Producers to be trained on agro-ecological practices are expected to be trained on agricultural waste recycling and installation of biogas units. More than 500 producers are expected to be trained once projects are on the ground.  Training of 100 livestock producers is expected to take place once project proposals are submitted targeting improving grazing systems. No projects to achieve this target were submitted in the first round.  At least four knowledge sharing workshops are planned with more than 120 participants, within the coming six months, involving the Multi-stakeholder Platforms. Project participants will participate exchanging knowledge and experience. |
| E. Number of case studies and publications documenting lessons learned from SGP-supported projects. | Zero case studies/publication prepared and disseminated in previous Operational Phases highlighting experiences following a community-based rural urban landscape management approach. | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least one case study per targeted rural/urban landscape synthetizing best practices and lessons learned. | During the landscape baseline assessments workshops, case studies were discussed with the multi-stakeholders in order to document the rural and urban landscape approach, which will be followed during this operational phase for the first time. | Most of the SGP grantees in OP6 are expected to prepare a case study to document lessons learned, experience gained, and the partnership approach..  Also, SGP Egypt plans to prepare at least 1 case study for each focal area project type.  Additionally, two case studies were prepared during the reporting period. One on BD refers to the strategic project entitled “Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Supporting National Civil Society Organizations in CBD COP14 and afterwards”. This project was funded in September 2018 to support the engagement of relevant NGOs in the CDB COP14 (held in Egypt, November 2018) before, during and after the event, and to strategically enhance the role of CSOs in the activities Egypt is undertaking during its presidency of the CBD till 2020 and afterwards.  Another case study was prepared on promoting the use of LED energy-saving bulbs in Fayoum. It describes the experience with the project titled “Rationalize Electricity Consumption by using LED Saving Bulbs in Fayoum”.  The project’s main objective is to reduce GHG emissions by saving energy and rationalizing the consumption of electricity using LED saving bulbs in six targeted areas of Fayoum Governorate. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Component 1: Resilient rural landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection**    **Outcome 1:**  **Multi-stakeholder partnerships, networks, and landscape policy platforms in Fayoum depression, Upper Nile, Delta and Cairo landscapes, develop and execute adaptive management plans, and support policy development to enhance landscape and community resilience and global environmental benefits.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 1.1.1 Number of multistakeholder governance platforms/partnerships established and strengthened to support participatory landscape / planning and adaptive management in the three rural landscapes. | 0 multi-stakeholder governance platforms established in the three rural landscapes. | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least four multi-stakeholder landscape / governance platforms in place and functioning. | Four landscape-wide baseline assessment workshops have been organized in Fayoum landscape, in Luxor for the Upper Egypt landscape, in Cairo for the Greater Cairo landscape and finally in Dakahlia for the Delta landscape. During the workshops, participants confirmed the importance of the Multi-Stakeholders Policy Platforms, which are planned to be launched for each landscape before the end of 2018 to follow up and monitor the progress of the implementation of landscape strategies.  In these workshops, the project team has encouraged the participation of multi-stakeholders representatives, including local authorities concerned with agriculture, water resources and irrigation, tourism, youth, social solidarity, health, National Council for Women, media representatives, NGOs, university of Fayoum, GEF FSPs implemented in Fayoum, the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (Regional Branch Office), Nature Conservation Sector, etc.  During the discussions, challenges and needs of the local communities in the 4 landscapes have been highlighted and fully discussed. Also, participants discussed potential projects and initiatives that can be implemented by NGOs to overcome those challenges within the local priorities and plans to enhance landscape resilience. In addition, potential coordination and partnerships with the private sector, national agencies, local authorities, GEF FSPs were discussed. | Four Multi-stakeholder Platforms are formulated; one in each landscape. Members of these local platforms are local governments; local authorities concerned with agriculture, water resources and irrigation, youth, social solidarity groups, National Council for Women, media representatives, NGOs, academia, the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (Regional Branch Office), etc.  It is the first time in Egypt in general and on the landscape level in specific to have such platforms. The SGP invitations were most welcomed by all partners, who expressed their sincere willingness to provide any guidance needed for community-based initiatives. These platforms will meet regularly to exchange knowledge and experience, follow up and monitor progress of implementation of the landscape strategy and provide necessary assistance to SGP grantees to overcome any obstacles and challenges they face. Their first meetings are expected to take place early October 2019. |
| 1.1.2 number of participatory landscape strategies and management plans for the three targeted rural landscapes. | 0 strategies to enhance social and ecological resilience of the in the three rural landscapes. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Five landscape strategies (three rural and two urban) and plans delineating landscape outcomes and typology of community based activities linked to those outcomes. | The National Landscape Baseline Assessment Consultant tasked to prepare 4 participatory landscape strategies, and to synthetize lessons learned from the consultation process and baseline assessments has started his assignment on 27 June 2018. Four strategies are targeted (instead of five) as the landscape strategy for Fayoum will cover both rural and urban areas.  As per the National Consultant’s field work plan, participatory landscape baseline assessment multi-stakeholders workshops have been conducted as follows:  - 28 June 2018: first landscape workshop in Fayoum for the Fayoum Landscape.  - 11 July 2018: second landscape workshop in Luxor governorate in which stakeholders from the Upper Egypt landscape were present (Luxor, Minia, and Qena governorates)  - 25 July 2018: third landscape workshop in Cairo in which stakeholders from the Greater Cairo landscape were present (Cairo, Giza, and Qalyoubia governorates)  - 26 July 2018, fourth landscape workshop in Dakahlia in which stakeholders from the Delta landscape were present (Dakahlia, Sharkia, and Kafr El Sheikh governorates)  The National Consultant is expected to deliver the draft landscape strategies and the lessons learned document by the end of August 2018 for the technical revision of the UNDP GEF Global Coordinator for the SGP Upgraded Country Programmes, and the final review and approval by the NSC in order to launch the first call for proposals in September 2018. | An overall Landscape Strategy for Building Social, Economic, and Ecological Resilience for the target landscapes has been finalized after organizing four multi-stakeholder consultations in the four targeted landscapes (Greater Cairo, Fayoum, Delta and Upper Egypt). NSC members approved the Landscape Strategy for Building Social, Economic, and Ecological Resilience and the Gender Assessment and Action Plan in December 2018.  The four Landscape baseline assessment workshops have been organized during the period 28th of June – 26th of July, 2018 in Fayoum, Luxor, Dakahleya and Cairo; one consultation workshop in each targeted landscape. The SGP Project Management Team was keen that all relevant stakeholders be represented. During these workshops, types of projects were discussed and identified based on community needs and focusing on those who are in line with local and national strategies and plans.  The Landscape Strategy was prepared based on the four baseline assessment workshops (one in each landscape). The assessments were then combined into one comprehensive Landscape Strategy document that includes the four individual landscape strategies.  Number of participants in the baseline assessment consultations: 305 in total (106 women and 199 men), as follow:  Fayoum Landscape: 73 participants in total (22 women & 51 men)  Greater Cairo Landscape: 79 in total (31 women & 48 men)  Delta landscape: 62 in total (19 women & 43 men);  Upper Egypt landscape: 91 in total (34 women & 57 men). |
| 1.1.3. number of relevant project and portfolio experiences systematized and codified (case studies) for dissemination to policy platform participants as well as community organizations and networks and second level organizations. | 0 experiences systematized and codified for dissemination to policy makers, community organizations and others. | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 10 project and portfolio experiences (2 case studies) systematized, codified and disseminated to policy platform participants and community organizations and networks. | Lessons learned from the consultation process are currently being gathered and drafted by the National Landscape Baseline Assessment Consultant in collaboration with the CPM (Country Programme Manager) and the Project Team.  Case studies will be prepared by the NGOs on their implemented projects to be widely disseminated among the SGP network and partners to maximize the benefits. | Two case studies were prepared. One on BD. This case study highlights the strategic project titled “Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Supporting National Civil Society Organizations in CBD COP14 and afterwards”. This project was funded in September 2018 to support the engagement of as many as possible relevant NGOs in the CDB COP14 (held in Egypt, November 2018) before, during and after the event and to strategically enhance the role of CSOs in the activities Egypt is undertaking during its presidency of the CBD till 2020 and afterwards.  Another case study was prepared on promoting the use of LED energy saving bulbs in Fayoum. It highlighted the project entitled “Rationalize Electricity Consumption by using LED Saving Bulbs in Fayoum”.  The project’s main objective is to reduce GHG emissions by saving energy and rationalizing the consumption of electricity using LED energy saving bulbs in six targeted areas in Etsa (Al-Hajar, Manshiyet Al-Amir, Al-Sadah, Anak, Farhat, Mahmudiyah), Fayoum Governorate.  All projects have been asked to include preparation of a case study by the end of the project among their activities. It is planned for these case studies to be compiled to showcase successful stories and innovative practices, either at the landscape level or thematically, to be disseminated through the Multi-stakeholder Platforms, SGP partners, NGO networks, etc. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Community-based multifocal projects selected, developed and implemented to bring biodiversity protection, agro-ecological practices, alternative livelihoods, and adoption of successful SGP-supported technologies, strategies, practices/systems to a tipping point in each landscape.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 2.1 Typology of community level projects developed and agreed by multi-stakeholder groups (together with eligibility criteria) as outputs to achieve landscape level outcomes. | No agreed typology of potential priority projects in existence at this time. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Prioritized list of projects aligned with landscape outcomes in each landscape. | Through the landscape baseline assessment workshops, in which challenges, gaps, local and national plans, potential partnerships were fully discussed by all relevant local stakeholders, a prioritized list of projects - aligned with the targeted outcomes in each landscape – has been identified and included in each landscape strategy.  In the first landscape baseline assessment workshop in Fayoum, 2 main priorities were identified: agro-ecological practices and biodiversity protection through awareness raising and capacity building programs, which include reducing water pollution on Lake Qaroun, sustainable solid waste management systems, improved irrigation systems, and using renewable energies (solar energy and biogas units), etc.  Special activities to promote long-term biodiversity conservation are planned to be implemented in Fayoum protected areas in full coordination with the GEF FSPs implemented by the Ministry of Environment in Fayoum. | The Landscape strategy approved by the NSC in December 2018 has prioritized a list of projects aligned with landscapes outcomes in each landscape as follows:  • Agroforestry development along irrigation canals to increase food security and combat land degradation  • Wastewater redirection to productive uses; cultivating non edible plants, etc.  • In cooperation with concerned local authorities, implement initiatives and provide sustainable management system to improve collection, disposal of waste in rural and urban areas  • Alternatives to agricultural waste burning such as producing organic compost and animal fodder. Recycling of agricultural wastes as an alternative to agricultural burning and to produce organic compost and animal fodder.  • Establishing biogas units in rural areas to produce sustainable clean energy, high quality organic fertilizer and contribute to improving the health of family members, as well as general cleanliness.  • Demonstration projects that contribute to de-pollution of Lake Qaroun.  • Lining of irrigation canals or using pipes for irrigation water which conserves water, energy and land and accordingly contribute to food security.  • Improving irrigation systems and techniques and choosing the most appropriate kinds of crops.  • Biodiversity awareness projects for schools and university students and for communities residing on the periphery of protected areas.  • Using solar energy for the purposes of irrigation.  • Promoting the use of solar water heaters through the revolving funds. |
| 2.2 Number of community-based projects implemented by CBOs and NGOs in partnership with others in the target landscapes. | 195 projects implemented in the target landscapes to date. | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 30 community based projects implemented by CBOs and NGOs in the targeted rural landscapes. | The first call for proposals is planned to be launched in September 2018 just after finalizing and approving the Landscape Baseline Assessments for the 4 landscapes by the NSC.  At least 15 community-based projects implemented by CBOs and NGOs are expected to be approved by the NSC in the targeted rural landscapes in this first call for proposals.  Then, the second call for proposals is expected to be launched during the first quarter of 2019 to reach the expected target. | By the end of the first call, issued in December 2018 the project received 186 project proposals distributed among the four landscapes and main focal areas. 11 community-based projects implemented by CBOs and NGOs have been approved by the NSC members in the targeted rural landscapes in this first round. NGOs are expected to start activities' implementation just after obtaining necessary and obligatory approvals from the Ministry of Social Solidarity, which are expected to take 1-2 months.  There are still 15 other projects on installation of biogas and agricultural waste, which have been postponed until the coming NSC meeting in September 2019 for final decisions, once the NSC recommendations have been addressed.  The project will launch another call in early October to fill the gaps in the project’s targets, outcomes and outputs. The target number of initiatives is expected to be reached through this second call. |
| 2.3 Increased area under management for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. | 3,000 hectares under management in the four landscape/seascapes as community conservation areas. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 11,000 hectares under management across the three rural landscape/seascapes as community conservation areas. | Areas and hectares to be sustainably managed for biodiversity conservation have been identified during the landscape baseline assessments by relevant multi-stakeholder groups in the 3 rural landscapes based on community needs, local and national priorities, potential partnerships to be established, and coordination with local authorities and active partners. | Six projects have been approved for implementation in four PAs (Qaroun, Rayan, Wadi Degla, Petrified Forest PAs) targeting biodiversity conservation and biodiversity awareness, covering 321,100 hectares (total area of PAs); two of them aim at women’s empowerment by providing them with adequate trainings on traditional handicrafts using palm tree waste to produce environmentally sustainable products. They will be assisted to start their own small-scale businesses and market their products widely using the online social media pages.  These projects are implemented in full coordination with GEF FSPs namely GEF/ Strengthening Protected Area Financing and Management Systems, UNDP-Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation Project (EIECPIII), the Nature Conservation Sector at the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency, and local communities.  Specific areas under management are being discussed and calculated with relevant partners. |
| 2.4 Increased area under reforestation or farmer managed natural regeneration. | 4,000 hectares under reforestation or farmer managed natural regeneration. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 11,000 hectares under reforestation or farmer managed natural regeneration across the three landscapes. | Hectares and lands to be sustainably managed by farmers in the 3 rural landscapes have been identified during the landscape baseline assessments by relevant multi-stakeholder groups based on community needs, local and national priorities, potential partnerships to be established, and coordination with local authorities and active partners. | Five Projects in the Upper Egypt landscape have been approved so far that will serve more than 1,000 farmers to sustainability manage their agricultural lands, approximately 4,000 hectares, through farmer-managed natural regeneration. The projects will increase the awareness of global and national environmental problems, in addition to developing farmer capacities to better manage their lands in a sustainable way which will lead to improving their livelihoods and strengthening their resilience. |
| 2.5 Increased area under improved grazing regimes. | 3,000 hectares under improved grazing regimes and livestock management    30 livestock producers implementing improved grazing regimes and livestock management systems | *(not set or not applicable)* | 10,000 hectares under improved grazing regimes and livestock management across the three landscapes    At least 100 livestock producers implementing improved grazing regimes and livestock management systems | This outcome has been discussed during the landscape baseline assessment workshops with the multi-stakeholder groups. CSOs in rural landscapes will build on the lessons learned from the previous phase and will exchange experience in this regard. Community-based initiatives will be implemented aiming to improve grazing regimes and livestock management systems. | Although this outcome has been discussed during the landscape baseline assessment workshops, no community-based initiatives were received to achieve this specific target. Thus, it will be among the limited 2nd call aiming and NGOs will be encouraged submit proposals that aim to improve grazing regimes and livestock management systems in rural landscapes. |
| 2.6 Increased area of agricultural land under agro-ecological practices and systems that increase sustainability and productivity and/or conserve crop genetic resources. | 500 hectares of agricultural land under agro-ecological practices and systems that increase sustainability and productivity and/or conserve crop genetic resources. | *(not set or not applicable)* | 13,000 hectares of agricultural land under agro-ecological practices and systems that increase sustainability and productivity and/or conserve crop genetic resources. | Increased area of agricultural land under agro-ecological practices and systems to increase sustainability and productivity and/or conserve crop genetic resources have been fully discussed and planned in the 3 rural landscapes as they are considered urgent needs for local communities and farmers’ communities.  During the landscape baseline assessment workshop in Fayoum, stakeholders highlighted the need to follow innovative practices, improve irrigation systems and reconsider agricultural practices in order to increase agricultural land productivity. | Five projects have been approved in rural landscapes that will increase the area of agricultural land under agro-ecological practices and systems by approximately to 6,000 hectares, thereby increasing their sustainability and productivity. These projects aim to rationalize the use of irrigation water through lining of irrigation canals, which contributes to greater water use efficiency. Also, solar energy will be used for the first time in irrigation through a mobile unit.  Additionally, 10 projects are pending for NSC final review and decisions in September 2019; five of them aim to install biogas units, which produces sustainable energy as well as very high-quality organic compost used to fertilize agricultural lands and increase productivity. 450-500 hectares are expected to be fertilized as a result of those projects. Additionally, five projects aim to produce organic compost through recycling of agricultural wastes instead of burning them. 500-600 hectares are expected to be fertilized as a result of those projects. |
| 2.7 Number of second level organizations established in the landscape/seascapes and seascapes grouping individual community producer organizations in sustainable production of agroforestry, fisheries and waste management. | No multi-stakeholder groups with a focus on landscape / seascape resilience engaged in analysis and planning of strategic approaches to upscaling successful experiences in agroforestry, forestry and waste management | *(not set or not applicable)* | Three landscape-level multi-stakeholder groups involved in analysis of experience, lessons learned and development of strategies for sustainable production of agroforestry, fisheries and waste management. At least 20 second-level organizations established or strengthened. | The formation of multi-stakeholder groups / platforms was discussed during the 4 consultation workshops organized in June and July 2018. The idea was welcomed by all the participants. By the end of 2018, 3-4 multi stakeholder groups will be formed to be involved not only in analysis of experience, lessons learned and the development of strategies towards sustainable livelihoods, but in the follow up and monitoring of the implementation of the landscapes strategies. | Within the 17 community-based initiatives approved by the NSC so far, almost all the NGOs will partner with local / grassroots organizations which will be strengthened and their capacities developed through either their involvement in the implementation of activities or their participation in capacity building trainings. These second-level organizations will contribute to up-scaling/replication of successful technologies e.g. solar pumping, promoting the use of LED saving bulbs, etc. |
| 2.8 Number of strategic projects that support these economic activities | No strategy currently exists to enable and facilitate upscaling by community organizations of these economic activities based on the detailed analysis of successful SGP supported community experiences and identification of upscaling requirements and opportunities. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Three strategic projects to enable and facilitate upscaling of successful SGP-supported initiatives. | Strategic projects were proposed and discussed by the participants during the 4 landscape baseline assessments workshops. One project to support the CBD COP14, another one to contribute to the depollution of lake Qaroun in Fayoum landscape and act as a demonstration project to be upscaled to solve the significant challenges facing lake Qaroun and its surrounding communities.  Another strategic project was discussed to build on the lessons learned from previous phases in Upper Egypt landscape related to irrigation water and using innovative mechanisms to improve the irrigation system in rural areas to conserve water, energy and land.  During the Internal Session and the External Session of the Inception Workshop, NSC members agreed on supporting the CBD COP 14, which will be organized in Sharm El Skeikh, Egypt, 17-29 November, 2018, by funding a strategic project to be implemented in full coordination with the National Team in the Ministry of Environment. This project’s main goal is to mainstream biodiversity in national and local plans and policies related to sustainable development, and raise the awareness of community members on the national level, especially youth, on the concepts of biodiversity which will reflect on the sustainable management of protected areas and biodiversity conservation. This project will build on the successes and experiences gained by grantees in previous phases. This project is also expected to support the visibility and contribution of SGP in such an event, which is for the first time organized in Africa and the Arab Region.  This strategic project will continue to follow up on the Cop 14 decisions and will enable participating CSOs to contribute to the sustainable management of PAs in full coordination with the Nature Conservation Sector, Ministry of Environment.  The project is expected to be approved by the NSC members in September 2018 to start implementation immediately before the conference commencing on the 17th of November. | One strategic project currently under implementation.  During the SGP OP6 inception workshops organized in May 2018, discussions about the importance of civil society organizations’ participation took place. Stakeholders expressed their request to have a strategic project to support NGOs before, during and after the CBD COP14 event.  These requests were fully discussed, then endorsed by the NSC members. Accordingly, a limited call was opened and SGP tried to mobilize concerned and interested NGOs working in the field of biodiversity to apply for this grant. The Nature and Science Foundation (NSF), due to its intensive experience in biodiversity submitted a successful proposal, which was designed and prepared through a participatory approach that involved a large number of active NGOs deeply involved in conservation activities. NSF was awarded the grant in the amount of 150,000 US Dollars in September 2018.  The main objectives of the project are:  1- Support the engagement of as many as possible relevant NGOs in the CDB COP14, before, during and after the event.  2. Strategically enhance the role of CSOs in the area of biodiversity conservation to be strongly involved in the activities Egypt is undertaking during its presidency of the CBD till 2020 and afterwards.  3. Strengthen those CSOs to lobby and advocate for mainstreaming of biodiversity into different sectors and policies towards achieving sustainable development.  4. Establish a sustained network of concerned NGOs, developing their capacities to support national activities during Egypt’s presidency of the CBD and afterwards.  5. Contribute to the SGP Country Program’s main objective in Operational Phase 6.  NGOs and local communities from the four landscapes have participated in the COP showcasing their different activities at the national level in the presence of more than 7,000 participants from 196 countries.  Participating NGOs and local community representatives have reported back to other NGOs in the landscape as part of building their capacities to raise awareness. |
| 2.9 Increased alternative livelihoods and innovative products developed through support of services for ecotourism, green value chains, agroforestry, sustainable fisheries, waste management projects, and access to markets. | 4 existing enterprises and staff in ecotourism    0 Types of green value chain products produced in landscape    2 waste management enterprises    50 people employed in sustainable agroforestry    50 people employed in sustainable fisheries | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 10 new ecotourism enterprises    At least 10 new green value chain enterprises    At least 5 new waste management enterprises covering 15,000 hectares per landscape    At least 1,000 people switching to sustainable agroforestry production    At least 700 people switching to sustainable fisheries production | During the Inception workshop and the 4 landscape baseline consultation workshops organized in Fayoum, Upper Egypt, Delta and Greater Cairo multi stakeholders welcomed and suggested initiatives to be implemented by NGOs to increase alternative livelihoods and innovative products developed through 1) support of services for ecotourism, especially in relation to protected areas of Fayoum, and 2) waste management projects, either through waste recycling or producing organic compost, especially in Delta landscape, in addition to 3) crops cultivated on rooftop gardens, and the importance of access to markets, especially in Greater Cairo Landscape, 4) with regards to Lake Brullus, Kafr El Sheikh governorate, Delta landscape, special community-based initiatives will target fishermen aiming to achieve sustainable fisheries production. | Two projects in Greater Cairo and Upper Egypt towards this target have been approved; one titled “Creative initiatives to economically empower women in Badrashin”, which aims to increase income through small and medium scale projects directly affecting the environment by recycling of palm tree waste instead of burning it. Another project on “Industrial Utilization of Baladi Palm Midribs and leaflets”, which will contribute to upgrading of the economic value of Baladi palm products as an important ecological resource and as a local raw material that feeds a number of small industries, to sustain the agricultural biodiversity at the local level and enhance socioeconomic development of the social groups in Qayat village and nearby villages most in need.  Both projects will contribute to increasing alternative livelihoods and produce innovative products developed through support for services related to ecotourism, waste management, and access to markets. These projects are expected to provide training to women and assist them in establishing their own small-scale projects  10 waste management projects proposals are pending a final NSC review and decision in September 2019, proposing to cover 1000 – 1200 hectares.  More than 500 farmers (direct beneficiaries) so far are targeted within the approved five projects to switch to sustainable agroforestry management. More projects are expected to be awarded under the next call for proposals to reach the target of 1,000 farmers.  No projects promoting sustainable fisheries production have been submitted in the first call, however, respective project proposals are expected in the 2nd call to be launched in October 2019. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Component 2. Promote community-based integrated low-emission urban systems**    **Outcome 3: Multi-stakeholder partnerships, networks and policy platforms develop and execute adaptive management plans, and support policy development for low-emission urban development** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 3.1 Number and type of multi-stakeholder partnerships/community networks for managing the development and implementation of community-based urban integrated low-emission systems. | 0 partnerships | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 10 partnerships | It is expected that this target will be achieved as the project is moving towards on the ground implementation, as establishing strong partnerships has been a clear target since the first day of project implementation. The Project Team has encouraged significant partners to participate in the external session of the inception workshop as well as in the landscape baseline assessment consultation workshops. Partners varied from the GEF Full-Size projects implemented by ministries, local authorities who are implementing in line projects, national agencies such as the Desert Research Center and the National Council for Women, which provides necessary technical assistance to SGP initiatives. | Seven projects targeting management of the development and implementation of community-based urban integrated low-emission systems are already approved, Grantees will partner with different relevant stakeholders; seven partnerships will be established once projects start on the ground activities :  - The GEF FSPs; GEF / Improving Energy Efficiency for Lighting and Building Appliances, to provide technical assistance to energy efficiency projects. These projects will also partner with relevant local authorities concerned with Electricity and Renewable Energy in different governorates to facilitate implementation of activities.  - The Environmental Tourism Development Association will partner with the Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation Project (EIECP III) which will assist them in implementation of activities.  - The Sustainable Transport project in Fayoum will partner with the University of Fayoum, Ministry of Environment and Fayoum Governorate.  - In addition, partnerships with the private sector and second level and local organizations will be promoted. |
| 3.2 Number of participatory strategies and management plans for the two urban landscapes | 0 participatory strategies and management plans for two urban landscapes | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least two participatory strategies and two management plans for low-emission urban development in Greater Cairo and Fayoum City | The National Landscape Baseline Assessment Consultant recruited by the project has started his assignment on 27 June 2018 to prepare four participatory landscape strategies including two participatory strategies for low-emission urban development.  During the landscape baseline workshop held in Fayoum, stakeholders highlighted the need to follow innovative practices, improve irrigation systems and reconsider agricultural practices in order to increase agricultural land productivity.  During the landscape baseline consultation workshop for Greater Cairo landscape, participants discussed challenges and opportunities for low-emission initiatives to be implemented in urban areas building on the lessons learned from previous phases focusing on sustainable transport projects, promoting solar energy, rooftop gardens, etc. | Two projects have been already approved; one will develop and contribute to the management plan of sustainable transport in Fayoum through the Bike Share project, which will be implemented in full collaboration with the University of Fayoum, Ministry of Environment, and Fayoum Governorate.  Another project aims to develop the participatory strategy and management plan for the solid waste management in two PAs in Fayoum Landscape; Qaroun and Rayan PAs. |
| 3.3. Number of relevant project and portfolio experiences systematized and codified (case studies) for dissemination to policy platform participants as well as community organizations and networks and second level organizations | 0 case studies | *(not set or not applicable)* | At least 2 case studies – one per landscape type (rural and urban) at a minimum. | Lessons learned from the consultation process are currently being gathered and drafted by the National Landscape Baseline Assessment Consultant in collaboration with the CPM and the Project Team.  Case studies will be prepared by the NGOs on their implemented projects to be widely disseminated among SGP network and partners to maximize the benefits. It is planned to conduct at least 4 case studies, one on each landscape. | Almost all SGP grantees in OP6 so far have included preparing a case study by the end of project in their activities to document lessons learned, experience gained, and the partnership approach they follow to implement their projects.  These individual case studies will be compiled to have at least one case study per landscape. The landscape level case studies are aimed at documenting and understanding the process of landscape planning and management (through community level and strategic projects).  2 case studies have been prepared; one on BD. This case study highlights the strategic project entitled “Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Supporting National Civil Society Organizations in CBD COP14 and afterwards”. This project was funded in September 2018 aiming to support the engagement of as many as possible relevant NGOs in the CDB COP14 (held in Egypt, November 2018) before, during and after the event and to strategically enhance the role of CSOs in the activities Egypt is undertaking during its presidency of the CBD till 2020 and afterwards.  Another case study was prepared on promoting the use of LED energy saving bulbs in Fayoum. It highlighted the project entitled “Rationalize Electricity Consumption by using LED Saving Bulbs in Fayoum”.  The project’s main objective is to reduce GHG emissions by saving energy and rationalizing the consumption of electricity using LED energy saving bulbs in six targeted areas in Etsa (Al-Hajar, Manshiyet Al-Amir, Al-Sadah, Anak, Farhat, Mahmudiyah), Fayoum Governorate.  Those case studies will be disseminated among the multi-stakeholder groups, government, SGP networks and private sector partners to maximize the benefits and build on lessons learned for future phases. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 4**  **Outcome 4: Selection, development and implementation of community-based projects promoting low-emission urban systems and SGP-technologies, supported by stakeholders (private, public, institutions, CSOs).** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 4.1 Typology of urban neighborhood projects developed and agreed by multi-stakeholder groups (together with eligibility criteria) as outputs to achieve urban landscape level outcomes. | 2 urban neighborhoods using renewable energy technologies in the target landscapes, by type of technology. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Prioritized list of projects aligned with neighborhood outcomes in each urban landscape. | A prioritized list of projects is currently being included in each landscape strategy (under development). The list of projects is aligned with the targeted outcomes in each landscape, and it is based on findings from the landscape-wide baseline assessment workshops where challenges, gaps, local and national plans, potential partnerships were fully discussed by the relevant multi-stakeholders.  In Fayoum landscape, SGP projects will target urban and rural areas. During the first consultation workshop, participants prioritized rooftop gardens, sustainable transport (neighborhood bicycling systems; local fleet (taxi) fuel switching to natural gas), solid waste management and solar energy & energy efficiency, while in rural areas they highlighted improving the irrigation systems, lining of irrigation canals, increasing agricultural land productivity, biogas energy and recycling of agricultural wastes to produce organic compost. | The Landscape strategy approved by the NSC in December 2018 has prioritized a list of projects aligned with the four landscapes’ outcomes as follows:  • Development of rooftop gardens to increase food security and conserve crop genetic resources  • Development of sustainable traditional handicraft production and provide better access to markets for sustainably produced products; i.e. traditional handicrafts.  • Sustainable transport – neighborhood bicycling systems; local fleet (taxi) fuel switching to natural gas  • Energy efficiency applications – lighting (residential, public), appliances (home, small business)  • Renewable energy – solar water heaters  • Awareness raising and capacity building activities regarding the extensive use of chemical fertilizers.  • Planting of fruit trees, including olive trees and palm trees and berry trees on the banks of the water canals and on the sides of streets to increase the green areas and contribute to food security by offering the fruit of these trees to the local public.  • Improve the co-management of protected areas, support the living conditions of fishing communities and dis-incentivize unsustainable production practices.  • Capacity building initiatives are also encouraged to reduce negative agriculture practices such as water logging or over-irrigation.  • Projects that promote use of photovoltaic cells for solar energy.  • Projects that address waste management framework, especially those that focus on community involvement (collection, transport, segregation (whether at source or at transfer stations), reuse and recycling.  • Green roof projects; planting edible plants (fruits and vegetables) on the roofs of houses  • Projects that will better enhance medical waste management and provide needed support for safe collection, handling and transport of this waste to the incinerator. |
| 4.2 Number of community-based projects implemented by CBOs and NGOs in partnership with others in the target urban landscapes/neighborhoods. | n/a | *(not set or not applicable)* | Prioritized list of projects aligned with neighborhood outcomes in each urban landscape. | The first call for proposals is planned to be launched in September 2018 just after finalizing and approving the Landscapes Baseline Assessments for the 4 landscapes by the NSC.  8-10 community- based projects to be implemented by CBOs and NGOs are expected to be approved by the NSC members in the targeted urban landscapes (Fayoum & Greater Cairo) in the first round. | Four projects have been approved so far within the prioritized list of projects in urban neighborhoods in Greater Cairo and Fayoum, implemented by NGOs in partnership with others, as follows:  - The sustainable Transport Project in Fayoum partnering with the University of Fayoum, Ministry of Environment and Fayoum Governorate.  -A project on promoting LED energy saving bulbs in Fayoum partnering with GEF / Improving Energy Efficiency for Lighting and Building Appliances, as well as relevant local authorities.  - The project in Fayoum to set a waste management strategy in two PAs; Qaroun and Rayan, to be implemented in partnership with the Egyptian Italian Cooperation Environmental Project, Nature Conservation Sector and concerned local authorities.  - A project on development of sustainable traditional handicraft production and better access to markets for sustainably produced products in Dahshour, targeting empowerment of women. |
| 4.3 Increased use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies at neighborhood level implemented in the target urban landscape by type and technology. | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* | Prioritized list of projects aligned with neighborhood outcomes in each urban landscape    At least 14 pilot experiences with renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies systematized, codified and disseminated to policy platforms and community organizations and networks. | The first call for proposals is planned to be launched in September 2018 just after finalizing and approving the Landscapes Baseline Assessments for the 4 landscapes by NSC.  5-7 community-based projects implemented by CBOs and NGOs are expected to be approved by the NSC members in the targeted urban landscapes in the first round to increase the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies at neighborhood level. | Seven community-based projects implemented by NGOs are approved in the first round to increase the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies at neighborhood level; such as expanding the use of LED energy saving bulbs, using solar water heaters, using LED in street lighting and solar panels for households and public buildings.  Case studies, fact sheets, knowledge management materials on lessons learned, successful practices, and established partnerships will be produced and disseminated to multi-stakeholder platforms, SGP NGOs network, etc. |
| 4.4 Number of strategic projects (up to USD 150,000) to implement strategies enabling and facilitating upscaling of application of renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies | *(not set or not applicable)* | *(not set or not applicable)* | Two strategic projects to enable and facilitate upscaling of successful application of renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies | During the Inception workshop (internal and external sessions), stakeholders and NSC members were in favor of funding one strategic project in each landscape. Two strategic projects are targeted to be funded aiming to implement strategies enabling and facilitating upscaling of application of renewable energy (either solar or biogas technology) or promote and raise the awareness of local communities on energy efficiency technologies, building on the lessons learned from previous SGP phases, and in line with national and local priorities. | A special call is planned to be launched before the end of 2019 for strategic projects on renewable energy or energy efficiency in urban areas.  SGP has been invited by the Ministry of Environment and Giza Governorate to participate in the consultation meetings to finalize the Climate Change Strategy for Giza Governorate. The strategy is following the multi-stakeholder approach and is keen to engage civil society organizations and the private sector in its implementation. This localized strategy promotes the use of renewable energies (solar energy, PVs in street lighting, biogas technology, solar pumping in rural areas, expansion in the use of LED, etc.).  SGP is discussing a partnership agreement between SGP and Giza governorate to support NGOs to contribute and to play a greater role in the implementation of this strategy in Greater Cairo Urban Landscape. This strategy is considered the first localized climate change strategy in Egypt. This would be a model to be replicated in other governorates as well.  Another project was discussed to expand the use of rooftop solar panels on households and public buildings to be implemented in coordination with the GEF / Grid Connected Small-scale PV Systems in urban areas. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 12.87% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 16.63% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 365,989 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 70,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 2,843,241 |
| Co-financing | 4,073,461 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Jun 4, 2015 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Dec 12, 2016 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Apr 24, 2017 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | May 29, 2018 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Apr 24, 2019 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Jan 24, 2021 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Apr 24, 2021 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2018-12-09 |
| 2019-03-27 |
| 2019-07-02 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Operational | The governmental clearances and approvals that should be given to NGOs to start using the SGP funds may delay the implementation of the community-based initiatives, based on experience from SGP Egypt in previous operational phases. In order to address this risk, a representative of the Ministry of Social Solidarity (Minister Advisor for NGOs) is an NSC member during the current Operational Phase.  The project has addressed the Ministry of Environment, who confirmed that the project in OP6 has acquired all necessary clearances, which will facilitate accordingly obtaining necessary approvals given to NGOs to use the SGP funds.  Furthermore, once SGP Egypt received after its first call of proposals 186 project proposals submitted by 185 NGOs, a list of the 185 from 10 governorates were sent to the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) for their preliminary confirmation that those NGOs are eligible, reputable and committed. MoSS has replied with an official letter confirming that they have no remarks or objections on any of the 185 NGOs. |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| As indicated in the first PIR, the project experienced a delay at its start due to the recruitment process of the SGP National Coordinator, which led to the delay in the inception workshop by almost 10 months. With support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Social Solidarity, SGP stakeholders and partners, the project succeeded during the reporting period in overcoming this delay and in less than 12 months, four multi-stakeholder baseline assessment workshops were held in the four targeted landscapes with 305 participants (106 women and 199 men) representing all relevant stakeholders.  The MTR mission took place in Cairo from 21-25 of July, 2019. It was planned to be conducted at the end of March 2019 but based on the request of the MTR Consultant it was postponed till the 2nd half of July. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| As explained last year, there were significant delays in the recruitment of the NPM (National Program Manager) given the government inquiries about the project governance system as a standalone FSP not part of the global SGP. The issues were finally resolved, the recruitment process was completed, and the project team is working to catch up and overcome the delays. |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| As reported in the previous PIR, there was a significant delay in the start-up of this project. Although the Project Document was signed on 24, April 2017, the Inception Workshop was not held until 29 May 2018. As indicated above, this was mainly due to the delay in the process of recruiting the SGP National Coordinator, and the need to clarify queries from the government on the role of the SGP National Steering Committee and the executing arrangements for the project, as SGP Egypt became an SGP Upgraded Country Programme during this phase, fully funded with STAR funds through a stand-alone FSP project (as compared to the SGP Global Programme).  During the reporting period, the Mid-Term Review (expected to take place by April 2019), is now planned to be completed by the end of September 2019, as the MTR consultant was able to travel to the field only in July. A draft report has been submitted, and the project team is encouraged to develop a management response as soon as the MTR is completed. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Moderately Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | Despite the delay that the project endured at its start, which led to delay of the inception workshop by almost 10 months, the project, with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Social Solidarity, in addition to SGP stakeholders and partners, succeeded in coming back on track and has achieved important progress towards all outcomes of the project in less than 12 months, due to the efforts of the SGP Team through continuous dialogue with relevant stakeholders, especially civil society organizations.  Progress on Outcome 1:  Four multi-stakeholder baseline assessment workshops were held in the four targeted landscapes with more than 305 participants representing all relevant stakeholders during the period 28th of June – 26th of July, 2018. Accordingly, a comprehensive Landscape Strategy for Building Social, Economic, and Ecological Resilience that encompasses the four landscape strategies have been produced. The Strategy and the Gender Assessment and Action Plan were finalized and approved by the NSC in December 2018.  Four Multi-stakeholder Platforms have been established, one in each landscape. Members of these local platforms are local governments; local authorities concerned with agriculture, water resources and irrigation; youth; social solidarity groups; the National Council for Women; media representatives, NGOs; academia; the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (Regional Branch Office); etc. It is the first time in Egypt in general, and at the landscape level specifically, to have such platforms. These platforms will meet regularly to exchange knowledge and experience, follow up and monitor implementation progress of the landscape strategy and provide necessary assistance to SGP grantees to overcome any obstacles and challenges they face. Their first meeting will be held in October 2019.  Two case studies have been prepared: one on the Strategic project approved in September 2018 to support the engagement of as many as possible relevant NGOs in the CDB COP14 (held in Egypt, November 2018) before, during and after the event, and strategically enhance the role of CSOs in the activities Egypt is undertaking during its presidency of the CBD till 2020, as well as afterwards. A second case study is on lessons from the use of LED energy saving bulbs in the Fayoum Landcsape. All projects have been asked to include preparation of a case study, by the end of the project, among its activities. These case studies will be compiled to showcase successful stories and innovative practices, either at landscape level or thematically, to be disseminated through the Multi-stakeholder Platforms, SGP partners, NGO networks, etc.  Progress on Outcome 2:  The Landscape Strategy includes a prioritized list of projects developed and agreed by the multi-stakeholder groups as outputs to achieve landscape level outcomes, including agroforestry development along irrigation canals; wastewater redirection to productive uses; sustainable management systems to improve collection, disposal of waste; recycling of agricultural wastes; establishing biogas units; lining of irrigation canals to maximize water use efficiency; biodiversity awareness projects for schools and university students, and others.  In line with the prioritized list, 13 SGP projects have been approved by the NSC for rural landscapes in this first round. Implementation of these projects will start within 1-2 months after obtaining necessary approvals to use the funds. Review and approval of 10 project proposals on installation of biogas and agricultural wastes has been postponed until the coming NSC meeting in September 2019 for final decisions. Another call for proposals will be launched in early October to fill the gaps in the project’s targets.  The strategic project approved so far to ensure the strong engagement of CSOs at the CBD COP14 and Egypt’s related activities until 2020 succeeded to establish a network of well-developed NGOs in the area of biodiversity conservation in Egypt; enhanced the exposure and the visibility of the SGP & NGOs and their work to the national and international communities, and ensured the contribution of NGOs, local communities and their traditional knowledge at side events and the market place.  Two projects in the Greater Cairo and Upper Egypt landscapes have been approved to contribute to developing traditional handicrafts from palm tree waste to produce environmentally sustainable products, which contribute not only to ecotourism enterprises but to increasing alternative livelihoods and innovative products focusing on women’s empowerment and improved market access. Review and approval of 10 waste management projects were postponed to the next NSC meeting in September 2019 as NSC members requested more information and supporting document to ensure that supported projects are in line with government plans and efforts and in line with the Landscape Strategy.  Progress on Outcome 3:  Seven projects targeting development and implementation of community-based urban integrated low-emission systems have been already approved. They will partner with GEF FSPs, with relevant local authorities, the Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation Project (EIECPIII), private sector and second level and local organizations, among others.  Two projects have been approved that will contribute to the management plan of sustainable transport in Fayoum and the preparation of a participatory strategy and management plan for solid waste management in two PAs in the Fayoum Landscape.  Two case studies have been prepared, but one case study per landscape is planned at a minimum to showcase success stories and practices, documenting and understanding the process of landscape planning and management (through community level and strategic projects). These will be widely disseminated through the multi-stakeholder platforms, SGP network, NGOs and others.  Progress on Outcome 4:  A prioritized list of projects aligned with neighborhood outcomes in urban landscapes has been developed and agreed by multi-stakeholder groups as part of the Landscape Strategy, and include the development of rooftop gardens to increase food security, development of sustainable traditional handicraft production, sustainable transport – neighborhood bicycling systems, energy efficiency applications – lighting, renewable energy, improvement of the co-management of protected areas, promotion of photovoltaic cells, better medical waste management, and others.  Four projects have been approved so far within the prioritized list of projects in urban neighborhoods in Greater Cairo and Fayoum on sustainable transport and energy efficiency. These will be implemented by NGOs in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, Fayoum Governorate, Fayoum University, Private Sector, and the local authority responsible for electricity.  A special call for proposals is planned to be launched in September before the end of 2019 for strategic projects on renewable energy or energy efficiency in urban areas, and discussions have taken place with strategic partnerssuch as Governorated, relevant ministries, UN agencies and other GEF supported Full Size projects for future collaboration of strategic projects.  Co-finance / Partnerships:  1- SGP Egypt has made a significant progress towards achieving targeted co-finance through its effective partnerships and relations with different organizations and other projects. Based on the successful partnerships, in the first round of proposals, SGP received 51 project proposals from Luxor governorate only within Upper Egypt Landscape, where the Egypt Country Office of the Action against Hunger Organization (ACF) (a global humanitarian organization originating in France and starting work in Egypt in 2015) has been implementing the EU-funded project titled “Grassroots Socioeconomic Programme for Local Communities Development Clusters in Egypt” - 'GRASP Egypt' ). It was planned for ACF to co-finance some of the SGP funded project, but due to the delay SGP has faced, by the time the SGP projects in Luxor were approved the ACF projects were ending.  2- Additionally, the UNDP/ Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation Project “EIECPIII” has conducted many activities in Fayoum PAs to support the local communities and established an NGO to continue serving these communities. Moreover, they developed the capacities of NGO members and staff and provided them with the necessary support to submit a successful proposal that was accepted by Subcommittee and NSC members. Up until now the EIECPIII has contributed to these activities $1,000,000.  Not only in Fayoum, but the SGP and the strategic project funded to support the CBD COP14 held last November joined forces with the UNDP/ Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation Project, which provided also the financial support to civil society organizations in the Market Place (Green Zone) to present their products. These came from all over Egypt to represent the different Egyptian cultures.  CBD COP 14 also witnessed the efficient SGP collaboration with the GEF Strengthening Protected Area Financing and Management Systems Project in preparing the conference Green Zone at the Peace Park.  3- So far, USD 582,000 is the amount of in-cash and in-kind contributions of grantee organizations implementing the 17 projects that have been approved in the first round. SGP is expected to reach the targeted 2 million USD in grantee co-finance by the time all the grants are committed.  Based on the success of the project, and the strong partnerships and support, SGP has succeeded in obtaining the OP7 endorsement letter from the GEF CEO for the total amount of $2,350,000, thus maintaining the 20% of Egypt’s STAR allocation even though Egypt’s OP7 allocation decreased. This will help the project to continue its activities without a long gap or bridging phase.  Knowledge Management:  A specialized NGO with experience in Knowledge Management and outreach has expressed interest in submitting a project proposal for a stand-alone capacity development project, which is welcomed by the SGP NSC in this phase to highlight Egypt’s experience and success stories in applying the landscape approach.  Two case studies have already been prepared on biodiversity and energy efficiency in urban areas, and more case studies will be prepared to showcase Egypt’s experience. These will be widely disseminated through the policy platforms, SGP NGOs network and partners.  Trainings and meetings are planned before the end of 2019 to facilitate exchange of experience and lessons learned among NGOs in the same landscape as well as among other landscapes.  Gender Mainstreaming:  The Gender Analysis and Action Plan was approved by the NSC in December 2018. Accordingly, the 186 projects submitted to the program in its first call included women’s involvement as primary beneficiaries through capacity building trainings or trainings on handicrafts and environmental products from palm tree waste, or as secondary beneficiaries within projects such as installing biogas units or solar water heaters, etc. Among the 17 approved projects, three NGOs are women-led in the Delta and Upper Egypt Landscapes, and in two of the approved projects, women are the main beneficiaries.  MTR Mission:  The MTR mission was conducted in Egypt during the period 21-25 July, 2019. The Consultant was able to meet with NSC members, SGP partners and stakeholders, in addition to field visits to Fayoum and Upper Egypt Landscapes. The Consultant was able to meet with stakeholders from four landscapes as well as with the UNDP RR and UNDP CO Team. A draft report has been submitted by the consultant in August. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The project is given a MS rating for IP this year given the low delivery rate and MS rating for the DO since the implementation of the community-based projects has not started yet.  During this reporting period, the SGP project team focused on finalizing the pre-requirements for the initiation of the grant mechanism. After completing all documentations, the project team has made a very wide dissemination for the first call of proposals. Accordingly, the NHI has received 186 project proposals which is a record figure since SGP inception in Egypt. The screening of this large number of project proposals has taken a long time, in particular with the limited number of NSC members. Accordingly, the CPM sought the service of a number of external experts to support the NSC in screening the project proposals which were mainly UNDP FSP project team members which further strengthened the linkages between SGP and FSP. The NSC meeting was held on 2 July to approve the first batch of projects, which is beyond this reporting period. Since no grants were disbursed during this reporting period, the project delivery rate for this reporting period is low. The delay in reviewing the projects by the NSC justifies revising the structure of the NSC and increasing number of experts in the GEF focus areas in the committee.  Outcome 1: The project team has finalized the OP6 landscape strategy that has involved several multi-stakeholder consultation meetings in the different landscapes. Based on the outputs of the study, the SGP team widely disseminated the call for proposals.  Outcome 2: 40 out of the received 186 project proposals were addressing BD, IW , LD and MFA proposals while the rest of the projects were targeting CC focus area. This confirms the level of difficulty in developing community based small scale projects in these focus areas while it is easier to develop CC mitigation project proposals. However, almost 25% of the submitted proposals were approved.  Outcome 3: SGP will be able to initiate new partnerships on the engagement in low emission systems through collaboration with FSP CCM projects which are working with a large number of national partners in a diversified scope of CCM technologies and approaches.  Outcome 4: 146 out of the 186 received project proposals (almost 78% of the proposals) were focused on low emissions technologies and climate change mitigation. The proposals covered areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transport, etc. These projects will mostly be cooperating with counterparts FSP.  As usual the CPM was responsive to calls for brainstorming meetings with FSPs that have potential for collaboration with SGP. The meetings were successful and yielded a number of joint project ideas between SGP and FSPs that add value for both projects. During the reporting period, the CPM has provided significant support to the CBD COP that has created large visibility to the GEF SGP and enhanced the UNDP CO and RBAS large contribution to the Egyptian Government in hosting this large event. The CPM was successful in securing the OPF endorsement letter for SGP engagement in GEF 7. The implementation of the approved projects so far will significantly contribute to the project development objective. After analyzing the approved projects, it is recommended that the following call for proposals will focus on the remaining gaps of project ideas in specific landscapes to achieve the targets as per the project document. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Moderately Satisfactory | Moderately Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | This is the second PIR for the Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Egypt and the project is granted a rating of Moderately Satisfactory as the project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings. The current progress shown below, explain why the Regional Technical Advisor (RTA), the project manager, and the UNDP Country Office concur with a MODERATELY SATISFACTORY rating for both Development Objective Progress as well as Implementation Progress.  As indicated in the previous PIR, during its first year of implementation the project experienced a significant delay in the start-up of the project which affected progress towards objectives, also delaying the start-up of activities during this reporting period. Although the Project Document was signed on 24, April 2017, the Inception Workshop was not held until 29 May 2018, due to the delay in the recruitment of the SGP National Coordinator as discussed in last year’s PIR.  During this second reporting period, the project was able to make good progress towards its objective to enable community organizations in Egypt to take collective action for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience, through design, implementation and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development. However, while a considerable amount of project proposals (187) have been received by the project team and reviewed by the technical sub-committees to the NSC and the NSC, the on-the-ground activities are yet to start implementation, contributing to a moderately satisfactory rating for this year’s PIR.  The project is designed to enhance capacity of community organizations for landscape management for socio-ecological resilience through 4 outcomes: 1) Multi-stakeholder partnerships, networks, and landscape policy platforms in Fayoum depression, Upper Nile, Delta and Cairo landscapes, develop and execute adaptive management plans, and support policy development to enhance landscape and community resilience and global environmental benefits; 2) Community-based multifocal projects selected, developed and implemented to bring biodiversity protection, agro-ecological practices, alternative livelihoods, and adoption of successful SGP-supported technologies, strategies, practices/systems to a tipping point in each landscape; 3) Multi-stakeholder partnerships, networks and policy platforms develop and execute adaptive management plans, and support policy development for low-emission urban development; 4) Selection, development and implementation of community-based projects promoting low-emission urban systems and SGP-technologies, supported by stakeholders (private, public, institutions, CSOs).  At the objective level, after the initial delays, the project has progressed to ensure a comprehensive participatory planning process in three targeted rural landscapes; Fayoum, Upper Egypt (Minia, Qena and Luxor Governorates), Delta Landscape (Skarkia, Dakahlia and Kafr El Skeikh governorates), covering an expected area of 45,000 ha by the end of the project, as well as one urban landscape, Greater Cairo.  During the reporting period, four landscape-wide baseline assessment workshops were organized between 28th June 2018 – 26th July 2018 in the Fayoum landscape, in Luxor for the Upper Egypt landscape, in Cairo for the Greater Cairo landscape and finally in Dakahlia for the Delta landscape. Based on these discussions and findings, a comprehensive Landscape Strategy for Building Social, Economic, and Ecological Resilience covering the four target landscapes was developed, along with the Gender Assessment and Action Plan, and approved by the NSC in December 2018. SGP Egypt encouraged a participatory and inclusive approach during the consultations for the development of the landscape strategies in each target landscape. These consultations were key to empower different actors in the preparation and execution of project proposals aligned with national priorities. Based on the typologies of projects suitable to promote landscape outcomes outlined in the strategy, 17 project proposals have been approved by the NSC to date, involving 35 communities in participatory planning and management of the rural and urban target landscapes (target: 20 communities). Six projects have been approved by the NSC in July 2019, which target 16 communities using renewable energy or energy efficiency technologies (target: at least 20).  With regard to Outcome 1, activities are on track although the progress to date is moderately satisfactory. In terms of landscape governance, multi-stakeholder policy platforms (one for each target landscape) have been established but not yet operational with members comprising local governments; local authorities concerned with agriculture, water resources and irrigation; youth; social solidarity groups; the National Council for Women, media representatives; NGOs; academia; the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (Regional Branch Office). The landscape governance concept was entirely new to Egypt, and these platforms will support with monitoring the implementation progress of the landscape strategy in each target landscapes and the community-based projects. As their first meetings are expected to take place by early October 2019, it is too early to assess how these platforms work in the different landscapes.  With regard to outcome 2, progress towards targets is on track although the progress is considered moderately satisfactory. As the first round of small grants was awarded in July 2019, there has been limited time to achieve measurable results among the target landscapes. Out of the 186 project proposals, distributed among the four landscapes and main focal areas, received after the first call issued at the beginning of 2019, 17 community-based projects have been approved by the NSC in the targeted landscapes (target: 30). NGOs are expected to start implementation in the next 1-2 months. Another 15 projects are in the pipeline with NSC approval pending (expected in September 2019). Six projects promoting biodiversity conservation and biodiversity awareness in four PAs (Qaroun, Rayan, Wadi Degla, Petrified Forest PAs) have been approved for implementation, covering 321,100 hectares (total area of PAs; target: 11,000 ha); two of them aim at women’s empowerment by providing them with adequate trainings on traditional handicrafts using palm tree waste to produce environmentally sustainable products. No proposals for improving grazing regimes have been received so far, but SGP Egypt is encouraging suitable NGOs and CBOs to submit respective proposals (target: 10,000 ha) following the next call planned to be issued in October 2019. Five projects have been approved in rural landscapes that will improve sustainability and productivity through agro-ecological practices and systems on about 6,000 hectares (target: 13,000 ha). Should the current trajectory continue, targets will be achieved by project end through additional projects.  Similarly, with regard to outcome 3 and outcome 4, under the component on community-based integrated low-emission urban systems, activities are currently on track despite the initial delay, but it is too early to assess the achievement of the targets in the two target landscapes (Fayoum (rural and urban landscape) & Greater Cairo). During the landscape baseline consultation workshop that took place in Cairo more than 80 stakeholders representatives discussed challenges and opportunities for low-emission initiatives to be implemented in urban areas, building on the lessons learned from previous phases, and focusing on sustainable transport projects, promoting solar energy, rooftop gardens, etc., in order to increase the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies at neighborhood level. Two projects have been approved. One will develop and contribute to the management plan of sustainable transport in Fayoum through the Bike Share project, which will be implemented in full collaboration with the University of Fayoum, Ministry of Environment, and Fayoum Governorate. The other project aims to develop the participatory strategy and management plan for solid waste management in two PAs in Fayoum Landscape; Qaroun and Rayan PAs. Additionally, two strategic projects are targeted to be funded facilitating upscaling of application of renewable energy (solar or biogas technology) and to promote and raise the awareness of local communities on energy efficiency technologies building. The call for strategic project proposals is planned to be issued before the end of 2019, and the project team is encouraged to give priority to this aspect as the strategic projects are called to support overall project implementation.  With respect to knowledge management, two case studies have been prepared. One case study highlights the strategic project titled “Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Supporting National Civil Society Organizations in CBD COP14 and afterwards”. This project was funded in September 2018 to support the engagement of relevant NGOs in the CDB COP14 (held in Egypt, November 2018). Another case study was prepared on promoting the use of LED energy saving bulbs in Fayoum. Additionally, all projects are required to include development of a case study by the end of the project among their activities. These will showcase successful stories and innovative practices, either at the landscape level or thematically, to be disseminated through the multi-stakeholder Platforms, SGP partners, NGO networks, etc. In order to strengthen knowledge management efforts, SGP Egypt is strongly encouraged to develop a knowledge management (KM) strategy and action plan in close coordination with the UNDP Global Coordinator for the SGP UCP and the SGP CPMT Knowledge Management Advisor.  With regard to gender mainstreaming, SGP has been pioneering and highly recognized in mainstreaming gender equality and women’s empowerment in every step of the program cycle. A gender focal point is designated within each SGP National Steering Committee to ensure review of gender considerations in project selection. Gender equality and women’s empowerment is a critical element of SGP efforts in Egypt. A gender analysis and action plan has been finalized and approved in December 2018, with specific recommendations for each target site. During the baseline assessment workshops, the project particularly encouraged participation by women, women’s groups, women-led NGOs, as well as representatives of the National Council for Women, which has been a strong SGP partner for many years. Among the 17 approved projects, three NGOs are women-led in the Delta and Upper Egypt Landscapes. In two of the approved projects, women are the main beneficiaries, as they will target women and girls with special trainings on traditional handicrafts using organic waste to produce environment-friendly products. Furthermore, five projects plan to train and create jobs for youth (men and women) on energy efficiency and renewable energy (solar energy).  IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS (IP)  Implementation Progress is rated as MODERATELY SATISFACTORY, as the previous PIR, concurring with the rating by the UNDP CO, with implementation largely on track although delivery is low and needs improvement.  Cumulative financial delivery continues to be low due to the delayed start up, and the delay in the projects’ approval process, with cumulative disbursement as of June 30 at only USD 365,989 and a cumulative delivery of 12.87% against the total approved amount, and 16.63% against expected delivery by the end of this year, contributing to the Moderately Satisfactory rating for IP for this year. The delivery rate is expected to pick up considerably in the coming months once more community-based projects are approved by the NSC, and activities commence on the ground.  The project has shown good adaptive management through strong inter-institutional coordination in project execution. The project is fully and well supported. Overall, the project is well managed and executed, with an engaged and well-respected project team, and with a functioning project board (SGP National Steering Committee). The NSC is comprised of a majority of members of the civil society, in line with SGP Operational Guidelines. However, as suggested by the UNDP CO, and also reiterated in the ongoing MTR, the NSC would benefit from the incorporation of new members. The project has a very strong partnership approach and stakeholder participation, and good cooperation has been achieved with relevant ministries, including the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Social Solidarity. It is significant that the National Coordinator was appointed by the Minister of Environment as the National Civil Society Focal Point for the COP14 hosted by the Government of Egypt in November 2018, showing a high regard for the project manager, and the SGP Egypt Country Programme overall. The project team is commended for the effort during the COP.  With regard to risk management, the critical risks facing the project are the potential delays in the implementation of the community-based initiatives due to the necessary clearances that the NGOs need to obtain from the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MOSS) in order to start using donor funds. This is an issue that had been carried forward from the last reporting period, and this is being addressed through a collaborative approach between the project management team, the SGP National Steering Committee and the government, with the Minister’s Advisor currently participating in the NSC as one of the NSC members. During the reporting period, the project team ensured that all grantees received no objection by the MOSS. This risk will continue to require further attention and monitoring over the coming months as more SGP projects are approved, in close coordination with the NSC.  FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS:  Overall, the project has made good progress over the reporting period but has to keep the momentum and ensure that activities on the ground starts as soon as possible to produce results.  Moving forward recommended actions to be addressed in close coordination with all partners are as follows: 1) finalize the MTR preparing a management response to be reviewed by the upcoming NSC meeting; 2) Review the composition of the NSC 2) Strengthen the landscape strategies by breaking out the consolidated document into four separate strategies, one for each landscape; 3) Develop terms of reference for the multi-stakeholder governance platforms envisaged for each landscape to be reviewed during their launch meeting in October 4) ensure 100% of grant-making commitment by the next reporting period to allow sufficient time for project implementation on the ground; 5) develop a knowledge management (KM) strategy and action plan in close coordination with the UNDP Global Coordinator for the SGP UCP and the SGP CPMT Knowledge Management Advisor. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** [Updated Gender Assessment and Action Plan. August 7 \_2\_.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5471/214173/1717506/1725911/Updated%20Gender%20Assessment%20and%20Action%20Plan.%20August%207%20_2_.docx) |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| [FINAL FINAL Gender Assessment and Action Plan OP6 -EGYPT.pdf](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5471/214173/1728039/1742360/FINAL%20FINAL%20Gender%20Assessment%20and%20Action%20Plan%20OP6%20-EGYPT.pdf) |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN2:** gender equality as significant objective |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| N/A |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| During the baseline assessment workshops, the project was keen to invite women, women’s groups, women-led NGOs, as well as representatives of the National Council for Women, who has been a strong SGP partner for many years. Gender equality and women’s empowerment have been among the main criteria for project eligibility and selection.  Women-led NGOs have been encouraged to submit project proposals that meet their communities’ needs and contribute to creating sustainable job opportunities that generate sustainable income.  All 186 projects submitted to the program in its first call included women involvement either as primary beneficiaries through capacity building trainings or trainings on handicrafts and environmental products from palm tree wastes, or rooftop planting or as secondary beneficiaries within projects such as biogas units or solar water heaters in households, etc.  Among the 17 approved projects, three NGOs are women-led in the Delta and Upper Egypt Landscapes. This is considered a challenge as in rural areas and upper Egypt activities led by women are a little bit limited in some conservative communities which prefer men as leaders of work.  In two of the approved projects, women are the main beneficiaries, as they will target women and girls with special trainings on traditional handicrafts using wastes from palm trees to produce environment-friendly products. NGOs plan to empower women by assisting them to have their own small-scale businesses, in addition to assisting them in marketing their products to ensure sustainability.  Furthermore, five projects plan to train and create jobs for youth (men and women) on energy efficiency and renewable energy (solar energy).  The project is keen to partner with the National Council for Women, which has local branches in all Egyptian governorates and is willing to provide the necessary assistance and guidance to the community-based initiatives. |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| The project outcomes will be enhanced by the contributions of government and non-government stakeholders representing the interests of the different groups within the target communities in terms of their ability to mobilize the participation of these groups in project-related activities, the awareness raised about the benefits of the interventions and the negative impact of short- term coping strategies that deplete the environment and their livelihoods. Moreover, the Project will contribute to enhancing gender equity in the target communities through the rights-based approach adopted for the discussion of gender issues as well as the capacity development instituted in the NGOs and among the communities. The partnership with local government and NGOs, including women groups, will ensure that the projects are responsive to community needs, and that they build on the comparative advantages found in the landscape. The involvement of the NGOs and women groups in the identification, planning and design phases of GEF supported interventions will mitigate possible backlash from the community. Finally, the Project will contribute to the presentation of a scalable model of community development that is focused on environment while also being gender responsive. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| No |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| N/A |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| N/A |

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| **SESP:** [Annex 1 - SESP-2.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5471/214173/1723574/1734885/Annex%201%20-%20SESP-2.docx)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| [Annex 1 - SESP-2.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5471/214173/1728267/1742748/Annex%201%20-%20SESP-2.docx) |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| N/A |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| N/A |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) enables community organizations in Egypt to take collective actions for adaptive landscape management for socio-ecological resilience, through design, implementation and evaluation of grant projects for global environmental benefits and sustainable development. The project addresses both rural and urban landscapes on the basis that collective action by civil society is required to achieve and maintain socio-ecological resilience. The project is implemented in strategic landscapes in the Delta, Fayoum, Upper Egypt and Greater Cairo. Local organizations and communities are the main vehicles of this project as they are the agents who identify needs, design approaches for collective action, implement interventions and reap the sustainable development benefits.  The SGP strategy for GEF 6 is based on two components: resilient rural landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection; and community-based integrated low-emission urban systems.  All 186 project proposals received in the first call, and then the 17 projects approved so far, are based on real local community needs and aim to improve livelihoods and strengthen resilience of community members. Types of projects aim to apply energy efficiency by providing LED energy saving bulbs to poor families in rural and urban areas through soft monthly installments using the revolving fund mechanism, which increases the number of beneficiaries and ensures sustainability of activities. The four projects on energy efficiency will distribute 34,000 LED saving bulbs. Other projects will provide more than 40 solar water heaters through revolving funds as well. These projects will create job opportunities for at least 100 young men and women. Projects will organize capacity building and awareness raising activities, which will influence their behavior towards their surrounding environment.  Projects will also line approximately 20 km of irrigation canals serving at least 500 small farmers. Those projects build on lessons learned from successful projects implemented in OP5. Lining canals not only prevents land degradation but also conserves energy and irrigation water. This will have positive impacts on land productivity and food security.  Other projects will target women’s empowerment through trainings on traditional handicrafts made from palm trees waste that are usually burnt and lead to air pollution. These activities ensure creating job opportunities for women especially in rural areas, especially where women are the source of income for their families. These projects also plan to increase access to markets. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| Facebook page: GEF Small Grants Programme - Egypt  https://www.facebook.com/WadiDeglaVM/?ref=br\_tf&epa=SEARCH\_BOX  Website: www.gefsgpegypt.org    http://raednetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/jul-2018.pdf    http://raednetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Aug-2018.-1.pdf    http://raednetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Sep-2018.pdf    http://raednetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Dec-2018.pdf |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

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| --- |
| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| Yes |

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| --- |
| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |

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| --- |
| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

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| --- |
| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| Yes |

|  |
| --- |
| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [5471 - Egypt CEO Endorsement request final for resubmission 18 Nov 2016 ....doc](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5471/214173/1692235/1692525/5471%20-%20Egypt%20CEO%20Endorsement%20request%20final%20for%20resubmission%20%2018%20Nov%202016%20....doc) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| NGOs and CBOs are primary partners who receive grants to produce benefits to local sustainable development and the global environment in targeted landscapes: Fayoum, Delta (Dakahlya, Sharkia & Kafr El Sheikh Governorates), Upper Egypt (Minia, Qena & Luxor Governorates) and Greater Cairo (Cairo, Giza & Qalioubya Governorates).  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; potential participant on policy platforms.  There are 18 SGP grantees in OP6 up till now, including one strategic project.  In Egypt, the definition of indigenous peoples is difficult given that the distinction is problematic. In Egypt the focus is primarily on the most vulnerable people. Almost all SGP initiatives are aimed at strengthening the resilience of the most vulnerable communities.  The project is delivered through SGP Egypt. The GEF Small Grants Programme, which is considered an FSP starting this phase, builds on the previous success of SGP projects implemented in previous phases in targeted landscapes. The project is planning technical and financial capacity building activities of SGP grantees to be implemented within the coming two months. Most SGP initiatives will be implemented in coordination with GEF FSPs which are implemented by different ministries.  GEF Full Size Projects:  • Adaptation to Climate Change in the Nile Delta  • Improving Energy Efficiency of Lighting &Building Appliances  • Grid-Connected Small-Scale Photovoltaic Systems (PVs)  • Strengthening Protected Areas Finance & Management Systems  • Egyptian Italian Environmental Cooperation phase III  • Sustainable Transport - Egypt  • Medical and E-waste Management Project  • Biogas Foundation at the Ministry of Environment  • Mainstreaming the conservation & sustainable use of biodiversity into the tourism development & operations in Egypt  Line Ministries  - Ministry of Environment  - Ministry of Foreign Affairs  - Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources  - Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy  - Ministry of Agriculture  - Ministry of Youth  - Ministry of Local Development.  Local governments  Governorates in targeted landscapes  - Greater Cairo: Cairo, Giza & Qalioubya  - Delta: Dakahlya, Sharkia & Kafr El Sheikh  - Fayoum,  - Upper Egypt: Minia, Qena & Luxor,  - District Councils, City Councils, and local authorities.  Most of them participated in baseline assessments and landscape planning processes and are partners in multi-stakeholder partnerships for each landscape.  National agencies  - Regional Branches of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)  - National Council for Women (regional branches)  They provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; primary participant on policy platforms  Academic institutions  - Universities  - Desert Research Center  These scientific institutions provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; and act as potential participants on policy platforms.  International Organizations: active international organizations in Egypt such as  - UNHABITAT – the SGP is discussing a potential partnership with UNHABITAT in urban areas in Greater Cairo landscape as they have already conducted studies on informal settlements and sustainable transport.  - UNWOMEN – the SGP has discussed with them potential partnership in relation to the project’s Gender Assessment and Action Plan. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.