

Evaluation of GEF Food Systems Programs

Approach Paper

June 2024

Introduction

1. A financial mechanism of the UN conventions, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) supports addressing global environmental concerns related to biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, chemicals, and waste. Since its inception in 1991, the GEF multilateral family of funds has provided over USD 25 billion in grants and mobilized USD 138 billion in co-financing for more than 5,700 projects in 170 countries.¹ These grants are implemented through a network of 18 GEF accredited agencies. The GEF receives its funds through a four-year replenishment mechanism.
2. The GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) has a central role in ensuring the independent evaluation function within the GEF partnership. The IEO undertakes independent, higher-than-project level evaluations on the relevance, performance, results, and sustainability of the interventions financed by the GEF. IEO evaluations usually cover portfolios of projects organized by theme, GEF focal area, geography, or country category. IEO also evaluates the policies, processes, institutional and operational mechanisms related to the functioning of the GEF partnership.
3. The IEO is currently undertaking the Eighth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF (also called OPS8) to inform the replenishment process for the GEF-9 period (2026-2030). The Evaluation of GEF Food Systems Programs will be included in OPS8 and presented to the GEF Council in June 2025. This Approach Paper describes the evaluation rationale, objectives, approach, and questions. It serves as a preliminary evaluation framework and will be further developed in a comprehensive design through a scoping process at the start of the evaluation data gathering and analysis phase.

Background

4. Food systems encompass the whole array of activities along the food chain, ranging from the use of agricultural inputs such as germplasm and agrichemicals, through harvesting, storing, processing,

¹ The family of funds includes the GEF Trust Fund, [Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#) (GBFF), [Least Developed Countries Fund](#) (LDCF), [Special Climate Change Fund](#) (SCCF), [Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund](#) (NPIF), and [Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency Trust Fund](#) (CBIT).

packaging, distributing and retailing food, to consuming food and generation of food waste. Food systems are intricately dependent on natural capital at every stage of agricultural production, and downstream operations along the agricultural value chains. Food systems are also dependent on rich socio-cultural capital held in form of knowledge and skills of diverse players, particularly rural and indigenous people -the original custodians of biodiversity which sustains the food systems.

5. Food systems significantly impact various facets of our world, including global health, food security and nutrition, as well as economic and social development, and, importantly, the environment we all live in. In fact, food systems are major drivers of global forest and biodiversity loss, land degradation, water pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. As the world's population nears eight billion people and continues to grow, pressure is building on increasing efficiency and sustainability in food production, processing, transportation, consumption, and reducing food loss and waste.

6. Acknowledging the urgency to address this reality, on the second day of the UN climate summit (COP 28) held in December 2023 in Dubai, more than 160 countries and territories signed up to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) "[Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems and Climate Action](#)", which highlights the critical link between food systems and climate action with a call to "scale regenerative agriculture, transitioning 160 million hectares to regenerative agriculture by 2030, accompanied by USD\$2.2 billion in future investment, and engaging 3.6 million farmers world-wide."

7. UNFCCC is not the only international environmental convention that calls for attention on food systems. The Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) plays a crucial role in this discussion too. Its Targets 10 and 18 specifically focus on food systems by promoting biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices and sustainable financing mechanisms. The UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) emphasizes Sustainable Land Management (SLM) as an important side of the equation, as healthy land is the cornerstone of resilient food production systems.

8. Food systems have traditionally focused on productivity. The upsurge in the production of calorie-rich staples achieved over the last decades successfully averted the widespread hunger and famine anticipated across much of the developing world during the 1960s and 1970s. In Asia, a "Green Revolution" fundamentally reshaped food systems by introducing high-yielding crop varieties, extensive use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and enhanced irrigation methods. Agricultural subsidies provided farmers with fertilizers and pesticides accompanied by technical support during the Green Revolution and brought millions of people out of poverty. Nonetheless, subsidizing intensive use of agrochemicals also gave rise to environmental degradation through intensified, linear cultivation practices and unaccounted negative externalities that impact the natural capital - land, water, air, ecosystem services and biodiversity, sparking continued debates on the need for sustainable agricultural practices. In recent literature, there has been a growing recognition of the environmental consequences stemming from the perpetuation of conventional agricultural approaches, along with discussions on potential pathways for a future that includes a widespread adoption of agroecology and food sovereignty principles ([Holt-Giménez, Altieri, 2013](#)).

9. Climate change is adversely affecting food systems. While agriculture is highly vulnerable to climate change, it is also a major contributor to the problem. Food systems account for one-third of the total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions ([Crippa, 2021](#)). They also contribute significantly to global freshwater withdrawals and involve substantial conversion and degradation processes ([FAO & WHO, 2019](#)). Excessive use of fossil-based chemicals in agriculture is amplifying the impact on biodiversity and

key ecosystem services like pollination, nitrogen cycling, carbon storage and resistance to drought.² Notably, a growing share of GHG emissions occurs off-farm, particularly in pre- and post-production stages ([Tubiello et al., 2022](#)).

10. Food systems and climate change also serve as key determinants of health and nutritional outcomes. They do so by influencing food availability, affordability, quality, and consumption patterns. Climate change is expected to reduce global food availability by 3.2%, fruit and vegetable consumption by 4.0%, and red meat consumption by 0.7%, which can lead to an additional 529,000 deaths ([Springmann et al., 2016](#)). Volatile food prices and low purchasing power limit vulnerable populations from accessing adequate food, putting them at risk of undernutrition ([Myers et al., 2017](#)). Elevated CO₂ levels influence plant carbon and nitrogen metabolism ([Fu et al., 2022](#)) establishing a link between climate change and nutrition. Protein and micronutrients of crops are expected to decline, leading to 148.4 million people at risk of protein deficiency ([Medek, Schwartz, & Myers, 2017](#)) and 138 million people at risk of zinc deficiency by 2050 ([Myers et al., 2015](#)). Increased temperatures will lead to the proliferation of pests, pathogens, and toxic substances in food products (e.g., aflatoxins) with an added risk of morbidity and mortality ([Smith et al., 2017](#)).

11. Research has been expanding on what a food systems intervention should entail to be transformative. A food systems intervention should involve a systems change approach that disrupts repeated patterns to lead to different outcomes and outputs ([Bina & Chulvilieva, 2024](#)). For such a result, the right pattern must be identified with an equally strong intervention. For example, there are large power imbalances in the food systems space. An intervention to disrupt this imbalance could focus on giving more autonomy to smallholder farmers and utilizing participatory methods in the intervention design. Ultimately, facilitating food systems transformation will require approaches that expect and allow for changing dynamics ([O'Malley & Friling, 2024](#)).

GEF support to food systems

12. Over the last three replenishment periods, the GEF has advocated in its Programming Directions the need for a radical transformation of global food systems, affirming that the achievement of this transition will require a holistic, system-wide approach that integrates both horizontal (land and natural resources) and vertical (food value and supply chain) dimensions, and includes consideration of women's role in health and nutrition.³ This approach was first tested and then fully introduced through a series of dedicated food system programs from GEF-6 onwards. In GEF-6, the GEF started focusing specifically on food systems with two programs: the [Resilient Food Systems](#) (RFS) and the [Good Growth Partnership](#) (GGP) Integrated Approach Pilots (IAPs). A separate, yet similar program, the [Coastal Fisheries Initiative](#) (CFI), was also developed in GEF-6 to improve the management and sustainability of artisanal coastal fisheries of global importance in Indonesia, Ecuador and Peru in Latin America, and in Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal in West Africa.

13. GEF-6 integrated programming support to food systems increased significantly in GEF-7 with the more ambitious and globally focused [Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program](#) (FOLUR),

² Zhang, W., Ricketts, T. H., Kremen, C., Carney, K. & Swinton, S. M. Ecosystem services and dis-services to agriculture. *Ecol. Econ.* 64, 253–260 (2007).

³ The GEF-6 Programming Directions recognize that women are primarily responsible for food consumption choices and family health on top of their roles in agriculture.

and in GEF-8 with the [Food Systems Integrated Program \(FSIP\)](#), approved by the GEF Council in February 2024. Through these programs, the GEF has used an integrated approach to tackle the drivers of environmental degradation on both agriculture and food systems,⁴ addressing both production landscapes and supply chains.

14. GEF-6 and GEF-7 programs have several traits in common, including targeted geographies, large budgets, and extended coalitions of GEF and non-GEF implementing partners. The RFS, a five-year multi-agency programmatic approach (2017-2022) financed with USD 106 million in GEF funds, has focused on fostering sustainability and resilience for food security in the drylands of sub-Saharan Africa. Led by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), RFS has tackled major drivers of environmental degradation, proposing a holistic approach fostering agricultural productivity in smallholder systems. Led by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with a USD 40 million funding envelope over the same period of the RFS, GGP has focused on taking deforestation out of commodity supply chains. CFI, a USD 72 million investment led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), had the objective of delivering environmental, social, and economic benefits to local communities by supporting better governance of small-scale coastal fisheries. The program took a holistic approach to governance by combining fisheries management and value chain structures and incentives. FOLUR, a USD 340 million investment, seven-year initiative currently ongoing led by the World Bank, is further broadening the GEF's engagement in global food systems. FOLUR targets major commodities and food crops selected for their potential to transform food systems at regional and global scales while securing at the same time global environmental benefits related to climate change, biodiversity, and other areas across multiple geographies. Seeking to transform food and land use systems, FOLUR consists of a global knowledge platform and 27 country projects. Country-level work focuses on accelerating action in landscapes and value chains for eight major commodities, including livestock, cocoa, coffee, maize, palm oil, rice, soy, and wheat.

15. Together, GEF-6 and GEF-7 investments in these programs have amounted to more than USD 525 million in GEF grants and an additional USD 4.5 billion in co-financing from diverse sources. The initiatives involve more than 50 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America, covering production systems and supply chains for major agricultural commodities and global food staples. Beyond this programmatic support, the GEF has invested in an additional 21 standalone food systems projects (USD 120 million), most of which are in GEF-7 and GEF-8 and focus on food security and climate resilient livelihoods in SIDS.

16. The GEF-8 strategy regarding food systems was designed to build on such previous experiences through the Food Systems Integrated Program. FSIP represents a response to the GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) indication of sustainable food systems and resource use (including land,

⁴ Distinctions and overlaps exist between agriculture and food systems. Agriculture primarily focuses on the cultivation of crops and raising animals for food, fiber, and other products. It encompasses activities such as soil management, planting, harvesting, and livestock management, aiming to produce raw materials efficiently and sustainably. Food Systems encompass the entire range of activities involved in feeding a population, including agriculture, but also extending to food processing, distribution, marketing, consumption, and waste management. The objectives of food systems are broader, aiming to ensure food security, nutrition, economic viability, and environmental sustainability. This involves managing the journey of food from farms to tables, ensuring that food is accessible, nutritious, and sustainably produced.

water, and oceans) as the first of six key areas or entry points for transformation ([STAP, 2023](#)). The second largest program approved in the GEF’s programming cycle for 2022-2026 (USD 281 million in GEF grants and USD 2.2 billion co-financing, involving 32 countries), FSIP aims to advance approaches that drive greater sustainability in food production and global demand to reduce agriculture’s environmental footprint in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, freshwater use, nutrient pollution, and habitat disturbance.

Available evaluative evidence

17. Since their introduction in GEF-6, GEF integrated programs have been subject to several evaluations. These include two IAPs/IPs formative evaluations (GEF IEO, [2017](#) and [2020](#)); the RFS IAP’s Terminal Evaluation (TE); and the GEF Private Sector Engagement Evaluation.⁵ The 2017 Formative IAP Review concluded that IAPs enabled addressing the objectives of multiple conventions while allowing participating countries to address national environmental priorities. It also found that a wide variety of IAP indicators hindered aggregation of program level results, and that involvement of several agencies and institutions in IAPs added to the programs’ organizational complexity. In fact, IAPs suffered from insufficient clarity in terms of rules of engagement between agencies, transparency of selection processes, and clarity on the role of the GEF Secretariat. The review recommended assessing the value addition of the IAPs’ knowledge platforms, and to standardize the indicators and metrics across the IAPs to demonstrate the program value addition.

18. The 2020 Formative Evaluation of the GEF Integrated Approach to Address the Drivers of Environmental Degradation confirmed that integrated programming addresses the objectives of conventions covering climate change, biodiversity, and land degradation, without hindering countries from reporting to those conventions, and largely targeting relevant geographies ([Sidman, Carugi, 2023](#)). It noted that GEF-7 impact programs are better designed compared to GEF-6 IAPs: they have more robust theories of change, systems thinking, and coherence between child projects and parent programs. Program- and project-level self-reporting showed IAPs made some progress toward global environmental benefits, more so for RFS projects (77 percent) than GGP projects (40 percent) but monitoring and reporting on program results remain problematic. The IAP knowledge platforms—a key feature of the GEF integrated approach—have suffered from insufficient budget allocations and low priority among the child projects that they were meant to benefit. To make the ongoing efforts in aggregate program-level reporting effective, the evaluation recommended to the GEF Secretariat to clarify program-level reporting requirements for Lead Agencies. It also recommended to demonstrate the value addition of a programmatic approach to integration, and to include LDCs and SIDS in future programs. At design, coordination projects should be designed before child projects to ensure value addition from the start. In implementation, lead Agencies should undertake activities to support systems-oriented adaptive management. And in design and implementation, the operational responsibilities for working with private sector entities involved in value chains on multinational, national, and subnational scales should be clarified among lead Agencies, the GEF Secretariat, and other Agencies.

19. The RFS IAP TE found that the program applied common concepts and theories of change across country and hub projects, but also had critical design gaps (including on M&E) that affected coherence

⁵ At the time of this writing, the RFS IAP TE and the Private Sector Engagement Evaluation are being finalized.

and ultimately the aggregate performance of the program. It also found that value chain support was less prominent in most child projects, but successfully implemented in at least one third of them. In the other projects only parts of the chains were covered. More generally, private sector engagement in RFS was relatively limited. According to the TE, programmatic value addition originated from the country and hub projects' similar objectives and components, their integrated, multi-scale approach, substantial amounts of co-finance, and through extensive interactions across child projects and hub agencies during implementation. The program's knowledge management, learning and capacity building activities across child projects and the hub project contributed to value addition. Direct technical support to child projects by the hub project technical agencies was limited due to the lack of dedicated funding. Among the emerging lessons to note from the evaluation, future initiatives should ensure that program and project M&E move beyond simple output results to assess quality and sustainability.

20. The ongoing GEF IEO's Private Sector Engagement Evaluation, which will be presented to the GEF Council in December this year, is finding that the GGP fell short of engaging the private sector to achieve measurable impact towards the overall program objective of ensuring that the private sector produces more deforestation-free commodities. The GGP's engagement with the private sector focused on productivity training for farmers, awareness raising for financial institutions, investment in companies, and activities to influence demand, but these interventions did not fully consider the leverage and strategies that would encourage the private sector to avoid deforestation impact. The GGP's goal of increasing deforestation-free commodities is ambitious, and some aspects could not be achieved within the four-year GEF time horizon. GEF Agencies struggled to coordinate between child projects as they had different start times and therefore could not easily be sequenced and the metrics for each child project did not reference other child projects. Emerging lessons include increasing the frequency and intensity of GEF direct engagement with the private sector; maximize private sector expertise, financing, and innovation at design; GEF Agencies to develop new competencies and systems; and rethink objectives over the four-year time horizons, greater integration and modifying metrics.

21. A summary of recommendations and emerging lessons from these evaluations follows below.

Evaluation Topic	2017 IAP Formative Review	2020 IP Formative Evaluation	2024 RFS IAP Terminal Evaluation	2024 Private Sector Evaluation (GGP IAP)
M&E	Standardize indicators and metrics	Clarify program level reporting requirements for Lead Agencies	Move beyond simple output results to assess quality, sustainability	Track USD and volumes of products influenced by private sector actors
Value addition	Assess knowledge platforms	Demonstrate integrated program value addition		
Targeting		Include LDCs and SIDS in future programs		
Private sector				Engage directly, develop competencies
Project cycle				Sequence interventions over multiple cycles

Purpose and objectives

22. The purpose of the GEF Food Systems Programs Evaluation is to inform future GEF programming with evaluative evidence on GEF's integrated programs on food systems.

23. The main evaluation objective is to assess the extent to which GEF integrated programming applies a comprehensive system approach to its food systems interventions. The evaluation will consider the extent to which GEF food system programs and child projects address the root causes and the downstream effects of the environmental, health and nutrition problems originating from the upstream decisions and actions taken in targeted food systems, including related key interactions (e.g., global markets, politically unstable relationships, public and private actors, sectoral policies' incoherences, among others).

24. The second objective is to provide independent, field verified evidence on what works and why in completed GEF food systems integrated programs. The evaluation will conduct ground truthing of GEF-6 programs' results through qualitative methods, complementing available geospatial mapping and area-based indicators evidence reported in terminal evaluations, in the 2020 Formative Evaluation, as well as other relevant IEO evaluations such as the Drylands SCCE ([GEF IEO, 2024](#)), to highlight how these integrated programs achieved results.

25. A third objective is to assess the food systems programs' value addition versus the resources needed to implement them. The evaluation will examine the merits of these programs' transformation potential versus their institutional and operational complexity (in terms of governance, processes, oversight, and management).

Questions

26. Based on the above evaluation purpose and objectives, the Food Systems Evaluation will seek to answer the following questions organized by area of enquiry:

Design

- To what extent do GEF food systems interventions' theories of change apply an approach that considers the environmental footprint of targeted food systems, and encompasses all the parts of the system, from production, storing, processing, transporting, and marketing, to consumption, health, and nutrition?
- How do GEF-8 food systems interventions build on and learn from previous GEF-6 and GEF-7 interventions?
- To what extent did the GEF food systems interventions consider gender and inclusion at design?

Relevance and coherence

- To what extent have GEF food systems interventions been aligned with countries' priorities and needs in the agriculture, livestock, and fishery sectors?
- To what extent have GEF food systems interventions interacted with similar government- and/or donor-funded activities in participating countries?

- To what extent are GEF food systems interventions either contributing to or hindering in-country policy coherence, particularly in the case of agricultural subsidies?

Performance and results

- To what extent have GEF-6 food systems interventions been effective in producing targeted global environmental and socioeconomic benefits, including those food system-related environmental benefits beyond production and food security in the targeted food chains?
- To what extent have GEF's food systems interventions considered the role of women in determining food consumption behaviors, nutritional contents, and health outcomes?
- How has the private sector engagement with GEF food systems interventions evolved from GEF-6 to date, and with what results in relation to Global Environmental Benefit outcomes?

Value addition

- Did the GEF food systems programs' value added, transformational and/or catalytic potential outweigh the time and costs needed for their coordination, oversight, M&E, and management, and if so, to what extent?
- What is the additionality of these programs over separately designed project interventions?
- How have individual child projects benefitted from the broader knowledge exchange?

Efficiency

- To what extent are GEF food system program's processes and governance (selection of countries, Agency participation, resourcing, clarity on roles, transparency, etc.) efficient and equitable?

Scope

27. The GEF Food Systems Programs Evaluation will selectively focus on GEF food system related programmatic interventions from GEF-6 to date, namely GEF-6 RFS IAP, GGP IAP and CFI; GEF-7 FOLUR; and GEF-8 FSIP. Standalone food system projects will be covered for comparative purposes.⁶ FSIP will be covered through a formative approach as it has just been approved, in February 2024. The evaluation portfolio is annexed to this approach paper.

Methods

28. The GEF Food Systems Programs Evaluation will apply a mixed-methods approach, combining document reviews, quality at entry reviews, portfolio and timeline analyses, electronic surveys, and interviews with key informants, using complementary quantitative and qualitative analytic approaches. A detailed evaluation matrix will be prepared as part of the evaluation design.

29. The evaluation will draw on and systematically triangulate multiple sources of information, including available evaluative evidence, IEO validated TE ratings, reviews of project and program

⁶ Eighteen GEF-7 – GEF-8 standalone food system projects have been identified by searching the keyword “food systems” in GEF-6 – GEF-8 project titles, objective and/or components on the GEF Portal. Four more projects suggested by the GEF Secretariat bring the standalone cohort to 21 projects (Annex 1).

documents (including specific annual reports and additional thematic reports), country and/or site visits, and information collected during grey literature research conducted in the early stages of the evaluation design to gain state-of-the-art knowledge on food systems.

30. The evaluation will identify three to four countries to analyze food system projects in greater depth. Selected countries and projects will reflect variety in GEF Agency, implementation status, intervention focus and activities, as well as presence of both GEF-6 and GEF-7 child projects, with possibly any eventual GEF-8 FSIP project concepts already developed and approved. Initial candidate countries include Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Tanzania, Peru and Indonesia, as all of them have either an RFS or GGP IAP, or CFI completed child project and an ongoing FOLUR project. Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, Peru and Indonesia also participate in GEF-8 FSIP.

Limitations

31. The main data limitation is the relative immaturity and consequent lack of information on outcomes of GEF-7 and GEF-8 interventions due to the fact that projects are still being developed or just starting implementation. In terms of individual projects and programs, the evaluation will assess completed GEF-6 projects, while many GEF-7 activities will still be under way and GEF-8 activities will be mostly at either design stage or at an early stage of implementation. Those projects that are at an early design stage or have just started being implemented will mainly be assessed in terms of the quality of their design. The evaluation will report on these as well as any other data limitations that may emerge during the conduct of the evaluation, the measures taken to address or mitigate them, and ensure that the evaluation findings take appropriate account of these.

Audience and Stakeholder Engagement

32. Regular stakeholder interaction will be sought with the GEF Secretariat, relevant GEF Agencies, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP), relevant country Operational Focal Points (OFPs) and other national stakeholders and key informants during country studies to enhance the evaluation process. This will include consultation and outreach while the evaluation is under way, and dissemination and outreach once the evaluation is complete. During evaluation preparation, the team will solicit feedback and comments from stakeholders to improve the evaluation's accuracy and relevance. An added benefit to engaging stakeholders during the evaluation process is stimulating interest in the evaluation results. The principles of transparency and participation will guide this process. Such stakeholder interaction will contribute important information and qualitative data to supplement quantitative data, interviews, case studies, and other research.

Process, Deliverables and Dissemination

33. The GEF Food Systems Programs Evaluation is being conducted between January 2024 and June 2025. An initial work plan is presented below. The work plan will be revised and fine-tuned as part of further preparations. The evaluation report will be presented to the GEF Council in June 2025.

Task	Year Month	2024												2025					
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Design																			
Grey literature review and portfolio data gathering		x	x	x	x														
Approach paper shared with GEF stakeholders						x													
Finalization of the evaluation design						x	x												
Data gathering and analyses																			
Desk reviews and portfolio analyses							x	x	x	x									
Quality at entry analysis									x	x									
Country case studies										x	x	x	x						
Triangulation brainstorming and early findings																x			
Gap filling																x	x		
Report writing																			
Draft report																	x	x	
Due diligence (gathering feedback and comments)																	x	x	
Final report																		x	x
Presentation to the GEF Council																			x
Dissemination and outreach																			x

Resources

34. This evaluation will be conducted by a team led by a Senior Evaluation Officer from the IEO with oversight from the Director of the IEO. The team will include one IEO Evaluation Officer for health and nutrition related tasks and one IEO research assistant. The evaluation team will be supplemented by one externally contracted evaluation analyst to help with desk reviews and portfolio analyses and by international and national consultants for field verifications in case study countries, interviews, and other evaluation tasks. The evaluation will benefit from these consultants’ skills and expertise in food systems as well as their extensive knowledge of context and issues at hand in the case study countries. Beyond food systems expertise, the required skills mix includes practical, policy, and/or academic expertise in key GEF focal areas of the projects and programs under analysis (land degradation, climate change adaptation, biodiversity, among others), agriculture, livestock and fishery expertise, evaluation experience and knowledge of external information sources that are relevant to GEF activities in the case study countries.

35. An external reviewer, Dr. Neeraja Havaligi, Inclusive Excellence Fellow at the Environmental Sciences Faculty of Oregon State University, has quality assured this approach paper and will quality assure the draft and final report.

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Annex I: Food Systems Evaluation Portfolio

Food Systems Child Projects from GEF-6 to GEF-8

ID	Title	Countries	Focal Areas	Agency	GEF Grant	Cofinancing	Funding	GEF Period	Program	Public Project Status
9124	Coastal Fisheries Initiative- Latin America	Regional, Ecuador	Multi	UNDP	6,588,991	65,562,889	GET	GEF - 6	CFI-child	Project Implemented
9125	The Coastal Fisheries Initiative Challenge Fund: Enabling Sustainable Private Sector Investment in Fisheries (CFI-CF)	Global	IW	World Bank	7,873,394	33,000,000	GET	GEF - 6	CFI-child	Project Implemented
9126	Delivering Sustainable Environmental, Social and Economic Benefits in West Africa through Good Governance, Correct Incentives and Innovation	Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Global	Multi	FAO	6,433,027	45,551,500	GET	GEF - 6	CFI-child	Under Implementation
9128	The Coastal Fisheries Initiatives Global Partnership	Global	IW	FAO	2,652,294	11,850,000	GET	GEF - 6	CFI-child	Under Implementation
9129	Eco-system Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in Eastern Indonesia (Fisheries Management Area (FMA)- 715, 717 & 718)	Indonesia	Multi	WWF-US	10,183,486	52,071,783	GET	GEF - 6	CFI-child	Under Implementation
9132	Food-IAP: Reversing Land Degradation Trends and Increasing Food Security in Degraded Ecosystems of Semi-arid Areas of Central Tanzania	Tanzania	Multi	IFAD	7,155,963	52,961,800	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9133	Food-IAP: Climate-Smart Agriculture for Climate-Resilient Livelihoods (CSARL)	Eswatini	Multi	IFAD	7,211,009	48,000,000	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9134	Food-IAP: Agricultural Value Chains Resilience Support Project (PARFA)	Senegal	Multi	IFAD	7,219,450	28,544,133	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Financially Closed
9135	Food-IAP: Integrated Landscape Management to Enhance Food Security and Ecosystem Resilience	Ethiopia	Multi	UNDP	10,239,450	144,965,431	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Project Implemented
9136	Niger: Food-IAP: Family Farming Development Programme (ProDAF)	Niger	Multi	IFAD	7,636,422	60,320,000	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9137	Food-IAP: Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for Food Security in Karamoja Sub Region	Uganda	Multi	UNDP	7,139,450	58,000,000	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9138	Food-IAP: Enhancing the Resilience of Agro-Ecological Systems (ERASP)	Malawi	Multi	IFAD	7,155,963	87,397,000	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9139	Food-IAP: Establishment of the Upper Tana Nairobi Water Fund (UTNWF)	Kenya	Multi	IFAD	7,201,835	61,050,330	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Financially Closed
9140	Food-IAP: Cross Cutting Capacity Building, Knowledge Services and Coordination Project for the Food Security Integrated Approach Pilot Program	Regional	Multi	IFAD	10,825,688	85,057,850	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9141	GEF-IAP-Participatory Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Project in the North, Centre-North and East Regions (Neer Tamba project)	Burkina Faso	Multi	IFAD	7,269,448	35,900,000	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9143	Food-IAP: Integrated Landscape Management to Enhance Food Security and Ecosystem Resilience in Nigeria	Nigeria	Multi	UNDP	7,139,450	57,000,000	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Project Implemented
9178	Food-IAP: Support for Sustainable Food Production and Enhancement of Food Security and Climate Resilience in Burundi's Highlands	Burundi	Multi	FAO	7,396,330	45,050,728	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Under Implementation
9179	Adaptive Management and Learning for the Commodities IAP	Global	Multi	UNDP	3,978,441	5,266,887	GET	GEF - 6	GGP-child	Project Implemented
9180	Reducing Deforestation from Commodity Production	Global	Multi	UNDP	14,584,403	164,700,268	GET	GEF - 6	GGP-child	Project Implemented

9182	Commodities-IAP: Generating Responsible Demand for Reduced-Deforestation Commodities	Global	Multi	WWF-US	8,748,060	42,334,902	GET	GEF - 6	GGP-child	Financially Closed
9340	Food-IAP: Sustainable Land and Water Management Project, Second Additional Financing	Ghana	Multi	World Bank	12,768,832	22,000,000	GET	GEF - 6	RFS- child	Financially Closed
9617	Taking Deforestation Out of the Soy Supply Chain	Brazil	Multi	UNDP	6,600,000	28,204,678	GET	GEF - 6	GGP-child	Financially Closed
9696	Enabling Transactions - Market Shift to Deforestation Free Beef, Palm Oil and Soy	Global	Multi	World Bank	6,405,101	22,958,419	GET	GEF - 6	GGP-child	Project Implemented
10232	Reducing deforestation from palm oil and cocoa value chains	Liberia	Multi	CI	7,139,450	66,999,065	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10237	Integrated Landscape Management of Heart of Borneo Landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak	Malaysia	Multi	UNDP	7,368,807	65,113,144	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10238	Strengthening Sustainability in Commodity and Food-Crop Value Chains, Land Restoration and Land Use Governance through Integrated Landscape Management for Multiple Benefits in Indonesia	Indonesia	Multi	UNDP	16,213,762	132,510,462	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10239	Establishing System for Sustainable Integrated Land-use Planning Across New Britain Island in Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea	Multi	UNDP	10,709,174	50,566,514	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10243	Preventing forest loss, promoting restoration and integrating sustainability into Ethiopia's coffee supply chains and food systems	Ethiopia	Multi	UNDP	20,342,202	208,478,969	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10245	Integrated Sustainable Landscape Management in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam	Viet Nam	Multi	FAO	5,354,587	77,950,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10246	Innovative transformation of China's food production systems and agroecological landscapes	China	Multi	FAO	13,461,468	402,190,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10247	Scaling up Cocoa-based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration / Transformative Innovations in Cote d'Ivoire (SCOLUR-CI)	Cote d'Ivoire	Multi	FAO	5,354,587	65,231,987	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10262	Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration in Tanzania's Forest Landscapes	Tanzania	Multi	WWF-US	7,368,808	72,686,863	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10263	Promoting sustainable landscapes in the Motagua River watershed	Guatemala	Multi	UNDP	11,162,802	60,017,006	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10264	Promoting sustainable livestock management and ecosystem conservation in Northern Ukraine	Ukraine	Multi	UNDP	6,756,000	67,385,366	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10265	Promotion of sustainable food systems and improved ecosystems services in Northern Kazakhstan Landscape	Kazakhstan	Multi	UNDP	10,467,000	132,307,166	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10268	Inclusive Sustainable Rice Landscapes in Thailand	Thailand	Multi	UNEP	5,535,963	67,300,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10306	FOLUR Global Knowledge to Action Platform to Support Transformational Shifts In Food and Land Use Systems	Global	Multi	World Bank	29,128,440	44,500,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10307	Deforestation Free Commodity Supply Chains in the Peruvian Amazon	Peru	Multi	UNDP	13,561,467	112,149,960	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10348	Landscape Restoration and Ecosystem Management for Sustainable Food Systems	Ghana	Multi	World Bank	12,756,881	129,500,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10463	Promoting integrated landscape management approach for conservation of the Mount Elgon ecosystem in Eastern Uganda	Uganda	Multi	UNEP	9,433,027	82,014,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10464	Paraguay FOLUR	Paraguay	Multi	UNEP	8,189,450	47,568,002	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation

10468	Sustainable Multiple Use Landscape Consortia-Vertentes Project	Brazil	Multi	World Bank	24,577,982	172,000,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10480	Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems in India through Transforming Rice-Wheat Systems in Punjab, Haryana, Odisha and Chhattisgarh	India	Multi	FAO	20,366,973	378,685,207	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10481	Promoting Integrated Landscape Management and Sustainable Food Systems in the Niger Delta Region in Nigeria	Nigeria	Multi	FAO	5,354,590	67,739,549	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10594	Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project	Burundi	Multi	World Bank	6,000,000	31,000,000	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10598	Integrated Landscape Management for conservation and restoration of the Mt. Elgon Ecosystem in Western Kenya	Kenya	Multi	FAO	5,354,587	46,506,320	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10599	Transforming Food Systems and Reducing Deforestation in the Protected Areas and Biological Corridors landscapes from the Southern Caribbean Coast and San Juan River autonomous region	Nicaragua	Multi	FAO	5,354,587	44,690,934	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10600	Integrated management of degraded landscapes for sustainable food systems and livelihoods in Guinea Forest Region and Upper Guinea	Guinea	Multi	FAO	9,498,165	43,395,420	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10601	Food System, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program in Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan	Multi	FAO	5,992,661	72,754,400	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10735	Connecting Watershed Health with Sustainable Livestock and Agroforestry Production	Mexico	Multi	World Bank	13,761,468	99,013,829	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	Under Implementation
10750	Integrated Landscape Management for a zero-deforestation coffee and rice value chains in the Central South and Eastern coast of Madagascar	Madagascar	Multi	FAO	9,874,117	28,884,587	GET	GEF - 7	FOLUR-child	CEO Endorsement Cleared
11215	Global Coordination Project	Global	Multi	FAO	18,232,110	200,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11216	Integrated land and water management for food, water and climate security in the dairy food system,	Kenya	Multi	IFAD	7,139,450	120,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11217	Sustainable food systems for greater resilience and food & nutrition security in Benin	Benin	Multi	FAO	5,966,207	20,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11218	Child Project Food Systems Integrated Programme	Costa Rica	Multi	UNDP	5,843,883	31,100,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11219	Sustainable Livestock in the forest region of the Argentine Parque Chaqueño through Forest Management with Integrated Livestock (MBGI)	Argentina	Multi	FAO	4,742,966	35,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11220	Scaling-up regenerative practices for the recovery and improvements of soils, biodiversity, and associated ecosystem services in the Chilean agricultural sector	Chile	Multi	FAO	5,966,207	30,120,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11221	Regenerative livestock farming to promote sustainable landscapes	Peru	Multi	FAO	13,155,659	100,400,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11222	Promoting Nature Positive Food Systems in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	Multi	IUCN	10,709,174	65,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11223	Productive and Sustainable Food Systems in Bhutan for Environmental Benefits and Gross National Happiness	Bhutan	Multi	FAO	9,585,933	49,540,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11224	Integrated production of rice and secondary crops using an agroecological approach in the Tandjilé province	Chad	Multi	UNDP	3,825,535	23,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared

11225	Ecological and Low-Carbon Food Systems in China	China	Multi	FAO	18,048,622	140,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11226	Catalyzing transformation to sustainable food systems in Eswatini	Eswatini	Multi	FAO	3,519,725	31,544,500	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11227	Catalyzing sustainable aquaculture systems for South Africa	South Africa	Multi	FAO	4,742,965	30,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11228	Transforming Andhra Pradesh aquaculture to a sustainable, reduced footprint and climate resilient food system	India	Multi	FAO	13,155,657	224,198,657	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11229	Sustainable Livestock Production to Support Resilient Food Systems, Environment and Rural Livelihoods in Indonesia	Indonesia	Multi	FAO	14,378,897	150,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11230	Food Systems Transformation in Usangu Landscape	Tanzania	Multi	FAO	836,290	85,250,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11231	Sustainable and regenerative management of rice production in Pakistan	Pakistan	Multi	FAO	6,894,801	30,500,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11232	Revitalizing and transforming Solomon Islands' food system through sustainable agriculture and livestock production for enhanced environmental and community benefits.	Solomon Islands	Multi	FAO	4,742,966	15,500,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11233	Sustainable, regenerative and resilient rice-based food systems to strengthen community and ecosystem health in three river basins of Sri Lanka ¹	Sri Lanka	Multi	FAO	4,742,965	21,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11234	Increasing the sustainability and resilience of agriculture/food system through nature-based solutions	Turkey	Multi	FAO	4,804,128	30,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11235	Participatory Agriculture and Climate Transformation Programme	Ethiopia	Multi	IFAD	9,585,933	78,200,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11236	Transformation to sustainable crops, livestock and aquaculture food systems in Nigeria	Nigeria	Multi	FAO	7,139,450	61,200,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11237	Transforming Agricultural Landscapes in Island Ecosystems and Key Biodiversity Areas towards Sustainable Food Systems and Climate Resilient Communities	Philippines	Multi	FAO	9,581,028	73,219,350	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11367	Sustainable Agriculture and Plantations in Peatland Landscapes in Malaysia (SAPPLIM)	Malaysia	Multi	IFAD	5,354,588	20,500,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11368	Transforming Nauru's Food Systems through Climate Smart Agriculture	Nauru	Multi	UNDP	5,916,207	24,250,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11369	Promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through regenerative and deforestation-free livestock in provinces of Manabí, Pichincha and Morona-Santiago.	Ecuador	Multi	FAO	2,346,481	4,800,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11370	Sustainable aquaculture in the northern region of Angola	Angola	Multi	FAO	3,441,306	30,500,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared

11371	Circular Integrated Aquaculture-Horticulture Systems for Climate Resilience in Namibia (NamiGreen)	Namibia	Multi	UNDP	7,445,260	51,700,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11372	Food systems, indigenous peoples and biodiversity	Mexico	Multi	FAO	4,620,643	28,125,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11373	Transforming Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture in Kazakhstan to Ensure Environmental Sustainability	Kazakhstan	Multi	FAO	2,346,484		GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11374	Advancing Transformative Agricultural Systems in Grenada through the Promotion of Integrated and Resilient Ecosystem approaches throughout the cocoa value chain (ASPIRE)	Grenada	Multi	IFAD	15,196,847	10,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11375	Ghana Sustainable Food System and Forest Management	Ghana	Multi	World Bank	13,942,064	240,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared
11376	Promoting Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Livestock Value Chain in Uganda	Uganda	Multi	IFAD	8,362,691	147,000,000	GET	GEF-8	FSIP-child	CEO PIF Cleared

Food Systems standalone projects from GEF-6 to GEF-8

ID	Title	Countries	Focal Areas	Agency	GEF Grant	Cofinancing	Funding	GEF Period	Public Project Status
9194	Strengthening Adaptive Capacities to Climate Change through Capacity Building for Small Scale Enterprises and Communities Dependent on Coastal Fisheries in The Gambia	Gambia	CC	UNIDO	2,200,000	9,621,062	LDCF	GEF-6	Under Implementation
10195	CSIDS-SOILCARE Phase1: Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) multicountry soil management initiative for Integrated Landscape Restoration and climate-resilient food systems	Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Regional	Multi	FAO	7,515,936	16,000,000	MTF	GEF - 7	Under Implementation
10207	Building climate resilient livelihoods in vulnerable landscapes in Bangladesh (BCRL)	Bangladesh	CC	FAO	8,932,420	47,460,000	LDCF	GEF-7	Under Implementation
10362	Resilient, productive and sustainable landscapes in Mali's Kayes Region	Mali	Multi	FAO	6,831,964	27,875,700	MTF	GEF-7	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10511	Crop Diversity Conservation for Sustainable Use in Indonesia	Indonesia	Biodiversity	FAO	6,192,694	92,815,024	GET	GEF-7	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10517	Integrated Agro-ecosystem Approach for enhancing Livelihoods and Climate Resilience in Tuvalu	Tuvalu	LD	FAO	2,639,726	6,772,995	GET	GEF-7	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10694	Integrated Landscape Management for Addressing Land Degradation, Food Security and Climate Resilience Challenges in The Bahamas	Bahamas	LD	UNEP	5,717,580	15,092,080	GET	GEF-7	Under Implementation
10857	Strategies, technologies and social solutions to manage bycatch in tropical Large Marine Ecosystem Fisheries (REBYC-III CLME+)	Regional, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago	IW	FAO	5,329,452	30,336,212	GET	GEF-7	Under Implementation
10862	Sustainable food systems and integrated land/seascape management in the Marshall Islands	Marshall Islands	Multi	FAO	2,100,913	6,030,000	GET	GEF - 7	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10866	Comprehensive land management in forestry and agri-food systems of three water basins in Argentina to contribute to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) and to mitigation and adaptation to climate change	Argentina	LD	CAF	2,623,377	24,971,732	GET	GEF - 7	CEO Endorsement Cleared

10867	Towards Sustainable and Conversion-Free Aquaculture in Indonesian Seas Large Marine Ecosystem (ISLME)	Regional, Indonesia, Timor-Leste	IW	ADB	4,449,542	112,165,000	GET	GEF-7	CEO Endorsement Cleared
10919	Enhancing capacity for the adoption and implementation of EAF in the shrimp and groundfish fisheries of the North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (EAF4SG)	Regional, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago	IW	FAO	1,776,484	7,814,157	GET	GEF-7	Under Implementation
10980	Enhancing Land Management and Strengthening Ecosystem Resilience for Integrated Landscape Restoration and Climate-Resilient Food Systems in Carriacou, Grenada	Grenada	LD	UNEP	863,242	2,300,000	GET	GEF-8	Under Implementation
11011	Mainstreaming Sustainable Marine Fisheries Value Chains into the Blue Economy of the Canary Current and the Pacific Central American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystems	Global	IW	UNDP	10,733,945	47,572,083	GET	GEF-7	CEO Endorsement Cleared
11066	Yield Lab Opportunity Fund I: Accelerating technology and local innovation for sustainable and decarbonized food systems in Latin America and the Caribbean.	Regional	Multi	IADB	6,000,000	27,275,000	GET	GEF-8	CEO Endorsement Cleared
11100	Climate change adaptation of Cabo Verde's agri-food systems for improved food security and livelihoods	Cabo Verde	CC	FAO	2,639,726	15,000,000	SCCF	GEF-8	Council Approved
11270	Barbados - Accelerating transition to climate-resilient agrifood systems (BATCRAS)	Barbados	CC	FAO	3,502,968	19,950,000	MTF	GEF-8	Council Approved
11390	CSIDS SOILCARE Phase 2 - Caribbean Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) multi-country soil management initiative for integrated Landscape Restoration and climate-resilient food systems	Regional	LD	FAO	17,968,099	26,500,000	GET	GEF-8	CEO PIF Cleared
11401	Climate resilient transformation of rice-based farming and food systems in central Nepal (CRAFT Nepal)	Nepal	CC	FAO	9,781,000	10,000,000	LDCF	GEF-8	Council Approved
11411	A Holistic Approach to Food Systems Resilience and Adaptation in Maldives	Maldives	CC	FAO	2,639,726	3,000,000	SCCF	GEF-8	Council Approved
11453	Promoting social and ecological resilience in land-water-food systems in blue economy sectors in Benin	Benin	CC	AfDB	9,781,000	41,116,800	LDCF	GEF-8	Council Approved