



Global Environment Facility and the Fifth Replenishment

Focusing on International Waters and
Biodiversity Focal Area Strategies

11th Global Meeting of the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans
Bangkok, Thailand
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Presentation Points

- Some useful backgrounds on GEF
- Fifth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund
- Programming for GEF-5
- Overall approach to focal area strategies
- Biodiversity focal area strategy for GEF-5
- International waters focal area strategy for GEF-5 (proposed draft, as of September 2009)
- GEF Projects for Regional Seas



About GEF

What is the GEF?

- The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a global partnership among 178 countries, international institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector to address global environmental issues while supporting national sustainable development initiatives.
- The Facility was established as one of the principal mechanisms for global environment funding and international cooperation.



About GEF

- The GEF is the designated financial mechanism for several multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) or conventions, assisting countries in meeting their obligations under the conventions that they have signed and ratified.
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
 - Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
 - UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- The GEF is also associated with many global and regional MEAs that deal with international waters or transboundary water systems, assisting developing countries in meeting the objectives of the Conventions through fund initiatives.



About GEF

- The GEF operates for the purpose of providing new and additional grant and concessional funding to meet the agreed incremental costs of measures to achieve agreed global environmental benefits.
- The GEF provides grants for projects related to six focal areas:
 - biological diversity;
 - climate change;
 - international waters;
 - land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation;
 - ozone layer depletion; and
 - persistent organic pollutants.



GEF Instrument

In July 1994, with the formal adoption by the participating States, the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility became effective. An additional amendment to the Instrument was approved by the Third GEF Assembly and became effective on September 14, 2007.

- BASIC PROVISIONS (Restructuring and Purpose of GEF, Participation, Establishment of GEF Trust Fund, Eligibility)
- CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER FINANCIAL PROVISIONS FOR REPLENISHMENT
- GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE (Assembly, Council, Secretariat, Implementing Agencies, Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP))
- PRINCIPLES OF DECISION-MAKING
- RELATIONSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH CONVENTIONS
- COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES
- OPERATIONAL MODALITIES
- REPORTING
- TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS



GEF Governance and Structure

- The Assembly – consists of Representatives of all Participants, meets once every three years, reviews the general policies of the Facility, reviews and evaluates the operation of the Facility, review the membership of the Facility, considers amendments to the present Instrument.
- The Council – is responsible for developing, adopting and evaluating the operational policies and programs for GEF-financed activities.
- The Secretariat – headed by the CEO/Chairperson of the Facility, services and reports to the Assembly and the Council.
- Implementing Agencies ([GEF Agencies](#)) – assist eligible governments and NGOs in the development, implementation, and management of GEF projects.
- The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) – acts as an advisory body to the Facility (the Secretariat was established by UNEP).



GEF Agencies



tial partners implementing GEF projects:

ed Nations Development Program (UNDP)

ed Nations Environment Program (UNEP)

d Bank

agencies have joined the GEF family over

l and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

-American Development Bank (IaDB)

ed Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

n Development Bank (ADB)

an Development Bank (AfDB)

pean Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

national Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).