

## **Call for Proposals from NGOs/CBOs** **The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)**

The Small Grants Programme (SGP) is a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) since 1992. SGP grant making in over 125 countries promotes community-based innovation, capacity development, and empowerment through sustainable development projects of local civil society organizations with special consideration for indigenous peoples, women, and youth. SGP has supported over 24,000 community-based projects in biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, prevention of land degradation, protection of international waters, and reduction of the impact of chemicals, while generating sustainable livelihoods.

### **Call One: The GEF Small Grants Programme Operational Phase 7, Round 2**

#### **Focal Areas:**

The SGP aims to deliver global environmental benefits through community-based approaches in the following multifocal “strategic initiatives”: focal areas 1. Biodiversity 2. Climate Change 3. Land Degradation 4. International Waters 5. Persistent Organic Pollutants.

Along with the 5 focal areas mentioned above the following multifocal “strategic initiatives” should be kept in mind while formulating concept notes.

1. Community-Based Conservation of Threatened Ecosystems and Species – Terrestrial and International Waters, 2. Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries, and Food Security, 3. Climate Change - Low Carbon Energy Access Co-Benefits, 4. Local to Global Coalitions for Chemicals and Waste Management, 5. Catalyzing Sustainable Urban Solutions.

Furthermore,

The SGP will support small scale projects relating to the 5 thematic areas, for activities that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing people's wellbeing and livelihoods, taking into consideration gender, vulnerability and equality concerns.

#### **Who can apply?**

**Civil society organizations (CSOs)** with priority for national and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and scientific communities, advocating for the rights of persons with disability, women, and children.

#### **How much?**

The maximum grant amount obtainable per project is US\$ 30,000  
However, in exceptional cases US\$ 50,000 may be considered

#### **Project duration**

Maximum duration is 24 months.

**Deadline:** 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021, Saturday 00:00 Hrs

The full proposals will be evaluated by members of the National Steering Committee (NSC) to select successful grantees.

For more information and submission of concept notes please refer to the details below;

**GEF SGP Hotline: (+960) 7678767**

Fathimath Saeedha  
National Coordinator  
GEF Small Grants Programme  
United Nations Development Programme  
Malé, Maldives  
Tel: +960 334-3217  
Fax: +960 332-4504  
Email: [fathimath.saeedha@undp.org](mailto:fathimath.saeedha@undp.org)

Hussain Jauson Lomo  
Programme Assistant – Small Grants Programme  
United Nations Development Programme  
Malé, Maldives  
Tel: +960 334-3205 / +9607463524  
Fax: +960 332-4504  
Email: [hussain.jauson@undp.org](mailto:hussain.jauson@undp.org)

**Call Two: COVID-19 support to territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCA) in Maldives**

Call for Proposals

**Introduction**

The Global Support Initiative to Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI) is funded by the Government of Germany, through its Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and delivered by the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP). Key partners include the Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD), the ICCA Consortium, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Global Programme on Protected Areas (IUCN GPAP) and the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC).

**Objectives**

Phase 2 of the Global ICCA Support Initiative ([GSI](#)) has been extended to provide support to territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities ([ICCAs](#)), with a focus on forty-five (45) countries participating in the GEF Small Grants Programme ([SGP](#)), implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The ICCA GSI is funded by the International Climate Initiative ([IKI](#)) of the German Federal Ministry of the Environment and Nuclear Safety ([BMU](#)).

In alignment with the SGP Country Programme Strategy (CPS) in *Maldives* for the SGP 7<sup>th</sup> Operational Phase (OP7) running from 2020-2024 and relevant National COVID-19 Response and Recovery Plan, applications from qualified organisations are invited to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. National and local civil society organisations (including community-based organisations, NGOs, and Indigenous Peoples organisations) are encouraged to apply based on the list of eligible criteria presented below.

| ICCA-GSI thematic categories  | COVID-19 response: examples   |
|---|---|
| Communication and lessons sharing through culturally appropriate means  | Translating and communicating medical and sanitary information on COVID-19 into local and vernacular languages.   |
| Food production systems: agroecology and agroforestry                   | Strengthening sustainable and biodiversity-friendly food production systems in ICCAs focused on agroecology and agroforestry techniques.  |
| Sustainable and well governed wildlife consumption                      | Promotion of sustainable and regulated wildlife consumption through good governance, customary regulation, and awareness raising.   |
| Prevention of zoonoses and future pandemics                             | Strengthening of ICCAs to provide barriers for zoonotic disease transmission and habitat conservation through reduced fragmentation.  |
| Transmission of traditional medical knowledge                           | Documentation and transmission of sustainable techniques for harvesting, quality control, and transmission of traditional medicinal practices.  |
| Territorial mapping and demarcation for self-isolation and conservation | Mapping and demarcation to increase territorial zoning, self-isolation procedures, buffer zones and defence of conserved areas.   |
| Deployment of traditional knowledge of fire control and management      | Techniques to control bushfires (adapted to different savannah, forest and other ecosystems) leading to green recovery and employment opportunities.  |
| Local bio-circular economy approaches based on reciprocity              | Income-generation activities, reciprocal food exchange networks, community-based ecotourism-based ventures, provision of food to at-risk populations, locally-made personal protective equipment. |

### Criteria

Civil society organizations (CSOs) wishing to apply to the ICCA COVID-19 initiative will be expected to submit an application in line with the prevailing socio-economic, cultural and sanitary context of the COVID-19 pandemic in *Maldives*.

Individual ICCA COVID-19 projects will be expected to last for a **duration up to 18 months** and to have a maximum budget of **US\$50,000**. All proposals will be reviewed and approved by the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC). The organisation will compile a **plan of action** to respond to the COVID-19 crisis affecting either individual or multiple ICCAs in *Maldives*. As part of the submission, the applicant must include the following elements:

- a. A **work plan** and **justified budget** about when and how it will take action to fulfil an appropriate combination of activities, indicating but not limited to: (i) overall context on the specific ICCA, or group of ICCAs; (ii) information on previous grants and partnerships to strengthen the ICCAs; (iii) proposed activities to be undertaken to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- b. The list of **expected activities** and **timing of delivery for a period of up to 18 months**, starting 2021 through to mid-2023, should be in line with and respond to the SGP OP7 Country Programme Strategy in *Maldives*. The applicant will be expected to work closely with the SGP National Coordinator (NC) in *Maldives*, as well as other partners such as the national ICCA network and/or global ICCA Consortium.
- c. Details on the **specific experience and capacities of the applicant civil society organisation**, including with respect to (i) community-based conservation; (ii) facilitation of networks and joint learning; (iii) monitoring and evaluation of conservation and/or governance initiatives; and (iv) capacity to work with spatial and monitoring data.

### **Qualifications**

- Demonstrated commitment to protect and defend territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities ([ICCAs](#));
- Knowledge and awareness of biodiversity conservation efforts at the national level;
- Experience in organizing and hosting consultations and capacity development activities with indigenous peoples and local communities;
- Capacity to produce high quality written reports according to deadlines;
- Familiarity with key issues related to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), especially as they relate to indigenous peoples and local communities, considered an advantage

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