



CELEBRATING TWENTY YEARS  
**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



## **GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop CSO Meeting**

**Landsmore Mara Hotel – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016, Gaborone,  
Botswana**

### **REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS**



**Report Prepared by:**

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Regional Focal Point (RFP)  
GEF CSO Network  
Southern Africa



## **Acknowledgements**

I would like to show my gratitude to the GCN Interim Secretariat for sending in materials for presentation as well as guidelines for this assignment throughout the numerous consultations I had with them prior to convening the ECW's platform for CSO engagement. I would also like to expand my deepest gratitude to all those who have directly and indirectly contributed to the success of the ECW CSO Forum.

In addition, a thank you to William Ehlers, Susan Waithaka and Robert Schreiber (GEF Secretariat), Charles Nyadiga Central Programme Management Team (CPMT) as well as Delfin Ganapin (SGP Global Manager) who facilitated the programme in the afternoon.



## List of Acronyms

CCP	Country Contact Points
CFP	Convention Focal Points
CPMT	Central Programme Management Team
CSP	Country Support Programmes
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
ECW	Expanded Constituency Workshops
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FSPs	Full Sized Projects
GCN	GEF CSO Network
GEF	The Global Environment Facility
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
MSPs	Medium Sized Projects
NFP	National Focal Points
OFP	Operational Focal Point
OP	Operational Phase
PFP	Political Focal Point
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
WB	The World Bank



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The GEF Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECW) are held annually and are aimed at keeping the GEF National Focal Points (NFP), Convention Focal Points (CFP) and other key stakeholders, including civil society, abreast of GEF strategies, policies and procedures and to encourage coordination.

Although this report covers half day deliberations during the CSO Meeting that took place on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 it shall also include some activities covered during the main ECW Meeting from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

This year's ECW Meeting was unique as it included a training programme on Project Management from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in the afternoon of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016.



*William Ehlers with Susan Waithaka (Partially hidden behind a participant share some points during the CSO Meeting*

## **ORGANISATION OF THE WORKSHOP**

### **1.1 Workshop Duration**

Half day deliberations for CSOs from the member countries in the Southern African Sub-Region represented by Namibia, Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Lesotho, Swaziland, South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

### **1.2 Evening Reception**

This was generously offered by GEF Secretariat on the first day of the ECW Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

## **2.0 PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS**

(a) The Host Country through the SGP Coordinator, Ms. Elsie Mvimi, CSOs from within Southern Africa and representatives from international organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) as well as Botswana Government representatives.

3.0 GEF Secretariat through William Ehlers-Head External Affairs, Susan Waithaka, Country Relations for Africa and Robert Schreiber.

4.0 Out-going Council Member, Mr Godwin Fishani Gondwe, Director-Environment and Natural Resources

## **5.0 LOGISTICS**

5.1 Robert Schreiber, GEF Secretariat

## **6.0 FACILITATORS**

- GEF Secretariat
- GEF CSO Network
- UNOPS

## **7.0 RAPORTEURS**

1. Victor Kazembe Kawanga
2. Danny Mohapeloa Bulaya
3. Wesley Litaba Wakunuma
4. Malintle Mamolapo Kheleli

## **8.0 APPROACH**

- Paper presentations
- Plenary Session and Demonstration
- Visual presentations through Power Point and Charts

## **9.0 CHRONICLE OF EVENTS**

9.1 Arrival and Registration of participants: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016

### **11.0 About the Host Country:**

#### **Introduction to Botswana, the host country of the Expanded Constituency Workshop**

Botswana is a landlocked and arid to semiarid country. It is one of the largest countries on the African continent, sparsely populated but with a growing population. Rainfall is unreliable and varies from 250 mm annually in the southwest to 650 mm in the northeast. Botswana is situated in the catchment basins of the Limpopo, Okavango, Orange, and Zambezi rivers, all which are

shared with other countries. About two-thirds of the country is covered by the Kalahari Desert sands, and is not suitable for agricultural production. The country is highly vulnerable to seasonal variations in climate, influenced by the La Nina and El Nino events. In 2007, the population of Botswana was estimated to 1.8 million people. Botswana's natural resources consist of range and arable land, woodlands and wetlands, wildlife and mineral resources as well as the unique Okavango Delta. The country has a large mineral deposit and is a model for the use of natural resources for development. It has evolved from one of the ten least developed countries at the time independence in 1966 to a middle income country, characterised by sustained economic growth, anchored in good governance, peace, political stability and sound macroeconomic management. Botswana currently belongs to the "Medium Human Development" group of countries, as reflected in the evolution between 1993 and 2004 of the ten selected Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) indicators. Despite the success-story, poverty is still widespread in Botswana, rooted primarily in the country's adverse physical conditions and narrow economic base.

The key environmental problems in Botswana are water scarcity and pollution. Water resources in Botswana are characterised by the fact that it is a shared and scarce resource, unevenly distributed in time and space. All rivers, apart from the Okavango and Chobe, are ephemeral. There are few other surface water resources mainly due to low rainfall, high seepage caused generally by sandy soils, and high evaporation rate. The limited supply of surface water and the increasing water demand<sup>7</sup> makes ground water highly important, especially for rural communities. In 2005, ground water accounted for 80% of the total water consumption. High reliance of ground water poses several challenges and makes ground water protection essential. Challenges include high uncertainty as recharge rate is unknown and the abstraction rates are thought to exceed recharge, resulting in boreholes and wells running dry.

There are problems of high salinity and high cost of provision due to the depth at which water is available. Another major challenge is protection from pollution. Studies show of aquifers, contaminated with nitrates due to leakage from septic tanks and pit latrines, constituting a potential health threat. Discharge effluents from mining operations include high concentrations of various metals polluting the water resources. Land degradation: Two-thirds of Botswana is covered with the Kalahari Desert sand which has poor water retention capacity, low nutrient levels, low organic matter and is marginally productive. Most arable farming occurs in the eastern part of the country as it has relatively more fertile soils than the west. Land degradation is a serious environmental problem, especially in the eastern parts. The main factors contributing to land degradation are the growing human population with increased number of livestock, overgrazing, and tree-felling.

According to a study conducted by the University of Gothenburg, School of Business, Economics and Law, (Botswana Environmental and Climate Change Analysis 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2008), there are indications of negative impacts from mining operations which include high levels of emissions (especially sulphur dioxide emissions), and sites, which have not been rehabilitated. In 2004, the level of pH, total dissolved solids, sulphates and nickel exceeded allowable concentrations. At the furthest point of monitoring contamination had fallen within acceptable levels except for nitrate and sulphate levels. Biodiversity loss: Botswana possesses a wide diversity of wild fauna and flora including populations of globally endangered species. Over several decades wildlife numbers have been declining due to illegal hunting, drought and habitat destruction. Major threats to biodiversity include rangeland degradation, inappropriate harvesting methods, habitat destruction, climate change, increased elephant population (especially in the northern parts), fuel wood collection, and inadequate management of waste in rural areas and lack of information on hazardous waste. A recent potential threat to biodiversity is biotechnology. Risks include the creation of super weeds by transferring herbicides tolerance to weeds. Botswana's nature provides important ecosystem services as it absorb more greenhouse gases than the country produces. Tree and woodland products, including medicine, are an important part of rural livelihood. Deforestation: Over 80% of the land surface of Botswana has a significant tree and scrub cover, but less than 20% mostly in

the north-east, is tall and dense enough to be considered a forest. Deforestation is not assessed to be a significant problem. However, fuel wood from forests and woodlands accounts for 70% of net energy supply in Botswana.

The hosting of the GEF ECW by the Government of Botswana offered an opportunity for the GEF CSO Network to understand capacity shortcomings of CSOs participation with the network over the longer-term and that increased participation actions are needed. It is recognised that encouraging membership, establishment of Country Contact Points to encourage local level management as well as policy-level encouragement capacities by government institutions be strengthened.

## **12.0 Welcome remarks**

In his opening remarks, the GEF CSO Network RFP, Southern Africa, Victor Kawanga, welcomed the delegates to the workshop. He wished all participating individuals a warm welcome to Botswana.

12.1 The meeting was then followed by personal introductions.

## **13.0 Overview of GEF CSO Network**

The above was presented by Victor Kawanga summarised below:

- The GEF CSO Network was established in 1995 to link civil society organizations accredited to GEF and facilitates input to GEF policy-making (as further strengthened in 2011-12)
- GCN is an independent/autonomous network with nearly 500 member organizations with experience and expertise in GEF's areas focal areas from all regions around the world.
- Governed by a global Coordination Committee composed of representatives of
- elected Regional Focal Point (RFP) organisations from 16 geographic regions
- 3 Indigenous Peoples Focal Points from Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- It is overseen by a Management Team comprising of a Chair, Vice Chair and Heads of 4 Sub-committees drawn from the Coordination Committee members.
- Supporting GEF Public Involvement Policy, Principles & Guidelines

## **14.0 Objectives**

To enhance the role of civil society in safeguarding the global environment:

### **14.1. Support outreach and awareness on global environment.**

- Undertake outreach programs and campaigns to raise awareness on key global environment issues in partnership with Network members and other CSO/IP Networks.

### **14.2. Document and disseminate experience and best practice to address global environment issues.**

- Develop a knowledge exchange platform on the role of Civil Society in safeguarding the global environment.
- Collate and disseminate results and lessons learned through GEF and non-GEF related activities to address key environmental challenges.

### **14.3 Encourage civil society contributions to the negotiation and implementation of Conventions.**

- To promote and support involvement of civil society organizations in negotiation and implementation of environmental conventions.
- Organize regular dialogues at convention meetings in partnership with GEF Secretariat and Agencies, network members and other partners.



- Channel ground level experiences from GEF programmes with civil society to convention meetings and implementation processes.

#### **14.4. Strengthen capacity of civil society to address global environment issues through engagement in policy making dialog at the national, regional and global level.**

- Organize network expertise and capability to support capacity building programs and facilitate involvement in design and implementation for GEF projects.
- Organize periodic training and other capacity building activities for CSOs/IPs and other civil society organizations in partnership with GEF agencies and projects.

#### **14.5 Support promotion of GEF programs and activities to Civil Society.**

- Disseminate information materials on GEF programmes to civil society in partnership with GEFSEC and Agencies.
- Document Civil Society involvement with GEF activities for use in information and outreach programs.
- Collaborate with GEFSEC in the implementation of the GEF communication strategy.

#### **14.6 Enhance Civil Society involvement in GEF Country, regional and global Projects.**

- Work with GEF Focal points and GEF Agencies to identify opportunities for civil society involvement in the preparation and implementation of GEF projects and programs.
- Promote and facilitate the inclusion of civil society representatives in country program consultations and GEF project and program governance mechanisms.

#### **14.7 Provide strategic input to GEF policy making, planning and reviews.**

- Maintain regular contact with network members to solicit feedback on specific and /or general policy and programs of the GEF.
- Collate experience and lessons learned from Network members and other civil society organizations on GEF programme implementation.
- Undertake policy analysis and review in relation to the key technical, managerial and governance issues related to the operation of the GEF through operation of task forces on focal areas and conventions.
- Facilitate input to the GEF through input to council, constituency and technical meetings.
- Establish effective and formal linkages between the Network and the GEF Independent Evaluation Office to contribute to the evaluation of projects for best practices and make the evaluation process more transparent and accountable to public.

#### **14.8 Enhance Governance capability of the GEF CSO Network.**

- Enhance Network activities at the national levels.
- Strengthen communication between the RFPs and their constituency.
- Enhance focus and activities at the regional and country levels to assess GEF activities and implementation of projects.
- Prepare a financial management framework including budgeting process to manage and administer CSO Network funds and budget.

#### **15.0 Key Strategic/Focal Areas**

- Ensure that projects address the overall objectives and needs to address local and global environmental impacts.
- Provide strategic input into GEF Council deliberations
- Provide an opportunity for CSOs to learn first-hand of key GEF initiatives and challenges including
  - Key issues related to environmental and social safeguard standards
  - Engagement with private sector and development of GEF Policy on Indigenous Peoples
  - Supporting GEF Public Involvement Policy, Principles & Guidelines



## **16.0 Gaps Identified by CSOs during Meeting affecting the ability to interpret GEF Mandate at Country to Country level**

- Limited or no interactions between governments and CSOs
- Country ownership – the GEF CSO Network is not linked to National Steering Committees – challenges exist across countries
- Limited financial resources to effect work through RFPs and Country Contact Focal Points.

## **17.0 Indigenous Peoples in GEF**

- GEF to work more closely with CSOs within country engagement platforms to encourage the domestication of traditional and/or indigenous knowledge systems and practices in today's global environmental challenges

## **18.0 Platforms**

- Country Support Programmes (CSPs) can be useful platforms for CSOs participation in Country Portfolio Formulation Exercises
- GEF ECW Meetings
- GEF Council Meetings
- Engagement through GEF Agencies
- The GEF Independent Evaluation Office
- Indigenous Peoples Programme

## **19.0 Report backs and Discussions**

**OBJECTIVE:** To strengthen the capacity of the Network and CSO members to participate in the GEF related Activities.

### **Way forward**

- GEF CSO Network should appoint Country Contact Points (CCP) in all Southern African countries as a key player in capacity building of CSOs and Network members at country level. Appointed NGOs at country level should be vetted as well as a demonstration of championing the GEF CSO Network philosophy and that of GEF.
- With the GEF CSO Network's new structure should help to strengthen the network by collaborating in-country then at regional level. For example if they is a good project from one country that have had a huge impact on the ground, it can be taken as a best practice and can be replicated at regional level. This can enhance information sharing at regional level by network members.
- Collaboration between GEF CSO Network and SGP office on capacity building on knowledge management, proposal development and resource mobilization can be used as a hub for the GEF CSO Network to maximize the benefit of the network through such forums organized by SGP offices at country level for SGP grantees.
- GEF Small Grant Programme to deliberately support the Country Contact Points (CCP) with capacity building projects. These projects will stand to build capacity of the GEF SGP grantees, CSOs and GEF CSO Network members using School without walls programme for capacity building approach to enhance competence of CSOs in GEF focal areas.
- Knowledge management is promoted between CSOs, GEF/SGP as a way of building capacity for CSOs as well a forum where CSOs sharing knowledge, lessons learnt and best practices at country level.





*Charles Nyadiga, CPMT, New York sharing a light moment with some participants during one of the plenary sessions while at the far end is Delfin Ganapin*

## **Objective: Enhancing the role of CSO in safeguarding the global environment**

Awareness: support awareness on global environmental issues

- Mobilizing civil society to facilitate sustainability on developing projects on food security, energy, biodiversity wetland protection, waste management and water conservation (water harvesting)
- Create national action plan for CSOs participation
- Participation in the conventions like COP meetings in order to take and unpack conventions to civil society
- Strengthening the network among ourselves and country focal point
- Effective education programme / outreach Programmes for skills and technology transfer
- Mobilization of primary, secondary schools to tertiary schools to have movement and project that will be coordinated by them
- Adequate resources financial support in order to enhance our role and improve our capacity skills
- CSOs should be involved on formulating of policies and strategies on environmental concerns
- More proactive platform roles in the decision making
- Continuously and consistence attendance in meetings, starting now no more changes of people or organizations attending meetings on GEF CSO Network(it disturb the plans, effective communication)

## **20. Summary Notes on the SGP Component of the ECW in Botswana**

The Objective and delivery methodology of the presentation was meant to get the CSO's oriented and grounded on their understanding of SGP, its mandate, operations and governance. This section covered the following key topics which were also followed by dedicated discussions, questions, answers and discussion time.

- What is SGP, nature of its Grants, Country governance structure and Management
- SGP as a Global Programme, current status of programming in the region and Integration of the SGP programme with national efforts of CSO's and governments
- The OP6 SGP programme and its strategic initiatives: how can the CSO's strengthen the delivery and outcome
- The Current and future partners of the SGP programme

### **Part 2: Group work:**

The objective and delivery methodology of the group work was aimed at getting the CSO's participants to give their perspectives on how they foresee the SGP programme, its potential to deliver other partners programmes and provide an indication on how they wish to be engaged in the future from OP7 going forwards.

**The participants were divided into 3 groups and discuss the following topics and provide feedback**

- What programmatic activities would the CSO's wish to see SGP undertake in the future (OP7)?
- Possible synergies and complementarities of SGP with other GEF and non-GEF Programmes in SGP countries
- CSOs Engagement with GEF/SGP in the future OP7 Phase

The outcomes of the groups and suggestions/recommendations advanced are summarized below:

**GROUP 1 topic: What Programmatic activities do the CSO wishes to see SGP undertake in OP7:**

- Maintain existing programmes and augment it with these key themes:  
Climate Change Adaptation: Under this theme include aspects of food security, conservation agriculture, scaling up the indigenous knowledge and practices. Similarly, include aspects of seed banking, drying vegetables and fruits using appropriate technologies. In addition to the issues mention, also promote water harvesting starting with GEF CSO members changing their behaviours towards management and harvesting of water.

- Link SGP Programmes to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)
- Financing of Projects:

The SGP projects should be given 3 years duration on funding with a consideration for an increment of funding per project from \$50K to \$150K. These resources can be provided to qualifying entities in phases of \$50K each.

**Group 2 topic: Possible synergies and complementarities of SGP with other GEF and non-GEF Programmes in SGP countries**

- Partnership development with private sector and other relevant partners such as government, CSO to enhance good governance and project sustainability, avoid duplication, competition, knowledge sharing and take advantage of other relevant expertise
- Developing countries should assist each other to enhance trans-border sharing of intellectual property in the context of the South-South cooperation
- SGP to be packaged as a delivery mechanism to implement components of programmes such as REDD+ and other climate change Funds, GEF FSP and/or non GEF programmes
- Mainstreaming SGP into national development plans to enhance alignment and partnering with other national programmes like Community based Natural Resources (CBNRM), Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)

**Group 3 topic: CSO's engagement with GEF SGP in the future OP7 Phase**

<b>Financial and or other resources</b>	<b>Programmatic approach</b>	<b>Up-scaling the existing networks</b>
Expand resource base for CSOs to implement robust policy engagement between CSOs and SGP	Policy and national dialogues between OFP and CSO's facilitated and coordinated by GEF SGP	Up-scaling of the project to have more impact on GEF SGP implemented by NGOs as a graduation process to medium to full sized projects.

<p>GEF SGP should deliberately support the GEF CSO Network Country Contact Point (CCP) at country level to champion capacity building process to enhance competence in GEF focal areas. The CCP will build capacity of CBOs, FBOs and NGOs benefiting from GEF/SGP.</p> <p>Strategic project recommended by National Steering committee with the help of GEF SGP at country level.</p>	<p>Knowledge management is promoted between CSOs, GEF SGP and Government as a way of sharing knowledge and lessons learnt. For example (Project brochures and posters, Booklets on best practices and case studies, Policy papers/ briefs, Audio or video documentary on overall progress, Newsletters that may highlight study tours, achievements, Training manual on specific area, Technical and publications in peer reviewed journals)</p> <p>Improve connectivity of projects implemented by CSOs through website.</p> <p>Support SDGs targeted by GEF SGP and influence country development Programmes i.e. Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS), African Youth Charter and SADC Protocols</p>	<p>Support CSOs at country level to attend GEF Expanded workshop as a knowledge sharing and exposing best practices at regional level</p>
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## 21. Main CSO Workshop Summary Recommendations

The CSO Meeting was a useful platform to share experiences from all stakeholders within the GEF mandate. The gathering recognized the need for:

Harnessing cooperation between state actors, CSOs, private sector and other stakeholders in fostering participatory action and generating needs in environmental protection and preservation as an important step to translating the GEF mandate from the ground up.

Participants felt that the approach to conduct a half a day meeting for CSOs and end with a training programme from UNOPS on Project Management as well as a presentation from CPMT did quite augur well with the flow of deliberations. The fact that all CSO representatives also participated in all the sessions gave very strong evidence of a pragmatism and capacity building overtones in all the deliberations.

### 21.1 Challenges

Some of the challenges to the effective operationalisation of GEF mandate in the region were identified as:

- Weak cooperation between CSOs and their respective governments
- Lack of democratic and enabling environment in many countries
- Weak institutional infrastructure poor capacity in many organisations to undertake their mission
- Policy shifts at government level



- GEF (similarly with CSO) needs a higher profile of awareness – as a partnership meant to serve as a financial instrument to affect local and Global environmental benefits
- Country government structures differ from country to country–GEF should use its mandate as a source of funds to help foster relationships and support of CSOs– Through SGPs, national dialogue mechanisms/ environmental platforms/ECW/Council meetings as well as through both political and operational focal points?
- Governments, their line departments, inter-governmental organizations, and CSOs have great experience in outreach and engagement of local communities as well as technical areas related to all GEF focal areas.
- In most countries in the region –historically there has been little direct involvement of CSOs in the development of country plans and projects.
- The Small grants programme has been important in many countries to support CSOs but there have been few opportunities of involvement of CSOs in medium and full sized projects.
- There is not enough coordination between CSOs and Government and few joint projects.
- Meetings between GEF Focal Points - CSOs regular are not being organised in most countries and until recently there has been no option for regional CSO meetings.

### **21.2 Analysis of Stakeholder's Institutional Strengths**

- There is significant potential in public institutions in the region in development and implementation of GEF projects – both SGP and Full Sized Projects
- Continue increasing level of information on the Convention issues to CSOs and network members

### **21.3 Recommendations**

A range of recommendations to overcome the challenges were identified including:

- Enhance the collaboration between environmental CSOs and related government agencies through dialogues and joint activities and oblige governments to involve CSOs in medium and full sized projects with certain percentage.
- GEF should provide support for regular Regional meetings and other knowledge sharing and technical exchange opportunities among stakeholders in the region
- Increase the GEF SGP budget in the region and strengthen SGP outreach and capacity building activities for CSOs; strengthen existing GEF SGP networks link them to the GEF CSO Network. SGP should consider support for joint projects between CSOs in adjacent countries to facilitate sharing and joint capacity building
- Annual meetings should be held in each country between CSOs and the GEF Operational focal points (as agreed by GEF Council Nov 2010).
- Action should be taken by members of the GEF CSO Network together with the government focal points to help inform civil society stakeholders on opportunities for involvement in the development of full-sized projects.
- GEF Public Involvement policy needs to be fully implemented in this region especially in the development of government led projects. In particular –
  - a. Early engagement of CSOs in national consultation and portfolio development processes.
  - b. Development of clear guidelines for Civil society engagement – both generic and country specific
  - c. Effective participation of civil society in project development and formulation.
  - d. Special policy/mechanisms for engagement of indigenous and local communities
  - e. Enhanced consideration of gender and social issues



- Specific guidelines or tools/learning materials (eg documentation of lessons learned and good practices should be developed to stimulate enhanced stakeholder engagement in GEF project and programme development in the region.

## 22. Closing

The ECW Meeting was officially closed by William Ehlers on behalf of the GEF Secretariat.



*Charles Nyadiga making a presentation*



*Participants following proceedings during the presentations*

**Draft**  
**PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE REGIONAL CSO MEETING**  
**(One day prior to GEF Expanded Constituency Workshops in 2016)**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
9.00 – 9:15	<b>WELCOME REMARKS</b> GEF-CSO Network RFP and GEF Secretariat	Victor and any GEF Representative
9:15 – 10:30	<b>SESSION 1 : INTRODUCTION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-introductions</li> <li>• Objectives and agenda of meeting</li> <li>• An Overview of GEF and the GEF-CSO Network</li> <li>• GEF CSO Network Strategic Plan 2015-2022</li> <li>• Agenda of ECW meeting and key issues for CSO engagement</li> <li>• Mode of operation</li> </ul>	Victor, GEF Secretariat
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee break	
10.45 – 12.30	<b>SESSION 2 : GEF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT POLICY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefing on ongoing review of Public Involvement Policy and interim findings</li> <li>• Key areas requiring input from CSOs and ECW participants (based on PIP-WG guidance)</li> <li>• Discussion and inputs from CSOs on level of engagement of CSOs in GEF Programme implementation in respective countries/region</li> <li>• Preparation for further discussions in ECW</li> </ul>	Moderated by Country Contacts
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15.45	<b>SESSION 3 : FUTURE DIRECTION OF GEF SMALL GRANT PROGRAM (SGP)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefing on 25 years of SGP and options for the future ( by SGP Rep)</li> <li>• Sharing of experience from selected participants from region with SGP</li> <li>• Structured discussion session on the sustainability and long-term vision for SGP ( as contribution for SGP visioning process).</li> <li>• Preparations for further discussions on SGP at ECW</li> </ul>	CPMT, New York
15:45 – 16.00	Coffee break	

16.00 – 17.30	<b>SESSION 4 : THE WAY FORWARD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discussion of options to enhance CSO engagement in GEF CSO Network activities in respective Region</li><li>• Capacity strengthening needs and opportunities for CSOs</li><li>• Development of CSO Statement to the ECW</li><li>• Summary of Deliberations</li></ul>	CPMT, New York
17.30	Closing	

