



Independent
Evaluation Office
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

EVALUATION IN THE GEF

EXPANDED CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOP

BELARUS
JULY 2019

NEERAJ NEGI — SENIOR EVALUATION OFFICER



Overview

1. What is Monitoring and Evaluation in the GEF?
2. What does the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) do?
 - Recent evaluation findings on performance, progress towards impact and transformational change
 - Exercise on sustainability
3. Where can I find evaluations?

Monitoring

Is our activity on track?

Monitoring uses systematic collection of data to keep activities on track.

Forms of monitoring:

Monitoring of environmental conditions and stressors

Monitoring of progress toward project/program outcomes

Monitoring of project/program performance

Evaluation in the GEF

Two overarching objectives:

- Promote **accountability** for the achievement of GEF objectives through the assessment of *results, effectiveness, processes, and performance* of the partners involved in GEF activities
- Promote **learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing** on results and lessons learned among the GEF and its partners as a basis for decision making on policies, strategies, program management, programs, and projects; and to improve **knowledge and performance**

Evaluation in the GEF

- Are we doing the right thing?
- Are we doing things right and efficiently?
- Are there better ways of doing it?

Evaluation is a *systematic* assessment of an activity (program, strategy, etc.) that assesses *relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability*.

Project/Program-Level Evaluations based on WHEN

Mid-term
Terminal

Portfolio-level Evaluations based on WHAT and WHAT FOR

Impact, thematic, performance, country/country cluster, comprehensive

The GEF Evaluation Policy

- Define the concepts, roles, and use of evaluation within the GEF
- Define the institutional framework and responsibilities
- Indicate the minimum requirements covering:
 - design of evaluation plan
 - application of evaluation plan
 - project and program evaluations
 - engagement of Operational Focal Point in evaluation

THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE OF THE GEF



GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO)

Mission:

Enhance global environmental benefits through excellence, independence, and partnership in monitoring and evaluation.

Brief history:

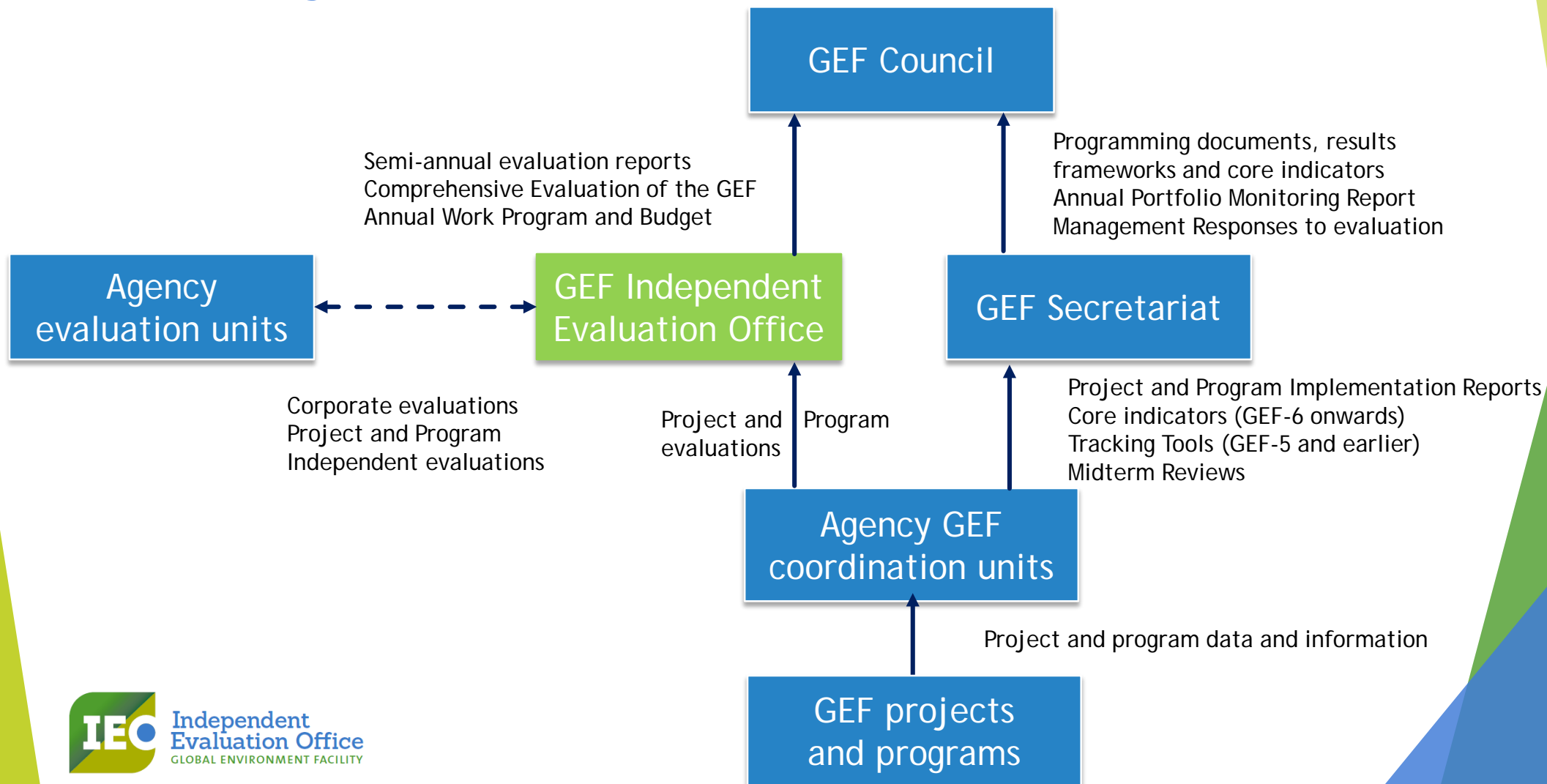
1996 — Initially established as an M&E unit within the GEF Secretariat

2003 — The M&E unit was made autonomous of the GEF Secretariat

2005 — The unit was renamed as GEF Evaluation Office

2013 — The office was renamed as GEF Independent Evaluation Office

Separate reporting line for evaluation (through IEO)



Underpinning IEO Work: Terminal Evaluation

GEF Evaluation Policy: Minimum Requirement 3

- Terminal evaluations mandatory since 1995
- Required for full-sized and medium-sized projects

Terminal Evaluation mainly assess:

- Results: outputs, outcomes, sustainability and progress to impact
- M&E: M&E design, M&E implementation
- Implementation and Execution: quality of Implementation, quality of execution

Terminal Evaluation Guidelines:

Available at

<https://www.gefio.org/evaluations/guidelines-gef-agencies-conducting-terminal-evaluation-full-sized-projects>

Terminal Evaluations can be accessed at:

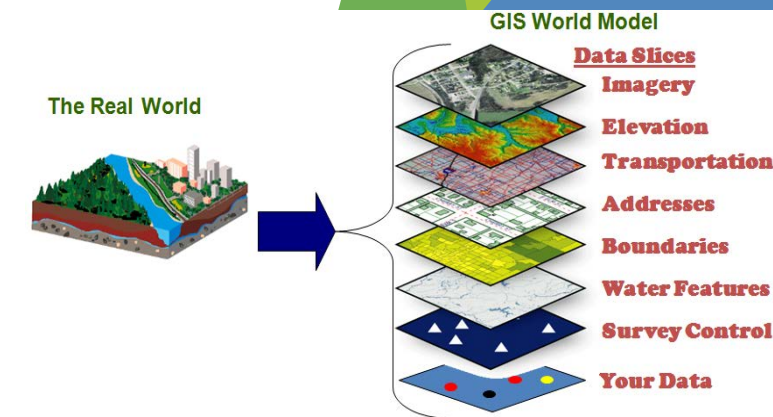
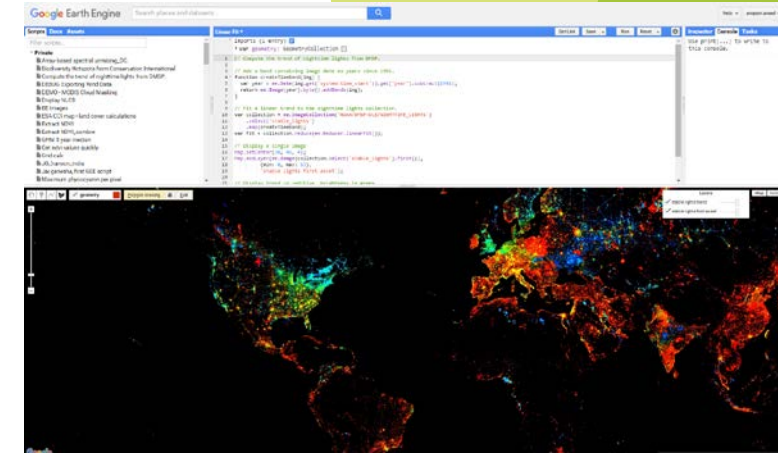
<https://www.thegef.org/projects>

Evaluations undertaken by IEO

- Impact, thematic, performance, country/country cluster, formative, process
- Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF every 4 years

Methods

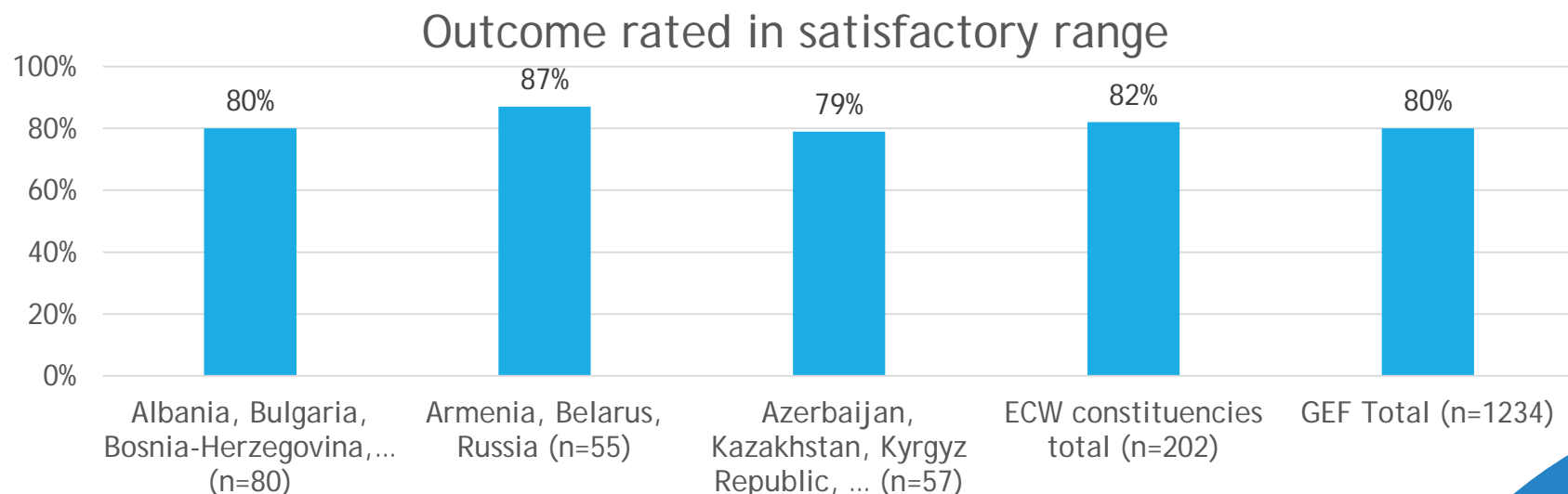
- Qualitative through portfolio reviews, case studies
- Quantitative including GIS, Remote Sensing, Big Data Analytics



RECENT EVALUATION FINDINGS

Performance in the Constituency

(202 national projects from the region in the GEF IEO dataset)



Drivers of good performance:

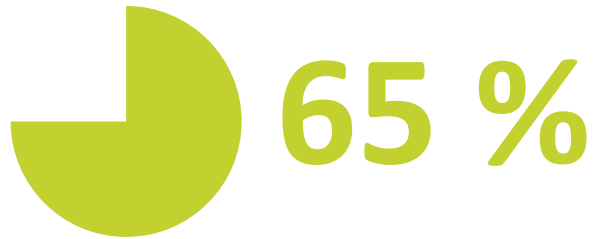
- Quality of design
- Quality of implementation and execution
- Materialization of Co-financing



Examples:

- Forest and Marine Protected Areas (Bosnia-Herzegovina)
- Dryland Management (Kazakhstan)
- Phase out ODS (Russian Federation)

Progress toward Impact and Transformational change



achieved environmental stress reduction



achieved broader adoption

ECW constituencies

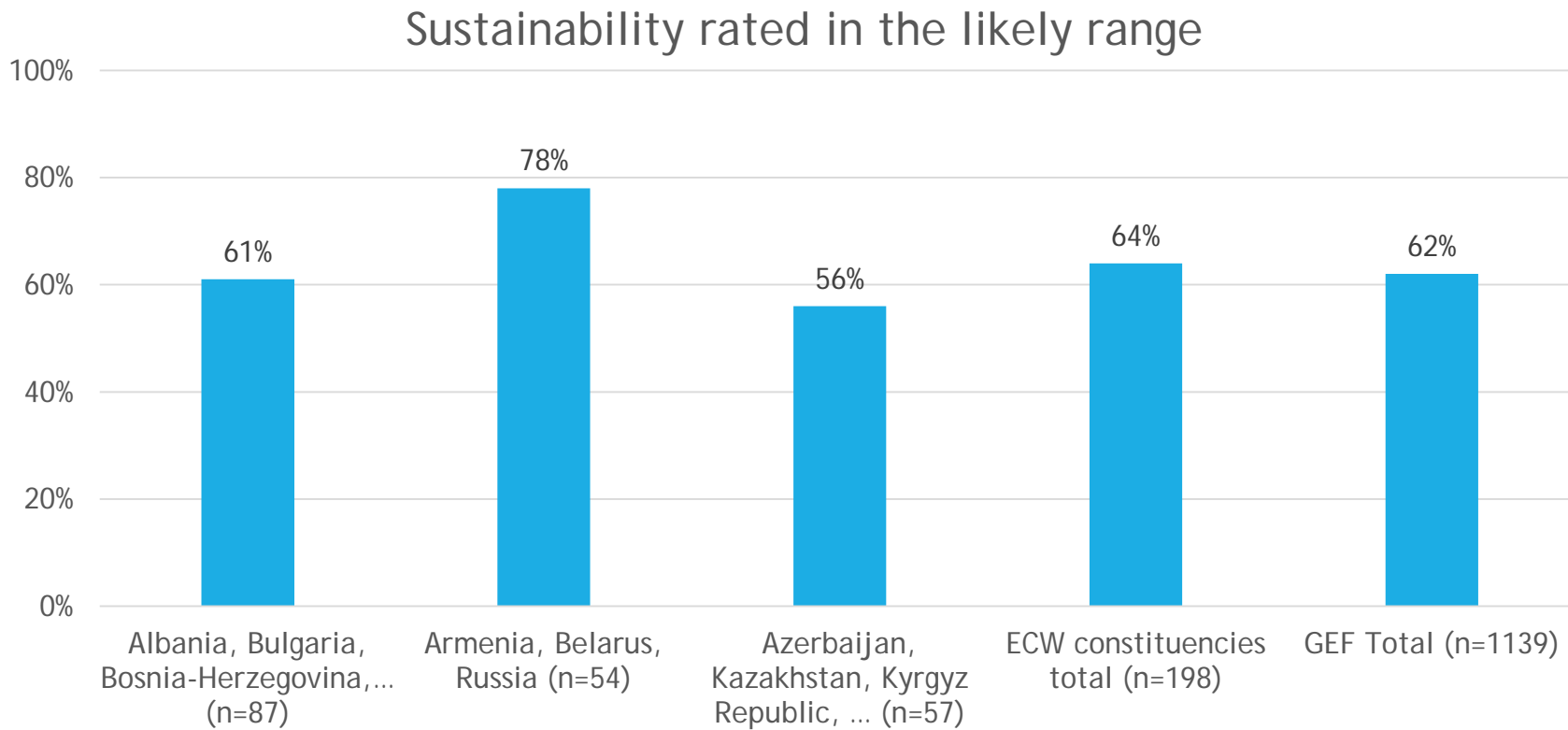
- Environmental stress reduction: 62 percent (n=85)
- Broader adoption: 53 percent (n=85)

Success factors for transformational change:

- Clear ambition in design
 - Addressing market and system reforms through policies
 - Mechanisms for financial sustainability
 - Quality of implementation and execution
- May be achieved by projects of different size

Sustainability at Project Completion

(198 national projects from the region in the GEF IEO dataset)



Discussion

Based on your experience, discuss

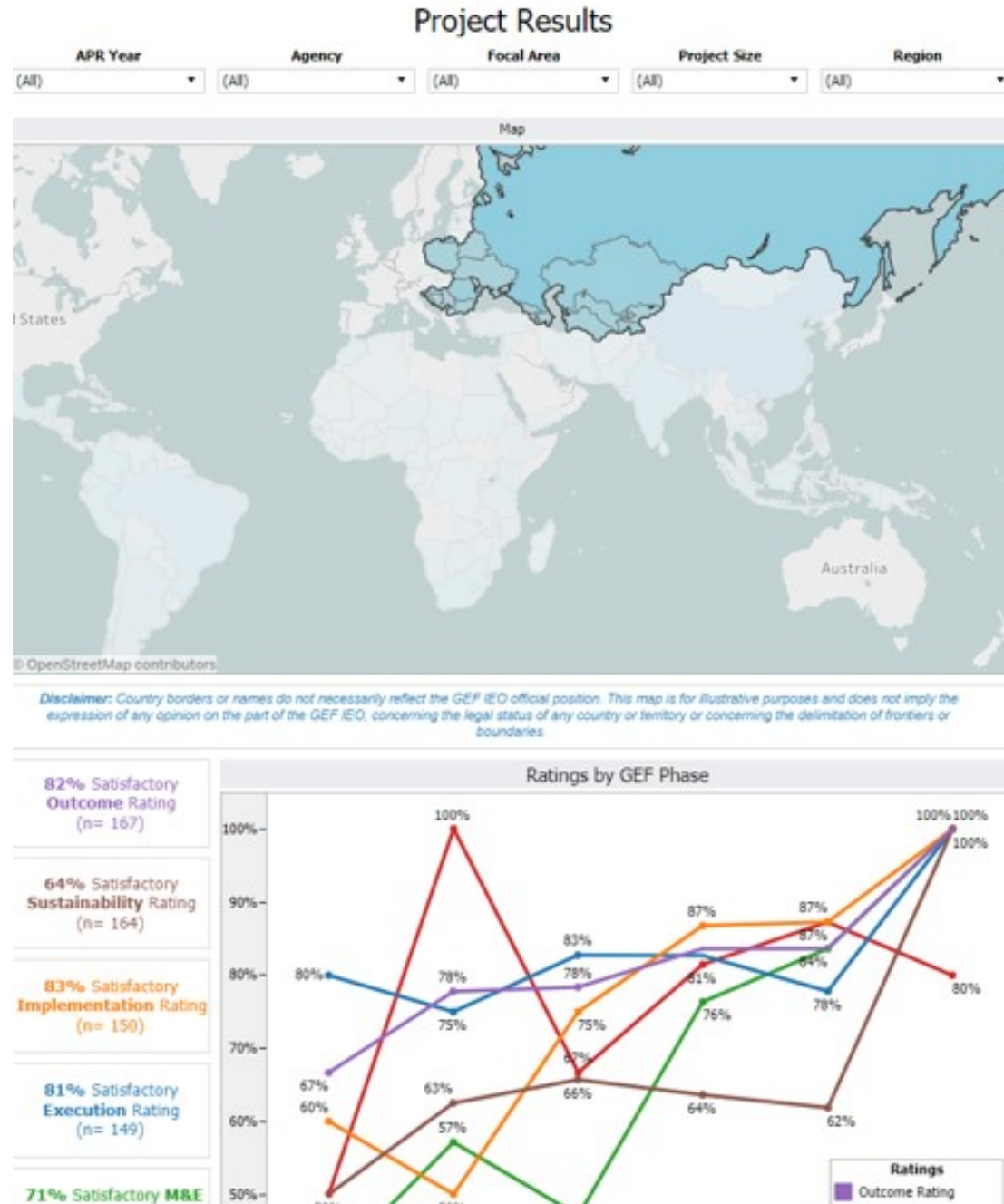
- What are the factors that affect sustainability of project outcomes?

EVALUATIONS ON THE IEO WEBSITE



Data by Country and other resources on the IEO website

<http://www.gefio.org/data-maps>



FOR MORE
VISIT US AT www.gefieo.org

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