The need for rigorous and consistent definitions, capture, monitoring and reporting of the results of GEF projects and programs was identified at the inception of the GEF. Starting in GEF-4, the GEF began to take early steps towards GEF-wide approach to results (see Figure 1). Since GEF-5, the GEF has had in place results frameworks and tracking tools for each focal area, as well as a set of corporate indicators for global environmental benefits, with associated targets for the replenishment period.

**FIGURE 1: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF THE GEF’S RESULTS ARCHITECTURE**

**GEF-4**
Early steps towards a GEF-wide approach to results

**GEF-5**
Tracking tools for all focal areas, annual monitoring reviews
Replenishment targets, but no systematic follow up

**GEF-6**
High-level, GEF indicators, with associated, replenishment-level targets as motivational stretch objectives
First Corporate Scorecard
Emerging lessons on tracking multiple benefits
Methodological review conducted and challenges identified

**GEF-7**
Results framework and core indicators with explicit definitions, guidelines and methodologies
Strengthened due diligence on results at technical review
Systematic capture of results data in GEF Portal
Automated reporting
Management Dashboard for oversight
IATI compliance

(LOOKING BEYOND GEF-7)
Harnessing data and information on results for evidence-based decision-making and learning
The updated GEF-7 results architecture represents continuous improvement of the GEF’s results practice. The improvements introduced in GEF-7 aim over time to enhance the GEF’s ability to harness data and information on results for evidence-based decision-making and learning. The results architecture is designed to generate more relevant and more reliable data and information on results, while promoting integration, multiple benefits, and simplification. Specifically, the results architecture will better capture both the value of synergies across the GEF’s different areas of work, as well as efforts to catalyze a transformation of the key systems that drive the deterioration of the global environment. It will also enable the GEF to begin to capture more systematically the socio-economic co-benefits of its projects and programs.

The key features of the GEF-7 results architecture include: 1) a simplified results framework of 11 core indicators and associated sub-indicators; 2) agreed GEF-7 targets across the core indicators; 3) streamlined monitoring and reporting requirements; 4) measures to enhance the availability, accessibility, quality, and timeliness of data and information on results; and 5) the capture of socio-economic co-benefits and gender outcomes.

**GEF-7 CORE INDICATORS:**

1. Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (hectares).
2. Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (hectares).
3. Area of land restored (hectares).
4. Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas).
5. Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (hectares; excluding protected areas).
7. Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management.
8. Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (metric tons).
9. Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination, and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials, and products (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced).
10. Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ).
11. Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment.

**CORE INDICATORS AND SDGS**

GEF activities produce global environmental benefits that play a role in achieving the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in particular the goals on Climate Action (SDG 13), Life Below Water (SDG 14), and Life on Land (SDG 15). These goals reflect, to a large extent, the GEF core mission. They also are co-benefits of the GEF’s investments that are captured through the SDGs, most importantly through SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure). While the core indicators are designed specifically in view of the GEF’s core mandate and reporting needs, they are also relevant for Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

**NEXT STEPS**

The GEF-7 results architecture will be operational on July 1, 2018. The Secretariat will work closely with Agencies to promptly identify and address any issues as the Partnership transitions to the new monitoring and reporting arrangements. To ensure complete coherence of the new results architecture with existing policies, procedures, and guidelines on monitoring and evaluation, the Secretariat and IEO are currently working to update the 2010 GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy.