

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY/SMALL GRANT PROGRAMME
(GEF/SGP) SRI LANKA**

**Knowledge management, networking and capacity building through
support to the monitoring and evaluation process of Projects**

Operational Phase V

2014



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Introduction – Need for Knowledge Management and Capacity Building (KM & CB) Initiatives

Grant makers and their grantees share common concerns: How to make better use of limited resources in the face of growing need; and how to stay the course and reach established goals in a volatile, changing environment. The donors expect greater accountability from the grantees, both financially and programmatically (What they do and how it is done), and greater Return on Investment (organizational effectiveness).

Increasingly, grant maker and grantee organizations alike are utilizing the same strategy to address aforementioned concerns: enhancing organizational effectiveness. A grantee is more likely to reach its programmatic goals if the grant is well managed. Knowledge Management and Capacity Building initiatives are stand-alone strategic projects that support the work of other focal areas (grantees in this situation) at the portfolio level, focusing on capacity development activities. Thus, they contribute in meeting the objectives of country programme strategy of the funding body.

The terms “Capacity Building” refers to activities that strengthen an organization and help it better fulfill its mission. Capacity building can occur in virtually every organizational aspect, including programs, management, operations, technology, human resources, governance, financial management, fund development, and communications. Grant makers who invest in building the capacity of grantees do so to enhance programs and performance and, ultimately, create more value. Growing numbers of funders clearly believe that investing in capacity building is an effective way to leverage the impact of their philanthropic resources. Capacity building efforts include referrals, peer reviewed publications, one-on-one consulting training, new equipment and staff accrument, and facility purchase and renovation.

Efficient management and utilization of a grant requires sound administration, strong governance, and a persistent rededication to achieving results. A vital mission, relevant programs that meet objectives of grant makers and grantees, capable and motivated leadership and team members, unambiguous communication and accountability, and efficient operations and solid finances are necessary to make a project successful.

The Grant Maker: GEF Small Grants Programme

Established in 1992, SGP provides direct financial and technical support to NGOs and CBOs for activities that conserve and restore the environment, while enhancing people's well-being and livelihoods. SGP works with communities to reconcile global environmental priorities with local community needs. Activities within GEF priorities are supported, including

biodiversity conservation, abatement of climate change, protection of international waters, prevention of land degradation, and elimination of persistent organic pollutants. All SGP projects are facilitated by the Country Programme Office.

Goals of Proposed Knowledge Management and Capacity Building Initiative

- Ensuring high quality results and measurable impacts from implemented GEF SGP projects

Objectives

- 1) Support GEF SGP small grants project implementation and monitoring to ensure desired results and impacts from grantee projects.
- 2) Enable mainstreaming and replication of implemented best practices through knowledge production and sharing on a wide platform