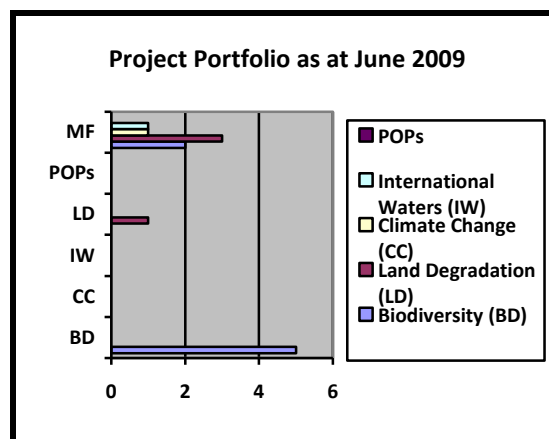




## THE SGP PROJECT PORTFOLIO GROWS

Since its establishment in December 2007, the GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP), country programme for Lesotho has gone through two grant making cycles with the third cycle in its initial stages. The first cycle saw four (4) organizations being awarded a total of **M 994 070.00** for community biodiversity conservation projects. The second cycle which was concluded in June 2009, saw an additional five (5) projects receiving grants amounting to M 1 321 387.00, bring the total number of projects to nine (9) and the total amount of funds awarded to local non-governmental and community based organizations to **M 2 315 457.00**.

Although the GEF-SGP has five focal areas, the distribution of projects is skewed towards biodiversity conservation. While all projects approved during the first grant-making cycle were on biodiversity conservation, there was a variation in the second grant making cycle in that only 1 was *purely* on biodiversity conservation while 3 were multifocal; and 1 addressing land degradation. Nonetheless, all the multifocal projects still touch on biodiversity conservation.



In an attempt to balance the distribution of projects among the five GEF-SGP focal areas, a restriction was imposed for the third cycle of grant-making, with preference placed on all focal areas other than biodiversity conservation. A call for concept papers was issued in June 2009 and a total of thirty eight (38) submissions were received and are due for review by the National Steering Committee on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009.

The third grant making cycle marks the third and final year of the fourth operational phase (OP 4) of the GEF-SGP.

GRANTEE NAME	PROJECT TITLE	GEOGRAPHIC AREA
1. Serumula Development Association (SDA)	The Implementation of Tsenekeng Communal Botanical Garden (Semonkong) in the Mountainous Rural Area of the Maseru District ( <b>Biodiversity</b> )	Mountain region ( <i>Semankong</i> )
2. Rural Self-Help Development Association	Preservation of the Unique Gene Pool of Lesotho's Indigenous Chickens ( <b>Biodiversity</b> )	Southern lowlands ( <i>semi-arid</i> )
3. Qholaqhoe Herbal Centre Association (QHCA)	Community based Biodiversity Conservation through Establishment of a herbal centre at Qholaqhoe in the Northern District of Botha Bothe ( <b>Biodiversity</b> )	Foothills ( <i>Botha Bothe</i> )
4. Anti Drug Abuse Association of Lesotho (ADAAL)	Mokotjomela Environmental Protection and Development Project ( <b>Biodiversity</b> )	Southern Districts ( <i>Quthing – Mount Moorosi</i> )
5. Liphamola Private Nurseries Cooperative Society	Community Based Biodiversity Conservation through Establishment of Aloe Plantation in Mokhotlong District ( <b>Biodiversity</b> )	Mountain Region ( <i>Mokhotlong</i> )
6. Patriot Vision in Action (PAVA)	Bamboo People and the Environment in Lesotho ( <b>Multifocal</b> )	Southern Dry-lands
7. GROW	Strengthening Community Actions and Responses towards Environmental Degradation ( <b>Multifocal</b> )	Major river basin catchments Agricultural land ( <i>Mokhotlong</i> )
8. Matelile Tajane Community Development Trust (MTCDT)	Adoption and Promotion of Renewable Energy Technologies through Construction of a Biogas Digester at Matelile Community Development Centre ( <b>Multifocal</b> )	Southern Districts ( <i>semi-arid</i> )
9. Young Women Christian Association (YWCA)	YWCA – Lesotho Aloe Plantation Project ( <b>Land Degradation</b> )	Foothills ( <i>Makhalaneng</i> )

PICTURES TAKEN DURING FIELD APPRAISALS FOR THE SECOND GRANT MAKING CYCLE, MARCH 2009



**Figure 1** SGP Team, Local HIV/AIDS Support Groups, PAVA Staff and ASB (partner NGO) during field appraisals



**Figure 2** A section of the degraded land to be rehabilitated and put under bamboo plantation by PAVA



**Figure 3** SGP Team and MTCDT Board Members with Matelile Community Development Centre in the background



**Figure 4** Gas stoves used for preparation of meals for workshops, trainings and meetings held at the Centre



**Figure 5** SGP Team, YWCA staff and representatives of Makhalaneng Community with a section of the area for aloe plantation in the background

For more information contact:

*The National Coordinator  
GEF Small Grants Programme  
C/O UNDP –Lesotho  
13 United Nations Road  
P.O. Box 301  
Maseru 100*

*Tel: (266) 22 313790*

*Fax: (266) 22 310042*

*Email: registry.ls@undp.org*



The GEF  
Small Grants  
Programme