

Finance for sustainable tourism

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The Global Environment Facility in a snapshot

I. Founded in 1991 as a pilot, 1992 officially, financing mechanism for the Rio Conventions + International Waters + support Chemical and Waste (5 FA+ EA + IP)

II. GEF7 will start in July for 4 years and 4.1 billion US\$

III. Each country has an operational focal point and an allocation

IV. Projects are presented and implemented by one of 18 agencies (UNDP, WB, FAO, UN Environment, AfDB, IUCN, CI, WWF ...) and executed by the ministries and state agencies

V. All information is on www.thegef.org

1st challenge: determining the priorities

- ▶ Priorities for the environment:
 - ▶ Habitat destruction/degradation for placing the facilities
 - ▶ Waste and waste-water treatment
 - ▶ Light pollution (/marine birds and turtles + bats)
 - ▶ Invasive alien species
 - ▶ Energy consumption, air pollution and GHG emissions
 - ▶ All could be considered as priorities and their cumulative impacts have to be taken into consideration
- ▶ Of course socio-economic priorities as well



2nd challenge: Who can/should finance what?

- ▶ Find the best use of scarce public and aid money: policies reform and enforcement to level the playing field ...
- ▶ Co-financing is key (ratio 1:7) and PPP
- ▶ Find the best win-win deals for businesses to invest in reducing pressures on the environment to make their activities more sustainable: freeing the beaches during nesting season
- ▶ Involve the clients (reducing water consumption, reduce waste and improve its management ...)



Examples of project supported by the GEF

- ▶ Increasing Climate Change Resilience of Maldives through Adaptation in the Tourism Sector
- ▶ Reduce GHG emissions from Montenegro's tourism sector and maintain the overall tourism sector related GHG emissions at the 2013 level or lower despite the rapidly growing number of visitors
- ▶ Mozambique: reinforce enabling conditions for community-oriented, private sector investment in environmentally and socially sustainable tourism (end 2014)
- ▶ Samoa: Increase the resilience of the tourism sector of Samoa through mainstreaming climate risks into tourism-related policy processes which guide the implementation of adaptation actions by tourism operators and tourism-reliant communities (started in 2013)
- ▶ Cabo Verde: Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into the Tourism Sector in Synergy with a Further Strengthened Protected Areas System in Cape Verde

