



# Global Environment Facility

# talking Points

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## July 2008

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## A Letter from the CEO



Dear Colleague:

Greetings from the GEF Secretariat in Washington, DC

Summer is here and we hope the season finds you well. Here in Washington last month we experienced 100-year record high temperatures mixed with a series of tornadoes that roared through the DC metropolitan area. But this is nothing compared to what happened on the other side of our fragile earth., The devastating typhoon in Myanmar and the terrible earthquake in China for example both destroyed hundreds of thousands of lives as well as uprooting huge amount of fauna and flora and damaging key habitats, further threatening biodiversity.

We at the GEF of course felt compelled to do what we could to help mitigate this suffering and help people begin the painful but necessary process of

rebuilding. Further to that goal I would like to share with you that for the first time in the history of our biodiversity projects, we designed an emergency project to assess the damage to biodiversity inflicted by the quake with the idea of helping the local population deal with their immediate needs after this natural disaster. This effort not only include measures to rehabilitate the habitat of the brand animal of the Chinese Szechuan province, the Panda, but will also help further highlight how we can mainstream biodiversity issues into government disaster recovery planning.

Along with our programming efforts, I would like to share with you details of some important gatherings we participated in over this past spring. The spring Council meeting in April was again an essential event with lots of important discussions and key decisions made. For the GEF secretariat it is an extremely helpful exercise to present work plans, meet with NGOs and get feedback, guidance and approvals from council members. In Bonn during May-June, the Biodiversity COP-9, the UNFCCC meeting on Climate Change and the second board meeting of the Adaptation Fund were held, and we were active participants helping to push forward our mission of investing locally for global environmental benefits.

After Bonn, I had the wonderful opportunity to make my first trip to the Central Asian region where I had the chance to meet with our partners in capitals and in the field. Making this trip was very important for me because I wanted to strengthen our GEF relationship with key stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan.

Back in Washington I also had the privilege to participate with our World Bank Group partners on a signature event called "Save the Tiger" at the

Smithsonian Zoo here in Washington DC. Joined by WBG President Robert Zoellick the GEF participated in a full day of events with representatives of the international community, industry and NGOs to launch a "Tiger Coalition" designed to spread awareness of this majestic endangered species and the ongoing encroachment of its habitat by development.. As an "umbrella" species at the top of the food chain in the wild, tigers represent an important indicator of the status of wildlife and the balance of biodiversity.

Building on awareness with this tiger we hope to also garner interest and support with other public-private partners to save other threatened species and I encourage you to watch this space for more details in this area.

With this I wish you all a great and relaxing summer time.

Before closing this letter, I encourage you visit the latest updates we have made to our website at [www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org). We've added a multimedia and a publications section and did some other small changes that hopefully will make our website more interesting. However we are working on revamping the GEF website to offer you an interactive and user-friendly tool. For this reason I encourage you to browse the pages and offer us feedback on how we can make further improvements.

In the meantime, have a restful summer.

Best Wishes  
Monique Barbut  
Chairman and CEO  
Global Environment Facility

## Launch of International Tiger Conservation Initiative

The World Bank Group, the Global Environment Facility, the Smithsonian National Zoo and the International Tiger Coalition launched a new Tiger Conservation Initiative on June 9th in Washington DC. The launch brought together scientists, celebrities and other partners to raise awareness of the need to increase international action to reverse the alarming decline in wild tiger numbers. Tiger numbers have declined to less than 4,000 animals across thirteen range countries, where they occupy less than seven percent of their historic range.

Loss of prey and habitat due to uncontrolled development and poaching for the black-market trade in tiger skins and bones continue to fuel the species' rapid demise.



*(Harrison Ford meets with kids at the launch of the Save the Tiger initiative (to the left: Caio Fonseca, son of Gustavo Fonseca/GEFSEC)*



*(Robert Zoellick, World Bank President, giving the inaugural speech)*

The new Initiative will support a series of dialogues in tiger range countries to increase awareness of the urgent need for tiger conservation, mainstream biodiversity conservation in development projects and disseminate and replicate best practice and lessons learned to save tigers in the wild.

The partnership will also assess the financing needs of tiger conservation and collaborate with governments and the private sector to find innovative funding sources and mobilize new resources for the species?

For more information contact:  
[kmackinnon@worldbank.org](mailto:kmackinnon@worldbank.org)

## **GEF Earth Fund: a Public Private Partnership**

The development of a GEF private sector strategy\* in 2006 has led to the creation of The GEF Earth Fund, which is the name for the GEF Public Private Partnership Initiative approved by the GEF Council in June 2007.

The overall objective of the GEF Earth Fund is to establish, in cooperation with the IFC, a new form of partnership to support environmental innovation and help accelerate the emergence and replication of projects that will generate global environmental benefits in a sustainable and cost-effective manner in the developing world. The GEF Council has agreed to earmark \$50 million for this initiative and the objective is to raise an additional \$150 million.

This innovative tool will give GEF the ability to better attract funding from private companies, individual donors and foundations and work more directly with a broader network of partners, as not only the GEF agencies, but also NGOs or Foundations with fiduciary standards that meet GEF requirements, will be allowed to propose programs. Contributors will have the ability to become members of the Earth Fund Board, which will shape the strategy under the guidance of the GEF Council.

A first \$30 million IFC program on climate change and biodiversity will be launched over the summer, while it is expected that the full Earth Fund Board will be set up in the fall.

For any question please contact:  
[mmokass@thegef.org](mailto:mmokass@thegef.org)

\*"The Public Private Partnership Initiative: Furthering the GEF Strategy to Enhance Engagement with the Private Sector"

## **GEF Grants US\$1 Million to China for Rapid Assessment of Chemical Contamination after the Earthquake**

A catastrophic earthquake, named "Wenchuan", measuring 8.0 on the Richter scale jolted Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi Provinces of China at 14:28 on May 12, 2008. More than 8,000 major aftershocks with a magnitude above 4.0 on the Richter scale were recorded while some were as high as 6.4.

The National Earthquake Bureau (NEB) has predicted that aftershocks will continue for a long period of time and some may reach a magnitude of 6.0 to 7.0. The Chinese Government has declared that the destruction caused by the earthquake is the most severe natural disaster since the establishment of the People's Republic of China 60 years ago, with a death toll over 69,000 and affected population over 30 million as of May 28, 2008.

The hardest hit areas are in about 40 counties in Sichuan Province because of their closeness to the epicenter and mountainous topography. The proposed GEF project is an integral part of the Bank's efforts in supporting the Chinese government in their response to the Wenchuan Earthquake.

This project, together with the Bank's GFDRR proposal, will evaluate earthquake damages and assess needs for recovery and reconstruction. Activities will focus on a short-term response measure (STRM) to identify and assess potential impacts and risks associated with hazardous chemicals and wastes, including Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), released from damaged facilities in Sichuan. It will also ensure that disposal of hazardous chemicals and wastes will be properly managed so that potential

releases of dioxins and furans from the disposal process can be minimized.

For more information, contact:  
hchan@worldbank.org

## GEF Strategic Partnership on the Black Sea and Danube Basin – Ten Successful Projects Financed by GEF Investment Fund in ECA

Nowhere on Earth have such demonstrable water quality and ecosystem improvements been observed in a large river and adjacent sea as in the Danube River/Black Sea system over the last decade. As a result of Basin countries efforts, including GEF-funded investments, nitrogen emissions have decreased about 20% and phosphorus almost 50 % in the Danube Basin/Black Sea in the last 15 years. The dead zone at the Black Sea's northwest shelf has been virtually eliminated and the Sea is showing evidence of recovery.

Since 2002, ten World Bank projects supported by the Investment Fund for Nutrient Reduction and financed by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) have been very successful in piloting measures to reduce nutrient loads entering the Black Sea and Danube Basin. The projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Bulgaria, Croatia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Turkey supported, among others:

- introducing innovative low-cost wastewater treatment methods (BiH, Moldova)
- promoting wetlands as environmentally and economically friendly investments benefiting populations (e.g. Bulgaria)
- restoring degraded land and reducing soil erosion (e.g. Moldova), introducing waste

segregation and water quality monitoring (Romania);

- constructing manure management facilities and promoting organic farming (e.g. Turkey).

The projects were part of the GEF “Strategic Partnership for Nutrient reduction in the Danube River Basin and Black Sea”. The Partnership is a multilateral structure established with the cooperation of the World Bank, UNDP, UNEP, and other financiers, as well as basin countries to address the environmental degradation of the Black Sea and Danube Basin region. The GEF Investment Fund is managed by the World Bank, was established to catalyze investments and accelerate action by other stakeholders interested in the recovery of the Black Sea. It managed to leverage US\$365 million to complement US\$70 million GEF grant funds for nutrient reduction investments in the agriculture, and municipal and industrial wastewater treatment sectors and for wetland restoration.

Details about the projects, a vast range of materials on nutrient reduction and much more about the successful GEF Strategic Partnership on the Black Sea and Danube Basin can be found on the new website: <http://www.worldbank.org/blacksea>

## Groundwater: The Case for Africa

Coursing gently beneath the world's surface, lays 98-99% of the entire global freshwater supply. Groundwater represents 8 to 10 million Km<sup>3</sup> of water. Globally, about 1.5 billion people depend upon groundwater for their drinking water supply. In Africa, home to the majority of large aquifers, groundwater resources hold 175 times as much fresh water as rivers and lakes combined. However, surface waters receive much more attention, support and funding and groundwater resources are currently underutilized, with a global annual consumption of about 800 Km<sup>3</sup>; this represents only about 20 percent of total annual freshwater withdrawals (WMO, 1997).

The UNDP Water Governance Programme has estimated that 42 African countries will not meet their MDG water targets by 2015 in the 'business-as-usual' scenario. In terms of investments, responding to people's needs and sustainable development and attaining the MDGs, there is a strong need to better map out and sustainably develop Africa's groundwater resources.

UNDP is one of the leading players and global advocates in the development and sustainable utilization of groundwater resources for poverty reduction. For example the UNDP-GEF Eastern Desert Project in Egypt has developed a methodology for assessing groundwater recharge from flash floods. With the projected increases in flash floods as a result of climate change, this may offer an interesting adaptation response.

Groundwater projects are often transboundary and involve many partners. The [Nubian Aquifer](#) is the largest fossil aquifer in the world,

covering an area of 2 million km<sup>2</sup> across Libya, Egypt, Tchad and the Sudan. The key elements of a GEF project jointly implemented by UNDP, IAEA and UNESCO include mapping its resources, strengthening cooperation through an agreed plan of action and getting Tchad and the Sudan fully engaged in the Joint Authority that acts as the regional institution.

On behalf of UN-Water and in partnership with private and public partners, UNESCO has embarked on a large-scale groundwater assessment programme called [WHYMAP](#). Building on this scientific work and tackling the governance aspect, a UNDP pan-African project, operating with GEF funding and following through the German-supported Petersberg dialogues, provides targeted input to the African Ministerial Conference On Water (AMCOW) in implementing the Africa Water Vision 2025. In partnership with African and international bodies, the project is working to bridge the gap between surface and groundwater, and between technicians and politicians. It does so by building capacity of River Basin Organizations to deal with groundwater and by targeting parliamentarians, ministers of finance and the media for increased understanding of groundwater and its role.

Projects such as these illustrate how UNDP and the GEF are working together, to achieve the MDGs and provide equitable and safe access to water under growing global uncertainties.

## **The Development Marketplace announces 100 finalists for this year's competition on sustainable agriculture**

On June 23, 2008 the [Development Marketplace](#) (DM) announced the selection of 100 innovative ideas to promote sustainable agriculture. The DM is a competitive grant program that identifies and fund innovative, early-stage projects with high potential for development impact; it is administered by the World Bank in collaboration with the [Global Environment Facility](#) (GEF) and other development partners. This year's global competition, organized in coordination with the [Agricultural and Rural Development](#) (ARD) department of the World Bank, has drawn 1,768 proposals from around the world addressing three issues: linking small-scale farmers to markets, improving land access and tenure for the poor, and addressing the challenges of climate change and biodiversity. The greatest majority of the [selected finalists](#) come from sub-Saharan Africa (41 percent), followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (21 percent), East Asia and the Pacific (19 percent), South Asia (14 percent), Eastern Europe and Central Asia (3 percent) and the Middle East and North Africa (2 percent). The top nine countries of implementation are India, Kenya, the Philippines, Brazil, Ecuador, Ghana, Nepal, Tanzania and Vietnam.

The finalists compete for grant funding at the Marketplace to be held September 24-25 at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C. Since 1998, the Development Marketplace has awarded more than \$46 million in grants to over 1,000 initiatives.

The competitions are held at the global, regional and national level and attract a range of ideas from innovators, civil society, academia, social entrepreneurs and business.

For more information, please, visit: [www.developmentmarketplace.org](http://www.developmentmarketplace.org)

## Preparations for the Fourth Overall Performance Study Have Started

The GEF is replenished by donors every four years. All replenishments have been informed by “overall performance studies,” which have provided an independent assessment of the achievements of the GEF up to the time of the study. The GEF Evaluation Office has been asked by the GEF Council to undertake the Fourth Overall Performance Study (OPS4), which will be an important document for the Fifth Replenishment of the GEF.

The overall objective of OPS4 will be to assess the extent to which the GEF is achieving its main objectives. The GEF Evaluation Office has formulated five clusters of questions on which the study will focus on 1) the niche and added value of the GEF, 2) results of the GEF, 3) relevance of the GEF, 4) performance issues of the GEF, and 5) resource mobilization and financial management.

In collecting and analyzing data and drawing conclusions and recommendations, OPS4 will be based on a wide variety of sources of information, methods of analyzing them, and appropriate meta-evaluation techniques to ensure that OPS4 will be a valid, credible and legitimate report. The Evaluation Office will follow a “mixed methods” and “theory based” approach to ensure that questions are properly understood and researched.

The draft Terms of Reference were shared with the GEF Council in June and will be finalized in July. OPS4 will be conducted during the coming year and will be submitted to the replenishment in mid 2009.

Additional information on the OPS4 can be found on the GEF Evaluation Office website at [www.gefeo.org](http://www.gefeo.org). Comments and reactions are welcome at OPS4@TheGEF.org.

## International Conference on Evaluating Climate Change and Development, 10-13 May 2008 in Alexandria, Egypt.

Over two hundred international experts gathered in Alexandria, Egypt, from May 10-13, 2008, for a high level international conference on Evaluating Climate Change and Development. The event was organized jointly by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the GEF Evaluation Office and various other partners, such as AFD, FFEM, IUCN and IDEAS, and tackled a number of topical issues related to effective climate change evaluation.

In opening the conference Mr. Maged Elias, Minister of State for Environmental Affairs, Egypt, welcomed the impressive range of delegates on behalf of H.E. Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak. Amongst the climate change experts in attendance, representatives were drawn from international organizations, academia, NGOs and civil sector organizations.

Mrs. Monique Barbut, CEO of the GEF, launched the meeting with a keynote address. She explained the conference was aimed at identifying good practices and information gaps in evaluations of climate changes and development projects and programmes. A second aim was to improve and realize the potential for evaluations to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

A key issue was the need to capitalize on emerging **best practices in evaluating mitigation** of climate change. These best practices should be further developed into frameworks and guidelines that are internationally accepted by the professional community of evaluators.

On **adaptation and vulnerability**, participants signaled a continuing need for improved information exchange and practical approaches. The urgency of the issue requires evaluators, practitioners and researchers to become involved in design and in empowering communities as well as governments.

Moreover, there is a need to establish an issues driven **community of practice**, a global network of evaluators, practitioners and researchers working on climate change and sustainable development. It is through this network like this that support can be given to – and further develop – evaluation capacity in developing countries.

The Conference also presented a valuable opportunity for practitioners to come together and discuss the establishment of a **knowledge repository** of climate change evaluations. A large interest in the repository was shown and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, the WB Library and the GEF Evaluation Office are now working towards ensuring that this repository becomes a reality.

Many significant findings emerged from this conference and Rob D. van den Berg, Director of the Evaluation Office, outlined some of them in his final summary statement, which included conclusions and action points on how to proceed. The closing statement as well as presentations, discussions, reports and webcasts can be found at: [www.esdevaluation.org](http://www.esdevaluation.org).

## Input on the RAF midterm review

The midterm review (MTR) of the GEF Resource Allocation framework (RAF) is progressing well. The report will be presented to the GEF Council November 2008 session; and we expect that an early draft will be shared with stakeholders in September 2008.

As most evaluations at mid-point, the MTR will focus on recommendations to improve implementation of the RAF. It is too early to assess the full and longer-term impact of the RAF and the projects approved under RAF funds. There are, however, many aspects that can already be evaluated, including the effects on roles, pipeline development and project approval, partners, and funding allocations.

The MTR will also consider the reallocation of resources at mid-point (1 July 2008) that the GEF Secretariat will announce. The review will focus on the areas covered by the RAF – climate change and biodiversity - but will consider possible spillover effects to other focal areas as well.

So far, the MTR team has consulted broadly with governments; local NGOs and Agencies during country visits, many sub-regional workshops; and Convention meetings. During June 2008, we will also conduct a survey among a broad range of stakeholders, including GEF Focal Points, field project staff, NGOs and Agency staff. This is an important input on actual experience with the GEF RAF. The survey will be sent out electronically; but you will also be able access it through the website [www.gefeo.org](http://www.gefeo.org). Your support and feedback will be greatly appreciated.

More information, including frequently asked questions on the MTR and the team composition, can be found on the GEF Evaluation Office website [www.gefeo.org](http://www.gefeo.org) under RAF MTR. *We also welcome any direct feedback on experiences with the RAF.* Please contact [rafevaluation@thegef.org](mailto:rafevaluation@thegef.org) or the task manager Siv Tokle, [stokle@thegef.org](mailto:stokle@thegef.org) with your comments or concerns.

## National Dialogue Initiative: National and Sub-regional Workshops in Africa



From 16-17 June 2008, Cameroon hosted a GEF National Dialogue in Yaoundé to strengthen the integration and impact of GEF Activities within their national sustainable development and poverty reduction policies. The Workshop was attended by some 60 stakeholders representing government and civil society institutions, donor institutions and the media, and took place at Yaounde's Botanical Gardens.

During the two day Dialogue designed to improve communications among national stakeholders on GEF related issues, participants:

- assessed the lessons learnt and outcomes and impact of GEF activities, drawing upon the ongoing GEF Country Portfolio Evaluation prepared by the GEF Evaluation Office;
- reached consensus on recommendations for strengthening Cameroon's GEF national coordination mechanism; and
- reached consensus on the framework and broad priorities for future GEF support based upon lessons learnt and national sustainable development priorities.

The latter was facilitated by multi-stakeholder working group sessions to discuss national priority issues in biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and POPs/water/waste, each chaired by Cameroon's respective convention focal point with assistance provided by a substantive expert from the team of GEF resource persons representing the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies.

Two other events GEF sponsored by the Country Support Programme (CSP) took place in Africa immediately following Cameroon's Dialogue: (1) the Sub-regional Workshop for GEF Focal Points from West and Central Africa took place in Douala, Cameroon from 19-21 June for 45 GEF Focal Points from 24 countries and observer representatives from the GEF-NGO Network and international NGOs, and (2) Sub-regional Workshop for GEF Focal Points from East and Southern Africa took place in Windhoek, Namibia from 25-27 June for 40 GEF Focal Points from 22 countries and observers from the GEF-NGO Network.

Both Sub-regional Workshops:

- introduced Focal Points to the latest changes in the revised GEF Focal Area strategies, cross cutting initiatives, and funds available for adaptation;
- provided a forum for countries to exchange their good practices in integrating GEF in national environment and development plans and policies, including coordination and priority setting for GEF co-funding;

- provided a forum for Focal Points to formally provide feedback during closed door sessions to the Midterm Review of the Resource Allocation Framework being undertaken by the independent GEF Evaluation Office; and
- reviewed the many tools available to support the work of the Focal Points in GEF4.

For more information on the Sub-regional Workshops including agendas, lists of participants, presentations in English and French and photos, please visit

[http://www.gefcountrysupport.org/report\\_detail.cfm?projectId=219](http://www.gefcountrysupport.org/report_detail.cfm?projectId=219) (West and Central Africa) and

[http://www.gefcountrysupport.org/report\\_detail.cfm?projectId=220](http://www.gefcountrysupport.org/report_detail.cfm?projectId=220) (East and Southern Africa).

Article prepared by Stephen Gold,  
Global Manager, GEF National Dialogue  
Initiative and Country Support  
Programme.

## New Focal Points and Council Members

Belize	Alegria, Martin	Operational Focal Point
Belize	Rosado, Alexis	Political Focal Point
Benin	Mama Gao, Séidou	Operational Focal Point
Bolivia,	Alcoba Arias Beatriz	Political Focal Point
Bolivia	Rojas Castro, Miguel Angel	Operational Focal Point
Italy	Berardi, Gisella	Council Member
Mongolia	Batjargal, Gunaajav	Political Focal Point
Namibia	Shangula, Kalumbi	Political Focal Point
Nigeria	Eze, Ozo Chidindu	Operational Focal Point
Tajikistan	Zikirov, Khursandkul	Operational Focal Point/ Political Focal Point

## New staff at the GEFSEC



**Patrizia Cocca**

Patrizia Cocca joined the GEF's External Affairs team on May 5 as a Communications Officer mainly focusing on revamping and maintaining the GEF website.

An Italian national, over the past three years she has been living in Costa Rica, working as coordinator of the knowledge management and communication unit of the Regional Unit for Technical Assistance (RUTA), a multi-donor platform promoting rural development in Central America.

Previously, she worked in the World Bank's EXT Development Communication (DevComm) division, focusing on free trade and rural development issues in Central America.

Before joining the Bank, Patrizia was the portal manager of RaiUno (TV channel) and TG1 (TV News) at RAI, the Italian public broadcasting network. Prior to this she established and managed an Internet Solutions Provider in Rome, servicing small and medium enterprises.

Patrizia holds a Master Degree in Global Marketing Communication and Advertisement from the Emerson College in Boston and an Advanced Degree in Modern History and Anthropology from Università La Sapienza in Rome.

## New Staff at the GEFSEC

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**Danielius Pivoriunas**

Danielius Pivoriunas joined the GEF's external relations team on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2008 as the Senior Operations Officer for Capacity Building. He was born and raised in Lithuania, graduated from the Lithuanian University of Agriculture with MSc and received PhD from the University of Vilnius, Lithuania. He was also a recipient of several international scholarships including Fulbright.

Before joining the GEF, Danielius was working for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkmenistan. Serving as an Advisor and Program Manager, he had extensively advised on capacity building and environmental development cooperation at national and regional levels of Eurasia.

Prior to joining the OSCE, he served as a Senior Manager in the Lithuanian Ministry of Environment where he managed the development of policies, programs and environmental legislation at national level and served as an expert for numerous international projects and programs.

Danielius Pivoriunas brings wealth of experience and academic knowledge of capacity building, environmental policies and legislation development regionally, nationally and locally to the GEF.

He likes philosophy, theater, music, and art. In his free time, Danielius is interested in learning the history of different cultures and traditions.

## **NEW GREEN SPACE for STAP Secretariat and UNEP/GEF Liaison Office**

The STAP Secretariat and UNEP GEF's Washington-based teams will be moving July 1, 2008 to our new office at 900 17th Street, NW, Suite 506, Washington DC 20006.

The new space is being built out with a view towards obtaining gold level LEED -Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification – a Green Building Rating System™. Whether we have achieved our goal of getting the gold will be confirmed in October 2008.

The LEED environmental certification system (for commercial interiors) is based on points in six categories, including: site sustainability, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and finally, innovation and the design process. The system is premised on minimizing the office's environmental footprint, maximizing cost effectiveness and giving rise to a healthy, productive place to work.

We look forward to your visit, so please call us at +1 202-974-1311.

## **GEF website survey - Help us build a better website!**

The GEF is starting to design a new website with the goal of providing to our users an improved service.

Please take the time to fill our survey. It will take only 5 minutes, but your answers and suggestions will allow us to develop a better website that will enhance communication and knowledge about the global environmental issues.

The survey is available in the home page of our website. [Click Here to take survey](#) now.

## Upcoming events

Event	Date	Place
GEF CSP Subregional Workshop for GEF Focal Points from the Caribbean	8-10 July 2008	Havana, Cuba
Colombia GEF National Dialogue	16-18 July, 2008	Bogota
Ecuador GEF National Dialogue	September 2008 (dates to be announced)	Quito
GEF CSP Sub-regional Workshop for GEF Focal Points from the Pacific	September 2008 (date to be announced)	Venue to be announced
Egypt GEF National Dialogue	7-9 October 2008	Cairo
Pakistan GEF National Dialogue	October 2008 (dates to be announced)	Pakistan
GEF Subregional Workshop for GEF Focal Points from Latin America	October 2008 (dates to be announced)	Venue to be announced
GEF CSP Subregional Workshop for GEF Focal Points from the Middle East and North Africa	December 2008 (dates to be announced)	Venue to be announced