



RECOMMENDATIONS

GEF National Dialogue Initiative Workshop 19-21 September 2005 Amman - Jordan

The Jordan “GEF National Dialogue Initiative Workshop” was held on 19–21 September 2005 under the patronage of the secretaries general of the ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and the Ministry of Environment in the presence of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Resident Representative in Jordan.

The Workshop, which aimed at enhancing the concept of national involvement in the development and implementation of GEF projects, reviewed and discussed GEF programs and policies, as well as the areas of their application in Jordan.

The Workshop also included a national dialogue about the coordination mechanisms of GEF activities in Jordan. The dialogue was attended by stakeholders in public, civic, academic and private institutions involved in implementing GEF activities.

The Workshop made the following recommendations:

1. The need to ensure that GEF activities fall within the framework of national development activities in Jordan, with a view to achieving the objective of sustainable development, which emerged from the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development;
2. The need to link GEF-financed projects with the national strategic plan to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;
3. Enhancing the coordination mechanism at the national level and setting up a program of action to prioritize Jordan’s environmental programs for the period (2007–2010);
4. Utilizing the new funding mechanisms for adapting to the climate change phenomenon in setting up priority projects, especially in the water and agricultural sectors;
5. Advancing from the stage of developing policies and plans to that of implementing applied projects included in these policies;

6. Developing, updating and putting in place policies and legislation that help Jordan meet its commitments vis-à-vis international conventions;
7. Enhancing the role of GEF projects as a means to improving sustainable livelihoods and contributing to empowering communities and alleviating poverty;
8. Enhancing the role of women in implementing environmental projects;
9. Investing GEF projects in supporting international and regional efforts to conserve natural resources through equitable distribution and the implementation of a participatory approach, especially in the areas of international waters and climate change;
10. Enhancing the role of the private sector, civic society institutions, research centers and the media as partners in environmental protecting and sustainable use of natural resources through GEF projects;
11. Focusing on drawing global environmental benefits for formulating and implementing GEF projects in Jordan with a view to enhancing the regional and global role of national projects;
12. Focusing on linking the protection of environmental resources with economic policies, by calculating the cost of environmental degradation and implementing projects that verify the economic feasibility of environmental protection projects and developing human capacities in this area;
13. Exploiting networking and communication tools among workers in the area of the environment at the national and regional levels and maximizing the role of the media in sharing knowledge gained through GEF projects;
14. The need to evaluate the impact of programs on the environment and the community, as well as on efforts to combat poverty and empower women, and to draw examples and lessons similar to those learnt from the evaluation of projects implemented through funds from the Small Grants Program.