Global Environment Facility

State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill
Department of the Treasury
Title V

What is the Global Environment Facility?
The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is the largest and most experienced multilateral fund dedicated to addressing global environmental threats. The GEF assists communities in addressing environmental degradation that threatens livelihoods and security. Using private-sector solutions to overcome market and investment barriers, GEF programs combat illegal wildlife trafficking; protect biodiversity and critical habitats; and invest in the sustainable management of freshwater, forests, fisheries, agricultural areas, and other natural capital. In June 2022, 29 donor governments finalized the GEF-8 replenishment process with over $5.33 billion in pledges to support programs through 2026.

What do the funds support?
- Grants, blended finance, and policy support provided to government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector companies, and research institutions that implement projects and programs.
- Investments in 11 integrated programs that deliver benefits across five focal areas—biodiversity, climate change mitigation, land degradation, international waters, and chemicals and waste.
- Technical assistance and capacity building for recipient countries to make better use of resources, improve collaboration at the country level, increase country ownership and leadership, and promote South-South knowledge-sharing and exchange.

Foreign Aid Delivers
Since its inception in 1992, the GEF has provided more than $24 billion in grants and blended finance and mobilized an additional $138 billion in co-financing for 5,700 projects in 164 countries. By the end of GEF-7, $3.6 billion in direct project financing leveraged a rate of $8.20 for every $1 invested in environmental programming. GEF-7 programming is expected to deliver the mitigation of more than 1.5 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions; the improved management of more than 166 million hectares of productive landscapes; the reduction, safe disposal, or avoidance of 90.4 million metric tons of toxic chemicals; and much more.

Funding History
Funding levels may not accurately reflect those in the appropriations bills and/or reports due to rounding.