



# ▶ GREENING URBAN PLANNING & GROWTH

## KEY MESSAGES

Cities are the driving force behind national and global economies, and have a critical role to play in supporting global sustainability and climate change ambitions, as well as the realization of green growth pathways. Urban areas are increasingly seen as engines of national and global wealth but face an urgent need to address their own sustainability challenges and various adverse external impacts they have on natural resources, ecosystems, and the planet. Cities have a key role to play in the realization of Agenda 2030 as well as the climate change agenda, including the Paris Agreement, and linking renewed green city planning to climate finance provides a significant opportunity for change.

Recognizing the importance of cities to the global sustainability agenda and green growth transitions, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) has committed to working with its Members and partners to deliver inclusive, integrated urban planning, infrastructure, and mobility solutions. **In 2019, GGGI achieved 115 results related to green cities, including green growth plans and policies, green investments and capacity building activities, and knowledge products, across 29 projects in 13 countries.** This in turn strengthened cities' efforts to grow using more renewable energy, better manage urban waste through circular economy approaches, support sustainable transportation solutions, and create new green jobs.

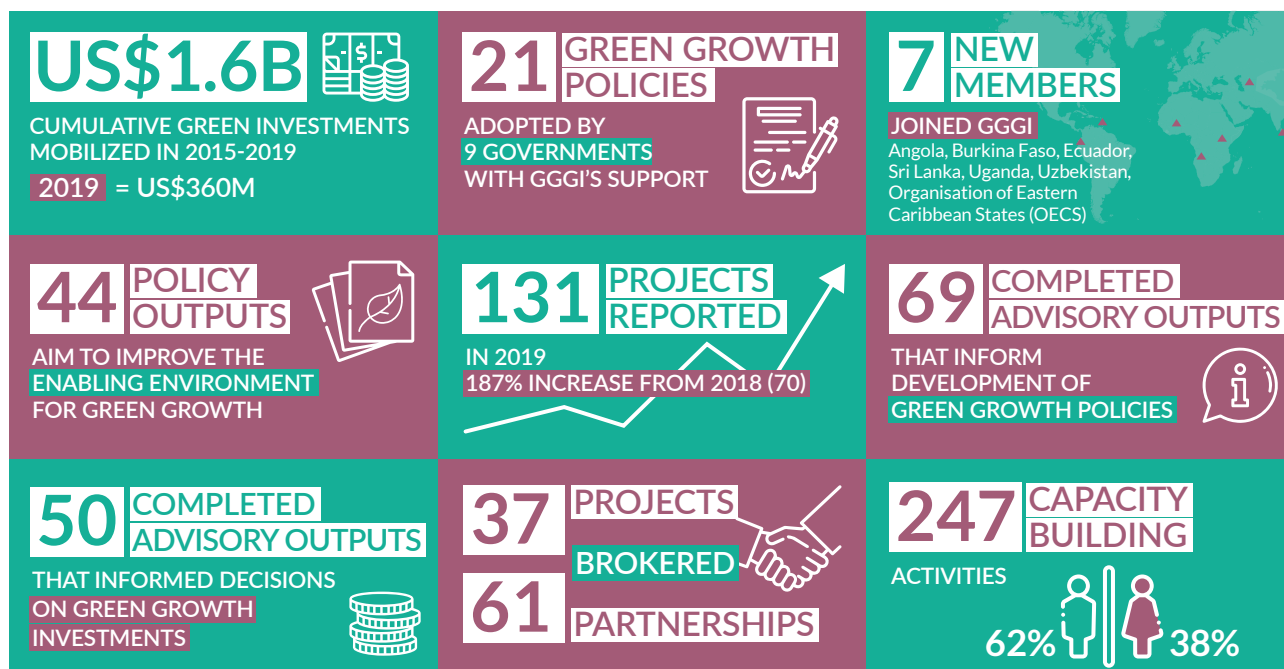
GGGI worked with line ministries and municipal governments to develop green city plans and frameworks in Nepal, Senegal, Rwanda, and Cambodia, as well as deliver training materials and project origination linked to climate finance and bilateral assistance in a host of other countries. In Mongolia, GGGI supported its government partner to secure Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) funds to increase energy efficiency within older, energy intensive residential buildings. In Peru and Lao PDR, GGGI supported municipal governments to develop and roll-out pilot projects that tackle the growing challenge of urban waste, while at the same time creating jobs and new sources of income.

Further, during the Climate Summit at the 74<sup>th</sup> United Nations General Assembly, GGGI joined partners through the Coalition of Urban Transition to contribute to efforts underway to integrate smart, innovative, and green approaches into urban sustainability agendas to support more efficient, affordable, and effective services for all.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Climate Emergency, Urban Opportunity: <https://urbantransitions.global/en/publication/climate-emergency-urban-opportunity/>

## GGGI'S RESULTS AT A GLANCE

### 2019 Results at a Glance

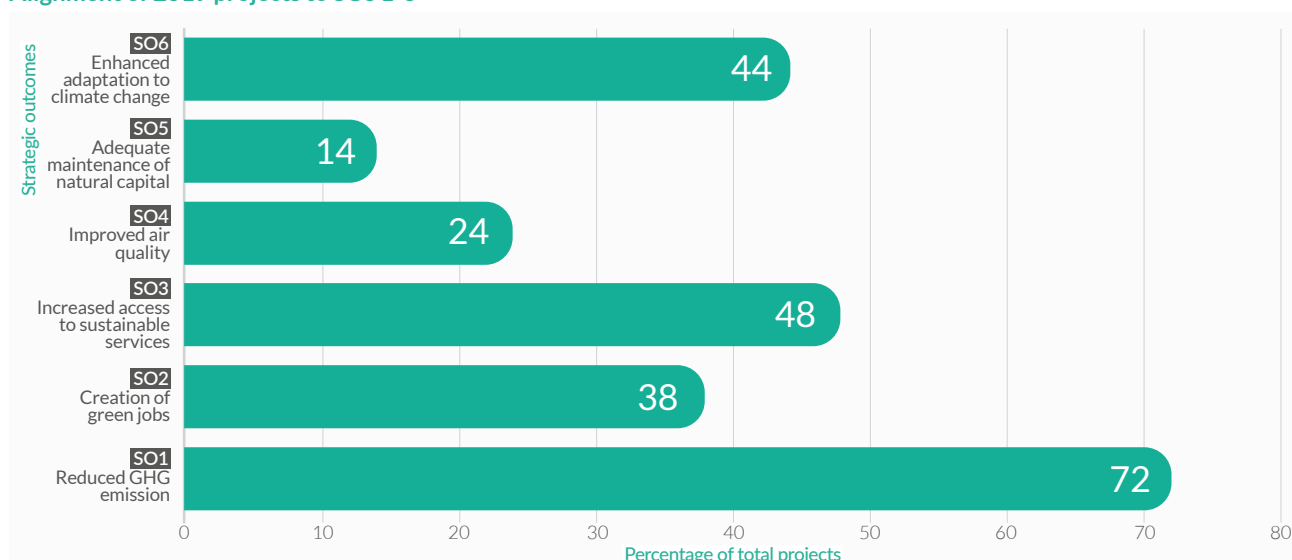


In 2019, GGGI delivered a solid performance through the implementation of the Work Program and Budget (WPB) 2019-2020. GGGI completed 69 advisory outputs that informed the development of green growth policies, 50 advisory outputs that informed decisions on green growth investments, and 21 adopted policies that will have transformative green growth impacts. **GGGI increased its total cumulative green investments catalyzed since 2015 to USD 1.6 billion from USD 1.3 billion in 2018.** This was the result of 23 green investment commitments totaling USD 360 million that were catalyzed in 14 countries. GGGI also expanded its membership by 7 in 2019, gaining 6 new Member countries: Angola, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Uzbekistan,

and our first regional integration member, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The growth of GGGI's membership is testimony of its increasing recognition and value as a trusted embedded partner to Member governments in the international arena of promoting green growth.

GGGI was active in the delivery of 247 capacity building activities, mainly in the form of workshops, seminars, training events and study tours. Around 10,500 participants, including government officials, benefited from knowledge and skills development and knowledge transfers which enhanced Members' and partners' capacity to develop and implement green growth policies and plans, green investments and projects.

### Alignment of 2019 projects to SOs 1-6

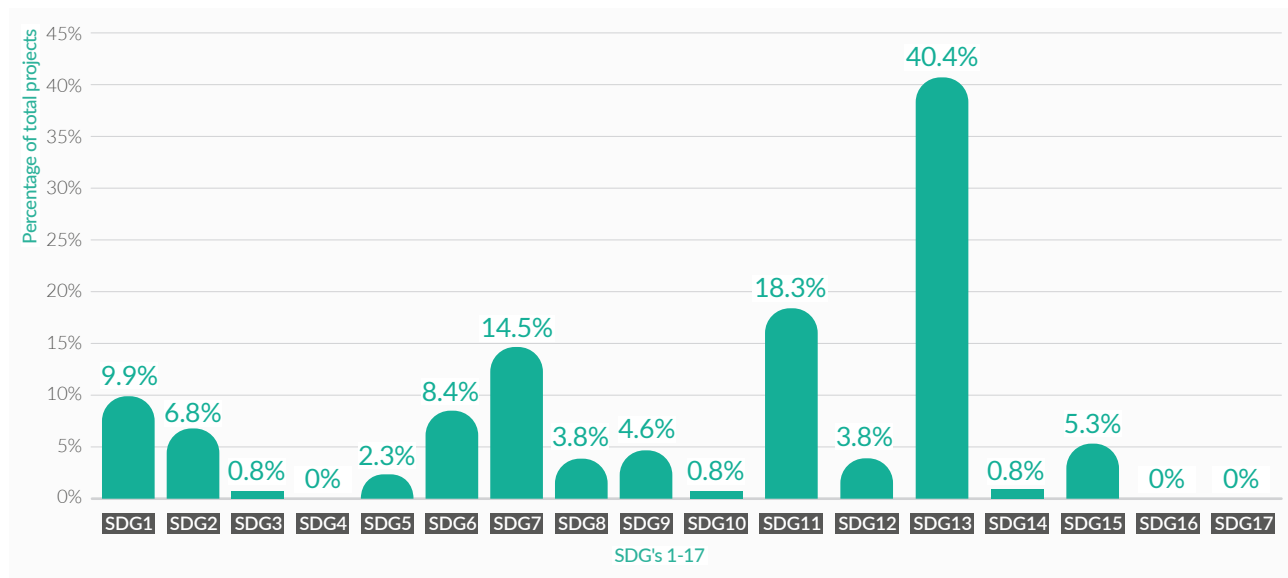


# ALIGNMENT OF 2019 PROJECTS WITH STRATEGIC OUTCOMES AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

The 131 projects that GGGI implemented in 2019 reflect the priorities of its Members and partners and their commitments to deliver on their Nationally Determined

Contributions (NDCs) and the SDGs. GGGI's projects had the strongest alignment with SO1 on the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at 72%.

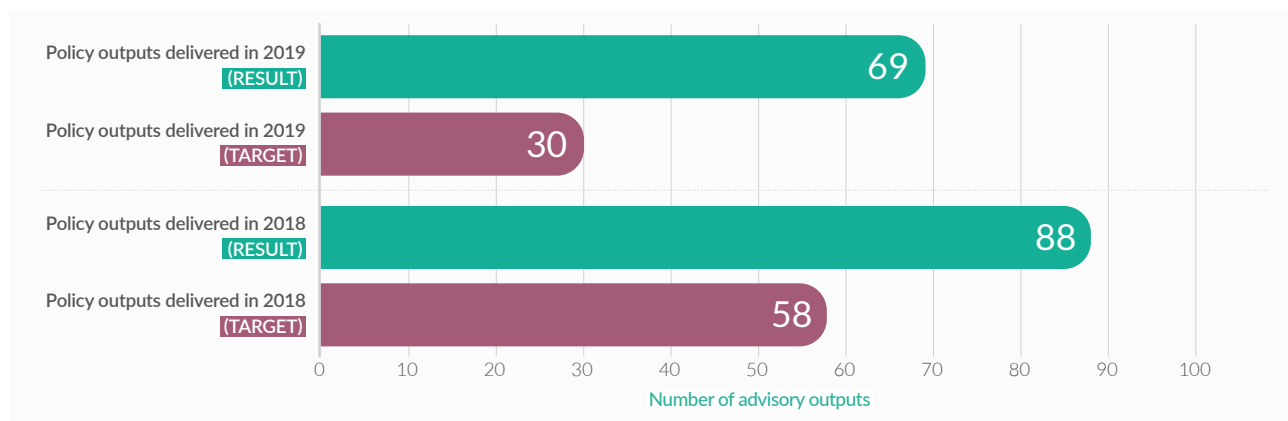
## Alignment of 2019 projects with SDGs 1-17



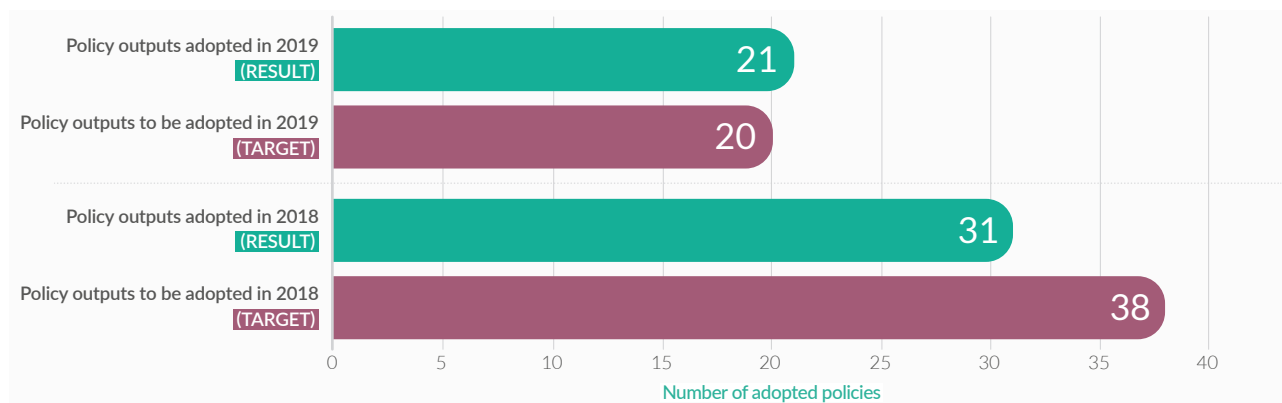
GGGI supports its Members and partners to deliver on their SDG commitments. In 2019, GGGI's projects had the strongest alignment with SDG 13 on climate action at 40%,

followed by SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities at 18%, and SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy was also strong at 14.5%.

## Number of completed advisory outputs that inform the development of green growth policies



### Number of green growth policies adopted by Governments



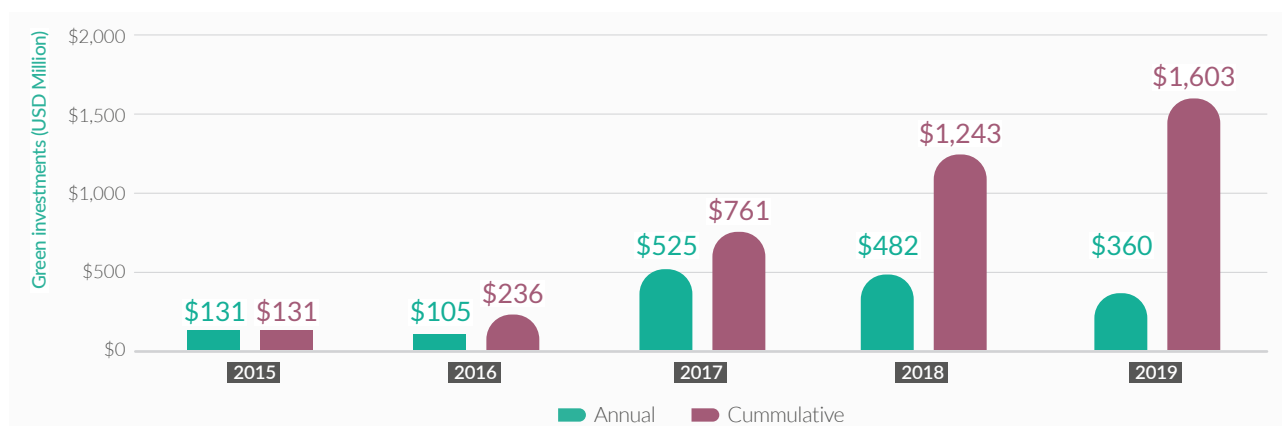
## DEVELOPING GREEN GROWTH AND NATIONAL POLICY FRAMEWORKS

An initial step in transforming economies toward a green growth economic development model, is to have governments adopt and implement the right policies. This is a focus of the assistance and support that GGGI offers to its Members and partners to establish green growth plans and policies at the national, sub-national and sectoral levels of government usually following an initial green growth diagnosis and impact assessment.

GGGI delivered 69 advisory outputs that informed the development of government green growth policies with

GGGI's support against a target of 30. These 69 advisory outputs were accrued in 24 countries. The types of advisory outputs include green growth assessments, NDC Action Plans, climate change plans, strategic plans, green jobs assessment, development plans, and technical reports. GGGI also facilitated and supported the adoption of 21 green growth policies in 9 countries against a target of 20.

### 2019 annual total cumulative green investments mobilized, 2015-2019



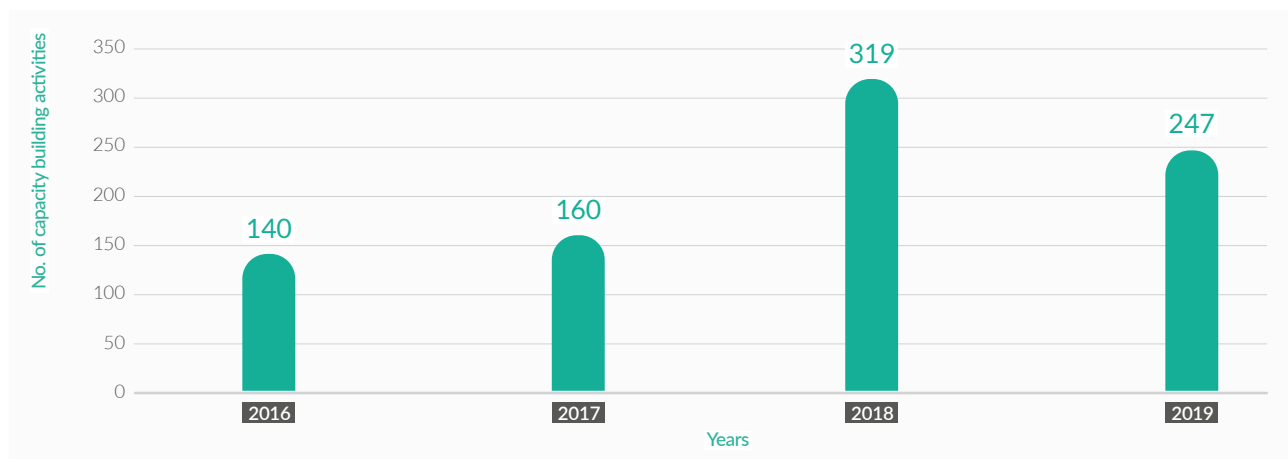
### Catalyzing Green Growth Investments

GGGI had successfully catalyzed a total cumulative green investment of USD 1.6 billion since 2015, up from USD 1.2 billion in 2018. This increase was the result of the USD 360 million in total green investment commitments mobilized in 2019, from 23 projects in 14 countries, of which 71% was funded by the public sector, and 29% by the private sector. Moreover, two-thirds of the green investment work evaluated by GGGI's Impact & Evaluation Unit was found to have moved from "commitment" to "agreement/

disbursement" stages. The private sector has committed to raise USD 391 million (73%) of the total investments.

*"It concludes that our early exit point is well chosen and that almost all the projects for which GGGI has mobilized green and climate finance are indeed moving forward to implementation. This is a very strong endorsement of our overall approach with some helpful recommendations for further improvement,"* said Dr. Frank Rijsberman, Director-General of GGGI.

### Number of capacity building activities delivered in 2019



### Multi-country knowledge sharing and capacity building

In 2019, GGGI delivered 247 capacity building activities for its Members and partners, benefiting a total of 15,000 participants, including government officials and partner and stakeholder representatives. Examples of capacity building activities included training events, workshops, seminars, study tours and on-the-job mentoring. Based on the evaluation feedback, the participants benefited from knowledge and

skills development and transfers, which enhanced Members' and partners' capacity to develop green growth policies, investments and project implementation. Ultimately, this will help GGGI's Members and partners to develop and sustain their capacities to make a transition to environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive economic growth.

## MAXIMIZING ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

As an organization, GGGI has grown in size and its scale of outputs which has required a shift in its staff and financial resources increasingly in-country – particularly out of the Seoul headquarters and into Least Developed Countries (LDCs) – and spending more on program delivery. With this underlying objective, GGGI's ongoing efforts to improve its financial stability and strengthen its business processes are geared to enhance its performance, effectiveness, governance and brand.

- In an effort to enhance its presence in the LDCs that are GGGI's Members, the Institute has established 2020 targets to allocate 42% of core country program budget to Member LDCs. In 2019, core funding to LDCs was 51%, compared to 45% in 2018, already exceeding the 2020 target.
- GGGI has taken efforts to improve its business processes through the iGROW business reform to provide corporate support for improved delivery of programmatic and operational priorities and strengthened transparency and integrity.
- Implementation of the WPB in 2019 reflected a commitment to efficiency of internal support functions, particularly performance of human resources management, legal, finance, and facilities services in line with the reform agenda.
- To strengthen its evaluation efforts, GGGI's Impact & Evaluation Unit focused on: (a) delivering country and thematic evaluations; (b) introducing and piloting Impact Pathway Review (IPR) as a tool for assessing and demonstrating impact; (c) delivering M&E services in response to program needs.
- GGGI has taken decisive and prudent steps to change its business model to be able to attract sufficient earmarked funding.
- GGGI proactively manages its risks related to the organization and reputation, operational program and portfolio, finance, legal, information technology and data, human resources, and work environment.

- ▷ Headquartered in Seoul, Republic of Korea
- ▷ 36 Members and operations in 31 countries

MEMBERS MEMBERS & OPERATIONS PARTNERS & OPERATIONS



