

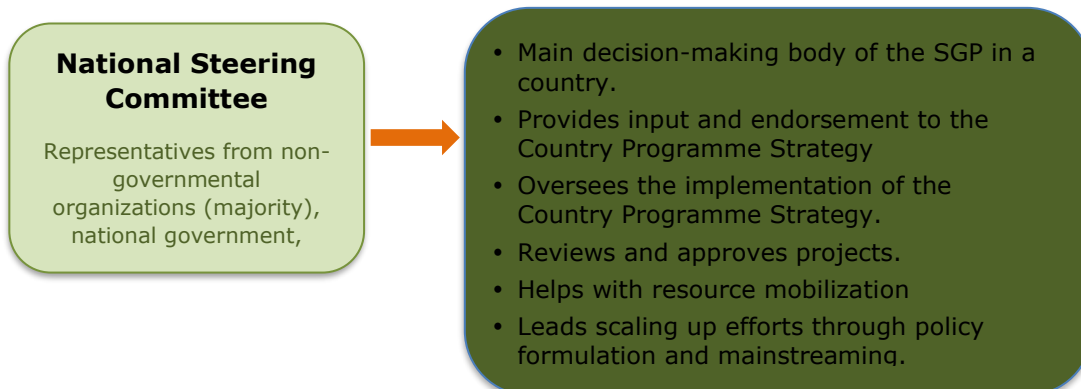
## National Steering Committee

The National Steering Committee (NSC) is the main decision-making body of the SGP in a country. Non-governmental members represent the majority of the NSC membership. Strong, experienced, and technically competent civil society representation on the NSC is crucial as a means of keeping the SGP responsive to its mandate to work with CBOs and NGOs. Other NSC members include academic and scientific institutions, the UNDP Country Office and a representative from the government, making the NSC a truly multi-stakeholder committee.

The NSC is responsible for the overall oversight of the country programme, by providing input, endorsing and overseeing the implementation of the Country Programme Strategy –the guidelines for the implementation and grant making in each country programme.

The NSC reviews, selects and approves projects for SGP funding support.

All NSC members contribute to their responsibilities on a voluntary basis. Membership and responsibilities of the NSC are summarized below.



The NSC decisions are adopted under the principle of consensus, and rarely resort to voting to determine whether a project is approved or a particular course of action is taken. Operationally, the decisions of the NSC are considered final. The objectivity, transparency and credibility of the NSC are of paramount importance to the success of the country programme. Thus, country programmes cannot consider proposals associated with organizations of NSC active members.

NSC members serve for a period of three years, which can be renewed for a maximum of one additional term. Nomination of the non-governmental NSC members is done in a consultative process with the civil society community in the country and is coordinated by the National Coordinator. The final list of NSC members is reviewed and finalized with the UNDP Resident Representative and ratified by the responsible Central Programme Management Team (CPMT) Regional Focal Point. The UNDP Resident Representative provides the appointment letters to NSC members on behalf of the SGP.