

GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND

# HANDBOOK FOR GREEN CLIMATE FUND IN THAILAND

(Updated Edition) 2024

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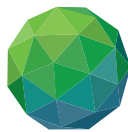


**HANDBOOK FOR  
GREEN CLIMATE FUND IN THAILAND**  
(Updated Edition) 2024

The publication was prepared by:

Strategy and International Cooperation Division  
Department of Climate Change and Environment  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

Under the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme in Thailand



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FUND



## **HANDBOOK FOR GREEN CLIMATE FUND IN THAILAND** (Updated Edition) 2024

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## Foreword

The Royal Thai Government is committed to bringing tangible benefits to the people through financial operations addressing climate change. It is essential to encourage all stakeholders to access international funding sources to support climate change programmes aligned with our national climate goals—i.e. Thailand's Long-term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS). At the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) in Paris, France, the Paris Agreement was enacted, and Parties pledged their commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). From Thailand's 2nd Updated NDC, submitted to UNFCCC on November 2, 2023, Thailand intends to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 30% from the projected business-as-usual (BAU) level by 2030. The level of contribution could increase up to 40%, subject to adequate and enhanced access to technology development and transfer, financial resources and capacity building support. Furthermore, Thailand will continue vigorous efforts in its challenge to meet the long-term goal of carbon neutrality by 2050 and net-zero greenhouse gas emission by 2065. In addition, Thailand also aims to implement climate adaptation actions, such as integrated water management planning and forest conservation, guided by the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The Department of Climate Change and Environment (DCCE), designated as the national focal point of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the National Designated Authority (NDA) of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for Thailand, is determined to drive such goals. This "Handbook for Green Climate Fund in Thailand (Updated Edition) 2024" is designed to provide general knowledge about the Green Climate Fund to the public and stakeholders, which include donors, project proponents, and implementing agencies—such as government and private sector entities, domestic and international organizations, and financial institutions, to understand the GCF and national requirements, effectively devise project and budget plans, and develop the GCF project proposals.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the Green Climate Fund, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and the Creagy Co., Ltd. for their great supports in the production of this Handbook. I also appreciate everyone involved for their dedications to its development as a guidance for Thailand to access the international financial mechanisms on climate change. I hope this Handbook will be of practical use and make a meaningful contribution to Thailand's long-term low greenhouse gas emissions development.



Dr. Phirun Saiyasitpanich  
Director General of the Department of Climate Change and Environment

## Foreword

The key mission of our national climate finance policy is to enhance access to international funding for all stakeholders. This support is crucial for implementing climate change initiatives to meet our Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets. To achieve such mission, capacity building as well as readiness and preparatory support shall be provided to ensure that all sectors of Thailand are able to operate effectively. Through consideration of the needs of the people and stakeholders in all dimensions and application of appropriate academic principles and knowledge, this will help drive the policy to concrete actions.

The Division of Strategy and International Cooperation, under the Department of Climate Change and Environment (DCCE), serves as the national focal point of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as well as the National Designated Authority (NDA) of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for Thailand. Having recognized such opportunity and benefits for Thailand to access the Fund, this “Handbook for Green Climate Fund in Thailand (Updated Edition) 2024” is prepared in collaboration with national and international stakeholders under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.

As a climate finance policymaker, I am very pleased to introduce this newly revised Handbook, to serve as important and necessary basic information in understanding the Fund, to all interested parties who shall make use of it for climate change implementation, as well as other relevant national development aspects to achieve the set goals for both climate change mitigation and adaptation. I will be dedicated to collaborating with all parties to achieve our shared climate goals.



Ms. Nareerat Panmanee  
Director of Strategy and International Cooperation Division

## About the Handbook

This Handbook is primarily designed as a guidance of general knowledge about the Green Climate Fund (GCF) – the Fund. The Handbook also offers a simplified and practical reference for project proponents and relevant stakeholders to understand the GCF's requirements for developing and submitting project proposals to the Fund.

### TARGET USERS OF THE HANDBOOK

This Handbook is intended for:

- **General Viewers:** individuals interested in general knowledge about the Fund and its operation in Thailand
- **Project Proponents:** line ministries or national-government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sectors, and other stakeholders looking to develop the GCF funding proposals
- **Direct Access Accreditation Seekers:** public, private, non-governmental, sub-national or national organizations interested in becoming direct access entities.



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## Chapter 1: Understanding the Green Climate Fund in Thailand



### WHAT IS THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND?

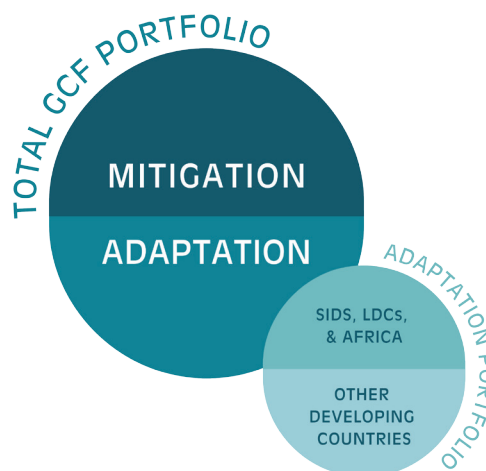
The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It was established at the 16th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP16) in Cancun, Mexico, 2010, and became fully operational in 2015. GCF aims to promote the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient pathways for sustainable development. Country ownership and a country-driven approach are core principles of the GCF. Governed by 24 Board members, equally drawn from developing and developed countries, GCF makes decisions based only on the consensus agreement of all Board members.

The GCF's first replenishment (2020-2023) is a crucial component of the financial commitments necessary to fulfill the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement objectives. This initial replenishment is part of a long-term strategy to develop the Fund into a key global mechanism for directing public climate finance and catalyzing the significant changes in global financial flows needed to meet the Paris Agreement goals.

As of August 19, 2022<sup>1</sup>, 34 contributors have pledged USD 10 billion to GCF-1. Over 70 percent have increased their pledges in national currencies compared to the Initial Resource Mobilization period, with half of the contributors doubling their pledges or more. This has led to investments in transformative climate projects worth over USD 40 billion (including co-financing) in more than 100 countries.

To prevent climate breakdown, both developed and developing countries must increase their climate action

and ambitions. The GCF's second replenishment (GCF-2)<sup>2</sup> is essential for the global goals to accessible climate finance. GCF-2 will enhance the Fund's capacity to urgently address the climate crisis and support climate action in developing countries during the Decade of Action, particularly from 2024 to 2027. 31 countries have pledged a total of USD 12.8 billion to support the GCF by 2027 during GCF-2. The GCF plans to allocate an equal amount of funding to projects focused on mitigating climate change effects and adapting to its adverse impacts. Additionally, at least half of its resources for adaptation will be directed towards countries vulnerable to climate change, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and African States.

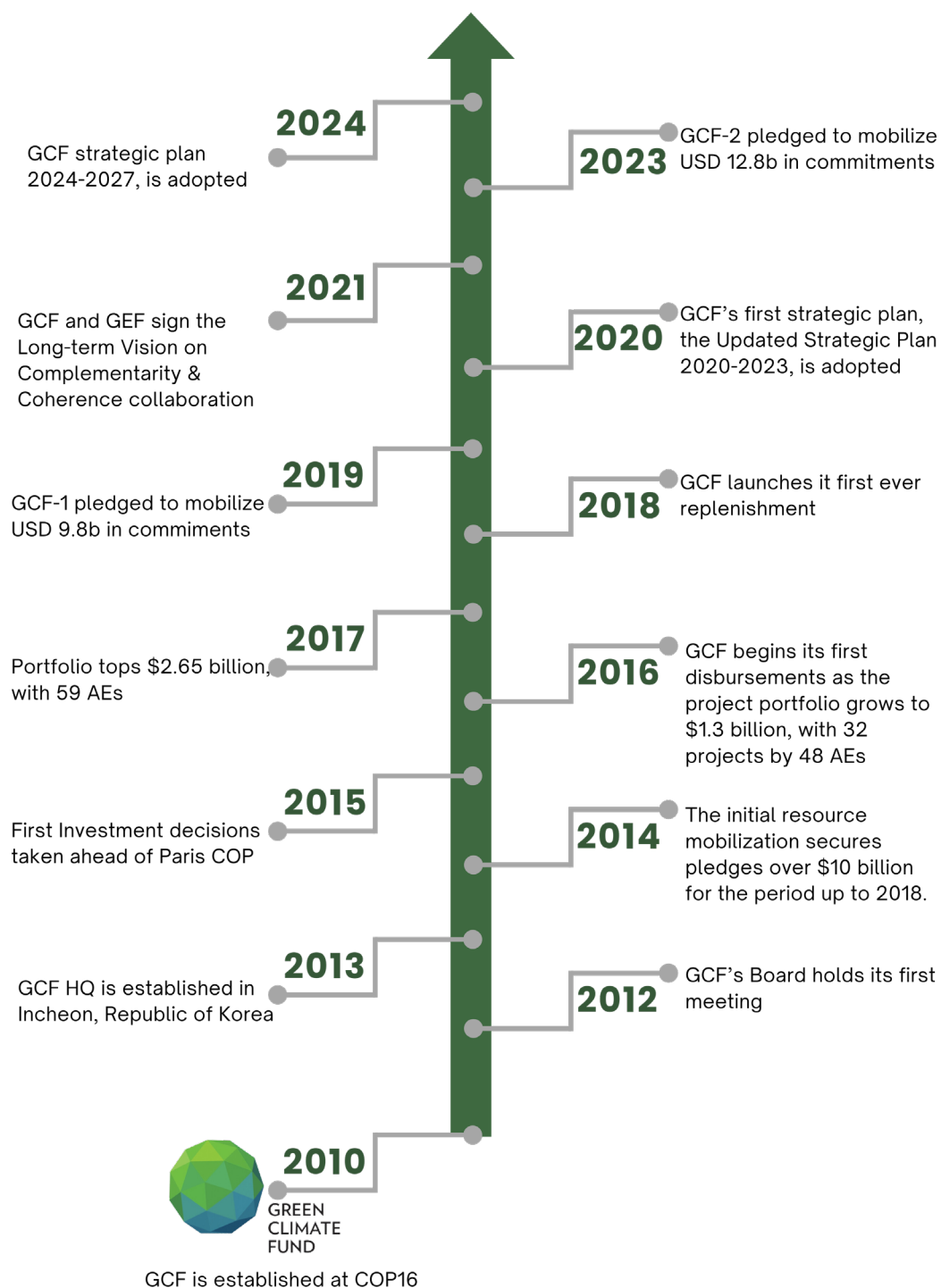


Source: [www.greenclimate.fund](http://www.greenclimate.fund)

<sup>1</sup> [GCF's First Replenishment \(GCF-1\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [GCF's Second Replenishment \(GCF-2\)](#)

## THE GCF STORY SO FAR

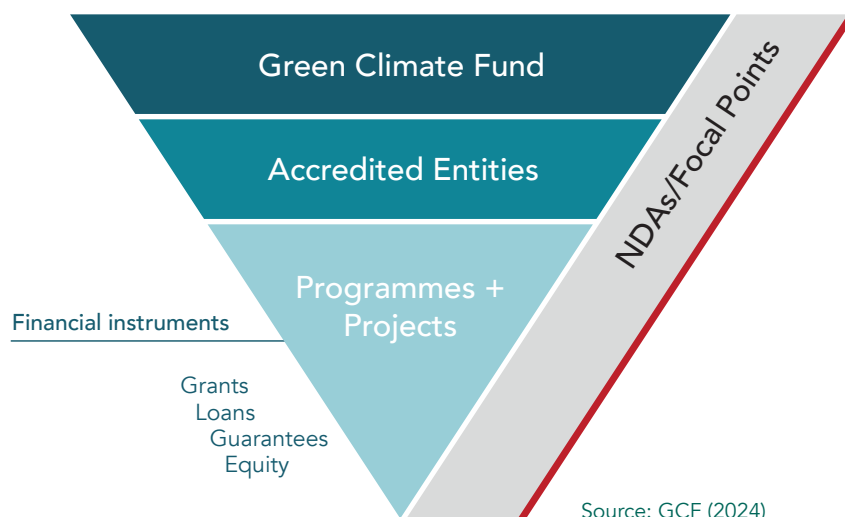


Source: [GCF-1 Progress Report](#)  
[GCF Strategic Plan 2024-2027](#)  
[GCF Timeline](#)

## GCF ARCHITECTURE

The GCF supports developing countries in adopting low-emission, climate-resilient pathways by financing projects through Accredited Entities (AEs). National Designated Authorities (NDAs) communicate country priorities to ensure projects align with national strategies. AEs manage the

project cycle, ensuring compliance with GCF standards, and NDAs facilitate these efforts, promoting country ownership and effective climate action across eight action areas which GCF seeks to invest.



## STRATEGIC IMPACT AREAS

The GCF aims to support paradigm shifts in two themes including climate mitigation and adaptation through eight results areas. There are four results areas of support to transform developing countries toward low and sustainable pathways: (1) energy generation and access, (2) transport, (3) forest and land use, and (4) buildings, cities, industries,

and appliances. The GCF also defined four results areas for adaptation: (1) health, food, and water security, (2) livelihoods of vulnerable communities, (3) ecosystems and ecosystem services, and (4) infrastructure and built environment against climate change threats.



Source: [GCF Programming Manual](#)

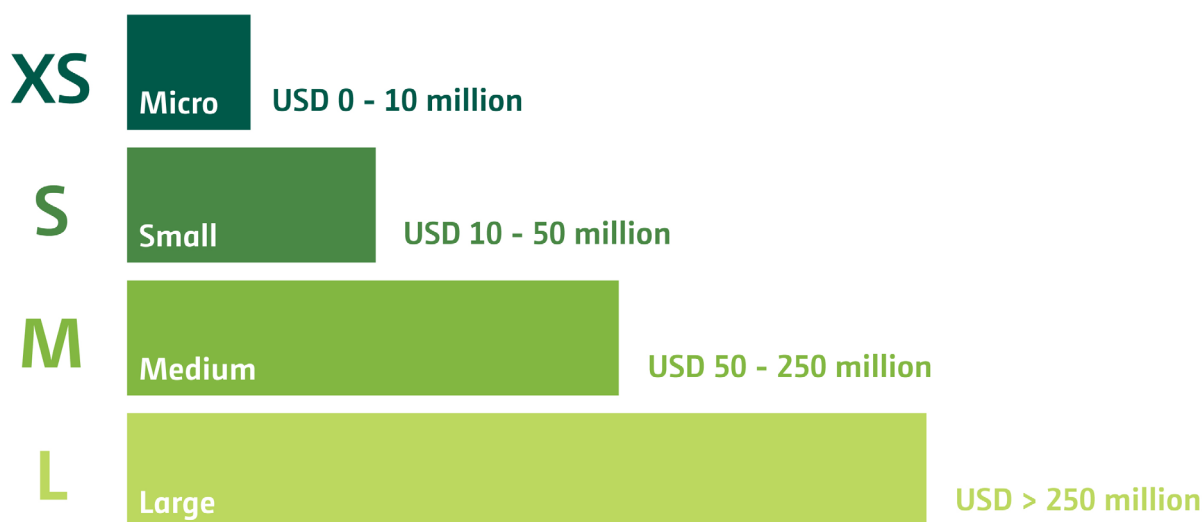
## GCF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The GCF provides four financial instruments.

- 1. Grants:** Grants are provided without the need for repayment unless conditions like corruption or breach of contract occur. They can be tailored to cover the specific additional costs required to make a project viable.
- 2. Concessional Loans:** GCF offers concessional loans with differentiated terms for vulnerable and other countries<sup>3</sup>. Vulnerable countries benefit from more favorable conditions, including lower interest rates and longer repayment periods, making it easier for them to manage their debt.
- 3. Equity:** Equity financing is another instrument used by the GCF, where they invest directly in projects. This form of financing is to invest in a project or asset to leverage debt and potentially achieve higher returns. Equity is used for projects with significant risks but still offers a chance of success and returns for equity holders.
- 4. Guarantees:** Guarantees offered by the GCF help mitigate risks and encourage private investment. These guarantees cover potential risks that might deter investors; and may cover the entire investment or a portion of it.

These financial instruments are designed to meet specific project needs, ensuring their sustainability and maximizing their positive impact on climate change.

## GCF PROJECT SIZES



Source: [GCF \(2024\)](#)

## NATIONAL DESIGNATED AUTHORITY

National Designated Authorities (NDAs) are government institutions that serve as the interface between each country and the Fund. They offer broad strategic oversight of the GCF's activities in the country and communicate the nation's priorities for financing low-emission and climate-resilient development.

Originally, the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP), appointed by the Thai Cabinet on 10 March 2015, served as the National Designated Authority to the GCF. However, a Royal Decree (B.E. 2566) was issued,

dated 17 August 2023, regarding the name change from the Department of Environmental Quality Promotion to the Department of Climate Change and Environment, under the Ministerial Regulation (B.E. 2566) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Therefore, the Department of Climate Change and Environment (DCCE), appointed by the Thai Cabinet on 4 June 2024, is the National Designated Authority (NDA) to the GCF for Thailand. It serves as the point of communication with the Fund and it also fulfills key roles and responsibilities.

<sup>3</sup> Refer to country classification and references from UNFCCC (Financial term and conditions of the Fund's instruments, 2015), vulnerable countries mean LDCs, SIDS and others mean non-annex I countries not included in LDCs and SIDS.

## KEY ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF “NDA”

NDA plays a critical role in maintaining country ownership, facilitating stakeholder engagement, and ensuring the alignment of GCF activities with national priorities

- 1. Strategic oversight aligned with national priorities:** Provide strategic oversight of the Fund’s activities in Thailand to be aligned with national priorities.

This includes ensuring alignment with national climate change strategies and policies and sustainable development frameworks. Thailand Country Programme (TCP) is developed to identify national strategic priorities for engagement with the Fund.

- 2. Convene national stakeholders:** Convene relevant stakeholders to identify priority sectors to be financed by the Fund.

Stakeholders include government entities, civil society, project developers, private sector actors, financial institutions, and communities, including vulnerable groups, women, and indigenous peoples, who will be affected by the Fund’s activities.

- 3. Nomination letters for direct access:** Communicate nominations of entities seeking accreditation to the Fund under the ‘direct access’ track.

One of the initial responsibilities of an NDA is to engage with potential public, private sector and non-governmental entities, and nominate such entities for accreditation to the Fund.

- 4. No-objection letters for projects/programmes:** Implement the no-objection procedure on submitted funding proposals, to ensure consistency of proposals with national climate change plans and priorities.

The No-Objection Letter (NOL) is provided to GCF by the NDA, in conjunction with any submission of a funding proposal by an accredited entity (AE) of the Fund. In case a proposal is submitted without NOL, GCF will notify the NDA.

- 5. Approval of readiness support:** Provide leadership on the deployment of readiness and preparatory support funding in Thailand.

The NDA may directly benefit from the funding or select international, regional, national and sub-national, public, private or non-governmental institutions, well-versed in readiness activities as their delivery partners. The Fund may also deploy readiness and preparatory support to prospective entities seeking ‘direct access’ accreditation, and to accredited entities to develop project and programme pipelines.



## Chapter 2: Becoming an Accredited Entity

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Accredited Entities (AEs) are essential partners to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to implement climate projects. These AEs, which can be private or public, non-governmental, sub-national, national, regional or international, must meet GCF standards. Guided by GCF investment framework and the priorities set by developing country governments, AEs transform concepts into concrete actions by collaborating with countries to generate project ideas for proposal development, submitting funding proposals for GCF Board approval, and project management and monitoring. Becoming an AE is, therefore, crucial for its access to GCF resources and its partnership with developing countries to enable addressing climate challenges effectively.

### ACCREDITATION TO THE GCF

Accreditation to GCF is a process through which applicant entities are assessed and approved by the GCF Board to access the Fund. **The process defines the way an applicant entity can access GCF resources**, including the maximum limits of financial support, the financing modalities (such as managing projects, awarding grants, on-lending, blending, undertaking equity investments, and providing guarantees), and the environmental and social risk levels. An Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA) is established between GCF and AE to set the general terms and conditions that govern their relationship throughout the accreditation term.

### ROLES OF ACCREDITED ENTITIES

AEs carry out a range of activities that may include:

- developing and submitting funding proposals;
- overseeing and monitoring the management and implementation of projects/programmes;
- ensuring that the projects meet the GCF fiduciary standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender policy;

- engaging in capacity building, providing technical assistance and other supports needed; and
- conducting annual self-assessments of their compliance with GCF standards and participating in midterm and ad hoc reviews conducted by the GCF Secretariat and the Accreditation Panel

### TWO TYPES OF ACCREDITED ENTITIES

There are two main types of accreditation modalities for GCF entities:

1. Direct Access Entity (DAE) includes subnational, national, or regional entities, such as government agencies, development banks, and non-governmental organizations, that have obtained a nomination from their respective National Designated Authorities (NDA).
2. International Accredited Entity (IAE) includes multilateral organizations, international financial institutions, and regional institutions. These entities span a wide range of bodies, including multilateral and national banks, United Nations organizations, conservation organizations, equity funds, and regional institutions.

### ACCREDITATION PROCESS

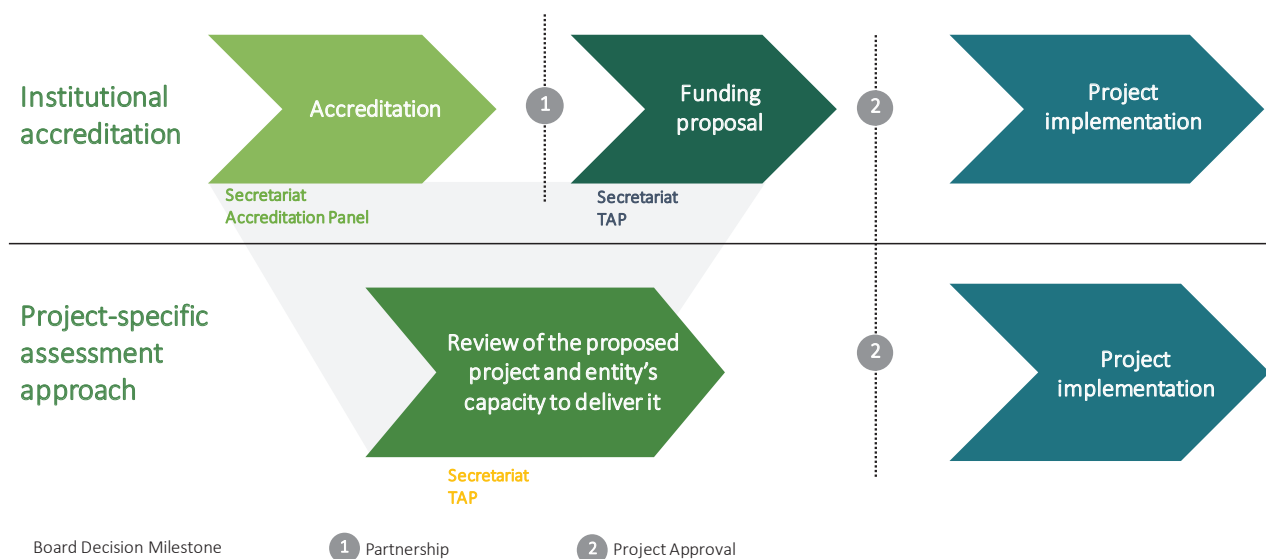
GCF deploys its resources through institutions to finance climate projects and programmes. These institutions have to be accredited to be able to access funding from GCF. The accreditation process is to ensure that the institutions can provide strong financial management and safeguarding of funding projects and programmes.

The requirements for accreditation, an institution needs to have its own legal status and ability to manage GCF resources in response to the Fund's fiduciary standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender policy.

Institutions may seek accreditation either through institutional accreditation or project-specific assessment approach (PSAA). The two modalities differ in terms of the length of its accreditation. The PSAA allows the entities to manage as an accredited entity on a single project or programme

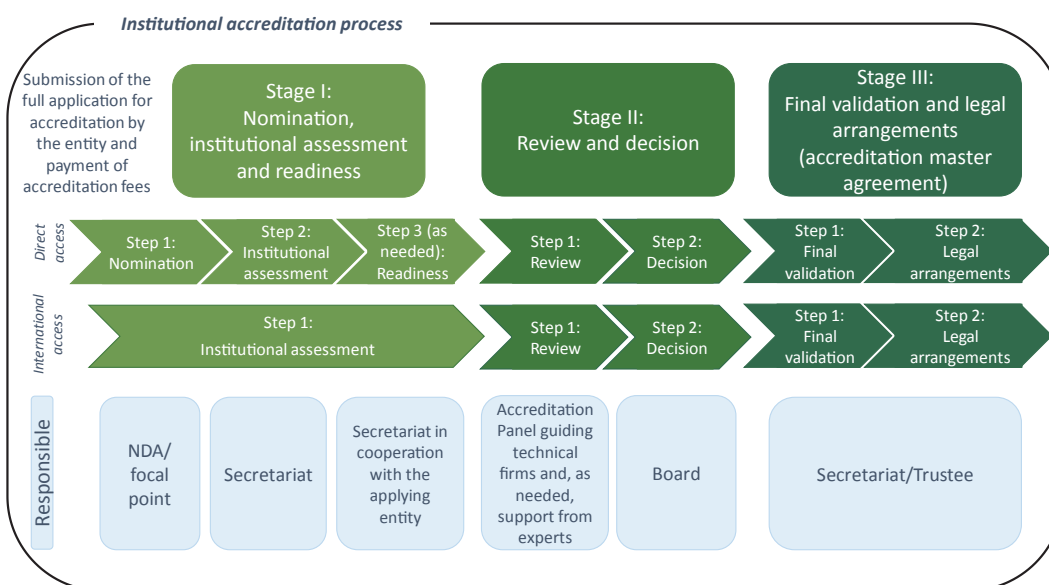
while institutional accreditation modality allows the entities to manage more than one project or programme under a fixed term of five years or less depending on the terms of accreditation. However, both modalities need to be nominated by NDAs before submitting the application.

## OVERVIEW OF ACCREDITATION APPROACHES: INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION AND THE PROJECT-SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT APPROACH



Source: [Accreditation Framework of the GCF](#)

## OVERVIEW OF THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS



Source: [Accreditation Framework of the GCF](#)

Entities seeking to become Accredited Entities can submit their accreditation application forms, completed by the Primary or Secondary Focal Points, through the Digital Accreditation Platform (DAP) available at the GCF Apps Portal: <https://apps.gcfund.org/>. This submission is part of Stage I Institutional Assessment and Stage II (Step 1) Review. For more information on institutional application process, please visit Accreditation Framework of the GCF. The application form and the reviewer's checklist are based on the GCF accreditation policies and standards, which include:

- **Fiduciary standards:**
  - Initial fiduciary principles and standards
  - Policy on the Protection of Whistleblowers and Witnesses
  - Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy
  - Policy on Prohibited Practices
- **Environmental and social safeguards (ESS) standards:**
  - Revised Environmental and Social Policy
  - Environmental and social safeguards standards
  - Information Disclosure Policy requirements for environmental and social information disclosure
- **Gender policy**

The application form for accreditation to the GCF and checklist is composed of the following sections:

**Stage I:**

- I. Background and contact information of the applicant
- II. Information on how the institution and its intended projects/programmes will contribute to furthering GCF objectives
- III. Information on the scope of intended projects/programmes and estimated contribution requested

**Stage II:**

- IV. Basic fiduciary criteria
- V. Applicable specialized fiduciary criteria [Project Management; Grant Award and/or Funding Allocation Mechanisms; and/or On-lending and/or Blending (for loans, equity and/or guarantees)]
- VI. Environmental and social safeguards (ESS) standards
- VII. Gender

Source: [GCF Accreditation Process](#)  
[GCF Accreditation Application Form](#)

## ACCREDITATION FEES

| PROJECT SIZE CATEGORIES | TOTAL PROJECT COST                            | ACCREDITATION FEES   |  |
|-------------------------|---|--|--|
|                         |   | FOR UNDERTAKING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO BASIC FIDUCIARY STANDARDS <sup>1</sup> , ESS <sup>2</sup> & GENDER         | FOR UNDERTAKING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO SPECIALIZED FIDUCIARY STANDARDS <sup>3</sup> |
| Micro <sup>4</sup>      | projects up to USD 10 million                 | USD 1,000  | USD 500 for each   |
| Small <sup>5</sup>      | projects between USD 10 million to 50 million | USD 5,000<br>USD 3,000 (for Sub-national and national entities in developing countries other than SIDs and LDCs) | USD 1,000 for each   |
| Medium                  | projects between USD 50 - 250 million         | USD 10,000   | USD 3,000 for each   |
| Large                   | projects above USD 250 million                | USD 25,000   | USD 7,000 for each   |

Source: [GCF Accreditation](#)

## KEY ELEMENTS OF APPLICATION FORM

| ITEMS                              | DETAILS   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Background and Contact Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legal name, status, and capacity of the applicant entity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Founding legal document confirming the legal or operating name</li> <li>Legal opinion or certificate confirming legal status</li> <li>Documentation of legal capacity to enter into legal agreements</li> </ul> </li> <li>Type of institution (e.g., national, private sector)</li> <li>Organizational structure, size, and location of the institution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organizational structure document</li> <li>Headcount of staff</li> <li>Location of head office and other offices</li> </ul> </li> <li>Core business description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting documents (e.g., articles of association, permits, licenses)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mandate and authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary text outlining the applicant's mandate and authority</li> </ul> </li> <li>Organizational mission, vision, and key activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description of organizational mission, vision, roles, and functions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

<sup>1</sup> Basic fiduciary standards i.e., Key administrative and financial capacities; Transparency and accountability)

<sup>2</sup> ESS – Environmental and Social Safeguards

<sup>3</sup> Specialized Fiduciary Standards (i.e., Project management; Grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; On-lending and/or blending)

<sup>4</sup> National and subnational applicants in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) can have some of their accreditation fees waived when applying for accreditation for micro- and small-sized projects.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Track Record                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sectors of operation (e.g., Agriculture &amp; Food Security, Energy Efficiency) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One example of a project/programme per selected sector</li> </ul> </li> <li>Evidence of experience with selected sectors</li> <li>Documentation of previous projects and their impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate-change related mandates, strategies, policies, etc.</li> <li>Track record of calculating and tracking greenhouse gas emissions</li> </ul> </li> <li>Evidence of compliance with environmental and social standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performance standards (e.g., labor conditions, biodiversity conservation)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| Financial and Fiduciary Standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audited financial statements for the past two years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statement of financial position, performance, changes in financial position, and cash flows</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |
| Risk Management and Compliance    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing policies</li> <li>Policy on the protection of whistleblowers and witnesses</li> <li>Policies and procedures for managing environmental and social risks</li> <li>Evidence of gender policy compliance</li> </ul>   |
| Additional Requirements           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information on how the institution will contribute to furthering GCF objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>List of potential projects/programmes</li> <li>Statement on how projects will drive a paradigm shift in climate finance</li> </ul> </li> <li>Information on supporting subnational, national, and regional entities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Details on how the applicant will support direct access entities to meet GCF accreditation requirements</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   |

Source: [GCF Accreditation Resource](#)

## APPLICATION RESULT

The result of the accreditation process will specify:

- the intended project size that the accredited entity may undertake;
- the fiduciary functions the accredited entity may undertake, which will shape how it operates using the GCF's resources (e.g. grants, loans, guarantees, equity); and
- the maximum level of environmental and social risk of its intended projects: Category A (high risk), Category B (medium risk), Category C (low risk)

## APPLICATION TIME FRAME

Time frame for accreditation: About 6 months if all the materials to be submitted are available. However, in practice the process usually takes 1-2 years. If materials need to be translated or developed (e.g. new policies) in order to be submitted, the process will take more time. In addition, accreditation is valid for 5 years. General Board meets 3 times a year. Information package for Board should be ready at least 2 months before the Meeting. GCF usually accredits up to 15 AEs annually.

### GET ACCREDITED

Apply for accreditation online via **Digital Accreditation Platform (DAP)**

Contact: [accreditation@gcfund.org](mailto:accreditation@gcfund.org)

Further information: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/accreditation>

## Chapter 3: Accessing GCF Project Financing

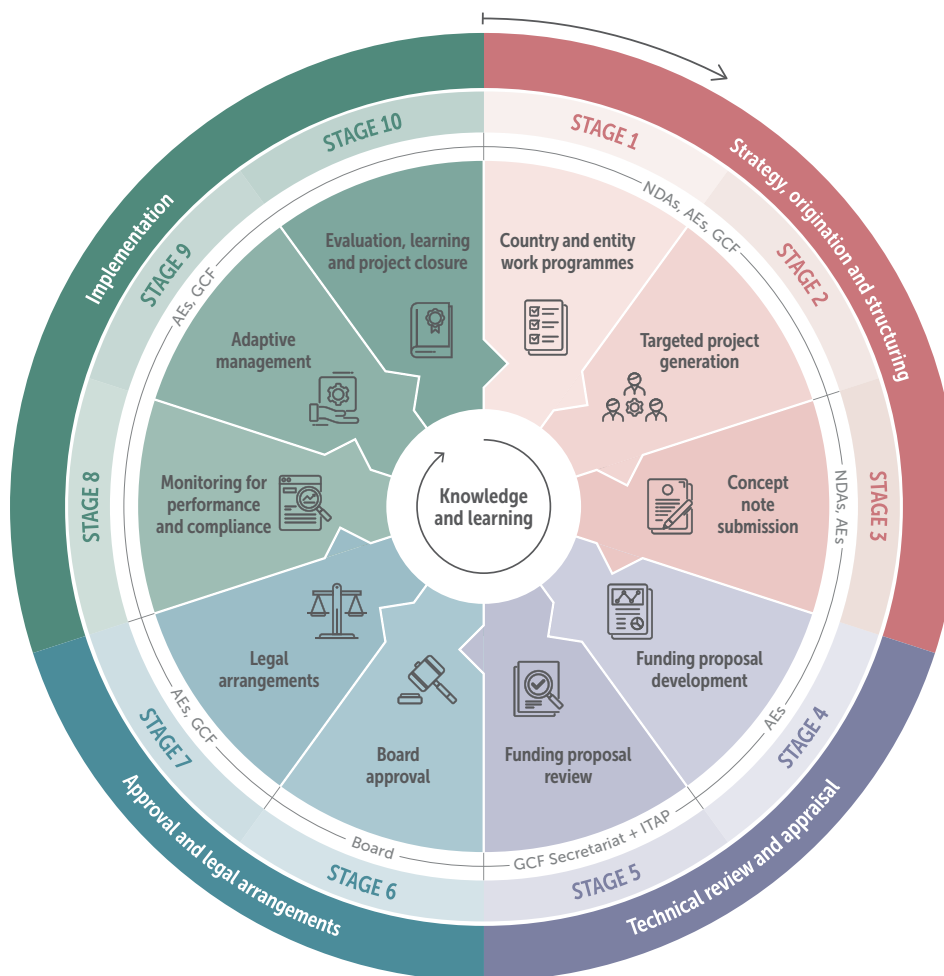
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To access the GCF project financing, there are 10 stages in the project activity cycle, from project origination to closure.

## GCF PROJECT ACTIVITY CYCLE



Source: [GCF Programming Manual](#)

The GCF operates through a collaborative framework involving key organizations: the GCF Board, the GCF Secretariat, National Designated Authorities (NDAs), and Accredited Entities (AEs). The GCF Board sets policies, approves funding proposals, and oversees the Fund's operations, ensuring alignment with strategic goals and investment criteria. The GCF Secretariat manages daily operations, provides technical assistance, reviews funding proposals, facilitates stakeholder engagement, and monitors project implementation to maintain performance

and compliance standards. NDAs play a pivotal role in developing country programmes (more details of Thailand Country Programme can be found in Chapter 4), issuing no-objection letters, ensuring national ownership, and engaging stakeholders to align projects with national climate priorities. AEs are responsible for the development, submission, and implementation of projects, conducting due diligence, and ensuring adherence to GCF standards throughout the project lifecycle.

## CONCEPT NOTE

Submitting a concept note is optional, however GCF encourage to submit it to ensure that the project concept aligns with the GCF's objectives, policies, and investment criteria, it is important to seek early feedback from the GCF Secretariat. This feedback will provide valuable information to further develop and strengthen the project idea. A concept note can be carried out and submitted by either accredited entities (AEs) or national designated authorities (NDAs). Despite being voluntary, it is strongly encouraged to enhance the initial quality of funding proposals and to allow for a faster review process.

### Step 1: Initial Engagement

- **Inform the NDA:** Accredited Entities (AEs) notify the NDA about the idea of a project or programme.
- **Commence Consultations:** Engage with the NDA to ensure alignment with the country's strategic framework and priorities in developing the concept note.
- **Notify the GCF:** Notify the Secretariat that it has commenced consultation with the NDA via the relevant provisions of the concept note.

### Step 2: Concept Note Preparation

- **Include Key Information:**
  - **Section A. Project/Programme Summary** – provides essential information about the proposed project or programme.
  - **Section B. Project/Programme Information** – collects information to assess the economic and technical viability of the proposed project or programme. The information will be helpful for the review and assessment of the concept.
  - **Section C. Indicative Financing/Cost Information** – provides an overview of the financing/cost information for both the requested GCF amount and co-financing amount.
  - **Section D. Supporting Documents** – includes the documents which can be submitted with the concept note. The submission of supporting documents are optional.

- **Optional Annexes:**

- Location map.
- Theory of change diagram.
- Economic and financial model.
- Pre-feasibility study.
- Previous project evaluation reports.
- Environmental and social risk screening results.

### Step 3: Submission and Review

- **Submit Concept Note:** AE submits the concept note to the GCF Secretariat.
- **Notification:** The Secretariat notifies the respective NDA.
- **Feedback and Recommendations from the Secretariat:**
  - Review by the Origination and Structuring Team (OST).
  - Feedback provided within 30-45 days.
- **Possible recommendations from the Secretariat:**
  - Advance to a funding proposal.
  - Further develop and resubmit.
- **Reject if project/programme not eligible.**

### Tracking and Documentation

- **Online Tracking System:** All concept notes and funding proposals are tracked through the internal funding proposal online tracking system, ensuring transparency and efficient management of submissions.

Source: [GCF Concept Note Template](#)

## DEVELOPMENT OF FUNDING PROPOSAL

Accredited Entities (AEs) develop funding proposals, in close consultation with NDAs, based on the diverse climate finance needs of individual developing countries. AEs can also respond to Requests for Proposals issued by GCF to fill current gaps in climate financing. The funding proposal contents include:

**Section A - Project/Programme Summary:** This section provides an overview of the project/programme, including basic details such as the title, country, accredited entity, and expected outcomes.

**Section B - Project/Programme Information:** This section details the climate context, theory of change, project description, implementation arrangements, justification for funding, and exit strategy.

**Section C - Financing Information:** This section outlines the total financing requested, co-financing details, and the financial instruments to be used.

**Section D - Expected Performance Against Investment Criteria:** This section assesses the project's impact potential, paradigm shift potential, sustainable development, needs of the recipient, country ownership, and efficiency and effectiveness.

**Section E - Logical Framework:** This section describes the project's focus, expected outcomes, enabling environment, specific indicators, activities and deliverables, and monitoring and evaluation arrangements.

**Section F - Risk Assessment and Management:** This section identifies potential risks to the project/programme and proposes mitigation measures.

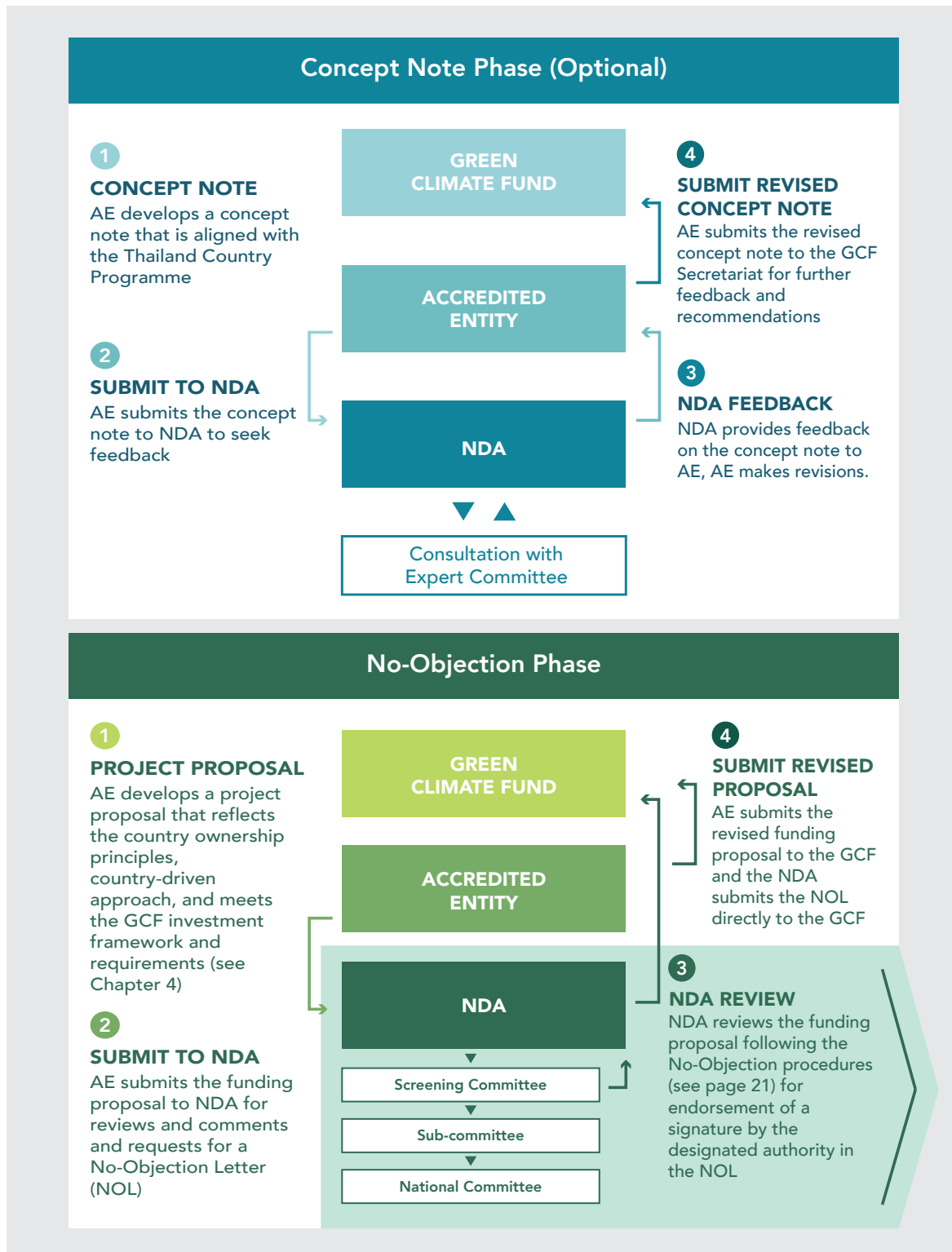
**Section G - GCF Policies and Standards:** This section addresses the environmental and social risk assessment, gender assessment and action plan, financial management and procurement, and disclosure of the funding proposal

**Section H - Annexes:** This section lists mandatory and optional annexes that provide additional supporting documentation for the funding proposal

For both concept notes and funding proposals, the feedback provided by the GCF Secretariat does not represent acceptance or commitment to provide financial resources to support the project/programme. Funding decisions can only be made by the GCF Board, taking into account various factors, including technical, financial, environmental, social, gender and legal aspects. The GCF Secretariat only submits to the Board for its consideration those funding proposals whose approval has been recommended by both the independent Technical Advisory Panel (iTAP) and the Secretariat.

Source: [GCF Funding Proposal Template](#)

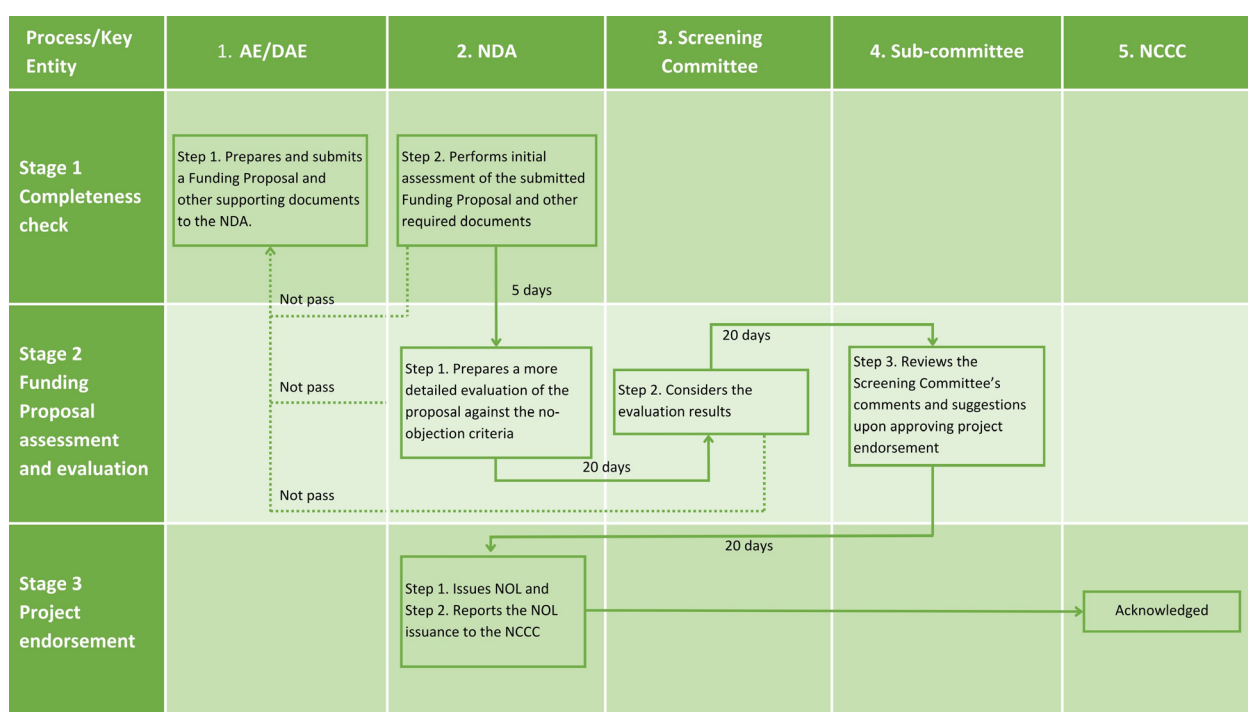
Below are the steps involved when developing and submitting a concept note and/or project proposal



## NO-OBJECTION PROCEDURE

The submission of funding proposal to GCF must be accompanied by an NOL in which the no-objection is a condition for approval of all funding proposals submitted to the Fund. NOL is one of the key tools to ensure country ownership. Thailand updated Thailand Country Programme and the No-Objection Procedure (NOP) to ensure that the project or programme is consistent with the latest version of national climate strategies and plans and country-driven approaches.

Thailand's No-Objection Procedure consists of three stages as shown in the picture below.



Remarks: Number of processing days referred to "working days"  
Screening Committee referred to the "Screening Committee for Project Financial Support under the International Framework"  
Sub-committee referred to the Sub-committee on Climate Change Policy and Planning Integration  
NCCC referred to the "National Committee on Climate Change"

## NO-OBJECTION CRITERIA

The no-objection criteria are designed to ascertain that a project/programme corresponds to national policies and strategic plans, thus responding to the priority areas and needs identified in the Thailand Country Programme (TCP) and complies with the relevant laws and regulations. The no-objection criteria are also closely aligned with the GCF investment criteria and its environmental and social safeguards to reflect the Fund's priorities and requirements. The NDA thus carefully reviews the proposal and check whether it respects five main assessment pillars as follows:

1. Conformity with the country's national priorities, strategies and plans

2. Conformity with relevant national laws and regulations
3. Conformity with environmental and social safeguards
4. Integrity of the first-level due diligence
5. Conformity with market intervention principle

Each assessment pillar includes specific criteria and indicators to score a project/programme proposal and will be assessed by DCCE, the NDA in Thailand before initiating the NOP (see Annex 5). To receive the No-Objective approval, a project/programme must pass all the relevant criteria as set out under each pillar as follows:

| PILLAR   | KEY CRITERIA  |
|--|---|
| Pillar#1: Conformity with the country's national priorities, strategies, and plans | <p><b>1) Coherence with existing national climate change policies, strategies and relevant sectoral plans:</b> Project/programme objectives and activities are in conformity with existing and active national country program, climate change policies and strategies, relevant sector strategy and plan. Project/programme objectives and activities shall demonstrate the implementation of mitigation and/or adaptation policies with clear monitoring indicators and targets. This includes, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20-Year National Strategy;</li> <li>• National Economic and Social Development Plan;</li> <li>• Thailand Climate Change Master Plan;</li> <li>• Thailand Country Programme (TCP) to the GCF;</li> <li>• Long Term Low Emissions Development Strategy (LT-LEDS)</li> <li>• Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC);</li> <li>• National Adaptation Plan (NAP);</li> <li>• Project/Programme may also support and provide co-benefit to other climate related policies such as Bio-Circular-Green Economy (BCG Economy) and Thailand Taxonomy.</li> </ul> <p><b>2) Contribution to sustainable development goals (SDGs):</b> The project can contribute to at least other two SDGs beyond the climate benefits (SDG 13). Core indicators and supplementary indicators for reduced emissions and increased resilience that linked to SDGs can be found in GCF handbook.</p> |
| Pillar#2 Conformity with relevant national laws and regulations                    | <p><b>1) Compliance with relevant national laws and regulations:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The project fully complies with the existing laws, regulations and/or statutes of Thailand.</li> </ol>   |
| Pillar#3 Conformity with environmental and social safeguard                        | <p><b>1) Management of social risks and impacts:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There are plans/measures/activities to reduce social risks and impacts arising from the implementation of the project, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> </ol> <p><b>2) Stakeholder participation and communication and complaint mechanisms:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The project defines the objectives of stakeholder participation at a local level. The project allows stakeholders to participate and provide feedback, especially for the vulnerable groups.</li> </ol>  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>Pillar#3 Conformity with environmental and social safeguard (cont.)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. There are participations, communications and complaints mechanisms available to stakeholders for the duration of the project, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> </ul> <p><b>3) Labour and employment status:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The project shows increased employment rate under the principles of fairness, indiscrimination, and equal opportunity which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> <li>ii. There are plans/measures/activities to ensure employee safety, health, welfare, and protections, especially for the vulnerable, which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> </ul> <p><b>4) Community health, safety and livelihood:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There are plans/measures/activities to prevent or control the negative impact on community health and safety arising from the project, which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> </ul> <p><b>5) Resource efficiency and pollution prevention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There are plans/measures/activities to prevent or control pollution arising from the project, which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> <li>ii. There are plans/measures/activities to ensure the sustainable use of resources in accordance with the relevant national policies which also contribute to the development of future relevant policy framework.</li> </ul> <p><b>6) Land acquisition involuntary/forced resettlement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. There are plans/measures/activities to avoid or alleviate the negative impact of land acquisition or restrictive covenants, including the provision of land to support the livelihood and resettlement of those affected by the implementation of the project, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> <li>ii. There are plans/measures/ activities to restore the livelihood and basic living conditions for the citizens forced to migrate as a result of the project, including vocational training and retraining to establish sustainable livelihood, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.</li> </ul> <p><b>7) Promoting gender equality:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The project has plans/measures/activities to promote gender equality in participation, implementation or achieving benefit in a way that is sustained after the completion of the project.</li> </ul> |
| <p>Pillar#4: Integrity of the first-level due diligence</p>                | <p><b>1) Proposal quality and stakeholder capacity:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The technical, engineering, economic, financial, risk, legal and commercial viability of the proposed activities.</li> <li>ii. Compliance with GCF standards (environmental and social safeguards (ESS), fiduciary standards and the Gender Policy) to the extent and scope of its accreditation, and with the applicable requirements under the Indigenous Peoples Policy.</li> <li>iii. Applicable to a singular financial source; otherwise, scaling up is permissible.</li> <li>iv. Climate change mitigation and/or adaptation impacts, including developmental benefits.</li> <li>v. Administrative and regulatory requirements.</li> <li>vi. Any business or company searches to ascertain the legal capacity, solvency or financial health of the executing entity (EE) and other recipients/beneficiaries of the funding and the parties to the transaction set out in the relevant FP. Project/ programme appraisal by the AE involves an in-depth evaluation of the proposed activities and interventions to meet the GCF investment criteria and achieve the desired climate mitigation and/or adaptation results.</li> </ul>   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Pillar#4: Integrity of the first-level due diligence (cont.) | vii. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation plans; and development of a result management framework regarding environmental, social and gender assessments; technical, economic, financial and legal analyses; and risk evaluation.   |
| Pillar#5: Conformity with market intervention principle      | <p><b>1) No crowding out effect:</b></p> <p>i. The project shall demonstrate that the support from GCF will not create a crowding-out effect to avoid market distortion and drives down or even eliminates private sector spending in the country.</p> <p><b>2) No promotion of monopoly:</b></p> <p>i. The project is highly likely not to create long-term competitive advantages resulting in market entry barriers.</p> |

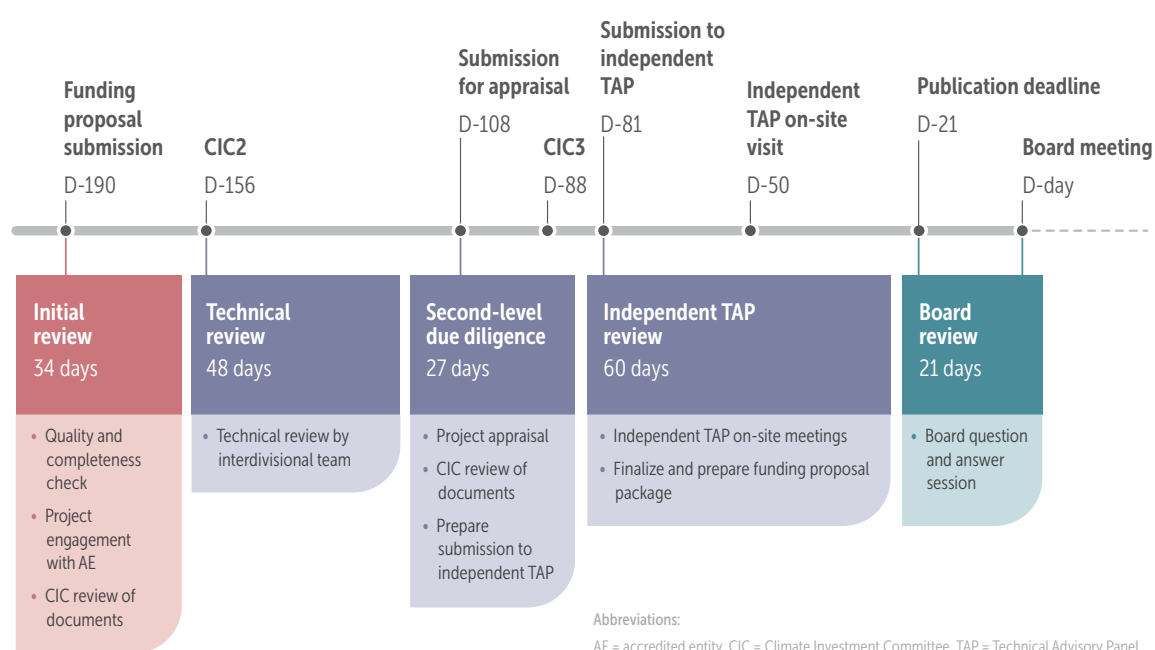
## GCF APPROVAL PROCESS

The GCF approval process involves a structured and multi-layered evaluation to ensure the effectiveness and compliance of proposed projects. The process begins with the submission of funding proposals by accredited entities (AE). The initial review is conducted by the GCF Secretariat, which checks the completeness and alignment of the proposal with GCF investment criteria. This review includes an interdivisional project team (IPT) comprising representatives from various divisions, such as the Division of Country Programming (DCP), the Office of Risk Management and Compliance (ORMC), and the Office of the General Counsel (OGC).

Following the Secretariat's review, the proposal undergoes a detailed technical assessment. This assessment ensures that the proposal meets all necessary technical, environmental, and social safeguards. The ORMC then leads an independent appraisal, providing a second level of due diligence before

the proposal is submitted to the independent Technical Advisory Panel (iTAP). The iTAP conducts an in-depth evaluation of the proposal's viability and potential impact. Finally, the GCF Board, which meets about three times a year, reviews the proposal. The Board can approve the proposal, approve it with conditions, or reject it. Upon approval, the proposal moves to the legal arrangement stage, where the Funded Activity Agreement (FAA) is drafted and negotiated, detailing the terms and conditions of the funding, including disbursement plans and reporting requirements.

The approval process is guided by the GCF's investment criteria, which include impact potential, paradigm shift potential, sustainable development potential, needs of the recipient country, country ownership, and efficiency and effectiveness.



Source: [GCF Programming Manual](#)

## GCF INVESTMENT CRITERIA

The **Impact Potential** criterion is divided into two parts: mitigation and adaptation. For mitigation, it measures the expected reductions in emissions (in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent) resulting from the project. For adaptation, it evaluates the expected change in loss of lives, value of physical assets, livelihoods, and/or environmental or social losses due to climate-related disasters, as well as the number of direct and indirect beneficiaries.

The **Paradigm Shift Potential** criterion requires projects to outline a vision for paradigm shift, detailing how the project can catalyze impact beyond a one-off investment. This includes a robust theory of change for replication or scaling up results and ensuring long-term sustainability.

The **Sustainable Development Potential** criterion mandates that projects identify at least one positive co-benefit in at least two of four areas: economic, social, environmental, and gender empowerment. Each co-benefit should have associated indicators, baseline, and target values. Projects are also encouraged to reference the Sustainable Development Goals.

The **Needs of the Recipient** criterion necessitates that projects describe the country's financial, economic, social, and institutional needs and barriers to accessing climate-related finance. Proposals should explain how the project addresses these needs and barriers.

The **Country Ownership** criterion emphasizes that projects must align with the country's nationally determined contributions (NDC) and relevant national plans. Proposals should detail how the project supports national development goals and climate policies, and outline engagement with relevant stakeholders, including national designated authorities.

Finally, the **Efficiency and Effectiveness** criterion is tailored for both mitigation and adaptation projects. For mitigation, projects should provide the cost per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent, the ratio of co-financing, and the expected economic and/or financial internal rate of return. For adaptation, projects should describe how they apply and build on best practices in the sector.

These criteria guide stakeholders in developing, reviewing, and approving projects, ensuring they meet GCF's goals while considering national circumstances and vulnerabilities.

Source: [GCF Investment Criteria Indicators](#)



## Chapter 4: Thailand Country Programme on Climate Change

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The Thailand Country Programme holds great importance for the country's sustainable development and climate goals. It provides a framework that aligns national strategies with the aim of achieving climate resilience and green growth. The programme's collaborative and inclusive approach ensures that priorities are well-informed, relevant, and widely supported by key stakeholders. Through collective decision-making, it fosters shared responsibility towards addressing climate change and achieving sustainable development. Regular monitoring, evaluation, and updates allow for adaptive management in response to changing circumstances and policies. The programme guides Thailand towards a low-carbon and resilient future.

Thailand, located in Southeast Asia, has a land area of approximately 514,000 sq.km. and a population of 66.09 million. The country's maritime economic zones cover 212,200 sq.km. in the Andaman Sea and Gulf of Thailand. Thailand has a Gross National Income (GNI) per capita of USD 7,090 and a Competitive Industrial Performance (CIP) index of 0.128. The Human Development Index (HDI) for Thailand is 0.800. Thailand faces climate change impacts, including rising temperatures, fluctuating precipitation, coastal erosion, and sea-level rise. The country is implementing sustainable development goals and climate change actions. Thailand's economy experienced a contraction due to the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in the tourism sector, but it showed signs of recovery in 2022, with a GDP growth of 2.6%. The 13th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2023-2027) aims to transform Thailand into a progressive and sustainable economy. The country's GHG emissions in 2018 were 372,648.77 GgCO<sub>2</sub>e, with the energy sector being the largest contributor.

### THAILAND'S CLIMATE FINANCING

Thailand's climate finance landscape focusses on the current and expected financing from public, private, and other sources, both domestic and international, to address the country's low-emission and climate-resilient development needs. The Long-Term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) outlines Thailand's goal to achieve a net greenhouse gas (GHG) emission of 64.1 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050 and net zero GHG emission by 2065, with GHG emissions expected to peak at 388 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2025. Leading to substantial climate finance required to meet Thailand's ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) targets, with an estimated THB 5,000 billion needed for the unconditional target and THB 7,000 billion for the conditional target.

The financial commitment encompasses various sectors, and collaboration among the government, private sector, and international partners is crucial to mobilise the necessary funding. Overcoming barriers to climate investment requires concerted efforts and initiatives such as clear policies, enhanced technological capacity, innovative financing mechanisms, improved data availability, capacity building, and public awareness campaigns. Thailand's overall climate

financing strategy considers factors such as financial feasibility, technology maturity, and the distinction between unconditional and conditional targets in allocating resources. The country recognises the importance of international financial support, particularly for projects aligned with conditional targets. By leveraging international support strategically and developing a climate finance strategy, Thailand aims to implement climate actions effectively, drive sustainable development, and contribute to global climate change efforts.

### THAILAND'S PROJECT AND PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

This Thailand's Country Programme emphasises the period of GCF's second programming cycle (GCF-2) from 2024 to 2027. The updated Country Programme has been developed collaboratively, led by the Department of Climate Change and Environment (DCCE) with support from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). The process involved reviewing and analysing national strategies to align climate objectives. Initial project and priorities were formulated and presented during a multi-stakeholder consultation, involving programme government agencies, accredited entities, development partners, private sector entities, educational institutes and civil society organisations. This inclusive approach ensures a well-informed and widely supported updated Country Programme. As a result, apart from in-the-pipeline projects, Thailand emphasises its strong attention to five key priority areas as follows:

- Priority Area 1: Mitigation Strategies, Technologies, Systematic Planning, and Best Practices
- Priority Area 2: Knowledge and Database Enhancement in Agriculture and Waste
- Priority Area 3: Advanced Adaptative Technologies and Crosscutting Area
- Priority Area 4: Strengthening Climate Financing Mechanism
- Priority Area 5: Knowledge Sharing and Awareness Raising

## **THAILAND'S SUPPORT NEEDS AND MULTI STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Thailand has established institutional arrangements, developed a comprehensive policy framework, and implemented a domestic MRV system to address climate change. The country aims to achieve ambitious targets for GHG emissions reduction and seeks support from international organisations like the GCF to facilitate climate action. Readiness requests over the GCF-2 period cover a wide range of capacity support and enhancement including accreditation of the direct access entities (DAEs), capacity building, institutional arrangement, climate finance, pipeline development that is aligned with investment criteria and promotes achievement towards NDC target, and Country Programme Realignment. A readiness needs assessment (RNA) was conducted in parallel with preparation of the country programme and the highlights are included in Chapter 4 of Thailand Country Programme on Climate Change.

Thailand has proposed a multi-stakeholder engagement plan over a 4-year period to develop priority projects and programmes for funding proposals to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The plan includes periodic consultations at the national and regional levels, involving relevant stakeholders. Monitoring and evaluation of the Country Programme's progress are planned annually, with the possibility of adjustments as needed. The Country Programme will be updated every four years, considering previous cycle results, mid-term reviews, and major policy changes. The updating process includes consultations with all stakeholders.

## Annexes

### ANNEX 1. GCF APPROVED PROJECTS IN THAILAND

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Project name</b>        | Enhances climate resilience in Thailand through effective water management and sustainable agriculture   |
| <b>Project code</b>        | FP170  |
| <b>Project in a glance</b> | <p>In the Chao Phraya basin in Thailand, significant increases in the frequency of heavy rains are predicted as a result of climate change – in turn increasing the risk of severe floods. But alongside the risk of flooding, there is also a risk of drought, caused by increasing pressure on water supplies for crops and irrigation, linked to rising temperatures. These pressures together therefore risk leading to more frequent and intense flooding during the wet season and drought during the dry season. This requires innovative approaches to increase the efficient use of existing water supplies and more effective flood management within the basin.</p> <p>This project aims to improve water management, food security, and the agricultural livelihoods of inhabitants in the Yom and Nan sub-river basins. It will improve water management by integrating ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) 'green' measures with 'traditional' grey infrastructure for flood control and irrigation, supported by enhanced technology and climate-informed planning and capacity development. Activities at the household scale could directly benefit 62,000 people in the Phitsanulok, Sukhothai and Uttaradit provinces and eventually benefit some 25,000,000 inhabitants of the Greater Chao Phraya River Basin, who live within or downstream of the project area. This will be achieved by enhanced climate and risk planning by generating tailored climate information to better inform water management and agriculture planning and by improvements to integrated planning. In parallel, the project will boost household access to climate information and improve water management through strengthened infrastructure, including climate-informed engineering designs for the 13 schemes of the Yom-Nan river basin and upgrades to water infrastructure.</p> |
| <b>Approved by GCF</b>     | 7 Oct 2021   |
| <b>Est. completion</b>     | 10 Jan 2027  |
| <b>GCF grant</b>           | 17.5m (51.7%)  |
| <b>Co-financing</b>        | In-kind 16.3m (48.3%)  |
| <b>Accredited entity</b>   | UNDP   |
| <b>Executing entities</b>  | Royal Irrigation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives  |
| <b>Source</b>              | <a href="https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp170">https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp170</a>  |

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Project name</b>        | Thai Rice: Strengthening Climate-Smart Rice Farming   |
| <b>Project code</b>        | FP214   |
| <b>Project in a glance</b> | <p>Rice is Thailand's most crucial food crop, covering about half of the country's agricultural land and providing employment for over 18 million smallholder farmers. However, methane emissions from flooded rice fields and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from burning rice straw annually contribute significantly to the country's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Additionally, many smallholder farmers face challenges due to climate change-induced variations in rainfall, leading to increased floods and droughts that damage crops and threaten livelihoods.</p> <p>The Thai Rice project is the first GCF initiative dedicated to transforming rice production systems, focusing on circular economy solutions. Rice food systems worldwide produce GHG emissions comparable to those of the aviation sector. This project will assist Thai rice farmers and service providers in adopting climate-smart technologies and practices and provide farmer-friendly financial products for sustainable rice farming management. The intervention is expected to notably reduce methane emissions and water usage in Thailand's rice farming, while also enhancing farmers' climate resilience. Additionally, the project will enable Thai rice farmers to recycle rice straw into new products, creating new local market opportunities.</p> |
| <b>Approved by GCF</b>     | 25 Oct 2023   |
| <b>Est. completion</b>     | 19 Jan 2029   |
| <b>GCF grant</b>           | 40.96m USD (32.3%)  |
| <b>Co-financing</b>        | 85.73m USD (67.7%): Grant: 4.6m USD; Loan: 32.19m USD; In-kind: 48.94m USD  |
| <b>Accredited entity</b>   | GIZ   |
| <b>Executing entities</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rice Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives</li> <li>• Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives</li> <li>• Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment</li> <li>• International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Source</b>              | <a href="https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp214">https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp214</a>   |

**ANNEX 2.**  
**LIST OF ACTIVE ACCREDITED ENTITIES IN THAILAND**

|   |  |
|---|--|
|    | <p><b>1. Asian Development Bank (ADB)</b>, a multilateral development bank, headquartered in the Philippines. Its main goal is to reduce poverty in Asia and the Pacific through environmentally sustainable growth.</p>   |
|    | <p><b>2. Agence Française de Développement (AFD)</b>, a public international financial institution whose mandate is to contribute to social and economic development through sustainable and inclusive growth, enhancing livelihoods and natural resource management.</p>  |
|    | <p><b>3. MUFG Bank, Ltd</b> (formerly, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd.) (MUFG Bank, formerly BTMU), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan.</p>  |
|    | <p><b>4. Deutsche Bank AktienGesellschaft (Deutsche Bank AG)</b>, an international commercial bank headquartered in Germany. The Deutsche Bank sought accreditation to the GCF in order to contribute to the objectives of the GCF by mobilizing funds through a variety of instruments, including loans, equity and guarantees, for implementing scalable, innovative climate change adaptation and mitigation projects including through local small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries.</p> |
|  <p>Food and Agriculture<br/>Organization of the<br/>United Nations</p>            | <p><b>5. Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)</b>, headquartered in Italy.</p>  |
|  <p>Deutsche Gesellschaft<br/>für Internationale<br/>Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH</p> | <p><b>6. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)</b>, an international organization that supports long-term capacity-building and policy reform processes, and operates in all sectors relevant to sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p>  |
|    | <p><b>7. HSBC Holdings plc and its subsidiaries (HSBC)</b>, an international commercial bank headquartered in the United Kingdom. HSBC sought accreditation to the GCF in order to share its experience and skills to assess the risks associated with infrastructure investment opportunities, as well as to act as an educator, via its climate change centre, offering a dedicated research capability focusing on the investment implications of climate change.</p>   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|    | <p><b>8. International Finance Corporation (IFC)</b>, an international organization, a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in Washington, D.C. in the United States, with a strong global presence and focus on development, primarily in the private sector.</p>   |
|    | <p><b>9. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</b>, headquartered in Switzerland, is a non-profit organization. Its overall programme of work focuses on valuing and conserving nature, ensuring effective and equitable governance of its use, and deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges such as climate change.</p> |
|   | <p><b>10. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)</b>, headquartered in Tokyo, Japan.</p>   |
|  | <p><b>11. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</b>, an international organization with a strong global presence and mandate concentrated on development, with a focus on sustainable development, climate change and disaster resilience, and governance.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>12. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</b>, an international entity whose mandate is to promote sustainable development and prudent use of the global environment.</p>   |
|  | <p><b>13. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA)</b>, together known as the World Bank, is an international organization with a strong global presence and mandate to reduce poverty by promoting sustainable economic development.</p>                                     |
|  | <p><b>14. World Wildlife Fund, Inc. (WWF)</b>, an international non-governmental organization. The work of WWF has organized six priority areas for improved environmental management comprising climate, forests, food, freshwater, wildlife and oceans.</p>   |

### ANNEX 3. NO-OBJECTION LETTER APPLICATION FORM

[Place, Date/Month/Year]

Department of Climate Change and Environment  
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment  
49 Rama VI Road, Soi 30, Phayathai, Bangkok 10400

Subject: No-Objection Letter Request for Funding Proposal of [project/programme name]

Dear Director General of the Department of Climate Change and Environment,

**[Accredited Entity Name]**, located at **[full address, including country]**, would like to apply a GCF Funding Proposal for **[project/programme name]** which is aligned with **[Government of Thailand's policy reference]**.

The total funding for this **[project/program]** is US\$ **[total project value]** with GCF contribution of US\$ **[GCF funding amount]**. This **[project/program]** has the climate change **[mitigation/adaptation]** impact of **[amount of CO2eq emission reduced/avoided for climate mitigation project/programme OR number of beneficiaries for climate adaptation project/program]**.

In order to facilitate the NOL issuance, we hereby confirm that **[AE Name]** has developed the funding proposal with the **[Name of the Government Agency that is the Executing Entity]** to ensure full compliance with Thai National Laws and Regulations. **[AE Name]** will conduct a legal review as part of the project preparation to ensure that the implementation will also comply with relevant Thai National Laws and Regulations.

Referring to the GCF financing mechanism and in accordance with the no-objection procedure in Thailand, we would like to request a No-Objection Letter (NOL) for **[project/programme name]** from the Department of Climate Change and Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment as the NDA GCF of Thailand.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

**[Full name]**  
**[Title]**

#### ANNEX 4. NO-OBJECTION LETTER DOCUMENT CHECKLIST FORM

| Summary the completeness of documents         |          |                               |
|---|----------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Project/Programme Title                    |          |                               |
| 2. Accredited Entity                          |          |                               |
| 3. Executing Entity (s) (if any)              |          |                               |
| 4. Reviewer name (NDA)                        |          |                               |
| 5. Documents status                           | Complete | Not complete, need AE revised |
| 6. If not complete, point of view/description |          |                               |

Remark: Document status Complete means all list is completed

| Check-list  | Status                  | Note |
|---|-------------------------|------|
| 1. Concept note (If any)  | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| 2. No-Objection Letter Application form   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| 3. Funding proposal   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section A Project/Programme Summary   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section B Project/Programme Information   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section C Financing Information   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section D Expected Performance Against Investment Criteria                              | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section E Logical Framework   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section F Risk assessment and management  | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section G GCF Policies and standards  | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Section H Annexes   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| • Mandatory annexes   | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| 4. Summary result of first level due diligence by AE to demonstrate the Criteria Pillar#4 | Complete / Not Complete |      |
| 5. Collaboration Consent Letter from EE (If any)  | Complete / Not Complete |      |

Note: if the AE seeks NOL for public project/programme, it is required to have (an) EE (s) along with the letter(s) from EE(s).

## ANNEX 5. NO-OBJECTION CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FORM

| Pillar  | Criteria  | Assessment questions  | Assessment results   |
|---|---|---|--|
| 1. Conformity with the country's national priorities, strategies, and plans | 1) Coherence with related national climate change policies and strategies | i. The project is aligned with Thailand Country Programme   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference:   |
|   |   | ii. The project can support Thailand's national policies, plans, in particular climate change related strategies, policies and plans  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference:   |
|   |   | iii. The project can support implementation of mitigation and/or adaptation actions with clear monitoring indicators & targets  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference:   |
|   | 2) Contribution to Sustainable development goals (SDGs)                   | i. The project can contribute to at least other two SDGs beyond the climate benefits  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference:   |
| 2. Conformity with relevant national laws and regulations                   | 1) Compliance with relevant national laws and regulations                 | i. The project fully complies with the laws, regulations and/or statutes of Thailand  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference:   |
| 3. conformity with environmental and social safeguards                      | 1) Management of social risks and impacts                                 | i. There are plans/measures/activities to reduce social risks and impacts arising from the implementation of the project, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.                | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|   | 2) Stakeholder participation and communication and complaints mechanisms  | i. The project defines the objectives of stakeholder participation at the local level and is practicable, especially for the vulnerable groups and allows stakeholders to participate and provide feedback. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|   |   | ii. There are participation, communications and complaints mechanisms available to stakeholders for the duration of the project, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.         | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |

**ANNEX 5.**  
**NO-OBJECTION CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FORM (CONT.)**

| Pillar   | Criteria  | Assessment questions  | Assessment results   |
|--|---|---|--|
| 3. conformity with environmental and social safeguards (cont.) | 3) Labor and employment status                  | i. The project shows increased employment rate under the principles of fairness, indiscrimination, and equal opportunity which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirement                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  |   | ii. There are plans/measures/activities to ensure employee safety, health, welfare, and protections, especially for the vulnerable, which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirements                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  | 4) Community health, safety, and livelihood     | i. There are plans/measures/activities to prevent or control the negative impact on community health and safety arising from the project, which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirements            | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  | 5) Resource efficiency and pollution prevention | i. There are plans/measures/activities to prevent or control pollution arising from the project which, which satisfy the domestic legal and regulatory requirements   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  |   | ii. There are plans/measures/activities to ensure the sustainable use of resources in accordance with the relevant national policies which also contribute to the development of future relevant policy framework | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  |   |   |  |

**ANNEX 5.**  
**NO-OBJECTION CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FORM (CONT.)**

| Pillar   | Criteria  | Assessment questions   | Assessment results   |
|--|---|--|--|
| 3. conformity with environmental and social safeguards (cont.) | 6) Land acquisition and involuntary/forced resettlement | i. There are plans/measures/activities to avoid or alleviate the negative impact of land acquisition or restrictive covenants, including the provision of land to support the livelihood and resettlement of those affected by the implementation of the project, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements. | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  |   | ii. There are plans/measures/activities to restore the livelihood and basic living conditions for the citizens forced to migrate as a result of the project, including vocational training and retraining to establish sustainable livelihood, in compliance with the domestic legal and regulatory requirements.                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  | 7) Promoting gender equality                            | i. The project has plans/measures/activities to promote gender equality in participation, implementation or achieving benefit in a way that is sustained after the completion of the project.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
| 4. Integrity of the first-level due diligence                  | 1) Proposal quality and stakeholder capacity            | i. The technical, engineering, economic, financial, risk, legal and commercial viability of the proposed activities  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|  |   | ii. Compliance with GCF standards (environmental and social safeguards (ESS), fiduciary standards and the Gender Policy) to the extent and scope of its accreditation, and with the applicable requirements under the Indigenous Peoples Policy  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |

**ANNEX 5.**  
**NO-OBJECTION CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FORM (CONT.)**

| Pillar  | Criteria                                     | Assessment questions   | Assessment results   |
|---|--|--|--|
| 4. Integrity of the first-level due diligence (cont.) | 1) Proposal quality and stakeholder capacity | iii. Applicable to a singular financial source; otherwise, scaling up is permissible   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|   |  | iv. Climate change mitigation and/or adaptation impacts, including developmental benefits  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|   |  | v. Administrative and regulatory requirements  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|   |  | vi. Any business or company searches to ascertain the legal capacity, solvency or financial health of the executing entity (EE) and other recipients/ beneficiaries of the funding and the parties to the transaction set out in the relevant FP. Project/ programme appraisal by the AE involves an in-depth evaluation of the proposed activities and interventions to meet the GCF investment criteria and achieve the desired climate mitigation and/or adaptation results | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|   |  | vii. Monitoring, reporting and evaluation plans; and development of a result management framework regarding environmental, social and gender assessments; technical, economic, financial and legal analyses; and risk evaluation.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
| 5. Conformity with market intervention principle      | 1) No Crowding-Out Effect                    | i. The project shall demonstrate that the support from GCF will not create a crowding-out effect to avoid market distortion and drives down or even eliminates private sector spending in the country.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |
|   | 2) No promotion of Monopoly                  | ii. The project is highly likely not to create long-term competitive advantages resulting in market entry barriers.  | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Need more clarification<br>Rationale and reference: |

## Glossary

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Adaptation  | Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects. It refers to changes in processes, practices and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change. In simple terms, countries and communities need to develop adaptation solutions and implement actions to respond to current and future climate change impacts. This can be done through: Adaptation and Resilience from climate-related disasters.     |
| Accredited Entity: AE                               | AEs are institutions or organizations that are accredited by GCF through the accreditation process. Only AEs can submit a funding proposal to GCF. AEs develop and submit funding proposals for appraisal and approval by GCF and oversee and monitor the management and implementation of projects and programmes approved and financed by GCF. There are two types of accreditation modalities: direct access and international access. For further information, please refer to the definition of direct access entities and international accredited entities. |
| Board   | The Board of GCF is established pursuant to the provisions of the Governing Instrument for the GCF. The Board is the highest decision-making body of GCF.  |
| Climate Change                                      | A change in the climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.  |
| Country Programme                                   | A document developed by the NDA/focal point that presents a country's climate change priorities to GCF, including a pipeline of projects that the country would like to develop with GCF for each replenishment period. It provides an action plan for projects and programmes to be developed, the accredited or prospective entity with which to partner, and the readiness and project preparation support that requires funding from GCF. The country programme represents step 1.1 of the proposal approval process.  |
| Delivery Partner: DP                                | Institutions selected by the National Designated Authority or focal point to implement activities approved under the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme. Delivery partners provide services such as: development of readiness request proposals; implementation and supervision; fiduciary management; progress reporting; and project completion and evaluation. Delivery partners may be AEs or other institutions assessed to meet the financial management capacities requirements of the Fund.   |
| Direct Access Entity: DAE                           | Pursuant to paragraph 47 of the Governing Instrument for the GCF, DAEs are entities accredited under the direct access modality, including subnational, national or regional entities, that have obtained a nomination from NDAs/focal points. They may include ministries or government agencies, development banks, climate funds, commercial banks or other financial institutions, private foundations and non-governmental organizations.   |
| Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) Standards | A set of standards that specifies the desired outcomes and the specific requirements to achieve these outcomes through means that are appropriate to the nature and scale of the activity and commensurate with the level of environmental and social risks and/or impacts. Each AE is required to have a set of ESS standards that are equivalent to the GCF ESS standards within the scope of its accreditation and to apply those standards in GCF funded projects.   |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Executing Entity: EE  | <p>Any entity which channels or uses GCF proceeds for the purposes of a GCF funded activity, and/or which executes, carries out or implements a GCF funded activity or any part thereof. The reference to executing or implementing a GCF funded activity relates to the exercise of discretion and decision making with respect to such funded activity, or part thereof. An EE can be a developing country that is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and/or any entity that possesses a legal personality. An AE may also carry out the functions of an EE. The GCF requires the AEs to evaluate the capacity of and engage the relevant EE based on their ability to channel or use GCF proceeds and/or implement the GCF funded activity in accordance with GCF policies and requirements.</p>  |
| Fiduciary Standards   | <p>Are an element of the AE's scope of accreditation that is determined based on the assessment by the GCF of the fiduciary, transparency, accountability, financial management, principles and policies, and track record of the AE, against the GCF fiduciary principles and standards.</p> <p>There are three specialized fiduciary standards that AEs may be accredited for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Specialized fiduciary standard for project management: where an AE manages, supervises and oversees the overall project or programme, either directly or indirectly through executing entities. The AE has identified EEs and beneficiaries at the time of the funding proposal.</li><li>• Specialized fiduciary criteria for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms: where AEs provide grants to beneficiaries through an award system or competitive-based mechanism. The mechanisms (including criteria for selection of beneficiaries, modalities for providing financing, decision-making processes for allocating grants, etc.) are identified in the funding proposal, however, the identification of EEs to undertake the actual selection of beneficiaries, and identification of beneficiaries, would take place after the funding proposal is approved by GCF.</li><li>• Specialized fiduciary criteria for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, blending, equity and/or guarantees): where AEs provide loans, equity and/or guarantees onto beneficiaries using GCF resources, or blending resources (particularly of different instruments). This also includes AEs that provide resources to an EE, such as a fund manager, that further on-lends, undertakes equity investments and/or provides guarantees to beneficiaries.</li></ul> |
| Financial Instruments | <p>GCF may provide financing in the form of grants, concessional lending and other modalities. GCF would work through AEs, who may deploy the resources in approved projects and programmes by using a diverse range of financial instruments, focusing on but not limited to grants, concessional loans, equity, and guarantees.</p>  |
| Funding Proposal      | <p>The set of documents prepared by the AEs using GCF standard templates (i.e. funding proposal and its annexes) that is submitted to GCF to formally request funding for a project.</p>   |
| Gender Policy         | <p>The GCF Updated Gender Policy, adopted by the Board in decision B.24/12, aims to ensure that GCF will contribute to gender equality through a gender-sensitive approach and will, in turn, achieve greater and more sustainable climate change results. Each AE is required to have a gender policy that is equivalent to the GCF Gender Policy and to apply its own gender policy in GCF funded activities.</p>  |

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| International Access Entity: IAE   | IAEs are AEs that are accredited under the international access modality track and operate across multiple regions and countries. IAEs include bilateral development agencies, multilateral development banks, United Nations organizations, intergovernmental organizations and private sector financial institutions.  |
| Mitigation                         | Mitigation refers to efforts aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing carbon sinks to address climate change. This involves decreasing emissions released into the atmosphere and increasing the capacity of sinks, such as forests, to absorb CO <sub>2</sub> . Mitigation measures encompass a wide range of activities, including the formulation and implementation of policies, incentive schemes, and investment programs targeting various sectors like energy, transport, buildings, industry, agriculture, forestry, and waste management. These measures can include increasing the use of renewable energy, adopting new technologies such as electric cars, changing practices or behaviors (e.g., driving less or altering diets), expanding forests, and improving technologies like cookstoves to reduce emissions. |
| National Designated Authority: NDA | An authority designated by a developing country Party to the UNFCCC pursuant to paragraph 46 of the Governing Instrument for the GCF that serves as the interface between each country and GCF. The NDA/focal point plays a key role throughout the project cycle in ensuring country ownership and a country-driven approach, which are core principles of the GCF business model.  |
| No-Objection Letter: NOL           | a letter signed and issued by the NDA or a focal point official representative pursuant to the GCF no-objection procedure, adopted in Decision B.08/10, Annex XII. The communication of a “no-objection” implies that the government of the country has no objection to the funding proposal. A no-objection is a condition for inclusion of the relevant country in the approval of all funding proposals submitted to GCF.   |
| On-Lending/Blending                | Where an entity provides loans, blending different instruments and resources. For example, AEs provide loans, equity and/or guarantees onto beneficiaries using GCF resources or blending resources (particularly of different instruments). This also includes AEs that provide resources to an EE, such as a fund manager, that further on-lends, undertakes equity investments and/or provides guarantees to beneficiaries.   |
| Programme                          | A GCF programme is defined as a set of interlinked individual projects or phases, unified by an overarching vision, common objectives and contribution to strategic goals, which will deliver sustained climate results and impact in the GCF results areas efficiently, effectively and at scale.   |
| Project                            | The project scope starts with the identification of the climate change problem that needs to be addressed/solved. A project can have a large or small number of activities. For each activity, the project description should clearly identify, covering among others: (a) who is responsible for the implementation of such activity (i.e. who will be the Executing Entity); (b) what the details of the activity are; and (c) where applicable, the beneficiaries of the activity and the related eligibility criteria.   |
| Result Areas                       | GCF funds projects that fall under eight of its results areas divided into two categories: mitigation and adaptation. The GCF has defined four results areas for mitigation: to have reduced emissions from (1) increased low-emission energy access and generation, (2) increased access to low-emission transport, (3) land use and forest management, and (4) buildings, cities, industries, and appliances. The GCF also defined four results areas for adaptation: to have increased resilience of (1) health and well-being, food and water security, (2) the livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, (3) infrastructure and built environment against climate change threats, and (4) ecosystems and their services.   |

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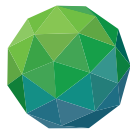




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