



Ref: GCF/EOI/2016/001

Call for Expression of Interest

Ad-Hoc Support: Environmental, Social and Gender Capacity Building for Direct Access Entities on an “On Call” Basis

1. Background

The Green Climate Fund (Fund) was established with the purpose of making a significant and ambitious contribution to the global efforts towards attaining the goals set by the international community to combat climate change. In the context of sustainable development, the Fund will promote a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways by providing support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Fund’s headquarters are located in Songdo, Incheon City, Republic of Korea. The Fund is governed and supervised by a Board and was designated as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In deploying its resources, the Fund will work through a wide range of institutions to finance projects and programmes. To access funding, these institutions will go through a process of “accreditation,”¹ designed to assess whether they are capable of strong financial management and of safeguarding funded projects and programmes against any unforeseen environmental or social harm.

Accredited Entities carry out a range of activities that may include developing and submitting funding proposals for, and overseeing the management and implementation of, projects and programmes; deploying a range of financial instruments within their respective capacities (grants, loans, equity, and guarantees); and mobilizing private sector capital.

As a part of its Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme,² the Fund seeks to provide environmental, social and gender capacity building to subnational, national and regional entities that have an interest in accreditation, are in the process of accreditation or are already accredited to the Fund under the direct access modality.³ Through this Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI), the Fund will award, on the basis of a fair,

¹ For more information on the accreditation process, refer to the “Introduction: Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (July 2015)” available at <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/105069/1.3 - Introduction to Accreditation Framework.pdf/4d44997c-6ae9-4b0e-be5d-32da82e62725>>. Additional details are available at <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/ventures/accreditation>>.

² Further information on the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, particularly as it relates to helping direct access entities meet the Fund’s standards, is available at <<http://www.greenclimate.fund/ventures/readiness>>.

³ Refer to the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund available at <http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/56440/Governing_Instrument.pdf/caa6ce45-cd54-4ab0-9e37-fb637a9c6235>.



transparent and competitive selection process, a contract to the successful consulting firm(s) to provide such support.

2. Overview of the Accreditation Process

The Green Climate Fund established an accreditation process for all implementing entities and intermediaries based on specific accreditation criteria that reflect the Fund's initial fiduciary principles and standards,⁴ interim environmental and social safeguards (ESS) (the Performance Standards of the International Finance Corporation)⁵ and the Gender Policy⁶. The accreditation process can be seen as a means to ensure that the Fund's resources are used towards advancing the principles and objectives of the Fund, in ways that minimize the risk of fiduciary mismanagement, inadvertent environmental or social harm, and gender-based discrimination. It is thus one of several mechanisms that the Fund has at its disposal to ensure that its funding is used in a transparent, accountable and effective manner.

Each entity is accredited under the fit-for-purpose approach for a specific type, defined by the project/programme activity size,⁷ fiduciary function,⁸ and environmental and social risk category.⁹ This fit-for-purpose approach allows for a dynamic accreditation

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- ⁴ Refer to the Fund's initial fiduciary principles and standards, available at http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/46513/1.6 - Fiduciary_Standards.pdf/083cfe10-46f4-4a73-b603-8d7bfd2a35bd.
- ⁵ Refer to the Fund's interim environmental and social safeguards, available at http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/46513/1.7 - Environmental_and_Social_Safeguards.pdf/e4419923-4c2d-450c-a714-0d4ad3cc77e6. As per decision B/07/02, paragraph (c), their use and implementation will be guided by the "International Finance Corporation's Guidance Notes: Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability", 1 January 2012, available at <http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/efdaaa8043649142947696d3e9bda932/Guidance+Notes+to+Performance+Standards+on+Environmental+and+Social+Sustainability.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>.
- ⁶ Refer to the Fund's Gender Policy, available at http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/46513/1.8 - Gender_Policy_and_Action_Plan.pdf/f47842bd-b044-4500-b7ef-099bcf9a6bbe.
- ⁷ Per Annex I to decision B.08/03, four size categories of micro, small, medium and large are defined based on the total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the Fund, for an individual project or an activity within a programme. Decision B.08/03, Annex I is available at http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/24946/GCF_B.08_45 - Decisions_of_the_Board - Eighth_Meeting_of_the_Board_14-17_October_2014.pdf/1dd5389c-5955-4243-90c9-7c63e810c86d?version=1.0.
- ⁸ Fiduciary function is defined by the Fund's fiduciary standards as contained in decision B.07/02. The standards include the basic fiduciary standards; specialized fiduciary standard for project management; specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanism; and specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and/or guarantees). Decision B.07/02 is available at http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/24943/GCF_B.07_11 - Decisions_of_the_Board - Seventh_Meeting_of_the_Board_18-21_May_2014.pdf/73c63432-2cb1-4210-9bdd-454b52b2846b?version=1.0.
- ⁹ Per Annex I to decision B.07/02, the Fund will apply a scaled, risk-based approach with reference to the environmental and social safeguards of the Fund. Entities may apply and be accredited for various categories of environmental and social (E&S) risk, including Category C/Intermediation 3 (minimal or no E&S risk), Category B/Intermediation 2 (medium E&S risk), or Category A/Intermediation 1 (high E&S risk). The full definitions are contained as per the decision. Decision B.07/02 is available at http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/24943/GCF_B.07_11 - Decisions_of_the_Board - Seventh_Meeting_of_the_Board_18-21_May_2014.pdf/73c63432-2cb1-4210-9bdd-454b52b2846b?version=1.0.



process that enables entities to increase their scope of activities as their capacity increases over time, should they want to do so.

3. Invitation

3.1 Through this Expression of Interest (EOI), the Fund is seeking advisory services firms (“Firm(s)”) interested in providing technical support on an “on call” basis to subnational, national and regional entities in developing countries who are seeking accreditation or already accredited to channel the Fund’s resources to projects and programmes advancing the Fund’s objectives, depending on the needs of the Fund from time to time and the Firms’ specialized area(s) of expertise.

3.2 In particular, the Fund intends to establish a roster of qualified Firms to provide such support. This invitation seeks Firms that have a presence in more than one country, with qualified staff with relevant work experience and language capabilities in developing countries.

3.3 In addition to this general invitation, the EOI includes the following sections:

- Instructions to Proposers, and
- Terms of Reference.

3.4 The Fund may continue to employ individuals or consultants who leave a Firm selected under this EOI to complete any matters that are pending at the time the individual or consultants leaves the employment of the Firm. Similarly, the Fund may continue to work with such individuals or consultants in new matters. Firms selected under this EOI shall cooperate in this respect.

3.5 The Fund may hire individuals or consultants outside this procurement when a service to be provided requires specialized knowledge, experience or capacity that the selected Firm(s) do not possess, as determined by the Fund in its sole discretion. Being selected through this EOI does not entitle any selected Firm to obtain actual instructions from the Fund. Whether or not a selected Firm is instructed depends on the nature of the matter, the qualifications of the selected Firms and the needs of the Fund.

3.6 The Fund reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal and to annul the selection process and reject all proposals at any time prior to selection, without thereby incurring any liability to proposers/Firms.

4. Instructions to Proposers

4.1 The tender process comprises three steps:

Submission – The Fund expects proposals (three hard copies and one soft copy on CD or USB stick) to be delivered, at the same time, by close of business on **29 February 2016 (Korean Standard Time)** to:

Green Climate Fund
G-Tower, 175, Art Center-daero



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Yeonsu-gu, Incheon 406-840
Republic of Korea

Attention: Procurement
procurement@gcfund.org

Short Listing – The Fund intends to begin short-listing on 15 March 2016 until the position(s) are filled. Additional information may or may not be requested before developing the short-list.

Final Step – It is expected that the Fund will make a final decision selecting Firm(s) to be placed on the Fund’s international technical roster by 31 March 2016. For this purpose, short-listed proposers may be required to undergo an interview process and/or make presentations to the Fund in person or via video link.

4.2 Corrupt, Fraudulent, Coercive, Collusive and other Prohibited Practices.

The Fund requires that all Fund staff, proposers/bidders, suppliers, service providers and any other person or entity involved in Fund-related activities observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of all contracts. The Fund may reject any proposal put forward by proposers, or where applicable, terminate their contract, if it is determined that they have engaged in corrupt, fraudulent, coercive, collusive or other prohibited practices.

4.3 Clarifications and Amendments. At any time before submission of proposals, the Fund may amend the RFP. Any amendment made will be made available on the Fund’s website and, if applicable, to all short-listed Firms at the same time.

4.4 Interested proposers may request clarification(s) on any part of the EOI. The request must be sent to the Fund at the email address indicated above prior to the submission date. Responses to a request for clarification will be made available on the Fund’s website and, if applicable, to all short-listed Firms.

4.5 Proposal. *Only a technical proposal is requested at this stage with the following information using the proposer’s preferred proposal template:*

1) General information

- Proposer’s size and geographic/jurisdictional scope, including office locations globally, and the jurisdictions in which the proposer has qualified staff;
- Main contact point(s) and responsible partner/manager for the Fund;
- An excerpt of the professional liability insurance coverage, including any applicable liability cap and deductible;
- Specific terms the proposer wants to have included in the framework agreement, should it be selected (see also below). Please note that the Fund



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will not be in a position to accept general terms and conditions of a proposer, but will provide selected Firms with its standard framework agreement;

- 2) Specific information serving for the assessment
 1. (10 points) Understanding of the assignment;
 2. (35 points) Expertise in providing capacity building services in such areas as environmental and social management systems (ESMS), as well as expertise and knowledge in gender and social aspects of climate change projects and programmes (at all stages of the project/programme cycle) in developing countries, which includes experience in the following areas:
 - Developing or reviewing and improving ESMS consistent with accepted international standards frameworks for quality and environmental management systems, which may include ISO 9001, ISO 14001 or European Management and Auditing System (EMAS);
 - Auditing or implementing the Performance Standards of the International Finance Corporation, which have been adopted as the Fund's interim environmental and social safeguards;
 - Developing environmental, social and gender policies to be applied throughout an entity and at the level of the entity's projects and programmes;
 - Reviewing, auditing, or implementing the environmental, health, safety, labour, gender and social aspects of climate change projects and programmes in developing countries;
 - Developing or revising environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs), environmental and social risk identification and categorization mechanisms, environmental and social mitigation and management plans (including monitoring and evaluation provisions);
 - Developing gender assessments and reviewing gender strategies, with knowledge of how to program for gendered results at the policy as well as grassroots levels;
 - Working with local civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, stakeholders and communities to build their capacity to train parties on gender-sensitive project preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation (such as participatory monitoring) and knowledge sharing.
 3. (20 points) Experience in the subject of climate change and familiarity with the Green Climate Fund readiness activities as well as the UNFCCC processes;
 4. (15 points) Staffing: A list of proposed consultants and staff, including their CVs, and areas of expertise they will oversee under the proposal. If a dedicated team is considered: the team composition and the description of the different roles and functions, identifying the team leader. In the case that the organization or firm does not have sufficient expertise in all areas, it may partner with other organisations/firms who have such capabilities. In particular, partnerships with local firms are encouraged.



4.6 **Appointment.** It should be noted that prior to engaging the services of a selected Firm on the roster for a specific matter, the Fund may, depending on the expected amount of fees involved, request up to three such Firms for a specific fee quote for such specific matter.

4.7 **Conflict of Interest.** In their proposal, proposers must (i) confirm that, based on their current best knowledge, there is no real or potential conflict of interest involved in rendering Services for the Fund, and (ii) set out their policy on dealing with conflicts of interest should these arise.

4.8 **Confidentiality.** Information relating to the evaluation of proposals and recommendations concerning selection of Firms will not be disclosed to Firms that submitted proposals.

4.9 Firms scoring more than 75% will be qualified to be in the international roster of the Fund. They will be required to adhere to the Fund's policies, rules and guidelines. They shall not disclose any information related to tasks/assignments, including working drafts, in any form to any other parties and will be held responsible for any violation of this restriction.



5. Terms of Reference

5.1 **Introduction.** The Fund is seeking qualified, reputable and experienced Firm(s) to provide technical and capacity building support for entities who wish to meet the Fund's environmental and social safeguards and gender requirements to apply for accreditation or upgrade their accreditation type with respect to their environmental and social risk category.

5.2 **Scope of Services.** Services will include providing support to entities on an as-needed, case-by-case or matter-by-matter basis as determined by the Fund in respect of the institutional assessment, action plans, and competencies and capacities strengthened in order for:

- a) An entity to be able to meet the Fund's environmental and social safeguards for Category C/Intermediation 3 (I-3);
- b) An accredited entity to be able to apply for an upgrade in their accreditation type from Category C/I-3 to Category B/I-2, or from Category B/I-2 to Category A/I-1.

The Firm will work in a collaborative manner with the accredited entity in supporting the entity and its partners to enhance their understanding of the Fund's ESS and how their ESMS, E&S policy and procedures and guidelines can be operationalized at the project/programme level in accordance with the Fund's requirements.

Training the entities on how to develop and implement an ESMS and related E&S policy that reflects the Fund's requirements for higher categories of E&S risks is expected to result in building the entity's capacity to be able to manage higher E&S risk projects/programmes going forward;

- c) An entity to develop their gender policy and procedures, which should be in line with the Fund's Gender Policy.

In the case that the Firm does not have sufficient expertise in (c), the Firm may partner with other consultants/firms who have such capabilities. In such cases, the Firm should provide information on such outsourced resources in advance of the scope of work being awarded, and manage such resources.

The Fund's interim environmental and social safeguards and environmental and social risk categories can be found in Annex I.

5.3 **Expected Outputs/Deliverables.** When called on to provide Services from time to time, the Firm in question will be expected to carry out the requested tasks/assignments in accordance with instructions provided by the Fund. The form of output/deliverables will be specified at the time instructions are issued.

Deliverables may include progress and final reports to the Fund, including a general presentation on the entity, an assessment and results, an action plan for the entity, and



areas of the entity's competencies and capacities strengthened through the task. Such deliverables may also be shared with the entities that the Fund supports under this task.

5.4 **Reporting.** The Services, Specialized Services and General Services will be provided under the guidance and direction of the Fund's Country Programming Division (CPD). Successful Firms will appoint a key focal point for communication purposes and will be available to respond to calls and queries from CPD pertaining to such Services.

5.5 **Duration.** It is expected that the duration of the selected Firm's place on the Fund's roster will be a three (3) year period from the date of the decision. The Fund reserves the right to amend the duration.

5.6 **Framework Agreement.** Successful Firms will be expected to enter into a framework agreement with the Fund setting out the general terms and conditions of the call-offs, applicable fees, billing cycle and reporting. The framework agreement shall be governed by English law, shall contain a PCA arbitration clause (place of arbitration Seoul, Republic of Korea) and shall contain an explicit acknowledgement by the relevant Firm of the Fund's privileges and immunities.



Annex I: Green Climate Fund interim environmental and social safeguards and environmental and social risk categories

Definitions of E&S Risk Categories¹⁰

IEs and intermediaries accredited to the Fund will have the capacity and a system for screening funding proposals in order to identify the potential environmental and social risks and/or impacts and to determine if any potential inconsistencies with the Fund's interim ESS are insurmountable and/or not manageable over a reasonable period of time.

Funding proposals will thus fit into the following categories:

- a) **Category A:** Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented.
- b) **Category B:** Activities with potential mild adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally site-specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures.
- c) **Category C:** Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts.

Category for intermediation: activities involving investments through financial intermediation functions or through delivery mechanisms involving financial intermediation, and are divided into the following three levels of risk:

- a) **High level of intermediation (I-1):** When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented.
- b) **Medium level of intermediation (I-2):** When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes, or is expected to include, substantial financial exposure to, activities with potential limited adverse environmental or social risks and/or impacts that are few in number, generally-site specific, largely reversible, and readily addressed through mitigation measures; or includes a very limited number of activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented.
- c) **Low level of intermediation (I-3):** When an intermediary's existing or proposed portfolio includes financial exposure to activities that predominantly have minimal or negligible adverse environmental and/or social impacts.

¹⁰ Per Annex I to decision B.07/02, the Fund will apply a scaled, risk-based approach with reference to the environmental and social safeguards of the Fund. Entities may apply and be accredited for various categories of environmental and social (E&S) risk, including Category C/Intermediation 3 (minimal or no E&S risk), Category B/Intermediation 2 (medium E&S risk), or Category A/Intermediation 1 (high E&S risk). The full definitions are contained as per the decision. Decision B.07/02 is available at [http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/24943/GCF_B.07_11 - Decisions of the Board - Seventh Meeting of the Board 18-21 May 2014.pdf/73c63432-2cb1-4210-9bdd-454b52b2846b?version=1.0](http://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/24943/GCF_B.07_11_-_Decisions_of_the_Board_-_Seventh_Meeting_of_the_Board_18-21_May_2014.pdf/73c63432-2cb1-4210-9bdd-454b52b2846b?version=1.0).



Accreditation assessment for the interim environmental and social safeguards

The accreditation review against the Green Climate Fund's environmental and social safeguards (ESS) will focus on the applicant's institutional environmental and social management system (ESMS):

- Entities that desire to undertake Category A/I-1 or lower risk (Category B/I-2 and Category C/I-3) type projects/programmes will be required to have an ESMS that is mature and documented, with a proven track record of managing these types of projects/programmes, and the full support of Senior Management. Required elements of the institutional ESMS are set out in Table 1 below in items 1-6;
- Entities that desire to undertake Category B/I-2 or lower risk (Category C/I-3) type projects/programmes will be required to have an ESMS and a proven track record of managing these types of projects/programmes, and the support of Management. This ESMS will likely have emerging elements and will not be as mature in scope or documentation, or as well-integrated into business processes, as the ESMS required for Category A/I-1 type projects/programmes, though it will still have all of the ESMS elements listed in items 1-6;
- Entities that desire to undertake Category C/I-3 type projects/programmes will only have an ESMS. Category C/I-3 projects, by definition, contain little to no environmental or social risks or impacts. The ESMS required will be moderate and very simple, and will not need all of the ESMS elements required by higher risk categories. Required elements of the institutional ESMS are shown in items 1-6.



Table 1: Accreditation requirements for E&S risk categories

Item	Category C/I-3	Category B/I-2	Category A/I-1	Remarks
1. E&S Policy ¹¹	Not required	An E&S policy that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes an overarching statement of the E&S objectives and principles which guide the institution; • States the E&S standards the institution adheres to including laws implementing host country obligations under international law; • Indicates whom within the institutions will ensure conformance with the policy and be responsible for its execution; • Is consistent with Performance Standards (PS) 1-8; • Is endorsed by Management; and • Is communicated within the organization. 	An E&S policy that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes an overarching statement of the E&S objectives and principles guiding the institution; • States the E&S standards the institution adheres to including laws implementing host country obligations under international law; • Indicates whom within the institutions will ensure conformance with the policy and be responsible for its execution; • Is consistent with the PS1-8; • Is endorsed by Senior Management; and • Is communicated to all levels of its organization and may be communicated publically. 	While for Category C/I-3 no formal policy is required, the entity can share if they have one. This can form a baseline of entity's current competencies and capacities.

¹¹ IFC. PS1, Footnote 9, "This requirement is a stand-alone, project-specific policy and is not intended to affect (or require alteration of) existing policies the client may have defined for non-related projects, business activities, or higher level corporate activities." In other words, entities applying for accreditation by the Green Climate Fund should ensure that projects/programmes funded by the Green Climate Fund meet the Green Climate Fund's ESS requirements; the entity is not required to apply the Fund's standards to projects/programmes which are not funded by the Green Climate Fund.

<p>2. Identification of Risks and Impacts</p>	<p>A process that screens projects and programmes against PS1-8 and is able to consistently confirm the risk category.</p>	<p>An institutional process and track record that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies the E&S risks and impacts of projects/programmes; • Is consistent with good international industry practice; and • Is consistent with PS1-8. 	<p>A fully developed and documented institutional process and track record that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies the E&S risks and impacts of projects/programmes as they evolve over the project life; • Is consistent with good international industry practice; • Is consistent with PS1-8; and • Is integrated into operations. 	<p>For Category C/I-3, the requirements are to ensure that the entity has a process and procedures, as well as competency to ensure that project or programme is and remains as Category C/I-3.</p>
<p>3. Management Programme</p>	<p>A management programme consistent with the level of E&S risk. The management programme should indicate an institutional process to identify and manage risks (including unanticipated risks and impacts), and designate roles responsible for implementing the programme.</p>	<p>A documented institutional process and track record for managing mitigation measures and actions stemming from the E&S risk identification process.</p> <p>Depending upon the nature and scale of the project/programme, the management programme may consist of a documented combination of operational procedures, practices, plans and related supporting documents that are managed in a systematic way.</p>	<p>A fully developed and documented institutional process and track record for managing mitigation measures and actions stemming from the E&S risk identification process.</p> <p>Depending upon the nature and scale of the project/programme, the management programme may consist of a documented combination of operational procedures, practices, plans and related supporting documents that are managed in a systematic way.</p>	<p>The requirement for Category B/I-2 is more formal and well documented, including track record, as compared to Category C/I-3.</p>



<p>4. Organizational Capacity and Competency</p>	<p>Designated staff or staff members appropriately located within the organization are knowledgeable about PS1-8 and are able to properly categorize potential funding proposals through a screening process.</p>	<p>An organizational structure that defines roles, responsibilities and authority to implement the ESMS, which includes Senior Management. Key E&S responsibilities should be defined and supported with human and financial resources.</p> <p>Technical staff with direct responsibility for the project/program performance have the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to understand and ensure implementation of PS1-8.</p> <p>Technical staff with knowledge of PS1-8, are able to properly categorize potential funding proposals.</p>	<p>An organizational structure that defines roles, responsibilities, reporting lines and authority to implement the ESMS, which includes Senior Management. Key E&S responsibilities should be defined and communicated, and supported with human and financial resources.</p> <p>Technical staff with direct responsibility for the project/programme performance have the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to understand and ensure implementation of PS1-8.</p> <p>Technical staff with knowledge of PS1-8 are able to properly categorize potential funding proposals.</p>	<p>For Category B/I-2, an entire organization structure is required, while for Category C/I-3 only designated staff who is knowledgeable about PS1-8 and can categorize E&S risks in order to ensure that the project is and remains as Category C/I-3 is required.</p>
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<p>5. Monitoring and Review</p>	<p>Moderate monitoring of projects and programmes to ensure that there have been no scope changes or unanticipated impacts or risks requiring mitigation and management.</p>	<p>Track record and internal processes to support a monitoring and supervision programme that tracks and ensures completion of mitigation and performance improvement measures.</p> <p>Periodic performance reviews reported to Senior Management, on the effectiveness of the ESMS. Senior Management takes the necessary steps to ensure the intent of the institutions policy is met and that procedures, practices and plans are implemented.</p>	<p>Track record and internal processes to support a monitoring/supervision programme that tracks and ensures completion of mitigation and performance improvement measures.</p> <p>Periodic performance reviews reported to Senior Management on the effectiveness of the ESMS. Senior Management has a track record of taking the necessary steps to ensure that the intent of the institutions policy is met and that procedures, practices and plans are implemented.</p>	<p>For Category C/I-3, moderate monitoring of projects and programmes is required to ensure that the categorization as Category C/I-3 at the time of project preparation remains as Category C/I-3 throughout the project/programme cycle and does not become Category B/I-2 or Category A/I-1, which require more extensive monitoring and review requirements.</p>
<p>6. External Communications</p>	<p>External communication channels that allow the entity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive and register external communications from the public; • Screen and assess issues raised and determine how to address them; and • Provide, track, and document responses. 	<p>External communication channels that allow the entity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive and register external communications from the public; • Screen and assess issues raised and determine how to address them; and • Provide, track, and document responses. 	<p>External communication channels that allow the entity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive and register external communications from the public; • Screen and assess issues raised and determine how to address them; and • Provide, track, and document responses. 	<p>The external communications requirements for Category C/I-3, Category B/I-2, and Category A/I-1 are the same.</p>



Annex II: Green Climate Fund gender policy and accreditation requirements

Table 2: Accreditation requirements for gender

Gender Policy Principles	Requirements (for all entities)	Remarks
1. Commitment	A process that ensures that all entities commit to gender equality in their programming and reduce gender disparities in its climate change funding.	In addition to developing and implementing a process at the institutional level, gender considerations should be taken into account at the project/programme level for potential activities submitted by an Accredited Entity (AE).
2. Comprehensiveness	Requires that the gender policy of the respective AEs is applied to all its climate change mitigation and adaptation activities.	All entities are required to commit to ensuring this. At the institutional level for accreditation, the assessment will take into account whether and how the applicant applies a gender policy or approach to both climate change mitigation and/or adaptation activities. At the project/programme level, AEs should clearly demonstrate the weight given to gender equality and women's empowerment.
3. Accountability	AEs must have gender policies, procedures and competencies to implement the Fund's gender policy for their Fund approved projects/programmes. AEs should ensure that impact and outcome indicators are included in the results management and performance measurement frameworks.	<p>In the accreditation process, the entity is assessed to determine whether it has gender policies that are aligned to the priorities of the Fund. Some AEs, which did not have gender policies or approaches at the time of their accreditation, have been accredited with a condition to develop and implement a gender policy/approach.</p> <p>At the project/programme level, AEs should aim to integrate gender performance indicators into the Logic</p>

		Framework of the funding proposal.
4. Country Ownership	National designated authorities and funding proposals need to ensure that the proposed proposals submitted by the AEs are aligned to national policies and priorities on gender and the Fund's gender policy.	At the institutional level, the entity's gender policy/approach will be assessed against the Fund's requirements. For some entities, the gender policy/approach may follow or take into account the national regulations and policies on gender. At the project/programme level, the AE must indicate how the funding proposal is aligned to both the Fund's gender policy as well as national priorities.
5. Competencies	Aims for gender balance in key advisory and decision-making bodies. Have staff who understand the concept of gender in the context of climate change. AEs are required to have policies, procedures and competencies in place to implement the Fund's policy.	At the institutional level, entities are assessed to determine whether they have the competencies, either internal or outsourced, to implement the entity's gender policy or approach within the organization and in its climate change programming. Some examples include the role of women in decision-making and competencies and training of staff responsible for implementing the entity's gender policy/approach.
6. Resource Allocation	The Fund aims to promote gender sensitive solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation and it can support readiness. The AE's projects and programmes should be aligned in such a way that it adheres to the Fund's principles on gender equality. Preference could be given to projects which are gender-sensitive in nature.	Gender-sensitive projects and programmes, as per the Fund's Gender Policy, will be given preference.
7. Gender responsive planning	Develop a gender action plan with clearly outlined gender – responsive activities, gender-informed indicators, sex-	At the project/programme level, AEs should be able to and develop a gender action plan, which stands apart from



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	disaggregated targets, timeline, budget available for each activity and person(s) responsible for completion of each task.	the regular Logic Framework developed in the funding proposal. The Fund has already, and will continue to, share knowledge about how gender responsive action plans are created and could be implemented.
8. Gender sensitive monitoring and evaluation (M&E)	Develop a gender sensitive M&E framework that complements and adds value to the mainframe M&E framework of any Funding Proposal.	At the project/programme level, AEs should be able to and develop a gender sensitive M&E framework for its climate change programming.