The readiness and preparatory support programme seeks to maximise the effectiveness of the Fund by empowering developing countries to:

- engage across government at various levels, and with civil society and private sector stakeholders;
- develop strategic frameworks for engagement with the Fund;
- enable their regional, national and sub-national institutions to meet the accreditation standards of the Fund;
- develop initial pipelines of programme and project proposals aligned with the objectives and investment criteria of the Fund.

The programme is driven by recipient country governments through their National Designated Authorities (NDAs) or focal points. It seeks to build on ongoing initiatives to strengthen developing country capacity to make effective use of climate finance. Supporting countries to access resources from the Green Climate Fund (the Fund) is a strategic priority.

**How is readiness support requested?**

Readiness requests are made directly to the Secretariat (readiness@gcfund.org). Regional advisors have been appointed to attend to diverse countries unique needs for support. Following an initial discussion with the Secretariat, a basic concept note for readiness support is developed which summarises the request, and the objectives it will achieve. The concept note is reviewed by the senior management team of the Fund. Once approved, a short proposal that includes the costs, outputs and impacts of the readiness support will be developed. The Secretariat will endeavor to respond promptly to all readiness requests.

**Who qualifies?**

All developing countries will have access to the readiness programme. The Fund will aim for a floor 50% of the readiness support allocation to particularly vulnerable developing countries, including Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries and African States.
What activities will the programme support?

1: Strengthening NDA and Focal Point
- Establish NDA/ focal point
- Assist institutional strengthening
- Support stakeholder engagement
- Hold IE/intermediary dialogues
- Share lessons
- Support appropriate oversight of Fund activities at country level
- Disseminate information and raise awareness

2: Strategic framework
- Develop a country programme to identify priorities for engagement with the Fund
- Identify strategic investment priorities and take stock of existing strategies (i.e. LEDS, NAMA, NAPs and NAPAs)

3: Accreditation of implementing entities
- Raise awareness of the Fund's accreditation process
- Identify potential IEs/ intermediaries
- Conduct an institutional gap analysis of potential applicants
- Provide a personalised readiness support for applicant to address identified gaps
- Enable lesson-learning among applicants

4: Pipeline development
- Identify programmes and projects aligned with national priorities and the Fund’s results management framework
- Support programme/project preparation
- Support Risk assessment
- Identify programme and project level indicators aligned with the Fund’s results management

5: Information and experience sharing
- Conducts workshops with NDAs or focal points, existing and potential IEs, civil society
- Convene stakeholders at a regional level to share lessons and experiences
- Distill lessons from readiness programme experience and facilitate access to knowledge products (e.g. online platforms, webinars)
How much is available?

US$ 15 million has been approved for the readiness programme, and further resources may be available as the programme makes progress in 2015. Commitments to individual countries will be initially capped at US$ 1 million per calendar year.

How will support be delivered?

Readiness activities may be implemented by a wide range of delivery partners, as well as by NDAs or focal points directly. NDAs or focal points will lead the selection of delivery partners to strengthen their capacity, develop country programmes, or develop pipelines. NDA or focal point input will be sought on the selection of delivery partners for accreditation support. Delivery partners may include international organizations such as MDBs, UN Agencies, and other international, regional, national and sub-national, public or private institutions well-versed in readiness activities with relevant skills. Partners will be selected through a competitive procurement-based process where possible, and must demonstrate relevant expertise, experience, and ability to implement. Disbursement of finance will be based on the achievement of agreed milestones.

How will the program collaborate with others?

The readiness work of the Secretariat is being carried out in collaboration with other established global and bilateral readiness programmes already underway. The Secretariat has developed an inventory of relevant programmes. The first step in responding to a request for support is to identify existing initiatives that can be built on. The Secretariat is working closely with the UNEP WRI UNDP climate finance readiness programmes, the GIZ and KFW climate finance ready initiatives, and the Asian Development Bank’s readiness programmes to ensure complementarity.

Where can I find more information on the readiness programme?

More information on the readiness programme is available at www.gcfund.org/readiness/updates. Please contact readiness@gcfund.org with any questions regarding the readiness programme.