Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund

February 2017
Executive Summary: Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund

- As an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Green Climate Fund (GCF)’s objective is to promote the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways.

- In allocating its resources, the GCF aims for a 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation over time. The GCF also aims to allocate a minimum of 50% of the adaptation allocation for particularly vulnerable countries, including least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS) and African states.
Executive Summary: Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund

• Public and private sector projects/programmes undertaken using the GCF’s resources will be evaluated against the GCF’s six investment criteria.

• Access to GCF resources to undertake climate change projects/programmes will be through accredited national, regional and international, public and private sector entities.

• Entities may submit funding proposals through GCF’s Accredited Entities, or go through accreditation.

Visit the Accreditation Self-assessment Tool
Executive Summary: Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund

• Entities seeking accreditation to the GCF in order to access its resources will be assessed against the GCF’s fiduciary principles and standards, environmental and social safeguards (ESS) and gender policy.

• All entities*, including public and private, can apply for accreditation via the:
  – Direct access modality (direct access entities may request for readiness support on accreditation)
  – International access modality

• Fees for the accreditation application will be paid by the entity once the application is submitted

* The Board decided on a prioritization of entities applying for accreditation for 2016 and 2017 (refer to decision B.14/08, paragraph (d)(i)).
Executive Summary:
Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund

- Through the 3-stage accreditation process and the fit-for-purpose approach, entities will be accredited for certain fiduciary functions, size of project/activity within a programme, and environmental and social risk category.

- Entities can apply on a rolling basis and applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Decisions on accreditation will be made by the Board at its meetings.

- Entities accredited by the GEF, Adaptation Fund, and DG DEVCO that meet the pre-requisites may be eligible for the fast-track accreditation process, where completion of the application by the entity and the review will focus on the GCF’s accreditation requirements (gaps), if any, that have not been assessed in other accreditation processes.
Executive Summary: Accreditation to the Green Climate Fund

- After accreditation, an accredited entity can submit project and programme proposals for funding.

Get accredited: Visit us at http://www.greenclimate.fund/partners/accredited-entities/get-accredited
Contact us at accreditation@gcfund.org
About the Fund

GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND

GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND
The Green Climate Fund

- Operating entity of the Financial Mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), established at the 16th Conference of the Parties in 2010.
- Serving the Paris Agreement.
- Centrepiece of long-term finance under UNFCCC.
- Fund’s Headquarters opened in December 2013 in Songdo, Republic of Korea.
Objectives

• GCF was established by the UNFCCC to make a significant and ambitious contribution to global efforts towards attaining the international community’s climate action goals.

• The Fund promotes 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.

• It takes into account the needs of those developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.
GCF’s value added

Country ownership through National Designated Authorities / focal points
Balance between adaptation and mitigation
Equal voice for developed and developing countries
Diversity of accredited entities
Diversity of financial instruments
Dedicated Private Sector Facility (PSF)
Largest dedicated climate fund globally
GCF and its partners

GCF Architecture

Green Climate Fund

Accredited Entities

Financial Instruments

Programmes + Projects

Grants
Loans
Guarantees
Equity
NDA responsibilities

- Convene national stakeholders
- Approval of readiness support
- Part of NDA/ focal point role
- No-objection letters for projects/ programmes
- Nomination letters for direct access
- Strategic oversight aligned to national priorities
Allocation Framework

- Geographic balance
- Significant allocation to Private Sector Facility
- Sufficient resources for readiness activities
- Grant equivalent term
The Fund’s Six High-level Investment Criteria*

- **Impact potential**: Potential of the programme/project to contribute to the achievement of the Fund's objectives and result areas.
- **Paradigm shift potential**: Degree to which the proposed activity can catalyze impact beyond a one-off project or programme investment.
- **Sustainable development potential**: Wider benefits and priorities, including environmental, social, and economic co-benefits as well as gender-sensitive development impact.
- **Responsive to recipients needs**: Vulnerability and financing needs of the beneficiary country and population in the targeted group.
- **Promote country ownership**: Beneficiary country ownership of and capacity to implement a funded project or programme (policies, climate strategies and institutions).
- **Efficiency & effectiveness**: Economic and, if appropriate, financial soundness of the programme/project, and for mitigation-specific programmes/projects, cost-effectiveness and co-financing.

* The Fund has adopted its initial activity-specific sub-criteria and assessment methodologies.
What kind of projects/programmes are we looking for?

Public and/or private sector projects/programmes that have one or more impacts in these areas.
Private sector facility

Why the PSF?
• To mainstream climate change mitigation and adaptation actions in the private sector.

Interventions possible
• Fund climate risk assessment models and tools
• Long-term debt, credit lines and refinancing
• Equity to develop a project to full bankability
• Guarantees to bear specific risks

Access to the private sector
• Accredited entities with private sector operations.
• Present funding proposals spontaneously or in response to calls for proposals.
Funding for projects/programmes

After accreditation, an Accredited Entity (AE) can submit project and programme proposals for funding.

AEs must seek the no-objection(s) from the NDA(s) or focal point(s) for funding proposals.

Funding proposals will be evaluated against the GCF’s investment criteria.
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

• Key policy documents:
  i. Initial results management framework/performance measurement framework
  ii. Initial monitoring and accountability framework

• Requirements for AE’s funded activities:
  i. Logframe and identification of indicators in the funding proposal
  ii. Annual Performance Reports from projects/programmes
  iii. Interim and final evaluations at the project/programme level

• Requirements for AE-level reporting
  i. Annual self-assessment
Access to GCF resources
Access to GCF resources

• Through a country-driven approach, the National Designated Authority (NDA) of a country can identify the strategy by which it will address climate change, and provide broad strategic oversight of the GCF’s activities in the country.

• Access to GCF resources to undertake climate change projects/programmes will be through accredited national, regional and international entities.

• Entities may submit finding proposals through GCF’s Accredited Entities, or go through accreditation.

• Entities seeking accreditation to the GCF in order to access its resources will be assessed against:
  • GCF’s initial fiduciary principles and standards (including the Interim Policy on Prohibitive Practices)
  • GCF’s interim environmental and social safeguards (ESS) (including GCF’s Information Disclosure Policy with requirements to disclose E&S reports for certain categories of E&S risk), and
  • GCF’s gender policy.

Visit the Accreditation Self-assessment Tool
A Diverse Network of Partners

48 entities accredited to date

As of 28 February 2017
GCF’s fiduciary standards, ESS and gender policy*

**Basic Fiduciary Standards**
- Key administrative and financial capacities
- Transparency and accountability

**Specialized Fiduciary Standards**
- Project management
- Grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms
- On-lending and/or blending

**Gender Policy**
- Policies, procedures, and competencies

**Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)**

**Institutional ESMS policy-level:**
- Performance Standard (PS) 1: Assessment and management of relevant PS1-8 environmental and social risks and impacts through an environmental and social management (ESMS)

**Project-level:**
- PS2: Labor and working conditions
- PS3: Resource efficiency and pollution prevention
- PS4: Community health, safety and security
- PS5: Land acquisition and involuntary resettlement
- PS6: Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources
- PS7: Indigenous peoples
- PS8: Cultural heritage

Who can apply for accreditation?

All entities*, including international, regional, national and subnational and public and private entities, can apply for accreditation through one of two modes of access:

**Direct access modality**: for regional, national and sub-national entities.

– Entities will need to accompany their application for accreditation with evidence of their nomination from the NDA or focal point designated from their country with their application for accreditation.

– Entities may be eligible to receive readiness and preparatory support in terms of capacity-building in order to meet the GCF’s accreditation requirements.

**International access modality**: for international entities, including United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, international financial institutions and regional institutions.

Fees for the accreditation application will be paid by the entity once the application is submitted.

* The Board decided on a prioritization of entities applying for accreditation for 2016 and 2017 (refer to decision B.14/08, paragraph (d)(i)).
Which entities can be prioritized* in the accreditation process?

For 2016 and 2017

• National direct access entities
• Entities in the Asia-Pacific and Eastern European regions
• Private sector entities, in particular those in developing countries, seeking a balance of diversity of entities in line with decisions B.09/07, paragraph (g) and decision B.10/06, paragraph (h)
• Entities responding to request for proposals issued by the GCF**
• Entities seeking fulfilment of conditions for accreditation
• Entities requesting upgrades

* The Board decided on a prioritization of entities applying for accreditation for 2016 and 2017 (refer to decision B.14/08, paragraph (d)(i)).
** Requests for proposals issued by the GCF, for example including a pilot phase for enhancing direct access; a pilot programme to support micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises; and a pilot programme to mobilize resources at scale in order to address adaptation and mitigation.
Assuming all documentation is provided in a timely and complete manner, the applicant does not opt for readiness support while the application is being processed, and the applicant is found to meet all of the standards for which it originally applied for, the accreditation review and decision-making process (Stages I and II) is aimed to be completed within 6 months.

For entities eligible for the fast-track accreditation process, under the assumptions above, the accreditation review and decision-making process is aimed to be completed within 3 months.

Applications that are incomplete, or for which the standards that are applied for change, will generally require additional time during the process. Applicants may refer to examples of supporting documents.

Questions and requests for clarification may be sent to applicants at Stage I and Stage II (Step 1) of the accreditation process.

The Secretariat and Accreditation Panel use checklists during the Stage I check and Stage II review.

Stage III Legal arrangements: the template Accreditation Master Agreement can be found here. AMAs signed between the GCF and Accredited Entities may be found here.
Accreditation Stage I

Accreditation Process

1. OAS account request
   - Direct access
   - Applicant receives OAS account
   - International access

2. Application submission via OAS
   - NDA/FP nomination of accreditation application

3. Payment of accreditation fees
   - Applicant sent confirmation of receipt of submission and then invoiced for accreditation fees
   - Direct access
   - International access

4. STEP 1: Confirm receipt of NDA/FP nomination
   - Applicant sent communication with NDA/FP

5. STEP 2: Institutional assessment and completeness check by the Secretariat*
   - Applicant sent confirmation that the application is considered complete (Stage I closed) and forwarded to Stage II
   - Response from applicant*
   - Questions to applicant*

*The number of rounds of questions may vary depending on the completeness of the application.
Accreditation Stage II

**STEP 1(a):** Accreditation review by the Accreditation Panel*
- **Questions to applicant**
- **Response from applicant**

**STEP 1(b):** Recommendation to the Board
- Applicant sent confirmation
  Stage II (Step 1) closed and recommendation submitted to the Board

**STEP 2:** Decision by the Board
- Communication of the Board’s decision to the applicant
- Accredited entity

From Stage I

To Stage III

* With support from external technical experts on an as-needed basis
** The number of rounds of questions may vary. Interview and a site visit may be required.
Accreditation Stage III*

Post-accreditation Process

Project and programme funding proposal preparation, assessment and approval process as per the Fund’s investment framework and results management framework

* The template Accreditation Master Agreement can be found here. AMAs signed between the GCF and Accredited Entities may be found here.
Can my entity apply for accreditation?

1. **Legal personality:** does your entity have full legal capacity to undertake the intended activities and become an Accredited Entity?

2. **Institutional system:** what are your policies, procedures, guidelines, etc., at the organizational level?

3. **Track record:** can you demonstrate that these policies, procedures, guidelines, etc., are implemented?

Visit the [Accreditation Self-assessment Tool](#)
Fit-for-purpose approach
to accreditation

Mandate & track record
• Alignment with Fund objectives
• At least 3 year of operations

Project size
• Micro (<10mn)
• Small (10-50mn)
• Medium (50-250mn)
• Large (>250mn)

Fiduciary functions
• Basic
• Specialized
  • Project management
  • Grant award
  • On-lending/blending (loans, equity and/or guarantees)

Environmental & social risk category
• A (high)
• B (medium)
• C (minimal or no)
Size of project/activity within a programme

Total Projected Costs*

**XS**  
Micro  
USD 0 - 10 million

**S**  
Small  
USD 10 - 50 million

**M**  
Medium  
USD 50 - 250 million

**L**  
Large  
USD > 250 million

* At the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the GCF and, if applicable, other sources, for an individual project or activity within a programme.
Fiduciary functions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples of fiduciary functions</th>
<th>Basic fiduciary criteria</th>
<th>Specialized fiduciary criteria for project management*</th>
<th>Specialized fiduciary criteria for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms</th>
<th>Specialized fiduciary criteria for on-lending and/or blending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening institutional and regulatory systems</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing projects using GCF’s resources, where the entity itself executes the project</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing projects using GCF’s resources, where the project is executed by another entity</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarding grants</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing lines of credit using the GCF’s resources</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-lending</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blending GCF’s resources with other sources of funding</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using GCF’s resources for guarantees</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using GCF’s resources for equity investments</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Assessment of the entity against this standard will take into account whether the entity is overseeing or implementing projects/programmes.
### Environmental and social risk categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risk level</th>
<th>Funding proposals</th>
<th>Intermediation*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>High</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category A</strong>&lt;br&gt;Activities with potential significant adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts that are diverse, irreversible, or unprecedented.</td>
<td><strong>Intermediation 1 (I-1)</strong>&lt;br&gt;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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medium</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category B</strong>&lt;br&gt;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.</td>
<td><strong>Intermediation 2 (I-2)</strong>&lt;br&gt;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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Low/No</strong></td>
<td><strong>Category C</strong>&lt;br&gt;Activities with minimal or no adverse environmental and/or social risks and/or impacts</td>
<td><strong>Intermediation 3 (I-3)</strong>&lt;br&gt;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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Activities involving investments through financial intermediation functions or through delivery mechanisms involving financial intermediation.
Fast-track accreditation process

Certain entities may be eligible to apply under the fast-track accreditation process, as approved by the Board:

- Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Adaptation Fund (AF)
- Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid of the European Commission (DG DEVCO)

Recognizing that certain entities have completed the accreditation process of other funds/institutions against fiduciary and environmental and social standards that may be comparable to the GCF’s fiduciary standards and ESS, the fast-track process allows for eligible entities to focus their application on the GCF’s accreditation requirements (gaps) that have not been assessed in other accreditation processes.

The fast-track process also allows for the accreditation review to focus on how the entity addresses the gaps.
## Fast-track accreditation process:
### Global Environment Facility entities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible if:</th>
<th>Global Environment Facility (GEF)-accredited entities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. In GCF Board decisions,</td>
<td>B.08/03, B.10/06, B.12/30, B.14/09 or B.15/09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Accreditation date, and</td>
<td>Up to 14 December 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. In full compliance with</td>
<td>GEF’s Minimum Fiduciary Standards and Minimum Standards on ESS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gaps to be addressed by entity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiduciary gap(s)</th>
<th>1. Anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing (basic fiduciary criteria for the purpose of transparency and accountability)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESS gap(s)</td>
<td>1. Have the capacity to assess and manage relevant elements of Performance Standards 1-4 and 6 environmental and social risks and impacts in line with the GCF’s ESS through an ESMS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fast-track accreditation against:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic fiduciary criteria and ESS</th>
<th>Yes (except for the gaps above to be addressed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specialized fiduciary criteria for project management</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized fiduciary criteria for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized fiduciary criteria for on-lending and/or blending</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Fast-track accreditation process: Adaptation Fund entities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gaps to be addressed by entity:</th>
<th>Adaptation Fund (AF)-accredited entities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Fiduciary gap(s)              | 1. Have publicly available terms of reference that outline the purpose, authority and accountability for the investigation function (basic fiduciary criteria for the purpose of transparency and accountability and scope of investigation)  
2. Ensure functional independence by having the investigations function headed by an officer who reports to a level of the organization that allows the investigation function to fulfil its responsibilities objectively (basic fiduciary criteria for the purpose of transparency and accountability and scope of investigation)  
3. Publish guidelines for processing cases, including standardized procedures for handling complaints received by the function and managing cases before, during and after the investigation process (basic fiduciary criteria for the purpose of transparency and accountability and scope of investigation)  
4. Anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing (basic fiduciary criteria for the purpose of transparency and accountability) |
| ESS gap(s)                    | 1. Have the capacity to assess and manage relevant Performance Standards 1-8 environmental and social risks and impacts in line with the GCF’s ESS through an ESMS |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fast-track accreditation against:</th>
<th>Adaptation Fund (AF)-accredited entities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic fiduciary criteria and ESS</td>
<td>Yes (except for the gaps above to be addressed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized fiduciary criteria for project management</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized fiduciary criteria for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized fiduciary criteria for on-lending and/or blending</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Eligible if:**
1. In GCF Board decisions, **B.08/03, B.10/06, B.12/30, B.14/09 or B.15/09**
2. Accreditation date, and Up to 14 December 2016
3. In full compliance with AF’s fiduciary standards
# Fast-track accreditation process: DG DEVCO entities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible if:</th>
<th>Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid of the European Commission (DG DEVCO) entities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. In GCF Board decisions,</td>
<td>B.08/03, B.10/06, B.12/30, B.14/09 or B.15/09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Accreditation date, and</td>
<td>Up to 14 December 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. In full compliance with</td>
<td>EU DEVCO’s fiduciary standards under the 6-pillar assessment for all 6 pillars</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gaps to be addressed by entity:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiduciary gap(s)</th>
<th>1. Anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing (basic fiduciary criteria for the purpose of transparency and accountability)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESS gap(s)</td>
<td>1. Have the capacity to assess and manage relevant Performance Standards 1-8 environmental and social risks and impacts in line with the GCF's ESS through an ESMS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Basic fiduciary criteria and ESS**: Yes (except for the gaps above to be addressed)
- **Specialized fiduciary criteria for project management**: No
- **Specialized fiduciary criteria for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms**: Yes
- **Specialized fiduciary criteria for on-lending and/or blending**: No
What readiness support is available for accreditation?

Entities that apply under the direct access modality can request for and may be eligible to receive readiness and preparatory support to meet the GCF’s accreditation requirements.

Readiness support is available for:

- Fast-track accreditation support for eligible entities
- Awareness raising of accreditation processes and standards (e.g. fiduciary, environment and social safeguards, and gender)
- Institutional gap analyses
- Developing personalized capacity building plans to address identified gaps
Accreditation support

Technical assistance to direct access entities

17 entities nominated by 14 countries

Additional support is available for at least 13 more entities

As of 31 January 2017
Readiness support: institutional gap assessment and action plan

**Objectives**

- Initial contact with entity and plan site visit
- Gather information on the entity’s fiduciary, ESS and gender management processes
- Gather evidence to prepare gap assessment and action plan
- Communicate where and what the gaps are, and provide specific actions the entity may choose to undertake to address the gaps
- Receive feedback from the entity and understanding of next steps to proceed to apply for the accreditation process

**Key activities**

- Conduct ‘kick off’ telephone conference
- Engage with entity to confirm review scope and priorities
- Confirm key documentation requests and site visit plan with entity management
- Receive and review initial documentation from the entity (e.g. governance structures, policies and procedures)
- Review any relevant public information to understand the entity’s track record
- Conduct management/staff interviews
- Collect and review detailed documentation where available
- Discuss the fiduciary and ESS management approach with a sample of projects from the various portfolios (e.g. grants, loans, equity, guarantees, etc.)
- Identify key management/staff to be interviewed during the site visit
- Conduct management/staff interviews
- Collect and review detailed documentation where available
- Discuss the fiduciary and ESS management approach with a sample of projects from the various portfolios (e.g. grants, loans, equity, guarantees, etc.)
- Prepare the draft the gap assessment and action plan for each entity
- Seek additional documentation or further clarification from the entity where required
- Revise and finalize gap assessment and action plan following feedback from the entity on the initial draft

**Outputs**

- Site visit meetings plan
- Baseline documentation received and reviewed
- Confirmation of meetings with entity’s management and site visit logistics
- Initial feedback and observations conveyed to the applicant
- Initial gap assessment and action plan to entity
- Final gap assessment and action plan to entity
# Accreditation fees*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial capacity category</th>
<th>Total projected costs at the time of application, irrespective of the portion that is funded by the GCF, for an individual project or activity</th>
<th>Fee Level for accreditation application for undertaking activities related to Basic Fiduciary Standards, ESS and gender</th>
<th>Fee Level for accreditation application for undertaking activities related to each Specialized Fiduciary Standard(a, b)</th>
<th>Other Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Micro</td>
<td>Less than or equal to USD 10 million</td>
<td>Subnational and national entities in developing countries including SIDS and LDCs: no fee</td>
<td>USD 500 each</td>
<td>Other fees may apply if the application is reviewed by the Secretariat or Accreditation Panel more than twice. The amount of the fee is to be determined on a case-by-case approach by the Secretariat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>Above USD 10 million and up to and including USD 50 million</td>
<td>SIDS and LDCs: no fee Subnational and national entities in developing countries other than SIDS and LDCs: USD 3,000</td>
<td>USD 1,000 each</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Above USD 50 million and up to and including USD 250 million</td>
<td>USD 10,000</td>
<td>USD 3,000 each</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>Above USD 250 million</td>
<td>USD 25,000</td>
<td>USD 7,000 each</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Refer to the GCF’s [Policy on Fees for Accreditation](#).

\(a\) Specialized Fiduciary Standards refer to: 1) project management; 2) grant award and/or allocation mechanisms; and 3) on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and/or guarantees).

\(b\) For example an entity seeking accreditation for large activities; basic fiduciary standards, ESS and gender (USD 25,000); and all 3 specialized fiduciary standards (USD 7,000 each: USD 7,000 x 3 = USD 21,000) will be required to pay a total of USD$ 46,000 (USD 25,000 + USD 21,000) in accreditation fees to the GCF.
Results of the accreditation process

Entities can apply on a rolling-basis (e.g. there is no deadline for submitting applications) and applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. The decision on accreditation will be taken by the Board at its meetings. The Board decided on a prioritization of entities applying for accreditation for 2016 and 2017 (refer to decision B.14/08, paragraph (d)(i)).

Based on the application and the entity’s track record, the Accreditation Panel will make a recommendation to the Board on the potential of the entity for accreditation with the following indications:

- Fiduciary functions (e.g. project implementation, on-granting, on-lending, blending, undertaking equity, providing guarantees)
- Maximum size of an individual project/activity within a programme
- Maximum environmental and social risk category
- Sector (in some cases where there may be a limited track record)

Accreditation broadly defines the way in which an entity can access the GCF’s resources, but the Board will take decisions on individual projects and programmes consistent with the GCF’s investment framework.
What do I need to apply for accreditation?

The accreditation application will include the following sections:

1. Background and contact information of the applicant entity
2. Information on the ways in which the institution and its intended projects/programmes will contribute to furthering the country’s climate strategies and action plans, in line with GCF’s objectives
3. Information on the scope of intended projects/programmes and estimated contribution requested for an individual project or activity within a programme
4. Basic fiduciary criteria
5. Applicable specialized fiduciary criteria
6. Environmental and social safeguards (ESS)
7. Gender

What you need to apply*

- Nomination by your NDA(s) or focal point(s) (for subnational, national and regional entities applying under direct access)
- Intended projects/programmes (for information purposes)
- Evidence of how your organization can meet the GCF’s fiduciary standards, ESS and gender policy
- Track record, which should include climate change-related projects/programmes and the fiduciary, environmental and social practices applied

* This list is not exhaustive.
Get accredited

Apply for accreditation online
http://www.greenclimate.fund/partners/accredited-entities/get-accredited

Contact | accreditation@gcfund.org

Directory of Accredited Entities:
http://www.greenclimate.fund/partners/accredited-entities/ae-directory