

Annex XIV: Initial best-practice options for country coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement

1. The Fund will have a broad scope, funding both mitigation and adaptation activities through multiple access modalities, including through the private sector and other innovative financial instruments. Consequently, on an operational level, it will involve various sectors at multiple levels of governance.
2. It is recommended that countries consider the following criteria for conducting country coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement at the level of national priorities and strategies, or in the development of funding proposals, as appropriate.

I. Country strategic framework

3. National climate change strategies, plans and priorities will be the strategic framework provided in a country's country programme, and would therefore be a basis for the preparation and implementation of funding proposals. Recipient countries may therefore define their strategic framework on the basis of existing national climate change plans and strategies, including nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs), national adaptation plans (NAPs) and national adaptation programmes of action (NAPAs), or choose to develop a Fund-specific strategic framework drawing on existing relevant national plans and strategies. The Fund may provide assistance for the identification of these national strategic frameworks in the context of the Fund's work programme on readiness and preparatory support.
4. In order to ensure systematization of country coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement, countries could be encouraged to design a consultative process through which national climate change priorities and strategies can be defined.
5. A consultative process should aim to be an ongoing process rather than a discrete activity only occurring once without the possibility of follow up, continuous update and regular assessment of progress.
6. These consultative processes should be inclusive and seek to engage all relevant actors within the government, the private sector, academia, civil society and other relevant stakeholder groups or sectors.
7. Criteria and options for country coordination through consultative processes may include:
 - (a) Use of existing regular country meetings or national planning/dialogue exercises, including in the context of other sources of funding for climate change activities, the sharing of lessons learned and collection of inputs and views;
 - (b) Establishment, when possible and national circumstances allow, of a dedicated country coordination mechanism for the country's identification of its strategic framework in the context of the Fund;
 - (c) Integration into other relevant national consultations processes or programming exercises that may enable synergies and the exchange of complementary information; and
 - (d) Building on the country's prior experience in coordinating cross-sectoral initiatives and investments and engaging with other sources of finance.

II. Development of funding proposals

8. Country coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement are critical for the effective preparation of funding proposals, as well as ongoing monitoring and evaluation after approval. This process should be well aligned with relevant provisions of the Fund's environmental and social safeguards, which require, among other things, that all projects/programmes will be designed and implemented to be consistent with the Fund's requirements for stakeholder engagement and disclosure.

9. The Fund's environmental and social safeguards also require that funding proposals for projects/programmes will also need to have an environmental and social management system (ESMS) that establishes a process of stakeholder engagement and disclosure.

10. Guidance in the application and use of the Fund's environmental and social safeguards, which includes the matters mentioned above, will be made available in the context of the guiding framework for the Fund's accreditation process.

11. Country coordination mechanisms are also important in supporting the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the Fund's projects and programmes, thus allowing for a process for evaluation at various stages of the project cycle.

12. Through collaboration with intermediaries and implementing entities, country coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement processes may facilitate forums, meetings, or workshops to review progress against results frameworks, discuss best practices and challenges, identify opportunities for enhancing coherence, and integrate lessons learned into relevant plans and priorities