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Consolidated Country and Entity Work Programmes

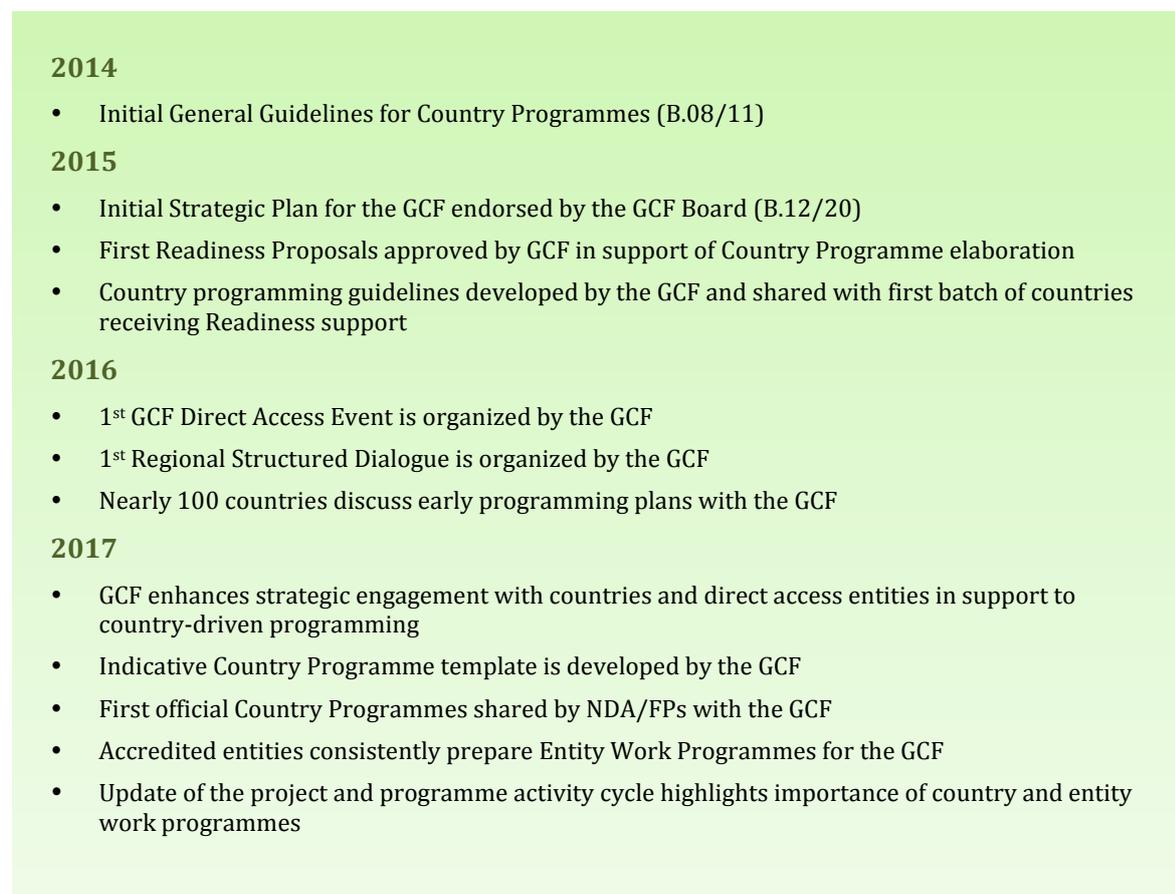
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I. Introduction

1. One of the priorities of the Secretariat of the GCF, following guidance of its Board, is to support a country-led programming process that allows countries to identify and effectively communicate their funding priorities to the Fund. In 2014, Annex XVII to Board Decision B.08/11 presented initial general guidelines for the preparation of country programmes, directing the support that the Secretariat provided thereon to country National Designated Authorities (NDAs)/Focal Points (FPs) requesting GCF Readiness and Preparatory support for the preparation of their country programmes.

Figure 1: Milestones in Country-Led Programming



2. Country-led programming is emphasized as a priority in the initial strategic plan for the GCF endorsed by the Board at its twelfth meeting, which requires ensuring responsiveness to developing countries' needs and priorities. As part of the action plan of this initial strategic plan, specific measures were identified to promote the implementation of operational priorities, including the development of country programmes and entity work programmes. Furthermore, measures were identified to determine which priorities identified by countries are the best match for GCF support, such as through the process of structured dialogues between NDAs and FPs, accredited entities (AEs), other relevant stakeholders and the Secretariat of the GCF.

3. In 2017, the Board further decided to update the project and programme activity cycle considering, among other matters, that countries will identify priorities, analyse financial needs and gaps and identify partners to design and implement funding proposals based on country and Accredited Entity work programmes (Decision B.17/09).

4. The sidebar on this page summarizes other key milestones in country-led programming.

The strategic priority placed by the GCF on country-led programming aims to strengthen institutional capacity building and project/programme pipeline development initiatives, as countries and entities pursue their climate change agendas based on a structured engagement with the GCF.

5. Results achieved so far – such as the development and operationalization of readiness and preparatory support tools by the Secretariat, and the elaboration of several drafts of Country Programmes and Entity Work Programmes by countries and entities – are first indicators of progress. They however also provide direction about further actions that the Secretariat can undertake in support of the development of strong and impactful country and entity programmes.

6. This document presents the progress made on country and entity programming since the seventeenth meeting of the Board, providing also an overview of the status of country and entity programming with the GCF today.

7. It furthermore presents actions being taken and/or planned by the Secretariat to improve the strength of country and entity programming, based on lessons and experiences acquired so far.

II. Progress in Programming since B.17

8. This section presents a short overview of the programming developments made by countries, entities and the Secretariat between June 2017 and January 2018.

2.1 Development of Country Programmes

9. The Secretariat maintained its continuous engagement with nearly all countries to advise and support development of Country Programmes, with objectives that include: (i) supporting a country-driven pipeline development process; (ii) identifying institutional needs to build and strengthen capacity; (iii) facilitating dialogue between all stakeholders – countries, entities, readiness delivery partners and the GCF – in a way that reflects the highest level of country ownership; and (iv) increasing the strength of Country and Entity Work Programmes.

10. Following the seventeenth meeting of the Board:

- (a) Rwanda shared with the Secretariat their completed Country Programme¹. This is an output of activities undertaken with GCF Readiness support.
- (b) Nine (9) countries (Guyana, Togo, Mali, Gabon, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand, Federated States of Micronesia and Vanuatu) shared draft versions of their Country Programmes as preliminary outputs of activities undertaken with GCF Readiness support, for initial feedback from the Secretariat.
- (c) Namibia shared their Country Strategy to the Green Climate Fund in August 2017, for initial feedback from, and coordination of work with, the Secretariat².

¹ Rwanda becomes the third country to share a country programme as an output of GCF Readiness activities, following Zambia and Antigua and Barbuda.

² Namibia's Country Strategy was not developed with GCF Readiness support. Namibia is currently implementing country programming activities with GCF Readiness support with a view to preparing a Country Programme that will upscale and complement this Country Strategy, which aims to ensure transformative and economy-wide project proposals are developed and submitted to the GCF in a coordinated manner.

- (d) Brazil shared Minutes to Brazil's Country Programme for the GCF ("*Minuta do Programa País do Brasil para o Fundo Verde do Clima – GCF*") in January 2018, for initial feedback from the Secretariat³.
11. The Country Programmes submitted by Zambia, Antigua and Barbuda, and Rwanda can be found in Addendum I to this document.
12. In total, fifty-five (55) of the countries engaged with the Secretariat have started implementing activities with a view to completing or advancing their country programmes in 2018 and 2019. Twenty-two (22) of these countries launched implementation of these activities between June 2017 and January 2018.
13. Nine (9) countries in Latin America have sent new or updated snapshots, captured in the form of Country Programme Briefs, that reflect the NDAs/FPs' understanding of early programming thoughts of their respective countries. The NDA/FPs of forty-nine (49) countries have now shared Country Programme Briefs and a compilation of these is contained in Addendum II.

2.2 Development of Entity Work Programmes

14. The Secretariat works continuously with the 59 Accredited Entities on the development of their Entity Work Programmes⁴ (EWPs). Eighteen (18) Accredited Entities shared with the Secretariat an updated version of their EWPs in December 2017. This interaction results from the proactive and strategic approach of the GCF to programming and delivery of country-owned, high-impact proposals.
15. Forty-four (44) Entity Work Programmes are attached in the Addenda to this document. Addendum III provides a compilation of Entity Work Programmes for Direct Access Entities, and Addendum IV for International Access Entities.

2.3 GCF Workshops and other events with Secretariat participation

16. The Secretariat also maintained its continued support to the development of programming and funding proposals through the organization of Regional GCF Workshops, and through participation in country-driven events and missions.
17. Following the closure of the B.17 report which had provided the most recent update on country programmes and entity work programmes (GCF/B.17/11), on 23 June 2017, the Secretariat had organized and delivered the Caribbean Structured Dialogue in Belize and the Structured Dialogue for the Pacific, in Tonga. The results of these two Structured Dialogues were reported to the Board at its eighteenth meetings (Board document GCF/B.18/07 – Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme: progress report).
18. Structured Dialogues and GCF regional missions provide a platform for countries, entities and the GCF to cross-reference priorities and identify programming trends, and give momentum to collaborative initiatives such as:
- (a) In the Caribbean: a regional Readiness Proposal to mobilize and engage with the Private Sector was presented by Jamaica and approved in August/2017, following conversations initiated during the Structured Dialogue with the Caribbean held in June 2017;

³ Brazil's Minutes were not developed with GCF Readiness support.

⁴ Entity Work Programmes provide an overview of an entity's areas of work, priority sectors and experience in implementing projects and programmes across the eight strategic impact areas of the GCF. They summarize potential projects that an entity is likely to submit to the GCF and outline an action plan for engagement with the GCF. For direct access entities (DAEs), they further address short- and long-term initiatives to build the entity's institutional and project implementation capacity.

- (b) In the Pacific: dialogues and missions resulted in: advancing multi-country projects in early warning systems and climate information; exploring opportunities for regional approaches in food security and transport; strengthening collaborative efforts to identify and address barriers and opportunities for engaging the private sector in climate.
- (c) In Asia: a Green Banking initiative mooted at the Asia Structured dialogue is being developed by Philippines, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Indonesia with support from the Secretariat's Private Sector Facility; south-south cooperation exchange visits have taken place as a result of the Asia Structured dialogue: from Nepal and Bangladesh NDAs to India, and by Pakistan NDA to Mongolia.
- (d) Across regions, exchanges between NDA/FPs take place to share best practices in early Readiness implementation experiences (in particular: no-objection procedures, Country Programming, engagement of private sector and communications materials).

2.3.1 Regional and country missions organized by the Secretariat of the GCF

19. From 10 to 20 December 2017, an inter-divisional Secretariat team with members from the Division of Country Programming (DCP), the Division of Mitigation and Adaptation (DMA), the Private Sector Facility (PSF), and the Office of Risk Management and Compliance (ORMC) embarked upon a multi-country mission to the Caribbean. Key objectives of the mission were to follow up on the outcomes of the 2017 Caribbean Structured Dialogue, to take stock of the impact of the recent Hurricanes (Irma & Maria), and to determine how GCF's engagement can best support the region in making it resilient to climate change. The mission focused on two of the Caribbean Countries which recently experienced the devastation brought about by the 2017 Hurricane season – namely Antigua & Barbuda and Dominica – as well as on Grenada, Barbados and Haiti. The mission also sought to deepen the Fund's engagement with countries and the two regional direct access entities – namely CDB and CCCCC.

20. The multi-country mission to the Caribbean provided clear actions for follow up by the Secretariat. They include:

- (a) Water (and particularly water security) was identified as a key need. To this end, GCF's response to demand in this area will be through a strategic overarching approach which also focuses on demand side management.
- (b) Renewable Energy and the need to improve energy security in the region by addressing regulatory barriers and overcoming issues of stranded assets was also identified. The Private Sector Facility of the Secretariat will seek to work with a key accredited entity (or entities) to conduct proper feasibility studies for renewable energy using the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) of the GCF.
- (c) A third broad area for intervention raised during the mission was resilience. In that regard, the countries focused on resilience in buildings, cities, coastal and terrestrial eco-systems as well as agriculture and food security, including the development of a regional Readiness Proposal to increase resilience in the region and support the efforts already undertaken by regional institutions.
- (d) As another innovative response, the GCF will provide the support required by Grenada to develop a Readiness Proposal aimed at the development of pre-feasibility studies to enable the First Climate Resilient City (St. George's) to identify an Accredited Entity, request PPF and present a project to the GCF.
- (e) Additionally, NAP development and implementation, as well as the development of and updating of Country Programmes and Entity Work Programmes, will be pursued – as will the development of a Readiness proposal to develop capacity of CCCCC.

- (f) The private sector in the region also called for increased support from the GCF. Of note was the call for an incubator facility (equity) and for facilitating a loan facility to small industries engaged in climate solutions using the current financial system.
21. In Namibia, a Secretariat mission was carried out from 28 August to 2 September 2017 to enhance and coordinate the GCF engagement with the country. The mission convened key stakeholders from Namibia's NDA, Direct Access Entity (EIF) and other relevant national partners and institutions, and provided important space for the Secretariat to engage in:
- (a) An early review of the country's recently concluded Country Strategy to the Green Climate Fund, and on next steps to develop and strengthen this strategy;
 - (b) Refining country's plans to request Readiness and project preparation support; and
 - (c) EIF's refining of project ideas and plans for engagement with the GCF in 2018.
22. In Eastern Europe, the NDA of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) invited the participation of the Secretariat in a sub-regional workshop that the NDA hosted and convened to raise awareness on cooperation opportunities with the GCF. The event took place in December 2017 and gathered over 70 participants from the public, private, and non-profit/CSO sectors. This event followed the first Regional GCF Workshop for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (May 2017, Tbilisi), and provided an opportunity for more focused discussions among four countries: Albania, Montenegro, Serbia, and the host, FYROM.
23. The sub-regional workshop in FYROM provided a good occasion to discuss engagement both from a sub-regional perspective, as well as from a country-specific angle, which will look to form the basis of GCF's engagement strategy in this sub-region from 2018 onwards. It highlighted the high demand for information and understanding on GCF processes, requirements, and instruments. It was also successful in identifying a preliminary list (not exhaustive) of priority sectors including alternative sources of energy, transport infrastructure, food and water security, and ecosystems and services.
24. Several other country-driven events counted with the active participation of GCF Secretariat staff to raise awareness about the role and operations of the GCF and to support programming developments, among other objectives. More information about these missions can be found in Annex II.

2.3.2 Structured Dialogues planned for 2018

25. The Secretariat is currently working on the preparation of workshops and Structured Dialogues in 2018 which will convene NDA/FPs, Direct Access Entities, as well as relevant International Accredited Entities and other partners. These include:
- (a) Structured Dialogue with Latin America in Colombia, from 5 to 8 March.
 - (b) Structured Dialogue with Africa, targeting the dates of 3-6 April. The Secretariat is in regular dialogue with the Government of Mali and appropriate delivery partners in order to ensure that all necessary and appropriate legal, administrative and logistical arrangements are in place prior to the Structured Dialogue.
 - (c) Structured Dialogue with Asia, in the 1st semester of 2018 (dates to be confirmed).
 - (d) Direct Access Workshop in Songdo, Republic of Korea, in the 1st semester of 2018 (dates to be confirmed).
 - (e) Structured Dialogue with the Pacific, in the 2nd semester of 2018.
 - (f) Structured Dialogue with Eastern Europe and Central Asia, in the 2nd semester of 2018.
 - (g) Structured Dialogue with Small Island Developing States, in the 2nd semester of 2018.

- (h) Structured Dialogue with the Least Developed Countries, in the 2nd semester of 2018.

III. Analysis of Available Country and Entity Pipelines

26. This section presents an analysis of the indicative project/programme pipeline information provided by countries and entities through the submission of their Country and Entity Work Programmes or as outputs of the work done during GCF Structured Dialogues.

27. An analysis of this information should consider that it is indicative. This is discussed further in Section 3.8.

28. Section 3.2 presents a globally consolidated picture of the available indicative pipeline information. This is followed (in sections 3.3 to 3.7) by a breakdown of this information by region (Asia, Pacific, Caribbean and Africa)⁵ and, finally, by an assessment of the pipeline under development by accredited Direct Access Entities⁶.

3.1 Global Consolidation

29. The Secretariat assessed country pipeline data from 107 countries:

- (a) Forty-two (42) countries have endorsed Country Programme Briefs;
- (b) Three (3) countries have completed Country Programmes resulting from support provided by the GCF Readiness Programme; and
- (c) Sixty-three (62) countries have shared project/programme pipeline plans ahead of the development of a Country Programme.

30. The data assessed from these 107 countries represent a total of 316 indicative project ideas, of which 19 have already been approved by the GCF. Of the remaining, 107 have been submitted and are under consideration, and 190 are yet to be submitted.

Figure 2: Projects ideas from programming-related data

	Number of projects ideas	Requested GCF amount (USD billion)
Projects not yet submitted	190	7.3
Submitted projects under review	107	4.6
Approved projects	19	1.0
TOTAL	316	12.9

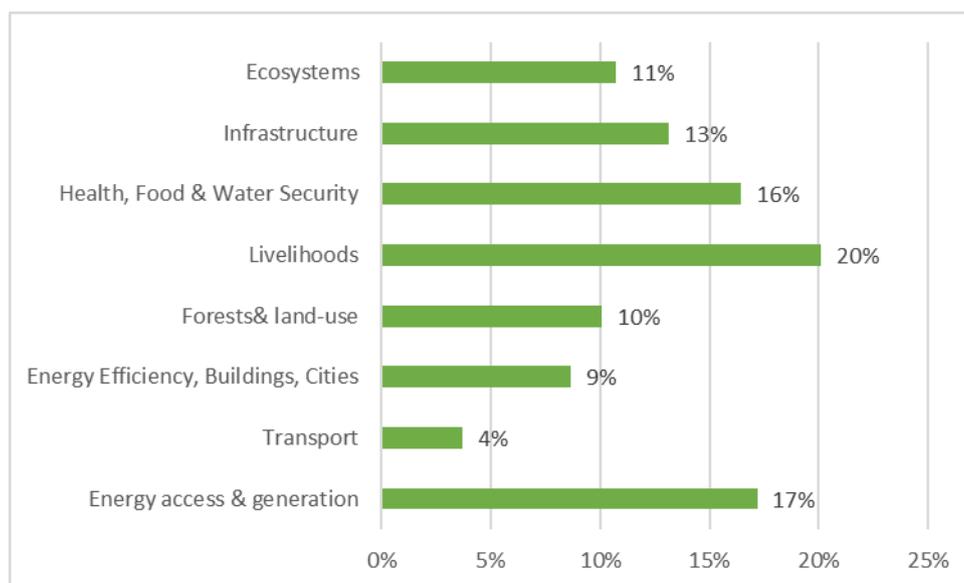
31. **Error! Reference source not found.** breaks down the global set of indicative project/programme pipeline information into the eight strategic impact areas of the GCF results

⁵ An early assessment of the regional priorities for Latin America and for Eastern Europe and Central Asia is still to be developed as GCF Structured Dialogues have not been organized in these regions yet (the workshop organized in Eastern Europe and Central Asia in May 2017 did not have as objective to consolidate regional priorities). Although some countries in these regions have submitted draft country programming information to the Secretariat, the amount of data is not sufficient to represent regional priorities.

⁶ More information about funding proposals and concept notes from direct access entities and on the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) is presented in document GCF/B.19/11 – Status of the GCF portfolio and pipeline.

framework. This initial picture, if maintained by countries as they progress on the analytical and participatory work required for the completion of their country programmes, would indicate that greatest potential demand lies in *livelihoods of the most vulnerable people and communities* and in *Energy access and generation*, while the least potential demand lies in *Low-emission transport*.

Figure 3: Snapshot of global distribution of project ideas stemming from indicative country pipelines, categorized along the eight strategic impact areas of the GCF results framework.



32. As informed above, several accredited entities submitted to the GCF Secretariat in December 2017 a review of their Entity Work Programmes (EWPs), including updated pipelines of projects and programmes. The Secretariat is undertaking a review of these updates at the time of closure of this document. Bearing in mind, however, that the EWPs presented before the submission of the December 2017 reviews indicated the existence of gaps between the EWPs and Country Programmes, the GCF Secretariat continues its work to help close these gaps, and to better align Entity Work Programmes with the Country Programmes.

3.2 Asia

33. Twenty-four (24) countries⁷ shared potential project/programme ideas to be funded by the GCF during the 2017 GCF Asia Regional Structured Dialogue. These ideas totaled USD 2.4 billion of resources expected from the GCF, for a total project/programme investment value of an estimated USD 9.6 billion.

34. Approximately a quarter of the projects/programmes identified would be led by direct access entities. Over time, this percentage is expected to increase as more direct access entities are accredited.

35. Around forty percent (40%) of the identified project/programme portfolio targets funding for the private sector.

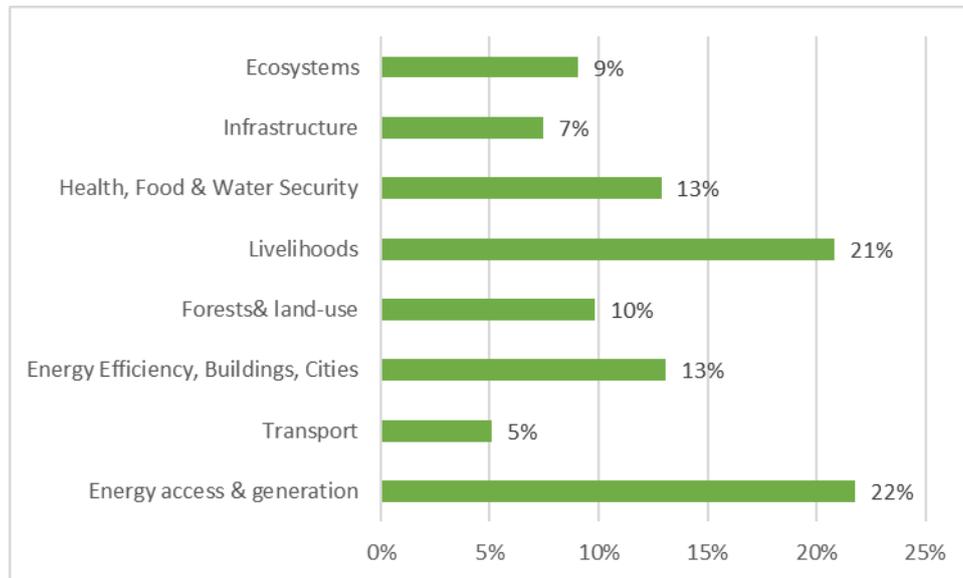
36. Emerging priority themes are:

(a) Enhancing livelihoods, with substantial emphasis on the role of early warning systems;

⁷ Note: in 2017, Central Asian countries joined GCF Regional events for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA), and did not join the 2017 GCF Asia Structured Dialogue.

- (b) Scaling up renewable energy generation and energy efficiency measures;
- (c) Strengthening health, food security and resilience to hazards;
- (d) Resilience of forests and ecosystems.

Figure 4: Snapshot of distribution of project ideas stemming from indicative Asian country pipelines, categorized along the eight strategic impact areas of the GCF results framework.

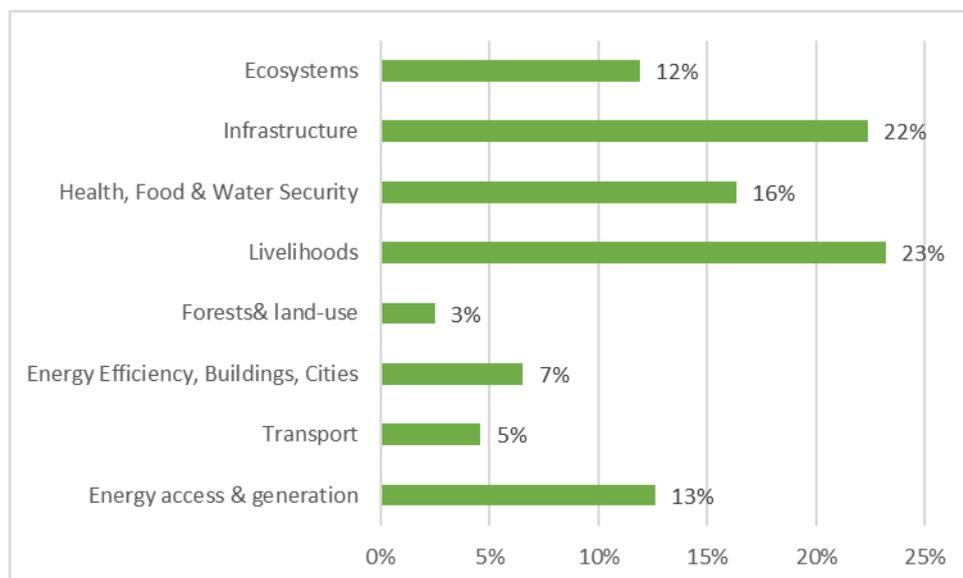


3.3 Pacific

37. A preliminary Pacific pipeline of projects/programmes stemming from the 2016 GCF Regional Pacific Structured Dialogue presented 30 project ideas that totalled an estimated funding request from the GCF of roughly USD 744 million, for a total project value of USD 1 billion. The projects were mainly clustered around three key themes:

- (a) Scaling up access to energy;
- (b) Climate proofing infrastructure; and
- (c) Enhancing community resilience.

Figure 5: Snapshot of the distribution of project ideas stemming from indicative Pacific country pipelines, categorized along the eight strategic impact areas of the GCF results framework.



38. The Pacific pipeline has since been further discussed in the 2017 Structured Dialogue for the Pacific. Since the 2016 Dialogue, (4) Funding Proposals and one (1) PPF request from the Pacific were approved, and a further six (6) Funding Proposals or Concept Notes were submitted to the Secretariat.

39. Energy and early warning system project/programme ideas have made progress, with several initiatives around early warning systems being approved or in PPF stage.

40. These priority themes remain in the Pacific region:

- (a) Energy, Climate Resilient Infrastructure and Coastal Protection; and
- (b) Oceans, Early Warning Systems/Climate Information Systems and Food Security.

41. Project/programme ideas under the theme (a) above focus heavily on hard infrastructure, such as climate-proofing roads, ports and coastal infrastructures. Livelihoods come as a co-benefit.

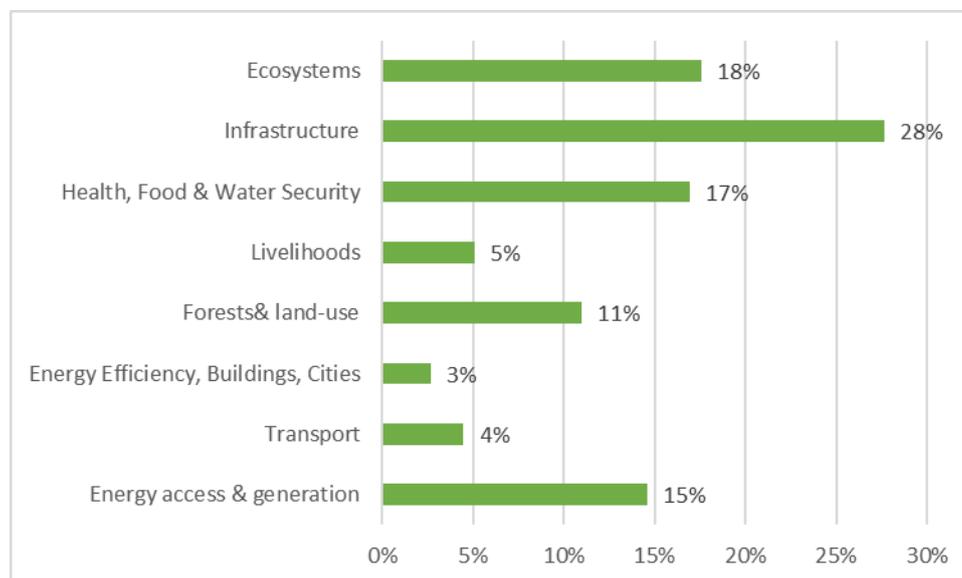
42. Similarly, food security and ecosystems seem to be presented as co-benefits in project/programme ideas under priority theme (b) above.

3.4 Caribbean

43. The 2017 GCF Regional Structured Dialogue with the Caribbean resulted in 13 countries articulating a prospective pipeline of 42 low-emission and climate-resilient projects and programmes, with a GCF estimated investment of USD 1.2 billion, for a total project/programme value of USD 2.1 billion.

44. The project/programme ideas ranged from USD 300,000 to USD 160 million in potential requests for GCF funding. These projects are actively under development and potentially viable, but detailed appraisal is needed in most cases (in some cases, project development is at an early stage). This potential pipeline would provide an estimate of the demand for GCF resources in the Caribbean in the next three years.

Figure 6: Snapshot of the distribution of project ideas stemming from indicative Caribbean country pipelines, categorized along the eight strategic impact areas of the GCF results framework.

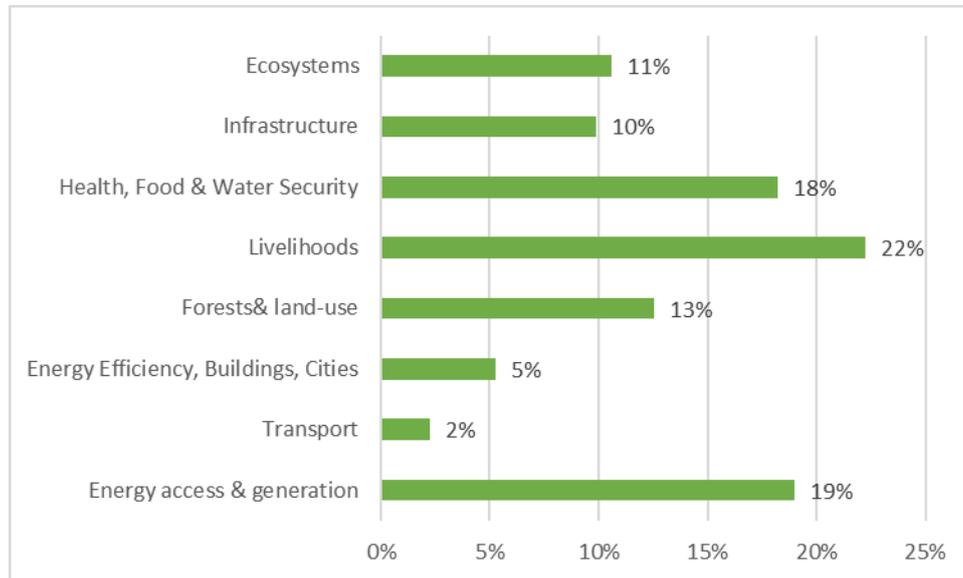


3.5 Africa

45. The GCF Regional Africa Structured Dialogue organized in 2016 allowed 48 countries to articulate a prospective project/programme pipeline of some 150 low-emission and climate-resilient projects and programmes. Priorities clustered around five key themes:

- (a) Scaling up access to clean energy: energy generation and energy access, rural electrification, sustainable cities and low carbon transport;
- (b) Adaptation planning and climate information services: institutional development and policy frameworks, improving or modernizing agro-climatic observation networks and agro-meteorological stations;
- (c) Resilient agriculture and livelihoods: improving agricultural practices and land-use planning, crop diversification and irrigation management;
- (d) Leveraging forest resources: preventing deforestation, reforestation, improving regulatory frameworks for land-use and the REDD-plus framework; and
- (e) Coastal resilience and water management: coastal infrastructure, coastal ecosystems and policy frameworks for coastal management.

Figure 7: Snapshot of the distribution of project ideas stemming from indicative African country pipelines, categorized along the eight strategic impact areas of the GCF results framework.



3.6 Direct Access Entities

46. The Secretariat has analyzed the pipeline of projects and programmes presented by 22 Direct Access Entities (DAEs) through their programming initiatives. It should be noted that the submitted Entity Work Programmes are preliminary at best. They will benefit from consultative engagement with the GCF Secretariat to ensure better alignment with country priorities as embedded in Country Programmes, available support for project preparation and capacity building, as well as potential Accredited Entities' collaboration at project or programme level. Various initiatives planned throughout the year will provide opportunities and venues for the sought-after refinement, including the 2018 Direct Access Workshop.

47. This analysis, based on information submitted through Entity Work Programme and aligned with the official pipeline submissions made to the Secretariat up to 31 December 2017, shows that:

- (a) One-hundred-and-twenty-three (123) projects totalling over USD 4.7 billion in GCF funding were listed as pipeline data;
- (b) Fifty-six (56) projects totalling over USD 1.9 billion were identified for the Africa region;
- (c) Twenty-four (24) projects totalling over USD 835 million were identified for the Asia Pacific region;
- (d) Forty-three (43) projects totalling over USD 1.9 billion were identified for the Latin America and Caribbean region; and
- (e) No projects to-date have been identified for the Eastern European region.

3.7 Initial analysis

48. While the data presented above provides a picture of country and entity plans, they must be interpreted against consideration of the development stage that countries and entities are in relation to the development of their pipeline plans for the GCF. Most conspicuously, it is important to acknowledge the following:

-
- (a) **Updates of programming information are underway.** A substantive part of the Country Programme Brief snapshots and of the work resulting from Structured Dialogues were developed in 2016 and in the first half of 2017. Countries are currently making efforts, with support of GCF Readiness, to present a complete and updated country programme that observes the GCF general guidelines for the preparation of country programmes.
- (b) **Project ideas need more detailed appraisal.** Many of the project and programme ideas presented in Structured Dialogues and in country and entity work programmes, even when potentially viable, need more detailed appraisal to ensure they are a good match for GCF funding.
- (c) **Country NDAs/FPs need further understanding of the benefits of Country Programmes.** Observable outputs from the Readiness support in the area of strategic frameworks (including the elaboration of country programmes) and verbal feedback received indicate that there is still confusion among NDAs/FPs about the potential benefits of country programmes, and about what exactly is the GCF looking for in its country programme work. Moreover, there is a perception that the GCF Country Programme might come as just one out of too many other programming documents countries are already preparing.
- (d) **Countries indicate the need for additional capacity to elaborate strong Country Programmes.** NDA/FPs expressed concerns about their capacity to develop strong country programmes. While capacity strengthening is being addressed through Readiness support, most of the recent draft country programmes seen by the Secretariat as initial outputs of activities supported by the GCF Readiness Programme suggest the need to ensure additional targeted assistance for these country programmes to deliver the ambitious impacts and paradigm shift sought by the GCF.
- (e) **There is still a limited number of country programmes completed.** Only three (3) country programmes have been completed by countries so far, following implementation of activities funded through GCF Readiness resources. Most of the country programming information analysed above is based on work done during Structured Dialogues and on information captured in the form of Country Programme Briefs, which reflected the NDAs/FPs' understanding of early programming thoughts of their respective countries. These may not serve to fulfil the strategic vision or planning functions that can be developed through more analytical and participatory efforts.
49. The Secretariat is hence working towards strengthening its support to the development of strong country and entity work programmes that can deliver the ambitious impacts and paradigm shift expected by the GCF. Section 4 presents the actions being taken or planned in this regard.
50. The pictures depicted by the analyses of the sections above should not be construed as having reached their final form. As a matter of fact, they are expected to evolve alongside the strengthening of capacity of NDAs/FPs and of nationally developed country programmes, strategic frameworks and policies.
51. That said, the analyses allow to drive initial considerations, which include:
- (a) The GCF will continue to ensure it is expeditious in the support it provides to (i) strengthen the country programmes and country programming processes and (ii) to develop pipelines of projects and programmes of high quality in areas of higher interest to regions and countries;
- (b) The GCF will also continue to ensure it is expeditious in the support it provides to NDAs/FPs to identify emerging needs of their countries that can be supported through the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme;

- (c) The GCF is considering actions to promote programming and pipeline developments in regions and impact areas that have so far demonstrated weak progress;
- (d) The Secretariat will continue to ensure a better alignment of Entity Work Programmes with Country Programmes.

IV. Way Forward

4.1 Build NDA/FP Capacity to Articulate Strategy and Country Programme

52. The steps being taken or planned by the Secretariat to strengthen the capacity of NDAs/FPs to lead the development of strong nationally developed country programmes aim at:

- (a) Addressing the identified inadequate/weak capacity within NDA/FPs;
- (b) Clarifying the benefits and expected content of country programmes;
- (c) Expediting support to countries and entities in the development and/or updating of their programmes.

53. Among these steps is a further revision of the Country Programming guidelines by the Secretariat, with a view to completing it by end of March 2018. The guidelines will provide NDAs/FPs with more explicit guidance for the elaboration of their country programmes, and will include an improved indicative model of a process to conduct country programming. Finally, they will include more guidance aimed at supporting NDAs/FPs' identification of activities and areas of support for which GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme can be considered.

4.1.1 Secretariat's capacity to support country programming

54. The Secretariat plans to increase its capacity to deliver, on a timely basis, technical and analytical support to NDAs/FPs, aiming to ensure they fully understand the requirements of, and can articulate, a country strategy to undertake low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways in alignment with their national priorities. The Secretariat will identify reputable, qualified and experienced firms (or consortia of firms) that will work under the Secretariat's supervision to ensure this increase in capacity.

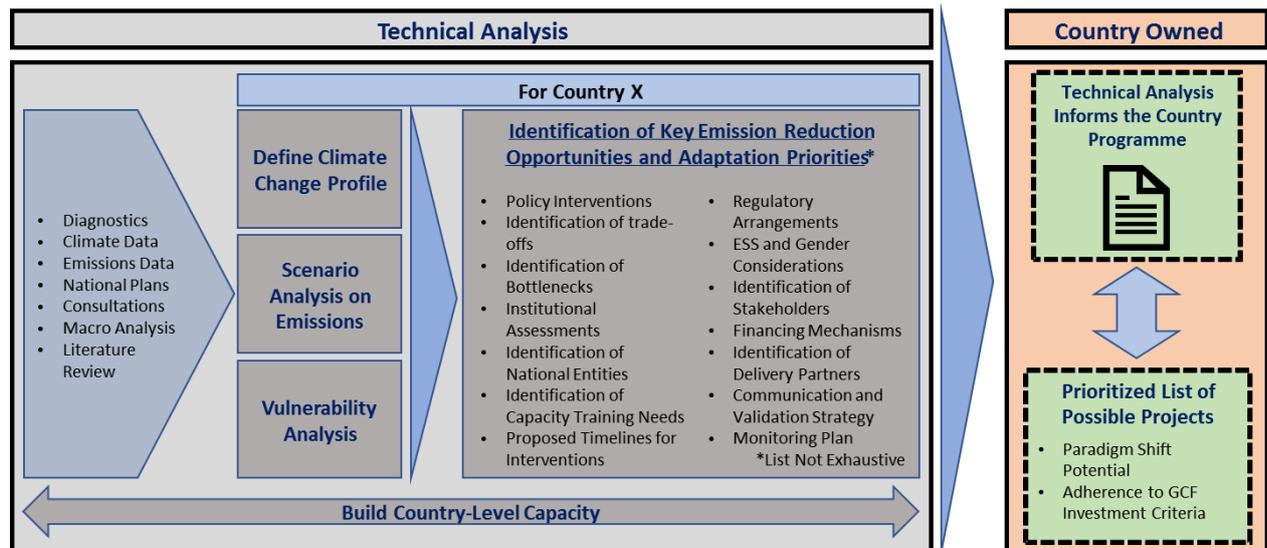
55. The Secretariat support aims to make technical assistance available for countries to develop the inputs required to inform the development of their Country Programmes, ensuring they are country-driven/owned, evidence-based, and focused on countries' climate change priorities aligned with the GCF result areas. To this end, the Secretariat aims to provide:

- (a) Comprehensive support to a group of countries that expresses interest to undertake the entire spectrum of activities required to develop their Country Programme; and
- (b) Ad-hoc support at specific entry points to an additional group of countries, in the form of expert inputs and technical review toward the improvement of the quality of their Country Programmes.

56. **Comprehensive support.** The comprehensive support to undertake the entire spectrum of activities will consist of an in-depth climate focused country comprehensive diagnosis. This is illustrated in Figure 10 in a high-level conceptual framework. The diagnosis may comprise assessments conducted in collaboration with relevant national stakeholders, building on existing work in countries and taking account of national development and climate change policies and strategies. To this end, the diagnosis is expected to support NDA/FPs to:

- (a) Address their respective country's climate and economic risks profile;
- (b) Undertake scenario analyses on their country's emissions profile and vulnerability analyses based on defined scenarios;
- (c) Identify key emission reduction opportunities and adaptation priorities and propose a prioritized list of possible projects for mitigation and adaptation outlining synergies and trade-offs, where relevant.

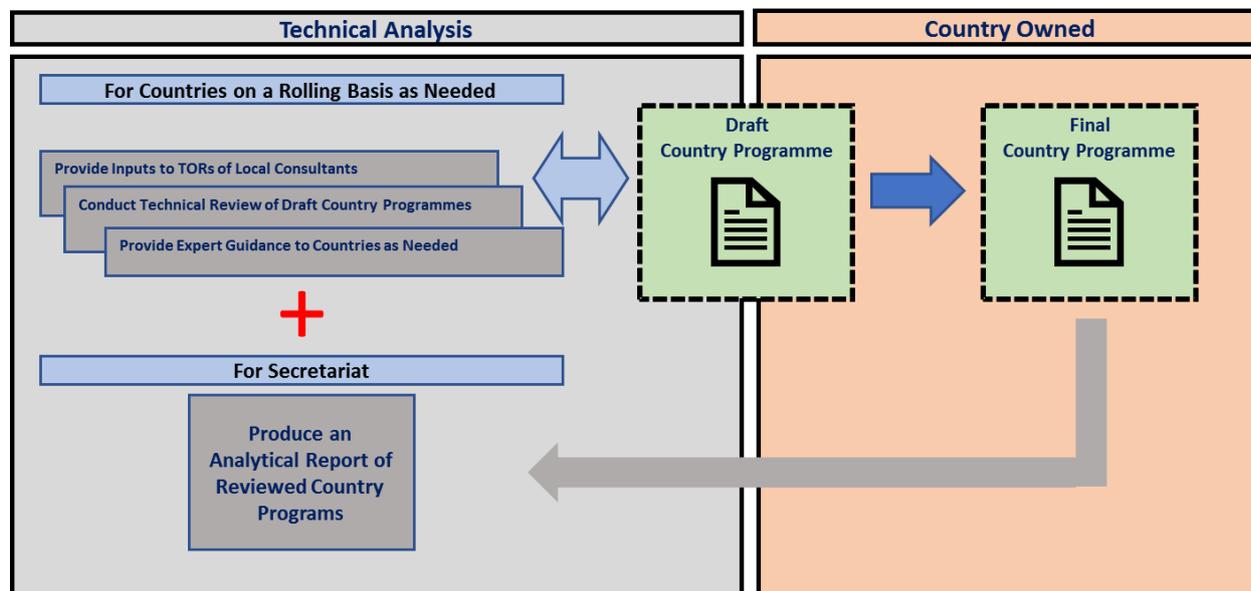
Figure 8: High-level conceptual framework of planned support to countries to undertake the entire spectrum of activities required to develop their Country Programme



57. **Ad-hoc support.** A high-level conceptual framework of the ad-hoc support at specific entry points illustrated in Figure 11. This support is planned to be provided, at the request of the NDA/FPs that are receiving Readiness support for the elaboration of country programmes, through:

- (a) Initial inputs and advice, at the framing level, on the terms of reference developed by the NDA/FP to identify and engage partners for the Country Programme elaboration;
- (b) Conducting a technical review and providing guidance and recommendations to improve the quality of a Country Programme, at submission of its initial draft and/or at the final phase before its national validation.

Figure 9: Conceptual framework of ad-hoc support at specific entry points in the form of expert inputs and technical review toward the improvement of the quality of Country Programmes.



58. Additionally, the Secretariat will review and analyse the Country Programmes received from countries and will endeavour to extract lessons learned and best practices, and to report on main characteristics and trends that emerge from the review. These reports could highlight: key areas of strengths and weaknesses; key areas for capacity development; range of funding volume expected from the GCF and other sources in the following 2-3 years; the range of resources expected to be requested from GCF Readiness and PPF in the following 2-3 years, as well as other relevant information.

4.2 Sectoral and Thematic Partnerships to Strengthen Pipelines

59. Steps undertaken to develop partnership target capacity building needs and have an impact of the improvement of the funding requests presented to the GCF.

60. The Secretariat will continue to develop new and deepen existing partnerships with service providers and readiness delivery partners to support NDAs on the design and implementation of their NAPs and/or other adaptation planning processes. These partnerships aim to enhance provision of technical support to NDAs for developing and implementing adaptation planning proposals, particularly with national delivery partners.

61. To strengthen the quality and number of catalytic projects to be implemented by Direct Access Entities (DAE), the Secretariat is developing thematic-focussed partnerships with leading institutions in their respective sectors of climate action. The objective of these partnerships is to support early stage development of project ideas and Concept Notes, as well as project preparation support to develop the concepts into successful Funding Proposals. Initial progress is currently being made with partners focussed on agriculture and landscape management, infrastructure and water management.

62. Additionally, the Secretariat has increased its capacity to provide technical support to DAEs in the upstream development of a strong project pipeline. This capacity involves use of a small set of off-site consultants with specific sector expertise to help DAEs design catalytic project Concept Notes and associated PPF Requests with strong climate rationale and high paradigm shift potential. The pipeline of DAE project concepts and proposals supported through both of these strategies will use a range of finance instruments and be purposefully oriented to GCF's investment criteria.

4.3 Knowledge and Information Sharing

4.3.1 Country and Accredited Entity Portals

63. The Secretariat has developed portals for Accredited Entities and National Designated Authorities (NDAs) and focal points (FPs) that are designed to provide entities and NDA/FPs with a one-stop shop on their engagement with GCF.

64. The portals will gather all relevant information related to the NDA/FP or entity and feature an overview of key data points and status updates across a range of areas, such as funding proposals, portfolio information, and readiness, among others.

65. The portals will give NDAs/FPs visibility about the projects that accredited entities are sharing with the Secretariat. Project Preparation Facility (PPF) Proposals, Concept Notes and Funding Proposals submitted to the Secretariat will be readily visible by the NDA/FP, responding to a demand for this information to be more rapidly accessible and allowing for early identification of misalignments between accredited entity pipeline plans and country priorities.

66. Soft launch of the portals is planned to happen by early February/2018 with limited features and, initially, in a 'view mode' only, meaning that entities and NDAs/FPs will not be able to add or edit information. More features are planned to be released later in 2018 to incorporate increased functionality.

4.3.2 Direct Climate Action Platform

67. Based on the demand from NDAs/FPs and Direct Access Entities, the GCF Secretariat has developed the Direct Climate Action Platform (DCAP), a global online platform for institutions and experts from across the world to exchange knowledge, share technical expertise and foster capacity building.

68. The DCAP platform's overall aim is to empower local actors such as NDAs/FPs and direct access entities to:

- (a) address knowledge and capacity gaps;
- (b) build capacity and
- (c) prepare high-quality mitigation and adaptation projects and programmes.

69. DCAP also aims to increase South-South cooperation to address adaptation plans and to develop innovative projects/programmes, promoting the sharing of good practices and empowering individuals to assist countries and entities to meet NDCs.

70. DCAP was introduced during COP23 in the *Day of Direct Access Entities*, inviting all types of institutions to partner and to join the effort to mobilize capacities and information through this initiative.

71. To further the development of the DCAP initiative, several next steps have been

identified, including:

- (a) recruitment of dedicated personnel;
- (b) collecting insights and feedback from NDAs and DAEs as end-users;
- (c) coordinating the formation of a DCAP Steering Committee;
- (d) sharing the initiative with potential partner institutions and establishing formal partnerships; and
- (e) potentially, formally launching the platform at the UNFCCC 1st Sessional Period in 2018.

Annex I: Draft decision of the Board

The Board, having considered the document Consolidated Country and Entity Work Programmes:

- (a) Welcomes the information submitted by countries related to their country programmes, and entities on their entity work programmes;
- (b) Also welcomes the submission of completed country programmes by Antigua and Barbuda, Rwanda and Zambia;
- (c) Stresses the importance of country programmes as means to enhance country ownership and ensure that GCF supports activities that are responding to national priorities and in line with GCF policies.
- (d) Reaffirms the updated project and programme cycle contained in the review of the initial proposal approval process in GCF/B/17/18 (Annex III), in particular on the submission and compilation of country programmes and consolidation of entity work programmes;
- (e) Encourages countries and accredited entities to expedite the finalization of their country programmes and entity work programmes respectively;
- (f) Encourages, consistent with Decision B.12/20 on initial Strategic Plan for the Green Climate Fund, countries to expedite the finalization of their country programmes, in line with the initial general guidelines on the preparation of country programmes provided in decision B.08/11 (Annex XVII);
- (g) Encourages accredited entities to expedite the finalization of their work programmes in consultation with national designated authorities and focal points;
- (h) Requests the Secretariat to accelerate support from the Readiness Programme to countries and direct access entities requesting such support to complete their country programmes or entity work programmes.
- (i) Requests the Secretariat to provide the support referred to in paragraph (m) ensuring better alignment with country and entity programming guidelines provided by the GCF.
- (j) Requests the Secretariat to work with the countries that submit country programmes with a view to enabling them to expeditiously implement the country's priorities consistent with GCF policies and procedures.
- (k) Requests the Secretariat to compile and analyse information provided in country programmes and entity work programmes, and report to the Board on an annual basis on the information included in the country programmes and entity work programmes with the view to:
 - (i) Understand the climate mitigation and adaptation needs in terms of GCF strategic priorities and priorities of developing countries; and
 - (ii) Understand the key priorities of countries where GCF financing can be used to deliver paradigm shift in emission reduction and climate resilience.

Annex II: GCF Secretariat country missions in 2017

In addition to the GCF Structured Dialogues and to the missions presented in Section 2.3.2, GCF Secretariat staff carried out several other country missions to meet local stakeholders, raise awareness of GCF policies and procedures, and discuss country engagement, including programming and development of pipelines. These missions included:

1. In February 2017, the Secretariat participated and contributed on GCF role discussions in the Myanmar multi-stakeholder consultation and green growth planning in Nay Phi Taw;
2. In June, the Secretariat:
 - (a) Participated in the Vietnam multi-stakeholder consultation and launching the UNDP Building Resilience in Coastal Communities in Ha Noi;
 - (b) Visited China for multi-stakeholder dialogues with key government partners and direct access entities in Beijing;
3. In February 2017, the Secretariat visited Mexico to support the NDA on the presentation of the initial Funding Proposals evaluation process of the country.
4. In March, Secretariat missions were made to:
 - (a) Costa Rica, to join multi-stakeholder workshops that targeted engagement with the GCF, GCF Accreditation and the presentation of the country's initial no-objection procedure;
 - (b) Cuba, to support a multi-stakeholder workshop on engagement with the GCF and project development.
 - (c) Kyrgyz Republic, to support country stakeholders during the National Multi-stakeholder workshop on opportunities for engagement with the GCF
 - (d) The Secretariat facilitated on 20-21 March 2017, in Brisbane, a GCF and Readiness Training/Drafting session for Papua New Guinea NDA staff.
 - (e) The Secretariat facilitated on 23-24 March 2017, in Nauru, the first National GCF Workshop and Government Cabinet awareness and Q&A session for Nauru.
5. In April 2017, the Secretariat visited Bali, Indonesia, to support and facilitate the Indonesian national stakeholder consultation on GCF and adaptation planning during.
6. In August 2017, the Secretariat conducted missions to:
 - (a) Peru, to support delivery of the National Stakeholders Workshop.
 - (b) Bhutan, to work and consult with various ministries on the country's first readiness proposals
7. In July, the Secretariat participated in the India multi-stakeholder meeting and discussion of work programmes of accredited direct access entities in New Delhi;
8. Secretariat missions took place in August 2017:
 - (a) In the Philippines' multi-stakeholder meeting on GCF and Green Banking in Manila, to support the plans for a green banking project and possible legislation;
 - (b) In the Timor Leste multi-stakeholder consultations on proposed institutional arrangements for the NDA and create awareness of GCF in Dili;
9. In October 2017, the Secretariat:
 - (a) Supported NDC multi-stakeholder consultations in Manila, Philippines, in a joint mission between the Division of Country Programming, the Division of Mitigation and Adaptation and the Private Sector Facility.

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- (b) Joined multi-stakeholder consultations with private sector stakeholders on GCF private sector project development possibilities, in Amman, Jordan;
 - (c) Visited Tunis, Tunisia, to increase understanding of the newly-appointed NDA/FP team's and the direct access entity's OSS (Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel) about GCF operations and support their structured engagement with the GCF.
 - (d) Joined a multi-stakeholder consultation on NDCs, climate finance and GCF engagement in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia;
 - (e) Supported multi-stakeholder consultation on identification and nomination of Banking and Financial institutions for GCF accreditation in Kathmandu, Nepal;
10. The Secretariat participated in the Cambodia multi-stakeholder dialogue in Phnom Penh during November 2017 to identify future GCF programming priorities;
11. The Secretariat visited Georgia in December 2017 to meet with two direct access entities currently undergoing accreditation, the NDA, and other government representatives. The visit sought to instigate the broadening of coordination, communication, and information-sharing across various stakeholders in Georgia. The meetings answered questions on accreditation and GCF processes, clarified queries on possible projects and their climate change rationale, and provided an opportunity to strengthen the Secretariat's relationship with the new NDA.
12. A Secretariat mission was fielded to China from 5-11 December 2017 to advance strategic collaboration with China including country and entity programming. Project possibilities around transportation, ecosystem-based adaptation, south-south cooperation and PPPs were discussed and feedback provided. Discussions were also held with two accredited direct access entities from China – China CDM Fund and FECO on their work programme. An MoU was also signed with China Development Bank to strengthen collaboration on climate action and a meeting held with New Development Bank, an international development bank established by BRICS to explore cooperation.
13. A team from the Secretariat also visited Bangladesh during 13 to 15 December to offer support to the stakeholder engagement process to validate the Country Programme. Priority project proposals identified through the country programming process were discussed and feedback provided. Discussions were also held with the two accredited entities from Bangladesh – IDCOL and PKSf on future programming plans.
14. Also in December 2017, the Secretariat participated in the Bhutan stakeholder and partner meeting launching the WWF Bhutan for Life project in Thimphu.
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