



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

Meeting of the Board
4 – 7 October 2021
Virtual meeting
Provisional agenda item 16

GCF/B.30/03/Add.02

13 September 2021

Report on mid-term accreditation reviews

Summary

This document provides information on the mid-term accreditation reviews of accredited entities, in line with the GCF Monitoring and Accountability Framework per decision B.11/10, as at 31 July 2021.

I. Background

1. Section 5.3 of document GCF/B.30/03 titled “Consideration of accreditation proposals” contains the summary of accredited entity (AE) monitoring and reporting requirements, as well as a summary of the mid-term accreditation review of AEs.
2. This document contains additional information on the mid-term review assessment of the 13 AEs that were required to complete such a review for the period including calendar year 2020, due on 28 February 2021. The AEs are as follows:
 - (a) Agence Française de Développement (AFD);
 - (b) Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF);
 - (c) Caribbean Development Bank (CDB);
 - (d) Caribbean Community Climate Change Center (CCCCC);
 - (e) Department of Environment, Ministry of Health and Environment, Government of Antigua and Barbuda (DOE ATG);
 - (f) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
 - (g) Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden (FMO);
 - (h) Fundación Avina;
 - (i) Inter-American Development Bank (IDB);
 - (j) International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
 - (k) Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT);
 - (l) Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (MoFEC); and
 - (m) Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation.

II. Agence Française de Développement

3. Agence Française de Développement (AFD) was accredited by the Board on 8 July 2015 in decision B.10/06, paragraph (c).¹ AFD signed its accreditation master agreement (AMA) with GCF on 11 November 2017, which became effective on 16 January 2018.
4. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 25 March 2021.
5. The AE has maintained its accreditation to the Directorate-General Development and Cooperation – EuropeAid of the European Commission (DG DEVCO).
6. The Secretariat and the Accreditation Panel (AP) reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:
 - (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE has strengthened its policies and practices for the better, with a new policy on combatting prohibited practices, an anti-corruption code of conduct, and guiding principles for investigations. The AE’s operations have expanded

¹ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: large (including micro, small and medium); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans and guarantees); and (c) environment and social risk category high risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2 and Category C/I-3)).

with staff numbers and the project base increasing significantly since the last reporting period. In addition, management has been decentralized to regions with commensurate accountability and control framework modifications. From its review of the track record, the AP notes the AE's performance gaps in terms of reporting compliance (quality and timeliness) and further notes the Secretariat's efforts to support and reinforce these requirements with the AE. Although the AE has not reported any changes in relation to project management, grant awarding and risk management with respect to on-lending and blending, the AP recommends that, in light of the AE's increased portfolio and staffing and the regionalization of operations, the Secretariat monitor these aspects through the upcoming institutional and project-level reports including re-accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;

- (b) Environmental and social safeguards (ESS) standards: The AE reports enhancements in its organizational capacity and competency to implement the environmental and social (E&S) policy since the last reporting period, with an increase in staff size. The track record demonstrates that the AE continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
 - (c) Gender: The AE reports no change since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.
7. Conclusions: AFD continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendations above.

III. Corporación Andina de Fomento

8. Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) was accredited by the Board on 7 July 2015 in decision B.10/06, paragraph (c).² CAF signed its AMA with GCF on 15 November 2016, which became effective on 19 March 2018.
9. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 9 March 2021.
10. The AE has maintained its accreditation to the Adaptation Fund (AF).
11. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:
- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports no major changes since the last reporting period. Updates have been made to the guidelines related to anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT), which is a positive change. However, the AP notes that CAF's submission of the evidence required under fiduciary functions, namely, audit functions and track records, was delayed significantly (due to the

² The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: large (including micro, small and medium); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and (c) environment and social risk category high risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2 and Category C/I-3)).

confidentiality of the documents that then delayed obtaining the necessary permission to share the relevant documents with a third-party). Due to time constraints, the AP was unable to undertake a comprehensive review of the documents. Nonetheless, in light of the recent re-accreditation of CAF to the Adaptation Fund (14 September 2020), the AP would like to defer the comprehensive assessment of the evidence for audit functions and track record to the next institutional level assessment. As such, the AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;

- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports no change since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF interim ESS standards; and
 - (c) Gender: The AE reports no change since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.
12. Conclusions: CAF continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope.

IV. Caribbean Development Bank

13. Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) was accredited by the Board on 14 October 2016 in decision B.14/10, paragraph (b).³ CDB signed its AMA with GCF on 9 November 2018, which became effective on 29 November 2018.

14. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 31 March 2021.

15. The AE's first accreditation with the AF expired on 25 February 2021. The AE is in the process of seeking re-accreditation.

16. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports no changes under fiduciary functions since the last reporting period. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports positive changes since the last reporting period. It has a fully operational Office of Integrity, Compliance and Accountability with oversight for the accountability and whistleblower functions and a permanent mechanism to receive and process inquiries and complaints, including E&S-related complaints, which the AP considers improvements in the AE's compliance and accountability mechanisms. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS

³ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: small (including micro); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans and equity); and (c) environment and social risk category high risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2 and Category C/I-3)).

standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and

- (c) Gender: The AE reported positive changes since the last reporting period, including revisions to its Gender Equality Policy and Operational Strategy (GEPOS) and adoption of a new Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP 2020–2024). These will deepen the AE's work (both internally and externally) on its gender equality mandate, with explicit gender-targeted outputs that address the root causes and manifestations of gender inequalities. GEPOS and GEAP 2020–2024 solidify the AE's commitment to gender equality as a crucial element in reducing poverty in borrowing member countries. The AE's track record in implementing its gender policies demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

17. Conclusions: CDB continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope. The AE is recommended to inform the Secretariat of the outcome of its re-accreditation application to the Adaptation Fund.

V. Caribbean Community Climate Change Center

18. Caribbean Community Climate Change Center (CCCCC) was accredited by the Board on 6 July 2015 in decision B.10/06, paragraph (c).⁴ CCCCC signed its AMA with GCF on 25 May 2016, which became effective on 23 January 2018.

19. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 25 March 2021.

20. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under the fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE is recommended to provide to the Secretariat recent evidence indicating its good standing with multilateral organizations during the next institutional level assessment. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports enhancements since the last reporting period, including a revised ESS policy that strengthens the AE's E&S capabilities as well as enhanced capacity in managing E&S matters. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) Gender: The AE reports enhancements since the last reporting period including a revised Gender Policy and Action Plan that provides greater details on mainstreaming at

⁴ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: small (including micro); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and; (c) environment and social risk category medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)).

project level. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

21. Conclusions: CCCCC continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendation above.

VI. Department of Environment, Ministry of Health and Environment, Government of Antigua and Barbuda

22. The Department of Environment, Ministry of Health and Environment, Government of Antigua and Barbuda (DOE ATG) was accredited by the Board on 2 October 2017 in decision B.18/05, paragraph (b).⁵ DOE ATG signed its AMA with GCF on 28 September 2018, which became effective on 23 October 2018.

23. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 28 February 2021.

24. The AE has maintained its accreditation to the AF.

25. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports enhancements since the last reporting period including an updated Code of Conduct and a statement on a Zero Tolerance for Fraud in all project activities on its website. The AE has also developed project health criteria guidelines to conduct a holistic internal appraisal of project performance on a quarterly basis. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE is recommended to provide, during the next institutional level assessment, details on the management responses to the findings of the annual audited financial statements and internal audit reports it provided to the Secretariat as part of the mid-term review. Where the management responses pointed out at actions, the AE is recommended to provide implementation progress on these actions. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports enhancements since the last reporting period including the grievance mechanism that has been enhanced with Smartsheet, a project management software programme that helps efficiently and transparently track and report on complaints. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) Gender: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision

⁵ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: micro in relation to the specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans) and small (including micro) in relation to the specialized fiduciary standard for project management and the specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans); and (c) environment and social risk category medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)).

B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

26. Conclusions: DOE ATG continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendation above.

VII. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

27. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was accredited by the Board on 14 October 2016 in decision B.14/11, paragraph (b).⁶ FAO signed its AMA with GCF on 8 June 2018, which became effective on 4 October 2018.

28. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 27 February 2021.

29. The AE has maintained its accreditation to the AF and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

30. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) **Fiduciary standards:** The AE reports positive changes including an update to its Whistleblower Protection Policy to improve its investigation process and an update to the Charter for the Office of the Inspector General to reinforce the independence of the office. Further, FAO issued new Terms of Reference for the Oversight Advisory Committee (ex-Audit Committee) to strengthen oversight of the Organization's internal controls. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) **ESS standards:** The AE reports minor changes since the last reporting period. The update to the Charter of the Office of the Inspector General is a positive step as it also addresses the oversight of compliance with the ESS standards and gender policies. The AP notes that FAO is in the process of finalizing its new Framework for Environmental and Social Management as well as the operational guidelines to support the implementation of the Framework. The AE is recommended to provide the finalized documents during the next institutional level assessment. The track record demonstrates that the AE continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) **Gender:** The AE reports enhancements since the last reporting period. The AE updated its Policy on Gender Equality that specifies FAO's goal and four gender equality objectives, including a set of minimum standards for gender mainstreaming to ensure that the gender dimensions are adequately addressed in all organizational functions, from results-based management to staff learning and evidence generation. The AP notes that FAO is in the process of developing a Gender Action Plan. The AE is recommended to share, during the next institutional level assessment, the finalized Gender Action Plan.

⁶ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: medium (including micro and small); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and (c) environment and social risk category medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)).

The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

31. Conclusions: FAO continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendations above.

VIII. Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden

32. Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelingslanden (FMO) was accredited by the Board on 14 October 2016 in decision B.14/11, paragraph (b).⁷ FMO signed its AMA with GCF on 18 October 2018, which became effective on 17 December 2018.

33. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 16 March 2021.

34. The AE has maintained its accreditation to DG DEVCO.

35. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) **Fiduciary standards:** The AE reports updates to several risk management policies and procedures in relation to the specialized fiduciary standards for on-lending and blending operations, which are positive changes since the last reporting period. Additionally, the AE has updated several policies related to AML/CFT and prohibited practices. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE is recommended to provide, during the next institutional level assessment, an update on its loan portfolio, including non-performing loans, both for GCF funded activities as well as for the AE's overall loan portfolio. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) **ESS standards:** The AE reports minor changes since the last reporting period. The AE launched its Sustainability Information System, which improves the management and reporting of environmental, social and governance impacts. The AE also introduced a clear distinction between project-related complaints, general complaints and disclosures: Complaints concerning projects financed by the AE are handled by an independent complaints mechanism; while the Speak Up mechanism (for whistleblowing) encourages employees and third parties to report irregularities and/or suspected irregularities. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) **Gender:** The AE reports minor changes since the last reporting period. The AE published its Diversity & Inclusion Statement, which commits it to achieving gender equality. This shows strong leadership on gender diversity both within its institution and externally

⁷ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: large (including micro, small and medium); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and (c) environment and social risk category high risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2 and Category C/I-3)).

with customers and among other development finance institutions. The track record demonstrates that the AE continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

36. Conclusions: FMO continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendation above.

IX. Fundación Avina

37. Fundación Avina was accredited by the Board on 14 December 2016 in decision B.15/09, paragraph (d).⁸ Fundación Avina signed its AMA with GCF on 15 November 2017, which became effective on 19 March 2018.

38. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 20 March 2021.

39. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports minor changes including an update to its grants management policy to improve transparency. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE is recommended to provide, during the next institutional level assessment, the list of approved projects for the years 2020 and 2021, indicating climate change-related (mitigation and adaptation) projects. The changes reported do not affect the AE's status of accreditation and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that the AE's E&S policy continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) Gender: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

40. Conclusions: Fundación Avina continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendation above.

⁸ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: micro; (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and (c) environment and social risk category minimal to no risk (Category C/I-3).

X. Inter-American Development Bank

41. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) was accredited by the Board on 9 July 2015 in decision B.10/06, paragraph (c).⁹ IDB signed its AMA with GCF on 29 August 2017, which became effective on 30 March 2018.

42. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 1 March 2021.

43. The AE has maintained its accreditation to the Adaptation Fund.

44. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports enhancements since its accreditation including the approval of an AML/CFT framework. IDB also introduced “misappropriation” as a defined prohibited practice and is in the process of updating all relevant policies and procedures accordingly. The AE’s track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The changes reported do not affect the AE’s status of accreditation and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports positive changes since its accreditation. IDB approved a new Environmental and Social Policy Framework (ESPF) in 2020 that has adopted 10 E&S standards, of which the first eight are similar to the GCF performance standards (PS) 1–8. The remaining two new standards are on Gender Equality (Standard 9) and on Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure (Standard 10). Standard 9 is similar to the requirements in the GCF Updated Gender Policy and Action Plan, while Standard 10 is in line with the E&S information disclosure requirements in the GCF Information Disclosure Policy. The track record demonstrates ample evidence of IDB’s effective implementation of its ESPF. IDB demonstrates, through the adoption of the revised ESPF, further refinement and commitment to its E&S sustainability framework, and thus remains in compliance with the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) Gender: The AE reports that a dedicated, stand-alone standard on gender equality with provisions for people of all genders has been adopted in the aforementioned new ESPF, along with a new Gender Action Plan for 2020–2021. IDB’s new framework explicitly addresses the risks of sexual and gender-based violence, exploitation, discrimination, and abuse in the projects it supports. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE’s status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

45. Conclusions: IDB continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope.

⁹ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: large (including micro, small and medium); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans, equity and guarantees); and (c) environment and social risk category high risk (Category A/I-1) (including lower risk (Category B/I-2 and Category C/I-3)).

XI. International Fund for Agricultural Development

46. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was accredited by the Board on 14 October 2016 in decision B.14/11, paragraph (b)¹⁰ and upgraded in terms of its accreditation scope on 1 July 2021 in decision B.29/05, paragraph (r).¹¹ IFAD signed its AMA with GCF on 24 September 2018, which became effective on 9 November 2018.

47. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 27 February 2021.

48. The AE has maintained its accreditation to the AF and the GEF.

49. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports enhancements since the last reporting period; this includes the adoption of several new policies and procedures, namely its AML/CFT Policy, Internal Control Framework, Grant Award Financing Procedure and Project Implementation Guidelines. All of these new documents aim to improve the effectiveness of the internal systems as well as project supervision and implementation and are in line with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AP notes that the AML/CFT policy includes procedures that are currently being finalized such as Integrity Due Diligence Procedures. The AP requests the AE to provide evidence of the approval of the Integrity Due Diligence Procedures during the next institutional level assessment or indicate the timeframe for its approval. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports positive changes since the last reporting period. In 2020 IFAD has updated its Social, Environment and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP). The updated SECAP includes nine ESS standards, an online screening tool, a four-tier E&S risk rating system (replacing its previous three-tier risk rating system), strengthened validation of E&S risk categories, mainstreaming of several themes including climate financing, a due diligence process for the private sector, roles/responsibilities for grievances and compliance monitoring, and broadened E&S safeguard requirements for social, climate, private sector and procurement activities. AE's track record demonstrates effective implementation of SECAP. Since the reported changes enhance the AE's policy framework and capacities, the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) Gender: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that the AE's gender policy continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

¹⁰ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: medium (including micro and small); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans); and (c) environment and social risk category medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)).

¹¹ The upgraded accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: large (including micro, small and medium); and (b) environmental and social risk category high risk (category A/ I-3) (including lower risk (category B/-2 and category C/I-3)).

50. Conclusions: IFAD continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendation above.

XII. Micronesia Conservation Trust

51. Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) was accredited by the Board on 6 July 2017 in decision B.17/13, paragraph (b).¹² MCT signed its AMA with GCF on 13 November 2017, which became effective on 22 October 2018.

52. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 26 February 2021.

53. The AE has maintained its accreditation to the AF.

54. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record and samples of other evidence provided under fiduciary functions demonstrate that the AE continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
- (b) ESS standards: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that the AE's E&S policy continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
- (c) Gender: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.

55. Conclusions: MCT continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope.

XIII. Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

56. Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (MoFEC) was accredited by the Board on 6 March 2016 in decision B.12/30, paragraph (b).¹³ MoFEC signed its AMA with GCF on 26 January 2017, which became effective on 29 November 2018.

¹² The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: micro; (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms; and (c) environment and social risk category minimal to no risk (Category C/I-3).

¹³ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: small (including micro); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management; and (c) environment and social risk category medium risk (Category B/I-2) (including lower risk (Category C/I-3)).

57. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 24 April 2021.
58. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:
- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reported changes, including to its systems, policies, procedures and capacities related to the Specialized Fiduciary Standard for Project Management. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The AE is recommended to provide, during the next institutional level assessment, details on how it is addressing the findings of the issues identified in the internal audit reports the AE has made available as part of the mid-term review. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
 - (b) ESS standards: The AE reports enhancements since the last reporting period. The AE developed an E&S Management Plan, and capacity-building has advanced through trainings and recruitment of an additional ESS specialist. Samples of documents were provided and demonstrated the track record in implementing systems, policies and procedures related to the GCF interim ESS standards and E&S risk category for accreditation. Evidence of the AE's track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
 - (c) Gender: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.
59. Conclusions: MoFEC continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope, noting the recommendation above.

XIV. Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation

60. Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) was accredited by the Board on 2 October 2017 in decision B.18/05, paragraph (b),¹⁴ and upgraded in terms of its accreditation scope in decision B.BM-2020/05, paragraph (d),¹⁵ taken on 24 April 2020. PKSF signed its AMA with GCF on 19 November 2018, which became effective on 21 December 2018.
61. The AE submitted the initial report for its mid-term review of the first accreditation term on 25 February 2021.
62. The Secretariat and the AP reviewed the report and supporting evidence. Below are the key findings:

¹⁴ The accreditation scope is for the (a) project/programme activity size: small (including micro); (b) fiduciary functions: (1) basic fiduciary standard, (2) specialized fiduciary standard for project management, (3) specialized fiduciary standard for grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms and (4) specialized fiduciary standard for on-lending and/or blending (for loans); and (c) environment and social risk category minimal to no risk (Category C/I-3).

¹⁵ The upgraded accreditation scope is for the (a) environmental and social risk category medium risk (category B/ I-2) (including lower risk (category C/I-3)).

- (a) Fiduciary standards: The AE reported changes including the adoption of a new policy to address the GCF accreditation conditions. The AE's track record and other samples of evidence under fiduciary functions demonstrate that it continues to comply with the relevant GCF fiduciary standards. The changes reported do not affect the AE's status of accreditation and thus the AE continues to meet the relevant GCF fiduciary standards;
 - (b) ESS standards: The AE reports positive changes including the adoption of its consolidated version of its environmental management framework and social management framework, which together reflect the applicant's E&S objectives, key principles which guide the applicant, as well as the ESS standards it applies to its projects, which have been found to be consistent with PS 1 to 8 of the GCF interim ESS. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF interim ESS standards, which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the GCF interim ESS standards; and
 - (c) Gender: The AE reports no changes since the last reporting period. The track record demonstrates that it continues to comply with the GCF Gender Policy (decision B.09/11), which the AE was assessed against during its original accreditation. The AE's status of accreditation remains unchanged and thus the AE continues to meet the requirements of the aforementioned GCF Gender Policy.
63. Conclusions: PKSf continues to meet the relevant GCF accreditation standards and obligations as an AE per its AMA with GCF in the context of its accreditation scope.
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