

# Guidance note on the new GCF funding window for the implementation of integrated results management framework

## Overview:

This guidance note provides information and instructions on how to apply for the new GCF funding support window dedicated to direct access entities (DAEs)<sup>1</sup>. This new funding window covers the scope of capacity building initiatives and activities related to application and or implementation of GCF's integrated results management framework (IRMF)<sup>2</sup> by accredited DAEs. The funding window has been created under the existing Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (RPSP)<sup>3</sup>.

Accredited DAEs<sup>4</sup> are encouraged to develop and submit proposals for this dedicated funding support according to the guidelines provided in this note and in parallel with pipeline development of funded activities to be considered for GCF Board's approval.

## Information on IRMF:

IRMF is GCF's umbrella results framework to assess and measure the climate impacts that the organization is making through its investments in developing countries and under the goals put forward by the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. Starting at the thirty-second Board meeting of the GCF (B.32) and onwards, the IRMF replaces and supersedes the GCF's initial results management framework (RMF)<sup>5</sup> and the mitigation and adaptation performance management frameworks (PMFs)<sup>6</sup>. This means any funding proposals put forward for the GCF Board's approval starting at B.32 and onwards will be required to apply the IRMF including the use of the updated funding proposal template and a new set of indicators available in the IRMF inter alia. This funding window created under the RPSP is intended to support DAEs in addressing specific capacity gaps to implement the IRMF through capacity building and/or technical support grants.

## 1.1 Parameters for the new DAE funding

- a) **Access amount and modalities:** In recognition of their important role in strengthening country ownership in alignment with national priorities and addressing climate change challenges in developing countries, accredited DAEs may request direct support by the Fund<sup>7</sup> to cover the costs related to addressing capacity gaps for the IRMF implementation. DAEs may choose from the given outputs and activities (see appendix) that can support the capacity building for the implementation of the IRMF. A total of USD 12.4 million<sup>8</sup> will be available for the approved proposals submitted by DAEs under this funding window. Depending on the total number of applications that DAEs submit by the deadline and the proposed activities, the allocated amount per entity will be up to USD 200,000.

---

<sup>1</sup> GCF [B.29/01 \(g\) to \(k\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/irmf-policy.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> GCF B.08/11 (m); B.13/32; [B.22/11 \(f\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> The accredited status of direct access entities refers to the GCF Board approval of accreditation, regardless of the signing or effectiveness of their AMA or FAAs.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-b08-07.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/mitigation-and-adaptation-performance-measurement-frameworks>

<sup>7</sup> DAEs should submit the proposal(s) for this funding window without forming a group of multiple DAEs for a single proposal, similar to the multi-country/regional Readiness proposals.

<sup>8</sup> GCF B.20/01 (g)

b) **Guiding principles** for the DAE dedicated support are as follows:

- i. The new dedicated support component provided directly to DAEs should be **additional** to the approved readiness support and **relevant** to the implementation of the IRMF,<sup>9</sup> based on identified and/or assessed capacity gaps specific to DAEs and aligned with the existing RPSP outcomes;
- ii. Proposed activities should aim to enhance preparedness and capacity to develop GCF funding proposals in alignment with the IRMF, without transferring the cost of the business-as-usual activities of GCF accredited entities to this funding window;
- iii. To allow adequate preparation and time to transition into the effective implementation of the IRMF, DAEs are expected to access this funding to get the pertinent support for the funding proposals and to plan for their submissions for the Board starting on and from B.32. DAEs will be required to provide a list of project ideas and/or funded activity proposals in the GCF pipeline to which the additional funding support will be applied.
- iv. Proposals for this funding window should be submitted via e-mail to the respective GCF regional manager copying the GCF team in the [GCF Entity Portal](#).<sup>10</sup>

Eligible costs/outputs and indicative activities under this funding window are elaborated in the appendix at the end of this document.

c) **Proposal submission timeline:** Proposals for support can be submitted and processed by the GCF on a rolling basis, i.e., first come first served, until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. DAEs are encouraged to engage their respective GCF Regional Focal Points in the Secretariat in upstream discussions to ensure submitted proposals are of high quality at entry.

d) **Submission documents:** Application for this funding must include the following documents and be submitted to the Secretariat altogether:

- i. Completed proposal template (see [annex 1](#)) outlining the activities to be supported under the scope noted below along with a justification for the support, information on the pipeline development of new funded activities to which the IRMF will be applied, logical framework and other elements deemed necessary by the GCF during the proposal review process;
- ii. Completed budget, procurement, and implementation plans (see [annex 2](#)) with the disbursement schedule; DAEs are encouraged to plan a set of activities for up to 12 months maximum, which need to start implementation upon approval of the proposal<sup>11</sup>.

---

<sup>9</sup> DAEs can provide justification for their needs of capacity support referring to the relevant IRMF indicators and elements to access funds under this modality.

<sup>10</sup> Please be advised that the proposals to access this funding submitted to other service e-mail accounts of the Secretariat will not be considered.

<sup>11</sup> In case it is identified during the proposal review stage that the proposed activities require more than 12 months for implementation, GCF may approve a project duration longer than 12 months taking into account the project design and the nature of activities. If it is identified during the project implementation period that an approved

- e) **Notification to NDAs by the Secretariat:** Funding commitments for direct support to DAEs under this modality are additional to the existing annual cap of USD 1 million cap per country under the RPSP<sup>12</sup> and are not subject to clearance by NDAs. However, the Secretariat will inform NDAs of support rendered to DAEs within their national mandate.

## 1.2 Review and approval process

- a) In reviewing a request for the new funding support to DAEs, the Secretariat will verify that the costs to be supported are eligible, reasonable and consistent with national operating costs as well as the scope of IRMF.
- b) Proposals will be assessed for complementarity and coherence with previous or existing readiness or direct access support funding, including funding from other sources, as well as capacity building support related to the implementation of other GCF policies;
- c) Applicants may be contacted by the Secretariat for clarifications and revised proposals may be requested;
- d) Funds will be approved for disbursement upon signing of the funding agreement by all parties and upon the submission of accurate and verifiable information provided by DAE/delivery partner<sup>13</sup>.

## 1.3 Financial review and audit

- a) The budget limit per DAE should include DP fee and PMC costs. DP fees and PMC should be within the percentage cap (as per the GCF fee policy) and be part of the proposal budget.
- b) The disbursement schedule will be reviewed by the GCF based on the nature of activities and the type of DAE/DPs. Given the short duration of the support under this funding window, the disbursement schedule for grants with a maximum duration of 12 months shall consist of two tranches; first tranche of up to 90% of the total grant award, and a second (final) tranche of no less than 10% to be paid upon the completion of the grant activities.
- c) The equipment category in the budget plan will be reviewed by the GCF to determine eligibility.

---

project requires a longer duration than the originally approved duration, only one time extension (for a maximum of 6 months) will be granted on an exceptional basis. For proposals with a duration of more than 12 months, additional monitoring and reporting obligations will be required.

<sup>12</sup> As per decision B.08/11 paragraph (f).

<sup>13</sup> DAEs may nominate delivery partners to support them with the implementation of activities and the project management, or they may implement the activities themselves. Such information should be clearly mentioned in the implementation arrangements (section 6) of the proposal template.

## Appendix. Eligible costs/outputs and indicative activities for DAE direct support

As the window has been created under the umbrella RPSP, any activities to be financed under this window should fall under the updated Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme Strategy<sup>14</sup>. Under the umbrella of the RPSP, eligible costs under this funding window shall cover the activities contributing to strengthening the monitoring and evaluation capacity of the accredited DAEs under the IRMF and refining the pipeline funding proposal(s) with the IRMF applied.

DAEs can choose from the following **three expected outputs** under outcome 1.2 and 4.2 of the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme Strategy<sup>15</sup>, depending on their needs. **Indicative and non-exhaustive activities** are provided below for reference only. DAEs can propose any relevant activities in connection to the expected outputs.

**Outcome 1.2:** Accredited DAEs have the capacity to develop a pipeline of projects and effectively implement GCF-funded activities

- 1) **Output 1.2.1:** Capacity needs assessment conducted and relevant training delivered for monitoring and reporting of the new indicators in the IRMF<sup>16</sup>;

**Indicative activities:**

- Conduct training/workshops on the IRMF implementation requirements (e.g., GCF Results Handbook).
- Conduct a needs assessment to identify additional information required for the baseline setting and reporting against new indicators in the IRMF.
- Update the monitoring, reporting, and evaluation plan for the new indicators in the IRMF.

- 2) **Output 1.2.2:** Capacity needs assessment conducted and relevant training delivered for the evaluation on paradigm shift and enabling environment<sup>17</sup>;

**Indicative activities:**

- Assess capacity needs and strategies in preparing for the scorecard-based assessments of the interim and final evaluation on paradigm shift and enabling environment.
- Conduct training workshops to enhance the preparedness for the reporting and evaluation on paradigm shift and enabling environment.

**Outcome 4.2:** An increase in the number of quality funding proposals developed and submitted from accredited Direct Access Entities

- 3) **Output 4.2.1:** The pipeline FP(s) upgraded or developed to meet the IRMF requirements.

**Indicative activities:**

- Refine theory of change and logical framework in the funding proposal(s) in alignment with the IRMF.
- Revise funding proposal(s), theory of change, logical framework, etc. in line with the IRMF.
- Apply the adequate approach to link the corporate-level indicators and the project-level outcomes in the funding proposal(s).

---

<sup>14</sup> As per decision B.22/11(f).

<sup>15</sup> See annex IV, [GCF/B.22/08 : Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme: Strategy for 2019-2021 and Work Programme 2019](#).

<sup>16</sup> Following the guiding principles of the dedicated funding support for DAEs, the support covers activities relevant to IRMF implementation based on identified and/or assessed capacity gaps specific to each DAE. Therefore, DAEs can provide justification for their needs of capacity support referring to the relevant IRMF indicators and elements to access funds under this modality.

<sup>17</sup> Evaluation related support under this output is specific to new evaluation/assessment activities introduced by the IRMF, namely undertaking scorecard exercises to assess a project/programme's contribution to a paradigm shift and/or an enabling environment. This funding window will not cover cost related to the existing evaluation exercises (e.g. overall and general support to interim and final evaluations for funded activities) as the support is and will be available under the [GCF Evaluation Policy](#) and [Monitoring and Accountability Framework](#).