



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

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Report on the activities of the Independent Redress Mechanism

Summary

This report provides an update on the progress made with regard to the activities of the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM). The reporting period is from 1 May 2026 to 31 August 2026. The document summarises the activities of the IRM based on the work programme and budget of the IRM for 2026 adopted by the Board at its forty-third meeting.

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I. Introduction

1.1 Background and mandate

1. The Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) is mandated in paragraph 69 of GCF's Governing Instrument. The IRM forms an integral part of GCF's accountability architecture and is one of the three independent units. The IRM reports directly to the Board and is subject to the decisions of the Board. It is independent of the Secretariat of GCF.
2. The report on the activities of the IRM provides an update on the progress made and covers key priority initiatives identified in the work programme of the IRM for 2026 as adopted by the Board at its forty-third meeting.¹
3. The reporting period is from 1 May 2026 to 31 August 2026.
4. The work programme of the IRM for 2026-2028 identified the following key components to help guide the work of the IRM:
 - (a) Operating the IRM;
 - (b) Processing complaints from GCF project-affected people and addressing requests from developing countries for reconsideration of funding decisions;
 - (c) Providing advice;
 - (d) Developing the capacity of grievance redress mechanisms (GRMs) of Direct Access Entities (DAEs); and
 - (e) Conducting outreach.

II. Operating the IRM

2.1 Progress on operating the IRM

5. **The implementation of the work programme and budget.** The IRM's terms of reference (TOR) require consultation with the Ethics and Audit Committee (EAC) on the implementation of its work programme, as appropriate. The IRM submits quarterly reports to the EAC as determined by the EAC.
6. **Administrative reporting to the Executive Director.** The TOR of the Head of the IRM provides that, for administrative purposes only, the Head of the IRM reports to the Executive Director (ED). This administrative reporting already happens practically through established systems for tracking and overseeing GCF-wide administrative and procedural requirements. However, some administrative actions fall outside of these systems, and therefore, the IRM has accordingly submitted monthly update reports to the ED.
7. **Staffing.** The IRM team currently consists of seven point five (7.5) full-time staff positions in addition to its Head. The team structure is shaped around the key deliverables of the IRM with the Compliance and Policy team on one side and Dispute Resolution and Capacity Building on the other. In addition, the team includes the registrar function, a communications specialist, a joint IRM/IIU capacity building specialist as well as support staff.

¹ Available at: [Decisions of the Board – forty-third meeting of the Board, 27– 30 October 2025 - GCF B.43.21](#)

8. **Consultancies and Professional Services.** The IRM continued using the services of translators and interpreters to process its cases in Egypt, Uganda, Pakistan and Colombia. An IRM Compliance Expert and Investigator Consultant was engaged for the C0013 and C0023 compliance investigations in Uganda. Engagement also continued with an IRM Compliance Expert and Investigator Consultant related to the C0015 Compliance Investigation in Colombia. In June 2026 the IRM contracted a Colombia-based mediator to help the IRM engage with case parties under C0018.

III. Processing complaints and reconsideration requests

3.1 Complaints and requests for reconsideration of funding decisions

9. During the reporting period, the IRM processed 13 cases from persons adversely affected by GCF-funded projects or programmes, including five newly registered complaints. In addition, the IRM continued processing one request for reconsideration. Two cases were closed during this reporting period.

10. The cases handled during this reporting period are discussed in further detail below:

(a) **Cases registered in this reporting cycle:**

- (i) **IRM Case C-0024-Pakistan:** FP085 *Green BRT Karachi*: On 26 August 2026, the IRM registered a complaint submitted by project affected communities in Karachi, Pakistan.
- (ii) **IRM Case C-0023-Uganda:** FP034 *Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda*: On 24 July 2026, the IRM concluded a preliminary inquiry into a *suo moto* investigation related to safety issues, and moved to initiate proceedings via Compliance Review.
- (iii) **IRM Case C-0022-Pakistan:** FP085 *Green BRT Karachi*: On 9 July 2026, the IRM registered a complaint submitted by project affected people from Union Council-7, Jinnah Town, Karachi, Pakistan.
- (iv) **IRM Case C-0021-Pakistan:** FP085 *Green BRT Karachi*: On 3 July 2026, the IRM registered a complaint submitted by project affected people from Union Council-2, Gulshan Town, Karachi, Pakistan.
- (v) **IRM Case C-0020-Pakistan:** FP085 *Green BRT Karachi*: On 2 July 2026, the IRM registered a complaint submitted by project affected people from Union Council-8, Gulshan Town, Karachi, Pakistan.

The new cases from Pakistan allege adverse impacts on community health, safety and security because of construction activities related to GCF Project FP085. On 6 August 2026, the IRM determined three of the complaints to be eligible^{2 3 4} for further processing and the cases C-0020, C-0021 and C-0022 progressed to the Initial Steps Phase. During the initial steps phase, parties learn more about the IRM complaint-handling process and decide whether they wish to have their concerns addressed through Problem Solving or Compliance Review.

Similar complaints were submitted to the accountability mechanism of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Accredited Entity for the project. The IRM

² Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/eligibility-determination-c0022-pakistan.pdf>

³ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/eligibility-determination-c0021-pakistan.pdf>

⁴ Available at: https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/eligibility-determination-c0020-pakistan_0.pdf

has been in contact with that office to enable efficient and effective processing of these cases and avoid duplication of efforts and unnecessary disturbance of common parties.

(b) **Cases previously registered and for which case handling is ongoing:**

- (i) **IRM Case C-0019-Uganda:** FP034 *Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda*: On 30 April 2026, the IRM registered a complaint pertaining to labour and working conditions related to FP034. During the eligibility determination phase (May-June 2026), the IRM encouraged parties to expeditiously address the matters raised by the complainant and followed up with each party bilaterally to seek progress on their engagement. The IRM was informed that the parties successfully reached agreement on the issues raised in the complaint. Subsequently, the complainant communicated to the IRM their desire for the case to be closed. The IRM closed the case on 30 June 2026.
- (ii) **IRM Case R-0002-Oman:** SAP052 Building Oman's Climate Intelligence and Early Warning Ecosystem for Risk-Informed Planning and Inclusive Climate-Proof Investment: On 29 January 2026, the IRM received a request for reconsideration of a funding decision of the Board (B.43/03) with respect to Funding Proposal SAP052. The Accredited Entity for the Funding Proposal was the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The request was submitted by the National Designated Authority (NDA) of the Sultanate of Oman. The IRM declared the request eligible on 4 May 2026,⁵ and the case progressed to the information and consultation phase for the IRM to seek clarifications and obtain additional information required to explore options for resolution. Over the last few months, the IRM has engaged with the requester and other parties to generate and assess the various options for resolving this request. The IRM extended this stage from August to the end of October 2026 to allow for additional time to engage with the parties.
- (iii) **IRM Case C-0018-Colombia:** FP203 Heritage Colombia (HECO): Maximising the Contributions of Sustainably Managed Landscapes in Colombia for Achievement of Climate Goals: On 12 December 2025, the IRM acknowledged receipt of a complaint from a former contractor of one of the Executing Entities responsible for project implementation. The complainant brought to the attention of the IRM several concerns related to labour and working conditions associated with their contract with the relevant Executing Entity. On 2 February 2026, the IRM determined the complaint to be eligible. Towards the end of May 2026, the complainant, the Accredited Entity and the Executing Entity agreed to resolve the complaint through Problem Solving.⁶ Over the last few months, the IRM has been engaging with case parties to design the Problem Solving process and agree on the ground rules for engagement.
- (iv) **IRM Case C-0016-Colombia:** FP134 *Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016*: On 12 September 2025, the IRM acknowledged receipt of a complaint related to FP134. The complainant alleged they were improperly denied benefits previously allocated to them as part of a programme to support sustainable forest management in the region of Caqueta, Colombia. On 13 January 2026, the IRM determined the complaint eligible and started engaging with parties to understand their preferred modality to address the concerns raised. Despite several attempts to make progress on this

⁵ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/r0002omn-eligibility-determination-04may.pdf>

⁶ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/initial-steps-report-c0018-colombia.pdf>

case, the complainant was not willing to continue their engagement, and the IRM closed the case on 16 June 2026.⁷

- (v) **IRM Case C-0015-Colombia:** FP203 *Heritage Colombia (HECO): Maximising the Contributions of Sustainably Managed Landscapes in Colombia*: On 7 May 2025, the IRM registered a complaint pertaining to labour and working conditions, provision of a grievance mechanism, and sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment with relevance to FP203. The complaint was declared eligible in June 2025. Following an initial steps phase, the complaint was referred to Compliance Review as of 18 August 2025. Following Compliance Appraisal, in which the IRM determined there was *prima facie* evidence of adverse impacts and non-compliance, the complaint was moved to the Compliance Investigation phase of Compliance Review in October 2025. The final Compliance Report is anticipated to be presented to the Board at B.46.
- (vi) **IRM Case C-0014-Pakistan:** FP085 *Green BRT Karachi*: On 20 March 2025, the IRM registered a complaint by project affected communities in Union Council-11, Jinnah Town, Karachi, Pakistan, who alleged impacts on community health, safety and security because of construction activities related to FP085. In July 2025, the complainants and the Executing Entity agreed on a corrective action plan to have the concerns addressed. The IRM has been undertaking Problem Solving in close collaboration with the Office of the Special Project Facilitator of the Asian Development Bank, the Accredited Entity under the project. As of 31 August, 15 of the 17 concrete commitments have been implemented, with some delays in road construction works affecting the implementation of the remaining actions. It is IRM's expectation that the remaining works are expected to be completed in the following months.
- (vii) **IRM Case C-0013-Uganda:** FP034 *Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda*: On 12 March 2025, the IRM registered a complaint pertaining to loss of livelihoods and restrictions on access to wetlands due to alleged evictions of wetland-dependent communities under this project. The IRM undertook Problem Solving jointly with UNDP's Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM), which also received the complaint. Despite repeated efforts by the IRM and the SRM to initiate a dialogue, the Executing Entity maintained reservations regarding its participation in Problem Solving due to ongoing court proceedings in Uganda covering similar issues and involving similar parties. In March 2026, the Executing Entity indicated its intention to proceed with a court-annexed mediation in Uganda, to which the complainants agreed. Considering these developments, the IRM determined that there was no need for a parallel Problem Solving process and on 14 May 2026, the IRM referred the case to the compliance function for further consideration.⁸ The Compliance Investigation is ongoing.
- (viii) **IRM Case C-0010-Uganda:** FP034 *Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda*: On 3 April 2024, the IRM received a complaint alleging adverse impacts related to the implementation of FP034, including restrictions on access to wetlands, lack of compensation and adequate consultation, increased food insecurity and impoverishment of wetland-dependent communities. Complainants also raised concerns around increased threats to community health, security, and safety, among others. Following a comprehensive Problem Solving process facilitated by the IRM, on

⁷ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/case-closure-report.pdf>

⁸ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/c0013-problem-solving-conclusion-report-final.pdf>

3 July 2025, parties reached an agreement⁹ on the issues raised in the complaint.

The case is currently in the Problem Solving Monitoring stage where the IRM is monitoring the implementation of parties' commitments. During this reporting period, the Executing Entity finalised the identification of wetland users entitled for livelihoods support, assessed the functionality of project-level grievance redress mechanisms and continued to strengthen its stakeholder engagement and grievance redress awareness raising activities. In May 2026, the parties agreed to extend the timeline for the implementation of the agreement from March to December 2026. In August 2026 the IRM submitted to the Board the first Problem Solving Monitoring Report covering the period from 3 July 2025 to 2 July 2026¹⁰.

- (ix) **IRM Case C-0009-Egypt:** FP039 GCF-EBRD Egypt Renewable Energy Financing Framework: In September 2022 and November 2022, the IRM received two (2) complaints related to working conditions and access to grievance mechanism in the Benban Solar Park under FP039. Complaints related to working conditions and labour management issues were processed through a Compliance Review and Compliance Investigation that concluded on 15 December 2025. The investigation culminated in a Compliance Review Report that was submitted to the GCF Board for consideration. The GCF Board considered the Compliance Report at B.44 in March 2026, endorsed the IRM's recommendations and suggestions, and requested the Secretariat to develop a draft Remedial Action Plan in collaboration with the IRM and the Accredited Entity, in line with the IRM's Procedures and Guidelines. The IRM has engaged with the Secretariat and the Complainants on the development of the Remedial Action Plan, but has, to date, not received the final Remedial Action Plan from the Secretariat.

11. **Pre-cases.** A pre-case can develop from communication from an external party or information received by the IRM. It can then be registered in the Case Management System as a pre-case and may or may not mature into a complaint. The IRM processed 10 pre-cases during the reporting period. A summary of such pre-cases received by the IRM is updated periodically and is available on the IRM website.¹¹

12. **Information Appeals Panel.** The Head of the IRM, together with the Heads of the Independent Evaluation Unit and Independent Integrity Unit, constitute the Information Appeals Panel (IAP). The Registrar and Compliance Specialist of the IRM serves as Secretary to the IAP. As of 1 November 2025, the Head of the IEU assumed the position of Chair for a one-year period. No appeals were filed during the reporting period.¹² A separate report on IAP activity is submitted to the Board.

⁹ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/irm-case-c0010-problem-solving-conclusion-report.pdf>

¹⁰ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/case/irm-case-c0010-problem-solving-monitoring-report.pdf>

¹¹ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/document/history-irm-pre-cases>

¹² Available at: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/about/disclosure/appeals>

IV. Providing advice

4.1 Providing advice

13. The IRM has engaged with the Secretariat on a number of policy developments, including the Updated Gender Action Plan and the Country Ownership Guidelines. The IRM continues to encourage the Secretariat to provide sufficient time and space for meaningful consultations on key policy developments.

V. Capacity building of Direct Access Entities' grievance mechanisms

5.1 Capacity building of Direct Access Entities' grievance mechanisms

14. Between May and August 2026, the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) further strengthened its dedicated support for the GCF Direct Access Entities to strengthen their Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRMs). Accordingly, 22 DAE officials participated in the IRM's annual GRM training¹³ in May 2026. The training was delivered virtually and was aimed at building the capacity of DAEs to establish or strengthen their GRMs.

15. In addition, the IRM team has been preparing for the Stakeholder Engagement and Dispute Resolution training planned to take place virtually from September - November 2026. 120 staff members of Direct Access Entities (DAEs) expressed their interest in participating, and 61 of them successfully completed the pre-training assignments and were confirmed to participate.

16. In July 2026, the IRM delivered an orientation session for the third cohort of 15 newly recruited GCF Liaison Officers as part of their onboarding with GCF. The orientation introduced participants to the IRM's mandate, its role within the GCF accountability framework, and the support available to DAEs in strengthening grievance redress and stakeholder-engagement efforts. The IRM expects that Liaison Officers will play a key role in supporting DAEs to reinforce their accountability frameworks at the national level.

17. Over the reporting period, the IRM collaborated with the GCF's Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) in delivering a joint GCF Regional Accountability Workshop, planned to take place in Panama during 15–17 September 2026. The planning has also brought together relevant GCF Secretariat departments, including the Department of Latin America and the Caribbean and the Department of Risk Management and Compliance. This cross-functional collaboration aims to foster stronger coordination between the GCF's independent units and GCF Secretariat divisions and to support a more holistic approach to strengthening the capacities of GCF Direct Access Entities from Latin America to enhance accountability.

5.2 Independent Accountability Mechanisms Network (IAMnet)

18. The IRM remains active within the IAMnet community. The IRM is contributing to the planning and development of the 2026 IAMnet Annual Meeting agenda and is leading efforts in its ad hoc governance committee to further initiatives related to member resource

¹³ Available at:

https://ilearn.greenclimate.fund/thematicarea/category?id=3&gl=1*1d9u6wo*ga*NTk2NDAYMzA3LjE3NTYyNjI4NDI*ga_R4E8SRK8JR*cZ_E3NzkxNzEzNTgkbzI1MCRnMSR0MTc3OTE3MTU5NCRqNDIkbDAkaDA

contribution and promoting ways IAMnet can strengthen mechanisms' mandates and operations.

19. In May 2026, the IRM delivered a learning session to staff of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank about dispute resolution used in climate finance projects, including a case study from a successful Problem Solving process conducted by the IRM in Egypt.

VI. Outreach

6.1 Communications strategy

20. The IRM has continued to implement its existing strategy and undertook the following activities during the reporting period:

(a) **Outreach**

- (i) Organised one (1) virtual outreach webinar.¹⁴
- (ii) Selected five civil society organisations (CSOs) to receive the 2026 IRM CSO Advocacy Grant.¹⁵
- (iii) Launched applications for CSOs to participate in the Panama workshop.¹⁶

(b) **Communications**

- (i) Published the 2026 IRM Stakeholder Survey Report¹⁷
- (ii) Published seven (7) news items.¹⁸

¹⁴ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/strengthening-access-redress-irm-s-outreach-webinar-african-based-civil-society>

¹⁵ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/news/five-csos-selected-2026-irm-advocacy-grants>

¹⁶ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/cso-invitation-gcf-regional-accountability-workshop-panama-city>

¹⁷ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/document/2026-stakeholder-survey>

¹⁸ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/news>

VII. Budget utilisation for the reporting period

7.1 Budget utilisation from 1 May to 31 July 2026

Table 1: Independent Redress Mechanism Unit Budget utilisation as of 31 July 2026 (in USD), reported by Finance

Budget Category	2026 Approved budget	Actuals	%
Staff, Consultants, Interns			
Full-time Staff	1,838,668	1,038,262	56%
Consultants	382,350	89,659	23%
Interns	23,460	378	2%
Sub-total	2,244,478	1,128,298	50%
Travel			
General	74,078	28,553	39%
Travel associated with cases	250,472	10,063	4%
Staff travel to attend Board meeting	6,150	11,787	192%
Sub-total	330,700	50,404	15%
Contractual services, general operating, information technology costs			
Contractual Services	128,330	49,757	39%
Other Operating costs	155,100	35,431	23%
Sub-total	283,430	85,188	30%
TOTAL	2,858,608		44%
Shared cost allocation	247,848	144,578	58%
Grand Total	3,106,456	1,408,468	45%

Note on IRM's budget utilisation:

As of 31 July 2026, the budget execution of the IRM remains broadly on track, with an actual expenditure of USD 1,408,468, representing 45% of the total approved adjusted budget of USD 3,106,456 for the year. Expenditure levels reflect the phased implementation of the IRM's 2026 Work Programme, with higher utilisation expected in subsequent quarters as case-related and operational activities intensify.