GCF Regional Dialogue with Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Agenda

6-8 October 2026
Tbilisi, Georgia

DAY 1

Tuesday, 6 October 2026
Venue: Sheraton Grand Tbilisi Metechi Palace

Objective: Strengthen strategic engagement between GCF, governments and partners across Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Explore regional climate investment priorities, country platforms, private-sector opportunities and carbon markets. Advance partnerships and identify pathways to develop investment-ready climate projects through high-level dialogue.

08:30-09:00	**REGISTRATION**
09:00-09:30	**SESSION 1.1 OPENING SESSION** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderator:** Ms. Nino Tandilashvili, First Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia **Welcoming Remarks:** • H.E. Mr. David Songulashvili, Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia; • Mr. Tornike Cheishvili, Chair of the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament of Georgia • Mr. Levan Zhorzholiani, Head of the Office of the Prime Minister and Head of the Administration of the Government of Georgia **Opening Remarks:** • Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Middle East Region, GCF
09:30-11:00	**SESSION 1.2: Ministerial Roundtable** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderator:** Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Middle East Region, GCF **Keynote speeches:** • H.E. Mr. David Songulashvili, Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia • H.E. Mr. Akyl Toktobaev, Minister of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision, Kyrgyz Republic **Roundtable participants:** • Ms. Nino Tandilashvili, First Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia • Ms. Inga Pkhaladze, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia • Ms. Eka Guntsadze, Deputy Minister of Finance of Georgia • Mr. Nurken Sharbiyev, Vice Minister, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan • Ms. Aliona Rusnac, State Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Moldova • Mr. Zoran Dabetic, State Secretary, Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Northern Region Development, Montenegro • Mr. Dame Dimitrovski, Advisor to the President of the Government for Environment and Climate, North Macedonia The roundtable will examine national and regional climate investment priorities, barriers to implementation and opportunities for stronger cooperation. Speakers will share concise perspectives on their priorities and engage in a moderated exchange. The discussion is expected to provide political direction for country-led programming, partnerships and follow-up across Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
11:00-11:30	**COFFEE BREAK & GROUP PHOTO**
11:30-13:00	**SESSION 1.3: COUNTRY PLATFORMS** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** ***Part I: Kazakhstan Country Platform Signing Ceremony*** • Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Middle East Region, GCF • Mr. Nurken Sharbiyev, Vice Minister, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan ***PartII: Climate Investment Platforms in Eastern Europe and Central Asia*** **Moderator:** Ms. Lisa Jade Sinclair, Head of Strategy, GCF **Panelists:** • Mr. Saken Kalkamanov, Chairman of the Board, IGTIC, Kazakhstan • Mr. Dame Dimitrovski, Advisor to the President of the Government, North Macedonia • Mr. Milos Stojanovic, Special Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia • Mr. Alisher Salomov, Adviser to the Minister of Uzbekistan, Ministry of Ecology, Environment Protection and Climate Change • Mr. Pavlos Troulis, Head of Readiness, GCF

	The session will examine country platforms as country-led mechanisms for aligning climate priorities, investment and partner support. Panel contributors will share regional experience and engage participants in a moderated discussion on enabling conditions, practical approaches and available GCF support. The session is expected to identify actionable lessons for strengthening coordination and advancing country-led climate investment programming.
13:00-14:00	**LUNCH** **Venue: Feast Restaurant**
14:00-15:00	**SESSION 1.4: PRIVATE-SECTOR PANEL** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderator and Presenter:** Mr. Marcel Heijman, Private Sector Manager, GCF **Panelists:** • Representative of the Government of Georgia (TBC) • Mr. Ara Makaryan, Deputy CEO, Armswissbank • Ms. Dina Zhanadil, Director, Development Bank of Kazakhstan • Mr. Sanjar Usmanov, Chief Investment Officer, Turkic Investment Fund • Ms. Noémie Renier, Chief Commercial Officer, Incofin Investment Management The session will have a presentation on the importance of private-sector participation in climate action, the roles of businesses and financial institutions, regional investment opportunities, and how governments and GCF can help create enabling conditions and investable pipelines. A moderated panel will then bring together government and financial-institution perspectives on country opportunities, policy signals, partnerships and practical next steps to mobilize private capital.
15:00-15:30	**COFFEE BREAK**
15:30-16:30	**SESSION 1.5: CARBON MARKETS ROUNDTABLE** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderator:** Mr. Jan-Willem van de Ven, Head of Policy, GCF **Panelists:** • Ms. Shattyk Tastemirova, Deputy Director, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Kazakhstan • Ms. Masho Khakhnelidze, Head, Climate Change Division, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia • Mr. Turakul Murodov, Deputy Director, Center for Implementation of Investment Projects, and Head of GCF NDA Secretariat, Tajikistan • Mr. Armen Yesoyan, Acting Director, Environmental Protection Implementation Unit, Armenia • Ms. Zulfiya Khazhina, Project Officer, Global Green Growth Institute • Ms. Ada Nardaia, European Union Delegation in Georgia The roundtable will aim to demonstrate how carbon-market readiness can support credible mitigation pipelines and mobilize climate finance. Countries and partners will share priorities and practical experience through a moderated exchange on enabling conditions, support needs and investable opportunities. The discussion is expected to identify concrete follow-up actions and areas for regional and country-level cooperation.
16:30-17:00	**SESSION 1.6: DAY 1 STOCK-TAKE** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderator:** Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Middle East Region, GCF The stock-take will examine the principal conclusions and priorities emerging from Day 1. Participants will validate the summary, clarify partner interest and identify issues requiring further attention through an interactive plenary exchange. The session is expected to confirm priorities and assignments for Day 2 clinics and consultations.
20:00	**HOST COUNTRY DINNER RECEPTION** **Venue: Tbilisi Funicular. Departure from Sheraton at 18:15**

DAY 2

Wednesday, 7 October 2026
Venue: Sheraton Grand Tbilisi Metechi Palace

Objective: Translate the strategic priorities identified on Day 1 into actionable pathways for stronger country programming and climate investment. Through practical clinics, targeted workshops and expert consultations, Day 2 will enable countries and partners to strengthen institutional readiness, advance high-quality investment pipelines, address key barriers to accessing GCF resources, and define concrete next steps for implementation and continued engagement.

09:00-09:15	**SESSION 2.1: RECAP OF DAY 1 AND ORIENTATION FOR CLINICS** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderators:** Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Middle East Region, GCF; Mr. Alexander Gareev, Regional Manager of Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region, GCF The session will review the principal priorities identified on Day 1 and explain how they will be taken forward. Participants will receive practical guidance on the format of the clinics and workshops. The orientation is expected to help participants select the most relevant engagement opportunities and prepare for focused discussions.	
09:15-10:15	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.2.1: HOW TO DEVELOP A CONCEPT NOTE AND FUNDING PROPOSAL** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Moderators and presenters:** Mr. Donggun Kim, Climate Investment Associate, GCF; Ms. Sun Mi Lee, Project Lead, GCF **Presenters:** • Ms. Milena Kiramijyan, Acting head of Project Implementation and Monitoring Department, EPIU • Ms. Bichke Tseren, Key manager for business development department, GIZ • Ms. Aidzhan Karieva, Member of the Management Board, Eldik Bank The session will provide a practical overview of the Concept Note and Funding Proposal development pathway. A moderated panel will then share practical experience from different Accredited Entity perspectives. The session is expected to help participants understand the requirements at each stage and identify practical steps for developing stronger proposals.	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.2.2: GCF ACCESS PATHWAYS CLINIC — ACCREDITATION** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator:** Mr. Pavlos Troulis, Head of Readiness, GCF **Presenter:** Mr. Cameron Tabrizi, Accreditation Officer, GCF The clinic will examine GCF access pathways, the accreditation process, recent changes and key institutional requirements. Participants will engage with GCF specialists through a focused presentation and practical questions. The session is expected to help institutions identify the most appropriate engagement pathway and priority next steps.
10:15-11:00	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.3.1: GCF SUPPORT — CLIMATE RATIONALE FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator and presenter:** Mr. Stephen Seres, Climate Investment Specialist, GCF The session will examine how climate evidence, baseline conditions and risk analysis underpin a credible project rationale. Participants will apply the guidance to practical project-development considerations through expert presentation and discussion. The session is expected to help participants identify evidence gaps and strengthen the climate logic of emerging concepts.	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.3.2: GCF SUPPORT — OPERATIONAL SAFEGUARDS (ORIGINATION TO FUNDING PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT)** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Moderator and presenter:** Ms. Lalinka Yana Padrinao, Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist, GCF The session will examine GCF sustainability policies and safeguards requirements at the project-origination stage. Participants will engage with practical guidance on their application to concept notes, PPF proposals and funding proposals. The session is expected to help participants identify priority safeguard considerations for early integration into project design.
11:00-11:30	**COFFEE BREAK**	

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11:30-12:30	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.4.1: INDEPENDENT EVALUATION UNIT CLINIC** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Facilitators:** Mr. Rishabh Moudgill, Policy and Evaluation Specialist; Ms. Genta Konci, Evaluation Specialist; Ms. Savi Mull, Evaluation Specialist, GCF IEU The clinic will examine participant questions relating to evaluation, evidence and learning. Participants will engage directly with specialists through short, issue-specific consultations. The clinic is expected to clarify practical options for strengthening evidence use, learning and evaluability in GCF-supported activities.	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.4.2: GCF'S UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2028–2031** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator and presenter:** Ms. Lisa Jade Sinclair, Head of Strategy, GCF The session will examine the emerging priorities and direction of GCF's Updated Strategic Plan for 2028–2031. Participants will engage in a focused discussion on the implications for countries, entities and regional programming. The session is expected to surface regional perspectives and practical considerations for future project and programme development.
12:30-14:00	**LUNCH** **Venue: Feast Restaurant**	
14:00-15:30	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.5.1: GCF SUPPORT — READINESS AND PROJECT PREPARATION FACILITY** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator:** Mr. Cameron Tabrizi, Accreditation Officer, GCF **Presenter:** Mr. Pavlos Troulis, Head of Readiness, GCF The session will examine how Readiness support and the Project Preparation Facility can respond to institutional, programming and project-preparation needs. Participants will discuss eligibility, appropriate use and practical application with GCF specialists. The session is expected to help countries and entities identify the most suitable support instrument and priority next steps.	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.5.2: INDEPENDENT EVALUATION UNIT CLINIC** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Facilitators:** Mr. Rishabh Moudgill, Ms. Genta Konci and Ms. Savi Mull The clinic will examine participant questions relating to evaluation, evidence and learning. Participants will engage directly with specialists through short, issue-specific consultations. The clinic is expected to clarify practical options for strengthening evidence use, learning and evaluability in GCF-supported activities.
15:30-16:00	**COFFEE BREAK**	
16:00-17:30	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.6.1: GCF'S UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2028–2031** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator and presenter:** Ms. Lisa Jade Sinclair, Head of Strategy, GCF The session will examine the emerging priorities and direction of GCF's Updated Strategic Plan for 2028–2031. Participants will engage in a focused discussion on implications for country programming, entities and project development. The session is expected to capture regional perspectives and practical considerations for future engagement.	**PARALLEL SESSION 2.6.2: INDEPENDENT REDRESS MECHANISM AND INDEPENDENT INTEGRITY UNIT CLINIC** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Moderators and presenters:** Ms. Seyram Agbemenya, Capacity-Building Specialist, Independent Redress Mechanism, GCF; Ms. Karen Ernst, Head of the Independent Integrity Unit, GCF The joint session will outline the mandates of the Independent Integrity Unit and Independent Redress Mechanism and the integrity and grievance requirements for accredited entities and applicants. Through practical examples and discussion, participants will explore risk prevention, investigations, grievance and redress processes, and support for stronger institutional systems.
18:00	**RECEPTION HOSTED BY GCF** **Venue: ATI Rooftop Restaurant at Sheraton Grand Tbilisi Metechi Palace**	

DAY 3

Thursday, 8 October 2026
Venue: Sheraton Grand Tbilisi Metechi Palace

Objective: Build on Day 2 outcomes by advancing concrete partnerships, action plans and commitments, while strengthening participants' understanding of GCF support pathways, project quality, safeguards, climate-risk-informed programming and the roles of independent units. Selected sessions are repeated on Day 3 to allow participants greater flexibility in choosing those most relevant to their needs.

09:00-09:15	**SESSION 3.1: RECAP OF DAY 2 AND ORIENTATION FOR FINAL OUTPUTS** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderators and presenters:** Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East Region; Mr. Alexander Gareev, Regional Manager for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, GCF The session will examine the principal outcomes and unresolved issues from Day 2. Participants will validate the summary and receive guidance on the outputs and commitments sought on the final day. The orientation is expected to focus subsequent sessions on concrete follow-up.		
09:15-10:15	**PARALLEL SESSION 3.2.1: GCF ACCESS PATHWAYS CLINIC — ACCREDITATION** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator:** Mr. Pavlos Troulis, Head of Readiness, GCF **Presenter:** Mr. Cameron Tabrizi, Accreditation Officer, GCF The clinic will examine GCF access pathways, the accreditation process and recent changes. Participants will engage directly with GCF specialists on institution-specific questions and readiness considerations. The clinic is expected to help institutions identify the appropriate pathway and define priority next steps.	**PARALLEL SESSION 3.2.2: HOW TO DEVELOP A CONCEPT NOTE AND FUNDING PROPOSAL** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Moderators and presenters:** Mr. Donggun Kim, Climate Investment Associate, GCF; Ms. Sun Mi Lee, Project Lead, GCF The session will provide a practical overview of the Concept Note and Funding Proposal development pathway, including the GCF investment cycle, six investment criteria, core investment logic, supporting evidence and annex requirements, and common stumbling blocks. A moderated panel featuring EPIU, GIZ and Eldik Bank will then share practical experience from different Accredited Entity perspectives. The session is expected to help participants understand the requirements at each stage and identify practical steps for developing stronger proposals.	**PARALLEL SESSION 3.2.3: INDEPENDENT REDRESS MECHANISM AND INDEPENDENT INTEGRITY UNIT CLINIC** **Venue: Elia** **Moderators and presenters:** Ms. Seyram Agbemenya, Capacity-Building Specialist, Independent Redress Mechanism, GCF; Ms. Karen Ernst, Head of the Independent Integrity Unit, GCF The joint session will outline the mandates of the Independent Integrity Unit and Independent Redress Mechanism and the integrity and grievance requirements for accredited entities and applicants. Through practical examples and discussion, participants will explore risk prevention, investigations, grievance and redress processes, and support for stronger institutional systems.
10:15-11:15	**PARALLEL SESSION 3.3.1: GCF SUPPORT — CLIMATE RATIONALE FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator and presenter:** Mr. Stephen Seres, Climate Investment Specialist, GCF The session will examine how climate evidence and risk analysis support a robust GCF project rationale. Participants will engage with practical examples and expert guidance on applying these elements to project design. The session is expected to help participants identify evidence gaps and strengthen the climate logic of priority concepts.	**PARALLEL SESSION 3.3.2: GCF SUPPORT — OPERATIONAL SAFEGUARDS** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Moderator and presenter:** Ms. Lalinka Yana Padrinao, Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist, GCF The session will examine GCF sustainability requirements during project implementation and completion. Participants will engage with practical experience and lessons learned on managing safeguard issues across the project cycle. The session is expected to identify measures that can strengthen compliance, risk management and implementation quality.	
11:15-11:45	**COFFEE BREAK**		

DAY 3

Thursday, 8 October 2026
Venue: Sheraton Grand Tbilisi Metechi Palace

11:45-12:45	**PARALLEL SESSION 3.4.1: GCF SUPPORT — READINESS AND PROJECT PREPARATION FACILITY** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: EN-RU** **Moderator and presenter:** Mr. Pavlos Troulis, Head of Readiness, GCF The session will examine when Readiness support or the Project Preparation Facility is most appropriate. Participants will engage with GCF specialists on eligibility, requirements and application considerations. The session is expected to help countries and entities select the appropriate instrument and define practical next steps.	**PARALLEL SESSION 3.4.2: COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE — DIRECT ACCESS ENTITY (DAE) EXPERIENCE-SHARING PANEL** **Venue: Tetnuldi** **Moderator:** Mr. Cameron Tabrizi, Accreditation Officer, GCF **Presenter:** Ms. Milena Kiramijyan, Acting Head of Project Implementation and Monitoring Department, Environmental Project Implementation Unit, Armenia The panel will examine practical experience from Direct Access Entities in institutional development, programming and project delivery. Participants will engage in peer exchange on lessons, challenges and approaches that can be adapted across the region. The session is expected to identify actionable lessons for strengthening DAE capacity and performance.
12:45-14:15	**LUNCH** **Venue: ATI Rooftop Restaurant**	
14:15-15:15	**SESSION 3.5: CLIMATE RISK INFORMATION AND RISK REDUCTION PANEL** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Moderator:** Mr. Maksim Surkov, Climate Investment Principal, GCF **Panelists:** • Representative of the Government of Georgia (TBC) • Ms. Milena Kiramijyan, Acting Head of Project Implementation and Monitoring Department, Environmental Project Implementation Unit, Armenia • Mr. Timur Sabitov, Deputy Director, National Center for Climate Change, Uzbekistan The panel will examine how climate-risk information can inform resilient planning, investment decisions and risk-reduction measures across the region. Panelists and participants will exchange practical experience on data, tools, institutional coordination and the translation of risk analysis into programmes and projects. The session is expected to identify priority gaps, opportunities for cooperation and practical pathways for strengthening climate-risk-informed investment.	
15:15-15:45	**COFFEE BREAK**	
15:45-16:45	**SESSION 3.6: FINAL STOCK-TAKE** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Presenters:** • Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East Region, GCF; • Mr. Alexander Gareev, Regional Manager for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, GCF The session will examine the dialogue's emerging outcomes across national programming, readiness, project preparation, private-sector pipelines, regional initiatives, partnerships and co-financing. Participants will validate the proposed follow-up actions and clarify their status through a facilitated plenary exchange. The session is expected to confirm a realistic set of next steps without implying commitments that remain under assessment.	
16:45-17:00	**SESSION 3.7: CLOSING REMARKS** **Venue: Shkhara & Ushba Hall | Interpretation: English-Russian** **Speakers:** • Ms. Nino Tandilashvili, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia; • Mr. Thomas Eriksson, Director of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Middle East Region, GCF The closing session will provide reflections on the Regional Dialogue, summarize key outcomes and next steps, and formally conclude the event.	