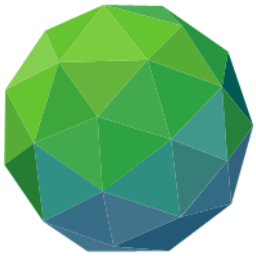
Guidance Note:

Navigating the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Pre-screening Questionnaire

Table of Contents

Overview of the Pre-screening Process 2

Full Text of the Pre-screening Questionnaire 6



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1. Introduction: What is GCF Pre-screening?

The Green Climate Fund's pre-screening questionnaire is the first step in the accreditation process and was adopted as part of the 2025 Revised Accreditation Framework (RAF). Pre-screening serves as an initial eligibility check for entities wishing to become GCF Accredited Entities (AEs). In simple terms, it's a focused set of questions to confirm that an entity meets the core requirements to partner with GCF before an applicant invests time and resources in a full accreditation application. This approach helps make the accreditation process faster and more efficient by ensuring that only applicants that are fit for the AE role move forward.

Note that the legal entity submitted for pre-screening is the same entity that will be assessed in the accreditation review and cannot be changed at a later date. Therefore, applicants who are part of a group should ensure that the applicant entity is best suited among the group to undertake the role and responsibilities of an AE and has the relevant institutional presence and networks itself to bring forward projects/programmes that meet the objectives and mandate of GCF.

2. The Pre-Screening Questionnaire

The pre-screening questionnaire focuses on a few core requirements to confirm that applicants have the legal standing and basic capabilities to take on the responsibilities of an AE.

The questionnaire has three sections. Sections 1 and 3 both collect basic information about applicant entities for GCF review and help applicants understand GCF expectations towards the AE. Section 2 contains pass/fail questions, which confirm that the applicant passes baseline eligibility criteria to serve as an AE.

These pass/fail questions include confirmation of:

- Legal personality and capacity: applicant entities must have independent legal personality and the capacity to enter into financing agreements with GCF in their own name. As a general matter, this means that an entity has the capacity to contract, to acquire and dispose of property, and to institute and be the subject of legal proceedings.
    - For government ministries, the relevant legal entity will typically be the Government itself, and not the ministry (though the ministry may act on behalf of the Government). For other sub-sovereign entities, such as governmental agencies, the entity will need to demonstrate that, as a matter of law, it can enter into financing agreements with multilateral funders in its own name. Alternatively, in cases, where this is not possible, the entity will need to demonstrate that, as a matter of law, it has the ability to act on behalf of and in the name of the Government. In the latter case, the accreditation application would be submitted on behalf of the Government.
    - For non-governmental entities, including private sector entities, legal personality and capacity to enter into financing agreements with GCF will be determined by the legislation or legal framework pursuant to which the entity is established, and evidenced by the entity's incorporation/establishment documents.

- For multilateral or other international organizations, legal personality and capacity to enter into financing agreements with GCF will typically be determined by the organization's governing instrument or legal framework pursuant to which the entity is established.

Since separate legal personality and capacity are Screening Requirements, GCF cannot accredit informal or unincorporated groups.

- Management of fund: the questionnaire will confirm the applicant's ability to directly receive, and return, GCF funds, and to manage and use such funds in the entity's own name without the legal title to such funds passing to an intermediary prior to transferring to the entity. The pre-screening questionnaire will ask if an entity can receive money from GCF's Trustee into its account and handle those funds autonomously. This is crucial because an AE will receive disbursements of GCF financing for projects. For example, if an applicant is a government entity, does it have the authority to receive international funds directly, or would it have to route the funds first through a Ministry of Finance or central bank? If the latter, that could indicate a lack of the necessary autonomy over the receipt and management of the funds. GCF is looking for assurance that applicants have the systems and permissions to manage funds on their own.
- Basic eligibility and operational and programming capabilities: Beyond legal and financial requirements, GCF wants to confirm that an entity is operationally ready to eventually design and implement projects. At pre-screening, entities should demonstrate a basic level of institutional capability that provides confidence that they can handle the role of an AE. For instance, GCF will look at whether applicant entities have sufficient autonomy and systems to implement projects or programmes similar to those funded by GCF. The questionnaire will ask if an applicant has carried out climate-related or development projects before, or if an applicant has key policies (like financial management, procurement, environmental and social safeguards, etc.) in place at a basic level. Applicants do not need to prove full compliance with GCF standards and policies at this stage (that comes later during the detailed screening), but entities do need to show they are adequately prepared to proceed with an application.

Sections 1 and 3 include questions on applicant entities' business mandate, track record and institutional capacities relevant to engagement with GCF. The questions in these sections reflect the requirements an entity would be expected to meet during accreditation review and later engagements with GCF. Applicant entities may want to consult GCF Screening Requirements (if not already done) for information on what systems and policies will be reviewed during the full accreditation review process. The information collected in Sections 1 and 3 also helps the Secreteriat to provide further guidance to applicants during the accreditation process, should an entity be invited to submit an application.

3. Passing Pre-Screening: Moving to the Full Application

Congratulations – passing the pre-screening stage means GCF has determined that the applicant has met the basic eligibility requirements and is ready to proceed. Passing pre-screening is an important milestone, but it's still just the beginning of the full accreditation journey. Here's what happens next:

- Invitation to submit a full application: applicants that clear the pre-screening will receive an invitation to prepare and submit the complete accreditation application during one of the four upcoming accreditation application windows. The invitation will contain an access link to GCF's Global Partner Portal. GCF opens two accreditation application windows per year, each open for two months. Guidance on the full application can be found here.
- Preparing the full application: In the full application, entities will need to provide evidence of policies, procedures, and track record in various areas: fiduciary management (e.g. how an entity handles funds and audits), project management, environmental and social safeguards, gender policy, anti-money laundering measures, etc. Additionally, applications must indicate the maximum environmental and social risk category of projects an entity intends to undertake (Category A/highest risk, B/medium, or C/lowest). This will define the scope of assessment – for example, if an entity only seeks Category C (low risk) accreditation, the evidence the entity needs to provide is tailored to that scope (fit-for-purpose).
- Continued support and guidance: Passing pre-screening means GCF views an entity as a formal candidate, and the Secretariat will continue to engage with the entity as needed. The entity can expect access to application guidelines, the detailed application form, , and onboarding sessions to help new applicants. Don't hesitate to use the support offered – ask questions if instructions are unclear. The goal is to help entities submit a complete and robust application.
- Screening and accreditation decision: Once the full application is submitted (and the accreditation fee is paid), the screening and review begins. GCF Accreditation Panel (AP) and Secretariat will perform an in-depth assessment of each application against all applicable screening requirements. This is largely a desk review of applicants' documents and policies, but the reviewers may come back with clarification questions. Applicants will have opportunities to answer questions or provide additional information during this stage. GCF aims to complete this screening stage within nine months. This timeline does not include time taken for applicants' to respond to inquiries related to their application. Timely conclusion of the application process depends on applicants' prompt and complete responses to inquiries from the Secretariat and AP. If all goes well and an applicant meets all the screening requirements, and the Accreditation Panel will recommend applicants to the Board for approval. The final step is the Board formally approving applicants' accreditation based on that recommendation. After Board approval, applicants become accredited partners of GCF – congratulations!
- If gaps are identified: it's worth noting that if the screening review identifies gaps in an applicant's systems/polcies at the full application stage, the applicant will need to address them before re-applying. The key difference is that thanks to pre-screening, potential aplicants will not be taken through the full assessment process if they lack the fundamental eligibility. So if an applicant has progressed to the full assessment, the applicant is already in a good position for tackling any issues that come up. And remember, the Secretariat will continue to communicate timeline expectations so each applicant has clarity on how long each part might take.

4. If Requirements Are Not Met: What Happens Next?

Pre-screening is a pass/fail checkpoint. So, what if after this initial review, GCF concludes that an applicant does not meet one or more of the core requirements or does not fit into the AE role? First, to not be discouraged – a "did not pass" at pre-screening does not mean a permanent rejection; It means either that partnering with GCF in the role of an AE is not the optimal route for an applicant with this profile and mandate, or that an applicant is not yet ready for the full accreditation review. Here's what happens and what the options are if an applicant does not pass pre-screening:

- Notification and feedback: GCF Secretariat will inform applicants of the outcome of pre-screening.
- End of accreditation process (for now): The current accreditation application will not move forward beyond pre-screening. The applicant will not be invited to submit the full application at this stage. In practical terms, this saves the applicant from paying the application fee and gathering a significant amount of documents only to be deemed ineligible later – it's tough news upfront, but it prevents wasted effort.
- Guidance on alternatives and capacity building:GCF Secretariat may guide an entity towards alternative ways to engage with GCF and/or ways to build capacity for a future accreditation attempt. Pathways that could be suggested here are:
- Seek Readiness support: If the applicant is a direct access entity, it can work with the relevant National Designate Authority to request Readiness Programme support specifically for accreditation preparation. For instance, if the pre-screening report says an applicant's financial management systems are not in place, the entity may be eligible to receive a Readiness grant to upgrade those systems or train staff.
- Consider becoming an Executing Entity (EE): Another alternative is to partner with an entity that is already accredited to gain experience with GCF-funded projects Executing entities work under AEs to implement project activities on the ground. This means that an entity wouldn't be accredited yet, but could still participate in GCF projects.
- Explore alternative ways of engaging with GCF: Depending on an applicant's mandate and business model, the entity could choose to become a GCF co-investor/ co-financier, sub-contractor in GCF projects, a knowledge partner, or a sub-contractor to GCF funded activities. GCF Secreteriat is available to discuss with entities the most suitable modality to partner with GCF.
- NDA involvement: If an entity is a direct access applicant, note that the applicant could also inform the NDA of the entity's pre-screening result. The NDA is a stakeholder in direct access applicants' success and can be helpful in mobilizing support. For instance, an NDA may assist an entity in tapping into Readiness Programme funds or advise on institutional changes needed. So it is important to maintain communication with the NDA throughout this process.

5. Further Support

For further information, please monitor the GCF website for any information session announcements or recordings. Applicants may also contact the pre-screening team directly at: dinvs.pre.screening@gcfund.org

Good luck with the pre-screening questionnaire, and GCF looks forward to seeing entities take the next steps towards GCF accreditation!

Key Definitions – GCF Pre-Screening Questionnaire

Terminology	Definition
Legal personality	The recognition of an entity as an independent legal entity under applicable law, with the capacity to enter into contracts, own assets, incur obligations, sue and be sued, and be held accountable in its own name.
Government or government-controlled direct access entity	A government (which may be acting through a ministry, department or similar body which is authorized to legally bind the government or State) of a recipient country or a subnational, national, or regional entity that is controlled by a government. This type of entity must be formally nominated by the relevant country's National Designated Authority (NDA).
Self-nominating direct access entity – subnational, national or regional entity that is not government-controlled	A subnational, national, or regional entity that is not controlled by a government. This type of entity does not require nomination from any country's National Designated Authority to apply for accreditation, but must consult with the relevant NDA.
Self-nominating international access entity	An international or multilateral institution seeking GCF accreditation under international access. Unlike government or government-controlled direct access entities, it does not require nomination by an NDA to apply.
National Designated Authority (NDA)	The country's officially designated focal point for GCF – an institution that acts as the interface between the national government and GCF . The NDA is responsible for endorsing GCF activities (e.g. providing no-objection or nomination letters) and to ensure that these activities align with national climate priorities.
Pre-accreditation Readiness Support	Funding or technical assistance from GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme aimed at helping entities prepare

	for accreditation. This support identifies institutional gaps and builds the capacities needed to meet GCF requirements.
Financial management and capacity assessment	An evaluation of an entity's ability to manage funds and meet GCF's fiduciary standards, typically done trough the Financial Management and Capacity Assessmnet (FMCA). It assesses the entity's financial management systems, policies, and track record to ensure readiness to handle GCF grants.
Fiduciary standards	The financial management and accountability benchmark an entity is expected to meet. These include having strong administrative and financial controls, transparency and anti-corruption measures, and compliance systems (such as for anti–money laundering) to responsibly manage funds.
Environmental and social safeguards (ESS)	Policies and procedures to avoid or minimize harm to people and the environment in an entity's projects. GCF requires accredited entities to identify potential environmental and social risks and manage them appropriately so that climate projects benefit communities without unintended negative impacts.
Executing entity (for GCF-funded activity)	An entity that carries out or implements a GCF-funded project or programme on the ground, under the oversight of an Accredited Entity. In practice, an executing entity works in partnership with an Accredited Entity to execute project components and deliver results.
Fast-Track Eligibility	Qualification for an accelerated GCF accreditation process. If an entity has already been accredited by certain international funds or institutions (for example, the GEF or Adaptation Fund) with comparable standards, you may be eligible for a streamlined review when applying.
Project Preparation Facility (PPF)	A GCF funding mechanism that provides technical and financial support (grants or services) to help develop high-quality funding proposals. The PPF offers up to USD 1.5 million per request to assist Accredited Entities – especially Direct Access Entities – and PSAA applicants in preparing full project/programme proposals.

Project-Specific Assessment Approach (PSAA)	A pilot accreditation approach in which GCF assesses an entity's capacity to implement a single project or programme without granting full institutional accreditation. Under the PSAA, the entity's capabilities are reviewed in parallel with the appraisal of a specific project proposal, expediting access to GCF funding for that project.
Direct Access Modality	Modality which allows sub-national, national, or regional entities legally incorporated or established in developing countries, including government or government-controlled entities, to apply for accreditation and directly access GCF resources.
International Access Modality	Modality which enables multilateral, regional, or international entities with global or cross-border mandates to seek accreditation to channel and implement GCF resources in developing countries.

Full Text of Pre-screening Questionnaire

Introduction

What is the purpose of this questionnaire?

This pre-screening questionnaire is the first step for organizations seeking to partner with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) as accredited entities (AEs). Pre-screening is designed to help your organization check if it is ready and able to fulfill the role of AE, and completing it is a prerequisite to the submission of a full accreditation application. The completed questionnaire allows GCF Secretariat to understand your institutional capacity and guide your organization towards the most appropriate form of collaboration with GCF.

What is the current GCF accreditation process?

This pre-screening questionnaire applies to organizations seeking institutional accreditation to GCF. Organizations wishing to pursue the Project-Specific Assessment Approach (PSAA) should follow the relevant PSAA process. An organization may not pursue institutional accreditation and PSAA simultaneously.

The accreditation process allows GCF to channel climate finance to developing countries via a diverse network of AEs (national, regional and international institutions). These partners play a central role in helping countries design, implement, and manage climate-resilient and low-emission projects aligned with their national priorities.

Once accredited, an entity is eligible to participate in GCF programming as a partner to developing countries. An AE can engage with countries to develop concept notes and funding proposals for climate change projects or programmes aligned with those countries' mitigation and adaptation priorities and GCF strategic programming goals and investment criteria, typically signing a Funded Activity Agreement under these Standard Conditions to do so.

Why pre-screen?

The pre-screening process serves as an introductory review to confirm that an organization is able to meet basic eligibility and capacity requirements and is prepared to move forward in the accreditation process. Organizations that complete this stage will be invited to submit a full application during an upcoming accreditation window.

Structure of the questionnaire

The pre-screening questionnaire comprises three main sections. You may preview them before submission. If you wish to pause and resume your completion of the form, please save the questionnaire URL and then input the saved URL into your browser search bar when you wish to restart the form.

Section 1: **General information**

1.1. Contact information
1.2. Applicant type
1.3. Area of operation

Section 2: **Legal status and basic eligibility**

2.1. Legal personality and capacity
2.2. Basic eligibility and operational and programming capabilities
2.3. Supporting documentation

⚠ ***Important*:**
Questions in section 2 are **pass/fail questions**.

If you answer **"No"** to any pass/fail question, it indicates that your institution may not meet the expectations of the role and responsibilities of an accredited entity as outlined in Section III of the Accreditation Framework, and may need to identify another way to engage with GCF. In this case, the Secretariat will guide you on suitable next steps, which may include partnership through an existing accredited entity.

Section 3: **Additional information and self-reflection**

3.1. Business mandate and track record
3.2. Fiduciary, environmental and social, and implementation responsibilities
3.3. Fast track eligibility
3.4. Engagement with GCF

Guidance for applicants on GCF access modality

Please review the prompts carefully and provide the information applicable to your organization type.

Please indicate your organization type:

☐ Government or government-controlled direct access entity

☐ Self-nominating direct access entity - subnational, national or regional entity that is not government-controlled

☐ Self-nominating international access entity

💡 *Guidance:* International Access Entities are organizations operating across borders and addressing diverse climate challenges (e.g. United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, international financial institutions, regional institutions, and private sector entities registered in a developed country with global reach and potential to advance climate action by implementing projects in developing countries).

Direct Access Entities are a government (which may be acting through a ministry or department) of a recipient country or a subnational, national or regional organization (i) legally incorporated or established in a developing country and (ii) operating in one or more developing countries;

A. **Government or government-controlled direct access entity**

Please attach a nomination letter from your country's national designated authority (NDA)**.**

Note: The nomination letter should confirm endorsement by the NDA of your organization's intention to apply as a direct access entity.

Upload field:

📎 *Upload NDA nomination letter*

B. **Self-nominating entities**

Please describe your engagement with the relevant national designated authority in relation to your intention to seek accreditation with GCF (NDA)**.**

Please note that this field is mandatory for self-nominating direct access entities and is recommended for self-nominating international access entities.

Please provide the following details:

Field	Input type	Guidance text
Country	Drop-down	Enter the country of your organization's registration.
Contact person	Short text	Name and title of the staff member of the applicant who engaged with the NDA.
Mode of consultation	Drop-down	Select: Email/Virtual meeting/In-person meeting/Other
Consultation dates	Date field	Indicate relevant dates of communication or meeting.
NDA institution	Short text	Name of the NDA or focal point organization.
NDA contact person	Short text	Name and title of the person consulted at the NDA.
NDA contact information	Short text	Email address and/or phone number.
Summary of discussion	Long text box (100 words)	Briefly describe what was discussed (e.g. potential project ideas, collaboration opportunities, feedback from the NDA).

Upload field:

📎 *Attach the Consultation Summary if used, and any supporting documentation (emails, meeting notes, etc.)*

💡 *Guidance:* Project or programme ideas discussed with the NDA should align with the country's climate priorities such as nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans, or long-term strategies, and/or other national climate priorities.

Section 1: General information

1.1. Contact information

- *Applicant name (full legal name):
- *Applicant acronym (if none, please renter entity legal name):
- *Country of operation:
- *Legal address:
- *Registered office address:
- Operational Address (if different from legal or registered office address):
- *Website:
- *Primary contact (name and title and salutation):
- *Primary contact email:
- *Primary contact phone no.:
- Secondary contact (name and title and salutation):
- Secondary contact email:
- Secondary contact phone no.:

Supporting Documentation

📎 Upload field (Mandatory)

Please upload:

A. Evidence of the legal name of the applicant (e.g. certificate of incorporation, registration certificate, formation document, legal charter, founding agreement, or equivalent document).
B. Evidence of the legal or registered address of the applicant (e.g. registration extract, certificate of registration, government registry extract, tax registration document, or equivalent document showing the current registered address).

💡 *Guidance:* The legal name and registered address provided in this questionnaire should match the information contained in the supporting documentation. If the organization operates under a trade name or acronym different from its legal name, please provide evidence linking the names.

1.2. Applicant type

Please select the option that best describes your organization.

A. **Scope of operations**

- ☐ International (global activities or presence)
- ☐ Regional (multi-country or regional activities)
- ☐ National (country-level activities)
- ☐ Subnational/Local

💡 *Guidance:* The Scope of Operations selection should be based on geographic scope within which the applicant entity wishes to programme with GCF. A regional scope indicates that an entity wishes to programme with GCF in several countries within the same continent.

B. **Type of entity:**

- ☐ Public sector – Government (which may be acting through a ministry or department)
- ☐ Public sector – Government-controlled subnational, national or regional entity (including development banks and state-owned companies)
- ☐ Private sector – Registered legal entities which are not government-controlled (e.g. for-profit entities, financial institutions)
- ☐ Multilateral or other international organization – entity formed by treaty, agreement or resolution between participating member states (including multilateral development banks)
- ☐ UN System Entity – a specialized agency, subsidiary organ or other part of the UN system
- ☐ Civil society organization/Non-governmental organization (including entities or foundations established for public or charitable purposes)
- ☐ Academic/Research institution
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

C. Is your organization part of a wider corporate or organizational group, including a parent entity, subsidiary, affiliate, holding company, branch, country office, or similar structure?

YES/NO

If Yes, please provide the following information (maximum 150 words, text box):

- Name of the parent organization (if applicable);
- Names of key subsidiaries, affiliates, branches, or related entities relevant to the intended GCF programming;
- Brief description of the relationship between the applicant and these entities; and
- Confirmation that the applicant is the entity best positioned within the group to undertake the role and responsibilities of a GCF Accredited Entity, including entering into legal agreements with GCF and managing GCF-funded activities.

💡 *Guidance:* Where an organization forms part of a wider corporate or organizational group, the applicant should be the legal entity best suited to undertake the role and responsibilities of a GCF Accredited Entity. Other legal entities within the group may participate in GCF-financed activities as executing entities, service providers, or implementation partners. Please be aware that the application entity cannot be changed at a later stage in the accreditation process. See *VI-6.1-44* of the Revised Accreditation Framework for further guidance.

1.3. Area of operation

Please indicate where your organization operates (check all that apply):

- ☐ Developing countries
- ☐ Least developed countries
- ☐ Small island developing states
- ☐ Developed countries

[Drop-Down Menu] Location of applicant's headquarters (select country):

[Drop-Down Menu] Location of applicant's legal incorporation or establishment (select country):

Section 2: Legal status and basic eligibility

This section aims to help both your organization and GCF confirm that the foundational elements for partnership are in place. It covers the applicant's legal status, governance and ownership structure, legal capacity to engage with international organizations, ability to directly receive and manage GCF funds, and the institutional capabilities required to undertake the role and responsibilities of a GCF Accredited Entity.

The information provided in this section will help GCF assess whether the applicant meets the minimum eligibility requirements to proceed in the accreditation process and identify any issues that may require further clarification during the accreditation review.

Please provide information as clearly and accurately as possible and upload all requested supporting documentation. If you are uncertain about any requirement, please contact GCF Secretariat at dinvs.pre.screening@gcfund.org for clarification.

⚠️ **Incomplete, inconsistent, or unclear responses may delay the pre-screening process.** If the applicant responds **"No"** to any pass/fail question (Indicated with a *), the applicant may not be able to proceed with the pre-screening process because one or more minimum eligibility requirements may not be met.

A response of **"Yes"** does not constitute a determination of eligibility or accreditation readiness. At the accreditation application stage, applicants will be required to provide detailed

supporting evidence demonstrating legal status, governance arrangements, ownership structure, fiduciary systems, environmental and social management systems, operational capabilities, implementation arrangements, and monitoring and reporting systems. These materials will form part of the detailed accreditation and due diligence review.

2.1. Legal personality and capacity

a) Does the applicant organization possess independent legal personality under its constituent or governing documents and the laws of its establishment?

YES/ NO *

b) Does the applicant organization have legal capacity and authority pursuant to its constituent or governing documents and/or other applicable laws to enter into legal agreements with international organizations (such as GCF) in its own name and to perform its obligations thereunder?

YES/ NO *

💡 *Guidance: please make sure that the response relates strictly to the entity applying for accreditation*

📎 **Upload field (Mandatory)**

1) Evidence the applicant validly exists
2) Evidence the applicant possesses independent legal personality
3) Evidence the applicant possesses legal capacity to contract with GCF and receive and repay monies to an international organization
4) Founding/incorporation/registration certificates or documents or legal charter or founding agreement.
5) Articles of Association/By-laws.
6) Evidence of authority to contract internationally and directly receive proceeds from international organisations (if required).
7) Certificate of good standing, if applicable.

Supplementary document:

Legal opinion issued in accordance with the accreditation guidance (section 2.1). If the applicant does not provide a legal opinion at this stage, additional engagement and enquiry by GCF may be required during the application process to verify the applicant's legal status and capacity to be an AE which may delay the screening process.

2.2 Ownership information

This section helps GCF understand the ownership and control structure of the applicant organization, including the identification of individuals and entities that exercise ownership or control over the applicant.

For the purpose of this questionnaire, a beneficial owner refers to any natural person who directly or indirectly owns, controls, or exercises significant influence over the applicant organization, including through ownership interests, voting rights, or other means.

For public sector entities, multilateral organizations, UN entities, and non-profit organizations without shareholders, applicants should provide documentation explaining their governance, oversight, and control arrangements in lieu of beneficial ownership information.

2.2.1. Please identify and disclose the applicant organization's ownership structure and all natural persons who directly or indirectly own, control, or have a beneficial interest of 10 per cent or more in the organization.

📎 **Upload field (Mandatory)**

2.3 Basic eligibility and operational and programming capabilities

2.3.1. Can your organization receive and repay funds directly from/to GCF Trustee (without an intermediary such as a central bank or government)?

YES/NO *

💡 For any approved funding proposals, GCF funds will go directly to the accredited entity.

2.3.2. Can your organization receive, hold, manage and repay funds in one or more GCF operational currencies (USD, EUR, JPY or GBP)?

YES/NO *

2.3.3. Is your organization permitted under its internal policies, national laws, or regulations to open and maintain an interest-bearing bank account for GCF funds (including any interest earned)?

YES/NO *

💡 Accredited entities may be required to open and maintain an interest-bearing account for GCF-funded activities. Any treatment of interest earned must comply with the applicable GCF conditions, policies, national laws, and the entity's internal policies.

2.3.4. Can your organization undertake the **full project and programme cycle**, including:

a) Engaging with developing countries to align projects/programmes with their climate change priorities, strategies and programming needs.

b) Designing projects and developing funding proposals for GCF financing.

c) Implementing, delivering, monitoring and reporting on the results of such activities.

d) Ensuring monitoring and reporting on all programming activities.

YES: Please briefly describe your approach to designing projects and developing funding proposals for GCF consideration (**200 words maximum**): [text box].

💡 Guidance: Before completing this description, please consult the GCF website for examples of approved projects.

NO*: GCF Secretariat will be pleased to discuss alternative modes of engagement with the Fund, other than the accredited entity role.

2.3.5 Does your organization have capacities for:

a) Project implementation in line with basic fiduciary standards (including administrative and financial management, and transparency and accountability)?

YES/NO *

b) Management of environmental and social risks and application of environmental and social safeguards (ESS) standards for programming activities?

YES/NO *

c) Gender mainstreaming in programming activities?

YES/NO *

d) Monitoring, evaluation and reporting on programming activities?

YES/NO *

2.3.6. Does your organization have institutional capacity to design, implement, monitor and report on the project that aligns with GCF investment criteria below?

YES/NO *

If Yes, select all that apply

☐ **Impact Potential**
The potential of the project/programme to contribute to GCF's climate mitigation and/or adaptation objectives. This includes expected greenhouse gas reductions, resilience benefits, and beneficiary impacts.

☐ **Paradigm Shift Potential**
The extent to which the activity can catalyze transformational change beyond a one-off investment through scaling-up, replication, knowledge generation, market transformation, or policy reform.

☐ **Sustainable Development Potential**
The wider environmental, social, economic, and gender co-benefits generated by the proposal in support of sustainable development.

☐ **Needs of the Recipient**
The vulnerability and financing needs of the target country, region, population, or ecosystem, including barriers to accessing climate finance and adaptation needs.

☐ **Country Ownership**
The degree to which the proposal aligns with national climate strategies, priorities, NDCs, adaptation plans, and demonstrates engagement and support from relevant stakeholders and the NDA.

☐ **Efficiency and Effectiveness**
Whether GCF resources are used cost-effectively, including consideration of financial viability, economic returns, concessionality, leverage of co-financing, and risk-reward balance

💡 Guidance: more information on GCF investment criteria and indicators available here: Investment criteria indicators and Further Development of the Initial Investment Framework

Section 3: Additional information and self-reflection

This section allows your organization to highlight its business mandate, track record and institutional capacities relevant to engagement with GCF. *Please respond concisely and attach supporting documents where relevant.*

3.1. Business mandate, track record and programming goals

3.1.1. Please provide a brief overview of your organization's business mandate**,** operational modalities, and core business areas**,** including those related to climate finance.
Describe how your organization contributes to GCF mandate and strategic results areas (updated Strategic Plan for GCF 2024–2027; *(Maximum 100 words)* [Text Box]

3.1.2. In the context of the intended programming with GCF, does your organization have experience implementing climate finance and/or sustainability-related projects/programmes?

Yes/No

***PLEASE NOTE** that at the pre-screening stage, a relevant track record is desirable but is not an obligatory prerequisite for submission of an application to GCF accreditation. Further details of a relevant track record will be collected and reviewed by the project teams at the programming stage.

💡 *Guidance*: while a limited number of the earliest GCF projects involved financing of approximately USD 7 million, the Fund's portfolio has since shifted towards larger-scale investments, with current funding proposals typically involving financing in the tens to hundreds of millions of dollars. Organizations seeking accreditation are expected therefore to be able to demonstrate the institutional capacity and project pipeline necessary to operate at a commensurate scale.

If Yes, please provide a brief overview of your organization's operations over the past ten (10) years, including:

- Approximate number of climate finance and/or sustainability-related projects/programmes managed or financed;
- Geographic scope of activities;
- Range of financial instruments used (e.g. grants, loans, equity, guarantees, results-based financing);
- Largest project/programme managed or financed (approximate value);

- Typical project/programme size; and
- Relevant environmental and social risk categories, where applicable.

Maximum 200 words [Text box]

Optional Upload

3.1.3. Do you have a track record in the country or region of the intended programming?

- ☐ If Yes, please provide a brief overview of your track record in the country/countries of the region of the intended programming (maximum of 100 words). [text box]
- ☐ No

3.1.4 Intended Financing Instruments for GCF Programming

GCF supports a range of financing instruments, including non-reimbursable instrument (e.g. grants) and reimbursable instruments (e.g. reimbursable grants, loans, equity and guarantees). The information provided below will help GCF understand the applicant's intended role and programming approach.

a) Does your organization intend to programme with:

- ☐ Non-reimbursable instruments only
- ☐ Reimbursable instruments only
- ☐ Both reimbursable and non-reimbursable instruments

b) Please briefly describe your experience managing the selected financing instruments and how you intend to use them in GCF programming.

(Maximum 150 words) **[Text box]**

3.1.6 Please indicate the climate priorities your organization expects to address through future GCF-supported activities (select all that apply):

- ☐ Adaptation
- ☐ Mitigation
- ☐ Both adaptation and mitigation

3.1.7 Please indicate GCF strategic results areas, sectors, or programming areas most relevant to your anticipated GCF programming (select all that apply):

Result Areas

- ☐ Energy access and power generation
- ☐ Low-emission transport
- ☐ Buildings, cities, industries and appliances
- ☐ Forests and land use
- ☐ Health, food and water security
- ☐ Livelihoods of people and communities
- ☐ Ecosystems and ecosystem services
- ☐ Infrastructure and the built environment

Cross-cutting priorities

- ☐ Private sector mobilization
- ☐ Nature-positive investments
- ☐ Just transition
- ☐ Climate-resilient development
- ☐ Gender-responsive climate action
- ☐ Support for LDCs and SIDS
- ☐ Capacity-building and institutional strengthening
- ☐ Other (please specify)

3.2. Fiduciary, environmental and social safeguarding and implementation responsibilities

This section allows your organization to reflect on its **institutional preparedness** to manage, implement and oversee climate-related projects and programmes in line with GCF standards and policies.

The self-assessment below supports transparency and helps identify areas where further strengthening or readiness support for your organization may be useful.

💡 Guidance: Please select the option that best represents your organization's current level of capacity in each area. For reference, you may wish to review the *GCF's fiduciary*, *environmental and social*, *gender* and *monitoring standards and policies*, including on *AML/CFT*

3.2.1. Institutional capacity self-assessment

a) Basic fiduciary standards – administrative and financial management, transparency, accountability, anti-corruption, and AML/CFT compliance
   - ☐ *Established:* Dedicated staff and mature, documented systems that are consistently applied.
   - ☐ *Developing:* Policies in place, building our track record and systems.
   - ☐ *Foundational:* Early stages of developing formal policies and capacity.

b) Project/programme management capacity – procurement, contract management and oversight
   - ☐ *Established:* Dedicated staff and mature, documented systems that are consistently applied.
   - ☐ *Developing:* Policies in place, building our track record and systems.
   - ☐ *Foundational:* Early stages of developing formal policies and capacity.

c) Environmental and social risk management and application of environmental and social safeguards
   - ☐ *Established:* Dedicated staff and mature, documented systems that are consistently applied.
   - ☐ *Developing:* Policies in place, building our track record and systems.
   - ☐ *Foundational:* Early stages of developing formal policies and capacity.

d) Grievance redress mechanism
   - ☐ *Does your institution have a grievance mechanism? YES/NO*
   - ☐ *If your answer is **yes**, how would you assess it?:*
     - *Established: Dedicated staff and mature, documented systems that are consistently applied.*
     - *Developing: Policies in place, building our track record and systems.*
     - *Foundational: Early stages of developing formal policies and capacity.*

e) Gender equality and social inclusion mainstreaming
   - ☐ *Established:* Dedicated staff and mature, documented systems that are consistently applied.
   - ☐ *Developing:* Policies in place, building our track record and systems.
   - ☐ *Foundational:* Early stages of developing formal policies and capacity.

f) Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and verification
   - ☐ *Established:* Dedicated staff and mature, documented systems that are consistently applied.
   - ☐ *Developing:* Policies in place, building our track record and systems.

☐ *Foundational:* Early stages of developing formal policies and capacity.

3.2.2. Will you be able to demonstrate:

a) The capacity to ensure that downstream executing entities and partners apply relevant GCF safeguards, fiduciary requirements and policies for GCF-funded activities?

YES/NO

b) The ability to monitor, report and verify that the above safeguards, fiduciary requirements, and policies for GCF-funded activities are being upheld?

YES/NO

PLEASE NOTE *that at the application stage, you will be required to provide evidence demonstrating your institutional capacity to fulfill the fiduciary, environmental, and social responsibilities of an AE, in particular, to manage and oversee climate change projects in line with GCF standards and policies, including a track record, as appropriate, of implementing such institutional systems, policies and procedures for undertaking projects and programmes.*

Please make sure that your responses are based on your knowledge and understanding of GCF screening requirements and relevant GCF standards and policies (GCF/B.42/04/Add.01 Annex II).

3.2.3 Intended Environmental and Social Risk Category

GCF categorizes projects and programmes according to their environmental and social (E&S) risk level. The category selected below should reflect the highest-risk activities that your organization intends to undertake under GCF financing.

The selected category will help GCF understand the level of environmental and social risk management capacity, systems, and track record that may be required during the accreditation process. For a definition of the categories, see section 3.1.5 in this guidance.

a) Please indicate the highest environmental and social risk category of projects/programmes that your organization intends to undertake under GCF financing:

☐ Category A / Intermediation 1 (I-1)
☐ Category B / Intermediation 2 (I-2)
☐ Category C / Intermediation 3 (I-3)

b) If you selected Category A/I-1 or Category B/I-2, please briefly describe your organization's experience managing environmental and social risks associated with projects/programmes of a similar risk level.

(Maximum 150 words) **[Text box]**

c) Does your organization have an institution-wide Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), environmental and social safeguards framework, or equivalent policies and procedures?

Yes/No

If Yes:

Please briefly describe the system and indicate whether it is applied across all projects/programmes.

(Maximum 100 words) **[Text box]**

3.3. Fast-track eligibility (if applicable)

The Fast-Track Accreditation programme enables GCF to leverage accreditation, assessment, and due diligence processes already undertaken by recognized institutions, reducing duplication while maintaining GCF standards.

As outlined in Decision B.42/13, the Board approved the expansion of the Fast-Track Accreditation programme to include institutions with comparable due diligence requirements. This expansion currently includes the African Development Bank (AfDB), while the Secretariat continues to develop the operational modalities and eligibility criteria for additional institutions, including the World Bank.

3.3.1 Existing accreditations and Assessments

Has your organization been accredited, assessed, or successfully completed an institutional due diligence process with any of the following institutions? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- ☐ Adaptation Fund (AF)
- ☐ European Union's Directorate-General for International Partnerships (EU DG INTPA)

- ☐ African Development Bank (AfDB)
- ☐ None of the above

3.3.2 Compliance Status

If you selected one or more institutions above, please confirm whether your organization remains in full compliance with the applicable accreditation, assessment, or institutional requirements of those institutions.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If Yes, please provide a brief explanation, including:

- Name of institution;
- Accreditation/assessment reference;
- Date of accreditation/assessment;
- Current status; and
- Scope of accreditation/assessment.

(Maximum 200 words) **[Text box]**

Supporting Documentation

Please provide relevant supporting documentation, such as:

- Accreditation certificates;
- Pillar assessment reports;
- Assessment confirmations;
- Compliance confirmations;
- Relevant institutional assessment reports; or
- Other documentation demonstrating accreditation or assessment status.

📎 **Upload field (Optional)**

3.3.3 African Development Bank (AfDB) Experience

Does your organization have an ongoing project with the African Development Bank (AfDB) or a project signed or closed no more than 5 years before the submission of this questionnaire?

Yes/No

If Yes:

a) Please provide the following information:

- AfDB operation identifiers:
    - Project/programme name
    - AfDB project ID
    - Country
    - Approval date
    - Signing date (the project must be either ongoing or have been signed or closed no more than 5 years before the entity submits this questionnaire. Cancelled operations are not eligible)

Required attachment: signed agreement with AfDB

- Financing instrument/window
- Exact legal entity that was assessed by and entered into a legal agreement with AfDB for this project
- Status of operation (evidence the operation is):
    - Signed but yet to be implemented
    - Ongoing
    - Closed
- If your project is under implementation:
    - Have there been any breaches of the legal agreement?
    - Have there been any events of default/events of non-compliance during the AfDB project implementation?
    - Are any such events continuing as at the date this form is submitted?
    - If yes, please provide relevant status reports and supporting evidence

(Maximum 200 words) **[Text box]**

Upload field

- Additional contextual information:
    - Has your project been evaluated by the AfDB Independent Development Evaluation (IDEV)?
      If yes, please provide the link to the relevant report.
      [Yes/No. If yes: text box 100 words]

- Has there been a budget support program for the country where the AfDB project is implemented?
  If yes, please provide the link to the relevant supporting document.
  [Yes/No. If yes: text box 100 words]

3.4. Engagement with GCF

Please answer the following questions on the applicant's engagement with GCF:

a) Has your organization requested or received pre-accreditation readiness support from GCF?

YES/NO

b) Has your organization served as an executing entity for any GCF-funded activity?

YES/NO

If Yes, please provide information on which projects.

[Text box for 100 words]

c) Has your organization served as a delivery partner for Readiness Proposals or Project Preparation Facility Proposals?

YES/NO

d) Has your organization engaged in project-specific assessment approach proposal origination discussions?

YES/NO

3.5. Partnerships

Is your organization prepared to undertake projects or programmes originated by other organizations or to participate in co-financed or sponsored initiatives?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

💡 Guidance: Partnerships are encouraged to leverage complementary strengths, enhance efficiency and promote country ownership.