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# GCF REGIONAL DIALOGUE

with EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

**Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia**  
18–22 March 2024





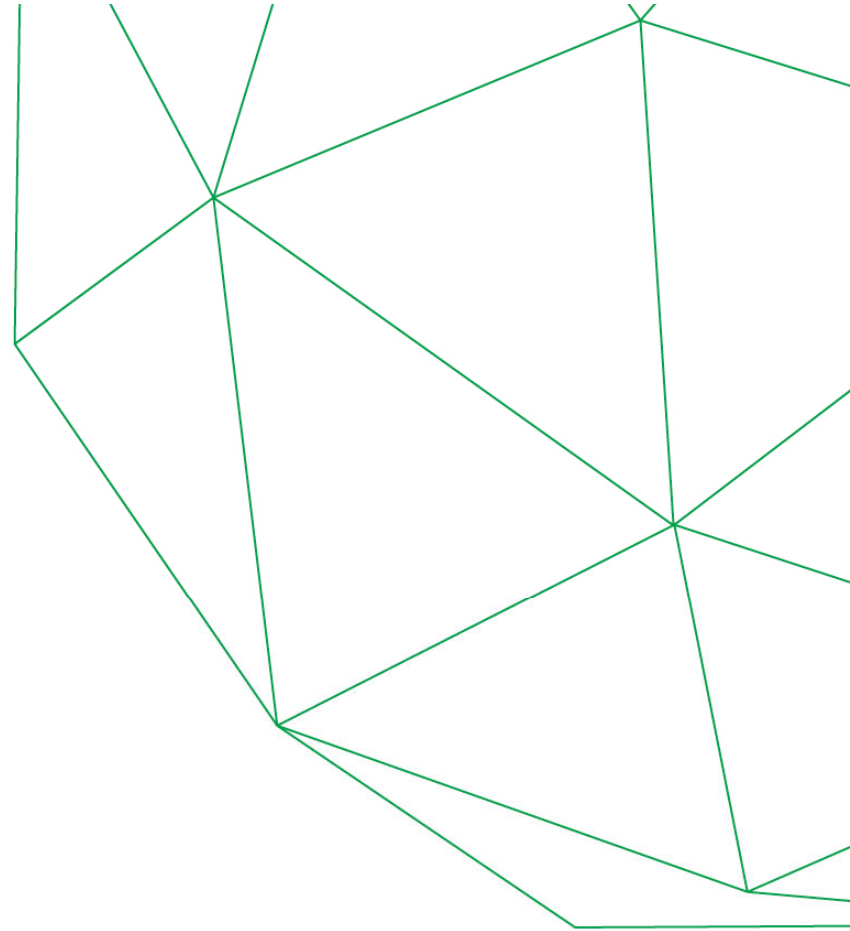
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GCF REGIONAL DIALOGUE  
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# Fostering Scale-up via the Simplified Approval Process (SAP)

Martin Bjerkmo | Project Officer (SAP)

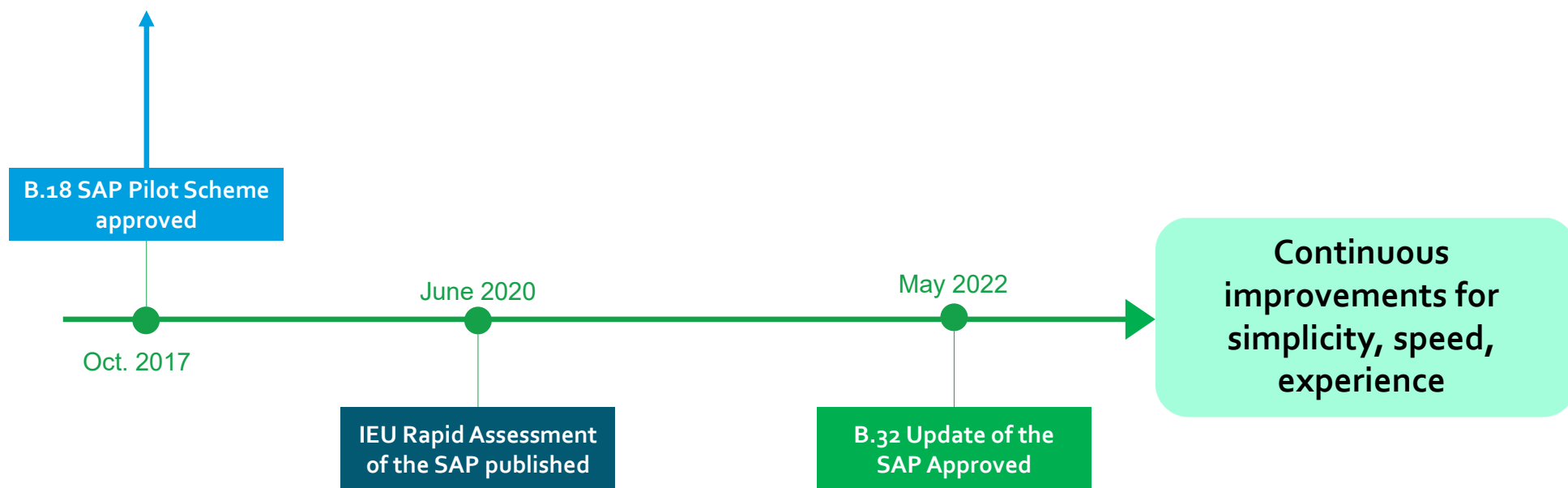
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# SAP Background



*Purpose: Accelerates climate finance access focusing on small, low-risk projects.*



# — SAP Eligibility Criteria



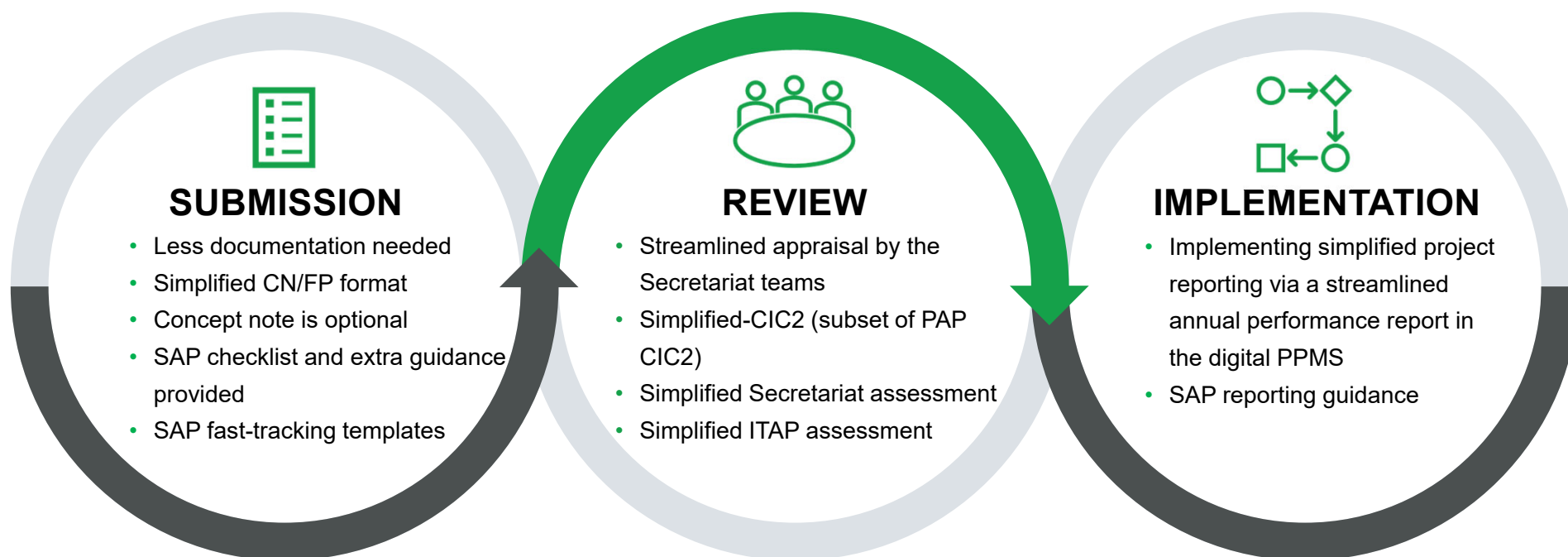
## Funding

GCF funding of up to **USD 25 million**. No upper limit on total funding (including co-financing)

## Project category

**Project category C/Intermediation 3:**  
Minimal to no environmental impacts & social risks

# — SAP vs PAP



# SAP Concept note preparation



GCF DOCUMENTATION

PROJECTS

## Simplified Approval Process Concept Note

Project/Programme Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country(ies): \_\_\_\_\_  
National Designated Authority(ies) (NDA): \_\_\_\_\_  
Accredited Entity(ies) (AE): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of first submission: YYYY-MM-DD / IV / Q  
Date of current submission: YYYY-MM-DD / IV / Q  
Version: \_\_\_\_\_



Eligibility for SAP is determined by the review of the concept note and the ESS screening.

**Simplified Approval Process CONCEPT NOTE TEMPLATE V.1.3**  
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A. Project / Programme Summary (max. 1 page)				
A.1. Project or programme	A.2. Public or private sector	A.3. RFP	Select	
<input type="checkbox"/> Project <input type="checkbox"/> Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> Public sector <input type="checkbox"/> Private sector			
<p><b>A.4. Indicate the result areas for the project/programme</b></p> <p><b>Mitigation:</b> Reduced emissions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Energy access and power generation: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Low emission transport: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Buildings, cities and industries and appliances: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and land use: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> </ul> <p><b>Adaptation:</b> Increased resilience of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Most vulnerable people and communities: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Health and well-being, and food and water security: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure and built environment: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ecosystem and ecosystem services: <u>Enter number</u> %</li> </ul>				
<b>A.5. Impact potential</b>				
A.5.1. Estimated mitigation impact (CO2eq over project lifespan)		<u>Enter number</u> tCO2eq		
A.5.2. Estimated adaptation impact (number of direct beneficiaries)		<u>Enter number</u> direct beneficiaries		
A.5.3. Estimated adaptation impact (number of indirect beneficiaries)		<u>Enter number</u> indirect beneficiaries		
A.5.4. Estimated adaptation impact (% of total population)		<u>Enter number</u> % of the country's total population		
<b>A.6. Financing information</b>				
A.6.1. Indicative GCF funding requested (max USD 25M)				
Amount: <u>Enter amount</u> Currency: <u>Select currency</u> Financial Instrument: <u>Choose an item</u> * Please expand the information if needed.				
A.6.2. Indicative co-financing				
Amount: <u>Enter amount</u> Currency: <u>Select currency</u> Financial Instrument: <u>Choose an item</u> * Please expand the information if needed.				
A.6.3. Indicative total project cost (GCF + co-financing)				
Amount: <u>Enter amount</u> Currency: <u>Select currency</u>				
<b>A.7. Implementation period:</b>				
a) disbursement period: b) implementation period, if applicable:		A.7.2. Total project programme lifespan		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		A.9. Is the Environmental and Social Safeguards Category C or 1-3? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
A.10. Provide rationale for the ESS categorization (max 100 words)				
A.11. Has the CN been shared with the NDA?				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		A.12. Confidentiality?		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Confidential <input type="checkbox"/> Not confidential		
A.13. Executing Entity information				
Brief summary of the executing entity including implementation arrangements.				

\* Concept notes or sections of not marked as confidential may be published in accordance with the Information Disclosure Policy (Guidance 3.2.2) and the Review of the Initial Proposal Review Process (Guidance 3.2.2)

✓ Concept note submission is **OPTIONAL**  
(but highly encouraged)

✓ Can be submitted by **AE and/or NDA**

✓ Must follow the **SAP CN template**

✓ Must be presented with **Environmental and Social screening checklist (Annex I)**

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# SAP Funding proposal preparation



GCF DOCUMENTATION

PROJECTS

## Simplified Approval Process Funding Proposal

Project/Programme title: *Please indicate the project title. Ideally this should reference the country where the project/programme will be implemented.*


Countries: *List all the countries where the project/programme will be implemented.*

National Designated Authority(ies): *Indicate the National Designated Authority(ies) of the country(ies) where the project/programme will be implemented. This should match the GCF on the submitted no objection letter(s).*

Accredited Entity: *Indicate the accredited entity submitting this proposal.*

Date of first submission: *YYYYMMDD*

Date of current submission/ version number: *YYYYMMDD (V.000)*



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### Contents

**Section A PROJECT / PROGRAMME SUMMARY**  
This section highlights some of the project's or programme's information for ease of access and concise explanation of the funding proposal.

**Section B PROJECT / PROGRAMME DETAILS**  
This section focuses on describing the context of the project/programme, providing details of the project/programme including components, outputs and activities, and implementation arrangements.

**Section C FINANCING INFORMATION**  
This section explains the financial instrument(s) and amount of funding requested from the GCF as well as co-financing leveraged for the project/programme. It also includes justification for requesting GCF funding and exit strategy.

**Section D EXPECTED PERFORMANCE AGAINST INVESTMENT CRITERIA**  
This section provides an overview of the expected alignment of the project/programme with the GCF investment criteria: impact potential, paradigm shift, sustainable development, needs of recipients, country ownership, and efficiency and effectiveness.

**Section E ANNEXES**  
This section provides a list of mandatory documents that should be submitted with the funding proposal as well as optional documents and references as deemed necessary to supplement the information provided in the funding proposal.

**Notes to accredited entities on the use of the SAP funding proposal template**

- The Simplified Approval Process Pilot Scheme (SAP) supports projects and programmes with a GCF contribution of up to USD 25 million with minimal to no environmental and social risks. Projects and programmes are eligible for SAP if they are ready for scaling up and have the potential for transformation, promoting a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development.
- This template is for the SAP funding proposals and is different from the funding proposal template under the standard project and programme cycle. Distinctive features of the SAP funding proposal template are:
  - **Simpler documents:** key documents have been simplified, and presented in a single, up-front list.
  - **Fewer pages:** A shorter form with significantly fewer pages. The total length of funding proposals should not exceed 20 pages; annexes can be used to provide details as necessary.
  - **Easier form-filling:** fewer questions and clearer guidance allows more concise and succinct responses for each sub-section, avoiding duplication of information.
- Accredited entities can either directly incorporate information into this proposal, or provide summary information in the proposal with cross-reference to other funding proposal documents such as project appraisal document, pre-feasibility studies, term sheet, legal due diligence report, etc.
- Submitted SAP Pilot Scheme funding proposals will be disclosed simultaneously with submission to the Board, subject to the redaction of any information which may not be disclosed pursuant to the [GCF Information Disclosure Policy](#).
- For more information on how to develop Funding Proposals under the SAP please refer to the [Simplified Approval Process \(SAP\) Funding proposal guidelines](#).

✓ Must be submitted by AE

✓ Reduced number of Annexes

✓ Must follow the SAP FP template

✓ Should be submitted within 20-page limit

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# SAP documentation & guidance overview



## SAP GUIDANCE DOCUMENTATION OVERVIEW

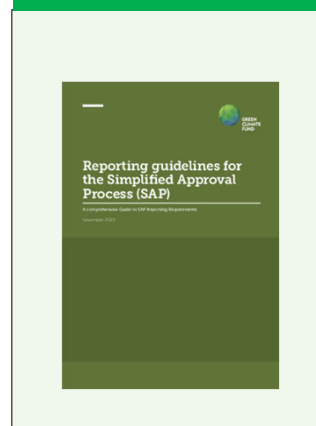
### Guidelines for FPs and CNs



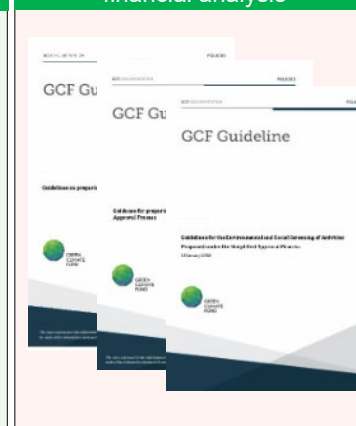
### Technical compendium & sector guidelines



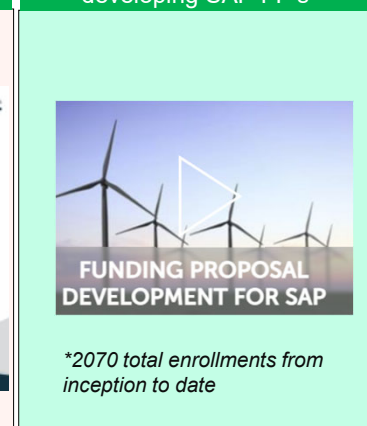
### Reporting guidelines



### Guidelines for ESS, economic & financial analysis



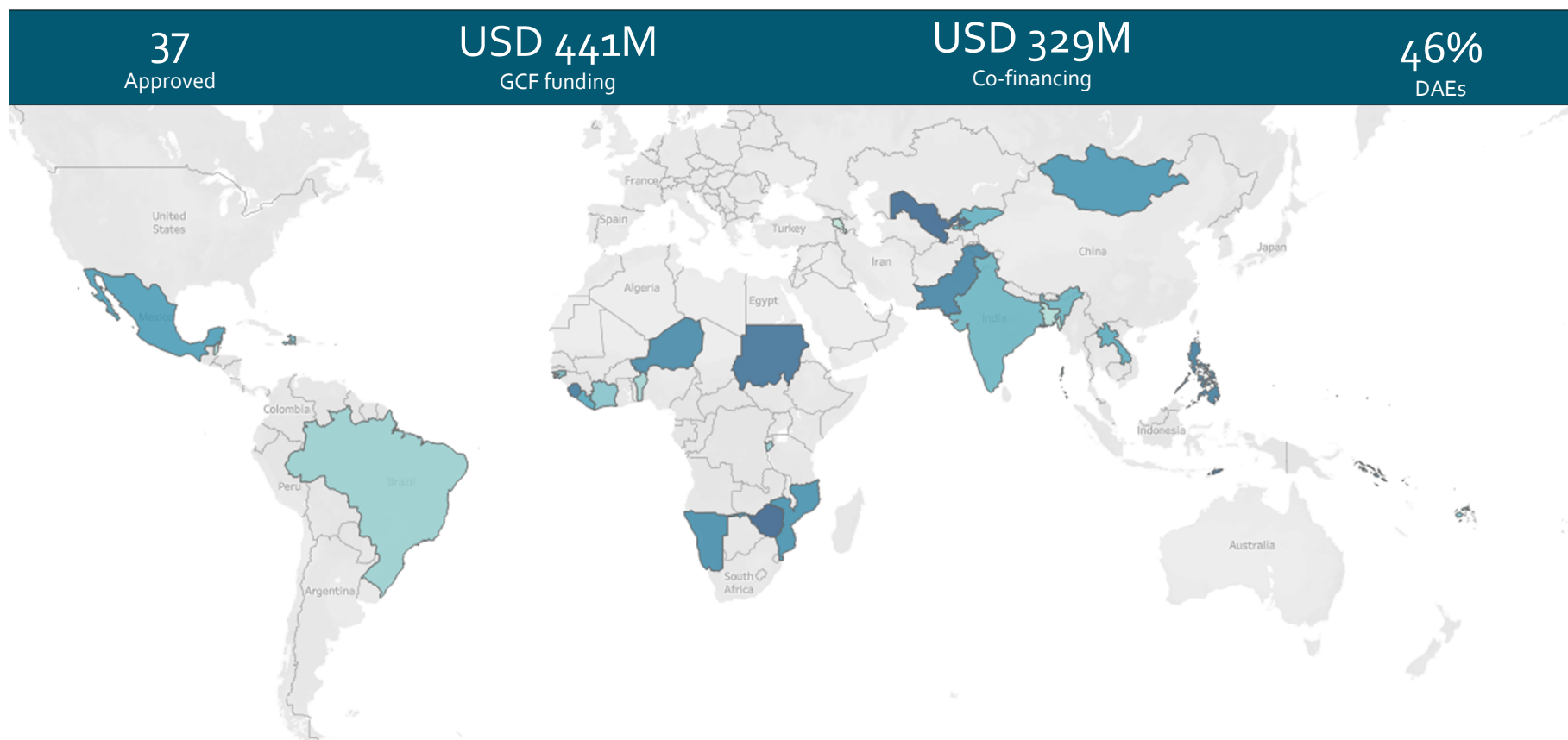
### E-Learning module on developing SAP FP's\*



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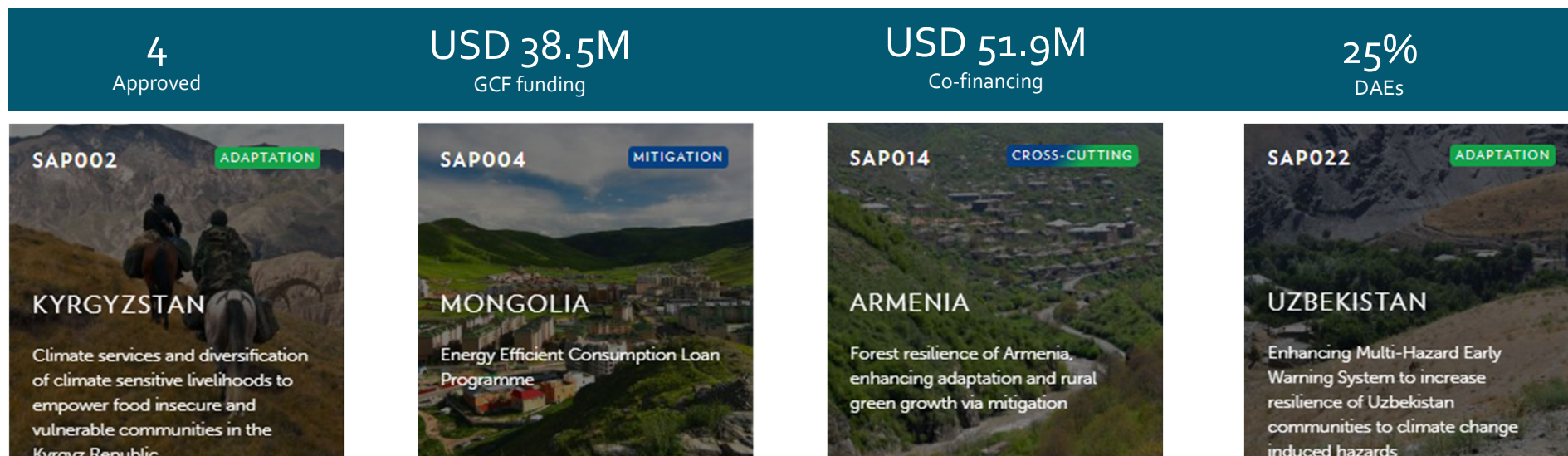
# SAP portfolio overview



# EECA SAP overview



## SAP Portfolio:



## SAP Pipeline:



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# — Scaling up approach



## Quantitative

Expanding the project's reach across wider geographic areas through strategic sequencing and extension of activities both within the country and across the region

## Functional

Broadening the spectrum of project activities to ensure continuity, address any existing shortcomings, and integrate more inclusive aspects to enhance overall impact

## Institutional

Building and reinforcing institutional capabilities at all levels, from community through to local, regional, and national stages

# — Scaling up - Benefits & incentives



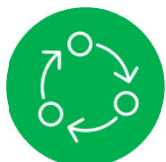
## **ACCESS**

Enhanced access to resources to strengthen the impact of successful completed projects, or projects under implementation with demonstrated success on the ground



## **EFFICIENCY**

Reduced transaction costs and time efficiency in the overall project review cycle



## **SUSTAINABILITY**

Sustainability and continuation of results achieved by the initial project interventions



## **SYNERGY**

Coordinated efforts with other regional or national investments to leverage impacts and achieve synergetic effects

# Criteria



Project alignment with country climate policies and strategies.	National plans (NDCs, NAPs), Consultations with the National Designated Authorities (NDA)
Successful project review	Mid-term Progress Reports, Evaluation Reports
Project sustainability	Evidence that project results are sustainable
Leveraging potential	Partner and project mapping for potential leverage

# — CREWS Scaling up Framework



The Scaling-up Framework accelerates GCF financing for early warning systems via the Simplified Approval Process (SAP) in collaboration with Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS). It boosts country ownership, scales successes, and promotes sustainability. This framework provides synergies and cuts costs and time. It aligns with GCF's strategic focus on EWS investments.

## CREWS Implementing Partners



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# — Early warning value chain pillars



## 1. Detection, observations, monitoring, analysis and forecasting of hazards & possible consequences

**National output 1:** NMHS's service delivery improved, including the development of long-term service delivery strategies and development plans.

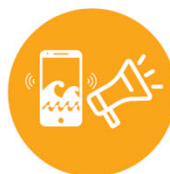
**Regional output:** Institutional and human capacities at WMO and intergovernmental organisations to provide regional climate/weather services to LDCs and SIDS increased



## 2. Disaster risk knowledge

**National output 2:** Risk information to guide early warning systems and climate and weather services developed and accessible.

**Regional output:** Institutional and human capacities at WMO and intergovernmental organisations to provide regional climate/weather services to LDCs and SIDS increased



## 3. Warning dissemination & communication

**National output 3:** Information and communication technology, including common alerting protocols, strengthened



## 4. Preparedness & response capabilities

**National output 4:** Preparedness and response plans with operational procedures that outlines early warning dissemination processes developed and accessible;

**National output 5:** Knowledge products and awareness programmes on early warnings developed;

**National output 5:** Gender-sensitive training, capacity building programmes provided.

# — Scaling up with Adaptation Fund\*



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## Senegal Coastal Protection

Combat coastal erosion; built dikes and seawalls; success through local capacity building and awareness.

## Maldives Water Management

Ensure freshwater access; integrated desalination and rainwater harvesting; stakeholder involvement crucial.

## Pakistan GLOF Risks Reduction

Address glacier lake outburst floods; developed community-based disaster management; government structure integration key.

## Rwanda Community-Based Adaptation

Increased adaptive capacity to climate change; emphasized risk reduction, community engagement, and sustainable practices.

## Georgia Flood Management:

Introduced floodplain development policy; inclusiveness and participatory approach pivotal.

## India Coastal Resource Management

Restored mangroves, demonstrated fishery farming systems; community awareness and self-sustainability led to success.

## Success Factors:

Proof of concept, project sustainability, strong local stakeholder engagement, enhanced relevance of project interventions

## Challenges:

Financing constraints, institutional support, information gaps, complexity

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\*Source: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Scaling-up-adaptation-finance.pdf>





**Thank you**