

Country Ownership

March 2024

Governing Instrument

The **Governing Instrument** sets out that:

- ❖ GCF will pursue and provide access to funding through a country-driven approach and that its operational modalities will be consistent with a country-driven approach

GCF Country ownership policies set out the principles and processes through which GCF will seek to operationalize a country-driven approach.

They elaborate guidance on:

- ❖ Establishment of Nationally Designated Authorities (NDA) and focal points,
- ❖ Establishment of a no-objection procedure,
- ❖ Development of country programmes, and
- ❖ Conduct of multi-sectoral country coordination processes.

Main decisions

Business model framework – Country ownership / National Designated Authorities

Decision [B.04/05](#) affirms country ownership as a core principle of the Fund and sets out responsibilities of NDAs/focal points.

Country ownership

Decision [B.10/10](#) sets out best practice guidelines for the establishment of NDAs/focal points and approach to strengthen their role in establishing country ownership. It further sets out best practice options for country coordination and multi-stakeholder engagement.

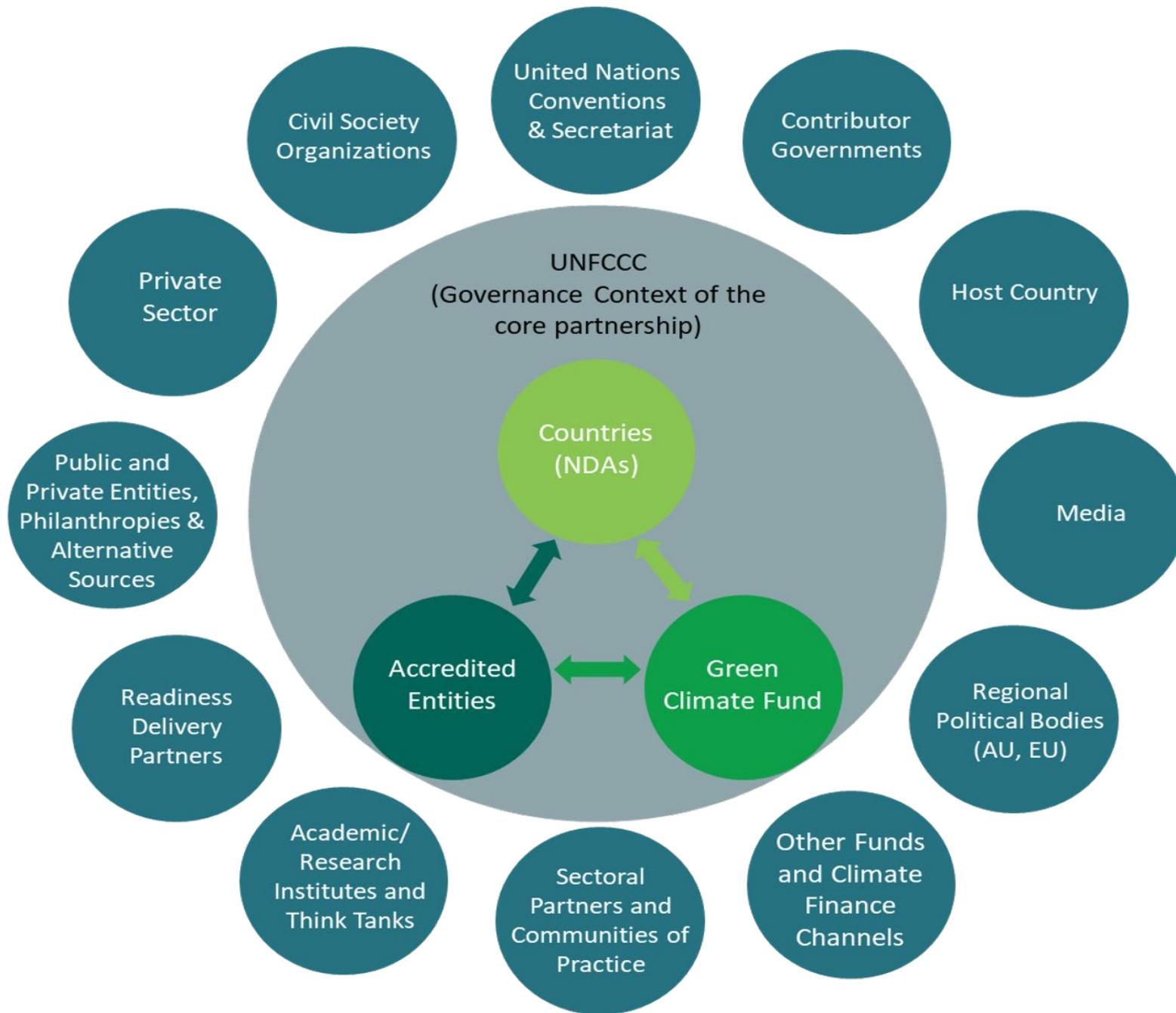
Guidelines for enhanced country ownership and country drivenness

Decision [B.17/21](#). Sets out guidelines for enhanced country ownership and country drivenness, covering guiding principles, role of country programmes and structured dialogues, role of country ownership in the Fund's operating modalities, and evaluation.

Main decisions

Key elements:

- ❖ The need to recognize that country ownership is an ongoing and evolving process;
- ❖ The importance of NDAs/FPs having sufficient capacity and capability to adequately perform their functions;
- ❖ The potential for the development of country programmes to contribute to the strengthening of country ownership;
- ❖ The need for country ownership to continue throughout the project cycle, from readiness activities, and the pre-concept stage, through implementation to monitoring and evaluation of a project or programme;
- ❖ The importance of ensuring effective engagement of and ownership by relevant national and sub-national stakeholders such as the local governments at the municipal or village level, private sector, local communities, academia and civil society organizations, including indigenous peoples and women's organizations, throughout the project cycle, in line with the initial best-practice options for country coordination and multistakeholder engagement



Panel discussion

In keeping with the various Board Decisions and policies on country ownership, this session seeks to discuss how these instruments are translated to practice at country, exploring the coordinating role of the NDA, effectiveness of existing country multisectoral platforms that guide GCF programming.

The session will explore country experiences and the role of various actors as reflected in the diagram in GCF programming.