



# GCF Regional Dialogue with Latin America

## Agenda

15-17 September 2025

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

# DAY 1

15 September 2025 – Monday

## From national climate objectives to investment pipelines



08:00-09:00	Registration & Networking
09:00-10:00	<p><b>Opening Ceremony</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo, Embassy Suites by Hilton Hotel   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator: Cayetano Casado</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kristin Lang, Regional Director Latin America and the Caribbean, Green Climate Fund (GCF)</li> <li>Cayetano Casado, Subregional Lead, GCF</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>The Dialogue will open with remarks from the Regional Director, framing the objectives and expected outcomes of the event. This will be followed by an overview from the Subregional Head on the Green Climate Fund's engagement in Latin America, highlighting the status of the portfolio, key partnerships, and opportunities for enhanced regional collaboration</p>
10:00-10:30	Coffee Break
10:30-12:30	<p><b>Session 1: Climate change, vulnerability and impact</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator: Katarzyna Rzucidlo</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jaime Tramón, National Designated Authority, Republic of Chile</li> <li>Valeria Arlette Garcia, Director Project Development, Conservation International</li> <li>Katarzyna Rzucidlo, Sector Senior Specialist, Human Settlements and Infrastructure, GCF</li> <li>Kyung Chul Lee, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, GCF</li> </ul> <p><b>Group Discussion</b></p> <p>This session explores best practices for aligning climate data with national priorities and crafting comprehensive climate narratives. In the second half, participants will learn how to translate these narratives into effective Theories of Change. Real-world project examples from GCF partners will be shared to illustrate practical applications.</p>
12:30-13:30	Lunch & Networking
13:30-15:30	<p><b>Session 2: Strengthening the climate investment ecosystem</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator: Mahendra Saywack</p> <p><b>Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeniffer Hanna Collado, LAC Regional Manager, NDC Partnership</li> <li>Natalia Mrowczynska, Strategy &amp; Policy Officer, GCF</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion: Experience exchange on Country Platforms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ivan Cruz, Director of Financial Mechanisms and Portfolio Management, National Designated Authority of the Dominican Republic</li> <li>Abdiel Douglas, Climate Change Analyst, National Designated Authority of the Republic of Panama</li> <li>Francisco Ohana, Economist, Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social</li> <li>Maarten Ooms, Climate Investment Manager, GCF</li> <li>Rajeev Mahajan, Climate Investment Manager, GCF</li> </ul> <p>This session will explore how countries can transform strategic climate objectives into robust, bankable project pipelines by strengthening institutional alignment, policy coherence, and private sector engagement. Participants will examine the Climate Investment Planning and Mobilization Framework, learn from regional examples, and clarify the role of country platforms in coordinating climate priorities. The session highlights the necessity of holistic collaboration among NDAs, AEs, ministries, and banks to advance scalable climate solutions and unlock investment opportunities.</p>

15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-17:30	<p><b>Session 3: Standards that Drive Impact: Safeguards for Lasting Change</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator: Cayetano Casado</p> <p><b>Presentations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jose Frazier Gomez, Environment &amp; Social Specialist, GCF</li> <li>• Carlos Lopez, Líder de Economías Propias de la OPIAC</li> <li>• Bayartsetseg Jigmiddash, Outreach &amp; Engagement Manager, IIU, GCF</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>This session will explore how GCF's operational and integrity safeguards—such as Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender Policy, and Indigenous Peoples Policy—are integral to achieving effective and sustainable climate project outcomes. Participants will examine real-world examples where these standards have enhanced project credibility and impact. The discussion will highlight that safeguards are more than compliance, serving as a foundation for quality programming and implementation.</p>
17.30- 18.30	<p><b>Networking and scheduled bilateral meetings</b></p> <p>Salón Acquamarina Sur and designated meeting rooms</p>
19:00	<p><b>Dinner reception hosted by the Dominican Republic</b></p> <p>Zola Restaurante (Kimpton Las Mercedes), Zona Colonial</p>

## Maximizing GCF's value added in paradigm shifting climate projects

09:00-10:00

### Session 4: GCF's comparative advantages – risk appetite and concessionality

Salón Ópalo | Interpretation English-Spanish

Moderator: Grace Lee

#### Presentation

- Introductory remarks (video): Huishu Ji, Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, Green Climate Fund
- GCF risk appetite and concessionality (online): Andrii Kulikov, Lead Risk Specialist, GCF
- Case study: Maarten Ooms, Climate Investment Manager, GCF

This session explores how GCF's risk appetite and concessional finance drive transformative climate projects, featuring real examples from the private sector and the region. Participants will gain insights into GCF's financial tools and learn what structures are viable for project support.

#### Mini Contest: Structuring Challenge

Participants will be given a hypothetical project idea card and requested to design a financial structure, answering the following questions:

- Which GCF financial instruments could make it viable?
- What is the level of concessionality required?

GCF panel will provide feedback and select the most innovative idea.

10:00-10:30

Coffee Break

10:30-12:30

### Session 5: What is a Paradigm Shift?

Salón Ópalo | Interpretation English-Spanish

Moderator: Marc Dumas-Johansen

#### Introductory Video (10 minutes)

#### Presentations

- Marc Dumas-Johansen, Agriculture, Food Security and Forest Specialist, Green Climate Fund and Adria Llach, Project Officer, GCF
- Claudia Godfrey Ruiz, Director of Innovation and Strategy, Profonampe

#### Case study exercise at each table (45 mins)

This session introduces the GCF's core mandate to catalyze paradigm shifts toward low-emission, climate-resilient development. It's about transforming systems, behaviors, or sectors in a lasting and scalable way.

12:30-13:30

Lunch & Networking

13:30-15:30

### Session 6: Readiness and PPF support: Building Blocks for Transformative Impact

Salón Ópalo | Interpretation English-Spanish

Moderator: Valentina Villoria

#### Presentations

- Valentina Villoria, Regional Officer for Latin America, GCF
- Grecia Paniagua, Readiness Support Consultant, GCF
- Ishak Mohammed, Project Officer, Project Preparation Facility, GCF

#### Panel discussion: Experience exchange on planning readiness

- Leandro Moreno, National Designated Authority of the Republic of Colombia
- Wenceslao Carrera, National Designated Authority of the Republic of Cuba
- Graciela Reyes, Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza

This session will explore the GCF Readiness Strategy 2024-2027 as a flexible tool to address capacity gaps and support climate investment, highlighting the roles of Readiness windows and the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) in strengthening institutions and developing pipelines. Participants will gain practical insights into new tools, IT systems, and collaboration strategies, and learn how readiness and PPF can bridge critical programming gaps.

15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
16:00-17:30	<b>Networking and scheduled bilateral meetings</b> Salón Acquamarina Sur and designated meeting rooms

## SIDE EVENTS

16:00-17:00	<p><b>Closed Door Side Event: Revised Accreditation Framework Exchange with National Designated Authorities – Department of Investment Services</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Presenter: Olena Borysova, Senior Accreditation Specialist, GCF</p> <p>This session covers the effects of the recently approved Revised Accreditation Framework on the accreditation process and project cycle from a National Designated Authority perspective.</p>
17:00-18:00	<p><b>Side event Readiness and PPF Clinic with UNOPS</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Presenter: Tianshu Zhang, UNOPS</p> <p>Building on UNOPS' extensive experience in supporting Delivery Partners with the implementation of Readiness and PPF projects since 2018, this session will take a comprehensive look at the full cycle of delivery from project set up to closure. This session will provide a deep dive into implementation challenges, good practices, lessons learned, and key recommendations to strengthen design, management, and impact. The interactive session will also include the opportunity for participants to share their own experiences, ask questions and raise individual queries</p>

# DAY 3

17 September 2025 – Wednesday



## Achieving ambitions impact through strong implementation and learning

9:00-10:30	<p><b>Session 7: Accountability, Integrity and GCF</b></p> <p>Salon Opalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator: Bayartsetseg Jigmiddash</p> <p><b>Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bayartsetseg Jigmiddash, Outreach &amp; Engagement Manager, Independent Integrity Unit</li> <li>• Paul Goodwin, Compliance and Policy Lead, Independent Redress Mechanism Unit</li> <li>• Andrew Thomas Bosz, Compliance Officer, Office of the Chief Finance and Risk Officer</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>This session explores GCF accountability mechanisms and their mandates, highlights the zero-tolerance stance on integrity risks, and clarifies compliance obligations for Accredited Entities including monitoring, reporting, and grievance handling.</p>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-12:00	<p><b>Session 8: The Revised Accreditation Framework</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator: Olena Borysova</p> <p><b>Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Olena Borysova, Senior Accreditation Specialist, GCF</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>This session provides an overview of the revised GCF accreditation framework, highlighting the principal changes approved at the 42nd Board meeting. It will discuss the implications for National Designated Authorities, potential applicants, and existing Accredited Entities, as well as those currently undergoing accreditation. Participants will gain insight into new strategic considerations and how these updates affect their engagement with the GCF.</p>
12:00-13:00	<p><b>Session 9: Adaptive management</b></p> <p>Salón Ópalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderators: Emilio Laguillo-Gutierrez, Kyung Chul Lee</p> <p><b>Presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emilio Laguillo-Gutierrez, Portfolio Management Specialist, GCF</li> <li>• Kyung Chul Lee, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, GCF</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A</b></p> <p>This session introduces adaptive management as a practical approach for ensuring resilient project delivery in unpredictable environments. It emphasizes the importance of designing programs with flexibility and learning mechanisms, closely tied to the Theory of Change. Participants will hear from project implementers who have successfully navigated challenges through adaptive management, and will gain clarity on common triggers for adaptation, as well as GCF expectations for well-designed projects.</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch & Networking
14:00-16:00	<p><b>Session 10: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning &amp; New Monitoring and Accountability Framework</b></p> <p>Salon Opalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator Parshanth Kotturi</p> <p><b>Presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Olena Borysova, updated MAF: institutional and project level reporting</li> <li>• Rishabh Moudgill, GCF's Evaluation Policy, Independent Evaluation Unit</li> <li>• Oscar Garcia and Prashanth Kotturi, Department of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning,</li> </ul>

	<p>Outline of the planned MEL capacity development.</p> <p>This session explores the newly updated Monitoring and Accountability Framework, highlighting key changes at both institutional and project levels. Participants will learn about GCF's MEL framework, the role of the Independent Evaluation Unit. The Session will also share an initial outline of the MEL capacity development programme being planned by GCF Secretariat for GCF's AEs as well as country level stakeholders. Overall objective is to socialise GCF's expectations pertaining to monitoring and accountability from its partners and also share GCF's plan to support its partners in fulfilling such roles.</p>
16:00-16:30	<b>CLOSING CEREMONY</b>
16:30-18:30	<p><b>Networking and scheduled bilateral meetings</b></p> <p>Salón Acquamarina Sur and designated meeting rooms</p>
18:30-20:30	<p><b>Networking reception hosted by the GCF</b></p> <p>27<sup>th</sup> floor of the Embassy Suites hotel</p>

## SIDE EVENTS

16:30-17:30	<p><b>Tropical Forest Forever Facility. REDD+ Results Based Payment</b></p> <p>Salon Opalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Presenter: Marc Dumas-Johansen, Agriculture and Food Security and Forest Specialist, Emilio Laguillo-Gutierrez, Portfolio Management Specialist, GCF</p> <p>The side event will present the Tropical Forest Forever Facility and how countries can use GCF readiness to meet the eligibility criteria of the Facility.</p> <p>In addition, the side event will also present the recently approved REDD+ Results Based Payment policy and new templates and user guides for payments for past results in 2018-2022 and technical and operational aspects. UNDP will share lessons learned from past REDD+ RBP projects in Ecuador, Brazil and Costa Rica under the REDD+ RBP pilot programme (2018-2022).</p>
17:30-18:30	<p><b>Maximizing synergies across Rio Conventions through GCF Projects and Programmes</b></p> <p>Salon Opalo   Interpretation English-Spanish</p> <p>Moderator: Fumihiko Tominaga</p> <p><b>Scene-setting presentations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marc Dumas-Johansen, Agriculture, Food Security and Forest Specialist, GCF</li> <li>• Nancy Moreno, Programme Management Officer, UNCCD</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel discussion</b></p> <p><i>Moderated by Marc Dumas-Johansen, Green Climate Fund</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lucas Black, Vice President, World Wildlife Fund</li> <li>• Valeria Garcia, Director, Conservation International</li> <li>• Nadia Mujica, Regional Multilateral Portfolio Manager, International Union for Conservation of Nature</li> <li>• Bettina Prato, Lead Policy and Technical Advisor, International Fund for Agricultural Development</li> </ul> <p>The side event "Maximizing synergies across Rio Conventions through GCF Projects" will bring together NDAs, AEs, Delivery Partners, and regional organizations to showcase how GCF projects deliver multiple co-benefits that advance national priorities under the UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, and other environmental treaties. Moderated by Fumi with a panel led by Marc, the session will feature scene-setting presentations and a panel exchange with WWF, CI, IUCN, IFAD, and UNCCD, highlighting case studies in land use, water, forest sectors. Discussions will explore how integrated project design can simultaneously build resilience, conserve biodiversity, and strengthen food security, while addressing institutional and technical challenges. The event aims to distill practical lessons, foster peer learning, and equip participants with actionable insights to enhance synergistic, multi-sectoral approaches in future GCF programming.</p>

