

GREEN CLIMATE FUND READINESS AND PREPARATORY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

A FACTSHEET FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

What is the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme?

Developing countries that are vulnerable to the effects of climate change and/or plan activities to reduce CO₂ emissions can access resources from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The Fund has established the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme¹ (the Readiness Programme) which is meant to promote country ownership. Since its operationalization in 2014, the Programme has been providing early support activities to enhance ownership and enable access to the GCF resources. Supported activities aim to strengthen countries' engagement with the Fund and maximize the impacts of funded projects or programmes locally.

What activities can be supported under the Readiness Programme?

Activities in five areas can be supported by the Programme:

- 1 Establishing and strengthening National Designated Authorities (NDAs) or Focal points (FPs);
- 2 Strategic frameworks, including the preparation of country programmes;
- 3 Support for accreditation and accredited entities;
- 4 Initial pipelines of programme and project proposals;
- 5 Information sharing, experience exchange and learning.

Under the **first activity area**, the NDAs or FPs of developing countries can receive funding for training their staff members in areas relevant to the objectives of the GCF. Supported activities can also aim to strengthen the NDAs or FPs' institutional capacities or support the ongoing engagement of stakeholders.

The **second activity area** includes activities like identifying strategic investment priorities and taking stock of existing strategies (e.g. LEDS, NAMA, NAPs, NAPAs)². Moreover, the GCF supports the development of country programmes that strengthen engagement of stakeholders, including governments, sub-national institutions, civil society and the private sector.

Within the **third activity area**, the GCF supports in-depth assessments of the entities' institutional capacity, fiduciary standards and environmental and social safeguards (ESS). In addition, it provides institutional gap assessments for direct access entities seeking accreditation.

The **fourth activity area** encompasses activities that generally support upstream activities for large proposals or country-level project scoping. This can include supporting an enabling environment and market creation activities.

Within the **fifth activity area**, the GCF can fund regional workshops with NDAs/FPs and different stakeholders, including the Regional Structured Dialogues, to raise awareness of the emerging modalities of the Fund and opportunities to engage. The GCF is also in the process of building a roster of experts in the various regions who can provide full-time support to different stakeholders.

Additionally, the GCF can provide capacity building for national or regional institutions (Direct Access Entities, DAEs) that are nominated by their NDAs/FPs. Support can be provided to enhance the ability of an entity to seek accreditation with the Fund, including for the fast-track accreditation process (pre-accreditation support). This support can in addition build the capacities of DAEs that are already accredited with the GCF (post-accreditation support). In each case, the readiness funds will be allocated in coordination with, and with the approval of, the relevant NDAs/FPs.

How much funding is available under the Readiness Programme?

Following the operationalization of the Readiness Programme, the Board of the GCF has approved as of 2018 a total budget of **USD 190 million** for its implementation. 50% of the readiness support is intended to be allocated to particularly vulnerable states (Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries and African States).

Up to **USD 1 million per country per year** may be provided under the Readiness Programme. Of this amount, NDAs or FPs may request up to **USD 300,000 per year** to help establish or strengthen an NDA or FP to deliver on the Fund's requirements.

190
million USD
total budget
as of 2018

¹ The GCF Secretariat has prepared a detailed [Readiness and Preparatory Support Guidebook](#), with useful information.

² See next page

What is the role of the NDAs/FPs?

The NDA leads all deployment of readiness and preparatory support funding. It either serves as the direct beneficiary of the readiness support or selects Delivery Partners, such as international organizations and other international, regional, national, sub-national, public or private institutions well versed in readiness activities. Delivery Partners can provide services to implement activities approved under the Readiness Programme, such as development of readiness request proposals; implementation and supervision; fiduciary management; progress reporting; and project completion and evaluation.

How is the application process under the Readiness Programme organized?

To apply for readiness support, the NDA or FP is responsible for completing the [readiness proposal template](#). The Delivery Partner may help the NDA/FP in completing the request. If applicable, the [Financial Management Capacity Assessment \(FMCA\) Template](#)³ should be submitted to the GCF in addition to the readiness request.

Project Preparation Facility (PPF)

What activities does the Project Preparation Facility support?

Not formally part of the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) of the GCF supports project and programme preparation requests from all accredited entities, with a special focus on direct access entities and for micro-to-small size category projects. Eligible activities for funding are the following:

- Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, and project design;
- Environmental, social and gender studies;
- Risk assessments;
- Identification of programme- and project-level indicators;
- Pre-contract services, including the revision of tender documents;
- Advisory services and/or other services to financially structure a proposed activity;
- Other project preparation activities; where necessary, and with sufficient justification.

How much funding is available in the Project Preparation Facility?

The Board of the GCF decided in its 13th meeting to make USD 40 million available for the initial phase of the Project

Preparation Facility. Each request is subject to a cap of 10 per cent of requested GCF funding, with a maximum of USD 1.5 million for any single proposal.

How is the application process under the Project Preparation Facility organized?

Project Preparation Facility requests are developed by Accredited Entities in consultation with the NDA or FP and with support from the GCF Secretariat. To ensure country ownership, the Accredited Entity should consult with the NDA/FP and explain in an additional paragraph, how the underlying project fits to the country's national priorities. The Accredited Entity then submits the finished PPF application⁴ to the GCF Secretariat, along with a no-objection letter endorsed by the respective NDA or FP.

National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

How does the Green Climate Fund support the formulation of National Adaptation Plans?

The GCF supports the formulation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) through its Readiness Programme. The main vehicle for the provision of funds is the newly established **sixth activity area** under the Readiness Programme. Each country can request up to USD 3 million for the formulation of NAPs and/or other adaptation planning processes⁵.

Activities supported by the Readiness Programme

Readiness activities (area 1-5)



NAPs (area 6)



PPF



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2 See previous page: LEDS = Low-Emission Development Strategy, NAMAs = Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions, NAP = National Adaptation Plans or Planning, NAPAs = National Adaptation Programmes of Action

3 The FMCA is an assessment conducted by the GCF for organizations who are not AEs, but are selected by NDAs to serve as their Delivery Partner for implementing readiness activities.

4 The [application template](#) is available on the GCF website.

5 For this area, the cap of USD 1 million per country per year does not apply.