

**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

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Annual update on complementarity and coherence

Summary

This report presents an annual update on activities conducted by the Secretariat to strengthen complementarity and enhance coherence among operations and processes across climate finance institutions, in line with decision B.17/04. The document reports on the progress made and outputs from implementing the operational framework for complementarity and coherence with respect to enhancing complementarity at the activity level, promoting coherence at the national programming level, and advancing complementarity and collaboration among climate funds.

I. Introduction

1. By decision B.17/04, the Board adopted the operational framework for complementarity and coherence (hereinafter “operational framework”) with a view to strengthening complementarity and enhancing coherence among operations and processes across climate finance institutions. The Board also requested the Secretariat to present a report on the progress made and outputs from the operational framework for consideration by the Board in 2018, and to provide an annual update thereafter. This document responds to that request.

II. Update on progress across the four pillars

2. The implementation of the operational framework has focused on collaboration with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), including the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), the Adaptation Fund (AF) and the Climate Investment Funds (CIF), using the following four pillars of the framework:

- (a) Pillar I: Board-level discussions on fund-to-fund arrangements;
- (b) Pillar II: enhanced complementarity at the activity level;
- (c) Pillar III: promotion of coherence at the national programming level; and
- (d) Pillar IV: complementarity at the level of delivery of climate finance through an established dialogue.

2.1 Pillar I: Board-level discussions on fund-to-fund arrangements

3. Under Pillar I, governing bodies of the respective funds can explore opportunities for complementarity and coherence that might entail changes to their existing business models, governance structures, and/or policies.

2.1.1. New Readiness Strategy 2024-2027

4. At its thirty-seventh meeting (B.37), the GCF Board adopted the new Readiness Strategy for 2024-2027 (decision B.37/17), building on the results of the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme delivered over the past eight years. This updated strategy focuses on strengthening country capacities and strategic frameworks, developing a transformative project pipeline, and enhancing knowledge-sharing to support national climate goals.

5. The new strategy plays a crucial role in promoting complementarity and coherence, as readiness activities are expected to facilitate country-led coordination, focusing on the advancement and implementation of national climate strategies, such as national adaptation plans and nationally determined contributions. This approach warrants that GCF readiness support is provided in coordination with various country stakeholders, including critical engagement with multilateral climate funds (MCFs) and other agencies within the broader climate finance architecture active in the country. Furthermore, the new strategic, medium-term approach to planning and requesting support of the programme, which is based on deploying ‘systems thinking,’ requires a comprehensive account of all relevant capacity-building efforts in the country to optimize GCF’s readiness resource utilization for maximum impact. This approach aims not only to reduce fragmentation in addressing capacity gaps and building countries’ abilities to design and implement successful climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts but also to enhance coordination. Importantly, it enables countries to leverage multiple funding sources, including those of other climate funds, more effectively, creating a more coherent and synergized pathway for achieving their climate objectives.

2.1.2. Draft Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence

6. As part of the operationalization of the framework on complementarity and coherence, the Secretariat has strengthened its collaboration with the other MCFs over the past year. This started with a commitment made at the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to deepen the partnership between the Secretariats of the Funds and to develop a draft action plan outlining options and modalities enhancing access to climate finance and increasing the impact of the MCFs' work in support of developing countries' climate goals. At B.39, the consultation draft of the MCFs Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence was presented for consideration of the Board. This draft has also been submitted for consideration by the governing bodies of the other MCFs. The Board members provided their comments and observations and adopted decision B.39/15, which, among others, welcomed the efforts made on the draft Action Plan as a contribution to enhancing coherence and complementarity between the MCFs and within the international climate finance architecture. Further, the Board requested the Secretariat to coordinate with the other MCFs to reflect the Board's comments and observations in the further refinement of the draft Action Plan; and also requested the Secretariat to update on progress in the development of the draft Action Plan as part of its reporting on the Operational Framework on Complementarity and Coherence.

7. In line with this mandate, the Secretariat has reviewed the comments made by the GCF Board, both as part of the consultation ahead of B.39 (as captured in the matrix of comments) and during Board discussions during B.39. Those comments have been reflected in discussions with the other MCFs which have also considered the respective comments and observations from the governing bodies of GEF and CIF. The final MCF, the Adaptation Fund, will review the consultation draft at its October Board Meeting, and the MCFs will then undertake a comprehensive review of comments received to inform the further development of the draft Action Plan. As the draft Action Plan is further refined, the unique mandates of each Fund will be respected. The Secretariat will keep the Board updated on significant progress and revisions of the draft Action Plan. The Secretariat will ensure that any adjustments take account of comments from the Board and will bring to the Board those matters that require its guidance or approval.

2.1.3. Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility

8. The GCF Strategic Plan for 2024-2027(USP-2) incorporates robust entry points to continue to enhance complementarity and coherence with GEF. Similarly, the GEF-8 Programming Directions and the Programming Strategy for the LDCF and SCCF for the GEF-8 period include provisions for enhancing coherence and complementarity among MCFs.

9. Welcomed by the governing bodies of GEF and GCF during the 60th GEF Council Meeting and at B.29 respectively, the Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence, and Collaboration between GCF and GEF (LTV) initiative continued to make significant progress over the course of its third year of implementation. Under the guidance of the senior leadership of the two institutions and the oversight of the LTV Steering Committee, the two secretariats have advanced their collaboration on several fronts, including by facilitating collaborative and coordinated country programming; sharing information, indicators, lessons learned, and knowledge; and organizing joint communication and outreach. Significant experience and a deeper understanding of collaborative approaches were further gained through regular interaction between the secretariats at strategic events, including at sessions of the UNFCCC COP and other Rio Conventions, as well as through cross-participation in meetings of the funds at the national, regional and global levels. Further details about the status of the LTV implementation can be found in annex I.

10. Based on the feedback from the governing bodies of the MCFs regarding the MCFs draft Action Plan, the focus of LTV could be adjusted to aligning and coordinating this bilateral

initiative with the work on complementarity and coherence across all four funds, thus, minimizing duplication, and sustaining momentum under the LTV. This may include maintaining progress in key engagement areas, such as joint programming in the identified pilot countries. Additionally, the upcoming GEF Trust Fund replenishment and LDCF and SCCF programming strategy negotiations for GEF-9, beginning on 1 July 2026, could provide a significant opportunity for continued collaboration between the two funds, including the GCF Secretariat's technical input and contribution to the development of programming documents as relevant.

2.1.4. Collaboration with the Adaptation Fund

11. Over the reporting period, GCF continued its active collaboration with the Adaptation Fund through relevant modalities, including fast-track accreditation the scaling-up approach and the updated simplified approval process, in line with decisions B.08/03 and B.32/05 and USP-2 provisions related to identifying opportunities for scaling up successes, as well as strengthening peer learning via the joint Adaptation Fund-GCF support for the Direct Access Entities Community of Practice.

12. At its forty-first meeting, the AF Board requested the AF secretariat to assess, in collaboration with the Accreditation Panel, the accreditation framework of the Green Climate Fund, including a gap analysis, and present the results of its assessment to the Board at its next meeting. This gap analysis was presented at its forty-second meeting, and collaboration between the AF and GCF accreditation panels was welcomed, aiming to strengthen the operational cooperation and improve the efficiency of accreditation process. The GCF Secretariat also took part in this meeting.

2.1.5. Collaboration with the Climate Investment Funds

13. In line with decision B.20/05, the GCF Secretariat and the CIF Administrative Unit continued to make progress on exploring potential synergy between GCF programming initiatives, including under the USP-2, and relevant programmes of the CIF. During its meeting in June 2024, the governing body of the CIF welcomed the work done on the MCFs' draft Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence and expressed that it looked forward to further updates on the development of the draft Action Plan in line with the MCF system and country needs.

2.1.6. Collaboration with the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage

14. In line with the request contained in decisions 1/CP.28 and 5/CMA.5, an interim secretariat of the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) was formed by the GCF Secretariat, alongside the UNFCCC secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to provide support, including administrative support, to the Board of the Fund during the transitional period. As part of this support, the GCF Secretariat supported the preparation and conduct of three meetings of its Board so far. Support provided to the Board included logistical and administrative aspects and substantive drafting of background papers for various agenda items. In addition, in accordance with the annex to decision B.39/11 (response to COP28 guidance), the GCF Board and Secretariat are to ensure coordination and complementarity in the context of the funding arrangements with the FRLD, taking into account decisions 1/CP.28 and 5/CMA.5. At its third meeting (Baku, 18–20 September 2024), the FRLD Board selected the first Executive Director for the Fund and finalized hosting arrangements for the secretariat of the Fund with the World Bank. These key developments in the full operationalization of the Fund and the upcoming launch event for the annual high-level dialogue on funding arrangements during COP29 provide opportunities for the start of engagement between the FRLD and GCF secretariats.

2.2 Pillar II: Enhanced complementarity at the activity level

15. Under the second pillar of the operational framework, GCF seeks to strengthen complementarity at the operational level and within the existing business models and policies of the different funds. Building on the ongoing efforts to encourage systematic complementarity across the operations and programming of GCF, the Secretariat continued to monitor and strengthen the complementarity and coherence aspect of the country programmes and entity work programmes. A summary of updates is provided in table 1.

| Table 1: Progress on enhancing complementarity at the activity level | |
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| Readiness and capacity-building | <p>Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (Readiness Programme): Operationalization of the readiness strategy 2024-2027 has been steeped in the principles of complementarity, synergy and coordination. This will be actioned along the two axes: an agencies and entities axis and a thematic axis.</p> <p>The agencies and entities axis would account for relevant climate actions that are undertaken by a multitude of actors in the global climate finance arena, including other climate funds, such as the AF, GEF and CIFs; bilateral and multilateral development banks; international financial institutions; and, other relevant platforms and initiatives. To this effect, each readiness programme of support will incorporate a complementarity matrix that will reflect a screening and mapping exercise to identify relevant initiatives by other relevant players in each target geography, to promote complementarity and synergy between GCF and other relevant efforts.</p> <p>A thematic axis would be organized around areas of climate discipline or a window of opportunity/economies of scale, such as around climate change adaptation and mitigation finance and mainstreaming climate considerations in investment and risk management strategies.</p> <p>More broadly, the Secretariat will ensure coordination of capacity-building and networking activities, through (i) systematic and structured knowledge exchange and learning processes; (ii) facilitating the creation and/or greater utilization of regional platforms for peer-to-peer cooperation, particularly with respect to replicable models and approaches and capacity-building of entities for direct access to climate finance globally; (iii) facilitating purpose-driven networking to enable solution-oriented discussions on challenges, sharing best practices and finding further ways of collaborating for maximum impact; and (iv) collaborating on the development of guidance notes and knowledge products (including training modules and material).</p> <p>CPDAE readiness support: Over the reporting period, GCF's support for the Community of Practice of Direct Access Entities (CPDAE) has advanced in close coordination with the AF secretariat as well as GIZ, acting as delivery partner in the execution of the readiness support grant. This readiness grant was completed on 30 April 2024 and its Completion Report due by the end of October 2024. Key milestones delivered under CPDAE initiative include conducting training sessions for DAEs/NIEs, supporting pipeline development for DAEs/NIEs and establishing online platform to foster greater exchange of information among CPDAE members. Currently, the GCF Secretariat is discussing with CPDAE on the next phase of the initiative, based on the success of the readiness grant.</p> |
| Accredited entity (AE) matters | <p>Fast-track accreditation and re-accreditation with AF: Pursuant to GCF Board decision B.08/03, which established a fast-track accreditation process, the GCF and AF Secretariats have continued consultations to expedite the accreditation and re-accreditation of entities that are accredited to both funds.</p> |

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| | <p>In terms of accreditation, out of the 134 entities that have been accredited to GCF, to date 49 entities have undergone the fast-track accreditation process as an entity accredited to the GEF, AF or the Directorate-General for International Partnerships of the European Commission (this does not include former AEs that do not seek re-accreditation). Two former GCF accredited entities had also been accredited through the fast-track accreditation process. During the current reporting period, one additional AE has been accredited to the GCF through the fast-tracked process as an AF entity.</p> <p>With regard to re-accreditation, 23 AEs have been re-accredited via fast-track to date, out of 31 AEs. Five AEs have been re-accredited benefiting from the fast-track accreditation process during this reporting period. Re-accreditations have been paused by the GCF Board since October 2023 through decision B.37/18 paragraph (q).</p> <p>Shared AEs with other climate funds: As of 31 August 2024, GCF shares 18 AEs that are also accredited to GEF, 38 AEs that are also accredited to the AF, and 7 AEs that are accredited to CIF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AF: ADA Morocco, ADB, AfDB, BOAD, BTFEC, CABEI, CAF, CCCCC, CDB, CSE, DIPROSE (formerly UCAR), DoE_ATG, EBRD, EPIU, FAO, FIRCA, FNEC, IDB, IFAD, Kemitraan, MCT, MFEM_COK, MOE (formerly MINIRENA), MOFEC, MWE, NABARD, NEMA, OSS, PACT, PKSf, PROFONANPE, SANBI, SPC, SPREP, UNDP, UNEP, WB and WFP; • GEF: ADB, AfDB, BOAD, CAF, CI, DBSA, EBRD, FAO, FECO, FUNBIO, IDB, IFAD, IUCN, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, WB and WWF; and • CIF: ADB, AfDB, EBRD, IDB, IDB-Invest, IFC, and WB. <p>Coordinated AE engagement with GEF: The GCF and GEF secretariats continued their technical discussions with AEs and GEF Agencies to promote synergies between projects seeking and receiving resources from the two funds, including exploring opportunities to collaborate within the context of scaling-up approach as well as the LTV implementation.</p> |
| <p>Monitoring and evaluation approaches and knowledge management</p> | <p>Results, indicators and methodologies for measuring impact: The GCF Secretariat, together with the secretariats of the partner climate funds, advanced collaboration on results, indicators and methodologies for measuring impact. During the current reporting period, three technical dialogues were held.</p> <p>The sessions focused on strengthening gender mainstreaming in climate projects and improving methods for tracking gender-specific outcomes, harmonizing the measurement of adaptation impacts, and applying lessons from evaluation findings to establish a continuous learning loop and enhance future programming.</p> |
| <p>Knowledge exchange</p> | <p>Climate Project Explorer platform: The four MCFs are developing public-facing web platform that will serve as a single entry-point to navigate and explore MCFs project documentation and policies (the Climate Project Explorer). The MCFs' aim is to raise awareness of the Funds and their value and impact, facilitate the exchange of information to enhance access to the funds, and promote transparency. It will also be useful in further advancing complementarity and coherence across the MCFs. The platform is expected to be launched at COP29.</p> |
| <p>Programmatic processes</p> | <p>The four MCFs are developing a mapping matrix of the operational and programming cycles of the MCFs to provide the basis for comparisons on how to access funding from the MCFs. This work is being undertaken by the Task Force established by the MCFs, and will continue into 2025. One output will be to facilitate the identification of potential areas for streamlining and harmonizing processes.</p> |

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| <p>Communications</p> | <p>As part of its presence at COP29 (see section 2.4.3 below) the MCFs have strengthened collaboration between the communications teams of each fund, to produce common messaging at COP29 and beyond, focusing upon communicating the complementarity between the MCFs as a means of enhancing access to climate finance. This will be reflected in the joint presence of the MCFs at COP29 including through the pavilion, common events, and in further joint communications materials.</p> |
| <p>Work of the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU)</p> | <p>Over the reporting period, the IEU continued to work closely with its counterparts from other climate funds.</p> <p>During UNFCCC COP28 in Dubai, the IEU participated in 11 side events at the Pavilions of the Republic of Korea, the Commonwealth Secretariat, Canada, France, Namibia, Moana Blue, Just Transition, the NDC Partnership, and Climate Mobility. Stakeholders from several MDBs and international organizations participated in these events.</p> <p>All Climate Funds: In the reporting period, the IEU continued to work and engage with the evaluation offices of the other climate funds (CIF evaluation, GEF-Independent Evaluation Office (IEO), AF- Technical Evaluation Reference Group (TERG), and GCF-IEU) for more synergies and complementarity. A meeting of these four funds’ evaluation offices took place on 16 May 2024 to share experiences and lessons learned, including a discussion on opportunities for collaboration on knowledge-sharing and joint events. Another regular meeting of the four climate funds’ evaluation units is expected to take place in October 2024.</p> <p>The IEU has also continued to work with the evaluation offices of the other climate funds to advance the joint work on exploring the use of artificial intelligence in various stages of climate evaluation. This joint work was launched in early 2024 and is ongoing.</p> <p>More recently, the IEU participated in a joint panel with representatives from other evaluation units- AF-TERG, the CIF’s Evaluation & Learning Initiative, the GEF’s IEO - at the webinar “Lessons on Financing Forest Management,” which is a part of the new Climate Finance Evidence Series organized by the CIF. This webinar was held on 5 September 2024. During the session, the IEU shared findings on forest conservation, market-based mitigation and adaptation approaches, and just transition in climate from various evidence reviews using case studies, drawing from the impact evaluation report on GCF’s FP026 “Sustainable Landscapes in Eastern Madagascar” project, and a recently released special study on REDD+ result-based payment projects in Latin America and the Caribbean.</p> <p>GEF: The IEU and the GEF-IEO continued their collaboration in the 2023-2024 period. The IEU was invited to take part in the GEF’s 4th Conference on Evaluating Environment and Development, which was held on 5-7 March 2024 in Washington, DC, United States. At the conference, the IEU made presentations at four sessions that included intensive discussions on evaluations in the context of environment and development. The main IEU topics tackled climate change mitigation, evaluation mixed methods (approaches, methods and tools), a quantitative focus in evaluations, as well as forestry, land-use management and biodiversity.</p> <p>Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: Another significant partnership work that the IEU has engaged in, from early 2023 and onwards, concerns the Global SDG Synthesis Coalition, an initiative spearheaded by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office and Global Affairs Canada and comprises more than 46 UN entities, Member States, bilateral and multilateral organizations, global evaluation bodies and networks, civil society- and private sector organizations.</p> <p>Collaborations with other Evaluation Offices: The IEU also engaged and collaborated with other evaluation offices and networks on the occasion of the United Nations Evaluation Group EvalWeek 2024, held from 29 January to 2</p> |

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| | <p>February 2024 in Malaga, Spain. Further, the IEU participated in the gLOCAL evaluation week held in June 2024, organized by the Global Evaluation Initiative. This conference was held on the topic of measuring transformative change through climate action. The IEU shared valuable insights and approaches, highlighting the benefits and challenges of evaluating transformational change at the GCF.</p> <p>The IEU also participated in the Evidence to Action conference held in July 2024 and highlighted its work on evaluating GCF adaptation projects in Africa in particular. The Unit also presented key findings from its systematic reviews on women's empowerment, water management, and behavioural science, with an emphasis on their potential to improve adaptation programming.</p> |
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Abbreviation: AF = Adaptation Fund; ADA Morocco = Agency for Agricultural Development of Morocco, ADB = Asian Development Bank, AfDB = African Development Bank, BOAD = West African Development Bank, BTFEC = Bhutan Trust Fund for Environment Conservation, CABEI = Central American Bank for Economic Integration, CAF = Development Bank of Latin America, CDB = Caribbean Development Bank, CSE = Centre de Suivi Ecologique, CI = Conservation International, CIF = Climate Investment Funds, DBSA = Development Bank of Southern Africa, DIPROSE (formerly UCAR) = General Directorate of Sectoral and Special Programs and Projects, DoE_ATG = Department of Environment of Antigua and Barbuda, EBRD = European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, EPIU = Environmental Project Implementation Unit, FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, FECCO = China's Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, FNEC = Fonds National pour l'Environnement et le Climat, FUNBIO = Brazilian Biodiversity Fund GEF = Global Environment Facility, IDB = Inter American Development Bank, IFAD = International Fund for Agricultural Development, IFC = International Finance Corporation, IUCN = International Union for Conservation of Nature, Kemitraan = Partnership for Governance Reform in Indonesia, MCT = Micronesia Conservation Trust, MDB = Multilateral Development Bank, MFEM_COK = Ministry of Finance and Economic Management for the Cook Islands, MOE (formerly MINIRENA) = Ministry of Environment of Rwanda, MOFEC = Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, MWE = Ministry of Water and Environment of Uganda, NABARD = National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, NEMA = National Environment Management Authority, OSS = Sahara and Sahel Observatory, PACT = Protected Areas Conservation Trust, PROFONANPE = Peruvian Trust Fund for National Parks and Protected Areas, SANBI = South African National Biodiversity Institute, SPREP = Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, UNDP = United Nations Development Programme, UNEP = United Nations Environment Programme, UNIDO = United Nations Industrial Development Organization, WB = World Bank, WFP = World Food Programme, WMO = World Meteorological Organization, WWF = World Wildlife Fund

2.3 Pillar III: Promotion of coherence at the national programming level

16. Under Pillar III, the operational framework seeks to advance promotion of coherence at a national programming level, through country programmes, pipeline development and country-driven coordination. In addition to harnessing all 59 country programmes under development or being updated in 2024 to promote complementarity and coherence at the national level, the Secretariat continued to seek programming coherence by harnessing ongoing collaboration with other climate funds, including, among other things, promoting a GCF-GEF coordinated engagement initiative, scaling up AF projects and advancing programming discussions with CIF on their new action areas.

2.3.1. Collaboration with the Global Environment Facility

17. As part of the collaboration between GCF, GEF, and the Task Force on Access to Climate Finance, joint programming efforts have expanded across five pilot countries: Rwanda, Uganda, Jamaica, Fiji and Bangladesh. The first major milestone was a Joint Programming Consultation in Rwanda in December 2022, followed by a similar initiative in Uganda in November 2023. These efforts, focusing on aligning GCF and GEF programming, were highlighted during COP28 in December 2023, where stakeholders reviewed progress and discussed future collaboration. Additionally, GCF and GEF are exploring further joint planning efforts with the NDC Partnership, which has taken on key functions of the Task Force to support broader climate finance goals.

The two secretariats prepared the third LTV progress report summarizing the key milestones achieved in the following three areas of cooperation: (1) collaborative and coordinated country programming; (2) sharing information, indicators, lessons learned and knowledge and

facilitating collaborative and coordinated country programming; and (3) communications and outreach. This annual progress report, which was also submitted to the 67th of the GEF Council, is attached to this document as annex I.

2.3.2. Collaboration with the Adaptation Fund

18. During the reporting period, the GCF and AF Secretariats collaborated to develop a structured approach to scale up successful AF projects. This approach involves utilizing resources from the GCF to promote continuation, replication, and scaling of these projects. The primary objective of such a structured approach is to provide incentives for countries and AEs to scale up successful smaller projects funded by one fund with resources from the other fund, such as scaling up AF projects with GCF resources. It further aims to grant easier access to additional resources for climate adaptation de-risked investments in a facilitated way; reduce transaction costs and improve time efficiency in the overall proposal cycle; and promote sustainability and continuation of results achieved by first interventions.

19. In parallel, a study is ongoing with a consultancy to develop a standard operating procedure (SOP) that will operationalize the scaling-up framework between the GCF and AF. This SOP is aimed at providing a practical and implementable guide to streamline collaboration between the funds, with a focus on ensuring efficiency and scalability. Once finalized, the SOP will facilitate clearer processes for scaling up adaptation projects and will serve as a key tool in enhancing inter-fund collaboration.

2.3.3. Collaboration with the Climate Investment Funds

20. Over this reporting period, the GCF Secretariat engaged with the CIF Administrative Unit as part of broader efforts under the MCFs' draft Action Plan. These discussions focused on identifying joint programming opportunities and ensuring alignment in key areas of thematic and geographic collaboration. The establishment of the MCF system has provided a structured framework for ongoing collaboration, ensuring that future efforts between GCF and CIF are more strategic and efficient.

21. The collaboration also extends to areas such as knowledge management and communication, ensuring that shared lessons and outreach efforts contribute to more cohesive climate finance delivery.

2.3.4. National programming coherence facilitated through the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme and funding proposals

22. Within the reporting period from 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024, the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme has played a vital role in facilitating coherence at the national programming level for GCF, with 90 readiness proposals approved during this time frame.

23. On the other hand, table 2 provides information on the funding proposals that demonstrate complementarity and coherence potentials including with and beyond other climate funds over the current reporting period.

| Table 2: Funding proposals demonstrating strong complementarity and coherence | |
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| Complementarity and coherence summary | Summary of funding proposals |
| The project aligns with and complements the GEF's Inclusive Sustainable Rice Landscapes (ISRL) programme by enhancing sustainable agricultural practices in the rice value chain and improving biodiversity management. It integrates with the FOLUR Global Impact Program through an existing GEF-funded | FP214 - Thai Rice: Strengthening Climate-Smart Rice Farming project enables Thai rice farmers – including women farmers – to adapt to climate change while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Through the implementation of climate-smart technologies and financial support, farmers can increase productivity |



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| <p>baseline project implemented by UNEP and GIZ in Thailand. Additionally, the project sets up the Thai Rice Facility, which could serve as a model for the Public-Private Blended Finance Facility for Climate-Resilient Rice Landscapes (CRRL). This financing mechanism is envisioned to involve international financial institutions like the IFC, potentially capitalized in part by the GCF, thereby fostering further collaboration across climate finance mechanisms.</p> | <p>and generate additional revenue through carbon credits, while promoting sustainable farming practices. The project also aims to monetize rice straw residues and improve market access for climate-smart rice, creating a holistic approach to sustainability in the rice sector.</p> |
| <p>The CRPP complements ongoing initiatives funded by the GCF, Adaptation Fund, and GEF across several countries. It builds on GEF-supported projects focused on climate-resilient livelihoods and ecosystem-based adaptation, while leveraging the investments made by GCF and the Adaptation Fund in key areas such as agriculture, flood management, and rural resilience. These interventions provide a foundation for CRPP to scale up existing efforts and expand climate adaptation solutions to underserved rural populations.</p> | <p>FP215 - Community Resilience Partnership Program (CRPP) is a regional partnership programme of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which aims to help countries and communities in Asia and the Pacific region scale up investments in climate adaptation, especially investments at the community level, that explicitly target the nexus between climate change, poverty and gender. CRPP aims to contribute to transformational change by mobilizing large-scale public investments that support community level adaptation of poor and vulnerable; developing national and local policies, plans and programmes that promote financing for community-led adaptation; and increasing the meaningful participation of poor women and men in resilience related decision-making.</p> |
| <p>This project will use the SCCF grant which is the Technology Transfer for Climate Resilient Flood Risk Management Project as the key prototype for its proposed intervention. It aligns with GEF-funded flood management initiatives by improving hydrometric systems and disaster risk reduction strategies. It complements GEF's previous work in building climate resilience through technical solutions for flood-prone areas.</p> | <p>FP216 - Scaling up climate resilient flood risk management in Bosnia and Herzegovina focuses on reducing the vulnerability of communities to climate-induced flood disasters through an integrated, gender-responsive flood risk management (FRM) approach. The project strengthens institutional, technical, and financial capacities to implement long-term FRM strategies, using a combination of structural and non-structural measures, ecosystem-based approaches, and enhanced use of climate information. Aligned with the United Nations's "Early Warnings for All (EW4All)" initiative, the project will scale up successful FRM solutions from previous projects and mobilize public and private investment to enhance resilience.</p> |
| <p>The project demonstrates complementarity with ongoing and past interventions by other MCFs including Adaptation Fund, GEF/LDCF. The Landscape Approach to Forest Restoration and Conservation; and the "Green Amayaga Project" funded by GEF, both share the goal of forest restoration and sustainable land management in Rwanda. Furthermore, the LDCF funded Early Warning System also aligns with the project's ecosystem restoration and climate resilience</p> | <p>FP217 - Building Resilience of Vulnerable Communities to Climate Variability in Rwanda's Congo Nile Divide through Forest and Landscape Restoration aims to promote an ecosystem-based approach to forest protection and restoration and will enhance the extent and resilience of forest ecosystems and species, including functionally linking currently isolated forest fragments. Through these approaches, the Project will protect, restore and rehabilitate forest ecosystems, enhancing biodiversity and reducing key threats, while increasing the provision of critical</p> |

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| <p>initiatives. Additionally, this project could also complement previously implemented and Adaptation Fund financed Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in North-West Rwanda through Community Based Adaptation Programme. The project benefits from existing platforms such as the Project Steering Committee chaired by Rwanda’s Ministry of Environment, which facilitates cross-project collaboration to maximize synergies.</p> | <p>ecosystem services to strengthen adaptation of vulnerable communities.</p> |
| <p>The programme demonstrates complementarity with the GEF, particularly through the “GEF Global E-Mobility Program” implemented by UNEP and IEA, which provides technical assistance and pilot projects that support FP225’s large-scale deployment of electric buses. The programme also builds on previous GEF-funded initiatives in Armenia and Uzbekistan focused on low-carbon urban transport systems.</p> | <p>FP225 - E-Mobility Program promotes an integrated transformational shift to climate-resilient zero emission mobility systems through investments in climate-resilient urban transport infrastructure and large-scale deployment of electric bus systems combined with mode-shift measures to increase the performance and convenience of urban public and Non-Motorized Transport in programme countries.</p> |
| <p>The project complements in terms of scaling up the results of the African Development Bank and GEF-funded “Enabling Climate Resilience in the Agriculture Sector in the Southwestern Region of Madagascar” project in the six DEFIS+ target region.</p> | <p>FP227 - Increase Resilience to Climate Change of Smallholders Receiving the Services of the Inclusive Agricultural Value Chains Programme (DEFIS +) aims to strengthen the resilience of agricultural production systems and vulnerable marginal communities to the impacts of climate change while contributing to enhance mitigation co-benefits such as GHG emission reduction, promoting intensive/improved rice farming techniques (SRI/SRA), and implementing Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA).</p> |
| <p>The programme demonstrates complementarity with the “Scaling-up Renewable Energy Program (SREP) in Low Income Countries Investment Plan for Ghana” supported by the African Development Bank, IFC and the CIF. The SREP-Ghana Investment Plan identifies Ecobank’s efforts to establish a renewable energy portfolio as a key measure to target hard-to-reach sectors, including MSMEs and households. This feature complements the objectives of ASAP.</p> | <p>FP231 - Accelerating Solar Action Program (ASAP) targets to promote the deployment of distributed Solar PV systems to households and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) by providing concessional loans through Ecobank. The programme seeks to increase renewable energy generation, reduce GHG emissions, and improve the financial accessibility of Solar PV systems for underserved market segments in Ghana, while contributing to national renewable energy targets.</p> |
| <p>The project complements GEF’s previous efforts including “Healthy Ecosystems for Rangeland Development (HERD): Sustainable Rangeland Management Strategies and Practices”, “MENARID: Mainstreaming Sustainable Land and Water Management Practices” and “Integrated Ecosystem and</p> | <p>FP232 - Jordan Integrated Landscape Management Initiative (JILMI) seeks to address the impacts of climate change on Jordan’s water resources through ecosystem restoration, improved agricultural practices, and managed aquifer recharge. The project aims to increase the country’s water supply by implementing interventions such as rockfill dams,</p> |

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| <p>Natural Resource Management in the Jordan Rift Valley” projects. The JILMI project also uses the lessons learned from Adaptation Fund funded “Increasing the resilience of poor and vulnerable communities to climate change” project as well.</p> | <p>rainwater harvesting, and floating solar panels for evaporation reduction, while enhancing governance and establishing a Water Fund to scale up sustainable water management practices.</p> |
| <p>The project highlights complementarity with the GEF-8 initiative, “Tajikistan Ecosystem Restoration and Resilient Agriculture (TERRA),” aiming to capitalize on potential co-financing or parallel financing opportunities between GEF and GCF.</p> | <p>FP233 – Community-based Agriculture Support Programme ‘plus’ (CASP+) strengthens climate resilience by integrating climate diagnostics into local planning, improving governance of natural resources, and promoting market-driven diversification of livelihoods in vulnerable value chains such as livestock, dairy, meat, and horticulture.</p> |
| <p>The project complements “Integrated Environmental Management of the Fanga’uta Lagoon Catchment” as part of the GEF Ridge to Reef programme.</p> | <p>FP234 - Tonga Coastal Resilience seeks to address coastal inundation and long-term adaptation needs in Tonga, particularly focusing on the vulnerable northeastern parts of Tongatapu Island. The project enhances climate risk information systems, improves national and local capacities for climate risk monitoring, and strengthens coastal protection measures to reduce vulnerabilities to climate hazards.</p> |
| <p>The project has a complementarity with GEF through biodiversity conservation and landscape management programmes. Specifically, it builds on institutional and project coordination level synergies with the GEF-funded “GreenMex” project, which focuses on biodiversity and ecosystem connectivity in the same geographic area.</p> | <p>FP236 - Basin Approach for Livelihood Sustainability through Adaptation Strategies (BALSAS) targets to increase the climate resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems in the Balsas Basin, focusing on sustainable land management and adaptation to climate change. The project promotes bottom-up decision-making, climate-sensitive management of ecosystems, and the development of resilient agricultural value chains while addressing both adaptation (80 per cent) and mitigation (20 per cent) goals.</p> |
| <p>The project complements ongoing efforts in electric mobility in the region, specifically aligning with existing sustainable urban mobility initiatives including “GEF Global E-Mobility Program” and other regional activities.</p> | <p>FP237 - E-Motion: E-Mobility and Low Carbon Transportation aims to accelerate the deployment of electric buses in Latin America, helping countries transition to electro-mobility through financial and technical assistance. The programme focuses on electrifying public transport systems, modernizing urban mobility, and improving grid resilience, while reducing the risk profile of investments and encouraging mode shifts towards low-carbon mobility solutions.</p> |
| <p>The EbAM will build on the experience of the Sustainable Forest Management, Dryland Sustainable Landscape Impact Programme (DSLIP) of GEF-7/FAO with respect to payment for ecosystems and water services. The project also refers to synergies with an Adaptation Fund project (Adapting to Climate Change Through Integrated Risk</p> | <p>FP238 - Ecosystems-based Adaptation for Resilient Watersheds and Communities in Malawi (EbAM) aims to enhance climate resilience in vulnerable rural communities through ecosystem-based adaptation approaches and integrated landscape management at the watershed level. The project will support the restoration of degraded ecosystems, promote low-carbon and climate-resilient</p> |

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| <p>Management Strategies and Enhanced Market Opportunities for Resilient Food Security and Livelihoods Project).</p> | <p>agricultural practices, and strengthen community and institutional capacity to adapt to climate change.</p> |
| <p>The project builds on previous GEF-funded initiatives, such as the “Financing Energy Efficiency at MSMEs in India” and “Partial Risk Sharing Facility (PRSF) for Energy Efficiency Project” as well as other international finance projects with support from JICA, KfW, and AFD.</p> | <p>FP241 - Financing Mitigation and Adaptation Projects (FMAP) in Indian MSMEs aims to promote climate finance for Indian MSMEs by establishing a blended finance facility that offers concessional loans for developing and deploying mitigation and adaptation technologies. The project also focuses on building the capacity of MSMEs and financial institutions through technology needs assessments, awareness campaigns, and training to foster the adoption of low-carbon and climate-resilient technologies.</p> |
| <p>The programme complements the activities of multiple bilateral and multilateral actors, including the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), IDB Group, World Bank, GEF, and CIFs. It builds on existing climate-resilient projects in the region, focusing on scaling climate projects and closing the climate finance gap.</p> | <p>FP242 - Caribbean Net-Zero and Resilient Private Sector programme seeks to catalyse private sector investments in net-zero and climate-resilient projects across small island developing States in the Caribbean. The programme focuses on five priority sectors—agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU), sustainable and resilient infrastructure, electricity including renewable energy and energy efficiency, sustainable transport, and the blue economy—while addressing barriers to private investment through advisory services and blended finance solutions, with a strong emphasis on gender mainstreaming.</p> |
| <p>The project leverages previous climate finance initiatives, including the GEF-supported "Building Resilience of Health Systems in Asian LDCs to Climate Change" and the GCF Readiness project in Lao PDR. It builds on these efforts by enhancing the use of early warning systems and integrated health data to improve the detection, reporting, and treatment of climate-related diseases like dengue and diarrheal disease, while also strengthening health promotion activities.</p> | <p>SAP030 - Strengthening Climate Resilience of Lao PDR Health System targets to support the Government of Lao PDR to advance progress on its national climate change and health priorities and commitments by increasing the climate resilience of the health system and strengthening community capacity to manage the current and anticipated health impacts of climate change.</p> |
| <p>The LoCAL programme synergizes with several GEF and Adaptation Fund initiatives. GEF’s Integrated Adaptation Program sets a broad framework for agricultural adaptation in various regions, which LoCAL enhances by addressing specific community needs. Likewise, Early Warning Systems funded by GEF strengthens LoCAL’s efforts by providing critical systems to sustain local adaptive measures. GEF’s Resilience of Rural Livelihoods project on the other hand, integrates national climate risk strategies, which LoCAL implements at the grass-roots</p> | <p>SAP032 - Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL) aims to strengthen the climate resilience of communities and local economies in four vulnerable departments by improving local governments’ capacity to access and effectively use financing for adaptation investments. The programme combines capacity-building, technical assistance, and performance-based climate resilience grants to support climate-resilient infrastructure, livelihoods, and ecosystem preservation, aligning with the Paris Agreement and national development goals.</p> |

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| <p>level. The Adaptation Fund supported BOAD Climate-Smart Agriculture project operates regionally, while LoCAL deepens these efforts by expanding adaptation to local communities. Additionally, the WMO and AF's Integrating Flood and Drought Management and Early Warning for Climate Change Adaptation in the Volta Basin project supports LoCAL's work by establishing early warning systems, ensuring local actions are informed by broader risk management strategies.</p> | |
| <p>The project complements the GEF and Adaptation Fund's "Adapting to Climate Change Induced Coastal Risks Management in Sierra Leone" and the GEF's "Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Africa." It leverages these ongoing efforts to enhance Sierra Leone's capacity to manage climate risks through a modern hydromet system and impact-based forecasting.</p> | <p>SAP033 - Enhancing Climate Information Systems for Resilient Development in Sierra Leone aims to strengthen the country's capacity to respond to climate change by improving climate information services and establishing impact-based, multi-hazard early warning systems. The project focuses on building robust hydromet forecasting, climate-resilient infrastructure, and coordinated management to support climate-resilient sustainable development.</p> |
| <p>The project builds on WHO-supported health programmes and complements GEF-funded initiatives, such as the GEF-SGP for climate mitigation and adaptation.</p> | <p>SAP034 - Akamatutu'anga to Tatou Ora'anga Meitaki (ATOM): Building a Healthy and Resilient Cook Islands Community focuses on enhancing the resilience of the Cook Islands' health system by integrating climate risks into the health sector. It also aims to strengthen infrastructure and implement community-based adaptation measures to protect vulnerable populations from climate-related health impacts.</p> |

2.4 Pillar IV: Complementarity at the level of delivery of climate finance through an established dialogue

2.4.1. Annual Dialogue of Climate Finance Delivery Channels

24. In response to a GCF Board mandate (decision B.13/12), the Annual Dialogue of Climate Finance Delivery Channels is organized as an annual meeting convened by the GCF Executive Director to provide a forum for high-level discussions of common interest among the heads of multilateral climate finance organizations. In 2023, the Dialogue took place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, during COP28 in the format of a side-event, where a Joint Declaration of the Heads of the four MCFs was presented.¹ The objective of the dialogue was to focus on strategic opportunities to advance complementarity and coherence across the MCFs in the context of enhancing access and increasing impact on the ground.

2.4.2. A new systemic engagement

¹ Available at <https://www.greenclimate.fund/statement/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>.

25. Historically, the Annual Dialogue of Climate Finance Delivery Channels has served as the primary platform for high-level discussions among the heads of MCFs, providing a once-a-year opportunity for the funds to align on priorities and review progress. However, this one-off meeting format has now transitioned into a more structured and systematic engagement framework under the new approach to collaboration between MCFs, as was outlined in the MCF draft Action Plan. This new format supplements the annual dialogue as the core mechanism of collaboration, enabling more frequent and substantive interactions to drive MCFs to deliver as a system.

26. Under this new structure, the MCFs now hold four head-level meetings annually, complemented by regular Task Force meetings and dedicated working groups that address specific areas of collaboration. While the Annual Dialogue continues to be held on the sidelines of the COP as part of this broader framework, it is now one of the elements within a much more ambitious and organic system of engagement. This shift enables the MCFs to work more effectively together, streamline processes, and address climate finance priorities on an ongoing basis rather than through a once-a-year review.

2.4.3. Engagement at the COP29

27. Building on the productive collaboration at COP28, GCF will continue its engagement with all four funds through the joint pavilion at COP29. This collaboration demonstrates a commitment to strengthening complementarity and coherence in the delivery of climate finance. The joint pavilion provides a platform for strategic dialogue, and showcasing of joint initiatives, acting also as a one-step shop of climate finance for a wide group of stakeholders.



Annex I: Third LTV Progress Report 2023 – 2024



**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE
LONG-TERM VISION ON COMPLEMENTARITY, COHERENCE AND
COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND AND THE
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**

2024

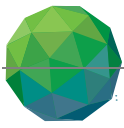


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INTRODUCTION

1. The Long-term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence, and Collaboration (LTV) between the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) was initiated in 2021 in response to calls to ease access to country funding, increase impact and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of both funds through enhanced coordination and harmonization. The effort was first introduced and articulated to the GEF Council in a Working Document at its 60th Meeting on June 14-18, 2021,² and it was subsequently presented to the 29th meeting of the GCF Board on June 28, 2021.³
2. Both governing bodies have welcomed the initiative as outlined in the LTV working document and have come to expect an annual progress report on LTV implementation. In keeping with this practice, the first joint progress report was presented to the 62nd GEF Council in June 2022,⁴ and to the 34th meeting of the GCF Board in October 2022,⁵ and the second update provided to the 64th GEF Council Meeting in June 2023,⁶ and to B.37 of the GCF Board in October 2023.⁷
3. This document constitutes the third update, providing relevant information on the implementation of various LTV activities by the two Secretariats of their efforts during the 2023- 2024 reporting period.⁸ It also presents summary information on the recent rapid evolution of enhanced collaboration among a wider group of organizations pursuing these objectives, now including the Adaptation Fund (AF) and the Climate Investment Funds (CIF), alongside GEF and GCF, under the umbrella of the “Multilateral Climate Funds” (MCFs).

LONG-TERM VISION

4. The LTV aims to enhance the planning, implementation, and outcomes of GEF and GCF investments – in line with their respective strategic investment plans – to support initiatives consistent with their programming strategies and to inform the future

² GEF, 2021, [Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence, and Collaboration between the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility](#), Council Document GEF/C.60/08.

³ GCF, 2021, [Report on the activities of the Secretariat](#), Annex II, Board Document GCF/B.29/Inf.07.

⁴ GEF, 2022, [Progress Report on the Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration Between the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility](#), Council Document GEF/C.62/Inf.14

⁵ GCF, 2022, [Annual Update on Complementarity and Coherence](#), Board Document GCF/B.34/Inf.07/Add.02.

⁶ GEF, 2023, [Progress Report on The Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration Between the Green Climate Fund and the Global Environment Facility, 2023](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/Inf.07

⁷ GCF, 2023, [Annual Update on Complementarity and Coherence](#), Board Document GCF/B.37/Inf.14/Add.02

⁸ This report will also be presented to the GCF Board as part of the report on Activities of the Secretariat at its 40th Meeting in October 2024.

programming of both funds. The LTV was developed in response to relevant guidance from the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), since both funds are Operating Entities of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC. The GEF also serves as the Financial Mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. Parties to the CBD and UNCCD now also include GCF as part of their decisions for resource mobilization as well as cooperation. The UNFCCC COP has consistently encouraged GEF and GCF to improve their complementarity, coherence and collaboration, including through decisions 6/CP.26, 17/CP.27 and 7/CP.28 and welcomed and encouraged the LTV implementation.

5. At UNFCCC COP28, the first Global Stocktake of progress in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement was presented. It showed the slow pace of advancement in addressing the climate crisis and need for greater urgency to accelerate climate mitigation and adaptation actions. While recognizing the need for increased financial flows to developing countries in support their efforts, there were also calls for improving country access to financing already available and for greater efficiency with which these resources are allocated and utilized – all with the goal of achieving quicker and greater mitigation and adaptation impacts.

6. Consistent with this call to action, countries have responded positively to the LTV, recognizing that the shared and mutually reinforcing visions of GEF and GCF support can – through this initiative – amplify impact through better coordinated efforts to advance country- driven approaches and ownership, efficiency and effectiveness while adhering to the highest international safeguards. Building on the unique strengths of GEF and GCF, support has been expressed by countries and partners for more proactive, joint programming efforts of the two funds to identify and pursue important common themes for climate action, including through blended, parallel and sequenced finance.

IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

7. The LTV initiative got off to a solid start during its first two years of implementation, with progress achieved, inter alia, in the following areas: a) advancing the incorporation of the collaboration principles and objectives relating to the LTV's goals into GEF-8 and GCF strategic plans; b) setting up a joint GEF-GCF pavilion at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in Glasgow (COP26), including organization of events highlighting LTV and GEF-GCF collaboration; c) enhanced dialogue between the heads of the GEF and GCF Secretariats and regular joint meetings of the LTV Steering Committee, comprising senior representatives from each Secretariat; d) exploring and piloting joint programming of the two funds along with country and bilateral partners; and e) jointly commissioning a study on the policies and processes of the two funds to identify harmonization opportunities.

8. Efforts have continued apace during the 2023-2024 implementation year to advance GEF and GCF coherence and complementarity and collaboration, guided by the senior leadership of the two institutions, and under the oversight of the LTV Steering Committee. The two Secretariats have accelerated their joint efforts based on experience gained. Enhanced understanding has facilitated good progress, including further

mainstreaming of LTV considerations into the overall programming efforts of the two organizations.

9. A meeting of the LTV Steering Committee was convened on April 11, 2024, with a modified membership in light of ongoing changes in personnel that resulted in vacant seats on both GEF and GCF sides. The Steering Committee considered the main areas of the LTV for the reporting year and discussed the advances and updates to be provided since the last joint progress report. These include (i) progress on collaborative and coordinated programming in the context of major initiatives such as the Great Green Wall Initiatives or investments in the Amazon, and the joint investment planning pilot workshop held in Uganda. Additional areas that were discussed include (ii) the next steps with the joint investment planning pilots, (iii) the linkages between the LTV and the incipient work with the larger group of the multilateral climate funds, (iv) the engagement with the Task Force on Access to Climate Finance and the NDC Partnership, and (v) other matters, including Steering Committee organizational arrangements.

10. A key topic for ongoing dialogue between GEF and GCF has been mainstreaming attention to LTV goals into the strategic approaches of both funds. Key areas of effort and cooperation include incorporating LTV goals into the strategic directions of each organization, review of policies and procedures in pursuit of areas for enhanced harmonization, coordinating work on the identification and implementation of joint initiatives, support for joint country investment plans and related outreach and capacity-building opportunities.

11. This builds on a commitment to enhancing coherence and complementarity among multilateral climate funds included in the GEF-8 Programming Directions document⁹ as well as in the Programming Strategy for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) for the GEF 8 period.¹⁰ The GCF has incorporated the pursuit of LTV goals into its Updated Strategic Plan for 2024-2027 (USP-2)¹¹ which sets the directions for the GCF-2 programming cycle, guided by the provisions of the GCF Governing Instrument and by its Board.

12. During the previous reporting period, a study of GEF and GCF processes and policies was jointly commissioned “to identify recommendations to support complementarity and coherence and assist developing countries and partners to generate long-lasting results in climate change adaptation and mitigation.” The findings and recommendations of the study covered the areas of programming, country support and engagement, processes, and institutional coordination, among others, and presented potential avenues, as relevant, for enhancing the performance, coherence and impact of GEF and GCF through simplification, streamlining and harmonization. The study was reported on in the June 2023 GEF Council paper on Relations with the Conventions and

⁹ GEF, 2022, [GEF-8 Programming Directions](#), GEF/R.08/29/Rev.01 (paras 463-465).

¹⁰ GEF, 2022, [GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund for the GEF-8 Period of July 2022 to June 2026 and Operational Improvements](#), Council Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.32/04.

¹¹ GCF, 2023, [Strategic Plan for the Green Climate Fund 2024–2027](#), Board Decision B.36/13.

Other International Institutions,¹² and published on the GEF website.¹³

13. Working-level discussions within and between GEF and GCF were carried out based on the study's recommendations to explore opportunities for improved performance that might be acted upon by the Secretariats or considered by their governing bodies consistent with their scopes and mandates. Possible adjustments to policies and procedures of the two funds have been noted at the working levels of the Secretariats. Furthermore, specific references to the collaboration between GEF and GCF, and to the study mentioned in the previous paragraph, were included in the GEF Council document titled "Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle", which was considered by the GEF Council at its 66th meeting in February 2024.¹⁴ The findings were also considered by the GEF in designing the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF).

14. In short, as reported below, there has been good progress in better coordinating the work of GEF and GCF on the identification and implementation of joint initiatives, joint country planning activities and other complementarity measures. This has extended to country outreach and capacity-building efforts, including cross-participation in various forms of dialogue at the global, regional and national levels.

PROGRESS UPDATE

15. As with the previous progress reports, the update summary is presented according to the three pillars of the original LTV document:

- I. Facilitating collaborative and coordinated country programming;
- II. Sharing information, indicators, lessons learned, and knowledge; and
- III. Communications and outreach.

16. The primary areas of progress achieved during the implementation period under each of these three elements are summarized below.

I. Collaborative and Coordinated Country Programming

Multilateral Climate Funds Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence.

17. One of the most significant developments to take place during the past year is the effort to extend the reach of coherence and complementarity efforts – including enhanced coordination in country programming – through formation of a more formal partnership among the key multilateral funds providing climate-related support to developing countries. Building on existing GEF and GCF LTV efforts, the Heads of the four major multilateral climate funds (MCFs), comprising GEF, GCF, AF and CIF, reaffirmed their commitment to work together and announced their intention to develop an ambitious and concrete plan to enhance access to climate finance and increase the impact of the MCFs'

¹² GEF, 2023, [Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/08.

¹³ Baastel, 2023, [Processes and Policies of the GEF and the GCF: A Comparative Analysis to Foster Complementarity and Coherence](#).

¹⁴ GEF, 2023, [Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle](#), Council document GEF/C.66/08/Rev.03.

work.¹⁵ Following UNFCCC COP28, the four funds have worked swiftly to prepare the draft joint Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence, including through an in-person four-day workshop hosted by the GEF Secretariat in Washington DC, in April 2024 and several engagements of the Heads of the Funds. The expanding partnership efforts among the four Funds is summarized in Box 1 and elaborated further in the GEF Council paper on Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions, which include the Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence as its Annex II.¹⁶

Box 1: Multilateral Climate Funds Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence

In response to the COP guidance to GEF and GCF and recognizing the urgent need for enhanced and streamlined access to multilateral climate finance, on December 3, 2023 during an official side event at COP28 in Dubai, UAE, the four multilateral climate funds (MCFs) – Adaptation Fund, Climate Investment Funds, Global Environment Facility and Green Climate Fund – issued a joint declaration, simultaneously posted on the websites of all MCFs, to strengthen the complementarity and coherence among the funds and to better harmonize their efforts to improve and streamline modalities of access to finance.[†]

As part of this declaration, the MCFs committed to develop a concrete *Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence* for consideration of their respective governing bodies and with the view to deliver an endorsed joint plan by COP29. The MCFs worked swiftly after COP28 to prepare the plan, including through the establishment of a dedicated task force, a four-day in-person drafting workshop in Washington DC in April 2024, and two formal meetings of the Heads of the MCFs. An additional consultation was organized with the Co-Chairs of the MCFs governing bodies on May 24, 2024, to present the plan, in advance of its formal submission to upcoming governing bodies' meetings in 2024.

The Action Plan builds upon established efforts among the MCFs, including the GEF and GCF work under the LTV, and it is intended to avoid duplication of efforts, enhance collaboration, streamline processes and ensure that the MCFs work together effectively towards common goals to achieve greater collective impact in combating the causes and consequences of climate change. While recognizing their unique mandates, risk appetites, and financing modalities, the MCFs are seeking to enhance their partnership, following the principles of accountability, transparency, flexibility and inclusivity. This is meant to facilitate changes that will enhance access to climate finance, increase impact in developing countries and contribute to the reform of the international climate finance architecture.

The Action Plan articulates a set of measures with associated outcomes covering the areas of (i) Profiles, policies and processes; (ii) Capacity building and programming; (iii) Knowledge exchange and communications; (iv) the international financial architecture; and (v) Coordination and implementation among the funds.

[†]<https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>

¹⁵ <https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/news/enhancing-access-and-increasing-impact-role-multilateral-climate-funds>

¹⁶ GEF, 2024, *Relations with Conventions and Other International Institutions*, Council Document GEF/C.67/07 Rev.1.

Joint Programming

18. Efforts continued during the reporting period to develop and test effective models for enhanced joint programming, seeking opportunities in response to country priorities and between GEF and GCF for blended, parallel and sequenced financing as well as pursuing common themes for climate action. Consistent with LTV goals, these collaborative efforts seek to streamline access, minimize potential duplication of funding and facilitate country-driven consultation processes. Building on the partnership formed during the second year of LTV implementation with the Task Force on Access to Climate Finance to explore measures for joint programming in five pilot countries, Rwanda, Uganda, Jamaica, Fiji and Bangladesh, the first Joint Programming Consultation was held in Rwanda in December 2022 in conjunction with the GEF National Dialogue. This was organized by the Rwanda Environmental Management Authority in collaboration with the GEF and GCF Secretariats. Taking account of lessons from this experience, a second joint programming effort took place in Uganda under the auspices of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development from November 15 to 17, 2023 in conjunction with the GEF-8 National Dialogue Meeting with GCF Secretariat inter-divisional representation among 50 participants (see Box 2). Sessions included a review of LTV efforts and their implications for enhanced complementarity in GEF and GCF programming in Uganda.

Box 2: Joint Programming in Uganda in Partnership with the Task Force on Access to Climate Finance

With the goal of advancing collaborative and coordinated programming between GEF and GCF, and consistent with UNFCCC COP guidance on improving climate finance access, a partnership was formed with the Task Force on Access to Climate Finance to explore measures for joint programming in an initial set of five pilot countries, namely, Bangladesh, Fiji, Jamaica, Rwanda and Uganda.

This collaboration was announced at COP27 during an initial meeting between GEF, GCF and representatives of the five countries as well as from the United Kingdom, serving as the Secretariat for the Task Force. It was agreed that the first *Joint Programming Consultation* would be held in Rwanda, and this was carried out in conjunction with the GEF National Dialogue in December 2022.

Building on this experience, a second consultation was held in Uganda from 15-17 November 2023 in conjunction with the GEF-8 National Dialogue Meeting. The importance of strong partnerships for enhanced complementarity was well noted during a specific session on LTV efforts between GEF and GCF.

Convened under the auspices of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development with GEF and GCF support, the meeting covered:

1. Programs and country opportunities offered by the GEF and GCF;
2. Policies and results management frameworks of the funds;
3. GEF-GCF Long-term Vision for Complementarity and Coherence;
4. Perspectives and priorities of the Government of Uganda; and
5. GEF and GCF delivery of climate impact based on country priorities.

The consultation provided an opportunity to the relevant stakeholders to learn how complementary programming can be achieved and identify priority areas. Given the positive feedback from the engagements with Rwanda and Uganda, GEF and GCF are in discussion with the Task Force and participating countries about replicating the model in Jamaica, Bangladesh and Fiji.

GEF Assembly

19. The Seventh GEF Assembly, convened in Vancouver, Canada from August 22 to 26, 2023 had the sharing of information, lessons learned and knowledge as core objectives, and it was constructed as critical stocktaking for 2030 goals to end pollution and nature loss, combat climate change, and propel inclusive, locally-led conservation. GCF Secretariat staff participated in various aspects of the Assembly, including plenary meetings, thematic and side-events, and informal discussions between GEF and GCF Secretariat staff and with countries were held on the sidelines of the Assembly to take stock of LTV progress and to plan efforts for the year ahead.

Innovations in Design of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)

20. Under a mandate from CBD COP15, and as reported to the GEF Council during its 66th Meeting,¹⁷ the GEF has used the design of the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) to help inform the streamlining the GEF project cycle with the objective of reducing complexity and facilitating faster country access to GEF resources. The roll-out by GCF of its updated Simplified Approval Process (SAP) for smaller scale and lower risk climate action projects or programs may also inform the ongoing streamlining efforts of GEF. Experience is already being gained with the GBFF's approval process based on selection rounds and the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) submissions, alongside the GCF's SAP, expanding understanding on both how to ease country access and improve financing coherence. Internal secretariat efficiency exercises can also provide an opportunity for cross-organizational learning.

II. Sharing Information, Indicators, Lessons Learned, and Knowledge

21. Engagement of the two funds continued, both bilaterally and as part of larger groups of providers of multilateral climate financing, to promote sharing of information, reciprocal understanding and cross-pollination in the area of knowledge sharing, indicators and results management.

22. The Climate Funds Collaboration Platform on Results, Indicators, and Methodologies for Measuring Impact among key climate finance delivery channels arose from a joint decision by the heads of the Climate Funds at COP25 in Madrid, during the third Annual Dialogue of Climate Funds. It aims at improving mutual understanding of the respective processes and results monitoring practices of key participants in the global climate finance architecture, and both GEF and GCF have been engaged since inception and continue to actively contribute and participate to.

23. The Platform on Results began its third cycle of work in May 2023, just as the latest

¹⁷ GEF, 2024, [Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/08/Rev.3.

LTV reporting period began, with its first workshop focusing on gender-related indicators and how to track gender results in climate projects. Two additional workshops subsequently took place, focusing, respectively, on monitoring and evaluation policies and seeking harmonized methodologies for measuring adaptation results, and on expanding opportunities for learning from the findings of project and program evaluations. The GEF and the GCF were strongly involved in preparing these events and remain engaged in implementing the workplan. The Platform is expected to form the basis for a working group on results and indicators under the MCFs Action Plan on complementarity and coherence.

III. Communications and Outreach

24. As in previous reporting periods, the most significant joint communication and outreach efforts were associated with collaborative learning events and information sharing around COP28 in Dubai. Building on the cooperation between GEF and GCF in organizing a joint pavilion during COP26 and COP27, this was expanded for the first time to include the AF and CIF to jointly organize a pavilion featuring the efforts of all four Multilateral Climate Funds. In addition to being cost effective, this also allowed for a format with fewer seminar-style events and greater use of the space for small group and bilateral meetings, including five Q&A sessions on thematic topics during which each of the four funds presented its approach with experts on hand to answer questions covering the topics of: gender responsiveness; access to and coherence and complementarity among the funds; climate mitigation; climate adaptation; and nature-based solutions.

25. In addition, lessons learned from the GEF-GCF work on joint programming with pilot countries of the Taskforce were shared during a dedicated side event held on December 5, 2023 at COP28, 'Streamlining access to climate finance and enhancing impact', together with the results of the independent analysis on complementarity and coherence of the two funds' policies and processes that was concluded in 2023 as part of the LTV engagement between the two funds. Additionally, GEF and GCF also held a joint meeting on December 3, 2023 at COP28, with the LTV joint programming pilot countries, to take stock of progress and discuss on possible next steps.

26. The joint collaboration at COP28 also included developing common messaging, social media assets and sharing relevant stories and video products. Further opportunities for communication collaboration, including a shared pavilion at COP29, was discussed during working-group meetings of the four climate funds in April, 2024.

27. To help increase the engagement and effectiveness of youth in country delegations to UNFCCC meetings, GEF partnered with the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy to curate and present a free online course that includes a module on climate finance and the roles of the multilateral climate funds, including GEF and GCF.

FUTURE PLANS

28. GEF and GCF have an active LTV implementation agenda for the year ahead, covering the key areas of joint country programming, follow-up to the study on policies and processes, joint initiatives and enhanced collaboration in communications. This will now be carried out as part of, and aligned with, the wider context of the MCFs Action Plan

on Complementarity and Coherence to be presented to the governing bodies of all four funds in advance of COP29.

29. Based on the feedback received by the governing bodies of the MCFs in relation to the MCFs Action Plan, and to the next steps in the implementation of the MCFs joint work, the LTV Steering Committee may discuss over the next reporting period any updates that may be proposed to the GEF Council and the GCF Board to coordinate and align the two workstreams and ensure duplications are minimized, while maintaining the momentum created under the LTV and ensure the LTV continues to deliver on its key engagement areas, including on joint programming in the five pilot countries that have been identified to date. The continued progress on the LTV may also help inform the level of ambition and longer-term actions to be assumed by the MCF joint work.

30. The next reporting period will be also marked by the beginning of the GEF Trust Fund replenishment and LDCF and SCCF programming strategy negotiations for the GEF's ninth investment cycle (GEF-9), which will commence on July 1, 2026. This will represent an important opportunity to continue exchanges with GCF on our respective strengths and complementarities, and for the GCF's technical staff to provide inputs in the development of such key programming documents that will shape the GEF's directions up to the end of this crucial decade for climate, nature and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Joint Programming

31. At present, cooperation around country programming is expected to remain primarily centered on GEF and GCF in partnership with the Task Force on Access to Climate Finance, building on the successful joint country programming exercises already undertaken in Rwanda and Uganda. It is anticipated that one to two additional country programming efforts will be organized over the next reporting period, depending on country demand and readiness, even as discussions continue with the Secretariat of the Task Force to advance both country work and the sharing of lessons that engage all five pilot countries (which include Bangladesh, Jamaica and Fiji, in addition to Rwanda and Uganda) as well as other interested organizations and countries. Learning on LTV topics will continue from the ongoing exercises in Rwanda and Uganda with support from GEF and GCF and planning and implementation conducted in a more coordinated fashion.

32. Other opportunities for enhanced programming coordination at the country or regional levels will also be pursued, including cross-participation of GCF in GEF National Dialogues and of GEF in the formulation of GCF Country Programs and plans. Technical discussions with mutually accredited implementing agencies/entities will continue in an effort to identify and pursue opportunities for synergies between their GEF and GCF portfolios and pipelines.

33. Furthermore, GEF and GCF have initiated discussions with the NDC Partnership about ways the Partnership can support some of the country-level joint planning work, noting that the Partnership has now taken over responsibilities related to some of the Secretariat functions for the Task Force on Access to Climate Finance, which has been a key partner of GEF and GCF in the delivery of joint programming activities in the five pilot countries to date.

Policies and Processes

34. The findings and recommendations of the policies and processes study commissioned by GEF and GCF are now informing dialogue among the four MCFs, with some recommendations offering promising avenues for developing practical and actionable measures to improve coherence and complementarity among the funds. While serving as helpful input, the exact use of the study by the MCFs awaits agreement on their joint Action Plan and the operationalization of its governance structure and working groups.

Major Initiatives and Joint Investments

35. Dialogue continues between GEF and GCF about geographically or thematically based joint initiatives. With the COP28 outcomes having specified goals regarding the expansion of energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as the reduction in methane emissions, and following the decisions on the global goal on adaptation and on the loss and damage fund funding arrangements, there discussions are ongoing as to how GEF, GCF and other MCFs might best support the efforts in developing countries, to contribute to meeting these consensus global targets. With completion of the development of USP-2, the GCF Board has recently determined its programming priorities for the GCF-2 period, and the GEF-8 Integrated Programs are well underway. Additional areas under discussion include nature-based solutions (including forest and blue carbon management and in the context of GBFF's establishment), urban climate resilience, e-mobility expansion, and various initiatives to improve the mobilization of private capital for climate solutions, among others. Early dialogue regarding GEF-9 programming directions will also begin during the coming year and will certainly include LTV considerations.

Communications

36. The upcoming CBD COP16 in Cali, Colombia may serve as a venue for further dialogue on LTV topics, including opportunities for GEF and GCF to cooperate in better addressing synergistic opportunities that recognize the climate-nature nexus.

37. The evolution of the joint UNFCCC COP pavilion is expected to extend to COP29, with the MCFs coming together again to co-host a joint venue. The approach builds on the positive COP28 experience, at which greater opportunities for bilateral discussions and support to negotiations were achieved while offering a venue for up-to-date and practical exchanges of information in support of impactful climate actions. Opportunities for joint publications and other communications outreach will also continue to be sought.
