



Technical Expert Workshop on Climate Adaptation Finance

Concept Note

Dates and duration: March 5-6, 2018 (2 days)

Venue: Premier Room, Oakwood Premier, Songdo, Incheon South Korea

Number of participants: 50 technical experts, 15 GCF staff

Target profile: Experts in climate adaptation finance, policy and programmes in global, national, or subnational levels from research, civil society, government and financial institutions with knowledge of GCF, its activities and challenges in relation to climate adaptation

I. Background and Context

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has been established with the purpose of making a significant contribution to the global efforts to combat climate change. Designated as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the GCF promotes a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development by providing support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund specifically states that the GCF Board is responsible for balancing the allocation of resources between adaptation and mitigation activities. However, attracting high quality adaptation proposals and approving proposals have been a challenge for the GCF. Proposals are not clearly demonstrating the link to climate change and there is a lack of shared understanding in the Board about which adaptation projects the GCF should support and which costs to cover, as lines between development and climate change intervention are often blurred.

Recognizing that further guidance may be required to provide support to adaptation activities more effectively, at the seventeenth meeting, the GCF Board requested the Secretariat through decision B.17/10, to develop a proposal for "Green Climate Fund's approach and scope for support to adaptation activities". The Secretariat's proposal will take into account "best practices from other multilateral funds and other approaches".

To formulate this proposal, the Secretariat is utilizing different methods to gather inputs from various sources including engaging the World Resources Institute to perform background research and consulting the GCF's Private Sector Advisory Group. The Secretariat is also organizing a two-day technical expert workshop to collect expert views on climate adaptation practices and approaches to adaptation finance.



II. Objectives

The technical expert workshop will:

- Explore the current status of climate adaptation finance and activities
- Identify emerging best practices in climate adaptation projects and programmes

III. Expected Outcomes

Through the workshop, experts will identify:

- Practical examples of well-designed climate adaptation activities and projects, including lessons from implementation cases and practices
- Elements that constitute a strong climate justification in adaptation
- Practical and implementable approaches to climate adaptation finance
- Ways in which GCF could work with its partners and utilize relevant supporting tools to attract high quality adaptation proposals across public and private sector funding windows

IV. Workshop Format

The workshop is divided into four sessions. Each session shall consist of a panel discussion and a breakout session. Each session will have one moderator, one fire starter, and three to four panelists. The session will start with a 3-minute introduction by the moderator, followed by a 7-minute presentation by the fire starter. The fire starter will pave the way for the start of the panel discussion. Each panelist will be given 3-5 minutes to share their insights and comments on the topic. The fire starter will then join the panelists and the floor will be opened for a Q&A portion. After the Q&A, experts will be grouped into five groups and will discuss the topics at hand. Each group will have a facilitator and will assign a presenter to share a summary of their discussions to the plenary session. At the end of each session, a summary of the whole session will be presented by the moderator.

V. Workshop Program

Monday, 5 March 2018	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration and coffee
Opening Session	
9:00 – 9:10	Opening remarks
9:10 – 9:30	Plenary session
Session 1 Defining adaptation activities	
9:30 – 9:35	Introduction: Moderator
9:35 – 9:45	Presentation: Fire starter
9:45 – 10:15	Panel discussion
10:15 – 10:30	Break
10:30 – 11:40	Breakout session
11:40 – 12:10	Plenary session
12:10 – 12:30	Session summary
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
Session 2 Design of strategies, programmes and projects for climate adaptation	
14:00 – 14:05	Introduction: Moderator
14:05 – 14:15	Presentation: Fire starter
14:15 – 14:45	Panel discussion
14:45 – 15:00	Break
15:00 – 16:10	Breakout session
16:10 – 16:40	Plenary session
16:40 – 17:00	Session summary
Tuesday, 6 March 2018	
Session 3 Financing trends	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration and coffee
9:00 – 9:05	Introduction: Moderator
9:05 – 9:15	Presentation: Fire starter
9:15 – 9:45	Panel discussion
9:45 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 11:10	Breakout session
11:10 – 11:40	Plenary session
11:40 – 12:00	Session summary
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch
Session 4 Building resilience	
13:30 – 13:35	Introduction: Moderator
13:35 – 13:45	Presentation: Fire starter
13:45 – 14:15	Panel discussion
14:15 – 14:30	Break
14:30 – 15:40	Breakout session
15:40 – 16:10	Plenary session
16:10 – 16:30	Session summary
16:30 – 16:45	Break
Closing Session	
16:45 – 17:25	Wrap-up session
17:25 – 17:40	Closing remarks



Annex I. Main topics and guiding questions (open for comments)

Topic 1: Defining adaptation activities

- How is the specific link defined and clarified between proposed strategies or programme or project activities and climate change (narrative, hypothesis, theory of change)?
- How are co-benefits, synergies, vulnerabilities and trade-offs defined, identified, and measured in climate adaptation?
- What metrics and methodologies exist for identifying costs of adaptation and separating out incremental costs and benefits?
- How do we find and present relevant climate change predictions and impacts for a stronger climate rationale?
- How do we clarify the difference or distinguish between adaptation and development?

Topic 2: Design of strategies, programmes, and projects for climate adaptation

- What are the processes and decision-making tools used in designing high impact adaptation strategies (e.g. risks and vulnerability assessments, stakeholder engagement strategies, defining costs of inaction and benefits of action)?
- What are the key challenges that countries face in developing good adaptation projects and programmes?
- How do we ensure that ESS and gender issues are addressed and that potential ESS benefits are optimized?

Topic 3: Financing trends

- What are and what are not currently being funded in climate change adaptation (e.g. in terms of countries/regions, sectors such as insurance, health, ecosystems-based adaptation, resilient infrastructures), and why?
- How is the private sector participating in adaptation financing and what are the key barriers and opportunities to further scale up this engagement?
- What are best strategies to blend and phase financing for adaptation across institutions, and projects, e.g. through public-private partnerships, effective financing modalities?

Topic 4: Building resilience

- How do we best measure the progress and impacts of adaptation activities/investments and their effectiveness at different levels (e.g., local, national, regional, international) and over time?
- Which types of adaptation programmes and projects have the best track record?
- What lessons can be learned from evaluations and assessments of previous adaptation strategies, programmes, and projects?
- How and who best ensures that adaptation process and financing cycle continue?