

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND

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CLIMATE FINANCE FRAMEWORK AND PRINCIPLES

- **Under the UNFCCC, Climate Finance** refers to the financial resources mobilised by developed countries to help developing countries mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change, including public climate finance commitments by developed countries
- Developed countries committed to **provide funding for the “agreed full incremental costs” of climate change in developing countries**, meaning the additional costs of transforming business-as-usual (or the fossil-fuel dependent economic growth strategies) into **low-emission climate-resilient development pathways**
- **Scale of global climate finance needs depends on the category of climate action pursued** (e.g., adaptation, mitigation or reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation - REDD, agriculture, technology, etc.)

CLIMATE FINANCE FRAMEWORK AND PRINCIPLES

- A climate finance governance framework stem from Parties' existing **human rights obligations or a larger body of environmental law** outside of the UNFCCC (such as the 1992 Rio Declaration and follow-up outcomes such as the UNDRIP and Paris Agreement).
- Serves as **normative guidance for a coherent framework** by which to assess and compare existing as well as, new funding mechanisms and commitments, under the UNFCCC
- UNFCCC has laid out that the parties need to take climate actions, including on finance, on “**the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR)**”
- Cancun Agreement reiterated that funding principles on long-term finance should be “**scaled up, with new and additional, as well as, predictable and adequate funding that shall be provided by developed countries to developing country Parties.**”



WHAT IS THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND

- GCF is designated as an **operating entity** of the **financial mechanism under UNFCCC**. Under the guidance of the UNFCCC-COP, the GCF is governed by **the GCF Board** which is accountable to and functions to support projects, programmes, policies and other activities in developing countries based on specific thematic windows
- Formally established in 2010 at UNFCCC-COP-16 in Cancun, the Fund shall contribute to the achievement of the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC and mandated to support the NDC of each developing country
- GCF aims to promote a “**paradigm shift** towards **low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways** by providing support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change.”
- The Fund will play a key role in channeling **new, additional, adequate and predictable** financial resources to developing countries and will catalyze climate finance, from both public and private, and at the international and national levels.

GCF Principles:

Country Driven Approach

Open/ partnership organization

A range of financing instruments

**Balanced allocation between
adaptation and mitigation**

Sound Safeguards

Paradigm shift potential



WHAT THE GCF HAS BEEN DOING

- 3 Board meetings per Year with more 300 participants
- Approval of Accredited Entities
- Provide support for the Readiness of countries
- Approval of mitigation and adaptation projects
- Approval of Policy frameworks: ESMS, IRM, IP Policy, Sectoral Guides
- Initial evaluations of project implementation
- Outreach to countries
- Regional dialogues



PARTICIPATION IN THE GCF

- THE BOARD AS THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OF THE GCF WILL DEVELOP MECHANISMS TO PROMOTE THE INPUT AND PARTICIPATION OF STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING PRIVATE SECTOR ACTORS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, VULNERABLE GROUPS, WOMEN AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, IN THE DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE FINANCED BY THE FUND.
- "THE FUND WILL BE COUNTRY-FOCUSED AND WILL PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN COUNTRY-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF RELEVANT INSTITUTIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS."

WHY GCF IS RELEVANT FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

- Climate change impact is **real** for everyone but weighs ~~heavier to indigenous peoples~~
- But it takes a lot of technology and finances to combat and adapt to climate change
- Indigenous peoples has been **actively** engaging in climate change processes and have been calling for **participation, engagements, safeguards redress mechanisms, and access to finance,** among others



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' KEY CONCERNS IN THE GCF

- Implementation of the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy, as adopted in BI9 in Feb 2018
- Continuing participation and engagement
- Ensures implementation of social and environmental management system and safeguards in all projects
- Easily accessible grievance mechanism
- Simplified and improved access to GCF resources

WHAT HAVE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES BEEN DOING SO FAR?

- Participation in board meetings with a small IP Advocacy Team
- Reaching out to board members, secretariat and advisers
 - one on one meetings
 - Letters
 - Submissions (Info Disclosure, Environmental and social management system (ESMS), Sectoral Papers/ Guidelines, etc.)
 - Roundtable discussions
- Working with the civil society organizations and other observers in the GCF
- Regional and global workshops



HOW DO WE ACHIEVE GREATER PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THIS IMPORTANT SPACE?

At the country level:

- Engage with National Designated Authority and Accredited Entities with projects in IP territories
- Input into country programs, national adaptation plans, funding proposal priorities, and direct access national entities.
- Explore participation in the Readiness Program





HOW DO WE ACHIEVE GREATER PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THIS SPACE?

- Accredited entities
 - Possibility of direct access to funds
 - Participate in the country preparation phase of funding proposals

- Propose projects/programs designed by Indigenous Peoples that can be considered in the GCF
- Become an implementing entity for funding proposals
- Establish direct access windows of funds for indigenous peoples

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE GREATER PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THIS SPACE?

PROJECT LEVEL :

- PARTICIPATE IN THE DESIGN,
IMPLEMENTATION AND
MONITORING/EVALUATION OF
PROJECTS



HOW DO WE ACHIEVE GREATER PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THIS SPACE?

- **FUND LEVEL**

- Participation in online board meetings
- Be part of networks of civil society organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities
- Impact assessment of funding proposals and agenda documents
- Regional multi-stakeholder consultations
- Petitions and letters to GCF copied to NDAs
- Indigenous Peoples' Policy, IRM, ESMS, REDD+ RBP



Challenges

- Funding Proposals with little stakeholder participation
- The "active" participation of observers remains limited
- Limited access to board documents and board decisions between meetings
- Limited to only two seats for active observers from CSOs in the Board



Challenges

- No specific window to access funds for Indigenous Peoples
- Restricted Project Information
- Language, limited to English
- In the context of the pandemic, all of these participation challenges are amplified



Ways forward for Continuing Advocacy Work of the Indigenous Peoples within the GCF

- MONITORING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GCF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES POLICY
- MAXIMIZE SPACES FOR CSO ACTIVE OBSERVERS
- UPDATE REPORT FROM CO-CHAIRS REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IP ADVISORY GROUP (IPAG) AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS



THANK YOU!

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