



# Consultation for the Last Batch Draft Sectoral Guides of the Green Climate Fund

## Background and Commenting Framework Guidance note for External Stakeholders

6 May 2022

## **Introduction**

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is the world's largest dedicated fund that helps developing countries reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and enhance their ability to respond to climate change. It was set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010. The GCF has a crucial role in serving the Paris Agreements goal on climate change of keeping average global temperature rise below 2-degrees Celsius by channelling climate finance to developing countries, which have joined other nations in committing to climate action.

Dialogue between the GCF and stakeholders plays a principal role with the GCF's work. The consultation on the draft GCF Sectoral Guides will enable the GCF secretariat to draw from and capture perspectives and opinions from a wide range of stakeholders and will play a key role in how the Sectoral Guides are further developed. The external feedback is also crucial to solidifying working partnerships between GCF and its stakeholders.

The consultations will provide opportunities for feedback through a number of online platforms and methods to enable meaningful participation from a range of stakeholders. The Sectoral Guide consultation seeks to ensure and foster an environment where the decision-making process is more informed, transparent, thorough, accessible, and accountable.

## **Background**

The Board, in decision B.17/08, requested the Secretariat to undertake additional analysis, taking into consideration the potential investment priority areas presented in document GCF/B.09/06, to identify specific results areas where targeted GCF investment would have the most impact. In the same decision, the Board also requested the Secretariat to undertake targeted outreach to promote partnerships between accredited entities and those potential non-accredited entities that have the technical expertise to align the portfolio composition with the initial results management framework contained in decision B.07/04.

This work was also included in the Secretariat work programmes for 2018 and 2019 which asked the Secretariat to advance the development of Sectoral Guides. As part of this mandate and in line with its 2019 Work Programme the Secretariat has been working on the development of Sectoral Guides across GCF's eight results areas. This sector-specific guidance is aimed to guide and inform the development of funding proposals that are of high quality, meet the GCF's investment criteria and are ready to be submitted for Board consideration and approval.

The guidance seeks to provide an overview and understanding of country needs and of the potential to deliver the greatest impact in support of country priorities. They will also provide information on how targeted GCF investment aligned with country priorities could have the most impact for each sector, driving paradigm shift and demonstrating strong climate impact. The first consultation version of sectoral guides are intended to be made available in the mid of 2022 and it is expected that these will continue to be improved and updated as comments are received, new knowledge

developed, and experience gained. Based on stakeholders' feedback, more comprehensive guidelines that will apply for all types of GCF projects and programmes will be developed as part of the full Sectoral Guides in 2022 and beyond.

## **Process**

The development process of the draft Sectoral Guides will be iterative where GCF stakeholders will play a key role in the final development of the Sectoral Guides. To develop the Sectoral Guides, the GCF collaborated with its Communities of Practice (CoP). The CoP is a framework of engagement that enables the GCF to tap into the most knowledgeable global experts to assist it with sectoral analysis to ensure a sound technical base.

Based on the preliminary work the first drafts of the Sectoral Guides are now ready for consultations with GCF stakeholders that include GCF Board Members, UNFCCC, National Designated Authorities (NDAs), Accredited Entities (AEs), Civil Society and Private Sector Observers and other technical experts.

Feedbacks on the draft Sectoral Guides are welcome using the provided comments sheet, which can be submitted back via email to [sectoralguides@gcfund.org](mailto:sectoralguides@gcfund.org). Following the release of the draft Sectoral Guides, webinars lasting 1 to 1.5 hours will be organized for each Sectoral Guide. The consultation will be open for three months from the initial release date.

The draft Sectoral Guides have been put together with the intention that they will evolve in their scope after considering feedback from stakeholders after the consultation. This guidance note aims to share the guiding principles for both pre- and post-implementation standards that the GCF aims to follow throughout the consultation period and beyond.

## **Proposed Work Plan**

See Annex 1

## **Languages**

English will be the main language used during the consultation process. Spanish, French and Arabic comments are optional.

## **List of Sectoral Guide documents to be consulted during fourth batch consultation period**

1. Climate Information & Early Warning Systems
2. Energy Efficiency

## Consultation Principles of GCF Secretariat on the Sectoral Guide

- **Based on and aligned with established international science:** The Sectoral Guides are based on and aligned with established international science. This principle will also be followed when considering feedback for incorporation received during the consultation.
- **Aligned with GCF policies:** The Sectoral Guides are aligned with the GCF's policies. Comments received during the consultation that are considered for incorporation in the Sectoral Guides will adhere to the GCF's policies.
- **Transparency:** The GCF is open to decisions and processes being influenced by stakeholders who are external to the decision-making process. How stakeholder input is used will also be open and clear.
- **Access:** Stakeholder involved in the GCF draft Sectoral Guide consultation will have access to all relevant information before the consultation process begins. This aims to ensure that stakeholders are able to provide informed and meaningful feedback on the draft Sectoral Guides. The GCF will also provide access to documents pre-consultation, along with comments received on a dedicated platform for all stakeholders to view.
- **Accountability:** Feedback from stakeholders during the consultation process will be collected, assessed, stored and if appropriate incorporated into the draft Sectoral Guides. This process will be followed by communication between the GCF and consultation participants in relation to their feedback.
- **Visibility:** The GCF will try to reach all stakeholders that are potentially interested in the draft Sectoral Guides consultation process via email lists, technical and professional networks and press releases.
- **Accessibility:** The GCF will provide a number of methods for stakeholders to provide feedback via online platforms. These methods will differ depending on stakeholder needs and requests.

## **Annex 1.**

### **Proposed Work Plan for the third batch of draft Sectoral Guides**

1. **Three-month online consultation using HypelInnovation and Document Review System platforms** (6 May 2022 – 6 August 2022)
  - a) The draft Sectoral Guides will be open for comments on two platforms:
    - i. **HypelInnovation** for external technical and professional experts (requires online registration)
    - ii. **Document Review System** for AEs, Board Members and other stakeholders with GCF platform log-in credentials.
  - b) Stakeholders will be notified in advance of the draft Sectoral Guides being open for consultation providing relevant registrations links and other information.
  
2. **Webinars** (1 and 2 June 2022)
  - a) Two sessions per Sectoral Guide will be held on each day at 8:00am KST and 6:00pm KST, respectively.
  - b) A pre-recorded presentation to introduce the specific draft Sectoral Guide will be held for stakeholders on Zoom.
  - c) The pre-recorded webinar is followed by a live Q&A session with panel members consisting of GCF Secretariat staff and other specialists involved in the drafting of the Sectoral Guide.
  - d) Stakeholders will be notified in a separate correspondence, along with Zoom registration links for the draft Sectoral Guide webinars at least two weeks in advance of the webinar date.
  
3. **Organizing, categorising and incorporating consultation feedback** (Late September 2022 – Late October 2022)
  - a) Post-consultation the GCF Secretariat will organize, categorise and incorporate feedback received from the consultation.
  - b) Feedback received will be available for stakeholders to view (without identifying information) on HypelInnovation post-consultation.
  - c) Comments that are not able to be incorporated into these draft Sectoral Guides will be saved for later to be considered for the more detailed Annex documents in the future.
  
4. **Editing and publication** (November – December 2022)
  - a) Using professional editing services, the GCF will finalize the editing of the draft Sectoral Guides with incorporated feedback sourced from the consultation.
  - b) The draft Sectoral Guides will then be submitted to the GCF Board for approval and subsequent publication.
  - c) After approval and publication, the Sectoral Guides will be made publicly available and acknowledge those involved in the consultation process. Stakeholders will also be notified of the final publication.