

# Enhancing synergies towards climate action and sustainable development on the ground

**GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop**

Lviv, Ukraine, 6-9 March 2017



**Ms Andrea Iro, Climate Finance and Capacity-building Subprogramme**  
UNFCCC secretariat

# Overview and aim of the presentation

---

- 1. Highlight key aspects of the “transformation agenda”:**  
Interlinkages and synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 2. Present entry-points and opportunities for enhancing synergies at the country level among MEAs and through GEF programming**
- 3. Provide some practical examples for strengthening interaction and engagement in 2017 and beyond**
- 4. Questions and joint discussion**



# The “transformation agenda”

---

The 2015 outcomes define one universal agenda for the well-being of all societies → the **transformation agenda**

The Paris Agreement

The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

**Unprecedented universal action involving all actors at all levels in all regions of the world is crucial.**



# Paris Agreement and the SDGs: a shared and interwoven agenda

---

The deep synergy between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda is manifested through the nationally determined contributions (NDCs)

- ❑ *Direct inter-linkages* for SDGs that affect global GHG emission trends such as: SDG 7 (Affordable and clean energy), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 12 (responsible consumption & production), 13 (climate action)
- ❑ *Indirect inter-linkages*: adverse impacts of climate change on the achievement of SDGs such as: SDG 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and wellbeing), 12, 14 (life below water) as well as 15 (life on land).
- ❑ *Resilience building* closely linked to the pursuit of SDG 1, 2, 5 (gender equality), 8 (decent work and economic growth), and 10 (reduced inequalities)



# Key aspects of the “transformation agenda”

---

## ➤ **Urgency of action**

- ❑ Unprecedented rates of de-carbonization are required → Need to shift investments into climate-friendly infrastructure

## ➤ **Cooperative action in support to national contributions**

- ❑ Key to transformation is integration of climate action and SDG implementation across governments and sectors
- ❑ Governments to act in full understanding of their unique national circumstances and to ensure that all relevant sectoral ministries work hand in hand

## ➤ **Important role of Non-state actors**

- ❑ Important to build on the momentum generated on the lead to Paris and SD Conference → support gathered from progressive cities, regions, states, businesses and investors

## ➤ **Regular stocktaking on progress**

- ❑ Transparency mechanisms and global assessments of progress based on aggregation of reporting and on best science available



# Entry-points and opportunities for enhancing synergies at the country level among MEAs and through GEF programming

## UNFCCC guidance on GEF Programming

### ***Overall framework: GEF – Convention***

- Operating entity of the Financial Mechanism; shall serve the Paris Agreement
- Functions under the guidance of and is accountable to the COP
- COP provides regular guidance to the GEF on policies, programme priorities and eligibility criteria for funding
- GEF reports annually to the COP

### ***Guidance on GEF-7 replenishment (11/CP.22)***

- Consider lessons learnt from past replenishment periods
- Take into account the entry into force of the Paris Agreement in its deliberations on the strategy for the 7<sup>th</sup> replenishment
- Alignment of GEF support with priorities identified in NDCs
- Support for the Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)
- Assist developing countries in accessing resources in an efficient manner
- Streamlining of GEF approval process
- GEF to take into account climate risks in its activities



# Entry-points and opportunities for enhancing synergies at the country level among MEAs and through GEF programming

- Implementation of NDCs
- Capacity-building of relevant actors at the country level
- Multi-focal area projects providing sustainable development co-benefits and leveraging additional (private) funding
- Facilitating access to funds
- Transparency framework under the UNFCCC



## Practical examples for strengthening interaction and engagement in 2017 and beyond

---

Providing country experiences and actively engaging in UNFCCC policy discussions, e.g.:

- ❑ **In-session workshop on long-term finance** (Bonn, May 2017):
  - ✓ Articulating and translating needs identified in country-driven processes into projects and programmes;
  - ✓ Roles of policies and enabling environments for mitigation and adaptation finance;
  - ✓ Facilitating enhanced access to climate finance
- ❑ **Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance** (theme, topic, tbd)
- ❑ **Launch of the work of the Paris Committee on Capacity-building** (Bonn, May 2017):
  - ✓ “Capacity-building activities for the implementation of NDCs”





# Practical examples for strengthening interaction and engagement in 2017 and beyond

---

## Actively engage with the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre

- ❑ Five regional centers in partnership with UNFCCC and regional institutions
- ❑ Mission: to catalyze climate action on the ground
- ❑ Key benefits
  - Direct support, partnerships and outreach
  - Technical expertise and experience in the regional, national and sub-national context
  - Active network of non-party stakeholder partners
  - Close partnerships with financial institutions to match actions with sources of funding



For more information...

---



**Please visit the following webpages:**

- The Paris Agreement:  
*<http://unfccc.int/9485>*
  
- The Standing Committee on Finance:  
*<http://unfccc.int/6877.php>*
  
- Long-term climate finance:  
*<http://unfccc.int/6814.php>*
  
- Capacity-building:  
*<http://unfccc.int/1033.php>*



---

Thank you!



UNFCCC Headquarter  
Bonn, Germany



# The GEF and the Climate Change Convention

---

- Longest operating climate fund
- Operating entity of the Financial Mechanism (GEF serves the Paris Agreement)
- Manages climate funds under the Convention
  - Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)
  - Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)
- Funding for mitigation, adaptation as well as enabling activities (National Communications and BURs)
- Operates the Capacity Building Initiative on Transparency
- Relation with the COP through guidance and reporting provides guidance to the GEF at each session
- GEF reports on its activities to the COP on an annual basis



# Overview of the climate finance architecture post-Paris

