Evaluative Evidence on The Least Developed Country Fund and The Special Climate Change Fund

GEF IEO, October 2021
Role of LDCF/SCCF

- **LDCF** supports climate adaptation efforts of LDCs
- **SCCF** supports climate adaptation and mitigation in non-Annex I countries, especially non-LDCs

Interventions

- Climate smart agriculture
- Climate information systems
- Disaster risk management
- Natural Resource management
- Coastal zone management
- Water resources management
GEF IEO Coverage of LDCF/SCCF

- LDCF Program Evaluation
- SCCF Program Evaluation
- Annual Evaluation Report (AER)
- Thematic Evaluations and APR
Relevance of LDCF/SCCF

| COP guidance and decisions | GEF adaptation programming strategy | Country Policies (I)NDCs |
Least Developed Country Fund

Effectiveness and efficiency

- LDCF project design clearly contributes to GEF adaptation strategic objectives, but less so to new strategic pillars.

- Gender performance of the LDCF portfolio has improved, however there is a knowledge gap in the gender-related results.

- Substantive engagement with the private sector is limited, and LDCF projects face common challenges.

- Lack of resources available for new projects during GEF-6 clearly reduced the efficiency of the LDCF project approval process.

- Once implementation has begun, efficiency of LDCF projects is comparable to other GEF-administered funds.
Catalytic effects in the portfolio of completed projects \((n = 45)\)

- **Production of a public good**: To a large/very large extent
- **Demonstration**: To a moderate extent
- **Replication**: None
- **Scaling up**: To a small/very small extent
Least Developed Country Fund

Post-completion evaluations

Land rehabilitation (terracing and agroforestry), Nyabihu District in Rwanda

Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Nursery on Savai‘i, Island
Overall conclusions

- Highly relevant in meeting recipient countries’ adaptation needs
- Effectiveness: performance is in line with GEF projects
  - LDCF/SCCF portfolios support innovation
  - Gender performance has improved over time, with gaps
  - Private sector engagement is limited in the LDCF and more evident in the SCCF
Least Developed Country Fund/Special Climate Change Fund

Overall conclusions

❖ Efficiency adversely affected by limited and unpredictable funding and donor support

❖ Catalytic effects: public goods and their demonstrations

❖ Sustainability: need for continued action to improve the likelihood of the sustainability of outcomes
2020 Program Evaluation of the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF)
December 2020

2021 Program Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)
December 2021