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

GEF IEO, February 2022
Special Climate Change Fund

SCCF in evolving context

SCCF activity windows

- Most support under window SCCF-A for adaptation in non-LDCs
- Less support under window SCCF-B technology transfer for adaptation
- No support under windows SCCF-C and SCCF-D

SCCF has nearly reached a dormancy phase

- Virtual absence of new pledges since 2014
- Few recently approved projects

SCCF has a unique role to play

- Supports adaptation in non-LDCs
- Only fund with dedicated technology transfer window (SCCF-B) for adaptation
- Could act as incubator, play a de-risking role
Special Climate Change Fund
Relevance

- COP guidance and decisions
- GEF adaptation programming strategy
- Country policies and priorities
Special Climate Change Fund

Coherence

- One-third (11 of 33) completed projects show evidence of complementarity with GCF
  - 5 completed projects have been scaled up with GCF funding
- 6 of 10 recently approved projects discuss collaboration and linkages with GCF in project design
- Synergies with GEF focal areas in MTF projects
Special Climate Change Fund

Effectiveness

• All completed projects developed or introduced new technologies or approaches

• SCCF projects have strengthened institutional capacity, and achieved innovation, legal and regulatory, socioeconomic, and sustainable financing outcomes

• Gender performance of the SCCF portfolio has continued to improve

• Stronger emphasis on private sector engagement
Special Climate Change Fund

Efficiency

• Efficiency seriously undermined by limited and unpredictable funding

• Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation has attracted new partners, but efficiency negatively affected by lack of funding

Sustainability

• 75% of completed projects had sustainable outcomes

• Compared to 63% for GEF TF projects
Recommendation:

The GEF Secretariat should acknowledge the semidormant state of the SCCF and—together with the key and emerging donors and stakeholders—develop a proactive action plan to revitalize the fund.