

### **Meeting Summary**

**Consultation on the GEF Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2018-2022  
For the Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund  
23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018, Washington DC (via teleconference)**

#### **Meeting Objective**

1. The GEF Secretariat organized a meeting with representatives of donors on May 23, 2018, as part of the consultation process to develop a new GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) for the period of 2018 to 2022.
2. The objective of the meeting was to continue discussions and receive feedback on the document titled *Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund and Options for Operational Improvements* for the period 2018 to 2022, and to brief the participants on the proposed way forward. The list of participants is included in Annex I.

#### **Strategy Development and Consultation Process**

3. The meeting was organized as a next step in the strategy development and consultation process.
4. The initial discussion on the new strategy development and consultations took place at the twenty-third LDCF and SCCF Council held on 30 November 2017, under the agenda item on the Strategic Alignment of the LDCF Pipeline. The GEF Secretariat encouraged countries and stakeholders interested in the consultation process to express their willingness to engage to the Secretariat.
5. The GEF Secretariat prepared a tentative consultation schedule, and shared it in mid-January 2018 requesting countries and stakeholders to confirm their interest to engage. A number of confirmations of interest was received through February 2018.
6. The GEF Secretariat held informal bilateral consultations with interested country representatives in March and April 2018. Their feedback informed the draft strategy, which was circulated on 17 April 2018 to the invitees to the consultation meeting.
7. The GEF Secretariat also circulated a draft strategy for technical review to key stakeholders on 13<sup>th</sup> April to solicit comments. Key stakeholders for the technical review included relevant adaptation-related funds, expert institutions on adaptation, Least

Developed Countries Expert Group, UNFCCC and UNCCD Secretariats, and select GEF Agencies.

8. The GEF Secretariat organized a consultation on the draft strategy on April 29, 2018 in Bonn, Germany, that was attended by Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland and the US on the donor side, the LDC Group Chair and members of the LDC Group on the recipient side. The summary has been prepared and shared.
9. In addition, a briefing with representatives of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group to present the draft strategy and to solicit feedback was also held in Bonn on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018. The summary has been prepared and shared.
10. The GEF Secretariat incorporated feedback from these meetings as well as technical review comments into the strategy draft, and circulated a new version for discussion.

### **Summary of Discussions**

11. Mr. Gustavo Fonseca of the GEF Secretariat opened the consultations, and thanked the participants, which included representatives of Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Sweden, the United States, and the United Kingdom. He summarized key changes and improvements made in the strategy draft.
12. Ms. Chizuru Aoki of the GEF Secretariat presented an overview of the proposed programming strategy and policy enhancements.

### ***Feedback from Participants***

13. There was overall appreciation for the proposed programming directions and options for operational improvements among those present, and continued support for the direction of the strategy development process, which has integrated comments and feedback from previous consultations.
14. One participant asked whether the options for operational improvements will be discussed during the upcoming Council. The GEF Secretariat responded that the suggested improvements and rationale will be presented in the strategy reflecting consensus and feedback, with annexes of various options considered.
15. One participant requested clarification on the approval process in the new programming period in the document, specifically paragraph 134 in the draft proposed strategy. The GEF Secretariat clarified that the first-come, first-served approach will not be utilized going forward.
16. The GEF Secretariat was also requested to make a clearer distinction throughout the document between the LDCF and the GEF/GEF Trust Fund. The GEF Secretariat will address this point in the final revision.

17. One participant asked for further clarification on how prioritization criteria will be applied towards project selection, and what some of the criteria may entail – such as innovation and co-benefits. The GEF Secretariat responded that the most important criterion will be the alignment with national priority. Other criteria are summarized in paragraphs 140 and 141, and will be applied in a balanced manner, similar to the practice undertaken in the GEF Trust Fund work program constitutions, and the rationale will be summarized in the work program cover note.
18. One participant inquired how regional/global programming relates to Objective 2 of the proposed strategy and requested further details, such as how much will be set aside and how it will affect programming which is not originating from country requests. The GEF Secretariat responded that resource set aside will be modest, not exceeding ten percent as explained in the strategy. The indicative financing scenarios presented in the document do not separate country versus global/regional allocations, as the global/regional projects could be proposed under any of the objectives. The global/regional initiatives are important to respond to COP guidance, including elements of the LDC work program, and to address innovative initiatives to pilot and de-risk high potential/risk initiatives that countries may not be yet ready to undertake.
19. Two participants indicated that there is a basic challenge in understanding resilience as a broader concept, and articulated that the current indicators refer to output level indicators which are not actually measuring resilience in terms of land and people in tangible and measurable way and requested that the GEF Secretariat liaise with the GCF further on this. The GEF Secretariat confirmed that they are coordinating with the GCF on this matter and will work to strengthen this further. The Secretariat also informed that resilience is included in the GEF-7 strategy and in the review process, which is meant to capture resilience in a broader sense—not just climate change; requiring continuity, institutional and social elements. This will be approached in GEF-7 in coordination with Agencies and with Council's guidance.

#### *Next Steps*

20. The GEF Secretariat will revise the draft to reflect feedback from participants provided during the meeting.
21. The GEF Secretariat plans to post the final document by 28 May 2018 for consideration and decision by the twenty-fourth LDCF/SCCF Council, which will take place on 26 June 2018 in Da Nang, Vietnam. Countries were requested to share their views on the possibility of holding a pledging session at the upcoming LDCF/SCCF Council.
22. Ms. Aoki of the GEF Secretariat thanked all the participants for their active engagement and constructive feedback on the strategy, and closed the meeting.

## ANNEX 1: Meeting Participants

No	Name and affiliation
1	Mr. Jozef Buys, Belgium
2	Ms. Merete Pedersen, Denmark
3	Mr. J������ Lauer-Stumm, France
4	Ms. Katharina Stepping, Germany
5	Ms. Marita Olson, Sweden
6	Mr. Dominic Molloy, United Kingdom
7	Mr. Julian Wright, United Kingdom
8	Mr. Farhan Akhtar, USA
9	Ms. Elizabeth Nichols, USA
GEF SECRETARIAT	
1	Gustavo Fonseca
2	Chizuru Aoki
3	Fareeha Iqbal
4	Katya Kuang-Idba
5	Akio Takemoto
6	Dustin S Schinn
7	Aloke Barnwal
8	Glynis Afiong Barber