



REPUBLIC OF GHANA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE

GREEN CLIMATE FUND

NATIONAL DESIGNATED AUTHORITY (NDA) OPERATIONAL MANUAL

March 2020



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Acronym

AEs	:	Accredited Entities
CSOs	:	Civil Society Organisations
DAEs	:	Direct Access Entities
ESRD	:	Economic Strategy and Research Division
EPA	:	Environmental Protection Agency
GCF	:	Green Climate Fund
MESTI	:	Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation
NAMAs	:	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NAPS	:	National Adaptation Plans
NCCP	:	National Climate Change Policy
NCCSC	:	National Climate Change Steering Committee
NDA	:	National Designated Authority
TAC	:	Technical Advisory Committee
UNFCCC	:	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
GSGDA	:	Ghana Shared Growth Development Agenda
ITAP	:	Independent Technical Advisory Panel
CP	:	Country Programme

SECTION ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Combating climate change and enhancing resilience of communities have moved to the centre stage of global development agenda as impacts have manifested on the entire globe and particularly on developing countries. Ghana is one of the most vulnerable countries due to its climate variability, geography, poverty and a high dependency on natural resources. Climate related natural hazards such as floods, droughts, bushfires, and extreme weather events are increasing in severity and frequency, causing loss of lives and property damage. Most communities in Ghana are already facing climate costs due to their fragile geo-physical structures, unplanned settlements, environmental degradation and low adaptive capacity.

The long-run economic development of Ghana is potentially vulnerable to anthropogenic climate change given the country's dependence on rainfed agriculture, hydropower, and unpaved rural roads. Although Ghana has made significant strides in economic growth and poverty, climate variability and change pose a threat to future growth and development. Rising sea levels, drought, higher temperatures and erratic rainfall negatively impact infrastructure, hydropower production, food security and coastal and agricultural livelihoods.

1.2 Policy and Institutional Response

The government of Ghana has made a concerted effort to tackle climate change challenge through a number of policies, strategies and institutional response mechanisms. These policies include the national environment policy, national climate change policy (NCCP) and its Action Program for implementation: 2015-2020 and a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy to tackle climate change and disaster risks in the country. The NCCP was developed in 2013 to institutionalize mechanisms to effectively manage climate change and disasters in Ghana. The policy is hinged on several assessment and national development policy documents including the Ghana Shared Growth Development Agenda (GSGDA I) (2010-2013), and the just ended GSGDA II (2014-2017) and stakeholder consultations. These policies

explicitly recognize climate change and adaptation as vital to addressing the potential impacts of climate change and disaster risks and aim to accelerate agricultural modernization, enhance sustainable natural resource management and improve private-sector competitiveness. Ghana has submitted its mitigation and adaptation actions in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to tackle mitigation and adaptation.

The national climate change strategies and Ghana's NDCs are the strategic framework guiding the preparation and implementation of GCF funding proposals. Ghana's climate change policy and sustainable development strategies are directly in line with the GCF goals which seek to enhance the resilience and climate compatible economy through low carbon growth, adaptation and social development. The National Climate Change Policy and Ghana's NDCs affirm Ghana's resolve to lessen the potential hardships that climate change impacts may pose to the sustainable development of our country. It also aimed at strengthening her adaptive capacity and building resilience of the society and ecosystems. In addition, a number of institutions responsible for providing fundamental base for the formulation, implementation and coordination of environmental and climate change policies and programmes and climate finance in Ghana have been established.

The National Designated Authority (NDA) has been established in Ghana with the authority and mandate to officially communicate and liaise with the Fund. The NDA is set up to lead all correspondence between Ghana and the GCF Secretariat to ensure that proposals submitted by national accredited entities are aligned with the country's climate change policies, strategies and sustainable development goals. NDA is expected to communicate the country's strategic priorities for financing low-emission and climate-resilient development across its economy.

1.3 What is the purpose of the NDA Manual?

This National Designated Authority (NDA) Manual is designed to provide a practical and comprehensive guidance to Ghana's NDA on the operations of GCF and its accreditation processes and guidelines. The revised Manual provides enhanced guidance on procedures of Ghana's NDA on its day-to-day operation, including

decision-making processes, criteria with regard to GCF funding and accreditation processes, institutional mechanism, partnership strategies and other policies to strengthen its operational efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency in line with current trends and requirements of the GCF. The Manual also provide guidance to prospective Direct Access Entities (DAEs) in Ghana and Multinational National Entities (MIEs) to access the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

1.4 Approach to the Development of the Manual

The need for a revised NDA Manual was necessary to reflect new developments in terms of GCF processes, No-objection procedures and guidance on NDA's partnership with critical stakeholders, guidance on communication and dissemination modalities. To achieve these objectives, the development of the new Manual went through various stages. The first involved an extensive review of the existing of the NDA Operational Manual developed in 2016, GCF revised processes on no-objection procedures, communication, stakeholder engagement and other relevant documents and other global best practices for NDAs. To advance this work, a technical consultative meeting with the NDA Technical Advisory Committee was held to provide input for the consultant to revise the manual to reflect new developments in terms of GCF processes. The Economic Strategy and Research Division (ESRD) of the Ministry of Finance and UNDP have been actively consulted and engaged in this process.

1.5 Structure of the Manual

This document is structured into six sections. Section 1 provides background information on Ghana's climate change and the policy and institutional responses, the purpose of the NDA Manual, and the structure of the manual. Section 2 presents an overview of the GCF Green Climate Fund, highlighting what the purpose of the Fund, the types of programmes and projects it supports, governance and access and its architecture. It also describes the GCF results areas and their linkages with the Ghana's national climate strategies. Section 3 covers described the NDA, its roles structure, and governance mechanism and its stakeholder engagement. Section 4 presents the accredited entities and accreditation processes. It highlights the

accreditation requirements and processes for applying for direct access, the fiduciary principles, standards and accreditation self-assessment. Section five covers the GCF funding proposal development, investment criteria, stages and processes of proposal development and submission, application information and supporting documentation for accreditation. Section six is the No-objection of GCF funding proposal. It covers the objectives and purpose of no-objection, communication of no-objection and effective no-objection procedures. Section seven is the final section. It covers the operational principles of the GCF. It highlights the accountability and transparency issues and Gender policy.

SECTION TWO: THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND

2.1 Overview of the Green Climate Fund

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a global financial mechanism under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to respond to climate change by investing in low-emission and climate-resilient development. It is designed to help developing countries to respond to climate change mitigation and adaptation activities and to strengthen their national capacities to effectively and efficiently plan for, access, manage and monitor international climate funds. The Fund seeks to promote a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways by providing support to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance resilience of these countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change. GCF also finances private sector projects relating to mitigation and adaptation activities at all levels.

The GCF is the world's largest fund intended to help developing countries in achieving a paradigm shift to low carbon pathways and increased climate-resilient development by investing in transformative projects and programmes on adaptation and mitigation to climate change. It aims for a 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation in its portfolio in terms of funding, with special focus on vulnerable countries. GCF provides countries with direct access to the Fund and supports readiness and preparatory activities to enhance country ownership and access to the Fund. The Readiness Programme provides resources for strengthening institutional capacities of countries - both of National Designated Authorities (NDAs) and Direct Access Entities.

2.2 What are the Objectives of the Fund?

The Green Climate Fund seeks to:

- Reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of developing countries and help them to adapt to the impacts of climate change.
- Promote the paradigm-shift towards low-emission and climate resilient development pathways in the context of sustainable development.

- Build the capacity of public and private sector and non-governmental organizations to access climate funds.
- Enhance the resilience of people, enterprises and ecosystems in developing countries to the adverse impacts of climate change.
- Promote a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways.
- Support the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) within the evolving climate finance landscape.

2.3 GCF Architecture

GCF offers a variety of climate financing options that help developing countries mitigate the effects of climate crisis and help populations adapt to the changing climate. The GCF supports projects and programmes developed by the accredited entities (public/private/CSO) through a number of financial instruments such as grants, loans, guarantees and equity. Figure 1 presents the architecture of GCF.

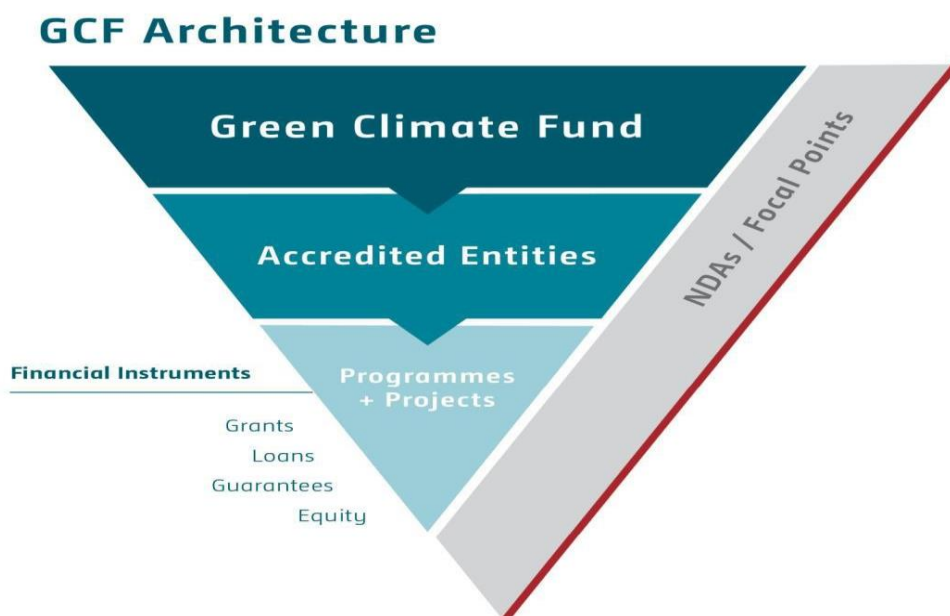


Figure 1: GCF Architecture.

2.4 GCF: Governance and Access

The Green Climate Fund is governed by a Board of 24 members with equal representation from developing and developed countries and receives guidance from the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. The Board is supported by the Secretariat as well as an Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP). At the national level, a National Designated Authority (NDA) or focal point must be established that is responsible for communication with the GCF. The Board makes the final decision on accreditation, based on the guidance provided by the Accreditation Panel. Decisions by the Board are made at Board meetings which are usually held three times per year. The GCF has an independent Secretariat that is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the GCF. The Secretariat is the main point of contact for the NDA and applicants throughout the accreditation and funding proposal development process. A wide variety of organisations (ranging from private sector actors, development agencies and commercial banks and NGOs) at different scales (international, regional, national, local) can access the GCF funds to implement projects and programmes that implement adaptation and mitigation strategies in developing countries.

2.4.1 Direct Access to GCF Fund

Direct access is one of the key aspects of the Green Climate Fund. It means that recipient countries can nominate competent national and subnational organisations (either public, private or non-governmental) that can directly access the GCF without an intermediary. Direct access is important to increase country ownership of the funding; ensure better oversight and increased transparency; improved effectiveness of the funds and increased accountability of the recipient countries.

Direct access by national public and private entities has been a key feature of the Fund in line with a GCF's commitment to country ownership. All developing country Parties to the UNFCCC are eligible and can access resources from GCF through projects and programmes developed by public and private sector accredited entities that are either 'Direct (National),' or 'Indirect (International)'. Accredited Entities (AE) are institutions that demonstrate the ability to manage GCF's resources in line

with the GCF’s fiduciary standards for the scale and type of funding sought. The AEs are also expected to manage environmental and social risks that may arise at the project level and keep the project in-line with the GCF’s Gender Policy. The eligibility and access modality for GCF is presented in Table 1:

Table 1: Eligibility and Access Modality for GCF

Country eligibility	All developing country parties to the UNFCCC including are eligible to receive resources from GCF.
Access modality	GCF resources can be accessed by ‘Direct (National)’ and ‘Indirect (International)’ Access Entities. The direct access modality can include national and regional entities. The international access modality includes accessing resources from accredited international entities including United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, international financial institutions and regional institutions.
Institutional eligibility	GCF works with a wide range of AE institutions to channel GCF resources through projects and programmes. Such entities may be national, sub-national and international. Each institution is required to have policies, procedures, guidelines etc on par with GCF’s fiduciary standards, environmental and social risks and gender policy.
Sector eligibility	GCF specifically has provisioned the Private Sector Facility (PSF) for private sector activities. NDA needs to ensure that the accredited private sector interests are aligned with national climate policies and priorities. PSF has special focus on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in developing countries.

2.5 GCF Results Areas and National Climate Change Priorities

The GCF identifies eight results areas where targeted GCF investment would have greater impact. When developing a GCF project, a project proponent should identify which strategic impact areas its proposed project or programme contributes towards.

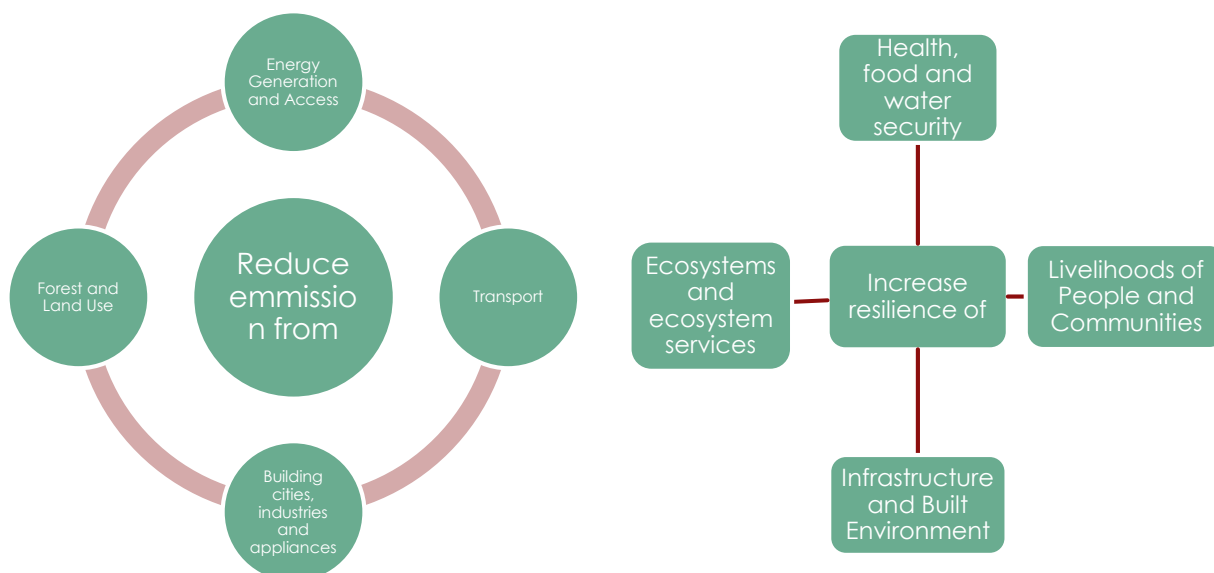


Figure 2: Eight Results Areas of the GCF

2.5.1 Ghana's National Climate Change Strategic Areas

Ghana's climate change policy and Ghana's NDCs are directly in line with the GCF goals which seek to enhance the resilience and climate compatible economy through low carbon growth, adaptation and social development. The National Climate Change Policy affirms Ghana's resolve to lessen the potential hardships that climate change impacts may pose to the sustainable development of our country. It also aimed at strengthening her adaptive capacity and building resilience of the society and ecosystems. The national climate change policy and national strategies are therefore consistent and in line with the Green Climate Fund.

2.6 What will the Fund support in Ghana?

Generally, the GCF will support programmes and projects in Ghana which are aligned with the NCCP and Ghana's NDCs with emphasis mitigation and adaptation.

Specifically, the Fund will support:

- Programmes and projects that are aligned with Ghana's climate change policy and demonstrate very good potential for reducing emissions.
- Mitigation and adaptation programmes and projects developed by implementing entities that will contribute to the sustainable development goals of Ghana.

- Programmes and projects that promote synergies across areas of adaptation and mitigation with co-benefits.
- Programmes and projects that adapt a gender sensitive approach.
- Capacity building initiatives of prospective entities seeking accreditation with the Fund.
- Programmes and projects that meet the fiduciary principles and standards and environmental and social safeguards of the Fund.

SECTION THREE: NATIONAL DESIGNATED AUTHORITY

3. 1 Introduction

Countries that are eligible for accessing funds through the Green Climate Fund, need to establish a National Designated Authority (NDA), which serves as the point of communication with the GCF. The National Designated Authority (NDA) operates as the interface between country and the GCF to communicate the country's priorities for financing low-emission and climate-resilient development. In this way, the NDA is a designated institution in the country with the authority and mandate to officially communicate and liaise with the GCF. The Government of Ghana has nominated the Economic Strategy, and Research Division (ESRD) of Ministry of Finance to be the NDA to liaise with the GCF.

3.1.1 Roles of NDA

In line with GCF's outlined roles and responsibility, the NDA has two main broad roles:

- The NDA must endorse any applications for accreditation made by prospective Direct Access Entities (DAEs).
- The NDA must endorse any project proposals that would be implemented in Ghana.

Specifically, the roles and responsibilities of the Ghana's NDA Secretariat are as follows:

- a) Convene relevant public, private and civil society stakeholders to identify priority sectors to be financed by the Fund.** Stakeholders include other relevant government entities, civil society, project developers, private sector actors, financial institutions and communities, including vulnerable groups and women who will be affected by the Fund's activities. This is clearly detailed in the NDA Multi-Stakeholder Strategy.
- b) Developing and updating Country Programme.** The NDA will play a critical role in developing and updating country programmes.
- c) Communicate accredited entities to the Fund.** NDA will engage with potential public, private sector and non-governmental entities and nominate such entities for accreditation to the Fund. Applications from DAEs wishing to

become accredited via the direct access track need to be accompanied by a nomination letter from the NDA.

- d) **Communicate No-objection to programmes and project proposals to the Fund.** The no-objection is to be communicated by the NDA to confirm that funding proposals by accredited entities are in line with the country's national climate change priorities and strategies.
- e) **Provide leadership on the deployment of readiness and preparatory support funding in the country.** The NDA may directly benefit from the funding or select international, regional, national and sub-national, public, private or non-governmental institutions well-versed in readiness activities as their delivery partners.
- f) **Assesses compliance with Fund's environmental.** Assesses compliance with Fund's environmental and social safeguards, gender policy, financial policies and any other policies promulgated by the Board, in addition to performance of the project or programme against activity-specific criteria.

3.2 Functions of NDA Secretariat

In addition to the roles of the NDA specified by GCF, the NDA secretariat should also perform some specific functions as follows:

- **Secretariat for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).** The NDA also serves as the secretariat for the Technical Advisory Committee and will be responsible for convening meetings of TAC and providing administrative support for the work of TAC.
- The secretariat, under the strategic guidance of the Technical Committee, lead and coordinate Green Climate Fund related process in Ghana.
- **Monitoring.** The Secretariat may be involved in the monitoring of the implementation of the programmes and projects by accredited entities to ensure their compliance with Fund's social and environmental standards and

Ghana's key sustainable priority indicators throughout the life cycle of the projects.

- **Prepare annual progress reports.** The NDA should prepare annual progress reports on the implementation of activities under the Fund in Ghana.
- The Secretariat is expected to have a dedicated team responsible for overall coordination and communication with the Fund and national actors.
- The NDA should also retain all funding proposals relating to Ghana and facilitate information sharing on the projects through appropriate media and relevant networks, including in local languages as possible.
- The secretariat with guidance from the Technical Committee (TC), is expected to be responsible for coordinating and driving communication with the Fund and national actors.
- The secretariat should also be able to disseminate and share GCF process, key requirement, challenges and operational procedures of the Fund to the national actors and stakeholders.
- The Secretariat will provide technical support to Entities or proponent developing proposal to meet the Fund requirement.
- The Secretariat should pre-screen all proposals before submission to NDATAC
- The secretariat helps ensure consistency of climate finance/GCF projects/programmes with the national plans and priorities through a transparent no objection procedure.
- The secretariat should drive and coordinate relevant coordination mechanisms and multi-stakeholder engagement, as needed and appropriate.
- As the secretariat will engage national stakeholders towards engaging the Fund and oversight on alignment of funding to national climate change priorities along with issuance of the 'Nomination Letters for Direct Access' and 'No-Objection Letters for Projects/Programmes'.

- As a part of the readiness programme, the secretariat is responsible for in-country institutional strengthening, including strengthening the capacities for country coordination and to meet fiduciary principles and standards and environmental and social safeguards, in order to enable countries to directly access the Fund.
- The secretariat shall engage various national stakeholders to ensure compliance with the scope and functions mandated by GCF.
- The secretariat will support broad-based and inclusive stakeholder participation in GCF activities, including local communities and authorities, civil society, private sector, indigenous peoples and others, to ensure needs and concerns are put into local context

3.3 Ghana's NDA Structure

Existing mechanisms and structures currently in place will be utilized to ensure sustainability, reduced duplication of effort, and coherence in operations. The GCF governance structure recognizes inclusiveness and promotes environmental and social safeguards (including gender), all of which are important issues for the GCF engagement process. The national governance mechanism will facilitate decision making and coordination by providing clear mandates on roles and responsibilities to the respective stakeholders. The NDA's governance structure has tiered institutional units that provide timely, strategic guidance and support to the NDA in terms of GCF processes and broader climate finance targets. The structure is illustrated in Figure 3.

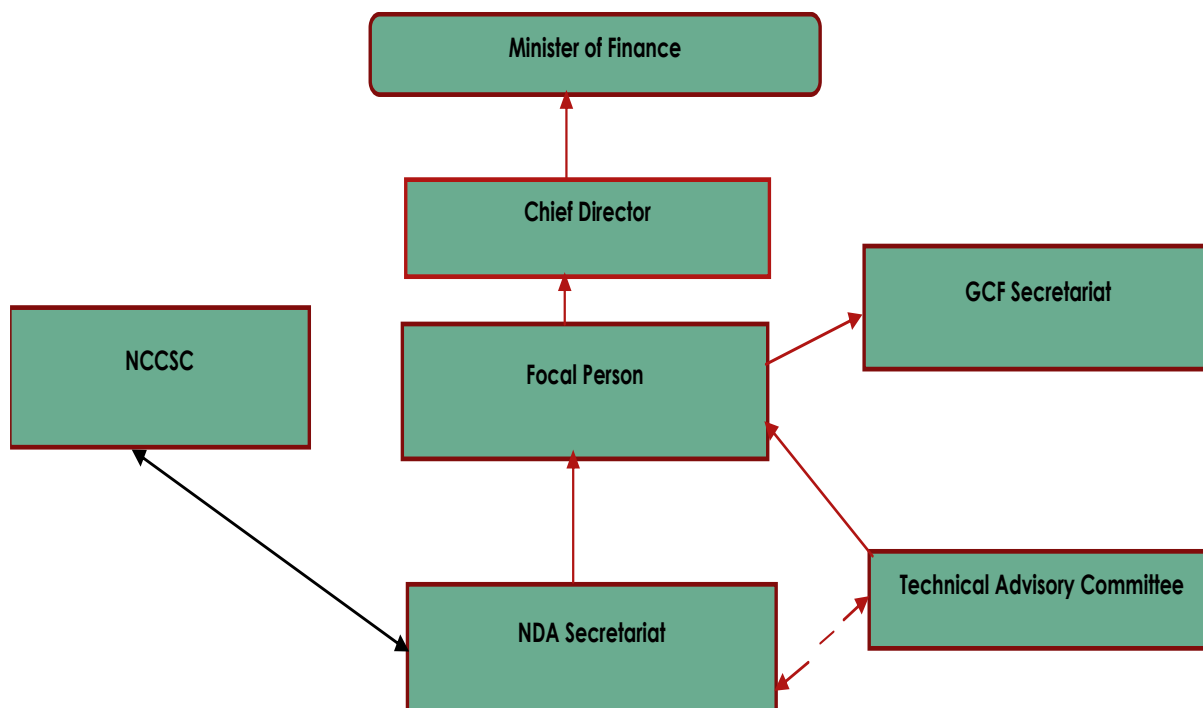


Figure 3: Ghana's NDA Structure

Note: The NDA secretariat will report to the designated focal person who will in turn report to the Minister of Finance through the Chief Director.

3.4 NDA Governance Mechanism

A governance mechanism for the NDA has been established with the purpose of providing policy guidance, aiding decision making and technical inputs on application for accreditation and GCF funding proposal (including the development of concept notes) along with operational support as required. The governance mechanisms for GCF requires engagement with multiple stakeholders and multi-tiered governance structures within the NDA for climate finance in Ghana. The mechanism will help NDA to engage all relevant stakeholders from the government, private sector, and non-government agencies at the national and subnational levels. The governance mechanism will serve the purpose of contributing towards the broader scope of a long-term vision on climate finance in Ghana.

3.4.1 Ministry of Finance - National Designated Authority

The Economic Strategy, and Research Division (ESRD) of Ministry of Finance serves as the National Designated Authority for the GCF in Ghana. The ESRD is housed within the Ministry of Finance, which leads and oversees the GCF process in Ghana through Focal Point person. All engagements with the Fund by prospective DAEs and project developers should be channelled through the NDA Secretariat. The NDA Focal person will communicate to Minister of Finance on the GCF through the Chief Director.

3.4.2 Technical Advisory Committee, members and terms of references

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is a high-level body for overall Climate Finance including the Green Climate Fund in Ghana. The primary function of the TAC is to provide policy guidance to the NDA as well as provide an independent technical assessment of, and advice on, funding proposals in the country.

3.4.3 Composition of the TAC

The TAC is a multi-stakeholder body, which will be chaired by the NDA focal person. The committee will consist of eleven (11) members representing key sectoral ministries, private sector and Civil Society Organizations (representing climate change sectors). The Committee members include:

- Ministry of Finance (Chair)
- Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI)
- National Development Planning Commission (NDPC)
- Crop Services Directorate of Ministry of Food and Agriculture
- Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection
- Forestry Commission
- Energy Commission
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD)
- Private Enterprise Foundation
- Civil Society Organisation

3.4.4 Terms of References/ Roles and Responsibilities

The TAC provides policy guidance and coordination support to create an enabling environment for climate investment, especially in relation to the GCF. The TAC makes strategic decisions and engages government and non-government agencies including the private sector to harness available international climate finance to Ghana. The terms of reference/roles and responsibilities the TAC includes:

- a) **The NDA will provide broad strategic oversight of the Fund's activities in Ghana.** This includes ensuring alignment with Ghana's sustainable development objectives and frameworks including climate strategies and

policies, e.g. Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), GHANA's NDC etc.

- b) Technical support.** For projects that have potential for GCF funding, NDA should provide technical support directly or indirectly by linking them with PEF or Business Advisory Centre to assist in refining business plans/proposals.
- a. Provide policy guidance to the NDA on emerging national and sectoral climate finance issues and priorities.
 - b. Provide strategic direction for domestic and international investments in low carbon and climate resilient development in Ghana.
 - c. Conduct technical assessments and advice on funding proposals submitted through the NDA by accredited entities.
 - d. Facilitate the coordination of relevant ministries to prioritize areas/projects for GCF funding in line with the national policy and strategies and in line with the Multi-stakeholder Engagement Strategy of the NDA.
 - e. Facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for policy and institutional reforms to address policy, capacity and institutional gaps.
 - f. Enhance coordination and collaboration among all stakeholders.

3.4.5 Meetings of TAC

The NDA shall call meetings of the TAC to review and provide feedback on accreditation or project proposals in line with prevailing GCF country programming or agreed strategy. When TAC is unable to meet, members will be required to provide feedback on proposals in writing to the secretariat.

3.4.6 Technical Expertise of TAC

The mandate and responsibilities of TAC require that members possess diverse skills and expertise relevant to the objectives of the Fund. Specifically, there should be:

- Wide technical expertise, operational experience and good understanding of the applied technologies related to the Fund's focus areas.
- Adequate knowledge of national priorities, strategies, and plans.
- The ability to contribute to and drive national development strategies and plans.

- Familiarity with both mitigation and adaptation efforts and needs of Ghana.
- Professional experience in the financing, development, and implementation of public and/or private sector projects in developing countries.
- Working knowledge of the project management cycle, including origination, implementation, and activity oversight.
- Familiarity with UNFCCC, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and other relevant international conventions and policies.

3.5 National Climate Change Steering Committee

The National Climate Change Steering Committee (NCCSC) is an inter-ministerial committee which is responsible for overseeing and guiding the implementation of climate change activities in Ghana. The NCCSC is hosted by MESTI. This committee is made up of representatives from relevant ministries, universities, research institutions, the private sector and NGOs, and has been mandated under a ministerial directive. Whilst the TAC is primarily responsible for policy guidance and coordination support, the NCCSC provides technical and advisory support to the NDA. The NCCSC has the mandate of reviewing policies and programmes to complement national priorities. Due to the critical role of the NCCSC, the NDA will be required to report to them on all activities regarding GCF.

3.6 NDA's Partnership and Stakeholder Engagement

The Green Climate Fund supports developing countries and thus play a significant role in the development paths taken in these countries. People and communities in countries that will receive GCF funding, should have the strongest voice in determining the direction of their development, based on their needs and interests. The national engagement processes are becoming more and more important in GCF funding. NDA's partnership and engagement with stakeholders including Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) is critical to ensure GCF country ownership by ensuring that people and communities in Ghana that will receive GCF funding are actively engaged. It is not only important that CSOs try to engage with the GCF at the international level, their involvement at the national and local level is equally recommended.

All the key stakeholders related to climate finance such as government, private sector, beneficiary communities, non-government will be effectively involved in the GCF process through multi-stakeholders and consultative processes to ensure ownership as outlined in the NDA's Multi-stakeholder Engagement Strategy¹. Such ownership could only be achieved by engaging all relevant stakeholders in climate finance/GCF process based on their roles, interest and ability. Sharing both responsibilities as well as accountabilities by all concerned stakeholders in GCF process is equally important to make the GCF process more transparent and accountable. NDA should provide a regular forum for civil society groups and affected communities and sectors that hear complaints or grievance from people affected by the projects and programmes supported by the GCF. This forum would be a part of outreach activities of NDA.

¹ The NDA has a Multi-stakeholder Engagement Strategy which provides guidance on all climate finance stakeholder engagement activities.

SECTION FOUR: ACCREDITED ENTITIES AND ACCREDITATION PROCESSES

4.1 Accredited Entities

GCF does not implement projects directly itself, but through partnerships with Accredited Entities. Organisations that wish to propose projects for funding by the GCF, have to be accredited. To become GCF Accredited Entity, organisations have to go through an accreditation process. Accredited entities can be private, public, non-governmental, sub-national, national, regional or international bodies with a clear, detailed and actionable climate change projects or programmes to present to GCF. They must also meet GCF standards based on financial standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender. Accredited Entities develop funding proposals, in close consultation with NDAs or focal points, based on the differing climate finance needs of individual developing countries. Non-accredited entities will have to team-up with Accredited Entities when formally submitting funding proposals to GCF.

4.2 What is GCF accreditation?

Accreditation is a process under which entities have to prove that they have the ability and capacity to manage the fund's resources in accordance with standards and criteria set out by the Fund. To access finance directly from GCF, the NDA will identify and nominate national entities to be accredited as DAEs. To get accredited to access the Fund, GCF panel undertakes an independent review of the application to assess whether the prospective applicants meet GCF's fiduciary standards and environmental and social safeguards (ESS) and complies with its gender policy.

4.3 Who qualifies to apply for Accreditation as DAE?

The funds from the GCF will flow directly to Accredited Entities (AEs) for project/programme implementation. AEs can be sub-national, national, regional and international entities which are public, private or non-governmental. Therefore, the GCF has adopted "fit-for-purpose" application procedures for entities seeking accreditation. The fit-for-purpose approach allows AEs who will implement smaller,

financially simpler and less environmentally and socially risky project/programmes to meet less stringent or fewer accreditation requirements.

All entities, including public and private and NGOs in Ghana qualify to apply for accreditation as DAE. The entity must be:

- a) Legally established within Ghana.
- b) Able to demonstrate robust organisation policies, procedures and guidelines related to GCF investment areas.
- c) Able demonstrate capacity and experience in implementing similar actions.

In addition, all prospective DAEs must meet the fiduciary principles and standards, the environmental and social safeguards, and gender policy, as given in the operational policies and guidelines of the GCF Board for accessing resources from the Fund.

4.4 How do Entities Apply for Direct Access?

The NDA is a critical resource for information in-country; it is also a gatekeeper that can make or break an organisation's ability to apply for GCF accreditation. Engaging early on and often with the NDA is highly recommended. Entities seeking Direct Access will need to undertake the following sequence:

1. Obtain a "Nomination Letter" from the Nationally Designated Authority (NDA)
2. Obtain Online Accreditation System (OAS) access from the GCF
3. Compile the GCF application according to the requirements for the selected accreditation level
4. Submit application and pay accreditation fee
5. Respond to GCF inquiries in Stage I and Stage II
6. If approved, sign the Accreditation Master Agreement ("AMA")

National institutions need to be accredited with the GCF by meeting the minimum eligibility criteria as indicated in Table 2 and must be nominated by the NDA. The accreditation of national institutions under the direct access modality will help countries to: (i) Strengthen national institutions; (ii) build strong country ownership and accountability; (iii) codify systems and processes; (iv) achieve increased

international recognition; and (v), deal directly with the GCF instead of through an international third party. Table 2 indicates the minimum eligibility criteria for DAE accreditation.

Table 2: Minimum Eligibility Criteria for DAE Accreditation

Criteria	Description
Legal Personality	Institutions are required to have a legal personality (entity needs its own full legal capacity to undertake the intended activities and become an accredited entity).
Institutional Capacity	Institutions need to have a strong institutional capacity with appropriate policies, procedures, guidelines etc. at the organizational level (to undertake the intended activities and become an accredited entity)
Track Record	Institutions need to have a track record to demonstrate that policies, procedures, guidelines, etc. are being implemented by the organization and that the organization has project management experience

4.4.1 Accreditation: Fiduciary Principles and Standards

An entity seeking accreditation to the GCF to access its resources needs to demonstrate that it has capacity to meet these five elements under (i) basic fiduciary standards and (ii) specialized fiduciary standards. The basic fiduciary standards assess (i) administrative and financial capacities and (ii) transparency and accountability. Whereas, the specialized fiduciary standards assess (i) project management, (ii) grant award mechanisms, and (iii) on lending and blending (these standards are described in Table 3).

Table 3: Elements of the basic and specialized fiduciary standards

Basic Fiduciary Standards	Specialized Fiduciary Standards
<p>Key administrative and financial standards: This includes the entity’s general management and administrative capacities, financial management and accounting, internal and external audit, control frameworks and procurement process.</p> <p>Transparency and accountability standards: This includes entity’s codes of ethics, disclosure of conflicts of interest, preventing financial mismanagement, investigation, anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing polices.</p>	<p>Project management experience: Entity needs to demonstrate experience on i) project identification, preparation and appraisal; ii) project oversight and control; iii) monitoring and evaluation and iv) project-at-risk systems and related project risk management capabilities.</p>
<p>Environmental and Social Safeguards</p> <p>The Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS) are measures taken to prevent and mitigate possible undue harm to people and the environment. The GCF’s ESS are based on eight performance standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impact. • Labour and working conditions: • Resource efficiency and pollution prevention. • Community health, safety and security. • Land acquisition and involuntary resettlement. • Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources. • Indigenous peoples; and • Cultural heritage 	<p>On-lending and/or blending:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Institutions need to provide the following evidence if the entity wishes to become accredited to conduct on-lending or blending. ii. Prove appropriate registration and/or licensing by a financial oversight body or regulator in the country and/or internationally as applicable. iii. Expose track record, institutional experience and existing arrangements and capacities for on-lending and blending with resources from other international or multi-lateral sources. iv. Show adequate credit worthiness. v. Conduct due diligence polices, processes and procedures. vi. Ensure financial resource management, including analysis of the lending portfolio of the intermediary. vii. Ensure public access to information on beneficiaries and results. viii. Demonstrate investment management, policies and systems, including in relation to portfolio management. ix. Prove capacity to channel funds transparently and effectively, and to transfer the GCFs funding advantages to final beneficiaries. x. Manage financial risk management, including asset liability management; and xi. Illustrate governance and organizational arrangements, including relationships between the treasury function and the operational side.

Gender Policy

The GCF considers gender as an important criterion for accreditation. Entities seeking accreditation to the GCF should demonstrate a contribution to gender equality and achieve greater and more sustainable climate change results, outcomes and impact. The GCF gender policy has six fundamental principles as:

- Commitment to gender equality and equity.
- Inclusiveness in terms of applicability to all the GCF funded activities.
- Accountability for gender and climate change results and impacts.
- Country ownership in terms of alignment with national policies and priorities and inclusive stakeholder participation.
- Competencies throughout the GCF institutional framework; and
- Equitable resource allocation so that women and men benefit equitably from the GCF's adaptation and mitigation activities.

Basic Fiduciary Standards are standards set a reasonable baseline for fund management. The underlying principles for **Basic Fiduciary Standards** include the ability to demonstrate that financial inputs and outputs are properly accounted for, reported, and administered transparently in accordance with pertinent regulations and law, and with due accountability; Information relating to the overall administration and management of the entity is available, consistent, reliable, complete and relevant to the required fiduciary standards; and that operations of the entity show a track record in effectiveness and efficiency. The GCF also requires all entities to meet basic Transparency and Accountability standards which include protection and commitment against mismanagement and fraudulent, corrupt and wasteful practices; disclosure of any form of conflict of interest (actual, potential or perceived); and code of ethics, policies and culture that drive and promote full transparency and accountability

4.5 Fit-For-Purpose for Accreditation Approach

Fit-for-Purpose is an approach criterion set by the GCF to evaluate accreditation applications. Entities are accredited based on their capacity and their track record to undertake projects or programmes using different financial instruments, while the institutional environment and social risk categories are assessed against the standards of the GCF. The result of the accreditation process will specify the project or programme activity size; fiduciary function (whether entities can access grants, loans, equity and/or guarantees); and the highest category of environment and

social risk of its intended projects. The fit-for-purpose accreditation approach recognizes the role of a wide range of entities, which differ in the scope and nature of their activities, as well as their capacities, in advancing the objectives of the GCF. Over time, accredited entities can upgrade their accreditation level to advance on their fiduciary function as well as financial access. However, the AE will need to go through a re-application process.

(a) Project size

For GCF funding, projects or programmes fall into one of four project size categories. Institutions can be accredited to implement projects/programmes with budgets of maximum (including co-financing) USD 10 million, USD 50 million, USD 250 million and over USD 250 million. Institutions can only receive funding from the GCF for projects or activities that are the same size or smaller than projects that they have undertaken in the past. For example, if an institution wants to get accredited to implement up to USD 50 million, it must provide evidence that it has the capacity to manage projects as required by the small size category. The project size accounts to the total of funds sought from GCF and the funds allocated for co-financing.

Table 4: Fit for Purpose Accreditation Approach

Size	Environmental Risk Category	Fiduciary Functions
Micro (up to US\$ 10 M)	Low risk/Category C	Project Management
Small (US\$ 10-50 M)	Medium risk/Category B	Grants
Medium (US\$ 50-250 M)	High risk/Category A	On-lending/Blending
Large (US\$ over 250 M)		

4.6 Accreditation Processes

All national institutions that meet the GCF accreditation criteria and procedures are eligible for the accredited entity status. An entity seeking accreditation will need to submit a completed application through GCF Online Accreditation System, consistent with the fit-for-purpose accreditation approach at the Green Climate Fund. Subnational, national, and regional entities, public and private, applying for accreditation will need to submit a nomination letter from a National Designated Authority as a part of their application for accreditation. Applications for accreditation are received by GCF on a rolling basis. There is no deadline for submitting accreditation applications. Ghana has decided to follow the national

accreditation process in line with the GCF’s accreditation process. Entities will express interest or the NDA will call for national entities in a competitive process for the selection of DAEs. There are four stages:

1. Entities express/National Call for Entities
2. Online Application Submission
3. Accreditation Review
4. Legal Arrangement

The stage 1 and 2 will be undertaken at the national level whereas Stage 3 and 4 will take place at the GCF Secretariat and Board level. The detailed process with the responsibility and timeline for accreditation of national accredited entities is described below (Table 5).

4.6.1 Timeline of the Application Process

The Ghana NDA will put a call as and when necessary or the entities themselves could also express interest. The accreditation application process is estimated to take between 1 to 2 years. The timeline can vary based on the capacity and experience demonstrated by the entity, and the readiness of the applicant to response to GCF in a systematic and correct manner.

Table 5: Accreditation Stages and Processes

SN	Process	Responsibility
STAGE 1: SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION		
I	OPEN SUBMISSION A standard template will be provided for the application	NDA/ MoF
II	ENTITY SELF-ASSESSMENT Quick one-page self-assessment tool to allow an entity to assess whether it fulfils the basic criteria to be accredited	Applicants
III	APPLICATION REVIEW NDA checks eligibility. NDA determines eligibility of applicants based on their appropriateness in achieving national and GCF objectives, and ability to accredit	NDA
IV	NDA issues Nomination Letter to selected applicant(s)	NDA

STAGE 2: GCF ACCREDITATION APPLICATION		
I	The GCF Online Accreditation System Application Form submitted by the entity Orientation and capacity building support to the applicants to fill out the application form	Applicant
II	Submission of On-Line Accreditation Application	
III	Payment of Application Fee by the applicants	
STAGE 3: ACCREDITATION REVIEW		
I	COMPLETENESS CHECK The GCF has published the checklist used to assess applications. This checklist refers to Stage 1 criteria. Applicants that wish to ensure they have provided the correct materials in their application should make use of this checklist.	GCF Secretariat
II	REVIEW & DECISION The GCF has published the checklist used to assess applications. This checklist refers to Stage 2 criteria. Applicants that wish to ensure they have provided the correct materials in their application should make use of this checklist. The Accreditation Panel will make recommendations to the Board on the entity based on Fiduciary Functions, Maximum size of individual project/activity, Maximum Environmental and Social Risk Category, and Sectors.	GCF Board / Secretariat
STAGE 4: LEGAL ARRANGEMENTS		
	An Entity Accredited by GCF is forwarded confirmation on Board's Decision	GCF Board / Secretariat
	Finalization and signature of the Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA) between the GCF and the AE	

4.7 Accreditation self-assessment

GCF has developed Self-Assessment Tool to help organizations save time and expenses by deciding at an early stage whether they meet GCF accreditation

requirements. The Self-Assessment Tool is a guide only and does not guarantee later GCF accreditation. Online Accreditation Self-Assessment Tool has been developed to outline the minimum requirements that an institution must meet before it can be accredited to receive funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Through questions, potential applicants get a sense of the accreditation process, helping to give an early assessment to determine if an organization is ready to start the accreditation process of the GCF. The NDA also provide assessment of prospective applicants to determine if the organization is ready to start the accreditation process of the GCF. <https://www.greenclimate.fund/accreditation/self-assessment>

SECTION FIVE: DEVELOPING GCF FUNDING PROPOSALS

5.1 GCF Funding Proposal Development

The GCF finances climate resilient and low-emission projects and programmes that contribute towards achieving at least one of its eight strategic impact areas. Accredited entities can apply for funding proposals in line with GCF result areas, national climate change policies and the sustainable development goals of Ghana. In the absence of national accredited entities, the NDA can endorse projects and programmes developed with indirect (international) accredited entities. The investment sought by projects must drive paradigm shifts towards low emission economic growth and climate resilience. This will enable countries to ensure a strategic approach when developing projects and at the same time respect Ghana's needs and priorities. While making decisions for investments in projects, GCF will seek to strike a balance between national priorities, potential to deliver concrete climate benefits, cost considerations, and opportunities to deliver co-benefits.

5.2 GCF investment Criteria

The GCF support projects and programmes that maximize impact, promote paradigm shift, enhance sustainable development benefits, respond to the needs of the beneficiary country, promote country ownership and demonstrate financial soundness. Figure 4 shows the guiding criteria for selecting priority investment projects.

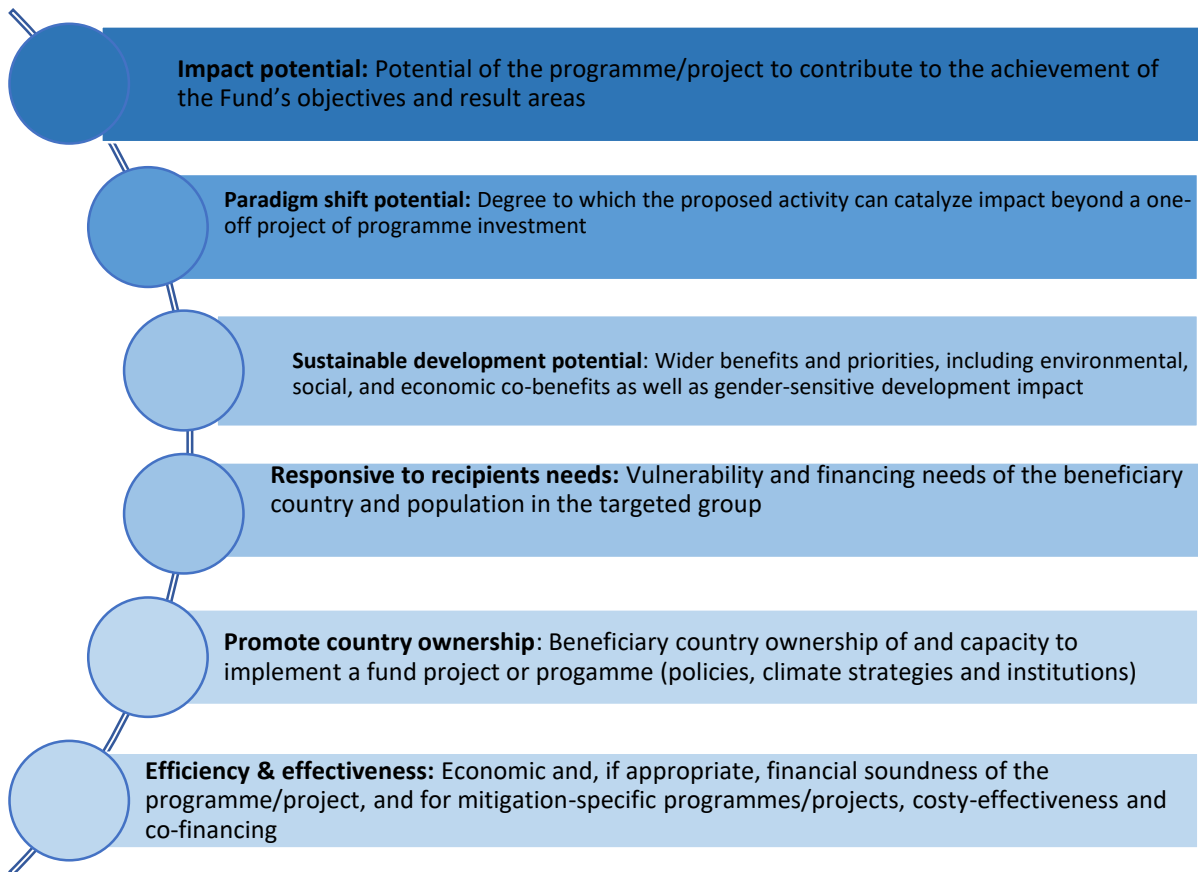
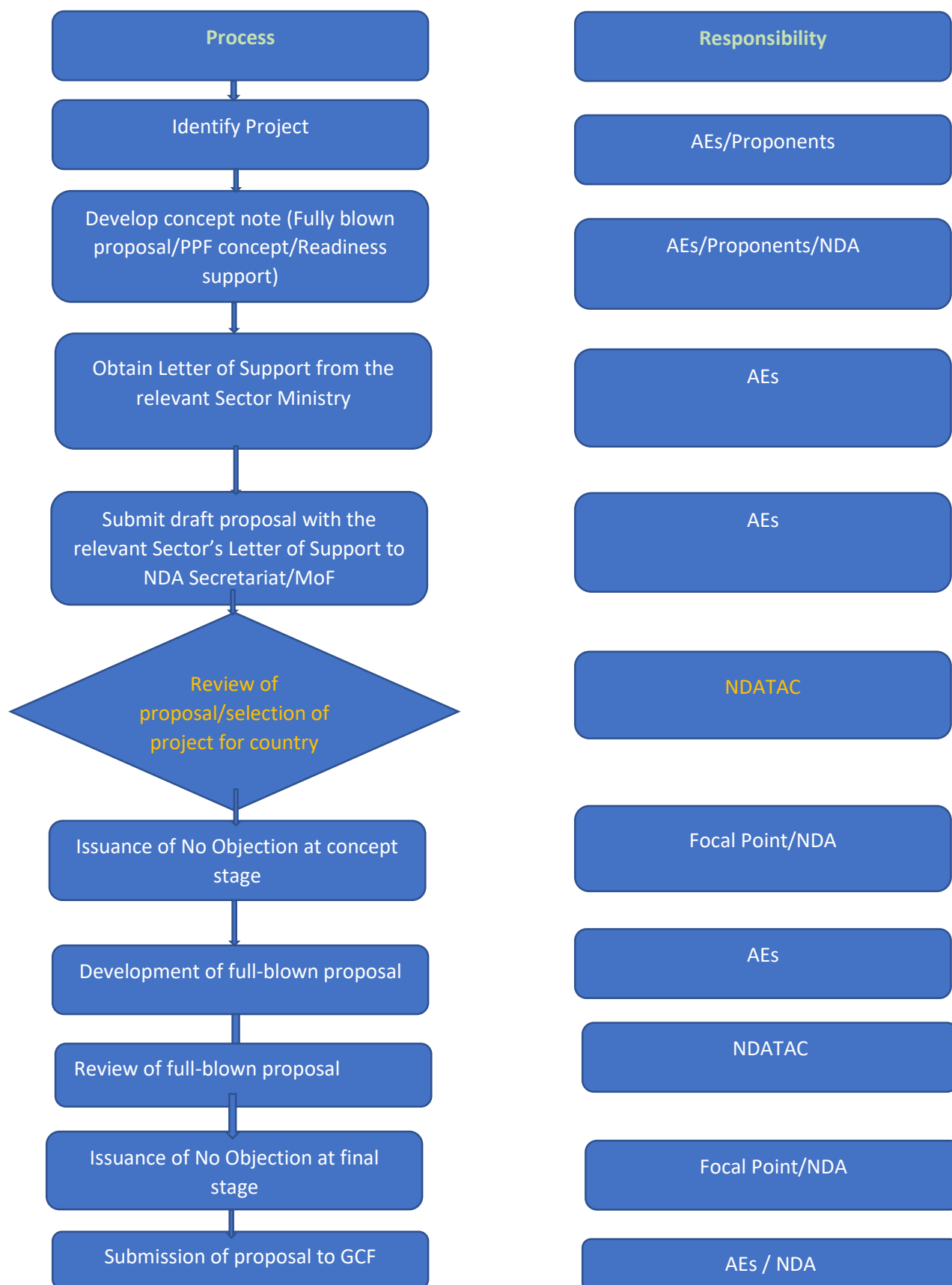


Figure 4: GCF Investment Criteria

5.3 Stages and Processes of Proposal Development and Submission

The GCF mandates that NDA coordinate and facilitate accreditation, country programming and subsequent funding proposal development and the submission process at the national level. In addition, the NDA needs to ensure that proposals or concept notes are developed based on GCF investment guidelines. The funding proposal development process is illustrated in Figure 5.

Figure 5: Stages of Funding Proposal Development Fund²



² Projects will be identified through the agreed country programming process and also from sources indicated by the GCF Board Decision B.17/21, annex XX, paragraph 12. See: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-b17-21>

5.4 Assessment of Programme/Project Funding Proposals

The proposal from DAEs/AEs to the Fund will be assessed against the:

- GCF investment criteria
- Fund's fiduciary principles and standards,
- Environmental and social safeguards (ESS) and
- Gender policy

5.5 Application Template and Supporting Documents for GCF Accreditation

The application form for accreditation for the Green Climate Fund is composed of the following sections:

- Background and contact information of the applicant entity
- Information on the ways in which the institution and its intended projects/programmes will contribute to furthering the objectives of the Green Climate Fund
- Information on the scope of intended projects/programmes and estimated contribution requested for an individual project or activity within a programme
- Basic fiduciary criteria
- Applicable specialized fiduciary criteria
- Environmental and social safeguards (ESS)
- Gender

An applicant entity can submit only one application at a time for accreditation to the Green Climate Fund. All applications must be completed and submitted in English until it is feasible to accept and process applications in other official United Nations languages. Supporting documentation must be submitted in English or an English translation must be provided until it is feasible to accept and process supporting documentation in other official United Nations languages.

All applications must be submitted via the **Online Accreditation System**

SECTION SIX: NO-OBJECTION OF FUNDING PROPOSAL

6.1 Introduction

A no-objection is a condition for approval of all funding proposals submitted to the Fund. The purpose of the no-objection procedure is to ensure consistency with national climate strategies and plans and country-driven approaches, and to provide for effective direct and indirect public and private sector financing by the Fund. The no-objection aims to ensure that proposals submitted to the GCF are aligned with Ghana's strategies and sustainable development goals and are aligned with Ghana's agreed country programming for the GCF. The NDA is therefore required to recommend to the Board funding proposals that are in line with national climate strategies and plans as spelt out in the country programme or relevant agreed document. It helps to ensure genuine country ownership of projects and programmes are financed through the Green Climate Fund.

6.2 Objectives of No-Objection

No objection is meant to achieve two main objectives:

- to ensure that the programmes and projects are to be implemented in Ghana are aligned with the country's sustainable development goals, and
- to ensure that the people living within Ghana, particularly individuals and communities affected by a GCF project or programme, have the right to reject such an activity.

6.3 Communication of no-objection to funding proposals

The no-objection should be provided to the Secretariat in conjunction with any submission of a funding proposal seeking Fund funding. In the case of applications for accreditation by sub-national, national and regional implementing entities and intermediaries, the national designated authority (NDA) or focal point will facilitate the communication of applications of implementing entities and intermediaries for accreditation to the Fund. The NDA is the national agency responsible for approving

GCF projects for GCF consideration. To ensure country ownership, the Fund's Board will only consider funding proposals that are submitted with a formal letter of no-objection in accordance with the Fund's initial no-objection procedure.

The no-objection letter will be signed by the official representative of the NDA or focal point registered with the Secretariat. In cases of submissions of proposals for funding that are not accompanied by a no-objection letter, the Secretariat will inform the NDA or focal point that the funding proposal will not be processed for Board consideration unless the NDA or focal point provides its no-objection. The NDA shall provide its no-objection within 30 days after receiving this information. After the passage of 30 days, the proposal will be suspended, and the Secretariat will notify the IE/intermediary. Communication of no-objection by the NDA or focal point in line with the provisions of this procedure will imply that:

- (a) The government has no-objection to the funding proposal;
- (b) The submitted funding proposal is in conformity with the country's national priorities, strategies and plans, and that consistency was pursued; and
- (c) The submitted funding proposal is in conformity with relevant national laws and regulations, in accordance with the Fund's environmental and social safeguards

6.3.1 Issuance of No-objection letter to Regional Proposal

To have access to GCF funds for implementation of climate change programme/projects, proponents are required to submit either national or regional proposals that meet the GCF investment criteria. Regional proposals are proposals developed by GCF accredited entities with two or more beneficiaries from the sub-region or other regional blocks, which take into account the interest of beneficiary countries. The beneficiary countries show interest by issuing no-objection letter from their respective NDA's Focal Point.

Regional Proposals seeking no-objection from Ghana- NDA are required to go through the national processes for ascertaining no-objection letter from the NDA-Focal Point. Regional proposals must follow the multi-stakeholder engagement strategy, by sharing the concept note with the relevant stakeholders for their buy-in before

requesting for no-objection letter. This is due to the GCF's country ownership policy which seeks to address country's interest in projects development.

After a satisfactory review by NDATAAC, a regional project will be issued a no-objection at the concept stage to GCF. A final no-objection letter would be issued by the NDA to the GCF when the full proposal is completed.

National proposals are proposals developed by a proponent whose interest or beneficiary is limited to a single country. National proposals are required to follow the same stages in figure 5 for no-objection letter.

6.4 Effective No-Objection Procedures

To assure effective no-objection procedures, NDAs must ensure that any proposed GCF activity in their respective countries meets the following minimum standards in addition to GCF's investment criteria in order to advance to the level of the GCF board for approval:

Observance of do-no-harm principle. A project should not create new or additional sources of environmental degradation, economic dislocation, inequity, or social disruption.

Compliance. NDAs must ensure that projects comply with all environmental and social safeguards and fiduciary standards, including for projects managed by financial intermediaries, if any.

Transparency and access to information. NDAs should implement international best practice transparency standards and access to information policies, including for projects managed by financial intermediaries. Information about the proposed project should be made available in a timely manner, through popular media, and in the appropriate languages to anyone potentially affected by the project.

Inclusion of multiple government agencies. NDA engagement must not be limited to a country's NDA. For example, ministries of environment and development,

national climate commissions, and relevant local government bodies must also consent to proposed projects.

Stakeholder consultation and consent. Public consultations must be held according to international best practices, and the consent of the majority of stakeholders must be obtained in a process free of disinformation or intimidation and according to the international principle of free, prior, and informed consent. Stakeholders must have sufficient time to understand and raise objections to the project. The details of the stakeholder engagement processes is provided in the Multi-Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (MSES) of the NDA.

Legal requirements. Projects must be evaluated for consistency with both national law and international legal obligations, including, but not limited to, the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Stockholm Convention, Basel Ban, Rotterdam Convention, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

6.5 GCF Country Programme

To receive funding, every country is requested to develop a Country Programme (CP) outlining the needs of the country under climate change and how the funding will be used to address these needs, both in terms of mitigation and adaptation. Well-constructed country programmes represent an essential tool at the Fund's and countries' disposal to achieve transformational impact, while enhancing and ensuring country-driven approaches. At CP level, countries identify national priorities, analyse financial needs and gaps, and identify partners to design and implement funding proposals.

The objectives of a country programme are to:

- Support a country -driven pipeline development process, which seeks to identify transformative project ideas to be funded by GCF;
- Identify institutional needs to build and strengthen capacity; and
- Facilitate dialogues between all stakeholders in a way that reflect the highest level of country ownership.

The GCF through its programming manual³ has indicated a maximum of five (5) priority pipeline programmes/ projects to be included in the CP. Ghana will at all times develop its GCF country programme based on the current guidance pertaining to GCF guidelines through a multi-stakeholder participation and consensus; using approved project selection guidelines to ensure transparency and uniformity.

When a CP is fully developed, the document will become the country's portfolio for a specific GCF replenishment cycle. The NDA will lead the development of CPs to coincide with GCF replenishment cycles if required by the Fund.

The CP is developed for a period of four (4) years to align with a specific GCF replenishment cycle. Review can be done within the cycle when deemed necessary. The NDA will aim to complete its CP a year prior to the start of each GCF replenishment cycle.

³ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/programming-manual> page 8, Section 1.1

SECTION SEVEN: OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES

7.1 Accountability and transparency

Accountability and transparency issues are very critical to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of the operationalization of the NDA. The NDA must comply with all relevant international financial management practices and Ghana's financial administration Act 654 (2003). To this end:

- a. Ghana's NDA may request direct support from the Fund to cover eligible costs.
- b. Ghana's NDA must commit to using GCF readiness support solely for the purpose described in the funding request and in accordance with the approved budget.
- c. NDA applying for funding must submit the following documents to the Secretariat: (i) An online funding request form which includes:
 1. A detailed budget outlining the NDA activities to be supported; and
 2. A performance framework including targets and milestones that describes how the proposed activities will contribute to strengthening the institutional capacity of the NDA and in-country coordination and consultation processes.
- d. The NDA must ensure that the accredited and delivery partnership submit progress report twice a year to the NDA:
 1. Results achieved against intended targets.
 2. Expenditures incurred (broken down by cost category and performance area) including an analysis of any variance between budgeted and actual expenditures.
- e. Monitoring and evaluation processes. the NDA secretariat should be involved in the monitoring and evaluation of the project being implemented by the accredited entities and delivery partners.

7.2 Gender policy

Impacts of climate change affects women and men. Women are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The Green Climate Fund is committed to ensure that the allocation of resources for adaptation and mitigation activities contributes to gender equality and women's empowerment. Projects and

programmes should ideally address the inequity of climate change impacts on women and men and provide gender sensitive solutions to climate change mitigation, adaptation or readiness. The GCF will target funds to support women's climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives in cases where gender inequality is exacerbated by climate change

The implementation of programmes and projects towards low-emission and enhance the resilience of the country will therefore require full participation of both women and men. The overall objective of the Fund's gender policy is to ensure that by adopting a gender sensitive approach, the Fund will efficiently contribute to gender equality and help countries to achieve greater and more sustainable outcomes. Gender is therefore at the core of the requirements for accessing GCF. Therefore:

1. The NDA should promote gender equity and empowerment of vulnerable groups, including women and youth. The NDA should carry out due diligence, assess compliance of DAEs/MIEs with the GCF gender policy.
2. The NDA is encouraged to ensure that the DAEs/MIEs demonstrate competent organisational policies and procedures to implement the GCFs gender policy, with evidence of non-discriminatory practice from past projects.
3. The NDA should screen projects and programmes for gender sensitivity at the various stages of the project cycle.
4. The NDA should continually ensure that DAEs undertake a mandatory initial socioeconomic and gender assessment to be able to respond to the needs of women in project and programme development. This will help DAEs to identify the drivers of change and the gender dynamics to achieve the project/programme adaptation or mitigation goals.
5. The NDA should continually engage stakeholders on gender-equity issues

8. ANNEXES: SOURCES OF INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE FUNDS

In addition to the Green Climate Fund, there are several other funds which can be sourced to climate change intervention. Some of these are itemized in the Annex 1 below.

Annex 1: Sources of Climate Finance

Sources	Type	Administered by	Area of focus	Date operational
Adaptation Fund	Multilateral	Adaptation Fund Board	Adaptation	2009
Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Program	Multilateral	The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	Adaptation	2012
Amazon Fund (Fundo Amazônia)	Multi-Donor National	Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES)	Mitigation - REDD	2009
Clean Technology Fund	Multilateral	The World Bank	Mitigation - general	2008
Congo Basin Forest Fund	Multi-Donor Regional	African Development Bank	Mitigation - REDD	2008
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility	Multilateral	The World Bank	Mitigation - REDD	2008
Forest Investment Program	Multilateral	The World Bank	Mitigation - REDD	2009
GEF Trust Fund - Climate Change focal area	Multilateral	The Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Adaptation, Mitigation - general	1991 (tracked since 2010)
Global Climate Change Alliance	Multilateral	The European Commission	Adaptation, Mitigation - general, Mitigation - REDD	2008
Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund	Multilateral	The European Commission	Mitigation - general	2008
Green Climate Fund	Multilateral	GCF to be confirmed	Adaptation, Mitigation - general, Mitigation - REDD	2015
Indonesia Climate Change Trust Fund	Multi-Donor National	Indonesia's National Development Planning Agency	Adaptation, Mitigation - general, Mitigation - REDD	2010

UK's International Climate Fund	Bilateral	Government of the United Kingdom	Adaptation, Mitigation - general, Mitigation - REDD	2011
Germany's International Climate Initiative	Bilateral	Government of Germany	Adaptation, Mitigation - general, Mitigation - REDD	2008
Australia's International Forest Carbon Initiative	Bilateral	Government of Australia	Mitigation - REDD	2007
Japan's Fast Start Finance - private sources	Multilateral Funding	Government of Japan	Adaptation, Mitigation - general, Mitigation - REDD	2008
Least Developed Countries Fund	Multilateral	The Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Adaptation	2002
MDG Achievement Fund - Environment and Climate Change thematic window	Multilateral	UNDP	Adaptation, Mitigation - general	2007
Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative	Bilateral	Government of Norway	Mitigation - REDD	2008
Pilot Program for Climate Resilience	Multilateral	The World Bank	Adaptation	2008
Scaling-Up Renewable Energy Program for Low Income Countries	Multilateral	The World Bank	Mitigation - general	2009
Special Climate Change Fund	Multilateral	The Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Adaptation	2002
Strategic Climate Fund	Multilateral Funding	The World Bank	Adaptation, Mitigation - general, Mitigation - REDD	2008
Strategic Priority on Adaptation	Multilateral	The Global Environment Facility (GEF)	Adaptation	2004
UN-REDD Programme	Multilateral	UNDP	Mitigation - REDD	2008

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