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Report on the activities of the Independent Evaluation Unit

Summary

This document provides a report of the key activities of the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) for the period of 1 May to 31 August 2023. It reports on the IEU's outputs and achievements in line with its Board-approved work plan for 2023.

I. Introduction

1. This document reports on the key activities and outcomes of the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) between 1 May and 31 August 2023. The objectives and key work plan activities of the IEU are presented in the Board-approved "Independent Evaluation Unit 2023 Work Plan and Budget and Update of its Three-year Objectives and Work Plan" (see document GCF/B.34/16¹). This activity report is organized as follows:

- (a) Section I: Introduction
- (b) Section II: Overview
- (c) Section III: Report on key activities
- (d) Section IV: Budget and expenditure report
- (e) Supporting annexes
 - (i) Annex I: Progress Report on the Second Performance Review of the Green Climate Fund
 - (ii) Annex II: List of IEU publications and communications materials that were published in the reporting period (May – August 2023)
 - (iii) Annex III: List of IEU events and engagements with stakeholders and partners in the reporting period (May – August 2023)

II. Overview

2. At its thirty-fourth meeting held in October 2022, the Board, by decision B.34/06,² approved an overall workplan and budget allocation of USD 6,934,303 for the IEU for 2023.

3. More information about the IEU budget for 2023 is available in document GCF/B.34/16 Annex II.³

4. The Unit's key activities undertaken, in accordance with the 2023 workplan of the IEU, during the reporting period of 1 May and 31 August 2023 are structured as the following in this report:

- (a) Evaluations
- (b) Learning, advisory services, and capacity strengthening
- (c) Uptake, communications, and partnerships
- (d) Building and strengthening the Independent Evaluation Unit

¹ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-b34-16>

² <https://www.greenclimate.fund/decision/b34-06>

³ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-b34-16>

III. Report on key activities

3.1 Evaluations

5. The Terms of Reference (TOR) of the IEU,⁴ as derived from the GCF Governing Instrument, states that the IEU will conduct periodic independent evaluations of the GCF's activities to provide objective assessments of the Fund's results, effectiveness, and efficiency. Within the reporting period, several evaluations concluded, and new evaluations were launched as described below.

3.1.1. Completed evaluations.

6. **Second Performance Review of the Green Climate Fund.**⁵ The Board launched the Second Performance Review (SPR) of the GCF in decision B.BM-2021/11 on 10 June 2021.⁶ The scope of the SPR is to assess the GCF's progress during the GCF-1 programming period, specifically: (i) the GCF's progress in fulfilling its mandate and operational priorities, as outlined in the Updated Strategic Plan (USP), and (ii) the GCF's performance in promoting a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways. During the reporting period, the IEU made progress on the following deliverables contributing to the SPR.

- (a) **SPR substantive outputs:** The IEU delivered the SPR final report, which was shared with the Board in time for B.35. This report came to the GCF Board after the Unit's submission in 2022 of several deliverables contributing to the SPR, namely: the Rapid Assessment of the Progress of the GCF's Updated Strategic Plan, the Report of the Synthesis Study, and the Summary Report. The IEU also completed the country case studies as part of the SPR final report. The Unit further developed briefs, an executive summary, and updated the SPR page of the IEU microsite during the reporting period.
- (b) **SPR procedural outputs:** The IEU team continued to produce expected procedural deliverables for SPR, including:
 - (i) **Progress Report on the Second Performance Review:** The IEU submitted the Progress Report for the previous reporting period to the Board as part of the IEU Annual Report submitted for B.36. For the current reporting period, the IEU prepared this progress report, which is part of the IEU Activity Report submitted for B.37.
 - (ii) **Expenditure report to the Budget Committee:** The IEU submitted the Expense Report for the previous reporting period, which accounted for the progress made on the SPR and budget expenditure from April to June 2023, to the Board's Budget Committee in July 2023. For the reporting period corresponding with this IEU Activity Report, the IEU is expected to submit an expenditure report aligning with B.37 to the Budget Committee.
- (c) **Engagement and uptake:** At B.35, the IEU presented the SPR final report to the Board, and it was subsequently noted by the Board at this Board meeting. The IEU also made a presentation of the SPR final report at the following global conferences, during the

⁴ Annex I, Decision B.BM-2021/15 <<https://ieugreenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/updated-tor-ieu.pdf>>

⁵ <https://ieugreenclimate.fund/evaluation/SPR2022>

⁶ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/decision/bbm-2021-11>

reporting period: the Bonn Climate Change Conference 2023, the Second workshop on addressing loss and damage in the context of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4, the 2023 GCF Regional Dialogue with Latin America and the Workshop for Direct Access Entities in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Green Climate Fund Regional Programming Dialogue with Asia and the Pacific. The IEU and the SPR team remained available to Board members, alternates, and advisors for any requested bilateral meetings, as well as for any requests for information to support the decision-making by the Board.

7. **Independent Evaluation of the Relevance and Effectiveness of the GCF's Investments in the African States.**⁷ This evaluation examined the GCF's effectiveness and efficiency in reducing the vulnerability of local communities and livelihoods to the effects of climate change in the African States, and whether these impacts are likely to be sustained. In line with the Board approved 2022 IEU workplan, the evaluation report was finalized and submitted to the Board in time for B.35 held in March 2023 in Songdo. During B.35, a decision was not adopted on this evaluation. However, the evaluation report was included in the official B.36 agenda, and a decision was adopted by the Board at B.36, held in July 2023 in Songdo, Republic of Korea. Efforts were made to further socialize the findings and recommendations of this evaluation, including through the in-house production of a spotlight teaser, social media campaigns, and IEU members' presentation of key evaluation findings in global conferences and meetings.

3.1.2. On-going evaluations.

8. **Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.**⁸ Launched in January 2023, this evaluation aims to assess the progress, gains, effectiveness, and efficiency of GCF's readiness and preparatory support programme (RPSP), while gauging the extent to which the RPSP has led to transformational projects and programmes in the Fund. The IEU delivered, in time for B.36 (July 2023), an additional deliverable to inform the discussions on RPSP strategy and present the evaluation evidence in a timely manner. A factual draft for this deliverable was made available to the Secretariat for feedback and information. This B.36 RPSP deliverable was an additional deliverable apart from the deliverables already listed in the Workplan and Budget of the IEU for 2023. The final evaluation report will be submitted in time for B.37 (October 2023). The following lists the key activities undertaken and achievements made by the evaluation team in the four-month reporting period:

- (a) Data collection and analysis for this evaluation continued and was finalized. In particular, the evaluation team analyzed data on outputs of RPSP, using the Readiness Results Management Framework (RRMF) as the basis.
- (b) The team also finalized and published the evaluation approach paper on the IEU microsite in the reporting period.
- (c) Additionally, six more country missions were undertaken and completed within this reporting period, bringing the total number of completed country missions to eight under the RPSP evaluation, in the period of March to July. The eight countries visited were: Armenia, Belize, Tanzania, Lao PDR, Cote D'Ivoire, Bhutan, Panama, and Mexico.

⁷ <https://ieugreenclimatefund/evaluation/AFR2022>

⁸ <https://ieugreenclimatefund/evaluation/RPSP2023>

- (d) Furthermore, the evaluation team interviewed a host of internal and external stakeholders in the period of May-July, in addition to launching and finalizing an online perception survey by the end of July.
- (e) By 10 August, the IEU team shared the factual draft of the RPSP evaluation with the GCF Secretariat for its review and comments. And on 14 August, the team shared with the GCF Secretariat some key emerging findings from the factual draft through a webinar. In the remainder of the month, the evaluation team integrated various comments received from Secretariat colleagues and other IEU members into the draft report. These deliveries were made earlier than provisioned in the IEU's work plan for 2023. It was to best meet the needs and policy priorities of the GCF Board and to best align with the strategy development processes at the GCF Secretariat, so that the Board could discuss any strategic actions based on evidence from the independent evaluation.

9. **Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Investment Framework.**⁹ This evaluation was launched in 2023 in line with the Board-approved 2023 workplan of the IEU. It aims to broadly assess the relevance and effectiveness of the GCF's investment framework in fulfilling the GCF's mandate and strategic goals. It will look at and consider all relevant policies, tools, frameworks, and processes that come into play in enabling the GCF to identify high-quality climate change projects and make investment decisions.

- (a) During the reporting period, the IEU concluded the inception phase of the evaluation. The evaluation team finalized the approach paper, outlining the background, key evaluation questions, methods, and proposed schedule of the evaluation. The IEU also presented webinars with the Board, Secretariat, CSOs, PSOs, and AEs to introduce the proposed evaluation approach. During the reporting period, the IEU finalized the procurement of an external team of experts to support the evaluation.
- (b) Data collection for the evaluation continued in earnest during the reporting period. The IEU launched an online survey to be administered to GCF stakeholders. The IEU undertook evaluation interviews with respondents from the AEs, CSO, iTAP, NDAs and members of the Secretariat. The evaluation team undertook a deep review of the literature, GCF policies, and an expert assessment of the investment framework. Further, the IEU made efforts to organize an in-person evaluation workshop with the consulting firm, which was delayed by a few weeks due to challenges with visas.
- (c) During the reporting period, the evaluation team finalized the approach paper and presented webinars. The final evaluation report is expected to be completed before the first Board meeting of 2024.

10. **Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Approach to the Energy Sector.**¹⁰ This evaluation assesses the relevance, efficiency, suitability, effectiveness, and innovativeness of GCF's portfolio in the energy sector in achieving climate goals alongside the lessons learned from the GCF investments. It assesses not only the GCF's energy portfolio but also its approach to the energy sector. The final evaluation report will be submitted to the Board in time for the first Board meeting in 2024.

- (a) The evaluation approach paper containing the evaluation matrix, key questions, and methods was published within the reporting period. An online perception survey for this evaluation was launched in August.

⁹ <https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/evaluation/IF2023>

¹⁰ <https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/evaluation/ES2023>

- (b) During the reporting period, all five in-person country missions for the evaluation were completed in Mongolia, Tonga, Indonesia, Zambia, and Chile. And virtual country missions were initiated for a few Eastern European countries, which will be finalized by September 2023.
- (c) A series of stakeholder interviews was conducted, including interviews with the GCF Secretariat, CSOs, PSOs and GCF Board members and NDAs. The evaluation interviews were undertaken on the margins of B.36, GCF regional dialogues for Latin America and also for Asia and the Pacific within the reporting period. The evaluation team had focus group discussions with CSOs on the margins of B.36. The team also organized a focus group discussion with PSOs in the reporting period.

11. **UNEG Peer review of the evaluation function of the GCF.** The IEU became a member of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) in January 2022. At the beginning of 2023, the IEU requested an external peer review of the evaluation function of the GCF by the UNEG. This request was accepted, and the activity was included in the UNEG workplan for 2023. This marks the first peer review of the evaluation function of the GCF since its establishment. It is expected to provide the IEU with inputs to make the Unit, its operations, evaluations and methodology more robust and rigorous. A strengthened IEU will positively contribute to the results and learning architecture of the GCF. This peer review will also allow the Head to review and adjust the vision and operations of the IEU as part of the evaluation function of the GCF. Within the reporting period, both the IEU and the UNEG began working on developing a Terms of Reference for this review, although there was a delay with initiating the necessary procurement process. The IEU plans to finalize the external peer review of the evaluation function of the GCF in 2024.

3.2 Learning, advisory services, and capacity strengthening

3.2.1. Evaluation data

12. The IEU's DataLab provides data-driven evidence using high-quality methods to inform IEU's evaluations. DataLab develops and maintains a repository of quantitative and qualitative data originating from the GCF systems and documents, as well as external sources.

13. **Informing evaluations.** During the reporting period, DataLab continued with the data collection and analysis for the following evaluations that were launched in 2023: (i) Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, (ii) Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Investment Framework, and (iii) Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Approach to the Energy Sector. The RPSP evaluation data analysis and the corresponding quality assurance process was finalized within the reporting period. All supporting Annexes for the RPSP evaluation were finalized and quality-assured as well. In the context of the Energy evaluation, the data analysis work particularly focused on identifying GCF energy projects, including data cleaning and manipulation. At the same time, the portfolio analysis of all energy investments is also progressing. Analysis was carried out to track indicators at both outcome- and output levels. A data review of the GCF readiness grants linked to energy initiatives was also conducted. In the context of the Investment Framework evaluation, further exploration and determination of the specific data sources and variables took place.

14. **Data management and acquisition.** DataLab continued to expand its data coverage with relevant internal and external sources. Through consolidated internal processes, the data

is regularly updated, revised, streamlined, and safely archived. Other key elements of data management have included strengthening the technical capacity for data analysis and increasing efficiency internally within DataLab. Throughout this reporting period, the team dedicated efforts to streamlining methodology papers associated with IEU's existing evaluation datasets. While efforts were made to move ahead with the development of the IEU's own evaluation data dashboard, this work is delayed due to the staff shortage linked to the hiring challenges explained in Section 3.4. The IEU data dashboard, when developed, will showcase GCF and IEU data through visual elements such as charts, graphs, and maps within an intuitive interface that facilitates a clear, effective and comprehensible visualization of data. The objective is to improve the communication of data and access to GCF evaluation data, thereby fostering transparency and accountability of the Fund in a cost-efficient manner.

3.2.2. Learning papers and evidence reviews

15. The Evaluation Policy for the GCF requires the IEU to promote learning and dialogue by disseminating knowledge and lessons learned. Learning papers, working papers, and evidence reviews are important tools in fulfilling this role.

16. **Evidence reviews.** In the reporting period, the IEU socialized and further disseminated the findings of its transformational change evidence review completed alongside the Climate Investment Funds (CIF). The IEU also disseminated the findings from its evidence review on behavioural science. For these activities:

- (a) The IEU shared the key lessons from the evidence review on transformational change with the GCF Secretariat and other partners through an IEU Learning Talk held in July 2023. Through the Learning Talk, the IEU and CIF focal points presented and answered questions from the GCF Secretariat. The Unit also produced a 2-page brief of this evidence review, which was published on the IEU microsite in the reporting period.
- (b) For the 2022 evidence review on behavioural science, the IEU presented the review findings on the first day of the UN Behavioural Science Week, organized by the United Nations Innovation Network, in June 2023. In addition, the IEU held an IEU Learning Talk in May with IFAD as the co-funding agency.

17. During the reporting period, the IEU also completed the first milestones for three new evidence reviews on the topics of i) the water sector, ii) just transition, and iii) market-based mechanisms in climate change and made progress on these as the following:

- (a) First, the Unit completed the protocol and data collection report for the systematic review on coastal and terrestrial water-sector interventions in developing countries. The Unit held two meetings with the advisory group for this review. In reference to the findings of the previous IEU evidence review on climate change adaptation, the water sector showed wider gaps in knowledge on what works, what doesn't and for whom. Interventions – projects, programmes, or policies – that aim to enhance adaptive capacity and mitigation co-benefits in the coastal and terrestrial water sectors are critical to achieving water security. Therefore, identifying relevant coastal and terrestrial water-sector interventions and analyzing their impacts can help developing countries achieve climate targets. This evidence review will contribute to the discussion on the impact of coastal and terrestrial climate interventions globally, and thus help inform project development, appraisal and impact evaluation processes at GCF and beyond.

- (b) The Unit completed the approach paper for the evidence review on just transition alongside the International Labour Organisation as co-funding agency. The IEU's evidence review on just transition is timely, given the new mandate from UNFCCC COP27 that GCF is to contribute to a just transition in developing countries. The just transition evidence review will inform the GCF Board and the Secretariat and ensure that GCF maintains its status as a learning institution. This evidence review will support the GCF's efforts to incorporate evolving understanding of just and equitable pathways in line with developments of such discussions within the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement as outlined in the GCF's Strategic Plan for 2024-2027. During this reporting period, the Unit also completed the data collection report for the evidence review. The evidence review is a realist synthesis as interventions are at an early stage of implementation in non-Annex I countries.
- (c) The Unit has also completed the approach paper for the evidence review on market-based mechanisms in developing countries. The evidence review is synthesizing the causal evidence base on Payments for Environmental Services (PES), willingness to pay assessments, index-based insurance, and results-based payments modalities. The findings could be considered by the GCF Secretariat in their programming in these areas.

18. **Learning papers.** During the reporting period, some progress was made with the four IEU learning papers to be completed in 2023: two papers on geospatial analysis and methods; one on assessing annual performance reports (APRs) submitted between 2019 and 2021; and one learning paper on LORTA impact assessments and challenges associated with this work. However, the work on learning papers progressed at a slower pace overall due to the prioritization of the delivery of workplan components, in light of the human resource limitations of the Unit. The need for prioritizing evaluations work including evaluation country case studies became clear at the beginning of this reporting period. See Table 3.

3.2.3. Capacity building

19. **IEU to support the development of evaluation capacity.** The IEU's TOR¹¹ requires the Unit to support the strengthening of the evaluation capacities of the GCF's implementing entities. The Evaluation Policy for the GCF also provides that the IEU will support the development of evaluation capacities, particularly that of direct access entities (DAEs). In this context, the Unit procured a consulting firm that will conduct a rapid assessment of DAEs' evaluation capacity. This work is a continuation of the IEU work done in the previous reporting period. The firm will conduct multiple interviews with DAEs that are selected based on a few criteria and launch an online perception survey for this capacity assessment. After the completion of this assessment by the end of 2023, the IEU aims to develop a long-term capacity development plan for DAEs to guide the Unit's work in 2024 and beyond. Through this exercise, the IEU will identify the areas of capacity needs that exist among the DAEs that represent different institutional type and sectors.

20. **Capacity building.** During the reporting period, the IEU continued to work on developing training modules for evaluation capacity-building for AEs and is set to finalize the production of the training package by the end of 2023. These training modules cover the topics of evaluation methods and approach, theory of change, data collection, evaluation costing, and budgeting. In particular, the evaluation policy module of the training package was unveiled and

¹¹ Annex I, Decision B.BM-2021/15 <<https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/updated-tor-ieu.pdf>>

presented in the GCF regional dialogues that took place in Latin America and Caribbean in late July 2023, as well as in the Asia-Pacific in August 2023. The Unit hopes to upload these modules as online learning resources for AEs by 2024.

3.2.4. Learning-Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment Programme

21. The IEU's LORTA programme¹² continues to support real-time impact evaluations of GCF projects so that the GCF can access accurate data on the quality of project implementation and impact. LORTA enhances learning through advisory services and capacity-building in the area of impact evaluation and contributes to the global evidence in the climate space by collaborating with practitioners, academia, policymakers, and other GCF stakeholders.

22. **LORTA portfolio and progress made with the portfolio.** LORTA currently has seven projects in the engagement and design stage, seven in baseline, and eight in the post-baseline stages. Within the reporting period, progress was made with the preparation of more reports, including a midline report for Madagascar (Conservation International, FP026) and a final impact assessment report for Bangladesh (UNDP, FP069). The finalization of these reports was delayed due to internal capacity constraints as well as external factors of the GCF-funded projects. The IEU's LORTA team plans to finalize these reports in the remainder of 2023 (see Table 3).

23. The LORTA team organized an online virtual design workshop in June. During the four-day LORTA virtual design workshop, the participants had a chance to enhance their knowledge of the basics of impact evaluation. The LORTA team also organized an in-person design workshop from 28 to 31 August in Songdo, Republic of Korea. Four selected project teams from the pool of participants who had attended the June virtual design workshop were invited to the in-person workshop in August. The participants, during the in-person workshop, received more hands-on support to get started on their impact evaluations of the GCF projects they represent. It is envisioned that two to three projects represented by those who attended this in-person workshop will be onboarded into the LORTA portfolio at a later date.

24. **Key LORTA activities and engagements.** As part of its ongoing effort to support the AEs within its portfolio, the LORTA team actively engaged and interacted with the entities and project teams through virtual means and country visits. Notably, country visits were done for Mexico (June), Paraguay (July) and Zambia (August) to support their data collection for impact evaluation and project monitoring and evaluation. The following sub-paragraphs highlight some key activities undertaken in each of these country visits and the relevant learnings by the LORTA team.

- (a) Mexico (June 2023): Group discussions were held with the accredited entity for SAP023 project, Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (FMCN) to touch base on the ongoing effort to support the impact assessment and baseline data collection of the project. Specifically, the team discussed the progress made with data collection in the field and clarified the roles and responsibilities for the next steps for the impact evaluation work, including data analysis and report drafting phases.
- (b) Paraguay (July 2023): In Paraguay, the team had several engagement meetings with key local stakeholders including the project management team (FAO Paraguay) and their government counterpart (Technical Secretariat for Economic and Social Development Planning). In these meetings that were also attended by the Minister, the LORTA team

¹² <https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/evaluation/lorta>

shared the objective of the programme and a brief history of the partnership between the country and the IEU, and acknowledged the support provided by her team. The LORTA team also worked with the survey firm and enumerators who are engaged in the ongoing baseline data collection. Prior to launching data collection, technical support was provided by the LORTA team through data collection training and pilots.

- (c) Zambia (August 2023): The LORTA team met with the UNDP Zambia team which is undertaking impact assessment interventions on FP072: Strengthening climate resilience of agricultural livelihoods in agro-ecological regions I and II of Zambia. Meeting their monitoring and evaluation experts, the LORTA team had a fruitful discussion on the stock taking of the impact assessment interventions on the project. They discussed the ongoing challenges and the way forward for better collaboration between the two organizations and units.

25. On the margins of GCF's thirty-sixth meeting of the Board held in July 2023, the LORTA team delivered a Board side event and introduced its impact evaluation work and lessons learned at the country level to the Board members, advisors, GCF Secretariat staff, and observers representing the CSO and PSO networks. The Board side event on LORTA was very well received by the participants, as it offered insights into the impact of GCF's investments and the beneficiaries being reached through the projects on the ground.

3.3 Uptake, communications, and partnerships

26. The IEU ensures knowledge dissemination and uptake by engaging in various external and internal events, producing a wide range of publications and outreach materials, regularly updating its microsite, and sharing content on social media, among others.

27. Further partnerships and collaboration are critical to ensure that the IEU delivers effective evaluations, contributes to its own and the GCF's learning, and builds the capacity of in-country stakeholders. Also, IEU partners provide the opportunity to extend greater understanding, outreach, and uptake of IEU recommendations.

3.3.1. Communications products and uptake

28. **Overview of major communications and uptake products.** The IEU produces a wide range of communications products tailored to the needs of its broad spectrum of stakeholders. Such products include print and online publications, newsletters, multimedia content, and promotional materials for internal and external engagement. The IEU continues to update its microsite daily and maintain a solid presence on social media. These outreach activities and materials disseminate the IEU's evaluations, support their uptake, and serve the IEU's broader learning and advisory function. Annex II contains a list of IEU publications and communications products that were published during the reporting period.

29. **IEU microsite analytics.** In the May–August period, the IEU microsite received a total of 7,100 visitors. While recording 7,100 total visitors, 6,814 were marked as engagements from 'new users' and 1,800 as engagements from 'returning users'. In the preceding four-month period (January–April 2023), the microsite registered 6,948 total visitors with 6,663 marked as 'new users' and 1,618 as 'returning users'. The increase in the number of users is in line with the existing trend of traffic growth through the Unit's rigorous and consistent engagement and uptake activities, including on social media. Noteworthy dates where the website recorded spikes in users and their activity were 6 June and 12 July; on these dates, the IEU participated in the UNFCCC Bonn Climate Conference and the 36th meeting of the GCF Board, respectively.

30. Visitors predominantly used three main avenues to access the IEU microsite and publications: (i) web searches (e.g. via Google), (ii) direct URL access (e.g. via a browser bookmark), (iii) social media (e.g. via Twitter or LinkedIn) and (iv) referral (e.g. partner websites). As observed in the previous reporting period, users coming from partner websites continued to engage more actively on the website.

31. With regards to IEU publications posted on the microsite during the reporting period, the final report of the Second Performance Review and other deliverables available on the evaluation page received the most traction with a combined 454 recorded downloads. This was followed by the 2022 Annual Report of the IEU, which was downloaded 90 times, and the evidence review “Scale, depth and duration - Examples of transformational change in the energy and public health sectors” with 78 downloads. The 2023 IEU workplan and budget and the final report of the ‘Independent Evaluation of the Relevance and Effectiveness of the GCF’s Investments in the African States’ and its briefs also attracted a lot of user traffic and were among the most downloaded.

32. **Social media analytics.** The IEU’s solid presence on social media enables the Unit to reach a wide range of stakeholders, including members of global evaluation networks and associations, other climate funds and international organizations, evaluation offices of UN agencies, AEs, NGOs, and academia, in addition to the GCF stakeholders including the Board members and advisors. As mentioned above, social media also serves as an important gateway for the stakeholders to access various IEU evaluation reports, evidence reviews, and studies for the first time, which then leads them to check content from the IEU microsite. For this reason, the IEU posts content on social media daily and closely monitors social media analytics and engagements. Over the reporting period, the IEU’s social media channels saw a significant growth in user followership and subscriber numbers across all platforms (see Table 1).

Table 1: Growth in SNS followership over the reporting period

Platform	Number of new followers	Total number of followers	Rate of growth in followership
LinkedIn	1,100	5,479	25.4
X (formerly Twitter)	56	1,522	3.8
YouTube	33	443	8.0

Source: LinkedIn Analytics, Twitter Analytics, YouTube Analytics

(a) **LinkedIn.**¹³ The number of followers of the IEU’s LinkedIn account increased by 1,100 to 5,479 in the reporting period, representing an increase of 25.4 per cent. Across the IEU’s LinkedIn visitors and followers, the large majority come from the fields of international affairs, non-profit organizations, and research services (more than a third), and these followers are mostly based in Asia, Africa, North America, and Europe, with hot spots in Seoul-Incheon, Nairobi, Washington, London, Delhi, and Geneva. It is notable that considering the total follower size of the IEU’s LinkedIn page, the IEU posts an above-average number of posts and receives strong engagement across the posts, on a par with its peer organizations, such as 3ie and the Independent Evaluation Group

¹³ <https://www.linkedin.com/company/gcf-eval/>

(IEG) that have triple or quadruple the follower count of the IEU. Over the reporting period, the IEU launched 109 new posts on LinkedIn. Posts contained information about the IEU's latest evaluations, external and internal events, job openings, team achievements, and new blogs. Those receiving the highest engagement included the in-person LORTA Design Workshop held in August, IEU and GCF events held at B.36, namely the LORTA side event and GCF Women's networking event, and IEU team-building activities, such as IEU team members supporting the GCF community garden and a farewell party for departing colleagues.

- (b) **X (formerly Twitter).**¹⁴ The IEU disseminated 110 new tweets in the four-month reporting period, amounting to over 32,000 tweet impressions, the total number of times any user could have potentially seen the IEU's name or content. The engagement rate remained consistent between 4.2 and 5 per cent, and the number of followers grew by 56 to 1,522. Overall, the engagement rate of visitors to the page has shown an upward trend over the period. Tweets over this period informed key stakeholders of the IEU's latest evaluation products, engagements, events, partnerships, blogs, team achievements, and vacancies. Tweets also disseminated relevant information about the B.36 proceedings and discussions. Those receiving the highest engagement on Twitter included the IEU speaking at the UNFCCC, the LORTA side event at B.36, the August learning event on GIS, the in-person LORTA Design workshop, and the GCF Asia-Pacific Regional Dialogue.
- (c) **YouTube.**¹⁵ The IEU published 14 new videos on YouTube in the reporting period. These included 11 recordings of IEU-organized webinars and events and three professionally edited videos, five of which were uploaded as unlisted videos for internal stakeholders only. The channel received over 2,400 views, equivalent to 157.9 hours of viewing time, over the reporting period. The number of subscribers increased by 33 to 443 subscribers, an increase of 8 per cent. The videos receiving the highest engagement included the spotlight videos on the GCF's Adaptation Portfolio (394 views), LORTA (100 views), African States evaluation (92 views), and Environmental and Social Safeguards (90 views), as well as the IEU Webinar on the Inception Report of the SIDS Evaluation (118 views).

3.3.2. Partnerships

33. The IEU works with a wide range of partners.¹⁶ To date, it has Memoranda of Understanding, membership, and partnership agreements with a total of 26 accredited entities, national designated authorities, universities, research institutes, government ministries, civil society organizations, multilateral and bilateral agencies, and independent evaluation offices of accredited entities. As part of ongoing partnerships that the IEU is engaged in, the Unit continued its participation in the Global SDG Synthesis Coalition as Co-Chair of the Planet Pillar SDGs Synthesis Management Group.¹⁷ During the reporting period, the IEU took part in nine meetings and contributed to the Coalition's ongoing work and discussions.

3.3.3. GCF Events

¹⁴ https://twitter.com/GCF_Eval

¹⁵ https://youtube.com/@GCF_Eval

¹⁶ <https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/about/partners>

¹⁷ <https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/events/ieu-at-sdg-synthesis-coalition>

34. The GCF's Evaluation Policy and the IEU's TOR require the IEU to disseminate lessons learned. According to the GCF Evaluation Policy, dialogue is one of the key functions of evaluations. IEU-organized webinars and events are an excellent channel for disseminating information, increasing awareness of the IEU's work and its relevance to the GCF, encouraging the exchange of ideas, and fostering dialogue and learning among the IEU's global stakeholders and partners. These include GCF Secretariat members, Board Members, accredited entities, country stakeholders, civil society and private sector organizations, other climate funds and research networks. In the following paragraphs, the internal events organized by the IEU as well as the external events that IEU participated in are presented consecutively:¹⁸

- (a) **Four IEU Learning Talks** aimed at fostering discussion on topics of the IEU's work with the GCF Secretariat were held. The IEU Learning Talks held during the reporting period covered topics relevant to GCF programming and operation, including applying behavioural science and geographic information system (GIS) insights into climate projects, lessons learned from IEU's capacity-building related work and support for accredited entities, and what constitutes transformational change in the climate arena.
- (b) **Four evaluation webinars** were held for the GCF Board members, alternate Board members, and advisors, Secretariat, CSOs and PSOs and AEs. These webinars are aimed at disseminating key information relating to IEU's 2023 evaluations. In May, three webinars took place on the approaches and methods of the Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, Independent Evaluation of GCF's Approach to the Energy Sector, and Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Investment Framework. Also, in August, one IEU webinar was organized to share with the GCF Secretariat colleagues the emerging findings from the Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.
- (c) **Seven in-person IEU presentations and side events** were held for GCF Board members, alternate Board members, advisors, NDAs, AEs, and delivery partners. These took place at B.36 held in July in Songdo, Republic of Korea and at the GCF Regional Dialogues for the regions of Latin America and the Caribbean (Montevideo, Uruguay) in July, and for Asia and the Pacific (Songdo, Republic of Korea) in August. The IEU presentations and side events covered the following topics: Evaluation Policy for the GCF and evaluation standards and guidelines; evaluation findings and lessons from the Second Performance Review of GCF, the Independent Synthesis of Direct Access in GCF; and key learnings from IEU's Learning-Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment (LORTA) programme and its impact evaluation work. Additionally, the IEU took part in the onboarding of the GRLUAC Board Member in July.

3.3.4. External events

35. The IEU continued with its engagement and exchange of information with external stakeholders. During the reporting period, the IEU took part in six international conferences and workshops. Conferences and events covered topics relating to climate change, evaluations, and innovative methods for evaluations and research. In these global events, the IEU staff presented on the following topics: Evaluation findings and lessons from the Second Performance Review of GCF, Independent Evaluations of the Relevance and Effectiveness of the GCF's investments in the LDCs, SIDS, and African States, Independent Evaluation of the Adaptation Portfolio and Approach of GCF, Evidence Reviews on Behavioral Science and

¹⁸ <https://ieu.greenclimate.fund/newsroom/events>

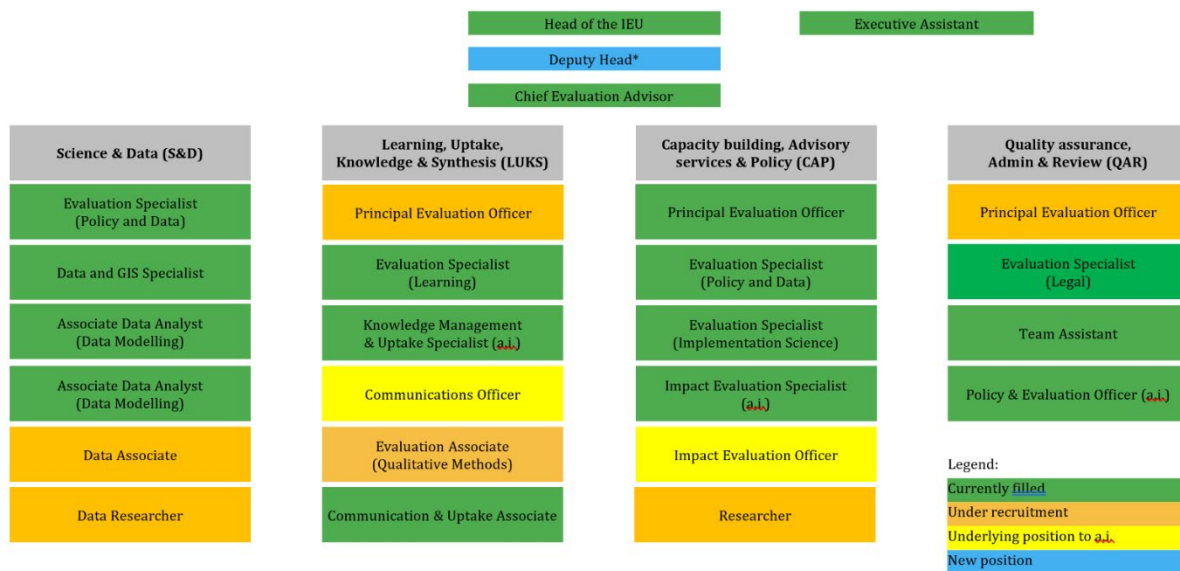
Transformational Change, and the Learning-Oriented Real-Time Impact Assessment (LORTA) programme of the IEU. A complete listing of all internal and external events held during the reporting period is available in Annex III of this report.

3.4 Building and strengthening the Independent Evaluation Unit

36. Based on the Evaluation Policy for the GCF, the IEU is expected to be a global leader in climate evaluation. Accordingly, it places considerable emphasis on hiring global talent and further strengthening internal capacity through a wide range of training and learning opportunities.

37. **Staffing.** The new Evaluation Specialist, Ms. Jeehyun Yoon, joined the team in August 2023. The IEU launched its recruitment process in early 2023, and interview processes for a Data Associate, a Data Officer, and an Evaluation Associate for qualitative science and methods were completed within the reporting period. However, these three hiring processes were concluded unsuccessfully in the end. Other hirings were on-going within the reporting period for the following positions: two Principal Evaluation Officers, an Impact Evaluation Specialist, and a Researcher for capacity and impact evaluations. The hiring processes for the two Principal Evaluation Officers were launched, but administrative processes were delayed, thereby leaving these critical positions unfilled. The IEU will continue to strengthen its collaboration with the OHR to stabilize the team strength up to 26 full-time staff as anticipated in the three-year rolling workplan objectives.

Figure 1: The IEU’s structure and organogram (as of 18 August 2023)



38. The IEU has endeavored to deliver on its core function with the planned evaluations and reviews, which is outlined in Table 2 below. However, several activities have been postponed, due to the significant challenges and delays in the hiring procedures, as well as due to the current Unit size of only 17 full-time employees (or 65 per cent of the needed Unit capacity). Table 3 highlights the 2023 IEU activities that were delayed due to the insufficient internal capacity, including the UNEG Peer Review of the GCF’s evaluation function, the development of an IEU dashboard, and the finalization of LORTA impact evaluation reports.

Table 2: Status of 2023 IEU evaluations and evidence reviews

Evaluation name	Approach Paper	Data Collection and Review	Zero/Factual Draft and Country case study reports	Final Evaluation report and outreach products	Board Submission
GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Program	✓	✓	✓	Planned for Q4 of 2023	B.37 (October 2023)
GCF's Investment Framework	✓	✓	✓	Planned for Q4 2023 – Q1 2024	1 st Board meeting of 2024
GCF's operations and investments in the energy sector	✓	✓	✓	Planned for Q4 2023 – Q1 2024	1 st Board meeting of 2024
Evidence Review on the Water Sector	✓	✓	not applicable	Planned for Q4 of 2023	Dec. 2023
Synthetic Review on Just Transition	✓	✓	not applicable	Planned for Q4 of 2023	Dec. 2023
Evidence Review on Market-Based Approaches to Mitigation and Adaptation	✓	✓	not applicable	Planned for Q4 of 2023	Dec. 2023

Table 3: 2023 IEU Activities

Activities	Main outputs for the relevant time period	Anticipated delays
I. BUILD AND STRENGTHEN THE IEU		
1. IEU staffing	IEU recruitment completed	Delayed
2. IEU activity reports	Engagement & final report	On track
3. Evaluation standards and guidelines	Standards and guidelines completed	On track
4. IEU team retreats	IEU team retreats held	Partially delayed
II. UNDERTAKE AND DELIVER HIGH-QUALITY EVALUATIONS TO THE GCF BOARD		
4. Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (RPSP)	Engagement & drafting of report and country case studies	On track
5. Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Investment Framework	Engagement & drafting of report	On track

6. Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Approach to the Energy Sector	Engagement & drafting of report and country case studies	On track
7. LORTA impact evaluations	Reports from baseline, midline data	Partially delayed
8. UNEG peer review of GCF's evaluation function	Peer review of GCF's evaluation function conducted by UNEG	Delayed
III. EVALUATION-BASED ADVISORY SERVICES, LEARNING & CAPACITY STRENGTHENING		
9. LORTA advice and wider dissemination and uptake of LORTA learnings	More corporate-level LORTA products published, and outreach events held	Partially delayed
10. Non-LORTA Capacity Building Advisory services	Evaluation capacity at AE level, including completion of in-depth DAE evaluation capacity assessment; Evaluation capacity at Secretariat level.	Delayed
11. Database and IEU dashboard development	IEU dashboard created and database that includes GIS data regularly updated and maintained	Delayed
IV. COMMUNICATIONS, BUILDING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENT		
12. Evaluation approach, methods, findings uptake	Engagement, webinars, briefs digital & in print, and Board engagement	On track
13. IEU partnerships	Engagement & joint work	Partially delayed
14. IEU Communications	Revisions and updating of IEU publication templates; Production of evaluation spotlight teasers and videos for uptake	Partially delayed
15. Evidence gap maps and review papers	Just transition in climate change; water sector interventions; market-based mechanisms	Partially delayed
16. Learning papers	Papers on geospatial analysis and methods, GCF annual performance reports, and LORTA impact assessments	Delayed

39. In the context of the significant challenges with hiring and filling the vacant staff positions as explained above, the IEU Head has adjusted and redirected unused allocations of the Unit's staff budget to balance capacity and human resources needs in light of the 2023 workplan targets. The adjusted budget lines have given the Unit more modularity and enhanced its capacity to deliver on the 2023 workplan. The IEU Head continued to discuss possible impacts with an internal coordination group on a weekly basis. Adjustments to the Unit priorities are decided and presented to the IEU team regularly by the Head.

40. **Internship programme.** The IEU welcomed two new interns in June. As a part of the wider GCF internship programme, the IEU internship offers young graduates an opportunity to learn and grow by supporting the development and undertaking of evaluations for six months. The IEU's recruitment of interns aims to ensure both training and learning. In addition to a final report at the end of the internship, IEU interns are responsible for drafting and distributing a weekly internal report that provides an update on the tasks assigned to them in the previous week. The IEU's Interns' Day programme allows the interns to put aside their usual day-to-day tasks and learn about other areas of the IEU's work, the GCF, or climate change. For the Interns' Day programme for the month of August 2023, the IEU interns participated in a bird-watching programme organized by the East Asian-Australian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP).

41. **Team culture.** The staff of the IEU is subject to the Code of Conduct of Staff, as stated in the TOR of the IEU. The IEU also follows the GCF guidelines, including those on procurement, HR and grievance. The IEU has been careful to continue to support its team members in the development of a culture that supports professional growth and provides a positive work environment. The IEU is carefully reviewing the staff feedback that was collected through the GCF-wide survey, in close collaboration with the Office of Human Resources. Building on the team discussions held in 2022 and 2023, the IEU continued to organize team retreats and undertake team building exercises. As stated in the three-year rolling workplan, the IEU continued to build internal modularity and capacity to deal with routine events such as staff turnover.

42. **Team retreats.** During the reporting period, the IEU team members were engaged in charting the Unit's priorities and plans for 2024 as well as workstream-specific activities and needs to inform the Unit's annual workplan for next year. The IEU team had made plans to organize a team building retreat in July initially. However, the plan was postponed due to evaluation data collection-related travels by staff members, among other things, in the reporting period. The IEU team retreats will now take place in September and November 2023, and preparatory work for these retreats was completed within the reporting period, including the procurement of an external facilitator who will guide the team building exercises and discussions at these retreats.

43. **Team training.** In the period of May – August 2023, the IEU senior staff members with a managerial role participated in the GCF Great Leaders' Program offered by the OHR, in different cohorts.

IV. Budget and expenditure report

44. Table 4 below shows the IEU's 2023 budget and expenditure report as of 31 July 2023 in USD. Regarding the staff budget, delays in the hiring processes of several positions, including the recruitment of the underlying staff positions for ad interim arrangements, are the underlying reasons for the limited execution of the staff budget. The OHR concluded several hiring processes for some of these positions, but these were unsuccessful. The anticipated staff budget does include, besides the actual costs, all the staff benefits that a staff position is eligible for such as dependents' benefits, education benefits, and moving allowances. However, the actual staff benefits expenditure is known only after onboarding the selected individual for a staff position and thus cannot be preempted. For these reasons, the overall staff budget of the Unit remains underspent as of 31 July 2023.



Table 4: IEU budget and expenditure report in United States dollars (USD) as of 31 July 2023

Items	2023 budget (a)	Actual spent (b)	Committed amount as of 7/2023 ('c)	Sub-total (d)=(b)+('c)	% (d) as a percentage of (a)	Remaining budget (a)-(d)
Staff costs (1)	4,683,111	1,859,940	1,293,635	3,160,031	67%	1,523,080
Full-time staff	4,183,457	1,647,214	1,176,582	2,823,796	67%	1,359,661
Consultants & interns	499,654	212,726	117,053	336,235	67%	163,419
Travel (2)	258,107	52,632	95,934	148,566	58%	109,541
General	258,107	52,632	95,934	148,566	58%	109,541
Professional services (3)	1,496,499	404,382	907,424	1,311,806	88%	184,693
Legal & professional services	1,460,000	392,143	907,424	1,299,567	89%	160,433
Operating costs	36,499	12,239	0	12,239	34%	24,260
Sub-Total (IEU) (4=1+2+3)	6,437,717	2,316,954	2,296,993	4,620,403	72%	1,817,314
Shared cost allocation (5)	658,697	384,244	274,460	658,704	100%	-
Grand Total (6=4+5)	7,096,414	2,701,198	2,571,453	5,279,107	74%	1,817,307

Note: Full staff costs include an allocation of USD 132,131 for the salary scales adjustments allocated using planned staff numbers.

45. The IEU's 2023 budget expenditure will further increase by the end of December 2023, as it is expected that the budget for travel and professional services will be fully delivered. Travel costs are expected to reach over 100 per cent, and the travel list includes Board meetings-related travel and evaluations-related missions. Also, the IEU entered contracts with consulting firms that provide technical support to deliver 2023 evaluations and reviews, leaving professional services expenditure at 96 per cent (USD 3,025,796/ USD 4,183,45) of the budget. Table 5 below shows the total forecasted expenditure including anticipated expenses.

Table 5: IEU budget and forecasted expenditure report in United States dollars (USD) as of 31 December 2023

Items	2023 budget (a)	Actual spent (b)	Anticipated expenditure till the end of 2023 ('c)	Total forecasted expenditure of 2023 (d)=(b)+('c)	% (d) as a percentage of (a)
Staff costs (1)	4,683,111	1,859,940	1,502,090	3,362,030	72%
Full-time staff	4,183,457	1,647,214	1,378,582	3,025,796	72%

Consultants & interns	499,654	212,726	123,509	336,235	67%
Travel (2)	258,107	52,632	213,801	266,433	103%
General	258,107	52,632	213,801	266,433	103%
Professional services (3)	1,496,499	404,382	1,029,924	1,434,306	96%
Legal & professional services	1,460,000	392,143	1,007,424	1,399,567	96%
Operating costs	36,499	12,239	22,500	34,739	95%
Sub-Total (IEU) (4=1+2+3)	6,437,717	2,104,228	2,745,815	5,062,769	79%
Shared cost allocation (5)	658,697	384,244	274,460	658,704	100%
Grand Total (6=4+5)	7,096,414	2,701,198	3,020,275	5,721,473	81%

- Full-time staff includes an allocation of USD 132,131 for the salary scale adjustments allocated using planned staff numbers.
- Anticipated expenditure is made up of committed and pipeline amounts.

Annex I: Progress Report on the Second Performance Review of the Green Climate Fund

I. Introduction

1. The Board launched the Second Performance Review (SPR) of the GCF in decision B.BM-2021/11 on 10 June 2021. The scope of the SPR is to assess the GCF's progress during the GCF-1 programming period, specifically: (i) the GCF's progress in fulfilling its mandate and operational priorities, as outlined in the Updated Strategic Plan (USP) and (ii) the GCF's performance in promoting a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways.
2. In decision B.27/08, the GCF Board approved the work plan and budget of the Independent Evaluation Unit for 2021. Document GCF/B.28/07 notes that "At every Board meeting, IEU activities reports will include an update on the progress made on the second performance review." This progress report provides an account of the progress made on the SPR in the reporting period of May to August 2023.

II. Activities under the SPR

2.1 Data collection

3. Prior to the reporting period corresponding to this Activity Report, the SPR team concluded the key data collection activities, as well as the analysis and drafting of the final SPR report. In particular, the SPR team finished the following prior to the reporting period:
 - (a) In 2022, the IEU concluded data collection for country case studies. SPR missions covered the following countries in a hybrid or in-person mode: Bangladesh, Georgia, Grenada, India, Kenya, the Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, Peru, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, and Viet Nam. IEU members undertook travel relating to country missions in coordination with the GCF Secretariat, including the travel and the security teams, and in adherence to the Administrative Instruction on the GCF Official Travel.
 - (b) In 2022 and 2023, the IEU concluded the examination of existing data sources, such as data systems maintained by the Secretariat and the IEU's in-house databases and relevant external data, including GIS data. Several new approaches were implemented to close the information gaps and triangulate the evidence under the mixed methods approach. These analyses were directed to contribute to the SPR final report.
 - (c) Semi-structured stakeholder interviews for data collection were also concluded in 2022. Specifically, the SPR team undertook extensive interviews with members of the Board, Secretariat, AEs, NDAs, other partners, and experts. Overall, the SPR team undertook more than 700 semi-structured interviews, including country case studies.

2.2 Analysis and drafting

4. In late 2022 and early 2023, the SPR team undertook the drafting and finalizing of the final report of the SPR. The SPR team undertook virtual and, where possible, in-person workshops for analysis, writing, and editing. The scope of the workshops covered the findings as well as recommendations.

5. The IEU shared a factual draft of the SPR final report with the Secretariat in December 2022. The comments and feedback provided by the Secretariat were taken into account during the revisions and preparation of the final report.

6. In the context of B.35, the IEU shared a raw version of the SPR final report with the Co-Chairs to support the timely circulation of the report. The IEU also shared the recommendations with the Secretariat to support the timely development of the management response. The IEU circulated the final report of the SPR in time for B.35.

7. In addition to the final report, the IEU also prepared country case study reports as well as a 2-page and a 4-page brief to provide accessible summaries of the report.

2.3 SPR substantial outputs

8. The IEU was expected to produce several deliverables under the SPR. The IEU previously produced and delivered the FPR Management Action Report (MAR) and the SPR Synthesis Study. Further, ahead of B.32, the IEU prepared for Board's consideration a) the rapid assessment of the USP 2020-2021 and b) the SPR approach paper. At B.34, the IEU submitted the SPR summary report to the Board, including evidence and finding areas with recommendations. At B.35, the IEU delivered the SPR final report. The IEU also completed the country case studies as part of the SPR final report. It further developed briefs and an executive summary and updated the site.

2.4 SPR procedural outputs

9. As a part of the SPR, the IEU was expected to produce several procedural deliverables, including:

- (a) **Progress Report on the Second Performance Review:** The IEU submitted the Progress Report for the previous reporting period to the Board as part of the IEU Annual Report submitted for B.36. For the current reporting period, the IEU prepared this progress report, which is part of the Activity Report submitted for B.37.
- (b) **Expenditure Report to the Budget Committee:** The IEU submitted the Expense Report for the previous reporting period, which accounted for the progress made on the SPR and budget expenditure from April 2023 to June 2023, to the Board's Budget Committee in July 2023. For the reporting period corresponding with this IEU Activity Report, the IEU is expected to submit an expenditure report aligning with B.37 to the Budget Committee.

2.5 Engagement and uptake

10. The GCF Evaluation Standards call for evaluations to take a participatory approach. In particular, the IEU engaged in the following meetings:

- (a) **Bonn Climate Change Conference 2023** – The IEU organized a side event on the margins of the 58th session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bonn, Germany. The panel included presentations by the IEU and the GCF Secretariat. Representatives from the GCF Board seats, GCF Secretariat, CSOs, PSOs, media, academia and others attended the side event.

- (b) **Second workshop on addressing loss and damage in the context of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4** – The IEU was invited to participate and present at the second workshop organized on July 15-16, 2023, in Bangkok, Thailand. The IEU presentation included findings and recommendations of the SPR to inform the discussions at the workshop.
- (c) **Bilateral meetings** – The IEU and SPR team remained available to Board members, alternates, and advisors for any requested bilateral meetings, as well as for any requests for information to support the decision-making by the Board.
- (d) **GCF Structured Dialogues** – The IEU was invited to present the final report of the SPR at two GCF Structured Dialogues organized during the reporting period. The IEU presented the findings and recommendations of the SPR at GCF Regional Dialogue with Latin America and Workshop for Direct Access Entities in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Montevideo, Uruguay, in July 2023. The IEU also presented at the Green Climate Fund Regional Programming Dialogue with Asia and the Pacific in Songdo, Republic of Korea, in August 2023.

Annex II: List of IEU publications and communications materials that were published in the reporting period (May - August 2023)

Document type	Topic
Board Report	GCF/B.36/Inf.09 Report on the activities of the IEU
Policy	Guidelines for the effective functioning of the Independent Evaluation Unit
Evaluation knowledge product	IEU deliverable at B.36 under the RPSP evaluation
Evaluation knowledge product	Approach paper of the Independent Evaluation of the Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme
Evaluation knowledge product	Approach paper of the Independent Evaluation of Green Climate Fund's Approach to the Energy Sector
Evaluation knowledge product	Approach paper of the Independent Evaluation of the Green Climate Fund's Investment Framework
Evaluation brief	Approach brief: IF2023
Evaluation brief	Approach brief: ES2023
IEU Blog	Climate Finance Policies: Should We Reform or Not?
IEU Blog	Western Port's mangroves: The ugly duckling
IEU Blog	Is the GCF targeting the right beneficiaries?
IEU Blog	Of prayer flags and readiness: Notes from an evaluation mission in Bhutan
IEU Blog	B.36 Data outlook: funding proposals for the Board's consideration
Learning paper	Considerations for integrating behavioral science in Green Climate Fund projects
Learning Paper Summary	A second study of the evaluability of Green Climate Fund funding proposals
Working Paper Summary	Introducing the use of geospatial data in the GCF's portfolio: Project location geocoding methodology
Learning paper brief	Scale, depth, and duration - examples of transformational change in the energy and public health sectors
Video	IEU Webinar Approach & methods of IEU evaluations on GCFs Investment Framework, Energy Sector & RPSP
Video	Appreciation Message for the GCF from Bhutan

Document type	Topic
Video	Spotlight: Independent Synthesis of Direct Access in the Green Climate Fund
Video	Spotlight: Evaluating the relevance and effectiveness of the GCF's investments in the African States
Newsletter	IEU Newsletter 19
Article	IEU takes part in the Steering Committee of the Global SDG Synthesis Coalition

Annex III: List of IEU events and engagements with stakeholders and partners in the reporting period (May – August 2023)

#	Month	Event	Type
1	May	IEU Approach Paper Briefing covering evaluations of Investment Framework and Energy Sector	IEU event for Secretariat
2		IEU's webinar on Approach and Methods of Three IEU Evaluations – GCF's Investment Framework, Energy Sector and RPSP (CSO/PSO/AEs)	IEU event for Stakeholders/Partners
3		Pan-African Forum on Climate Financing Mobilization and Structuring	External
4		IEU presentation for Seoul National University Student's Visit	External
5		IEU Learning talk: Applying behavioural science for effective climate action: lessons for the GCF	IEU event for Secretariat
6		IEU Board Webinar on draft approach of the Investment Framework and the Energy Sector evaluations	IEU event for GCF Board
7	June	Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: Co-Chairs Meeting	Ongoing Partnership
8		gLOCAL Evaluation Week 2023: The Future of M&E: Culture, Context, and Collaboration	IEU event for GCF Board
9		AIR Webinar: Evidence Syntheses for Climate Change	External
10		Bonn Climate Change Conference 2023	External
11		UN Behavioural Science Week	External
12		IEU Learning Talk: Enhancing capacity of accredited entities - an independent view	IEU event for Secretariat
13		LORTA Design Workshop 2023	IEU event for Stakeholders/Partners
14	Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: Steering Committee Meeting	Ongoing Partnership	
15	July	Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: All Pillar Co-Chairs Meeting	Ongoing Partnership
16		GRULAC Board Member Onboarding	IEU event for GCF Board
17		B.36: Side Event Introduction to LORTA	GCF Event
18		Second workshop on addressing loss and damage in the context of decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4	External
19		Climate Funds Evaluation Units Meeting	IEU event for Stakeholders/Partners
20		Transformations Conference 2023: Transformative Partnerships	External
21		GCF Regional Dialogue with Latin America and Workshop for Direct Access Entities in Latin America and the Caribbean	GCF Event
22		Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: Planet Pillar Management Group Meeting	External
23		Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: All Pillar Co-Chairs Meeting	Ongoing Partnership
24	August	Green Climate Fund Regional Programming Dialogue with Asia and the Pacific	GCF Event
25		Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: Extraordinary Meeting	Ongoing Partnership

26		Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: Steering Committee Meeting	Ongoing Partnership
27		IEU Learning Talk: pace, place and scale – the value of GIS in climate investments	IEU event for Secretariat
28		Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: All Pillar Co-Chairs Meeting	Ongoing Partnership
29		8th Asia-Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Forum	External
30		Global SDG Synthesis Coalition: All Pillar Co-Chairs Meeting	Ongoing Partnership