



Independent evaluation of the relevance and effectiveness of the Green Climate Fund's investments in the African States

1. Context

As part of its Board-approved 2022 work plan, the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) will complete an evaluation focused on the African States. This evaluation is expected to draw on Africa-related insights from previous IEU evaluations, and it will constitute a building block of the Second Performance Review (SPR) of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), which is being conducted by the IEU throughout 2022–2023.

The Governing Instrument of the GCF mandates that “In allocating resources for adaptation, the Board will take into account the urgent and immediate needs of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, including LDCs, SIDS and African States.”

2. Purpose and objectives

This evaluation is part of a concerted effort by the GCF's IEU to examine the relevance and effectiveness of GCF's strategy and investments

in the most vulnerable countries. It will ask whether the GCF's approach and investments in the African States have been effective in reducing the vulnerability of local communities and their livelihoods to the effects of climate change, and whether these impacts are likely to be sustained. It will ask whether the GCF's approach and investments in the African States have been effective in reducing the vulnerability of local communities and their livelihoods to the effects of climate change, and whether these impacts are likely to be sustained.

The evaluation addresses the following key questions:

- **Relevance:** To what extent have the GCF business model, processes, pipeline, and portfolio been relevant to the specific needs and urgency of climate action in the African States?
- **Effectiveness:** To what extent are GCF investments in Africa catering to the high potential for transformation within these economies and the potential for high levels of



demonstration?

- **Efficiency and sustainability:** How efficient is the GCF in reducing the vulnerability of local communities and local livelihoods to the effects of climate change? To what extent are these impacts likely to be sustained?

In particular, the evaluation will consider the effectiveness and efficiency of the GCF's business model, processes, pipeline and portfolio in meeting the specific needs and urgency of climate action in African States.

The IEU's African States evaluation team, consisting of IEU staff and external consultants, will answer these and other key questions in the evaluation's final report. The IEU will submit the final report to the Board at the end of 2022.

3. Scope

The evaluation will address its three key questions within the broader context of the African States and all GCF operational modalities, programmes and processes available, including:

- Portfolio of accredited entities
- Funding proposals and the GCF's approval process
- GCF reports and documentation
- Synthesis of IEU evaluations on Africa
- Country programmes and country ownership
- Financial instruments
- Regional and programmatic approaches
- GCF engagement and partners
- Gender and Indigenous Peoples Policy

The questions are guided by the evaluation criteria mentioned in the Evaluation Policy of the GCF.¹

4. Methods

The evaluation will take a mixed-methods approach, using both qualitative and quantitative data and methods to inform its evidence-based findings, conclusions, and recommendations, including:

- a review of documentation
- quantitative and qualitative data analysis
- benchmarking
- literature and policy review
- 3CO analysis: status of complementarity, coherence and cooperation between the GCF and other institutions
- stakeholder consultation (key informant interviews and surveys)
- case studies and country missions

5. Case studies and country missions

The evaluation will employ case studies for a more in-depth look at the relevance, effectiveness, and coherence of GCF activities in the African States.

The case studies have been selected based on a range of criteria including sub-region, income level, country classification (fragile and conflict-affected states (FCAS)), geographic distribution, support provided by the GCF (while differentiating between single-country projects and multi-country projects), thematic distribution (across mitigation, adaptation and cross-cutting support), oil production, and the presence of a DAE.

Three case studies are built around thematic foci and two are country-specific as follows:

- Case study 1: Complementarity, coherence, coordination and scaling up
- Case Study 2: Fragile, conflict-and violence-affected societies
- Case Study 3: Countries without a single-country full project
- Case study 4: Egypt
- Case Study 5: South Africa

The evaluation team will conduct country missions in Ivory Coast, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Egypt and South Africa as part of the case studies.

¹ GCF/B.BM-2021/07, annex 1

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