



THE IEU'S 2023 WORK PLAN

At its thirty-fourth meeting in October 2022, the Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) approved a budget of USD 6,934 million to fund the Independent Evaluation Unit's (IEU) activities in 2023. There are four key elements of the IEU's annual work plan for 2023.

- I. Building and strengthening the IEU
- II. Evaluations
- III. Capacity building and advisory services
- IV. Uptake, communication, and partnerships

I. BUILDING AND STRENGTHENING THE IEU

In 2023, the IEU is expected to have 26 staff members, 5 HQ-based consultants and remote consultants of varied experience and expertise. The IEU is also on track to stabilize team strength and reach a plateau in the following year.

As a member of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) since January 2022, the IEU plans to request an external peer review of the evaluation function of the GCF in 2023. It will provide inputs to make the office, operations, its evaluations and methodology of the IEU and the Fund more robust and rigorous. A strengthened IEU will positively contribute to the results and learning architecture of the GCF.

For internal capacity development, the IEU will develop a checklist for evaluations, quality assurance,

standard operating procedures. It will also continue to build its own capacities through training in methods, communications, evaluations, and science. The IEU continues to build internal modularity and capacity to deal with both routine events and unexpected events. While following the standards and guidelines of the GCF, the IEU continues to support its team in the development of a culture that supports personal growth and provides a positive work environment.

II. EVALUATIONS

Following its three-year rolling work plan, the IEU will undertake three evaluations in 2023 and the aforementioned external peer review besides the continuation of the LORTA programme.

Independent Evaluation of GCF's Approach to Energy Sector (ES2023)

Energy accounts for 25 per cent of all committed GCF funding thus far. This evaluation of the energy sector will cover a wide geographic area of GCF's operations, including themes such as relevance, efficiency, suitability, effectiveness, and innovativeness of GCF's portfolio in achieving climate goals, as well as lessons learned from the investments. The evaluation will be delivered by the first Board meeting in 2024.



Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Investment Framework (IF2023)

The GCF's investment framework is composed of policies, strategies, targets, and criteria to inform the design, assessment, and approval of GCF's funding decisions.

The evaluation will look at the overarching question of how effective and fit-for-purpose the GCF's investment framework, accompanying tools, criteria and guidelines are in fulfilling the Fund's strategic goals and mandate. It will be completed by October 2023, followed by the submission of the evaluation report in time for the following Board meeting in 2024.

Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (RPSP2023)

The Readiness Programme has been a key part of the GCF in facilitating achieving the mission of the Fund. This evaluation will aim to assess the progress, gains, effectiveness, and efficiency of the RPSP, while gauging the extent to which the RPSP has led to transformational projects and programmes in the GCF. The evaluation will be completed by October 2023, followed by the submission of the evaluation report in time for the following Board meeting in 2024.

External peer review

The IEU plans to request, in 2023, an external peer review of the evaluation function of the GCF by the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG). The peer review will aim to comprehensively and independently review the evaluation function of the GCF.

Learning Oriented Real-time Impact Assessment (LORTA) programme

In its sixth year, LORTA will continue to expand into areas and countries where the GCF has investments. IEU is currently helping 22 GCF projects set up independent baselines and real-time measurement systems. Analyses of these data are being undertaken by project teams and IEU experts. In 2023, the IEU will continue to work closely with its partners and select another group of projects for LORTA-related technical assistance and measurement support.

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III. CAPACITY BUILDING AND ADVISORY SERVICES

In 2023, the IEU will undertake evidence reviews on interventions in the water sector, just transition and development pathways. The IEU will also produce three learning papers on i) M&E systems in climate change interventions; ii) enabling environments for mitigation and adaptation; and iii) market-based mechanisms in climate change.

The IEU's multi-year Learning-Oriented Real-Time Assessment programme will continue to provide advice in terms of impact evaluation designs, indicators, baseline data collection methods and analyses.

It will also host learning seminars and workshops for partners, AEs and the Secretariat to disseminate lessons learnt from LORTA projects. The IEU will continue to focus on the development of online training modules that can be used to support capacity building while increasingly providing more on-site support.

To develop more focused capacity building workshops, the IEU plans to conduct an evaluation needs assessment. By doing so, the IEU will identify gaps in meeting the accountability and learning needs of the AEs vis-à-vis GCF.

IV. UPTAKE, COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

As an evidence and knowledge broker, the IEU will continue to ensure that the high-quality evidence, findings and recommendations from the Unit's independent evaluations are effectively communicated, disseminated, used and incorporated into the GCF's functioning and processes. To this end, the IEU focuses on core processes: publications, translations, website and social media management, outreach, event organisation, and engagement with GCF stakeholders. In 2023, the IEU will produce new content formats and encourage increased uptake of its evaluations and learnings within and beyond the GCF ecosystem. It will continue to actively disseminate evidence and findings from evaluations in different languages, in particular French, Spanish and Arabic. The IEU will also expand its strategic outreach to new partners and networks in the climate science and finance arena.



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