

GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND

Independent  
Evaluation  
Unit



IEU BRIEF  
No. 1-2020

# IEU's work plan for 2020

At its twenty-fourth meeting in November 2019, the Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) approved a budget of USD 5,581,985 to fund the Independent Evaluation Unit's (IEU) activities in 2020.

There are four key elements of the IEU's annual work plan for 2020.

1. IEU evaluations
2. Capacity building and advisory services
3. Uptake, communications and partnerships
4. Building and strengthening the IEU

## 1. Evaluations

The IEU will conduct five evaluations and one synthesis study. The Unit will synchronize the delivery of these evaluations throughout 2020-21 according to GCF needs.

### Independent evaluation of the relevance and effectiveness of GCF's investments in small island developing states (SIDS)

IEU's evaluation will examine how well GCF caters to the special context of SIDS (e.g. small size; distance from the rest of the world; high travel costs; high number of endemic species etc.). It will also ask to what extent GCF investments cater to the high potential for transformation within these economies? This evaluation will be delivered by the last Board meeting of 2020.

### Independent evaluation of the adaptation-related investments of the GCF

The GCF's mandate requires the Fund to invest in mitigation and adaptation in a balanced way. This

evaluation explores options for the GCF to expand its portfolio and to go beyond traditional forms of investments. Additionally, the evaluation will examine how the GCF can show leadership in better understanding the linkages between adaptation and development.

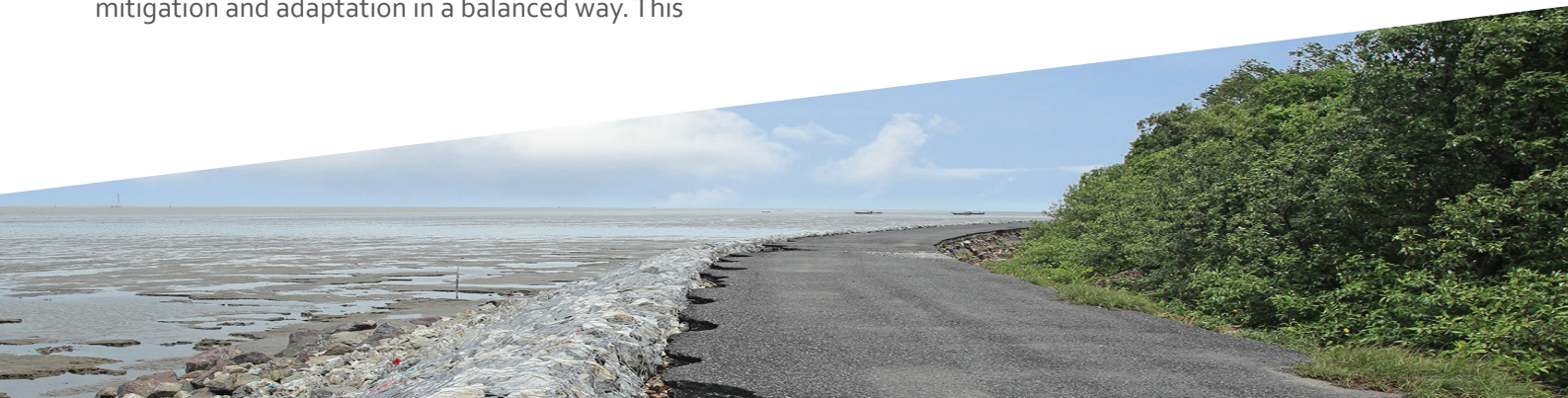
### Rapid assessment of the Simplified Approval Process (SAP)

The SAP aims to provide easier access to the GCF. But questions about its performance deserve answers. For example, is the SAP truly simplified? Is it suited to the needs of countries? To size of change it seeks to effect?

How can SAP's transparency, predictability and speed be improved? The rapid assessment of SAP processes will address these and other issues and be delivered by July 2020.

### Learning Oriented Real-time Impact Assessment (LORTA) programme (continuation)

The IEU is currently in its third year of providing support for project level impact assessment. As will be shown at B.25, the IEU is currently helping 13 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 2020, the IEU will consult the Secretariat and take on board their suggestions for the future and produce two baseline reports in 2019 and four baseline reports in 2020. A 'synthesis' will also contain the designs for the overall projects.



### Independent review of the GCF Project Preparation Facility (PPF)

GCF's Project Preparation Facility (PPF) provides financial support to accredited entities to prepare funding proposals for submission to the Fund. The IEU will consider the PPF's effectiveness from application to monitoring, its fit for purpose, its relevance to key GCF strategic actions and its impact on GCF environmental and social safeguard and gender considerations in the GCF's project cycle.

### Independent synthesis of the GCF's accreditation process

This evaluation will focus on synthesizing objectively the key findings and recommendations from IEU evaluations, Secretariat reviews and CSO reviews, among others, about the GCF accreditation strategy. The accreditation process is regarded as a bottleneck by several stakeholders and many concerns have been expressed that need verification. The IEU's independent synthesis review will examine key elements of the accreditation process.

## 2. Capacity building and advisory services

The IEU will undertake two evidence reviews in 2020. One will focus on results-based payments and private sector. The IEU will also complete the review of evidence in transformation. IEU will also undertake a meta-analysis of financial mechanisms in adaptation with a focus on nature-based solutions and uptake. IEU will resume its work on method papers, including papers on machine learning and incorporating behavioural science methods into practice. The IEU's

multi-year Learning-Oriented Real-Time Assessment programme will continue to build the capacity of stakeholders both within and outside the Secretariat in areas such as designing evaluations and evaluation indicators.

## 3. Uptake, communications and partnerships

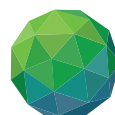
The IEU is now highly regarded for the quality of its evaluations. Like all good products, these need to be put to good use. In 2020, the IEU will further strengthen its communication and uptake practice. This will include organizing and participating in key events and building relationships with key actors, upgrading the IEU website, and developing content in various media formats for easy uptake. The IEU will also broaden its translation capacity in French, Spanish and Arabic.

## 4. Building and strengthening the IEU

In 2020, the IEU will undertake five evaluations and one synthesis study, with much of this work increasingly conducted in-house. IEU needs to adjust its staffing arrangements accordingly. It will add one additional position in Songdo and will convert two consultant position to staff. It is anticipated that at the end of 2020, the IEU will have sixteen staff members – considerably fewer than at any comparable organization. IEU will continue to strengthen its DataLab's capacity to manage and deliver project data, external data (such as data from the Nationally Determined Contributions Partnership), transparency data and externally sourced, geographically disaggregated data.

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