

NEWSLETTER

READINESS AND PREPARATORY SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR RWANDA ENGAGEMENT WITH THE GCF

April - June 2022



MAIN OBJECTIVE

Strengthening Rwanda's capacity to access GCF Funds through the assessment of readiness needs, updating country programme, capacitating national stakeholders and renewal of DAE accreditation

CONTENT

TOPIC 1

Training of government institutions and non governmental stakeholders on GCF project formulation and approval process

TOPIC 2

Validation workshop of the GCF country programme and strategic framework and the readiness needs assessment reports

TOPIC 3

High Level Structured Dialogue with the GCF's Accredited Entities and Development Partners





Photo: Stakeholders at the validation workshop of country programme and readiness needs assessment

Foreword

DEAR READER & STAKEHOLDER

During the journey of enhancing the capacity of National Designated Authority and the stakeholders, we have learned that consultations of every key actors such as government institutions, NGOs, private company is vital in this process of updating the country programme and assessing the readiness needs.

We appreciated the participation of all stakeholder in that process, and we have come with tangible ideas, that helped to develop the final document. In this newsletter, we sum up important achievements of the fourth quarter of the project implementation.

Kindly check our previous newsletter on Rwanda climate change portal (<https://climatechange.gov.rw>) to have further information. For getting updated information, follow us on social media or contact us directly for more information.

Enjoy Reading!



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Photo: Stakeholders at the validation workshop of country programme and readiness needs assessment following the presentation session

REMA as the National Designated Authority conducted a training workshop for government institutions and non-governmental stakeholders on GCF project formulation and approval process. The training covered the key topic areas to consider during a GCF project formulation and approval process which are;

- Country ownership consideration (policies, national strategies, priority sectors, sector strategy, relevant stakeholders, beneficiaries and their level of contributions)
- Key projects design elements (the GCF Results Management Framework, GCF Environmental and Social Safeguards and the GCF Gender Policy)
- What is needed to put together a GCF funding proposal and the completeness of funding proposal package
- Project Preparation Facility
- GCF Investment Criteria
- National Priority Investment Areas
- Detailed Approval Process
- Requirements to submit a proposal to the NDA to get a Non Objection Letter

The consultant facilitated the participants to discuss on the lesson learned from implementing GCF funded projects. In short, the following are the key lessons taken from training.

- GCF projects combine elements from development banks sector and development Aid Funds
- The upfront investment required to prepare a GCF proposal is significant
- GCF documentation requirements are demanding and often confusing
- The GCF project cycle is defined but has yet to be fully tested
- The Concept note is a voluntary step, but should not be skipped

The stakeholders shared the challenges they met during GCF project development. Such as lack of information to refer on during project development such as the information on how other GCF projects are reviewed and the comment given so that they can address them ahead of time.

Key lessons learned from the training

This training was an occasion to learn and discuss on steps of developing the GCF projects and the mechanism to get the project funded. The participants asked various question and concerns, in which the consultant helped to address. The following are notes explaining some key lessons learned.



What does GCF Support?

GCF seeks to have an impact within eight mitigation and adaptation result areas: Health, food and water security; livelihoods of people and communities; infrastructure and built environment; ecosystems and ecosystem services; Energy generation and access; transport; buildings, cities, industries and appliances; and Forests and land use.

How much and in which Instrument

Micro (US \$ 0 to 10 million), Small (US \$ 10 to 50 million), medium (US \$ 50 to 250 million), and large (US \$ over 250 million)



Who are the players

The National Designated Authority, the Accredited Entity and the Executing Entity



What are the GCF investment criteria?

- a. Impact potential; does the programme/project contribute to the achievement of the fund's objectives and result areas
- b. Paradigm shift potential; to what degree can the proposed programme/project catalyse impact beyond project investment
- c. Sustainable development potential; what are the programme/project's wider benefits and priorities, including environmental, social and economic co-benefits? What is its gender-sensitive development impact?
- d. Responsive to recipient's needs; does it fulfil the vulnerability and financing needs of the beneficiary country and population in the targeted group?

What are the steps followed when developing a project proposal?

- Step 1: Define the project scope
- Step 2: Develop a logic framework
- Step 3: Assess project risks and identify mitigation measures
- Step 4: Integrate gender into a project
- Step 5: Assign indicators to measure progress
- Step 6: Align a project against the GCF investment criteria
- Step 7: Identify the rationale for GCF involvement
- Step 8: Monitor, evaluate and report on a project
- Step 9: Prepare a budget for your project
- Step 10: Justify the level of concessional of a project?

These are the national priority investment areas that need to be considered before putting together a GCF project/programme proposal:

- Mitigation activities: Renewable Energy Generation, Energy efficiency, Efficient public transport, Integrated Waste management, Integrated Forest management
- Adaptation activities: Integrated water resource management, Integrated Disaster risk management, Sustainable agricultural Intensification, Integrated Sustainable land-use planning and management, Climate proof infrastructure
- Cross-cutting activities: Sustainable tourism development (payment for ecosystem services, wildlife protection), Housing/Green Cities





Photo: Stakeholders at the validation workshop of country programme and readiness needs assessment

REMA organized a 2 days workshop which took place in Musanze District from 10th-11th May 2022. Participants reviewed and validated the updated Country Programme and Strategic Framework for GCF and the Country readiness needs assessment report submitted by the consultant. During the meeting, stakeholders provided and the inputs comments which will help the consultant to fine tune the final reports.

The workshop started by welcoming participants. Thereafter, *Rachael TUSHABE*, Director of Advocacy and Multilateral Environment Agreements Monitoring Unit, took the opportunity to thank all participants for coming to the workshop. Through the opening remarks she mentioned that there is a need for everyone's efforts and ideas in order to validate the Country Readiness Needs Assessment Report. She pointed out how REMA is appreciative of the continued support from the stakeholders and declared the workshop open, and wished all a fruitful workshop.

The Participants for the workshop were from the private sector, public sector and civil society organizations. There was a total of 36 participants, 28 men and 8 women. 22.2% represents women participation and 77.8 % represents men participation. After a successful group work session which provided inputs and comment for further improvement in the report.

There is a need for everyone's efforts and ideas in order to validate the Country Readiness Needs Assessment Report.

Rachael TUSHABE, Director of Advocacy and Multilateral Environment Agreements Monitoring Unit

The methodology selected to conduct this validation workshop included the plenary session in which it was started by brainstorming as a process of generating ideas and solutions through intensive freewheeling group discussion.



Photo: Group Presentation session

Every participant was encouraged to think deep and suggest many ideas. During the discussion, the participants provided inputs on the updated Country Programme and Strategic Framework

To close the workshop, Dr. Eliabu who was appreciated all the participants for their commitment which led this workshop successful, and requested them to continue with that spirit, as their support is needed in making the bankable projects and be able to access GCF funding.



Photo: Participants during the high level structured dialogue at Kigali Serena Hotel

Event Agenda on 16 June 2022

9h00 - 9h30: Opening Remarks

9h30 - 10h00: Presentation on GCF Country Programme and strategic framework

10h30 - 11h30: Panel Discussion

11h30 - 12h30: Q&A Session

12h30 - 01h00: Way Forward and Closing remarks

Event Photos



On 16 June 2022 at Kigali Serena Hotel, the public, private sectors, Green Climate Fund (GCF) accredited entities and development partners have joined in the structure dialogue, with the aim to discuss, understand and assess the financial needs of Rwanda, as well as to understand how these financial resources can be effectively mobilized. Specifically, this dialogue was a good opportunity to increase the engagement between the National Designated Authority and GCF accredited entities.

Through the opening remarks, Mr Faustin Munyazikwiye, the Deputy Director General of REMA, highlighted that, "There is no doubt that addressing the impact of climate change is at high cost, and our country is vulnerable to the impact of climate change. In this respect, Climate finance is needed for mitigation, and equally important for adaptation to the adverse effects of a changing climate, because our economy can only prosper if nature also prospers"

The GCF representative in his remarks emphasized about the active

participation stressing out that all ideas and contribution made towards the dialogue will be of great help toward constructive progress of GCF projects development keeping in mind the national priorities.

In this dialogue, the GCF country programme was presented; it is worth noting that the country program revision was aiming at matching the Country Programme with Rwanda's updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) and other relevant key national documents. In the dialogue the investment priority areas were presented including the mitigation actions such as the renewable energy generation, energy efficiency, efficient public transport, integrated waste management, and integrated Forest management.

While the priority areas of investment in adaptation, there are the integrated water resource management, integrated disaster risk management, sustainable agricultural intensification, Integrated Sustainable land-use planning and management, and climate proof infrastructure



Photo: Discussion in plenary session of the workshop and panel session

Other discussion were convened through the panel session, where the panelists were the representatives from International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA), Private Sector Federation (PSF), and the Ministry of Environment (MoE).

Through the discussions, the key main challenges were highlighted such as capacity building in mobilizing the required fund, also the technology transfer. In addition, the continuous engagement and showcase the work achieved was indicated as challenge.

The dialogue stressed out the need to strengthen the access to climate change finance of which in turn would be used to address impacts of climate change not forgetting the country priority to be able to reduce greenhouse emission and implement the adaptation actions by 2030.



Photos: Participants during the high structured dialogue at Kigali Serena Hotel

In the closing, the Deputy Director General acknowledged the stakeholders who attended this dialogue, which is a way to share lesson learned and the key forward points to be implemented in the journey of mobilizing the USD 11 Billion by 2030 as highlighted in the Rwanda Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

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