



Ref.: SCBD/MCO/DC/AF/NP/ML/YX/86771

14 August 2017

**NOTIFICATION**  
**Opportunities under the Green Climate Fund**

Dear Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to inform Parties and relevant stakeholders of the potential opportunities under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) (<http://www.greenclimate.fund/home>) to support ecosystem-based approaches to address climate change, and in this context to encourage national level coordination for promoting synergistic implementation of the Rio conventions.

As a result of the Copenhagen Accord in 2009, the GCF has been established as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to support projects, programme, policies and other activities in developing countries related to mitigation and adaptation. The GCF has evolved rapidly to be the largest multilateral climate fund, with an initial resource mobilization of pledges amounting to US\$10.3 billion for the 2015-2018 programming period.

The GCF has defined a list of the initial result areas, and many of these areas are of direct or indirect relevance to achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). These include: sustainable land use management to support mitigation and adaptation; sustainable forest management to support mitigation and adaptation including afforestation and reduction of forest degradation; REDD+ implementation; adaptation activities to reduce climate-related vulnerabilities; and related readiness and capacity-building activities. Many decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD have highlighted the importance of climate change mitigation and adaptation for achieving the objectives of the Convention, and have advocated ecosystem-based solutions for climate change.

GCF projects range in level of funding from up to US\$ 10 million (“micro”) to over US\$ 250 million (“large”). Projects are developed by national and international Accredited Entities (<http://www.greenclimate.fund/how-we-work/tools/entity-directory>) with agreement and in close consultation with National Designated Authorities or focal points, based on the climate finance needs of individual developing countries. In addition, the GCF Private Sector Facility engages directly with the private sector in transformational climate-sensitive investments and to leverage and crowd in additional financing.

I would like to draw the attention of national focal points of eligible countries to the following potential entry points for engagement with GCF activities at the national level:

- (i) The GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (the Readiness Programme) provides up to USD 1 million per country per year for strengthening country capacity, engaging stakeholders in consultative processes, realizing direct access, providing access to finance, and mobilizing the private sector. In addition, up to USD 3 million per country is available for the formulation of national adaptation planning.

To: National Focal Points of the Convention and the Protocols



- (ii) The GCF Project Preparation Facility (PPF) supports project and programme preparation, especially targeted to support national direct access entities and micro-to-small size category projects. Up to USD 1.5 million is available per request.

Both of these provide opportunities for focal points of the CBD to coordinate with GCF National Designated Authorities or focal points to facilitate due consideration of opportunities for ecosystem-based approaches to be integrated into proposals for GCF funding. Accordingly, CBD national focal points are encouraged to engage with their GCF counterparts, as deemed relevant and appropriate in each unique national context. A list of National Designated Authorities or focal points is available at: <http://www.greenclimate.fund/how-we-work/tools/country-directory>.

Further information is available on the Convention's website (<https://www.cbd.int/financial/gcf.shtml>). The Secretariat will very much welcome all suggestions and ideas on potential collaboration between the two processes.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Cristiana Paşca Palmer, PhD  
Executive Secretary