



CONCEPT AND AGENDA

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop

and

GEF Regional Adaptation Workshop

for the Caribbean

11-15 March 2024

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic



GEF Caribbean Expanded Constituency Workshop 11-13 March 2024

1. Introduction

The GEF has just completed a successful replenishment process for the eighth-replenishment cycle (GEF-8), with an increase of nearly 30% over its previous replenishments. This replenishment comes at a critical time when countries are faced with challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the growing urgency to address the pervasive environmental challenges of biodiversity loss, climate change, land and water degradation, and chemical pollution.

The approved GEF-8 replenishment package includes a comprehensive programming strategy and a set of policy commitments to support countries over the next four years (2022 – 2026). This strategy includes a refocused country engagement strategy.

The GEF-8 Country Engagement Strategy will focus on comprehensively working with countries to:

- Ensure maximum impact of the collective use of GEF resources
- Facilitate inclusive and sustained engagement with a wide range of stakeholders in recipient countries, including GEF Focal Points, relevant ministries, Convention Focal Points, executing agencies, civil society organizations, research institutions, the private sector and other interested groups,
- Ensure and facilitate coordination of country activities with regional and global scale actions where appropriate, and
- Develop and share best practices to maximize knowledge-sharing, learning, innovations, and scaling up of impact.¹

²

The renewed Country Support Programme (CSP) which provides capacity building to key stakeholder in the country including GEF focal points, Convention Focal points and CSOs among others will implement some aspects of the CES and this includes the Expanded Constituency Workshops.

¹ https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022-05/EN_GEF.C.62.Inf_.11_GEF-8%20Country%20Engagement%20Strategy%20Implementation%20Arrangements.pdf

2. Objectives of the Expanded Constituency Workshops

The Expanded Constituency workshop is designed to keep GEF Focal Points, Convention Focal points and other key stakeholders up to date with GEF policies and programming. The ECW for the Caribbean countries takes place after similar ECWs in Southern Africa, West Asia and North Africa and East and Central Asia.

The objectives of the ECW are to:

- Bring together GEF focal points, Convention Focal points, Civil Society Organizations and GEF Agencies to provide a briefing on the GEF 8 Programming directions and GEF policy recommendations
- Provide countries with an opportunity to understand the GEF project cycle and explore the design of transformational GEF projects through interactive methods
- Provide a platform for CSOs to engage with government counterparts and explore ways of coordinating and working together at the country level
- Provide updates and engagement with Convention Focal points on key issues
- Provide a learning and knowledge exchange opportunity through field visits and sharing of good practice
- Engage bilaterally with each country delegation on the outlook for GEF-8 and portfolio implementation

3. Participants

The GEF Secretariat will invite the following from each country:

1. Country Representatives: GEF Political and Operational Focal Points.
2. Convention Focal points from UNCCD, UNFCCC, UNCBD, Stockholm and Minamata (5 per country).
3. Civils Society representatives including GEF CSO network representative, youth and IPLCs
4. Private Sector representatives (self-sponsored).
5. Key regional and sub-regional entities (self-sponsored).
6. GEF Agencies (self- sponsored).

4. Meeting Format

The ECW will take place over three days with one day dedicated to visiting a GEF project. The first two days are dedicated to a program discussed and agreed on based on needs expressed by countries and priorities to be communicated from the GEF Secretariat.

The meetings are organized by the GEF Secretariat in close coordination with the GEF OFP office in the host country. The GEF Secretariat takes care of all costs associated with the ECW.

FINAL AGENDA

Day 1-Monday 11 th March	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:20	<p>Opening Session & Welcome Remarks Welcome Remarks - Ms. Milagros de Camps, Vice Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, Dominican Republic</p> <p>Welcome Remarks – Peter Lallas, General Manager, GEF Secretariat</p> <p>Group Photo</p>
09:20 – 10:50	<p>GEF Overview & GEF-8 Funding Structure GEF-8 Funding Structure & STAR Results & Monitoring Country Engagement Strategy GEF Operations & Project Cycle Policy Framework SGP</p> <p>Q&A</p>
10:50 – 11:10	Tea/Coffee Break
11:10 – 12:30	<p>GEF-8 Programming Directions Q&A</p> <p>Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) Programming Directions Project Cycle Q&A</p>
12:30 – 02:00	Lunch & Bilateral Meetings
02:00 – 04:00	<p>Project Design Card Game –Developing a GEF project interactively. Group Exercise</p>
04:00-05:00	Open Dialogue: Information Exchange/Sharing/Discussion/Questions
05:00-05:15	GEF Portal
05:15-06:30	Bilateral Meetings
07:00 – 09:00	Reception

Day 2- Tuesday 12 th MARCH	
Time	Topic
08:00-09:00	Caribbean Constituency Meeting (Closed Meeting)
09.00 -09:30	Policy Coherence
09.30 -11.00	<i>(Parallel Sessions)</i> Bilateral meetings with country teams Policy Coherence Round Table
11:15 – 12:00	Non-Grant Instrument and Private Sector Engagement
12:00-12:30	GEF Communications and Communication Strategy
12:30 – 01:45	Lunch & Bilateral Meetings
01:45 – 02:45	Experience Sharing amongst OFPs, Convention Focal points and CSOs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination at country level (horizontal and vertical, multi-stakeholders) • GEF Steering Committees • Inclusion of CSOs, youth, women, local communities and vulnerable groups
02:45-03:15	Brief on the Field Trip
03:15-05:15	GEF Independent Evaluation Office Session with Countries
05:15-07:00	Bilateral Meetings

Day 3-Wednesday 13 th MARCH: GEF Knowledge & Learning Day	
Time	Topic
All Day	Field Visit to GEF Project <i>“Effective Conservation of Goods and Services in Threatened Mountain Productive Landscapes”</i> (GEF ID 9424, UNDP).
7:00 -	Meeting in the lobby of the Hotel El Embajador <4 buses for 4 groups>
7:30 – 9:30	Departure from Hotel El Embajador to Yamasá, Monte Plata Province (2:00)
9:30 – 10:00	Welcome remarks by the Vice Mayoress of the municipality of Yamasá, a representative of Conacado, host of the event (0:30).
10:00 – 12:00	Learning stations in the village <4 learning stations, 30 min. each> (2:00) <divide into 4 groups>
12:00 – 12:50	Lunch (take-out from the hotel) and presentation of local products (0:50)

12:50 – 1:05 1:00 – 1:15	Group 1 & 2 will depart to cocoa post-harvest processing facilities (0:15) Group 3 & 4 will depart to cocoa post-harvest processing facilities (0:15)
1:05 – 1:35 1:15 – 1:45	Group 1 & 2: Tour of the cocoa post-harvest processing facilities (0:30) Group 3 & 4: Tour of the cocoa post-harvest processing facilities (0:30)
2:00 – 4:00	Departure to the hotel (2:00)
4:00	Arrival at the hotel



Regional Adaptation Programming and Strategy Workshop for Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

March 14-15, 2024

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

This workshop is an outcome of two major innovations in the *GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) for the GEF-8 Period of July 2022 to June 2026*³. First, the strategy focuses a window of the SCCF (“SCCF-A”) on supporting the adaptation needs of non-LDC SIDS⁴, with a per-country access amount of \$3-\$6.5 million for each. Second, the strategy includes a dedicated program to support and enhance capacity and access to GEF adaptation funding by SIDS and LDCs. The regional adaptation programming and strategy workshop for Caribbean non-LDC small island developing states (SIDS)⁵ is an important aspect of this dedicated program. The SCCF and LDCF are both a part of the financing mechanism of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and are mandated to serve the Paris Agreement.

Hosted by the Government of Dominican Republic, the Caribbean adaptation workshop is organized by the GEF secretariat, and will be held March 14-15, 2024, back-to-back with the GEF Caribbean Extended Constituency Workshop (ECW) that will take place March 11-13, 2024.

The objective of the regional adaptation workshop is to develop enhanced skills and knowledge for preparing and supervising the implementation of adaptation projects/programs to address priority climate resilience needs. In particular, the workshop aims to strengthen capacity and skills of the participants by providing information and tools that will assist them in adaptation project concept notes in line with the GEF programming priorities and requirements, as well to facilitate access to suitable climate finance from other, complementary sources. The workshops will provide insights on the project development process and offer participants the opportunity to brainstorm project concept ideas that may be funded by the SCCF-A in the GEF-8 period. Participants are asked to identify potential ideas for project concepts in advance of the workshop, that can be explored in the brainstorming and concept development sessions.

³ GEF, 2023, [GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund for the GEF-8 Period of July 2022 to June 2026](#), GEF/LDCF.SCCF.32/04/Rev.01.

⁴ SIDS that are LDCs receive GEF adaptation support through the LDCF.

⁵ In the Caribbean, the GEF provides adaptation support through SCCF-A for the following non-LDC countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

AGENDA

DAY 1 March 14, 2024	
8:45 am	Registration
<i>Opening Segment</i>	
9:15 am	Welcome remarks by Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO, GEF Secretariat (virtual)
9:25 am	Opening remarks by Ms. Milagros de Camps, Vice Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, Dominican Republic
9:35 am	Opening remarks by Ms. Anne Rasmussen, Lead Negotiator, Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS) (virtual)
9:45 am	Opening remarks by Mr. Daniele Violetti, Senior Director, Programmes Coordination, Means of Implementation Division, UNFCCC Secretariat (virtual)
9:55 am	<i>Group photo followed by coffee break</i>
10:20 am	Introduction to the Workshop and Around-the-Room Introductions <i>Facilitator:</i> Ms. Fareeha Y. Iqbal, GEF Secretariat
10:40 am	Pre-Workshop Participant Survey <i>Facilitator:</i> Mr. Miguel A. Rozo, GEF Secretariat
10:55 am	Overview of the GEF Climate Adaptation Strategy and its Results Framework for 2022-26 A short video will introduce the SCCF Strategy, followed by a brief overview of the results framework and a Q&A session. <i>Facilitator:</i> Mr. Rawlestone Moore, GEF Secretariat
12:10 pm	Overview of the SCCF Portfolio in Caribbean SIDS Mr. Ladu Lemi, GEF Secretariat
12:30 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30 pm	Enhancing Climate Adaptation Impact in Project Design This session will explore how sound project design can enhance climate adaptation impact of SCCF project concepts. <i>Presenter:</i> Ms. Fareeha Y. Iqbal, GEF Secretariat

2:15 pm	<p>Complementary Programming with GCF and GEF</p> <p>This panel discussion session will be an opportunity to discuss the GEF-GCF long term vision on coordinated programming, and to hear from countries on their experiences with joint or complementary GEF-GCF programming.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Ms. Fareeha Y. Iqbal, GEF Secretariat</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Rawlestone Moore, GEF Secretariat Mr. Alisher Mamadzhonov, GCF Secretariat Ms. Gillian Guthrie, GEF OFP, Jamaica (virtual)
3:15 pm	Coffee break
3:30 pm	<p>Informal Bilateral Meetings between Countries and GEF Secretariat</p> <p>This space will provide opportunities for countries to discuss their GEF-8 LDCF project ideas and concepts on the priority adaptation action. For those countries whose concepts are already approved by LDCF/SCCF Council, the informal bilateral will explore ways to provide input for formulation of CEO Endorsement package</p>
	Per Diem disbursement
4:30 pm	<p>Learning Stations</p> <p>Learning stations feature recently completed or ongoing SCCF/multi-trust fund projects in the region, presented by local/national stakeholders and the GEF Agencies. Participants have occasion to visit one or multiple learning stations to discuss and learn from project representatives. The learning stations are interactive and informal, and questions and sharing of experiences are encouraged.</p> <p><i>Facilitators:</i> GEF Secretariat staff</p>
6:00 pm	End of Day 1

DAY 2 March 15, 2024	
9:00 am	<p>Overview of Day 2 Agenda and Reflections from Day 1</p> <p>Ms. Fareeha Y. Iqbal, GEF Secretariat</p>
9:15 am	<p>What do we know about climate change impacts in SIDS, and how can GEF support help meet the priorities?</p> <p>Presenter: Ms. Rosina Bierbaum, Chair, GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel</p>

9:30 am	<p>Open dialogue with civil society and youth organizations</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Miguel A. Rozo and Mr. Ladu Lemi, GEF Secretariat</p>
10:10 am	Introduction to project concept and proposal brainstorming sessions
10:15 am	<i>Coffee break</i>
<i>Closed session for country participants 10:30 am – 3:00 pm</i>	
10:30 am	<p>Brainstorming of Country Project Concepts or Full Proposals</p> <p>This segment will comprise breakout sessions by country, to discuss formulation of SCCF project concepts and, for those countries with Council-approved project concepts, discussions on development of the full project proposal.</p> <p>GEF Secretariat staff will circulate among the country tables and respond to questions or requests for clarification.</p>
12:30 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30 pm	Brainstorming of Country Project Concept or Full Proposals (continued)
3:00 pm	<i>Coffee Break</i>
3:30 pm	<p>Around the Table: Presentation on Priority Concepts and Projects</p> <p>Each country will briefly share the main elements of the concepts developed in the breakout sessions. The GEF Secretariat representatives will offer feedback.</p>
4:30 pm	<p>Looking to Next Year of the Dedicated Program: Sectoral and Thematic Deep Dives</p> <p>The GEF Secretariat will run an interactive poll with all participants on sectors and themes that participants may find useful for additional “deep-dive” technical workshops and clinics in the next fiscal year, as a follow-up to the regional workshops.</p> <p><i>Facilitator:</i> Mr. Miguel A. Rozo, GEF Secretariat</p>
4:50 pm	<p>Post-Workshop Survey and Feedback</p> <p>Mr. Miguel A. Rozo, GEF Secretariat</p>
5:15 pm	<p>Workshop Closing</p> <p>Closing remarks by representative of host country/Operational Focal Point (TBC)</p> <p>Reflections by Mr. Rawlestone Moore, GEF Secretariat</p>