

CCICD Climate Finance SWGs

Annex 2 - Frequently Asked Questions – Updated May 2021

Q: Who will approve the proposal? Does the SWG approve or only provide advice and recommendations on the proposal?

A: The SWG will only provide technical advice and recommendations to improve the concept note and funding proposal. Approval of a proposal can only be done by GCF with endorsement from the NDA through the issuance of a NOL.

Q: What will be the monitoring of how advice from the SWGs is considered by the NDA?

A: There will be a record kept of communication to and from the SWG and NDA. NDA will acknowledge and respond to SWG advice.

Q: Is there a need for agreement on advice from the SWG?

A: There is no need for agreement, all opinions/voices need to be heard so differences in views can be noted in the SWG advice/notes/recommendations back to the NDA. So, there is no need for a vote or agreement on things.

Q: Will the SWG consultative meetings always be conducted in joint sessions with the other SWGs or will there be sector specific consultative meetings in the future?

A: It depends on the nature of the topic. For projects that are cross-cutting, members of the relevant SWGs will be invited to a joint meeting to assess CN and FP.

Q: Do we need to sign a confidentiality declaration form every time there's an appraisal session?

A: Yes, as the documentation shared will be specific each time and a specific confidentiality agreement will be needed, with details of the date, topic, documents shared and purpose of the appraisal session.

Q: What is the difference between a climate change project and a purely development project?

A: This is a difficult question which has caused much debate, controversy and even confrontation within the development community and GCF (even at GCF Board Meetings!). Many people feel that the size of countries like Fiji and the proven vulnerability of SIDS to climate change, creates a situation where every development project is a climate change project and vice versa. However, GCF requires that every project must demonstrate how it is making a difference to climate change mitigation and/or adaptation. For mitigation, it is relatively easier to show the difference – if the project is making a significant reduction in CO₂ emissions (relative to the country's overall emissions) then it is clearly a climate change project. For adaptation, the distinction is harder to make. A project must show that it is addressing a climate change impact that is clearly documented and proven to be happening. So a question to ask is – is the problem due to climate change, or are there other underlying causes also creating this problem (which the project aims to solve). If there are other causes, which is the dominant one? Is it climate change? Then the project is a climate change project. If climate change is not the dominant cause of the problem

but is contributing, then is GCF funding being requested to respond to all the different underlying causes, or to address specifically the solution for the climate change part of the impact? Perhaps with other financing co-financing addressing non-climate change issues. The project could still seek funding from GCF, but not for all of its activities. If the problem is predominately caused by non-climate related issues, the GCF is unlikely to be the right funding mechanism to seek finance.

Q: Are the accredited entities aware of the new structure in terms of LoS/NOL pathway if they're putting in a proposal?

A: Yes, to some degree they are aware of the new changes to the LoS/NOL process, but the plan is to present the revised procedures at the open SWG meetings and create more awareness around it.

Q: Will the SWGs also be appraising concept notes from other Pacific Island Countries?

A: No, the 4 SWGs will only be appraising concept notes submitted to the Fiji NDA