



## FAO and the Green Climate Fund: Partnering with Accredited Entities

### How FAO collaborates with other GCF Accredited Entities

Food systems account for more than a third of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, yet sustainable, climate-resilient agriculture offers solutions for countries to respond to the climate crisis and ensure food security. As a specialized agency of the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) extends its expertise and know-how to countries seeking to enhance the climate resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems, and at the same time, reduce GHG emissions.

Through its partnership with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) – the world’s largest dedicated fund for climate action – FAO collaborates with other GCF Accredited Entities (AE) to implement activities of approved GCF projects.

In this role, FAO channels resources into projects and carries out the funded activities under the supervision of the partner AE. The Organization aims to deliver long-lasting impact beyond a project’s lifespan, and leverages its extensive expertise in sustainable resource management, climate change, and food and water security to ensure low-emission, climate-resilient development.

FAO’s GCF project portfolio, valued at USD 1.2 billion, includes seven projects with FAO as a partner in the Central American Dry Corridor and the Arid Zones of the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mozambique, Palestine, Paraguay, Timor-Leste and Zambia. Specifically, FAO is responsible for delivering services valued at USD 70 million for the seven approved projects.

### Supporting country-driven climate action

FAO works in close collaboration with countries to scale up their efforts to transform agrifood systems, making them more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable for better

production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life, leaving no one behind.

Project activities are aimed at creating opportunities for countries to meet the commitments laid out in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and are aligned with national strategies and programmes as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### How FAO’s partnership with the Green Climate Fund boosts climate action

The agriculture sector is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Temperature extremes, heavy rainfall, prolonged periods of drought and other extreme weather events increasingly threaten the food security and livelihoods of millions of smallholders, especially the rural poor.

FAO works with countries to respond to climate change, not only by collaborating with other AEs as an implementing partner for project activities, but also as a lead agency responsible for carrying out GCF projects, and as a Readiness Programme delivery partner.

In its role as a GCF Accredited Entity, FAO provides countries with the necessary support to develop funding proposals for high-impact adaptation and mitigation projects with low to medium levels of environmental and social risk and up to USD 250 million in grants and co-financing.

FAO also serves as a delivery partner for the GCF’s Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, which provides grants for projects that strengthen institutional capacity, governance mechanisms, and planning and programming frameworks in accordance with NDCs, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and other national climate change strategies.



## Spotlight on FAO as a GCF project partner

### Ecosystem-based Adaptation to increase climate resilience in the Central American Dry Corridor and the Arid Zones of the Dominican Republic

With USD 173.4 million in climate investments, this transformative programme aims to strengthen the adaptive capacity and climate resilience of rural communities, including farmers and entrepreneurs, in the Dry Corridor region of Central America – namely Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama – and in the arid zones of the Dominican Republic. FAO plays a major role in implementing the programme, which is led by the GCF Accredited Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEL).

FAO will provide services valued at USD 46 million for capacity building, technical assistance and the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) demonstration sites throughout the region. In doing so, FAO will help strengthen the technical capacity of local government, farmers and rural communities to implement EbA and other adaptation measures. In addition, FAO will support awareness raising activities for the financial component of the programme.



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### REDD+ Results-based Payments in Paraguay for the Period 2015-2017

This USD 50 million GCF project, led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), recognizes Paraguay's proven mitigation results and progress in halting deforestation and forest degradation between 2015 and 2017. During these years, 23 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) in emissions were avoided by reducing deforestation and forest degradation, and by enhancing forest stocks and conservation (REDD+). Paraguay will use the payment to invest in the implementation of its National Strategy for Forests and Sustainable Growth, which is aligned with its NDC.

In its role as a partner, FAO extends its technical expertise in monitoring GHG emissions from the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector, as well as the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector. To this end, FAO is collaborating with partners to consolidate the national forest monitoring system, including updating the national forest inventory, the satellite terrestrial monitoring system and the National GHG Emissions Inventory of the LULUCF/AFOLU sector.



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### Enhanced Early Warning Systems to build greater resilience to hydro-meteorological hazards in Timor-Leste

As a Least Developed Country (LDC) and Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Timor-Leste is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including rising mean temperature and sea level rise, ocean acidification, less predictable and more extreme rainfall, tropical cyclones, flooding, landslides and prolonged periods of drought. Climate change not only hinders the country's development, but it also threatens people's livelihoods and well-being, as well as biodiversity and food security. This USD 21.7 million GCF project, led by UNEP, will help transform Timor-Leste's climate information capabilities and early warning systems, which are vital to the country's response to climate change.

FAO, a key project partner, will support the enhancement of the Agriculture Stress Index System (ASIS), provide technical support for the dissemination of sector-specific early warning information, and strengthen capacities for Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) in agriculture.



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## About the Green Climate Fund

The Green Climate Fund is the world's largest dedicated fund for climate action. It was established as the financing mechanism for the United Nations Framework Convention

on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010, tasked with supporting developing and transition countries as they scale up their efforts to meet the Paris Agreement target of keeping the global temperature rise well below 2° Celsius.

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