

North Macedonia and the Green Climate Fund Project Newsletter

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Project Overview

The project “Support for the management of an effective national coordinative mechanism regarding the Green Climate Fund” is the first project of the Republic of North Macedonia under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme. It is implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) under guidance and leadership of the Cabinet of the Deputy President of the Government of North Macedonia in charge of Economic Affairs, as National Designated Authority (NDA) to the GCF.

The project is focused on strengthening the institutional capacities of the NDA to effectively fulfil its roles and responsibilities related to the GCF, helping to create needed national participatory and stakeholder engagement processes and to initiate the preparation of a GCF Country Work Programme, aligned with the national adaptation and mitigation priorities, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the GCF investment criteria.

The project follows the guiding principles of the GCF concerning gender, minorities and vulnerable groups, ensuring that this perspective is a priority in the context of the engagement of the Republic of North Macedonia with the Fund.

North Macedonia sets the stage for GCF investments

The GCF represents a new partner for North Macedonia for the effective design and implementation of climate investments. To successfully engage with the Fund, strong institutional framework, active engagement of relevant stakeholders and in-country coordination is required.

“The engagement with the Green Climate Fund through the readiness support facilitates the country to consolidate its efforts to have national and global impact and streamline a sustainable and green aspect to its economic development. It helps different stakeholders working on climate change to recognize the interconnectedness of the issue and the importance of working closely and transparently together.”

Olimpija Hristova Zaevska

Adviser for International Development and Cooperation to the Prime Minister
NDA Team.

This month's focus:

The final stage of development and validation of key elements to ensure enhanced strategic engagement of the Republic of North Macedonia with the GCF, considering the suggestions gathered through the national stakeholder consultation events and workshops in the past several months, has been the main area of work of the NDA and FAO project team during the month of August. The necessary adjustments of the national coordination mechanism on GCF matters, the procedure for prioritization of project ideas for GCF funding, the procedure for tracking and monitoring climate finance investments, as well as the “No-objection” procedure for developed GCF project proposals were the focus of all the efforts conducted during this month.

All these elements will be part of the “*Guidebook for stakeholder engagement with the Green Climate Fund in the Republic of North Macedonia*”, which aims to include detailed guidance for different stakeholders to better understand GCF operations and also to mainstream gender, minorities and vulnerable groups in GCF projects.

Finalization of the soon-to-be-launched NDA webpage www.greendevelopment.mk was also a key development in August.



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First National Stakeholders Consultation Event, Skopje

Recent activities

Second Focus Group Discussion on the Procedures for Tracking, Monitoring and Streamlining of Climate Finance in North Macedonia



Second Focus Group Discussion, Veles

On 23 August in Veles, the NDA and the FAO project team gathered for the second time the most relevant institutions in the process of climate finance tracking and monitoring (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Local Self-Government, Secretariat for European Affairs, Development Bank of North Macedonia and the Macedonian Bank Association) to discuss proposed options for finalization of the procedures and system for monitoring climate finance investments in the Republic of North Macedonia deriving from public, private and international sources.

Second Workshop on Calibration of the Prioritization and Coordination Mechanism for the Green Climate Fund



Second Calibration and Prioritization Workshop on the GCF, Veles

To finalize the national stakeholder consultations on topics related to the establishment of a Country Coordination Mechanism and Prioritization procedure for GCF projects in the Republic of North Macedonia, the NDA and FAO project team organized the second calibration workshop on 24 August in Veles.

The workshop resulted with:

- Defined roles and responsibilities of each body proposed to take part in the country coordination mechanism on GCF matters;
- Agreed Prioritization mechanism for project/programme proposals to be submitted to the GCF;
- Defined “No-objection” procedure for projects developed in the Republic of North Macedonia for GCF funding.

Training on the “No-Objection” Procedure

In order to be able to conduct a thorough assessment of the GCF project proposals developed in the Republic of North Macedonia, following a country-driven approach, ensuring transparency and consistency with national climate priorities, the members of the NDA team were trained on the specific aspects of the national “No-Objection” Procedure for GCF projects (procedure templates, steps, timeframes, milestones, key roles and responsibilities in the process).

The training took place on 25 August in Veles and included in depth discussions on the next steps and required validation for the procedure to be functional, including final approval by the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia.



Training on “No-objection” procedure, Veles

Upcoming events

28 October 2019, Skopje – Private sector engagement workshop on the procedures for tracking, monitoring and streamlining of Climate Finance in the Republic of North Macedonia

30 October 2019, Skopje – Meeting of the National Council on Sustainable Development (NCSDD) and key stakeholders’ groups for the GCF, including: national, regional and local institutions, private sector, CSOs, and international organizations. The meeting will aim at:

- Presentation of the results under the First GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Project of North Macedonia;
- Validation of the National Coordination and Prioritization Mechanism, and the “No-objection” procedure for the GCF by the NCSDD;
- Announcement of the First Open Call for National Project Ideas for GCF Funding.

**INVITATIONS and more information will follow*

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