



FAO and the Green Climate Fund in brief

Partners for climate action

Transitioning towards low-emission, climate-resilient food systems is key to improving the livelihoods of rural communities that depend on natural resources for their well-being. Since becoming partners in 2016, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) – the world’s largest dedicated fund for climate action – have been scaling up investment in high-impact projects that make the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors more efficient, inclusive, sustainable and resilient to climate change.

Countries urgently need access to climate finance to achieve the adaptation and emissions reduction targets laid out in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This is particularly true for African States, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and FAO stands ready to support its Members’ efforts to raise their climate ambition.

How does FAO work with GCF?

As a GCF Accredited Entity,¹ FAO has the capacity and technical know-how to mobilize large flows of climate finance for country-driven, climate change mitigation and adaptation action. The Organization is a GCF grant-implementing entity for small- and medium-sized projects (up to USD 250 million) with low and medium levels of environmental and social risk.

By working alongside National Designated Authorities (NDAs),² FAO helps its Members to develop funding proposals based on countries’ needs. Since the start of the FAO-GCF partnership, FAO has raised over USD 1 billion – in GCF grants and through co-financing – for transformative projects in 20 countries across 5 regions.

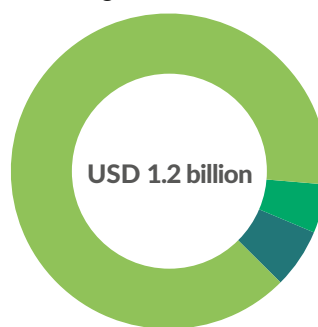
Delivering readiness support

Since becoming a GCF Readiness Delivery Partner in 2016, FAO’s readiness portfolio, valued at USD 70.5 million, has grown to include 94 projects, with seven rapid readiness grants valued at USD 2.3 million for climate-resilient recovery strategies from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Access to readiness support enhances country ownership of climate change funding by strengthening institutional capacities, governance mechanisms, and planning and programming frameworks in accordance with NDCs, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and other national climate change strategies.

Supporting results-based payments

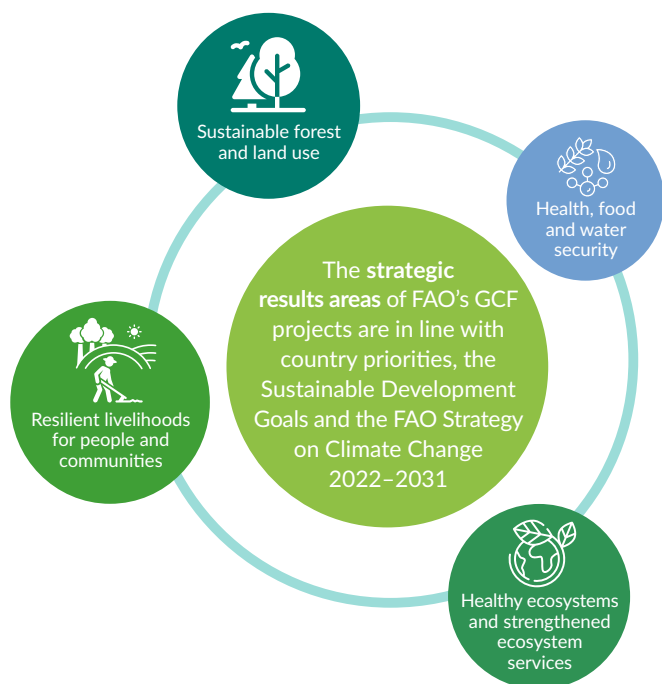
With FAO’s assistance, countries can raise their ambitions to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. GCF funds for REDD+ activities – particularly results-based payments – can be accessed through the Readiness Programme, the Project Preparation Facility, and regular project cycle funding.



- 20 funding proposals
- 94 Readiness projects
- 7 Projects as an implementing partner

¹ Accredited Entities are responsible for presenting funding applications to GCF, and then overseeing, supervising, managing and monitoring the overall GCF-approved projects and programmes.

² NDAs are government institutions that serve as the interface between each country and GCF. They provide broad strategic oversight of the GCF’s activities in the country and communicate the country’s priorities for financing low-emission and climate-resilient development.



FAO as an implementing partner

FAO also extends its expertise and know-how by collaborating with other Accredited Entities to deliver results and implement the activities of approved funding proposals. As the implementing partner of seven approved projects, with a combined value of USD 70 million, FAO channels resources into projects and carries out the funded activities under the supervision of the partner Accredited Entity.

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 story in brief

- 2016** FAO starts partnering with the Green Climate Fund.
- 2017** First FAO-led GCF funding proposal, valued at USD 90.3 million, submitted to GCF for approval.
- 2018** FAO's GCF portfolio reaches USD 200 million mark following the approval of two FAO-led GCF projects in El Salvador and Paraguay
- 2019** FAO's GCF portfolio expands exponentially to include 6 approved funding proposals, 29 readiness projects and 4 projects with FAO as the implementing partner, for a total value of USD 426.6 million.
- 2020** Seven FAO-led GCF funding proposals are approved in 2020, increasing the total value of FAO's GCF portfolio to USD 796.2 million.
- 2021** FAO's GCF portfolio grows to include rapid readiness grants for climate-resilient recovery strategies in 6 countries; the total value of the portfolio climbs to USD 936.7 million.
- 2022** The FAO-GCF partnership reaches a milestone when the portfolio surpasses the USD 1 billion mark, with 17 transformative projects, 72 readiness projects, and 8 projects as a partner with other Accredited Entities.

About the Green Climate Fund

GCF was established as the financing mechanism for the 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.

Readiness programme

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| Total value: | USD 70.5 million |
| Number of projects: | 94 |
| NAP project portfolio: | USD 20.7 million is the total value of 16 approved readiness proposals for NAPs and/or adaptation planning processes |
| Rapid readiness grants: | USD 2.3 million is the total value of 7 readiness grants approved for climate-resilient recovery strategies in Afghanistan, Botswana, Equatorial Guinea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Niger and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. |



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