

Agenda item 4 e i

Experiences, Lessons Learned, and Good Practices from GCF and GEF Support for Technology

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Dr. Joyce Miller, Independent Consultant



Objective: Use insights from GCF/GEF project implementation related to supporting Parties in technology development and transfer ==> to enhance operation of the Technology Mechanism and enhance collaboration between the Technology Mechanism and Financial Mechanism

Scope: 42 projects reviewed

- 18 completed GEF-funded projects
 - related to its Poznan Strategic Programme (PSP, until 2010)
 - and subsequently, to its Long-Term Program on Technology Transfer
- 24 ongoing GCF readiness support and climate change projects with technology elements (with CTCN as delivery partner; focus on SIDS, LDCs)

Data: desk research; GEF projects: terminal evaluations; GCF projects: 2019 annual project report + 17 key stakeholder interviews

Methodology: review 42 projects using these 6 lenses:

- 1) Relevance and impact of support provided by GCF and GEF
- 2) Impact of financial support for climate technologies linked with sectoral climate technology benchmarks
- 3) Assess gender mainstreaming and stakeholder engagements, highlighting measures/approaches that have proven key to accelerating climate technology action
- 4) Critical enabling conditions underpinning successful implementation of initiatives with technology components
- 5) Key challenges in providing support for climate technologies
- 6) Good practices in solving challenges, driving impact, assuring replication and scale-up

Limitations:

- Each of these 6 lenses could have been a Technical Paper in and of itself
- Data source for GEF projects: Terminal Evaluations, Mid-Term Reviews address accountability criteria; little identification of lessons learned, best practice
- GCF projects are in their infancy ==> performance reporting focuses on outputs achieved



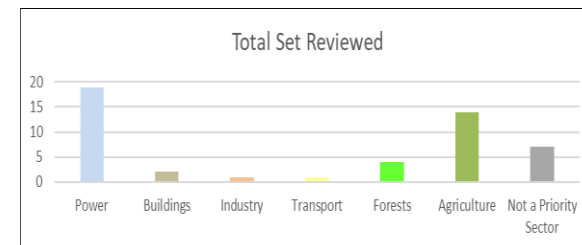
Relevance and Impact of Support Provided

- CTCN has systemic impact: its activities inform / influence NDCs, NAPs, and other national climate strategies and plans
 - still limited collaborative work across NDEs, NDAs, GEF Op. Focal Points
- Regional Climate Technology Centres in Latin America/Caribbean, Asia, Africa, Europe supported by Multinational Development Banks to connect climate/finance policy actors
 - described as “project accelerators” for technology development & transfer, “builders of a climate innovation system”, “demand driven”, “gap filling”
 - have institutional legitimacy and stakeholder recognition
 - all 4 pursued a different approach; extent to which they quickened EST uptake could not be determined (Project TE, 2020)
- TNA performs critical capacity-building role; “cost-effective experience sharing”
 - 103 countries did TNAs/TAPs during GEF’s 4 phases of TNA funding
==> most LDCs + SIDS now have TNAs; some updated TNA to include TAP
 - GCF offers TNA support under readiness grants (140 countries as of July 2021)
 - good practice: integrate TNA results into policy development process as a tool to support national and sectoral planning (= mainstreaming of TNA results)
- Identified some GCF projects seeking to enhance endogenous capacities (Malawi, Zambia, Tonga, Myanmar, Timor Leste) and promote indigenous knowledge management capacities and approaches (Bangladesh)

Initial Review of Impact of Project Set Studied for this Technical Paper Using Sectoral Technology Benchmarks Perspective

Based on WRI 'State of Climate Action Report' which identified pathways for transformational climate technologies in 6 key sectors with 21 associated indicators/targets

- Reviewed projects primarily related to the Power Sector (43%); of these, most were oriented to increasing the share of renewables in electricity generation
- Agriculture Sector (27% of set): GCF projects mostly focussed on enhancing crop yields while GEF projects aimed to reduce carbon emissions from agricultural production
- Forest Sector (<10%, i.e. 4 projects) all focussed on preventing deforestation
- In overall project set, 16% did not map to any identified priority sector – these were all Adaptation projects
==> meteorological and/or hydrological information for development planning
- Current reporting practices do not give visibility into the extent to which NDCs are contributing to Paris Agreement targets
 - minority of countries declare their adoption of transformative climate technologies
 - no systematic information available, apart from energy sector where 84% of countries indicate their use of renewable energies (UNFCCC NDC Synthesis Report, 2021)



Gender Mainstreaming



- Operating Entities and their Implementing Agencies reflect Parties' commitment to mainstream gender in climate change/UNFCCC process
 - Since GEF's 2018 Gender Equality Policy was approved, more guidance available
 - GCF's Annual Performance template obliges implementers to report Environmental Social Safeguards & Gender and progress in implementation of their Action Plan
- Differences remain regarding quality/scope of gender considerations and in communicating their results in project reporting
 - Mitigation projects show confusion about the ways in which this topic can make a difference
 - Adaptation projects offer natural entry points: co-benefits stemming from community involvement allow for emphasizing gender sensitivity
- Room to improve understanding about extent to which climate impacts are gendered and that the core issue of gender mainstreaming relates to power asymmetries
 - ==> limited evidence from projects reviewed about the ways in which these interventions increased or decreased women's power to participate



Stakeholder Engagement

- GEF & GCF indicate public involvement as “critical to project success”
 - TNA is built on stakeholder engagement and national ownership
- Limited documentation in project evaluations of stakeholder engagement approaches that proved to accelerate technology development & transfer
- Consensus: insufficient meaningful engagement of private sector actors
- Imbalance in knowledge across stakeholders hampers discussion
- Good practice: fit-for-purpose, phased approach (Lebanon example)
 - Use early-stage large consultations to generate “quick wins”, ideas with few institutional hurdles ==> get something happening
 - Then shift from technical experts to decision-makers, 1:1 discussion, work on specifics to generate inputs that go into other processes (especially those feeding into a facilitating framework)



Critical Enabling Conditions, Good Practices

- Prioritize development of facilitating policy and legislation
- Focus on evolving the socio-technological context; resist technology push – leverage technology pull & grassroots demand
- Ownership of technology at an institutional level creates a permanent integration into the country's social and economic fabric
- Community engagement is a powerful: it can maintain and sustain
- Use alignment incentives to change business as usual
- Outreach to education/vocational actors to assure continuation and build succession capacity



Key Messages

- Technology is a key instrument of climate change action
 - increasing complexity of project architecture (reflecting higher ambition level) may reduce adaptive, context-dependent approaches more suitable for dynamic recipient environments
- Emphasize need for increased inter-actor collaboration and alignment to achieve global climate goals
- Encourage early-stage inclusion of transformative climate technologies and financial actors (like impact investors) to accelerate development of relevant bankable projects
- More efforts are needed to fully tap the power of the private sector for climate-related financing
- Several issues identified that could benefit from deeper inquiry
 - gender mainstreaming, incubators/accelerators, key elements of enabling environment, reporting on adoption of critical transformative climate technologies with respect to the Paris Agreement for key sectors/technologies

*Thanks for your attention –
Comments?*

