

TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR REPORTING BY DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The **Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE)** is a constituted expert group under the Convention for providing technical assistance and advice to developing country Parties, on the preparation of national communications and BURs. The group, with the support of the secretariat, provides training to government nominated national experts from developing countries through:

- Development of training materials;
- Regional hands-on training workshops;
- Provision of technical advice upon request from Parties.

Additional information on the CGE and some of the technical materials used for its capacity-building can be accessed at <http://unfccc.int/2608.php> and <http://unfccc.int/6921.php> respectively.



TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT UNDER THE CLIMATE CHANGE CONVENTION

for developing country Parties for preparation of their national communications and biennial update reports



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

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Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, developing country Parties are obliged to prepare and submit national communications every 4 years and biennial update reports (BURs) every 2 years.

In order to assist such countries in fulfilling the reporting requirements, provisions of financial and technical support has been made available under the Convention. For example, financial support for reporting is currently channelled through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as an operation entity of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention; the Consultative Group of Experts, an expert group under the Convention (CGE) is the primary vehicle for the provision of technical assistance and advice. Key details are provided in the following pages.

This support is further supplemented with significant contributions from key actors, including through bilateral and multilateral arrangements, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other institutions and agencies that are actively engaged with countries.



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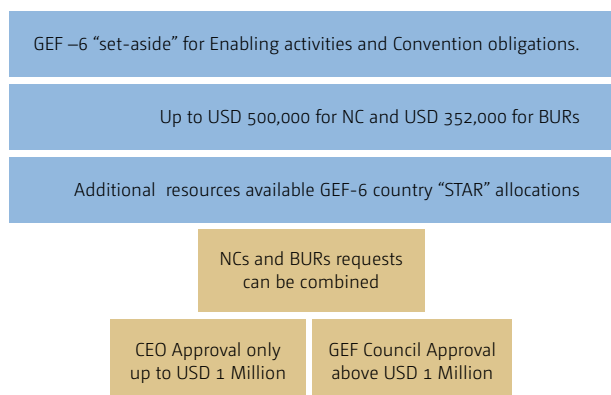
FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR REPORTING BY DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES UNDER THE CONVENTION

Under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties (COP), financial support is currently provided by the GEF, to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties), in support of their enabling activities.

As per its operational procedures for financing national communications and the policy guidelines for funding BURs, the GEF provides resources to cover the requirements for both national communications and BURs on an agreed full cost basis.

Each non-Annex I Party is allowed to access up to USD 500,000 for national communications and up to USD 352,000 for BURs, under expedited funding modalities. If countries require sums in excess of these funds, the additional resources can be accessed from its respective GEF-6 country System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) allocations which is the GEF's resource allocation system for biodiversity, climate change, and land degradation focal areas.

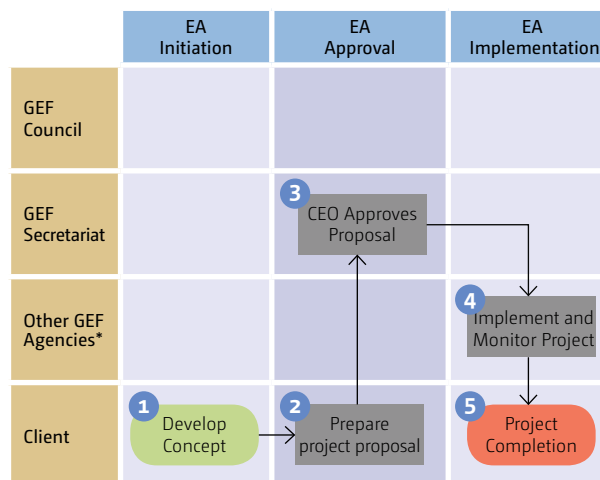
The funding request for national communications and BURs can be combined into one project or programme. Funding requests up to USD 1 million are approved directly by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the GEF. For those requests that exceed USD 1 million, approval is required by the GEF Council.



Non-Annex I Parties can choose to access funds through a GEF Implementing Agency, which supports enabling activities – for example, national communications and BUR preparation. This role has been traditionally fulfilled by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), but now includes other GEF implementing agencies. An additional option to access funds is directly from the GEF secretariat.

ACCESSING FUNDS THROUGH A GEF IMPLEMENTING AGENCY INVOLVES A FOUR-STEP PROCESS:

- Sending the request to the Implementing Agency;
- Developing a project proposal through the request for enabling activity form;
- Submitting the project proposal to the GEF secretariat for review/CEO approval;
- Working with the agency in implementation.



GEF agencies:

- UNDP
- UNEP
- World Bank
- ADB
- AfDB
- EBRD
- FAO
- IDB
- IFAD
- UNIDO
- CI
- WWF
- DBSA
- IUCN
- FECO
- FUNBIO
- CAF
- BOAD

ACCESSING FUNDS DIRECTLY FROM THE GEF SECRETARIAT INVOLVES:

- Submit request to the GEF secretariat;
- Review of the project proposal by the GEF secretariat-technical clearance;
- Financial and procurement assessment of the executing institution in country;
- Circulation of the Grant Agreement and disbursement letters to country for signature;
- Disbursement of funds to the country.

