



**TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT UNDER THE CLIMATE CHANGE CONVENTION UNDER THE CLIMATE CHANGE CONVENTION**  
for developing country Parties for preparation of their national communications and biennial update reports

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

In order to assist such countries in fulfilling the reporting requirements, provisions on financial and technical support have been made available under the Convention. For example, financial support for reporting is currently channeled through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as an operating 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.

This support is further supplemented by significant contributions from other key actors, including through bilateral and multilateral arrangements, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and other institutions and agencies.

### **FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR REPORTING BY DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES UNDER THE CONVENTION**

Under the guidance of the [Conference of the Parties](#) (COP), financial support to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) is currently provided by the GEF to support 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 in excess of these funds, the additional resources can be accessed from its respective [GEF-7 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 NCs and BURs can be combined into one project or programme. Funding requests up to USD 2 million are approved directly by the GEF CEO. For those requests that exceed USD 2 million, approval is required by the GEF Council.

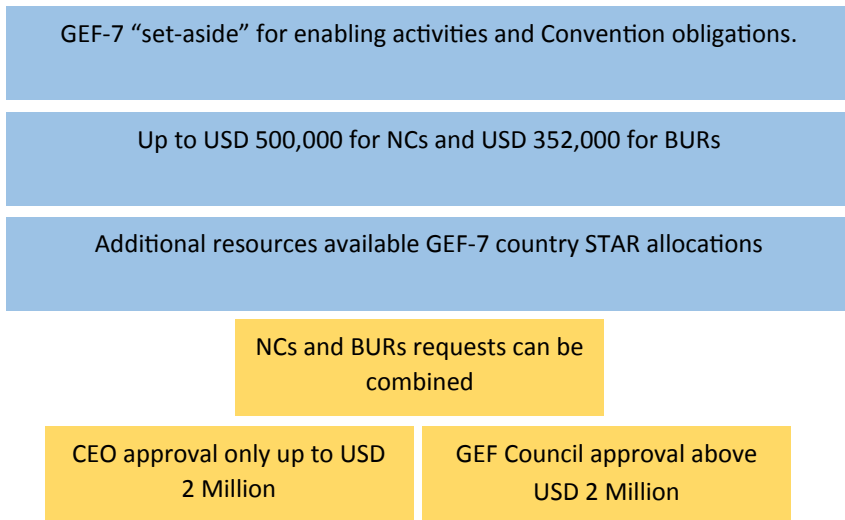


Figure 1. Funding requests scheme for national communications and biennial update reports.

Non-Annex I Parties can choose to access funds through a GEF Implementing Agency which supports enabling activities – for example, NCs and BURs preparation. There are currently 18 GEF implementing agencies including the United Nations Development Programme ([UNDP](#)) and the United Nations Environment Programme ([UNEP](#)), available for countries to choose from to access funds. An additional option to access funds is directly from the GEF itself.

#### Accessing GEF funds in four steps:

- Choose implementing agency and endorsing project proposal preparation by chosen agency;
- Develop a project proposal through the request for enabling activity form;
- Submit the project proposal to the GEF secretariat for review/CEO approval;
- Work with the implementation agency.

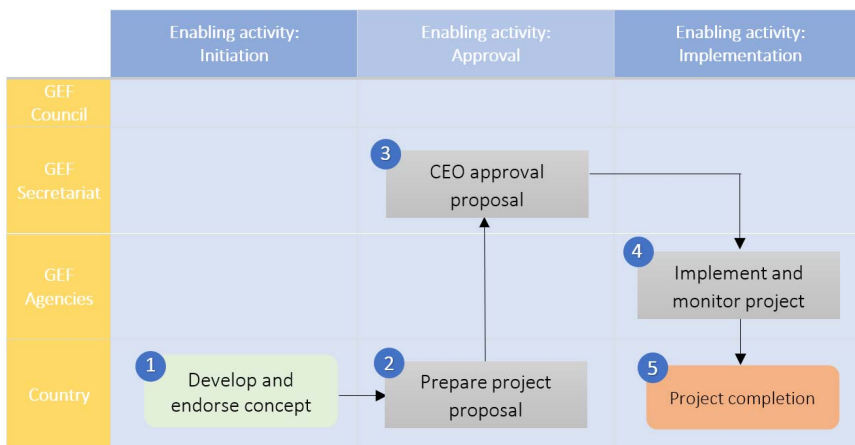


Figure 2. Accessing funds through a GEF implementing agency.





GEF agencies:

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- The World Bank Group (WBG)
- Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)
- Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)
- World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US)
- Conservation International (CI)
- Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (FECO)
- Brazilian Biodiversity Fund (FUNBIO)
- West African Development Bank (BOAD)
- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- FAO
- UNDP
- UNEP
- UNIDO

Accessing GEF funds through direct access involves:

- Submitting a request to the GEF secretariat;
- Review of the project proposal by the GEF Secretariat-Technical Clearance;
- Assessment of the financial and procurement of the executing institution in the country;
- Circulation of the Grant Agreement and disbursement letters to the country for signature and;
- Disbursement to the country.

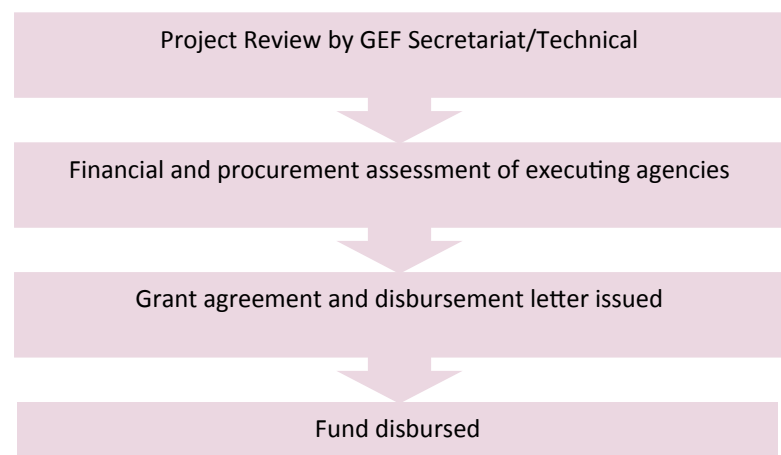


Figure 3. The process to make a direct access with GEF Secretariat. Further information is available at <https://www.thegef.org/>.

### 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 an expert group under the Convention that provides technical assistance and advice to developing country Parties on the process and the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports. Their main focus of the technical assistance and advice is to enhance the technical knowledge base of experts from developing countries on: (a) institutional arrangements; (b) science, methodologies and approaches involved in preparing information to be reported on GHG emissions and removals, vulnerability and adaptation, mitigation, and support needed and received; and (b) guidelines for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports.

The CGE, with support of the UNFCCC secretariat, provides the following resources:

- [Training materials](#) on different topics covered under NCs and BURs;
- [Webinars on various tools and methodologies](#);
- [Collaboration platform](#) for exchange of views on how to prepare national reports;
- Regional hands-on training workshops and;
- [E-learning courses](#) on national GHG inventory, vulnerability and adaptation assessment, and mitigation assessments;
- Technical advice, upon request from Parties.

### CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVE FOR TRANSPARENCY (CBIT)

In order to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of developing countries to meet the transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement, countries agreed to establish a Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT). The Paris Agreement requested the GEF to support the establishment and operation of the CBIT, including through voluntary contributions to support developing countries during GEF-6 (2014- 2018) and future replenishment cycles. Following COP 21, the GEF established the CBIT with the help of donor support, and engagement of stakeholders, and countries.

The CBIT has three aims:

- Strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities;
- Provide relevant tools, training and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement;
- Assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

More information on the CBIT can be found here:

- [Video on the CBIT](#)
- [Information leaflet on CBIT](#)

All developing country Parties have access to the CBIT to support their transparency-related activities upon request. A list of projects approved under the CBIT can be found [here](#).



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