

Project: “Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia”

2nd Accreditation Webinar: “Direct Access to Climate Finance: Supporting national entities in the Republic of North Macedonia engaging with the GCF through the accreditation process”

Agenda

Date: 19 November (Thursday) 2020

Working languages: Macedonian/English

Time: 14:00 -15:30

Zoom registration link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf-6gqDliGty015MUJuOJUxs7qWBg5XNi>

Background

The Republic of North Macedonia, as a party of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), is fully committed to advancing climate action and the implementation of the Paris Agreement. In this context, the country submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) with specific targets to reduce CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels combustion for 30%, that is, for 36% at a higher level of ambition, by 2030 compared to the business as usual scenario. Under this context, the Republic of North Macedonia will require financial support and other resources to fulfil the targets as defined in the NDCs, reducing the country’s vulnerabilities to the impacts of climate change, while sustaining a low-carbon economic growth. In this sense, the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia has been actively engaging with diverse international organizations such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to access international funding for climate change adaptation and mitigation activities/investments.

In this regard, the Cabinet of the Deputy President of the Government in charge of Economic Affairs acting as the country’s National Designated Authority (NDA) to the GCF has been vigorously working to increase national capacities and knowledge regarding climate finance by accessing grant resources from the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme. So far, the GFC has approved two Readiness Projects, one has already concluded¹ and the second one is currently under implementation “Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia”², with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) acting as the delivery partner and providing technical support to the NDA for both readiness projects.

The overall objectives of the Second GCF Readiness Project is to support the country in further developing its capacities by expanding the support to other government and non-government stakeholders, particularly focusing on the Government institutions participating in the GCF Country Coordination Mechanism and on developing strong partnerships for private sector participation in climate action. The project focuses on four main outcomes: (1) Institutional Capacity and Coordination Mechanisms in place to govern and coordinate climate action and finance; (2) Country Programming Process; (3) Direct Access to climate finance and (4) Climate Finance Strategies and project portfolio strengthened.

¹ 1st Readiness Project [“Support for the management of an effective national coordinative mechanism regarding the Green Climate Fund”](#)

² 2nd Readiness Project [“Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia”](#)

The 3rd project component “Direct Access to Climate Finance” has an overall objective of strengthening the national capacities of stakeholders regarding the GCF accreditation process, to identify potential Direct Access Entities (DAEs) that could eventually pursue the accreditation process and to provide tailored support to the prioritized entity in preparing their GCF’s accreditation application forms. As part of the preparatory and public awareness raising stage of this third project component, two Accreditation Webinars were planned.

1st Accreditation Webinar:

The 1st Accreditation Webinar was held online on 12 August 2020³. Its objective was to increase awareness and knowledge of national stakeholders from the public and private sector, as well as civil society organizations, regarding the ways to engage with the GCF, particularly through the accreditation process, as a GCF Direct Access Entities (DAEs).

During the 1st Accreditation Webinar, discussion about the different modalities through which national entities can engage with the GCF was initiated; detailed information regarding the GCF accreditation process as one of the access modalities to GCF resources was provided and initial guidance for the national stakeholders on the steps, criteria and requirements to be met if interested in becoming a GCF accredited entity in North Macedonia was provided.

2nd Accreditation Webinar:

The Second Accreditation Webinar aims to present the concrete steps that potential DAEs, which include national, subnational and regional entities, shall follow to participate in North Macedonia’s prioritization process. Additionally, it will give participants the opportunity to understand and get familiarized with the Rapid Assessment Methodology and “Application Forms” that would be used as part of the Rapid Assessment Prioritization Process.

Specific objectives of the webinar:

- To provide detailed information on the concrete steps that potential DAEs shall follow to participate in North Macedonia’s prioritization process for potential DAE
- To present the Rapid Assessment Methodology and Application Forms that will be used as part of the Process for Rapid Assessment of potential national DAEs.
- To announce the Open Call for Applications of Potential Candidates for Direct Access to the Green Climate Fund

Participants:

- Government agencies
- Academia
- Civil Society
- Relevant ministries
- Private sector
- International organizations

³ First Accreditation Webinar: [“Direct Access to Climate Finance: Supporting national entities in the Republic of North Macedonia engaging with the GCF through the accreditation process”](#)

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Time	Activity
14:00 -14:10	<p>Welcome/opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Daniel Josifovski and Ms Sandra Andovska, NDA representatives</i> • <i>Ms Carmen Arguello, GCF Readiness Project Coordinator (FAO)</i>
14:10 -14:20	<p>Session 1: Engaging with the GCF to access climate finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Carmen Arguello, GCF Readiness Project Coordinator (FAO)</i> <p>Main topics to be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can entities engage with the GCF (access modalities)? • Which entities are eligible to apply for accreditation? • What are the benefits of getting accredited?
14:20 – 15:00	<p>Session 2: Prioritization Process for potential candidates in North Macedonia for DAE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Blagica Petrova, National Accreditation Specialist (FAO)</i> <p>Main topics to be discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the Prioritization Process for potential candidates for DAE in the Republic of North Macedonia? What are its stages and expected results? • What is the Rapid Assessment and how it will be conducted? • How does the Application form look like and how it will be evaluated? • What steps should national entities in North Macedonia follow to engage in the process?
15:00-15:30	<p>Q&A and closing remarks</p>