



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

ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Strengthening the capacities of the national stakeholders in the Republic of North Macedonia for climate action through engagement with the Green Climate Fund

Background information

As part of the country’s second project under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) under the guidance and leadership of the Cabinet of the Deputy President of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, in charge of economic affairs, coordination of economic sectors and investments, as National Designated Authority (NDA) for the GCF, a needs assessment process was conducted during 2020 and 2021 to identify and assess country capacity needs linked to climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and engagement with the GCF.

The objectives of the needs assessment were twofold: 1) to identify a broad list of capacity needs in institutions relevant for the implementation of North Macedonia’s commitments as defined in the National Determined Contributions (NDCs) submitted to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), based on which the training curricula was developed. The needs assessment reflects the findings from the latest developed Updated NDCs (NDCs+), Third Biannual Report on climate change and the Strategy for Climate Action as well; and 2) to define capacity needs that could be covered as part of the country’s engagement with the GCF through its readiness programme, thus being the key inputs for the Readiness Needs Assessment section within the GCF Country Work Programme.



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Through the process, it was identified that there are needs for trainings in the field of Climate Change and Green Climate Fund in the Republic of North Macedonia, particularly in the specific areas of:

- Climate change impacts, measures and the role of the GCF in supporting climate action
- Private Sector Engagement in GCF financing
- Gender and Climate Change
- Climate Finance
- Climate Technologies
- GCF/National Accreditation Process
- National Coordination Mechanism and “No-objection” procedure for GCF financing in North Macedonia
- GCF Project Formulation Process

Based on the above needs assessment process, a training curricula was developed by FAO aiming to serve different goals, target groups, as well as levels of knowledge and understanding regarding climate change, considering the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in regards to climate action and GCF engagement.

Main objective of the GCF training programme

Main objective of the GCF training programme is to strengthen the national stakeholders’ capacities related to climate change action and strategic engagement with the Green Climate Fund, including better understanding of the climate financing procedures to support the implementation of the climate change mitigation and adaptation measures defined in the national strategic policy documents.

The GCF Training Programme

The Training Programme consists of **eight complementary training sessions** that will be conducted online, via the **ZOOM platform**, creating the whole picture of opportunities for developing countries as North Macedonia to implement climate change mitigation and adaptation measures by strengthening readiness needs for strategic engagement with the GCF.

The training curricula is designed as an **open learning opportunity** for all relevant GCF stakeholders in North Macedonia interested to understand better the GCF climate financing process, GCF project development cycle, GCF prioritization criteria, the role of GCF accreditation entities, private sector role in GCF engagement and other relevant topics, including government institutions, public and private companies, banks, CSOs, international organizations and academia.

Detailed agendas for each training topic and timeline are presented below:



Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of a Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia

ONLINE TRAINING No.1

Climate change impacts, measures and the role of the GCF in supporting climate action

Date: 28 February (Monday) 2022

Working language: Macedonian

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 hrs

ZOOM registration link:

https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcrf-2rrjwpHtAou_zDcDmRri0QnK-IKjto

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of national stakeholders on the following topics:

- Climate Change phenomena and global response;
- Main climate risks and impacts in North Macedonia
- Current and future GHGs emissions projections, main economic sectors contributing
- Climate change mitigation, adaptation measures and cross-cutting issues
- National policy on climate change, main objectives and plans towards reduction of GHGs emissions
- GCF as a largest climate fund supporting developing countries to respond on climate change impacts and challenges

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
10:00 -10:10	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slavjanka Pejchinovska-Andonova, FAO National Climate Change Specialist and trainer for this online training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainer/Aims of the training session • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
10:10-10:50	Session 1: Global climate change phenomena and policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on global climate change phenomena and policy; • Video I: What causes climate change (also known as global warming)? And what are the effects of climate change on the environment and the people? • Brainstorming on “What actions should we take” • Questions/discussion between the participants about the Causes and Effects of Climate Changes, Vulnerable sectors, GHGs and etc.
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Session 2. The current situation related to climate change in North Macedonia and most appropriate climate change adaptation and mitigation measures for the country and national and local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation about the situation in North Macedonia regarding climate change, GHGs emissions (main sources, GHGs emissions projections), National strategic climate change policy; types of measures for addressing climate change; • Video II - According to the Paris Climate Agreement, governments must decide now how to reduce the amount of carbon they pump into the atmosphere in order to avoid the most devastating consequences of global warming. So, are we on track to limit global warming to only 1.5 degrees Celsius? • Quiz on the subjects from the previous presentation; • Discussion: The current climate change effects on the population and the environment in the most vulnerable regions in the country, where droughts or flooding are expected to intensify in the future, and the suggested climate change mitigation or/and adaptation measures.
11:40-11:55	Session 3: GCF Climate financing mechanism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation about the GCF global financing mechanism to support developing countries to finance their climate change mitigation and adaptation measures • Video III GCF and opportunities for climate financing for Republic of North Macedonia to achieve the strategic climate change related goals
11:55 -12:00	Q&A and discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants’ experience or case study/good example/lessons learned from other projects or experience gained • Providing additional links or documents for further support and more information, share knowledge networks (on-line platform)



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Climate Fund handbook for North Macedonia • “No-objection” procedure for GCF Projects in North Macedonia
12:00 – 12:10	Training Evaluation and Final Remarks	

I **Video (option 1)**: Causes and Effects of Climate Change | National Geographic www.youtube.com/watch?v=G4H1N_yXBiAb

I **Video (option 2)**: Climate Action Tracker: The state of the climate crisis in 2021 | TED www.youtube.com/watch?v=-wJo5aKBwgQ

II **Video**: What is the 'Paris Agreement', and how does it work? www.youtube.com/watch?v=5THr3bFj8Z4

III **Video**: The Green Climate Fund in North Macedonia www.youtube.com/watch?v=mNFIHOMY1fs



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ONLINE TRAINING No. 2 Private Sector Engagement in Green Climate Fund financing

Date: 1 March (Tuesday) 2022

Working language: Macedonian

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 hrs

ZOOM registration link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUUpduGrpjwoH9HbaqM8X6QINggHeIVc9s7q>

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of private sector in North Macedonia on the following topics:

- GCF financing; Climate finance, climate technologies, climate change adaptation strategies and climate change mitigation strategies, Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030;
- Understanding which activities already undertaken by companies are related to climate action and climate finance;
- Linkage between innovation, research and development and climate investment;
- Access to new, additional funds for climate investment in order to reduce risk and mobilize private green capital.

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
10:00 -10:10	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olimpija Hristova Zaevska, FAO Private Sector Consultant • Irena Ashtalkoska, FAO Private Sector Consultant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainers/Aims of the training session • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
10:10-10:50	Session 1: Participation of the private sector in the processes of the Green Climate Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing by the Green Climate Fund - introduction • Climate finance • Climate change adaptation and mitigation • Participation of the private sector in climate action • Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030 • Linking sustainable development goals to climate action • Discussions
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Session 2: Private Sector Climate Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate technologies • The link between innovation, research and development and climate investments • Access to new, additional funds for climate investments to reduce climate risk and mobilize green capital • Discussions
11:40 -11:50	Q&A and discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants' experience or case study/good example/lessons learned from other projects or experience gained • Providing additional links or documents for further support and more information, share knowledge networks (on-line platform)
11:50 – 12:00	Training Evaluation and Final Remarks	



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ONLINE TRAINING No. 3 Gender and climate change

Date: 3 March (Thursday) 2022

Working language: Macedonian

Time: 10:00 - 12:00

ZOOM registration link:

<https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcode-qpzwuG9Z6GFbxEMN7KMbwumzWjD00>

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of national stakeholders on the following topics:

- Understanding gender and climate change relation at administrative, decision-making level;
- Gender mainstreaming during development of climate change Adaptation and Mitigation plans;
- Gender mainstreaming in GCF project cycle (gender analysis using sex-disaggregate data and information and gender assessment) for all GCF proponents;
- Development of Gender Action Plans as part of GCF project proposal;
- Capacity building programme for defining gender-responsive indicators in climate change proposals;
- Institutional (inter/intra) cooperation on gender mainstreaming in climate change planning processes
- Gender equality in climate change interventions and making gender equality policies “climate resilient”.

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
10:00 -10:10	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olgica Apostolova, FAO gender consultant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainer/Aims of the training session • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
10:10-10:50	Session 1: Linking Climate Change and Social Vulnerability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intersection: Climate change - social vulnerability • Social justice and climate change • Discussion
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Session 2: Climate Change and Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intersection: gender-climate change • Gender mainstreaming process • Gender perspective of climate change in international and national policies • Discussion
11:40 -11:50	Session 3: The Green Climate Fund and Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management; • Competencies and capacity development; • Resources allocation, accessibility and budgeting; • Operating procedures; and • Generating knowledge and communications • Discussion
11:50 – 12:00	Training evaluation and final remarks	



Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of a Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia

ONLINE TRAINING No. 4 Climate Finance

Date: 7 March (Monday) 2022

Working language: Macedonian/English

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 hrs

ZOOM registration link: https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJl5d-2vrDloHNDMoUfZqq7JdIKf-N_ef8Sp

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of national stakeholders on the following topics:

- System for Tracking, Monitoring and Streamlining Climate Finance
- Main benefits of this type of systems for monitoring, reporting on climate financing;
- International Standards in tracking and monitoring climate finance.

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
10:00 -10:10	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blagica Petrova, FAO National Climate Finance Specialist • Anisorc Brito, FAO International Climate Finance Specialist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainers/Aims of Training session, rules of online training • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
10:10-10:50	Session 1: Climate Finance	<p><i>Presenter: Blagica Petrova</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational video "What is Climate Finance" • Climate finance in general: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Defining climate finance ○ Climate finance architecture ○ Global climate finance flows 2017-2018 ○ Climate finance flows in North Macedonia- Third Biennial Update Report (BUR) ○ Why tracking climate finances ○ Challenges <p><i>Presenter: Anisorc Brito</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate finance mechanism and the GCF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UNFCCC/Kyoto Protocol/Paris Agreement financial mechanisms ○ GCF Requirements
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Session 2: Tracking Climate Finances	<p><i>Presenter: Anisorc Brito</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International standards and practice for tracking climate finances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UNFCC OECD-DAC/EU/Macedonian Development Bank ○ Climate Finances Categorization and Typology CPEIR/EU Taxonomy/ Rio markers methodology <p><i>Presenter: Blagica Petrova</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracking climate finance in North Macedonia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Procedure developed under Readiness 1 ○ Status, challenges and next steps • Quiz: Identification, marking and weighting climate activity
11:40 -11:50	Q & A and Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants' experience or case study/good example/lessons learned from other projects or experience gained • Providing additional links or documents for further support and more information, share knowledge networks (on-line platform)
11:50 – 12:00	Training evaluation and final remarks	



Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of a Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia

ONLINE TRAINING No.5 Climate Technologies

Date: 9 March (Wednesday) 2022

Working language: Macedonian

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 hrs

ZOOM registration link: https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMtf-6trj8pG9AZtO0G8pOFh_8IMj1a2qkN

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of national stakeholders on the following topics:

- Applicable climate change technologies and trends in prioritized sectors;
- Differences between climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and technologies;
- Climate Change Technologies Catalogue

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
10:00 -10:10	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zdravko Andonov, FAO Climate Technologies Consultant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainer/Aims of the training session • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
10:10-10:50	Session 1. Climate technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of climate technologies; • Types of climate technologies; • Examples of climate change mitigation technologies; • Examples of climate change adaptation technologies; • Examples of application of IT technologies in climate technologies.
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Session 2. Catalogue of climate technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the Climate Technology Catalogue developed under the GCF second readiness project (the aim, the structure of the catalogue, the main beneficiaries, how it can be used to facilitate climate action) • Exercise 1: Climate change mitigation technology (Relation with different sectors and examples of implementation) • Exercise 2: Climate change adaptation Technology (Relation with different sectors and examples of implementation)
11:40 -11:50	Q&A and discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants' experience or case study/good example/lessons learned from other projects or experience gained • Providing additional links or documents for further support and more information, share knowledge networks (on-line platform)
12:00 – 12:10	Training Evaluation and Final Remarks	

Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of a Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia

ONLINE TRAINING No. 6 GCF / National Accreditation Process

Date: 15 March (Tuesday) 2022

Working language: Macedonian/English

Time: 14:30 - 16:30 hrs

ZOOM registration link: https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcqd-utqjliEtVgFya6_Z2eyeFOzdfla4-u

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of national stakeholders on the following topics:

- GCF Pre-Accreditation Process (Overview of the GCF accreditation process, the role of Accredited entities in the GCF financing procedure; GCF accreditation criteria; GCF Accreditation gap analysis; GCF Environmental and Social standards and risk category identification)
- GCF Post-Accreditation Process (Specialized GCF fiduciary criteria for project management, grant award and/or on-lending/blending)

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
14:30 -14:40	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blagica Petrova, FAO National Climate Finance Specialist • Eva Riviera, International Consultant on GCF Accreditation issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainer/Aim of Training session, rules of online training • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
14:40-15:10	Session 1: GCF Accreditation process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational videos ▪ Engaging with the GCF <i>Presenter: Eva Rivera</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GCF investment criteria ○ GCF sectors ○ GCF architecture ○ Accredited entities and their role ○ GCF accredited entities through statistics ▪ Overview of the GCF accreditation process <i>Presenter: Blagica Petrova</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GCF accreditation modalities ○ Fit-for-purpose approach of the GCF ○ Accreditation stages ○ Accreditation fee
15:10-15:20	Break	
15:20-16:10	Session 2: GCF accreditation criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF accreditation criteria <i>Presenter: Eva Rivera</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GCF Accreditation applications sections ○ GCF accreditation criteria ○ Basic and Specialized fiduciary standards ○ Environment and Social Safeguards (ESS) and GCF risk categories ○ Gender considerations ▪ FAO/NDA accreditation support in North Macedonia <i>Presenter: Blagica Petrova</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Accreditation support stages ○ Rapid Assessment ○ Accreditation support status • Quiz: Self-assessment, eligibility for Direct Access entity
16:10-16:20	Q&A and discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants' experience/ case study/good example/lessons learned from other projects or experience gained • Providing additional links or documents for further support and more information, share knowledge networks (on-line platform)
16:20– 16:30	Training Evaluation and Final Remarks	



Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of a Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia

ONLINE TRAINING No. 7

National Coordination Mechanism and “No-objection” procedure for GCF financing in North Macedonia

Date: 17 March (Thursday) 2022

Working language: Macedonian

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 hrs

ZOOM registration link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlufuCsrdopHtHIN2ojZISMfUw6wJeRGxkg>

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of national stakeholders on the following topics:

- The current national coordination mechanism for GCF funding and “No-objection” procedure;
- Main institutions involved and their roles and responsibilities related to the “No-objection” procedure in North Macedonia
- GCF project idea application and evaluation based on administrative and prioritization criteria of the GCF

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
10:00 -10:10	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slavjanka Pejchinovska-Andonova, FAO National Climate Change Specialist and trainer for this online training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainer/Aim of Training session • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
10:10-10:50	Session 1. National Coordination Mechanism regarding the GCF in North Macedonia and the “No-objection” procedure for country projects seeking GCF financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief presentation of global climate change phenomena and policy; • Presentation of the National coordination mechanism regarding the GCF and climate financing in the country; • Video I – “The opportunities of Green Climate Fund in North Macedonia” • GCF climate financing in North Macedonia • Presentation of the roles and responsibilities of key institutions related to climate change/climate financing, and the GCF projects application process; • GCF mechanism and the “No-objection” procedure for North Macedonia
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Session 2. Guidance for preparation and application of projects for GCF financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation about the eligibility and prioritization criteria; • Brief explanation of Guidance for applicants and Project Idea template and Who and How to apply to GCF; • Video II: “The GCF Simplified Approval Process: An explainer” • Questions and discussion between the participants about the GCF application process. • Quiz: Types of GCF Project Ideas, eligibility for GCF funding, who can apply and how
11:40 -11:50	Q&A and discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Climate Fund handbook for North Macedonia • “No-objection” procedure for Green Climate Fund Projects in the Republic of North Macedonia • Participant’s experience or case study/good example/lessons learned from other projects or experience gained • Providing additional links or documents for further support and more information, share knowledge networks (on-line platform)
11:50 – 12:00	Training Evaluation and Final Remarks	



Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of a Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia

ONLINE TRAINING No. 8 Green Climate Fund Project Formulation Process

Date: 23 March (Wednesday) 2022

Working language: English/Macedonian

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 hrs

ZOOM registration link: <https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpd-CqzgvH9zHcMt1DFk0riw6MT04Yfm8>

Specific objectives:

To strengthen the knowledge of national stakeholders on the following topics:

- Climate information data and sectors specific baseline data needed for GCF project development;
- Hints for writing climate change project ideas, concept notes and full project proposals following national and GCF criteria;
- International databases with climate related data and information to be used during the project idea development;
- Environmental and Social Assessments during development of project proposals and other GCF guidelines.

Time	Session	Main topics / activities
10:00 -10:10	Welcome/opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anisorc Brito, FAO International Climate Finance Specialist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the Trainer/Aim of Training session, rules of online training • Introduction of all participants (if they are less than 20 persons)
10:10-10:50	Session 1: The GCF Project Cycle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF Project Cycle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, Project Preparation Facility (PPF), Funded Activities ○ Timeline of the GCF project cycle ○ GCF Funding Windows: Request for Proposals, Private Sector Facility, Standard access)
10:50-11:00	Break	
11:00-11:40	Session 2 : GCF Project Formulation Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF Concept Note vs. Funding Proposal • Understanding main elements of GCF funding proposals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Climate rationale – starting point ○ Alignment with GCF investment criteria ○ Theory of change ○ Logical framework and the Integrated Results Management Framework ○ Annexes to be developed in standard Funding Proposal ○ GCF Review process (Secretariat + Independent Technical Advisory Panel) and Board approval
11:40 -11:50	Q&A and discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants' experience or case study/good example/lessons learned from other projects or experience gained • Providing additional links or documents for further support and more information, share knowledge networks (on-line platform)
11:50 – 12:00	Training Evaluation and Final Remarks	