



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Republic of North Macedonia
Government of the Republic of North Macedonia

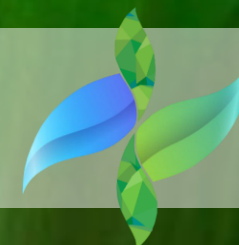


GREEN
CLIMATE
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Key Findings of Climate Change Need Assessment:

“Identifying needs for training and capacity building in the field of Climate Change and Green Climate Fund in the Republic of North Macedonia”

June 2021



Green development
Republic of North Macedonia



The project **“Strengthening country capacities for climate change adaptation and mitigation and finalization of Country Work Programme for the Republic of North Macedonia”** is the second project in the Republic of North Macedonia under the Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.

This readiness project is being implemented by the *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)*, as a delivery partner, under the guidance and leadership of the Cabinet of the Deputy President of the Government in charge of Economic Affairs, acting as the National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

Overall Objectives of the project

The overall objectives of the Second 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 Country Coordination Mechanism and on developing strong partnerships for private sector participation in climate action.

Objectives of the modular survey

The main objective of **the modular survey** is to collect primary data from relevant stakeholders in order to determine their needs and capacity gaps to contribute to NDC implementation.

The results of this survey will serve as inputs to construct the GCF's Country Work Programme considering stakeholders needs including training and readiness activities.

The period when the survey was conducted was from 5th April to 5th May

Stakeholders included in the survey

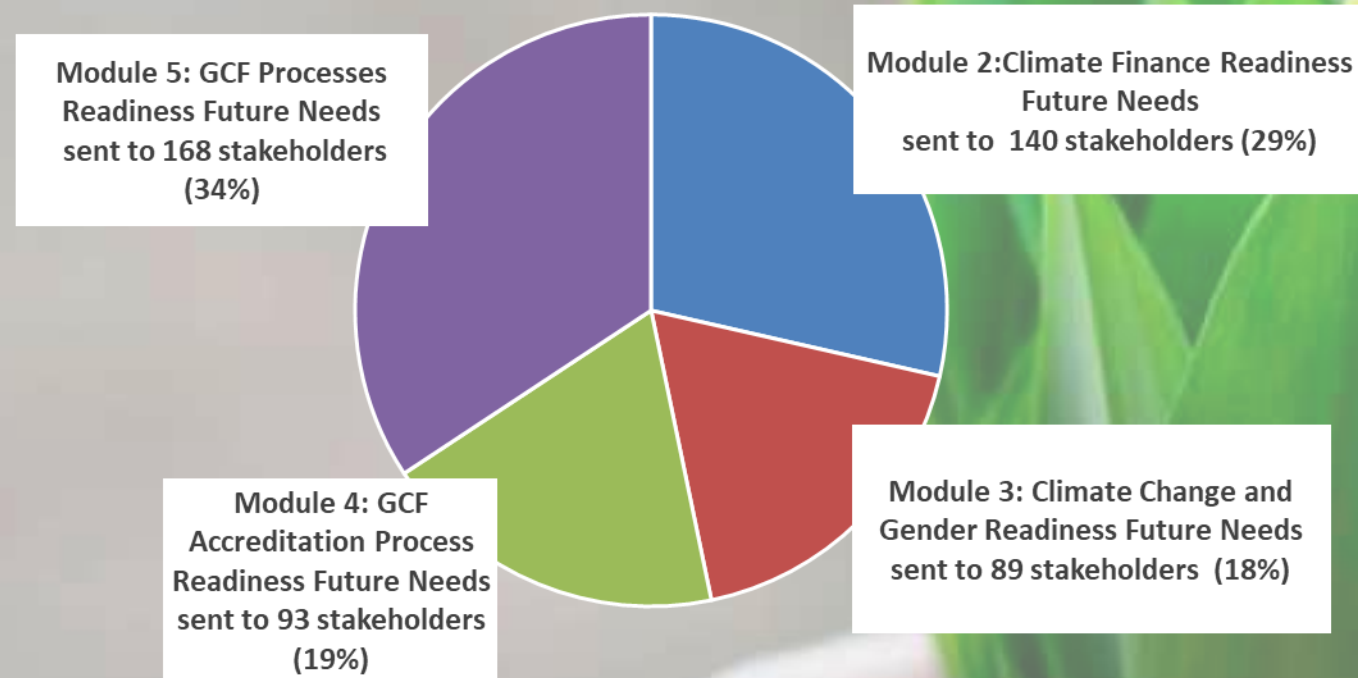
The list of relevant stakeholders for the needs assessment process was defined considering the institutions that could require additional support to contribute in the accomplishment of NDCs as well as those institutions with a specific role in the overall engagement of the Republic of North Macedonia with the GCF.

The identification of the relevant stakeholders was done based on two main criteria:

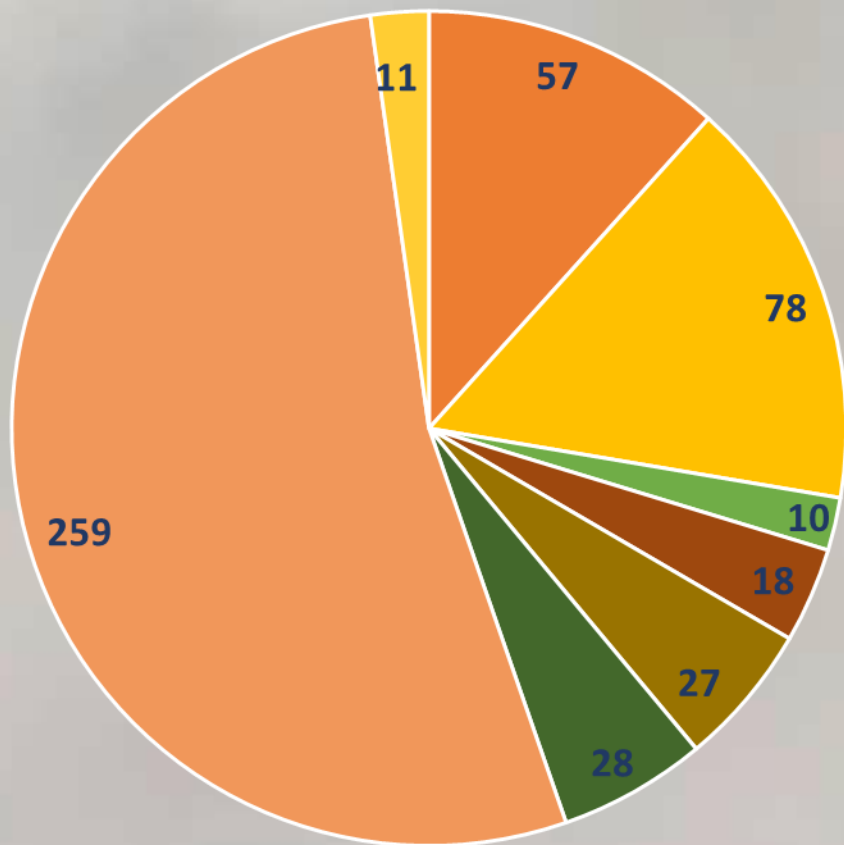
- Stakeholders who have legal responsibility and roles for climate change policymaking role, implementation of mitigation/adaptation measures and ensuring climate change financing, etc., in the different economic sectors and GCF financing mechanism;
- Stakeholders who have interest in GCF financing and partnering with national/regional institutions, CSO and private sector to develop and implement climate change projects.

The first survey module, **Module 1 – Training Needs** has been designed to collect **primary data from all stakeholders (490 in total)** in order to determine their training needs and capacity gaps to contribute to NDC implementation.

For the other modules the stakeholders were assigned according to their specific roles and responsibilities in the overall engagement in the area of climate change financing. In that way each stakeholder was assigned with two surveys, Module 1 plus one of the other four modules.



Diversity of the all surveyed stakeholders, according to the type of institution / organization they come from.



- Academia
- CSO + CSO Youth
- Media
- Multilateral development bank
- National commercial bank
- Private company
- Public / Governmental entity
- Public company

The Capacity Needs Assessment Survey together with the invitation was distributed to the list of stakeholders in the beginning of April 2021.

The **final number** of answered surveys, which were taken into consideration in the analysis presented in this report at the beginning of May 2021, is as following:

Module 1 :Training Needs had been answered by **42 stakeholders**;

Module 2: Climate Finance Readiness Future Needs had been answered by **7 stakeholders**;

Module 3: Climate Change, Gender and Vulnerable Groups Readiness Future Needs had been answered by **6 stakeholders**;

Module 4: GCF Accreditation Process Readiness Future Needs had been answered by **7 stakeholders**;

Module 5: GCF Processes Readiness Future Needs had been answered by **11 stakeholders**.

Main conclusions for Module 1 - Training Needs (I)

- 62% of the participants represent governmental institutions, 17 % represent private companies and 12 % represent public entities
 - 55% of the participated stakeholders are female.
- Though the process, it was identified that **there is definitely need for trainings** in the field of Climate Change and Green Climate Fund in the country.
 - The top three priorities for training needs are
 - **Climate Finance**, followed by
 - **Climate Change Science and Policies** and
 - **Climate Information Services and Climate Technologies**.
 - A rough estimate is that **40 % of the respondents need Basic, 40 % need Moderate level** of the trainings the remaining **20 % of the responders need Intermediate level of the trainings**.
 - The general picture is that there are **no records for available trainings** and **no Plans for trainings of employees** working on projects related to climate change in the governmental institutions, private companies and represent public entities.

Main conclusions for Module 1 - Training Needs (II)

- The stakeholders that answered the survey would prefer **trainings organized at different levels**, where individuals can **choose modules as they see fit**, they also preferred for these trainings **to be delivered to higher ranking employees**.
- More than half of the surveyed stakeholders selected
 - **Practical work on developing pilot project ideas, concept notes or project proposal** and
 - **Participation in knowledge networks (on-line platform)**

as **the most helpful activities after the training program is over.**

Main conclusions for Module 1 - Training Needs (III)

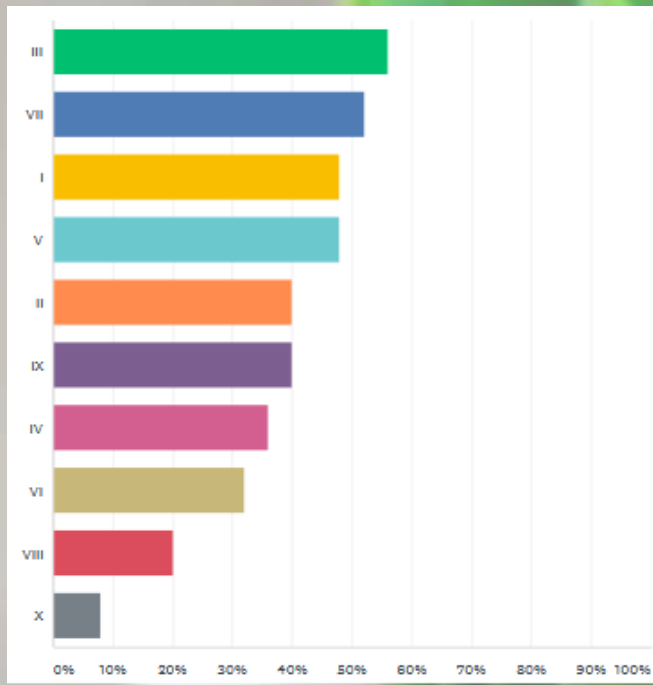
Additionally, here are shown the general need for the different stakeholder groups.



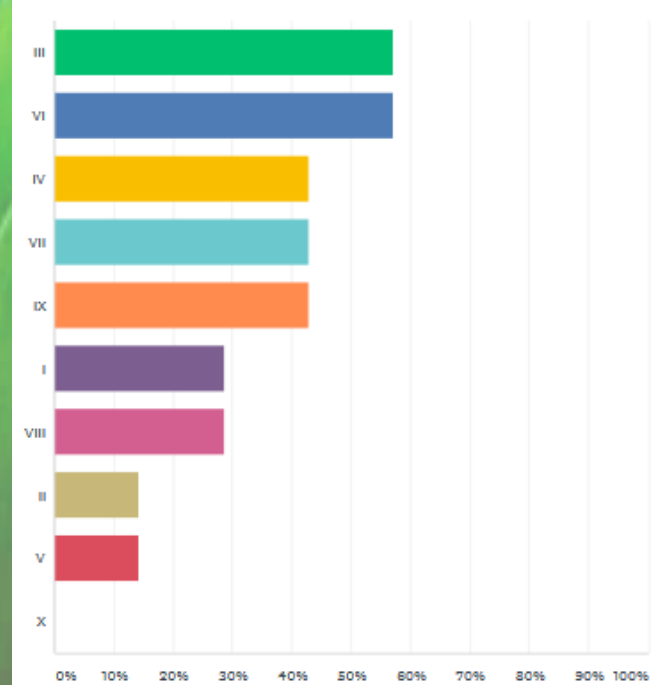
The participants were asked, what kind of follow-up activities are the most helpful for them after the conclusion of the training program, given the following :

- I. On-the-job technical assistance to the institution (for example reviewing approved project idea, concept note or project proposal step by step)
- II. Mentorship provided by experienced consultant for a one-month period (on defined topics)
- III. Practical work on developing pilot project ideas, concept notes or project proposal**
- IV. Facilitation of the project idea/concept note development between the institutions/proponents and Accredited Entities (AEs) to start developing the Green Climate Fund (GCF) proposal
- V. Technical support for delivery of additional trainings identified during the training sessions (for some sector-specific topics)
- VI. Question and Answer service, together with access to additional online resources
- VII. Participation in knowledge networks (on-line platform)
- VIII. Refresher courses or online sessions
- IX. Provision of toolkits or Web-based materials

The participants (in total 25) from **public companies and public governmental entities** had answered that the activities **III, VIII, I and V** would be most helpful.



The participants (in total 7) from **private companies** had answered that the activities **III and VI**, would be most helpful, following by the activities from **IV, VII and IX**.

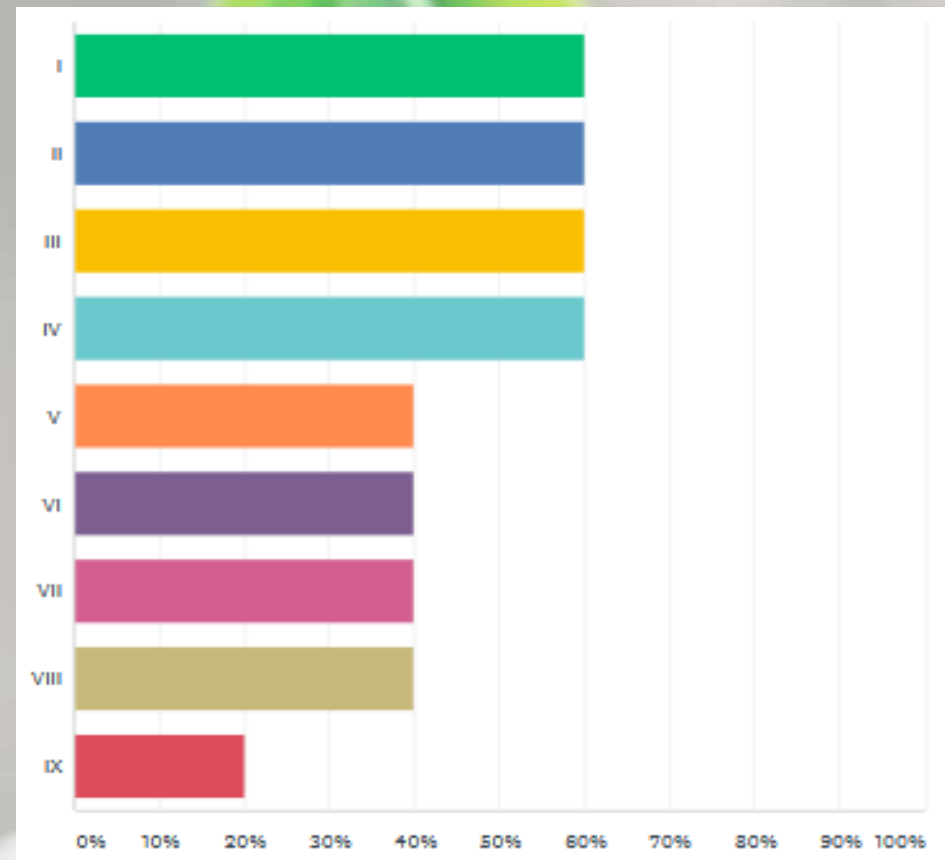


Main conclusions for Module 2 - Climate Finance Readiness Future Needs (I)

- 57 % of the participants represent governmental stakeholders have a work experience greater than 11 years
- 5 (71%) of participants are male and 2 (29%) female.

The conclusions from the survey show that there is a **need to increase the amount of resources** the country is currently providing as climate finance in:

- I. **Institutional Capacities,**
- II. **Sources for co-financing,**
- III. **Public private partnerships and**
- IV. **Mobilizing climate finance;**



Main conclusions for Module 2 - Climate Finance Readiness Future Needs (II)

- Most of the stakeholders pointed out that in order to promote private climate the **Incentives** as well as **Institutional Capacity** and **Policies, Regulatory Frameworks** are needed;
- The **main needs for tracking, monitoring and streamlining climate** finance in the country are clearly prioritized by the respondents, and the **Specific procedures that integrate all relevant stakeholders' roles** are ranked as top priority at the moment.
- The general opinion is that there are **no specific policy and/or legal framework and not sufficient capacities in-country related** to tracking, monitoring and streamlining climate finance within the country to the needs of different national and local institutions.
- The main assumption of the stakeholders is that **the climate finance needs within the country are not adequately funded.**

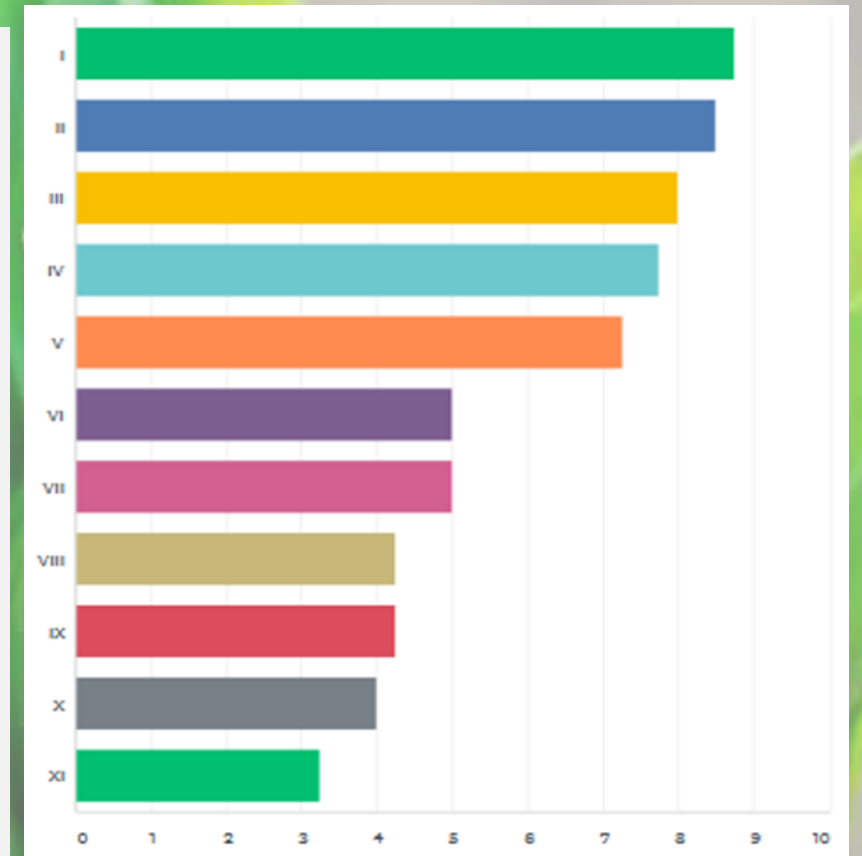
Main conclusions for Module 3 - Climate Change, Gender and Vulnerable Groups Readiness Future Needs (I)

- 67 % of the participants represent governmental institutions and 33 % represent civil society organizations
- 50% of the participants are female.

For the module Climate Change, Gender and Vulnerable Groups Readiness Future Needs according the answers of the questionnaire it can be concluded that top three needs for training are for:

- I. **Capacity building on understanding gender and climate change relation at administrative, decision-making level;**
- II. **Technical support to integrate the gender equality in climate change interventions and making gender equality policies “climate resilient” and**
- III. **Technical support to relevant stakeholders in gender mainstreaming during development of climate-related Adaptation plans and Mitigation plans.**

The respondents pointed out that they would also **propose Inclusion of gender equality in the institutional set-up of the state as a primary goal.**





Main conclusions for Module 3 - Climate Change, Gender and Vulnerable Groups Readiness Future Needs (II)

75 % of the respondents said that their organization **does not have a policy for gender issues**. According to the responses, 75 % concluded that their organization would not face challenges when mainstreaming gender issues into climate change policies.

- The stakeholders which answered this survey think that:
 - ✓ **Agriculture,**
 - ✓ **Energy,**
 - ✓ **Green Jobs,**
 - ✓ **Water resources,**
 - ✓ **Biodiversity (ecosystems and eco-systemic services) and**
 - ✓ **Waste management**

are the **areas that need urgent measures related to climate change to strengthen the position of women.**

Main conclusions for Module 4 - GCF Accreditation Process Readiness Future Needs (I)

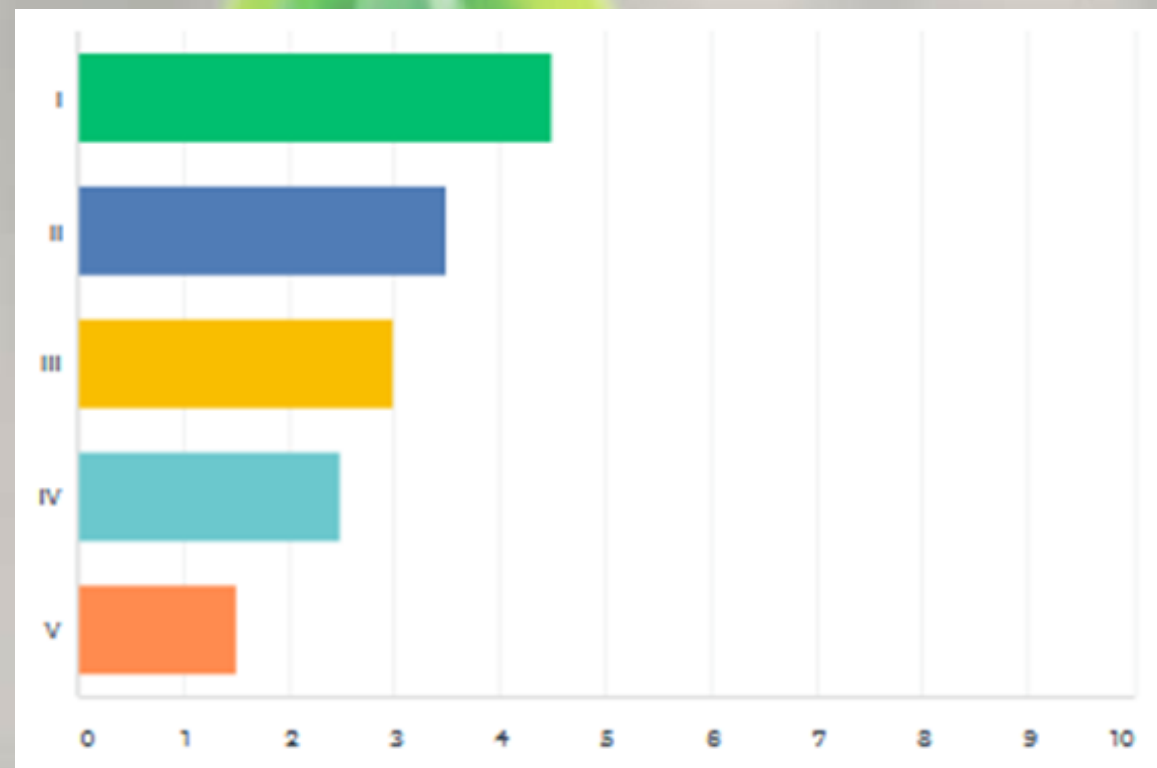
- 85 % of the participants represent public and governmental institutions and 14 % represent national bank.
- 71% of the participants are female.

The main needs related to the pre-accreditation procedure for the Green Climate Fund in the country are prioritized as

I. Technical/financial support for potential Accredited Entities (AEs) to strengthen their capacity on accreditation process and the role in GCF financing procedure

and the least important is:

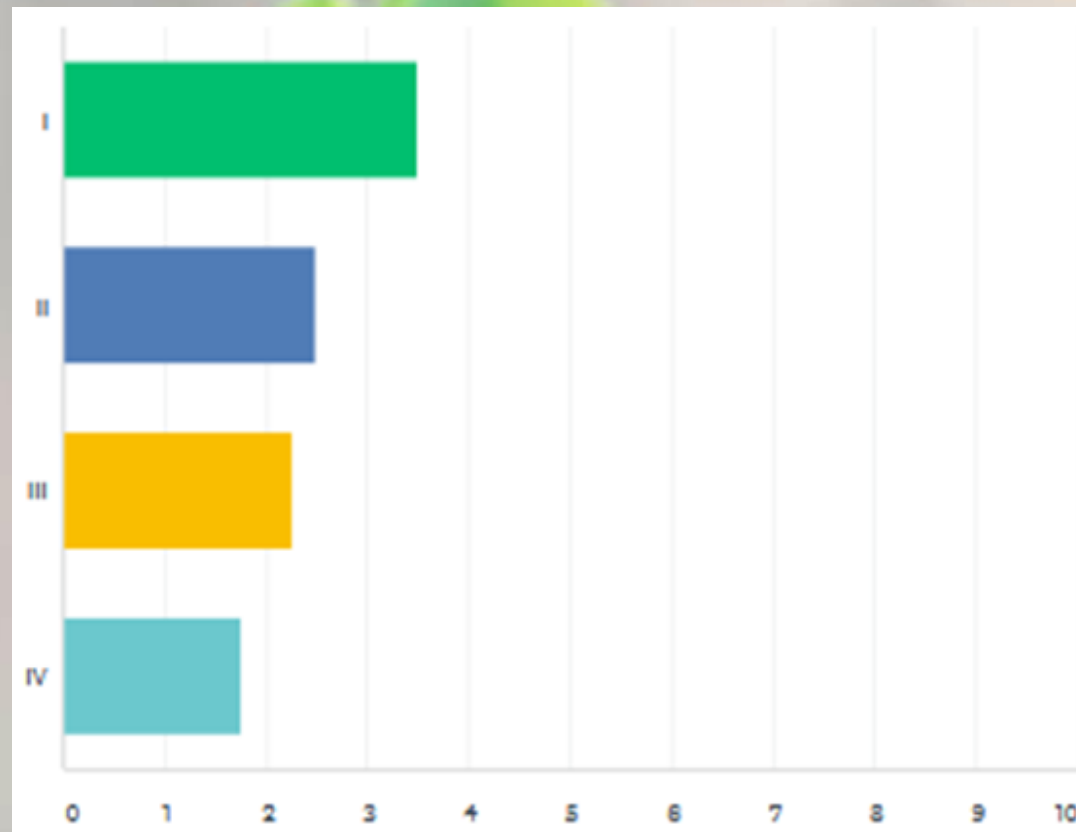
V. Financial support to AEs to pay the accreditation related costs (accreditation fees, translating documents, assigning personnel to complete the assessment, others)



Main conclusions for Module 4 - GCF Accreditation Process Readiness Future Needs (II)

The main needs related to the post- accreditation procedure for the Green Climate Fund in the country are prioritized as

- I. **Mentorship during the match making and development of concept note and full project proposal and developing a climate change portfolio**
- II. **Technical and financial support to match making the AEs and potential executing entities, project sponsors**
- III. **Technical support for negotiating the GCF Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA)**
- IV. **Support in meeting specialized GCF fiduciary criteria for project management, grant-award and/or on-lending/blending.**



Main conclusions for Module 4- GCF Accreditation Process Readiness Future Needs (III)

On the open question about the specific reasons **why the entities would be motivated to get involved in the accreditation procedure** the respondents said that they would be motivated if:

- **There is an opportunity to provide more resources to implement environmental / climate change projects** in order to reduce emissions and mitigate the impact of climate change, or
- **Creating projects and obtaining financial resources to deal with the negative effects of climate change;** financial benefits, subsidies and relief and adaptation to climate change in the sector.

Main conclusions for Module 5 - GCF Processes Readiness Future Needs (I)



- 63 % of the participants represent governmental institutions and there are representatives from private companies and public entities.
- The survey for this module had been answered by 11 stakeholders and 7 (64%) of them are female and 4 (36%) male.

From the analysis of the answers of the survey for GCF Processes Readiness Future Needs it can be concluded that the three **highest priority needs related to GCF country programming process are:**

- I. Strengthening human capacity of all institutions involved in the GCF “No-objection” procedure;**
- II. Support in development of pipeline of prioritized climate change programmes and no-objection procedure;**
- III. Awareness raising activities to increase knowledge about actual coordination mechanism and no-objection procedure in the Republic of North Macedonia.**

* Although in the [first GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support project](http://www.fao.org/3/ca7293en/CA7293EN.pdf) in North Macedonia (2019) there were 10 events on different topics, with 300 participants representing 70 organizations including: Relevant Ministries, Government Agencies, Private sector, Academia, Civil society, International organizations. More info provided on the following link: www.fao.org/3/ca7293en/CA7293EN.pdf, there is still need for strengthening capacity.

Main conclusions for Module 5 - GCF Processes Readiness Future Needs (II)



The opinion of the majority of the participants is that **there are adequate resources in** different institutions to perform activities **to implement GCF country programming** in the Republic of North Macedonia.

They also agree **that there sufficient capacities in-country to perform activities to implement GCF country programming process** in the country.

The main needs related to formulation of GCF Project ideas, concept note and funding proposal are:

- I. Specialized persons/teams in the institution dedicated to proposal writing;
- II. Mentorship during the development of project idea by experienced consultants;
- III. Reliable climate information data and sectors specific baseline data.

- As per most of the answers, the conclusion is that **there are adequate resources** available in different institutions to **develop Project ideas, concept notes and funding proposal formulation activities** in the country.
- According the stakeholders included in this survey the highest three needs priority **related to climate sources of funding development of national adaptation plans and/or other adaptation or mitigation planning process** in the RNM are:
 - **Human resources,**
 - **Robust statistical data for evidence-based analysis in various sectors and**
 - **Technical expertise (international and national consultants).**

Next steps

- Perform bilateral interviews in order to get more information with the specific stakeholders to provide details to support the development of the Readiness Needs chapter as a part of the GCF Country Work Programme for North Macedonia under development;
- Double cross check will be performed with the other Country Needs Assessments (CNAs) performed under other climate related projects (GFA, UNDP and others) and summarize the capacity needs assessments on national level;
- Preparation training curricula based on the survey results and other CNA surveys, including type of training, level of training, target beneficiaries, implementation plan and validation it with the stakeholders;
- Preparation and validation of Readiness Needs chapter of the GCF Country Work Programme for North Macedonia;
- Delivery of trainings according to the implementation plan established and launch online platform with trainings developed



Thank you!

Contact information

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