

## AILAC Submission

### Annotated inputs for the draft guidance to the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

| <i>Elements</i> | <i>Sub-elements</i>           | <i>Proposed inputs</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <i>COP or the CMA</i> | <i>Rationale for the inputs</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <i>Source of information / reference</i>                                         |
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| Policies        | Tripling the annual outflows  | Invites the Global Environment Facility, in fulfilling its mandate as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to consider ways for the replenishment process to respond to paragraph 16 of the decision on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), with the aim of at least tripling annual outflows from 2022 levels by 2030, with a view to significantly scaling up the share of climate finance delivered through the GEF. | CMA                   | Rooted in the urgent need to align the GEF's operations with the global climate finance ambition articulated in the NCQG decision. Paragraph 16 explicitly decided to pursue efforts to at least triple annual outflows of the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism from 2022 levels by 2030, making the GEF a central actor in this effort. Given its longstanding role, institutional expertise, and ability to leverage significant co-financing, the GEF is well positioned to spearhead this scaling-up. Clear guidance is necessary to ensure that the GEF not only triple its outflows but also enhances predictability, accessibility, and equitable distribution of resources. Such an approach will enable developing countries to implement their NDCs, national adaptation plans, and long-term low-emission development strategies, while contributing to the overall effectiveness, credibility and delivery of the NCQG.                                                               | Decision 1/CMA.6, para 16                                                        |
| Policies        | Tripling the annual outflows  | Requests developed country Parties, in fulfilling their obligations, and in line with paragraph 16 of the decision on the NCQG, to significantly increase the provision of public resources through the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism, in particular through the GEF, by substantially and ambitiously scaling up their pledges under the ongoing replenishment process.                                                                     | CMA                   | This guidance is anchored in Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement, which states that developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with mitigation and adaptation, and responds directly to paragraph 16 of the NCQG decision, which calls for at least tripling annual outflows from 2022 levels by 2030. Addressing the persistent financing gap that undermines the ability of developing countries to meet their urgent climate needs requires a substantial and ambitious increase of pledges to the GEF in the ongoing replenishment process. Such contributions are not only essential to strengthen the GEF's capacity as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism and ensure predictable and accessible resources but are also a core component of fulfilling the USD 300 billion NCQG goal, thereby enabling developing countries to implement their NDCs, NAPs, and long-term strategies in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. | Decision 1/CMA.6, para 16                                                        |
| Policies        | Gender and inclusion approach | Encourage the GEF to integrate mandatory gender and inclusion outcome indicators into its monitoring frameworks and ensure that community participation mechanisms have a direct influence on programming decisions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | COP                   | Gender equality and the effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities are cross-cutting principles recognized in UNFCCC decisions and essential for the effectiveness of projects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Part IV, Sections 1–3 (Engagement and Partnerships). |

| <i>Elements</i>      | <i>Sub-elements</i>                         | <i>Proposed inputs</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <i>COP or the CMA</i> | <i>Rationale for the inputs</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Source of information / reference</i>                            |
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| Policies             | Project-specific accreditation approach     | Encourage the GEF to explore the adoption of a project-specific accreditation approach for implementing partners, similar to the Green Climate Fund's Project-specific Assessment Approach (PSAA).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | COP and CMA           | <p>By exploring a project-specific accreditation modality, the GEF would provide a pragmatic and inclusive pathway to broaden access to climate finance for a wider range of national and local entities in developing countries. By allowing entities to be accredited solely for the purpose of implementing a specific approved project or programme, the GEF could accelerate the delivery of resources where they are most urgently needed, while still upholding fiduciary, environmental, and social safeguards at the project level.</p> <p>Such an approach would foster country ownership, promote innovation and context-specific solutions, and enhance the speed and flexibility of climate finance deployment under the NCQG. Furthermore, this modality would strengthen inclusivity and equity in the Financial Mechanism, ensuring that the voices and needs of developing country Parties are better reflected in both project design and implementation.</p> | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Part II, Section 5                      |
| Programme priorities | Alignment with national priorities and NDCs | Invites the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to continue its efforts to promote country ownership and country-driven processes and encourages the GEF to further strengthen national consultation processes to ensure that programming responds to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and ambitious just transition strategies. In this regard, emphasizes the importance of utilizing country platforms to prioritize projects that enhance national capacities and foster synergies in the implementation of the Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Desertification Conventions. | CMA                   | Greater alignment with national priorities maximizes the effectiveness of funding, ensures coherence with international commitments, and leverages cross-sectoral and in-territory synergies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Part II, Section 3 (Country Platforms). |

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| Programme priorities | Building programme / project pipelines                                | Encourage the GEF, as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism, to enhance the implementation of its Country Engagement Strategy (CES) global program to more effectively support developing country Parties, including in building robust project and program pipelines.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | COP and CMA           | <p>This guidance responds to the critical need for developing countries to translate their NDCs and NAPs into actionable, financeable projects and programs. While the GEF has supported readiness and preparatory work through its Country Engagement Strategy (CES), a persistent gap remains between national planning documents and the formulation of high-quality funding proposals capable of attracting and mobilizing resources. By allocating resources specifically for pipeline development, the GEF can play a catalytic role in bridging this gap. Strengthening pipelines will not only enhance access to climate finance for developing countries but also ensure that resources are deployed in a manner that is country-driven, strategic, and aligned with long-term low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways.</p> <p>To achieve this, the GEF should allocate dedicated resources for the formulation of projects and programs directly derived from NDCs and NAPs; strengthen technical assistance to national and direct access entities for the identification, prioritization, and design of proposals; and facilitate inclusive stakeholder engagement to ensure that country-driven processes reflect local priorities and benefit vulnerable communities.</p> | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Part IV, Section 3                  |
| Programme priorities | Increasing the share of adaptation finance                            | Encourages the GEF to seek avenues to increase the share of resources allocated to and related with adaptation within its portfolio, focusing on strategic ecosystems for climate action and vulnerable communities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | COP                   | Climate change disproportionately affects vulnerable communities; an increase in investment in adaptation will strengthen resilience and comply with UNFCCC guidance, and alleviates the budgetary burden of countries that, due to their vulnerability, must invest a large part of their budget in risk management issues. In addition, although the GEF has sought to promote co-benefits across all focal areas, it is essential that funding for projects whose ultimate purpose is adaptation be significantly increased.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Executive Summary, paragraphs 8–15. |
| Programme priorities | Coordination with other operating entities of the Financial Mechanism | Invites the GEF to promote the mobilization of resources within its ongoing efforts in a manner that is complementary to other climate funds. Further encourages the GEF to strengthen collaboration with the GCF and the Adaptation Fund through the design and implementation of complementary or sequential projects, thereby facilitating the mobilization of additional resources and ensuring more effective support for developing country Parties in implementing their climate priorities. | COP                   | <p>Strengthening complementarity among the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism is essential to maximize the impact of scarce financial resources for developing countries. Promoting complementarities will ensure more coherent support and leverage each fund's comparative advantages to respond more effectively to the priorities of developing country Parties.</p> <p>At the same time, pursuing complementary or sequential projects offers a practical pathway to mobilize additional funding. For example, a project initiated with GEF resources to strengthen institutional capacities or pilot innovative approaches could be followed by larger-scale financing from</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Executive Summary, paragraphs 8–15. |

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|                      |                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                       | the GCF or other funds, creating a continuum from readiness to full-scale implementation. This sequential approach would not only expand the volume of resources mobilized but also enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of interventions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                        |
| Programme priorities | Strengthening OFP Authority and Participation | <p>Encourages the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote the systematic inclusion of Operational Focal Points (OFPs) as full members on project steering committees,</li> <li>• ensure OFPs are formally notified and consulted at all key stages of the project cycle, including amendments, report approvals, and consultant nominations, beyond automatic system notifications.</li> </ul> <p>Strengthen communication, monitoring, and evaluation mechanisms from OFPs to projects and implementing units, transforming the portal into an active management tool that enables OFPs to perform formal actions (such as approvals and reviews) rather than being merely observers of processes.</p> | COP and CMA           | <p>Based on the progress achieved over the reporting period to enhance GEF communication and noticing both the crucial role of GEF Operational Focal Points (OFPs) as the principal nexus between the GEF and its National Countries and the advancements in GEF information platforms, this proposal seeks to institutionalize their strategic engagement. Recognizing that consistent and reciprocal communication between GEF Agencies and OFPs is fundamental for operational efficiency and ownership, the input aims to transform their participation from observational to an active and operational role</p> | <p>Paragraph 265, Country engagement (page 96)</p> <p>Paragraph 7 of the COP 29 Decision / CMA 6 Decision (page 9)</p> |
| Programme priorities | Capacity building                             | Strongly encourages the GEF Secretariat to continue to expand and diversify capacity development initiatives, focusing not only on government staff (OFPs) but also on agency staff, particularly those working at the national level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | COP and CMA           | This knowledge gap between GEF Agency staff, who work with procedures daily, and national government OFPs, who manage them as part of a broader portfolio, creates significant delays, weakens the OFPs' oversight authority, and leads to operational inefficiencies as projects stall navigating complex requirements. With this input seeks to create a common foundational knowledge across all partners, thereby leveling the informational playing field, reducing delays, streamlining implementation, and ultimately empowering OFPs to exercise more effective and authoritative project oversight.         | Paragraph 261, Country engagement                                                                                      |
| Programme priorities | Transparency and reporting                    | Request the GEF to continue to provide and increase financial support for the preparation of BTRs and national communications, and to promote the creation of permanent national MRV systems that transcend one-off projects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | COP and CMA           | The sustainability of transparency systems is critical for compliance with reporting obligations and long-term climate planning.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Part III, Section 4 (Support for the Enhanced Transparency Framework).                     |

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| Programme priorities | Linkages with Technology Mechanism                 | Welcomes the consultation of the GEF with the Technology Mechanism through the UNFCCC secretariat and encourages consideration of the inputs provided by the UNFCCC for the 9th replenishment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | COP                   | Decision 4/CP.29 requested the GEF to Consulting with the Technology Executive Committee and the Climate Technology Centre and Network on technology-related elements of the (Climate Focal area) programming.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 4/CP.29                                                      |
| Eligibility criteria | Accredited agencies                                | Invites the GEF to consider national accreditation to enhance and simplify direct access to funding.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | COP and CMA           | Noting that the GEF is comprised of 18 accredited implementing agencies and recognizing the strategic need to allow national agencies within countries to directly execute projects, and the acknowledgement that lower transaction costs are essential to facilitate access to climate finance for a broader range of actors, particularly for vulnerable communities and developing countries.                                                                                                                                   | Paragraph 6 of the COP 29 Decision / CMA 6 Decision (page 8) |
| Eligibility criteria | Streamlining access and process in GEF-8 and GEF-9 | Encourages the GEF to build on the achievements of the GEF-8 streamlining agenda and continue promoting programs to accelerate access for developing country Parties, taking into account their diverse capacities and specific needs; including through simplified approval procedures, mechanisms for direct access, to tailor support mechanisms and adapt procedures to the diverse capacities of all recipient countries differentiated thresholds for projects in vulnerable regions and populations, and strengthened stakeholder participation to enhance the effectiveness and visibility of climate action. | COP                   | Many developing country Parties continue to face institutional constraints and bureaucratic barriers that delay critical project implementation. Tailored support, simplified procedures, and differentiated thresholds are essential to ensure equitable access to resources, particularly for vulnerable regions and populations. Strengthening stakeholder participation and direct access mechanisms further enhances project relevance, effectiveness, and local ownership, thereby maximizing global environmental benefits. | GEF report to UNFCCC COP30, Part II, Section 2               |

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| Cross-cutting   | Technology – Linkages with CTCN and TEC | <p>Invites the GEF to consider how increased coordination between national focal points, in particular for technology, can be achieved and also invites parties to encourage coordination between their focal points.</p> <p>Invites the GEF to consider how Technology Needs Assessment and their implementation can be further supported.</p> <p>Invites the GEF to further increase synergies and complementarities with the Climate Technology Centre and Network with a view to increase implementation of CTCN Technical assistance outcomes.</p> | COP                   | <p>Coordination of National Focal Points is a critical issue. While there is progress in inviting technology focal points (NDEs) to GEF national dialogues, parties and stakeholders consistently call for more structured, in-country coordination between GEF Operational Focal Points (OFPs) and NDEs to improve project pipelines.</p> <p>The GEF is recognized as a key supporter of the TNA process itself. However, there is a clear demand to move from assessment to action, highlighting the "inadequacy of the support provided... for implementing TNA outcomes". The guidance encourages the GEF to build on its foundational support by considering how to better finance the implementation of the priorities identified in TNAs in line with COP 28 decision.</p> <p>This is an area with recognized potential for growth. The GEF council representative at the linkage workshop performed during SBI 60 expressed it "would welcome stronger cooperation" with the Technology Mechanism's bodies, including the CTCN. Parties noted a "lack of alignment" between CTCN technical assistance and the requirements of financial entities like the GEF and a lack of information on how many collaborations result in funded projects. This guidance encourages formalizing synergies to better convert CTCN assistance into GEF-funded projects.</p> | <p><a href="#">In-session workshop on linkages between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism. Summary report by the Technology Executive Committee. Maintaining and enhancing collaboration and cooperation between the Technology Mechanism and the Financial Mechanism. Synthesis report by the secretariat.</a></p> <p>7/cp.28 para 12<br/>Welcomes the continued support by the Global Environment Facility for climate friendly innovation, and technology development and transfer and related capacity-building, including in partnership with private sector actors and others, and requests the Global Environment Facility to continue to provide such support, in particular for technology needs assessments, and technology action plans and their implementation</p> |