

**Principles of the GCF  
Observer Network of  
Civil Society Organizations,  
Indigenous Peoples, and  
Local Communities**

## ABOUT THE NETWORK

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The GCF observer network (“the network”) brings together civil society, Indigenous Peoples (IP), and local communities’ organizations from both developing and developed countries observing the [Green Climate Fund](#) (GCF). Via both virtual and in-person discussions and meetings, the network facilitates collaboration among observers to inform and influence the GCF’s policy and decision-making processes so that the voices of communities impacted by climate change and of CSO, IP, and local communities’ rights-holders in developing countries are integrated into the operational modalities of the Fund. The network works to strengthen CSO, IP, and local communities’ engagement and input through a variety of means including sharing of information and collaboration on analyses, positions, and advocacy. Additionally, there is a broad South-South listserv that facilitates coordination and collaboration among

Southern-based observers; as well as an Indigenous Peoples’ advocacy team that collaborates.

The objectives of the network are to monitor the GCF and advocate for the GCF to be a better climate fund in accordance with our shared values rooted in climate justice, equity (including intergenerational equity), human rights, gender equality, anti-racism, anti-colonialism, and mutual respect. Our values direct that we advocate for a GCF that is transparent; inclusive of civil society’s, Indigenous Peoples’, and local communities’ participation; places people and their human rights at the center of its activities; reaches the most vulnerable and marginalized peoples and addresses priority needs with funds that flow in an equitable manner.

### THE PRINCIPLES

The GCF observer network operates according to the following principles:



SOLIDARITY



ELEVATING VOICES



TRANSPARENCY



INCLUSIVITY



INDEPENDENCE



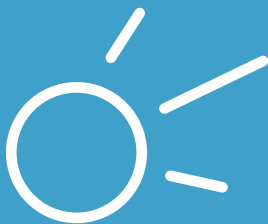
EGALITARIANISM



## SOLIDARITY

*The GCF civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities' organizations operationalize solidarity through a collaborative work process.*

Solidarity is the appropriate approach to work rooted in climate justice, recognizing the shared planetary challenge, the pervasiveness of practices and institutional arrangements that drive the crisis, and the inequitable impacts on those most affected. Mutual respect for our shared humanity and human rights, various efforts to dismantle unjust systems, and diverse perspectives and insights guide work that is stronger for its collective approach.



## ELEVATING VOICES

*The GCF observer network is a collaborative group that seeks to elevate the voices of those most likely to be impacted by not only climate change but also GCF activities, and all the communities and peoples who should be benefitting from GCF funds.*

Climate finance mechanisms should incorporate and prioritize the voices of those on the frontlines of the climate crisis as well as the voices and concerns of communities and peoples who are the rightful recipients of climate finance. It is critical that the GCF hears from and learns from these people as well as improves its ability to provide funds directly to these communities.





## TRANSPARENCY

*GCF observer network interventions, comments, and general positions are arrived at and shared through transparent procedures.*

Transparency is a shared responsibility of both the GCF as an institution and of the network. To facilitate the engagement of all in the network and to ensure that our advocacy is collective, it is essential that the network operates with transparency. Transparently sharing information about the Fund, including documents, both from the GCF and developed by the network, is critical for all members to have the opportunity to engage in the work collectively, ensure record-keeping, and facilitate accountability.



## INCLUSIVITY

*The GCF observer network strives to be inclusive of all civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities' organizations.*

Having an inclusive network that brings together a cross-section of actors is fundamental to ensuring that the network is representing the views of many and holding itself accountable to its professed values: climate justice, equity (including intergenerational equity), human rights, gender equality, anti-racism, anti-colonialism, and mutual respect.

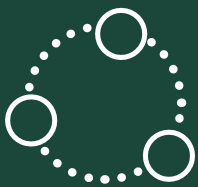




## INDEPENDENCE

*The GCF observer network is an independent network to monitor, inform, and influence the GCF.*

Independent monitoring and watchdog initiatives have played and continue to play vital roles in shaping finance institutions' policies and practices and holding them to account with the authority of the public and communities they should be serving. Independent organizing efforts can highlight and prioritize challenges and solutions in ways that orient focus toward the reasons for the funds' operations, as well as provide expert, detailed analyses of those operations without undue influence of the funds themselves.



## EGALITARIANISM

*The GCF observer network is a collaborative, non-hierarchical network to which anyone can actively contribute.*

Non-hierarchical organizational structures provide benefits when work relies on and values multiple forms of expertise and input, as well as when the community of volunteers seeks to enable leadership development of members. As work arises on a wide-range of topics and at various times, opportunities constantly arise for different members to participate and engage.



# 21<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD

17 - 20 October 2018 | Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain



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For more information, email  
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2020-2021:

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