

July 11, 2023

36<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting of the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

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

## **INTERVENTION**

# **Intervention on Terms of Reference (TOR) for a Feasibility Study to further examine options for establishing a GCF regional presence**

Access the document: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-b36-06>

We appreciate that the Board has restarted conversations on establishing a regional presence of the GCF, as this is long overdue. Establishing a regional presence is important to ensure that the GCF responds to the needs and demands of vulnerable communities at all levels and strengthens their overall rightsholder engagement and feedback mechanisms. This is an important next step to finally realize participatory monitoring and focus on early warning and local feedback as the GCF portfolio under implementation grows. A regional presence can also complement ongoing efforts, including in the recently adopted Strategic Plan, to expand language accessibility and work toward language justice as well as ensure local expertise is applied in project origination, design, and review.

Additionally, we would like to see a provisional timeline for the completion of the study and for the establishment of a strong, inclusive, and effective regional presence. Further, referencing the previous assessment, we think that building at least 3-4 regional bodies initially could be a good starting point.

Given that this initiative is in its early stages, the GCF must also evaluate its regional presence once established so that it can make necessary changes to better serve its purpose. Promoting collaboration and feedback should be a top priority and we expect that stakeholder consultations and decision-making will be included in the process of developing and advancing regional approaches.

We look forward to engaging with the GCF's regional offices on a wide array of things including actively participating in the monitoring and evaluation processes to ensure that regional presence is fit-for-purpose and community-driven. Ultimately, we hope that the establishment of a GCF regional presence can help bridge the gap between local communities and the GCF and its international partners, leading to a robust climate finance delivery system that prioritizes equity, human rights, gender equality, and locally-led climate action.

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