GCFWATCH

46th Board Meeting of the Green Climate Fund

October 26-29, 2026, Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea

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

Intervention on

2027-2029 Work Programme of the Secretariat and Administrative Budget of the GCF Secretariat, Board and Trustee

Access the document: https://www.greenclimate.fund/board-document/gcf-b46-21-rev01

We appreciate the work programme's rich information regarding a substantial increase in programming. These priorities and directions must remain guided by the Board, and the Board guided by the COP and CMA, to fulfill the GCF mandate to advance direct access and serve the most vulnerable.

The Secretariat's overarching activities must be responsive to the key upcoming conversations and decisions, including on the USP-3, including the future orientations of the readiness package or the use of commitment authority, as recognized in para 30 of the document.

The results framework prioritizes new lines of work while several core commitments remain outstanding. The Country Ownership Guidelines, the Indigenous Peoples Climate Framework and the update of the Fund's Environmental and Social Safeguards have all been deferred, and a policy on programmatic approaches, long overdue, does not even appear.

The Secretariat proposes to develop co-investment and co-managed structures, pursue global deals, and establish partnership frameworks without oversight or insight by the Board and public. Taken together these initiatives would shift the role of the Fund from financing ambitious climate action towards brokering deals. We also fear the five to ten additional country platforms per year are more likely to resemble investment platforms than country coordination mechanisms. The Secretariat must clarify how these initiatives will be identified, disclosed, and resourced and how their delivery of results for countries and communities will be assessed.

As noted before, the GCF's use of AI raises numerous unanswered questions on what appears to be the Secretariat shifting to fully embracing AI as part of operational workstreams, particularly funding proposal evaluation. We demand to know more about the decision-making, governance, costs, and tracking of environmental impacts associated with the GCF's use of AI. Likewise, the live dashboards for internal use should translate into more publicly available data on the progress and impact of the portfolio, specific projects and subprojects, in part as a matter of beneficiary accountability.

We fully support the exceptional additional operating flexibility budget line.

As a contribution to Board effectiveness, and to make best use of Secretariat's time, given how long policy updates take, the Information Disclosure and Observer Guidelines should not be updated in 2027. Fully implementing the IDP's existing mandate would already substantially enhance access to information. Correspondingly, the Global Impact and Partnerships Summit in Ethiopia should support not only sponsored participation for representatives of the GCF observer network of civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, alongside IPAG members and their additional representatives, but also provide opportunities to co-design and lead sessions and activities and inform goals and outcomes that center the roles of Indigenous Peoples and civil society in effective climate action. We urge the Board to direct the Secretariat to prioritize compliance with the IDP and facilitate observer participation.