



Joint Meeting of the CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees

Washington D.C. (Hybrid)

Tuesday, June 21 - Wednesday, June 22, 2022

**CIF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FACILITY (TAF) – IMPLEMENTATION REPORT
SUMMARY 2020-21**

1. Introduction

1. The CIF Technical Assistance Facility (CIF-TAF) was set up by the Trust Fund Committees of the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) and the Strategic Climate Fund (SCF) in 2019 to strengthen the enabling environment for accelerating clean energy investments, with initial contributions from Denmark. The TAF Implementation Report (IR) provides updates on the implementation and key strategic issues from October 1, 2020, to December 31, 2021.
2. The role of the CIF-TAF in creating and strengthening enabling environments to mobilize investments in clean energy to create sustainable economies is abundantly clear and timely. The negative repercussion of COVID-19 is expected to have long-lasting impacts across the world, many of which have already been visible and widely recognized. The CIF-TAF was uniquely positioned to play a critical role in reducing the risks of climate change and realizing the potential of sustainable development in client countries leading to the launch of the COVID-19 Technical Assistance Response Initiative for green and climate resilient recovery in December 2020 with support from the governments of the United Kingdom, Netherlands, and Switzerland.

2. Strategic Issues, Technical Assistance & Implementation Updates

3. The second call-for-proposals was launched in January 2021, with an additional COVID-19 green and resilient recovery focused track to support client countries around the world. While the first call-for-proposals that was launched in December 2019 focused primarily on energy efficiency, in addition to renewable energy, the second call-for-proposals offered around USD 30 million through a two-pronged approach to support developing countries in achieving their green and resilient priorities through the following twin tracks:
 - *Track 1 - Accelerating clean energy investments*
 - *Track 2 - Ensuring green and resilient recovery*
4. A total of 48 proposals totaling USD 28.8 million were approved by the AG and forwarded for TFC approval, of which Track 1 proposals made up USD 4.5 million and Track 2 proposals equaled USD 24.3 million of which 43% of the funding was directed toward IDA countries.
5. As per the design document, all activities must be completed *no later than 24-months from the date of approval of the funding*. So, activities approved under the first call-for-proposals in June 2020 are expected to be completed by June 30, 2022. However, given the historic nature of the pandemic that overlapped exactly with this two-year period, implementation faced severe challenges resulting in mixed progress on the ground. Most projects made progress, while in some cases, there were discussions with the government in reorienting the project to reflect emerging demand due to unprecedented circumstances including the

pandemic. In cases where projects were able to make progress, they contributed to pushing the clean energy discussion through active consultations, engagement, and delivery of knowledge products (*refer to Annex 2 in the TAF IR*).

3. Knowledge and Learning

6. The CIF-TAF has a specific goal to share knowledge, enhance learning and inform delivery of impact on the ground, working closely with key partners and stakeholders. Since COVID-19 remained a central issue globally, most events and reports were centered around the further understanding of latest best practices and solutions that could be implemented, adapted, and scaled across geographies to advance climate priorities. These initiatives brought together about five hundred interested actors from around the world, both in the roles of contributors as well as participants. The following events were conducted:
 - *Multiplying the transition: Market based solutions for catalyzing clean energy investment in emerging economies* ([link](#))
 - *Innovate4Climate 2021 - Powering Past Coal: Accelerating a Transformative and Just Transition* ([link](#))
 - *Global Dialogs on Green and Resilient Economic Recovery*
 - *From COVID to GREEN Recovery: Launch of CIF COVID-19 Technical Assistance Response Initiative* ([link](#))
 - *Building Blocks: Transitioning in a recovering world* ([link](#))
7. The CIF-TAF's previously existing relationship with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) through its Partner Network was envisioned to grow stronger due to the increasingly significant complementary alignment in both parties' organizational achievements. Accordingly, the IRENA and CIF officially signed a memorandum of understanding in October 2021 to drive further collaboration in global efforts to address inclusive energy transitions and climate resilience endeavors. The combined effort between both organizations is expected to inform the current and upcoming programs being implemented in developing economies

4. Looking ahead

8. With the successful completion of the upcoming call-for-proposals, the original funding available for this purpose may be exhausted; however, there continues to be strong demand for strengthening the enabling environment for the next generation of activities to accelerate clean energy investments. Renewed commitment for the CIF-TAF for continued country-level support to strengthen enabling environment can unlock barriers for project level activities to scale up ambition and accelerate action on the ground.
9. The first and second CIF-TAF calls-for-proposals have supported a number of activities in the *energy sector* reflecting the country-level priorities in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency, and only limited projects approved in the areas of financial focus with energy relevance. Recognizing this importance of the financial sector, the third and final call-

for-proposals will focus on *financial sector* and *transaction enablers* with the goal of creating market facing solutions (e.g., innovative business models, instruments etc.) that can accelerate clean energy investments globally. The third call-for-proposals will be launched in May 2022 with final funding approvals expected by September 2022.

10. The CIF-TAF is also engaging strategically with its Partner Network (one such example above with IRENA). While the first such event was launched in November 2019, COVID-19 made such gatherings quite challenging. Regardless, the CIF-TAF created multiple opportunities for virtual engagements with one or more partners on relevant topics as reported above and in earlier implementation report. In the upcoming year, the CIF-TAF will explore opportunities and modalities for more concrete engagement with partners including an in-person event depending on COVID-19 norms prevalent at the time.
11. There is strong global interest in developing realistic strategies for the replacement of fossil fuels and accelerating clean energy uptake through repurposing of coal power assets, particularly existing power plants, in developing countries to move towards a clean energy future. An independent study has been commissioned to develop a framework for the selection of coal assets, identification of suitable alternatives for repurposing with clean energy, while exploring the financing approaches, social concerns, regulatory and implementation constraints across emerging economies with focus on India, Indonesia, and South Africa.
12. Jointly with the CIF's Evaluation and Learning (E&L) Initiative, the CIF-TAF has initiated a learning review of clean energy and climate resilience technical assistance activities supported through CIF energy and resilience programs. The proposed review will look back at technical assistance activities, including policy development, capacity building, and transaction enabling, supported by CIF over the past decade to inform the next phase of clean energy and climate resilience investments while ensuring a green, resilient, and inclusive recovery. Leveraging the E&L Initiative's Transformational Change Learning Partnership (TCLP), the CIF-TAF has also initiated effort to explore some of the barriers, opportunities and pathways for unlocking and shaping transformational climate finance with a view of using the CIF-TAF to strengthen the focus on the importance of the financial sector enabling environment through robust policies, strong capacities and innovative solutions to accelerate clean energy investments.



The Climate Investment Funds

The Climate Investment Funds (CIF) were established in 2008 to mobilize resources and trigger investments for low carbon, climate resilient development in select middle and low income countries. To date, 14 contributor countries have pledged funds to CIF that have been channeled for mitigation and adaptation interventions at an unprecedented scale in 72 recipient countries. The CIF is the largest active climate finance mechanism in the world.

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