
Webinar: WHO support for GCF country driven programming for the health sector; AFRO/EMRO (MENA) Regions Webinar

15th April, 2025: 09:00 – 10:30 Geneva time (CET)

1. Title

Webinar: WHO support for GCF country driven programming for the health sector; AFRO/EMRO (MENA) Regions Webinar.

2. Background

The World Health Organization (WHO) is preparing a Framework Readiness and Preparatory Support Grant Agreement with the Green Climate Fund (GCF). This agreement will allow WHO to provide targeted assistance under the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme (hereafter referred to as the Readiness Programme) in response to requests from beneficiary countries or Direct Access Entities (DAEs). Under the provisions of this Framework Agreement, WHO will be able to mobilize support upon specific requests from countries or DAEs, including facilitating access to GCF Readiness funds to strengthen adaptation planning, developing strategic frameworks, building pipelines and/or concept notes for climate-related health programmes tailored to the needs of beneficiary countries or DAEs.

In October 2023, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) adopted a 2024–2027 strategy for the Readiness Programme, with detailed implementation tools and guidelines released in September 2024. These implementation guidelines, referred to as operational modalities, aim to enhance country ownership and access to GCF resources while improving the efficiency, flexibility, and effectiveness of the support provided under the programme.

A key feature of the new modalities is the emphasis on strategic, multi-year planning by countries. This approach allows countries to account for all their readiness and capacity-building needs over the medium term (2024–2027), fostering a holistic and forward-looking approach to climate finance planning. The new modalities are also designed to reduce processing rounds and access times and provide greater predictability of available resources for readiness support at the country level over the medium term.

Most importantly, these updated modalities prioritize country-driven processes, ensuring that countries have the autonomy to identify and articulate their specific readiness and capacity needs, further aligning GCF support with national priorities.

To provide further guidance in accessing GCF funds for health-related activities, WHO and the GCF are co-organizing a webinar on the GCF's Readiness Programme new modalities. The webinar will delve into how readiness resources can be used specifically for Climate Change and Health.

3. Objectives and Expected Outcomes of the Webinar:

The objectives of the webinars are to:

- a) Create awareness on the 2024-2027 GCF readiness operational modalities, including access and use of resources specifically for the health sector;
- b) Raise awareness of support for strengthening the capacity of NDAs as well as other relevant stakeholders in the country, such as the Ministry of Health, including how to plan over the medium term, design Country or DAE Readiness Terms of Reference and request to address specific capacity constraints through proposals to the GCF, specifically for the intersection of Climate Change and Health;
- c) Strengthen knowledge on interlinkages between climate change and health for accessing GCF funds;
- d) Identify regional and national entry-points to protect and promote health in a changing climate;
- e) Build and/or strengthen partnerships between the health sector and national designated authorities.

Expected Outcomes:

- a) Clear understanding at country and regional levels of the new modalities for accessing GCF Readiness support, including streamlined processes and resources available.
- b) Comprehensive understanding of medium-term planning, which emphasizes holistic approaches that address gaps, needs, sectors, and inter-sectoral linkages—such as those between climate change and health.
- c) Identification of regional and national entry points for integrating climate change and health planning into readiness support requests from the GCF, ensuring alignment with national priorities and strategic frameworks.

4. Tentative Agenda

15th April 2025 –09:00 – 10:30 am Geneva time (CET))/ 5.00 - 6.30 pm (KST);

Time	Session	Facilitator
09:00 – 09:05 am	Opening	Elena Villalobos Prats Country Support and Capacity Build Lead, Climate Change and Health, WHO HQ
09:05 – 09:20 am	Regional priorities for climate change and health in the African and Eastern Mediterranean region	Kone Brama, TBC Technical Officer, Climate Health and Environment, WHO AFRO Saleh Rababa, TBC Technical Officer, Climate Health and Environment, WHO EMRO
09:20 – 09:40 am	GCF New Readiness Operational Modality	Eldana Djumalieva Coordinator for Support Programs GCF
09:40 – 10:00 am	GCF country engagement mechanism	Chihenyo King'ara Regional Manager, Country Programming Department of the African Region
10:00 – 10:25 am	Q & A	Moderated by Antonios Kolimenakis, WHO: Panel: Eldana Djumalieva, Chihenyo Kingara, Patrick Gitonga, Ram Subramanian -GCF; Elena Villalobos - WHO
10:25 – 10:30 am	Conclusion and next steps	GCF/WHO - Patrick Gitonga/Antonios Kolimenakis

5. Registration Links

English with simultaneous interpretation in French, Arabic, Portuguese and Spanish:

<https://who.zoom.us/meeting/register/AEPJsmrISfCBbixX8TOQ9g#/registration>