

SDC FACTSHEET MULTILATERAL ORGANISATIONS

December 2015



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

State Secretariat for
Economic Affairs SECO

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



GREEN CLIMATE FUND

SWITZERLAND AND THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND

FACTS AND FIGURES

Mandate

The Green Climate Fund was established as the main global fund for climate change, playing a significant role in channelling climate finance and promoting a paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development, with a focus on the needs of the poor and the most vulnerable developing countries.

Type of organisation

International organisation (Multilateral Fund with full legal personality and World Bank as Trustee)

Institution

- **Head of organisation:** Héra Cheikhrouhou (Tunisia, Executive Director)
- **Headquarters:** Songdo, South Korea. Seat of the GCF Secretariat
- **Number of offices:** 1
- **Number of staff:** 58
- **Established in:** 2010. GCF Board since 2012. First Resource Mobilisation in 2014 (USD 10 billion, including a CH contribution of USD 100 m for 2015–17). First GCF projects were approved in November 2015.
- **Board:** 24 members and 24 alternate members, with equal representation of developing and developed countries. Switzerland shared a seat with the Russian Federation until August 2015. New Partnership with Finland and Hungary in the new 3-year phase 2016–18.

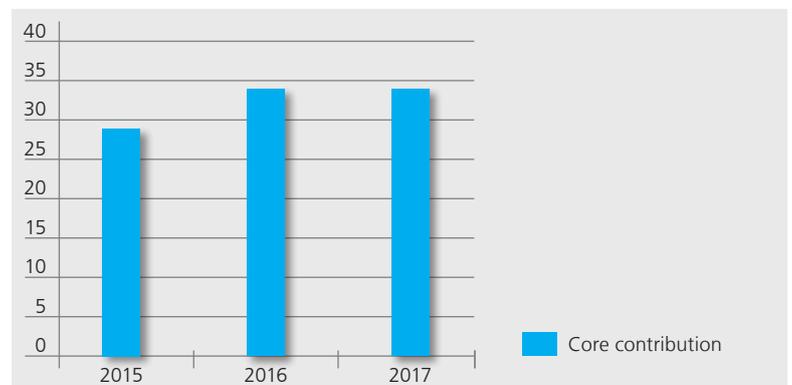
Website: www.gcfund.org

Green Climate Fund pledges (in USD billion, status November 2015)



Switzerland's contribution (in CHF million)

(Total contribution of USD 100 mio for 2015–17 at fixed exchange rate)



© UN Photo/Pasqual Gorriz

GREEN CLIMATE FUND

Mandate

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was established by the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by the 2010 Cancun Agreement and designated as an operating entity of the UNFCCC's financial mechanism.

The purpose of the GCF is to make a significant and ambitious contribution to the global efforts towards attaining the goals set by the international community to combat climate change.

The Green Climate Fund will contribute to the achievement of the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC. In the context of sustainable development, the GCF will promote the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways by providing support to developing countries to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change, taking into account the needs of those developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The GCF will be guided by the principles and provisions of the Convention and is expected to become the main multilateral fund to support climate change action in developing countries, complementing existing multilateral climate change funds.

Funding structure and institutional relations:

- a. Two thematic funding windows for mitigation and adaptation and one Private Sector Facility
- b. Access to GCF funds is through accredited subnational, national, regional, and international, public and private entities
- c. National designated authorities or focal points interacting with the Fund

Medium-term objectives

The Fund will provide strategic and demonstrable added value within the current climate finance architecture in five key ways, operating in a manner that seeks to ensure that recipient countries are a key partner and have full ownership of activities supported by the Fund [country ownership]. The five guiding principles that will set the Fund apart from its peers are:

1. Maximize its impact by orientating its resources according to 8 strategic goals:
Enhance the resilience of (i) people's livelihoods; (ii) their health, educational outcomes and well-being; (iii) infrastructure and the built environment; and (iv) ecosystems and the services they provide. Reduce emissions through (v) access to low-emission energy sources; (vi) access to low-emission modes of transport; (vii) improvements in the energy intensity of buildings, cities, industries and appliances; and (viii) sustainable land use and forest management

2. Balance adaptation and mitigation:
Besides equal emphasis on adaptation and mitigation, the GCF will ensure that half of its funds for adaptation are invested in vulnerable countries
3. Make best investments viable with minimum concessionality
4. Form close partnerships with developing countries
5. Mobilise private sector investments

SWITZERLAND

Switzerland shares the general goals of the GCF. Regarding development cooperation in climate change, it has set five priorities that correspond to various GCF programme areas:

Switzerland's medium-term objectives

In 2014–2016 Switzerland is pursuing the following goals:

- Mitigation: Significant funding is allocated to low-emission energy access and power generation leading to respective outcomes
- Mitigation: Significant funding is allocated to reduced emissions from land use, deforestation, and through sustainable forest management, and conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+ activities) leading to respective outcomes
- Adaptation: The most vulnerable countries and most vulnerable groups benefit in particular from risk reduction relating to natural disasters through the GCF adaptation programme
- Significant involvement of the private sector including innovative financing instruments to raise private funds
- The GCF has a consolidating effect in the currently highly fragmented landscape of multilateral climate finance

GREEN CLIMATE FUND CHALLENGES

The Green Climate Fund is evolving in a highly fragmented landscape of climate change finance. The GCF still has to establish itself as the main multilateral financing mechanism to support climate action in developing countries.

As the Fund was only recently established, no results with regard to funded activities have been achieved yet.

Contact:

Global Programme Climate Change
gpcc@eda.admin.ch