



GEF CSO Network

Statement on Agenda 4 : [Update on the Development of the GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF](#)

38th LDCF/SCCF Council, 5 June 2025

The GEF-CSO Network welcomes the development of the new adaptation programming strategy and appreciates the opportunity to engage in the recent Paris consultations. We commend the GEF for its continued commitment to supporting the most vulnerable through the LDCF and SCCF.

However, we urge stronger integration of civil society and local voices throughout the strategy. While participation was acknowledged, clear mechanisms for ongoing engagement—particularly for grassroots, Indigenous, women-led, and youth organizations—are still missing. Their inclusion as co-creators of solutions is essential for effective and lasting adaptation.

While we commend the Strategy's commitment to a whole-of-society approach that meaningfully includes civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, and youth - we urge the GEF to ensure this approach is put into practice through accessible, transparent and participatory governance at all levels, with clear mechanisms for direct access to resources by civil society and IPLCs.

We also emphasize the need for a robust results framework, with transparent monitoring and evaluation to track impact, ensure accountability, and foster continuous learning. Furthermore, simplifying access to funding for local actors and embedding social equity and human rights into the strategy are key to achieving transformative change.

We encourage the GEF to further streamline access to LDCF and SCCF resources, especially for grassroots organizations. The LDCF and SCCF should draw on the growing experience under the GEF Trust Fund for providing access to CSOs and IPLCs. We also recommend exploring new avenues for resource mobilization, including from sub-national governments and the private sector.

Finally, we emphasize that adaptation must be transformational - addressing root causes, shifting systems, and building long-term resilience. This requires inclusive governance, policy coherence, and innovative finance, with civil society as a full partner in design, implementation, and monitoring.

We stand ready to contribute further and call on the GEF Secretariat and Council to ensure the final strategy reflects the insights and priorities of communities most affected by climate change.