



GEF CSO Network

Statement on Agenda 3 : [Progress Report on the LDCF & SCCF](#) 39th LDCF/SCCF Council Meeting, December 2025

The GEF CSO Network welcomes the Progress Report on the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), which highlights continued efforts to strengthen climate resilience and adaptation capacity in vulnerable countries. We appreciate the emphasis placed on whole-of-society approaches, gender responsiveness, and community ownership as critical factors for effective climate finance.

We also acknowledge progress under the SCCF, particularly its role in fostering innovation and partnerships, including with the private sector. We welcome the strong attention given to gender outcomes, including the finding that nearly half of LDCF beneficiaries are women. This is a positive signal that should be further strengthened and extended to ensure broader inclusion beyond gender, particularly for Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) and youth.

Based on the practical experience of civil society, the GEF CSO Network proposes the following recommendations to further strengthen LDCF and SCCF programming:

- **Meaningful stakeholder engagement:** While the report references consultation, more explicit attention to the quality and depth of engagement with CSOs, Indigenous Peoples, women, and youth would help ensure adaptation interventions reflect local needs and knowledge.
- **Transparency and accountability:** Clearer reporting on how stakeholders have influenced project design and implementation, including accessible budget and decision-making information, could strengthen trust and participation.
- **Disaggregated results:** Expanding indicators to capture social outcomes, local agency, and resilience of communities — particularly women, youth, and Indigenous groups — would provide a more holistic view of impact.
- **Capacity building and empowerment:** Highlighting opportunities for targeted training, leadership, and knowledge exchange for local stakeholders could support sustained adaptation outcomes at the community level.

These refinements would better align LDCF and SCCF with a Whole-of-Society Approach and help ensure climate finance reaches those most affected by climate impacts, while unlocking local knowledge, leadership, and capacities for transformative adaptation. The GEF CSO Network thanks the Secretariat, Agencies, and donors for the progress reported and looks forward to continued constructive dialogue and collaboration to ensure LDCF and SCCF resources deliver inclusive, timely, and lasting outcomes for communities most at risk.