

MINUTES OF MEETING
Second Meeting of the Coordination Mechanism
on financing through the Green Climate Fund

Project: “NDA Strengthening and Country Programming support for Turkmenistan and initiating a Regional Approach to Climate Action” by GCF.

Main goal of the meeting: to approve the revised Master Document – ToR (contains regulations on the Coordination Mechanism (CM) and No Objection procedure) after recommendations received during the first meeting of the CM. To hold the second training on the GCF modalities.

Venue: online

<https://zoom.us/j/91985654977?pwd=MEtuNWNHSUY3YXFuU09ncFdPWTBDdz09>

Conference ID: 919 8565 4977

Access code: 819915

Date and time: September 8, 2021, 11.00 - 13.00

Number of participants: 20

Hosted by: **Bagirova Irana** (CAREC Project Coordinator in Turkmenistan), **Berdiyev Berdy** (Head of the Department on Coordination of International Environmental Cooperation and Projects, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan, National Focal Point for the GCF).

International experts: **Pavel Činčera** (International Consultant for the introduction of the Coordination Mechanism and No Objection Procedure in Turkmenistan, and for the development of the GCF Country Programme for Turkmenistan) - Event Moderator, **Nicole Pfefferle** (International Technical Consultant)

National experts team: **D. Orazdurdyeva** (Senior National Consultant for Stakeholder Analysis, Engagement and Support to Country Programme Process).

Coordination Mechanism Members: representatives of the Mejlis (Parliament) of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan, the State Committee for Water Resources of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Adalat (Justice) of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Energy of Turkmenistan, the State Committee on Statistics of Turkmenistan, Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan, Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of Turkmenistan.

Prepared by O. Harchenko

Welcoming speech:

The meeting was opened by **Berdy Berdiyev** (Head of the Department on Coordination of International Environmental Cooperation and Projects, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan, National Focal Point for the GCF) and **Irana Bagirova** (CAREC Project Coordinator in Turkmenistan).

Berdy Berdiyev (Head of the Department on Coordination of International Environmental Cooperation and Projects, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan, National Focal Point for the GCF) underlined that the project “NDA Strengthening and Country Programming support for Turkmenistan and initiating a Regional Approach to Climate Action” is the first Readiness Project in Turkmenistan and is implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan in cooperation with the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia.

Reminding the participants that during the last CM meeting, as important stage of the project’s activities, the preparation of the document “NDA Technical Guidelines: GCF Coordination Mechanism, No Objection Procedure, and project ideas selection for Country Programme – Turkmenistan” was discussed. Mr. Berdiyev thanked everyone for their

active participation and input, which made it possible to finalize the document based on the comments received. This document will be presented during today's meeting as the project Outcome, said the representative of the NDA. At the end of his welcoming speech, Berdy Berdiyev asked all the participants of the meeting to be active and wished them productive work and health.

Irana Bagirova (CAREC Project Coordinator in Turkmenistan) once again noted that the purpose of today's meeting is to present and consider the document, taking into account all the comments and recommendations received.

Pavel Činčera (International Consultant for the introduction of the Coordination Mechanism and No Objection Procedure in Turkmenistan, and for the development of the GCF Country Programme for Turkmenistan) said that the main task of today's presentation is to explain why we are working on this document and what is its role within the GCF climate finance system.

During his presentation, Pavel Činčera recalled important facts about the GCF:

- The GCF is the operating entity of the financial mechanism, the purpose of which is to support the Paris Agreement. Accordingly, all projects / Country Programmes should support both the national goals of the country, identified in the NDCs, and help achieve the global goal of keeping a global temperature rise - for these purposes it is possible to receive funding from the GCF;
- GEF funding is provided by participating donor countries through financial mechanisms such as GCF and GEF to support the efforts of developing countries in responding to the challenge of climate change in adaptation and mitigation.
- As GCF has an office in only one country, countries are expected to develop their own Coordination Mechanism, which will serve as a decision-making body on issues related to the GCF.

Pavel Činčera described the full cycle of the project, paying special attention to the tasks and responsibilities of the country - the development of the Country Programme (national priorities, strategies and plans of the country), the request process, the No Objection Procedure, the submission of the request concept for funding through an accredited entity, the evaluation of project requests for financing in accordance with the GCF investment criteria.

Pavel Činčera also stressed that the purpose of the working group is the evaluation of a specific project proposal at the expert level: namely, verification and confirmation that the proposed project fully meets national strategies and priorities. Based on this evaluation, the NDA prepares the No Objection letter.

Then Mr. Činčera continued with presentation of the document "NDA Technical Guidelines: GCF Coordination Mechanism, No Objection Procedure, and project ideas selection for Country Programme – Turkmenistan", which the national experts developed for the NDA. Pavel Činčera noted that each country has developed its own specific guidelines, which describe how the coordination of funding is organized. Attention was paid to the content of the document and the main points were highlighted for closer consideration. Mr. Činčera explained that the NDA Technical Guidelines describe in detail the role of the Inter-Ministerial Commission on Environmental Protection, the functions of the Coordination Mechanism, the role and structure of the NDA and its responsibilities. The No Objection Procedure, the process of approval of the hypothetical projects and approval of the Country Program are described step by step. A matrix and templates for future projects to be included in the Country Programme, example of No Objection letter are attached to the document.

Orazdurdiyeva Jahan - Senior National Consultant for Stakeholder Analysis, Engagement and Support to the Country Programme Process, who, together with **Irana Bagirova**, presented the developed Questionnaire for the document "NDA Technical Guidelines: GCF Coordination Mechanism, No Objection Procedure, and project ideas selection for Country Programme – Turkmenistan", with additions that were proposed by the CM members during the first CM meeting.

Comments to the section "Adaptation":

1. Comment to the "Concept of the National Programme for the Aral Sea": "The document was submitted for approval". It was agreed with **Akmuradov Makhtumkuli Kiyasovich (Adviser of the Department of International Organizations of the MFA of Turkmenistan)** to remain it as it was written until its approval. Once the program

approved, the word “Concept” will be replaced with the word “Programme”.

2. Law of Turkmenistan “On Environmental Audit” with comment “indirect”. It was decided to leave with a comment “Desirable, but not primary”.

3. The following laws were added and remain:

- Law of Turkmenistan “On flora”;
- Law of Turkmenistan “On specially protected natural areas”;
- Law of Turkmenistan “On fauna”;
- Law of Turkmenistan “On collection, conservation and rational use of genetic resources of cultivated plants”;
- Law of Turkmenistan “On plant protection”.

4. The following policies were added in the Questionnaire according to the recommendations:

- Law of Turkmenistan “On State Land Cadaster”;
- “Sanitary Code of Turkmenistan”.

5. It was proposed to list the Law of Turkmenistan “On Waste” also in the “Mitigation” Section and has it in both sections.

6. A new version of the Law “On Education” was added.

7. During the 1st CM meeting, the representative of the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan - **Sapar Durdiyev (Head of the Department of the National Institute of Education under the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan)** proposed to add the “State Program for the Development of Science in Turkmenistan for 2012-2016”, but due to the expiration of the program, it was decided to include the program under the same name, but for a new term.

8. The representative of the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan - **Sapar Durdiyev (Head of the Department of the National Institute of Education r the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan)** suggested adding to the “Adaptation” section:

- Law of Turkmenistan “On Drinking Water”;
- Law of Turkmenistan “On Subsoil”.

Comments to the section “Mitigation”:

The following strategies were added according to the recommendations:

1. “Program for the Development of Energy Diplomacy of Turkmenistan for 2021-2025”;
2. Law of Turkmenistan “On Waste”;
3. Law of Turkmenistan “On electric power industry”.

- **Question: Mergen Yusupov (Deputy Head of the Department on Coordination of International Environmental Cooperation and Projects of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan):** Is it necessary to include in the Questionnaire international agreements or protocols that are mandatory for implementation in Turkmenistan?

- **Answer: Irana Bagirova (CAREC Project Coordinator in Turkmenistan):** We consider only national priorities based on national realities. This Questionnaire should only meet the national programs, priorities and policies, only those that were adopted at the national level. In this Questionnaire, we do not consider international agreements and obligations.

Comments to the “Multilateral” Section:

The following was added with comment “indirect”:

- “Program for Development of the Intellectual Property System of Turkmenistan for 2021-2025”;
- “Sustainable Development Goals Voluntary National Review (VNR)” - to track the implementation of the SDGs.

Irana Bagirova (CAREC Project Coordinator in Turkmenistan) called on the participants of the Coordination Mechanism to ask questions and once again stressed that this Questionnaire reflects the main strategic documents of Turkmenistan related to the implementation of national tasks and goals.

Since there were no questions or additional comments from the meeting participants, Ms. Bagirova proposed to consider the document to be the final version and after translation promised to share the document for consideration as an integral part of the ToR.

Closing speech:

Irana Bagirova (CAREC Project Coordinator in Turkmenistan) summed up the results of the meeting, thanking all participants for their active work and assistance.