



## **Sixth Steering Committee**

### **27 November 2023**

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# **Framework for collaboration for enhancing systematic observation**

## **Decision 6.4**

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**Systematic Observations  
Financing Facility**

**Weather  
and climate  
data for  
resilience**



## **Decision 6.4: Adoption of the framework for collaboration for enhancing systematic observations**

The Steering Committee

**Welcomes** the efforts of the SOFF Secretariat and the Secretariats of the Adaptation Fund Board, Climate Investment Funds, Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Initiative, Global Environment Facility and Green Climate Fund to develop the framework for collaboration for enhancing systematic observation and improving the use of basic weather and climate data for effective climate action.

**Acknowledges** the Advisory Board recommendation to the sixth Steering Committee to adopt the decisions related to Strategy, including 6.4.

**Adopts** the Framework for collaboration for enhancing systematic observation.

### **Requests the SOFF Secretariat**

- To seek signing of the framework at the occasion of the SOFF COP28 high-level event.
- To report on the implementation of the framework including in the annual SOFF Action Reports.

The Framework for collaboration for enhancing systematic observation has been developed following the request of the SOFF Steering Committee (Decision 5.5). It is expected to be signed by the Secretariats of the funds at the occasion of the SOFF COP28 high-level event.

# **Framework for Collaboration**

**between the Secretariats of the**

**Systematic Observations Financing Facility**

**and**

**Adaptation Fund**

**Climate Investment Funds**

**Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems**

**Initiative**

**Global Environment Facility**

**Green Climate Fund**

**for enhancing systematic**

**observation and improving the**

**use of basic weather and**

**climate data for effective**

**climate action**

## Preamble

**We**, the Secretariat of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) and the Secretariats of the Adaptation Fund Board, Climate Investment Funds, Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Initiative, Global Environment Facility and Green Climate Fund establish this framework for collaboration. Its purpose is to collectively enhance systematic observation of the climate system and improve the use of basic weather and climate data for effective climate action.

**We acknowledge** that the principles of the Paris Agreement include a call for cooperation and enhanced action on systematic observation of the climate system, as does the 27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan](#) decision on early warning and systematic observation.

**We acknowledge** the important role and contribution of the [Alliance for Hydromet Development](#) in effectively scaling up and uniting efforts to close the capacity gap on high-quality weather forecasts, early warning systems, and climate information by 2030.

**We note** that a priority commitment of the Alliance, the creation of SOFF as an innovative fund to finance developing country surface-based observations, has been delivered in a collaborative manner, and that 13 members of the Alliance form part of the SOFF governance and operational structure.

**We acknowledge** that each of our organizations is working within its own mandate, capacities, and resources, guided by our respective governing bodies and established strategies and policies.

**We welcome** the [request of the SOFF Steering Committee](#) to develop this framework for complementarity, collaboration and joint action between SOFF and the multilateral climate funds represented in the SOFF governance structure, and share our understanding on the following:

### 1. Complementarity

**We reiterate** our support for the principle of coherence and complementarity among the multilateral climate funds.

**We welcome** the decision of the World Meteorological Congress to establish the [Global Basic Observing Network \(GBON\)](#) that defines the basic surface-based observational data that each country is mandated to generate and internationally exchange.

**We note** with urgency that today significant GBON data gaps exist, in particular in Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries and many Middle-Income Countries, and that this gap in observational data significantly limits the ability to

produce timely and accurate forecasts, early warnings, and climate prediction across the globe.

**We also welcome** the decision of the World Meteorological Congress to establish SOFF as a dedicated and specialized United Nations climate fund to support beneficiary countries in closing the GBON data gap in a sustained manner through the long-term provision of grants and peer-to-peer technical assistance.

**We also note** that the UNFCCC COP27 Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan emphasized the need to address existing gaps in the global climate observing system, particularly in developing countries, as well as the need to enhance coordination of activities related to systematic observations.

**We intend** to enhance our complementarity. SOFF as the specialized multilateral climate fund provides technical and financial support for GBON compliance. The climate funds will make efforts to ensure their support for upstream investments does not duplicate SOFF support, and in addition will focus on latter parts of the meteorological value chain, leveraging SOFF enhanced observations for better hydromet services, including early warnings.

## 2. Collaboration

**We acknowledge** the UNFCCC COP26 outcomes, including the [Glasgow Climate Pact](#) urging developed countries to at least double their collective provision of climate finance for adaptation to developing country Parties from 2019 levels by 2025.

**We also acknowledge** the calls on climate finance providers, including from the [Summit on a New Global Financing Pact](#), to increase the level and predictability of grant finance, to overcome fragmentation, and to improve ease of access to climate finance.

**We welcome** the [COP 27 Sharm-El-Sheikh Implementation Plan](#) that reiterates the United Nations Secretary-General's call to protect everyone on Earth through universal coverage of early warning systems against extreme weather and climate change by 2027 and that invites development partners, international financial institutions, and the operating entities of the financial mechanisms of the UNFCCC to provide support towards the goals of the [Early Warnings for All initiative](#).

**We note** that the Early Warnings for All initiative represents a unique opportunity for our organizations to contribute to this global effort in a coordinated manner, that SOFF constitutes a foundational element and delivery vehicle of the initiative, and that substantial financial resources are required to establish and maintain effectively functioning early warning systems in all countries.

**We intend** to collaborate, guided by the complementarity principle stated above, to promote understanding about the importance of observations, and to ensure that

these observations are utilized for effective and coherent climate action including in support of the Early Warning for All initiative.

### 3. Joint action

#### 3.1. Supporting beneficiary countries in a coordinated manner

**We intend** to support beneficiary countries in a coordinated manner across the meteorological value chain, by (i) encouraging countries to close their GBON data gap through SOFF support; (ii) taking advantage of SOFF support to provide for sustainability of previous GBON investments, as needed; (iii) exploring additional financing support including, among others, co-financing and parallel financing opportunities between SOFF and the other multilateral climate funds, guided by our respective governance bodies; and (iv) exploring avenues to contribute to the SOFF UN Fund, if the mandates and procedures allow for, in order to equip SOFF to close today's GBON data gaps and contribute to effectiveness and sustainability of other funds' investments.

#### 3.2. Facilitating ease of access to our financial resources

**We intend** to continue our efforts to enhance access to our funds by (i) providing beneficiary countries with information about the type of support each organization is able to provide across the meteorological value chain, taking advantage of existing mechanisms like national and regional forums; and (ii) SOFF providing an analytical underpinning for more effective investments across the whole value chain through the Country Hydromet Diagnostics.

#### 3.3. Encouraging implementing entities to effectively combine resources

**We intend** to encourage our respective implementing entities, in particular those which are members of the Alliance for Hydromet Development, to effectively manage SOFF resources and their own or those drawn from the other funds, so that beneficiary countries can benefit from a comprehensive, integrated and coherent package of support.

#### 3.4. Reporting on the implementation of this framework

**We intend** to contribute to reporting on this framework by (i) meeting once a year to take stock of the implementation of our agreements, using existing platforms where discussions among climate funds are held; (ii) including in the SOFF annual reports an update of our collaboration efforts and results; (iii) contributing inputs to the SOFF external evaluation that is planned for 2025 and that is expected to include a review of the implementation of this framework; and (iv) contributing inputs to the Hydromet Gap Reports of the Alliance that are tracking progress on closing the hydromet capacity gap by 2030.

At the 28th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 9 December 2023.

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**Adaptation Fund**

Mikko Ollikainen, Head

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**Climate Investment Funds**

Luis Tineo, Interim Chief Executive Officer

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**Global Environment Facility**

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**Climate Risk and Early Warning  
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