



Fourteenth Steering Committee
27-29 May 2026

SOFF Portfolio and Implementation Progress

INF 14.2

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility

**Weather
and climate
data for
resilience**



Purpose of this Document

This document provides a high-level overview of the SOFF country portfolio and the status of implementation across Readiness and Investment Phases as of 28 April 2026. More details are available through the [SOFF Portfolio Dashboard](#) and the [SOFF Monitoring Dashboard](#).

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SOFF Portfolio and Implementation Progress

1. Overview

As of 28 April 2026, the SOFF portfolio covers a total of 66 programmed countries from which 61 are receiving support as follows:

- **Readiness Phase:** 61 countries are receiving Readiness Phase funding amounting to USD 9.2 million, with 49 countries having completed the Readiness Phase.
- **Investment Phase:** 23 countries with Investment Phase funding approved, for a total allocation of USD 126 million.
- **Pipeline & Requests:** 37 countries with unmet requests of SOFF support, 3 countries Readiness funding requests on hold, 6 countries in the Investment phase pipeline.

Figure 1 presents the geographic distribution of the SOFF-supported countries.

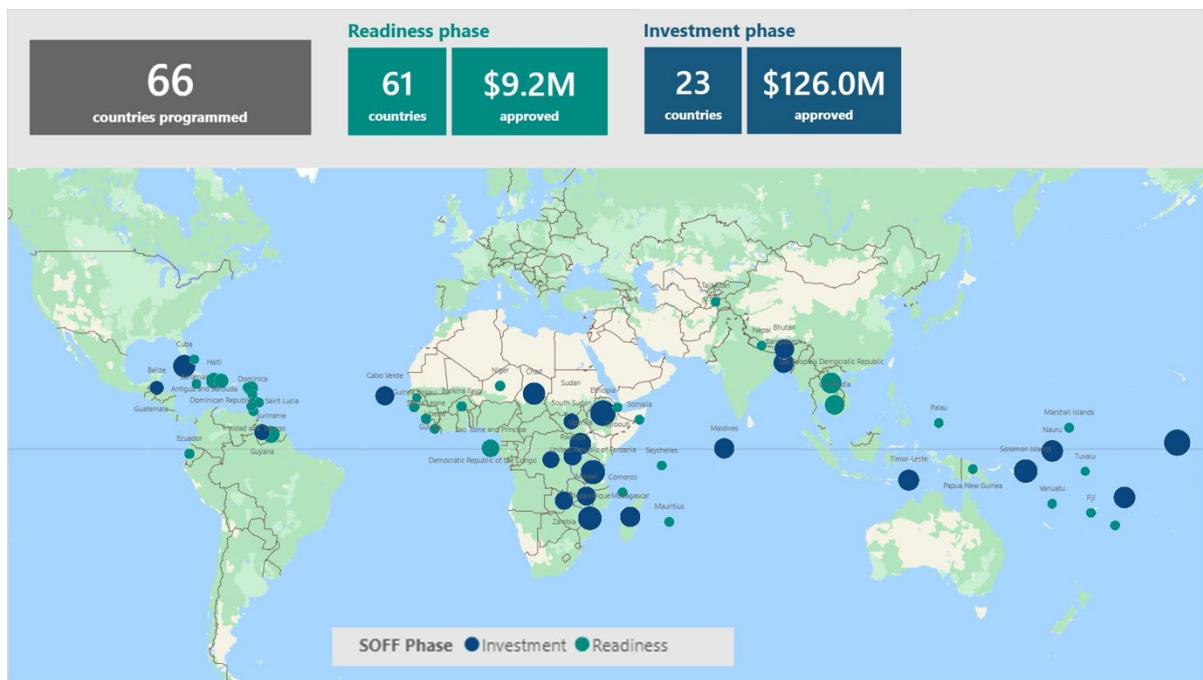


Figure 1. Overview of SOFF Operations (April 2026)

The size of each bubble is proportional to the funding per country.

The SOFF portfolio has evolved significantly since July 2022 (see Figure 2) with an increased number of countries that have completed the Readiness Phase and a steady pipeline ready to join the Investment Phase, pending Steering Committee approval and available funding. Since March 2024, the SOFF Investment portfolio more than doubled.

More granular information is available in the [SOFF Portfolio Dashboard](#).

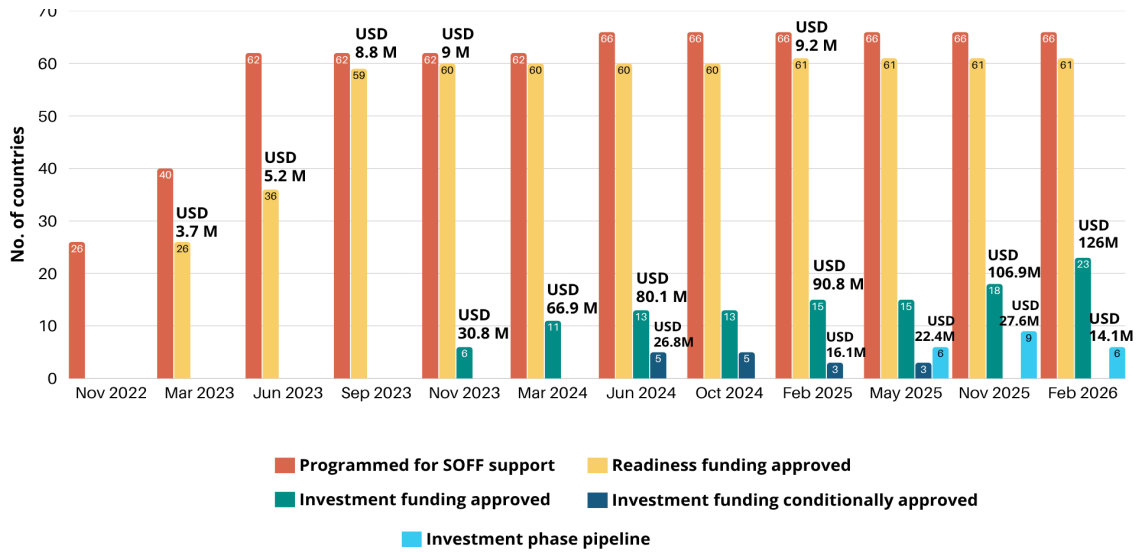


Figure 2. Evolution of the SOFF Portfolio (November 2022-February 2026)

The number of countries at each phase are represented by bars according to the legend (bottom) and the amount approved in USD displayed in text.

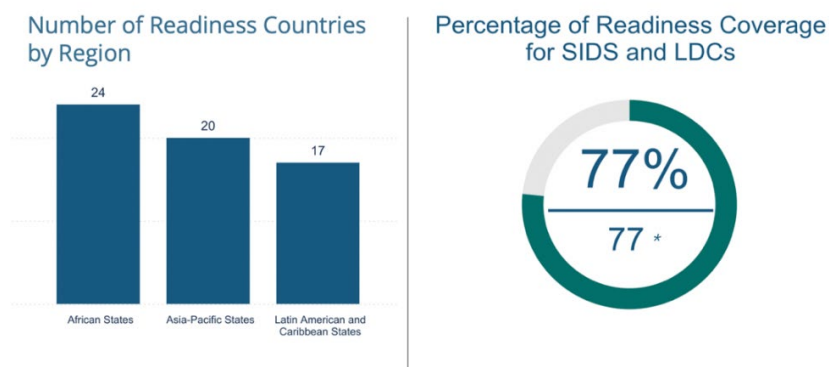
2. Implementation Progress

2.1 Readiness Phase

2.1.1 The SOFF Readiness Portfolio

Of the 61 countries with approved Readiness Phase funding, **49 have completed** the Readiness Phase, and the remaining **12 are currently finalizing outputs**.

The Readiness Phase covers **31** Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and **36** Small Developing States (SIDS), representing in total 77% of all LDCs and SIDs. (see Figure 3)



*Total number of LDCs and SIDS at the time of the approval of the funding requests

Figure 3. Regional distribution of the SOFF-supported countries in the Readiness Phase (left) and percentage of SOFF-supported countries within the 77 Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States.

2.1.2 Readiness Phase Progress

Significant progress has been made since the start of the SOFF Readiness Phase, following the first country funding approvals in March 2023. An overview of the results for the three Readiness outputs is presented in Figure 4. The [SOFF Monitoring Dashboard](#) offers a more granular, country-level view of each output.



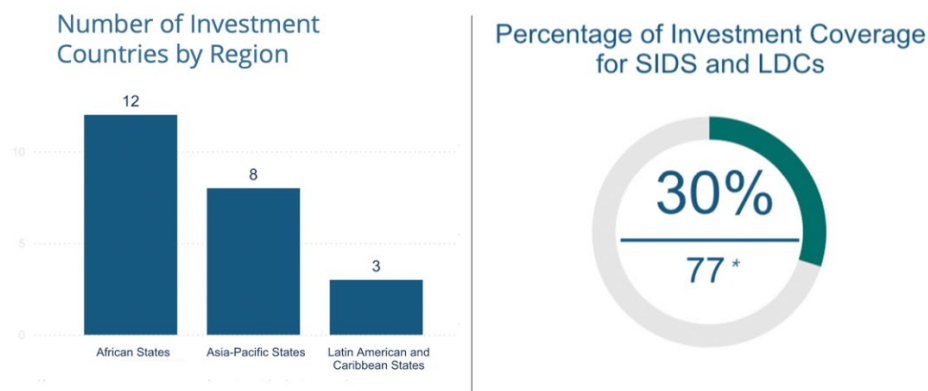
source: SOFF Monitoring Dashboard

Figure 4. Progress against the three Readiness Outputs (April 2026)

2.2 Investment Phase

2.2.1 The SOFF Investment Portfolio

Figure 5 provides an overview of the regional distribution of the **23 countries** with approved and ongoing SOFF investments, as well as their proportion among all 77 Least Developed Countries and Small Island Development States.



**Total number of LDCs and SIDS at the time of the approval of the funding requests*

Figure 5. Regional distribution of the SOFF-supported countries in the Investment Phase (left) and percentage of SOFF-supported countries in Investment Phase within the 77 Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States.

Further details on operational partners and approved funding are provided in [Annex I](#).

2.2.2 Investment Phase Progress

The implementation of the Investment Phase is mostly on track with significant achievements already in capacity building and national consultations. Figure 6 provides an overview of the progress per Output.

At the operational level, activities extended beyond initial asset deployment to include institutional, staffing, and maintenance arrangements implemented alongside infrastructure investments (Bhutan, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Cabo Verde).

National Meteorological Services have established Project Management Units, standard operating procedures, and data quality management systems, and are integrating SOFF-financed assets into national operational structures and budgetary frameworks (Bhutan, Ethiopia, Kiribati, Solomon Islands).

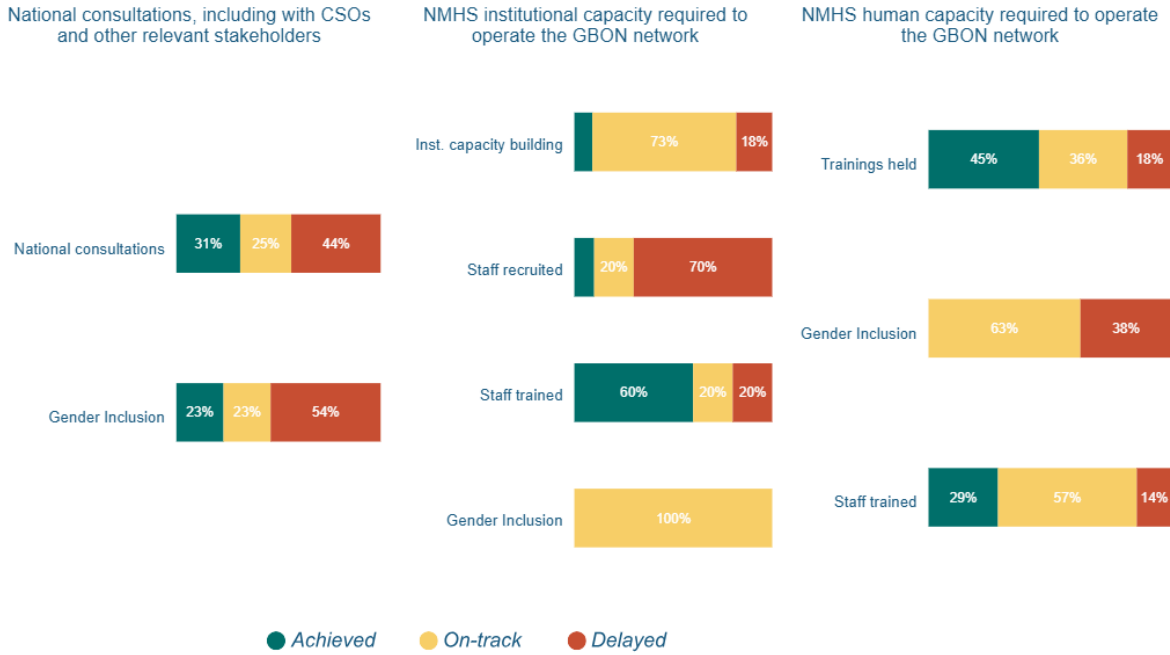
Some early results to highlight:

- As per the WMO Compliance tool (WIGOS), three stations in Bhutan, receiving maintenance and operational support from SOFF, were GBON-compliant in Q1 2026.
- In Mozambique the installation of national data collection allows data transmission from sites to national server as an important step towards GBON compliance.
- Critical observation gaps are being addressed through the establishment or rehabilitation of upper air capacity in Rwanda, Bhutan and Uganda, supporting improved data availability for forecasting and early warning services.

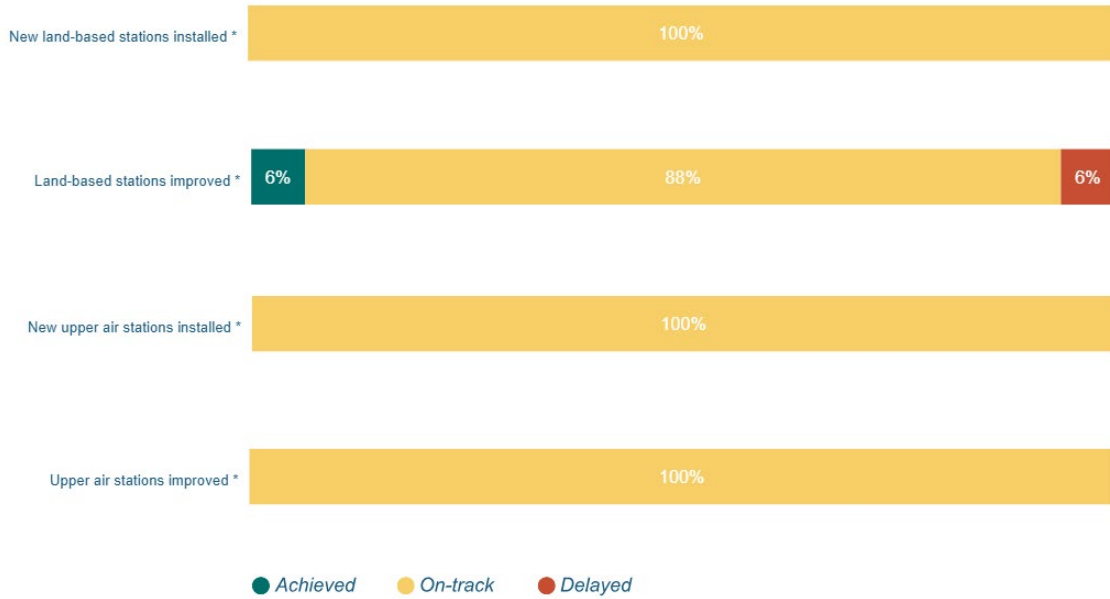
Initial start-up delays were largely attributable to procedural and contextual factors, including late agreement signing, disbursement timing, changes in implementing arrangements, and external shocks such as civil unrest and severe weather events, rather than structural implementation constraints. Some delays are related to procurement and installation of surface and upper-air stations, and the administrative complexity of setting up Project Management Units.

Figure 6 provides a progress overview. More details are available in the [SOFF Monitoring Dashboard](#).

Output 1. GBON institutional and human capacity developed



Output 2. GBON infrastructure in place



Output 3. Sustained compliance with GBON

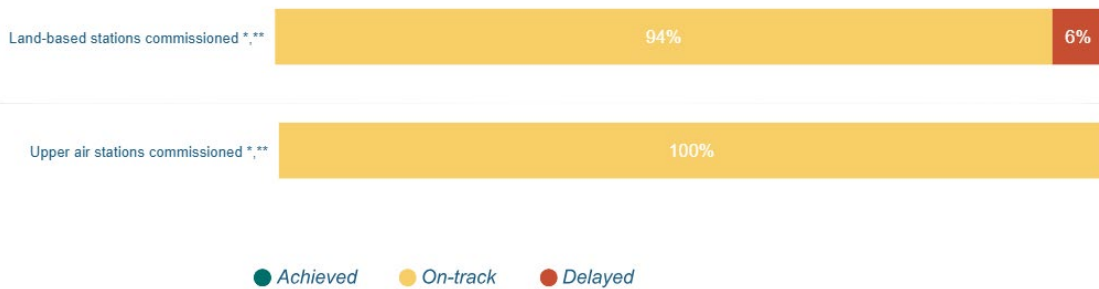


Figure 6. Progress against the three Investment phase outputs (April 2026)

2.2.3 Strengthening Efficiency through Collaboration and Complementarity

Across the portfolio, National Meteorological Services have streamlined and accelerated equipment acquisition through mechanisms such as collaboration of WFP–UNDP procurement and Long-Term Agreements, notably in Chad, resulting in reduced delivery risks and procurement timelines. These efficiencies have enabled the timely deployment of foundational observation infrastructure ahead of national EW4All implementation milestones, including in Tanzania and Cabo Verde.

SOFF investments are established the prerequisites for larger-scale climate finance, with SOFF investments directly underpinning or enabling GCF-supported programmes in Maldives, Ethiopia, Zambia, Timor-Leste, and positioning Uganda for future scale-up.

Strategic portfolio management is evident in Solomon Islands, where SOFF resources have been reallocated to avoid duplication with bilateral partners, and in Bhutan and Tanzania, where national co-financing commitments support operations and maintenance.

2.2.4 Regional Perspective: Spotlight on the Pacific

SOFF’s engagement in the Pacific continued to expand, with **14 countries** programmed and **12 approved** under the Readiness Phase (USD 1.4 million funding). Four countries, Samoa, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Nauru, have entered the Investment Phase (USD 31.8 million funding), implemented through multi-partner delivery arrangements. The SOFF Pacific portfolio is presented in Figure 7.

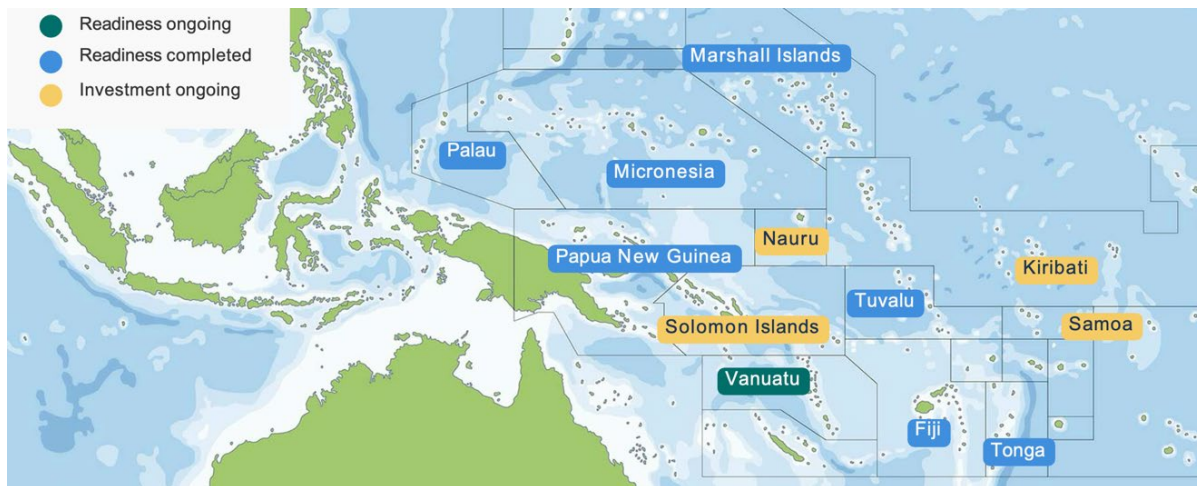


Figure 7. SOFF-supported countries in the Pacific region

These efforts, impacted by dispersed geographies, limited transport connectivity, and the phased deployment of observation infrastructure, require close coordination with national and regional initiatives.

- **In the Solomon Islands**, implementation under the Advancing Meteorological Observation Systems for Resilient Development (AMOS-RD) project has been sequenced to address pre-construction requirements, including unexploded ordnance clearance at selected sites. Activities are progressing across both surface and upper-air observation infrastructure and human capacity development, with ten national meteorological observers completing WMO-accredited certification, supporting national and regional forecasting operations.
- **In Kiribati**, SOFF investments are strengthening observation coverage in the central Pacific, with work related to nine new surface stations and two upper-air stations, and the upgrade of additional 5 surface stations and one upper air station under implementation as part of a USD 11.1 million Investment Phase allocation. Deployment is supported through formal coordination with island councils and structured stakeholder engagement, and aligned with regional coordination arrangements, including Weather Ready Pacific, to support data continuity and exchange.
- **In Samoa**, SOFF implementation is embedded within a USD 35 million World Bank-financed programme, including a USD 5 million SOFF grant, delivered through the Pacific Regional Early Warning System Adaptation and Resilience (PREPARE) project. SOFF-financed observation strengthening is integrated with broader national early warning and resilience investments. In addition, the overall programme includes a USD 500,000 contingent emergency response component providing flexibility during implementation.
- **In Nauru**, SOFF implementation builds on existing regional investments, including equipment procured under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Disaster Resilience for Pacific Small Island Developing States (RESPAC) programme and climate data management support provided through the Climate and Ocean Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) and engagement in regional coordination mechanisms, including Weather Ready Pacific.

2.2.5 Outlook

The active SOFF Investment Phase portfolio is transitioning from procurement to installation, system integration, and data exchange verification, supported by continued technical assistance and capacity building.

In parallel, the [SOFF Investment Phase pipeline](#) continues to progress. Six countries are currently in the pipeline in accordance with [Decision 13.3](#), of which three Investment Funding Requests are submitted for consideration by the 14th Steering Committee (*Draft Decision 14.8*). Additionally, three new Investment funding requests are presented to the 14th Steering Committee for consideration for inclusion in the Investment phase pipeline.

Annex I: Approved Investment funding requests

Country	Date of approval	IE	Peer advisor	Partner Peer advisor	Amount approved (in USD)	Amount transferred (in USD)	Status
Belize	Nov 2023	IADB	United Kingdom		864,543	503,035	Under implementation
Bhutan	Mar 2024	UNEP	Finland		4,624,024	3,514,453	Under implementation
Cabo Verde	Mar 2024	UNEP	Netherlands		3,879,118	2,883,272	Under implementation
Chad	Jun 2024	WFP	Austria		6,980,083	4,689,874	Under implementation
Ethiopia	Mar 2024	UNDP	Norway	Finland	9,956,803	6,701,576	Under implementation
Kiribati	Nov 2023	UNEP	Australia		11,155,102	9,715,184	Under implementation
Madagascar	Feb 2025	UNDP	Germany		4,914,295.84	3,752,903	Under implementation
Maldives	Nov 2023	UNEP	Finland	Indonesia	4,907,326	4,149,791	Under implementation
Mozambique	Nov 2023	WFP	South Africa		7,892,560	5,373,477	Under implementation
Rwanda	Nov 2023	UNDP	Finland		3,535,377	2,473,185	Under implementation
Solomon Islands	Mar 2024	UNDP	Australia		8,488,524	5,732,049	Under implementation
South Sudan	Feb 2026	FAO	Austria		2,079,599	-	Implementation to begin soon ¹
United Republic of Tanzania	Mar 2024	UNDP	Denmark		9,067,504	5,272,437	Under implementation
Timor-Leste	Feb 2025	UNEP	Finland		5,756,742	4,958,893.26	Under implementation
Uganda	Jun 2024	IsDB	Netherlands		6,316,536	4,217,543	Under implementation
Samoa	Nov 2025	WB	Australia		6,005,375	3,118,579.81	Implementation to begin soon ²
Nauru	Nov 2025	UNEP	Australia		6,194,529	5,415,904	Under implementation

¹ Implementation to begin soon status means that the disbursement process for the first tranche is currently ongoing through the UNPTFO Gateway.

Country	Date of approval	IE	Peer advisor	Partner Peer advisor	Amount approved (in USD)	Amount transferred (in USD)	Status
Malawi	Nov 2025	UNDP	Norway	Iceland	3,876,356	2,516,181	Under implementation
Cuba	Feb 2026	UNDP	Spain		6,523,639		Implementation to begin soon
Democratic Republic of Congo	Feb 2026	WFP	Switzerland		2,459,983	1,521,880	Under implementation
Guyana	Feb 2026	IDB	Austria		1,931,350		Implementation to begin in 2027
Zambia	Feb 2026	WFP	United Kingdom		3,627,540	2,378,742	Under implementation
Bangladesh	Feb 2026	IsDB	Norway	China	4,954,865		Implementation to begin soon
				Total	125,991,775	78,888,959	

Annex II: Implementing Entity-Submitted Annual Narrative Reports (Jan-Dec 2025)

There are 23 countries in the investment phase, of which reporting was eligible for 16 countries during the period from January to December 2025.

Country	Links of the report
Belize	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Bhutan	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Cabo Verde	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Chad	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Kiribati	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Ethiopia	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Madagascar	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Maldives	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Mozambique	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Rwanda	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Solomon Islands	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Timor-Leste	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Uganda	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
United Republic of Tanzania	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Malawi	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>
Nauru	<i>SOFF Investment Phase Annual Narrative Report (2025)</i>