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Overview of the AF Re- accreditation process

4 August 2021



Background



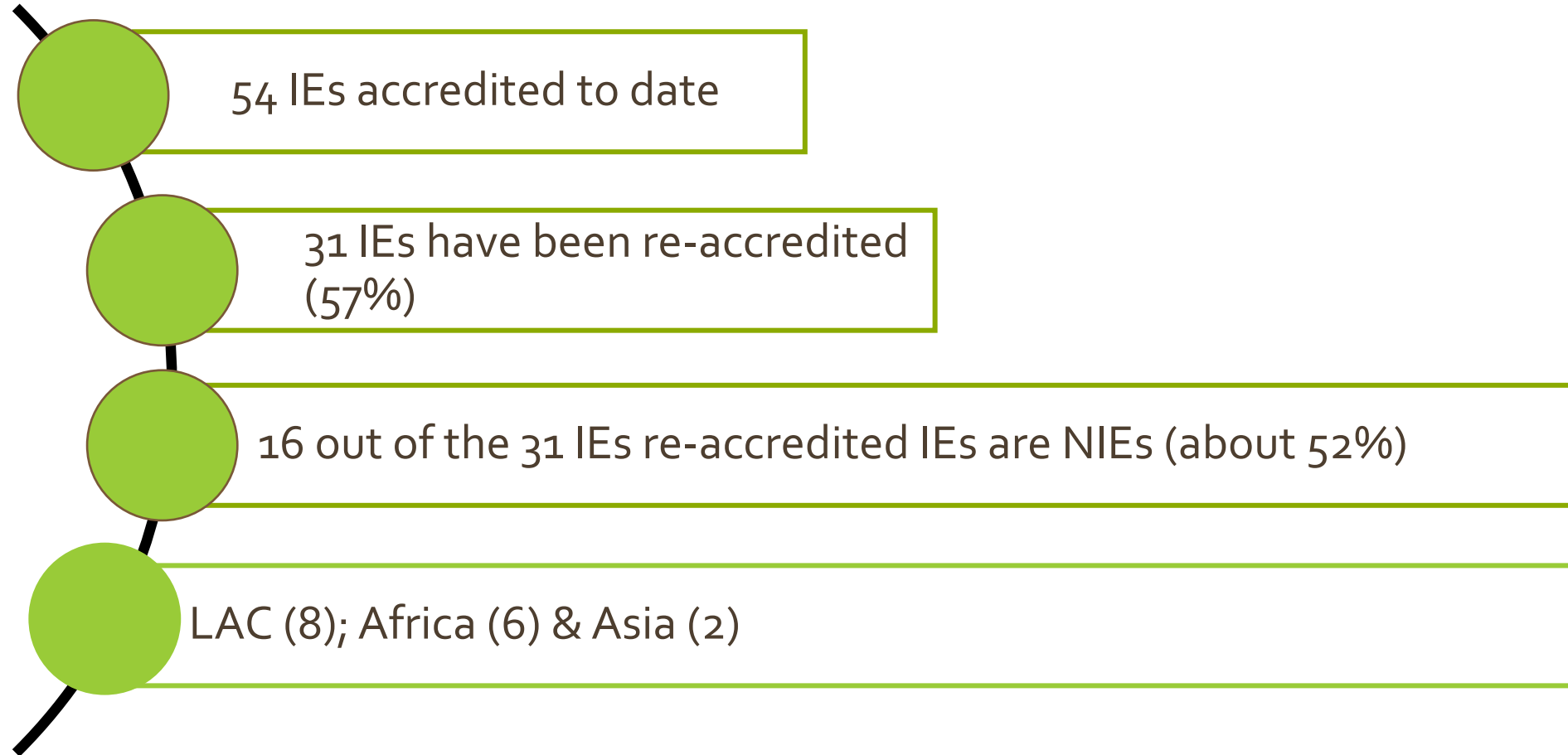
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- ❑ Accreditation is valid for a period of **5 years**
- ❑ An organization can change significantly in five-years and therefore the process of accreditation renewal must be commensurate with any potential changes to the organization.
- ❑ Applicants is requested to describe any changes that have occurred since its accreditation with AF and provide the most up-to-date supporting documentation in compliance with the re-accreditation criteria.
- ❑ **It is important to start the process early** - avoid a major gap between accreditation expiration and the granting of re-accreditation.

IEs Re-accredited to date



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This reinforces AF's commitment to Direct access and the importance of country ownership and building national capacity in adaptation

Important Timelines



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- ❑ **Notification by the secretariat:** notification letters to IEs **18 months** prior to the expiration of the entity's accreditation
 - The online accreditation system also generates an automatic notification to IE
- ❑ **Submission of re-accreditation application:** Submit a complete re-accreditation application with supporting documentation **12 months** prior to its accreditation expiry date
- ❑ **Acquisition of re-accreditation:** **within 3 years** from its accreditation expiry date.

- ❖ **How to request 'grace period' for achieving reaccreditation?**
 - **Who is eligible?** IE with ongoing project implementation
 - **Required documents?:** (1) An IE's official letter of request for a grace period with its request of grace period either (a) before the completion of the project or (b) within 3 years from accreditation expiry date, and with its commitment to achieve reaccreditation during the grace period ; and (2) DA's letter related to the IE's reaccreditation and the AF ongoing project implementation
 - **AFB will consider and make a decision on the request**
- ❑ **After re-accreditation application submission → Screening by Secretariat → Review by Panel & back-and-forth process between Panel and IE → Panel's Recommendation and Board Decision.**

Implications of an IE's Accreditation Status



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	Eligible to submit a new funding proposal	Eligible to participate in AF activities as IE	Eligible to be included in AF communications targeting the IE
(1) Accredited	Yes	Yes	Yes
(1) In Re-accreditation Process	No	Yes	Yes
(1) Not-accredited (de-accredited)	No	No	No

- The accreditation team supports the project team in verifying the status of an IE at the time of submission of the funding proposals.
- Accreditation expiration date is indicated in the Board decision on the IE's accreditation/re-accreditation.

Re-accreditation modalities

❑ Two main routes to renewing accreditation with AF

❑ **Regular re-accreditation** – Default re-accreditation route

- **Focuses:** (criteria 1-12)

- Continued compliance with **all of AF fiduciary standards**,
- Compliance with AF environmental and social policy (**ESP**) and the Gender Policy (**GP**)
- The results of the assessment of the implementing entity's performance regarding quality at entry (QAE) and project/programme implementation.
- Policies and procedures related to anti-corruption and fraud, anti-money-laundering /countering the financing of terrorism (**AML/CFT**)

Re-accreditation modalities – Cont'd

❑ **Fast-track re-accreditation** - Available to the IE that had been accredited by the GCF within **four years** prior to its submission of the reaccreditation application to AF.

❑ **Focus:**

- (**Criteria 1**) The fiduciary standard related to the legal capacities
- (**Criteria 11**) Commitment by the implementing entity to apply the Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy (GP); and
- (**Criteria 12**) Mechanism to deal with complaints on environmental and social harms and gender harms caused by projects/programmes;
 - (**Criteria 3 (b); 5(a) ; and 10**) Policies and procedures related to anti-corruption and fraud, anti-money-laundering /countering the financing of terrorism (**AML/CFT**)

❑ **Some additional criteria can be applied to FTR.**

1. Criteria related to conditions attached to fast-track accreditation with the GCF will be assessed.
2. From the second-time fast-track reaccreditation with the Fund, **financial management and integrity criteria** of the fiduciary standards will be assessed along with the aforementioned three criteria

AF Fiduciary Standards and required competencies



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☐ Consist of four broad categories:

- Legal status;
- Financial and management integrity;
- Institutional capacity; and
- Transparency, Self-investigative Powers, Anti-corruption measures and mechanism to address E&S and gender complaints.

☐ The description of how an entity meets the fiduciary standards should focus **on any changes that have occurred within the organization since the original accreditation.** The most recent supporting documentation must be submitted.

☐ Areas of assessment for re-accreditation applications depend on many factors:

- Regular re-accreditation vs fast-track re-accreditation
- With or without AF Funded project

With or without AF funded Project



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	Section 6 Project preparation and appraisal	Section 7 Project implementation Planning and Quality-at-entry Review	Section 8 Project Monitoring and Evaluation during implementation	Section 9 Project closure and final evaluation
With approved AF funded Project but no planning and QAE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
With approved AF funded Project, completed planning and QAE but implementation not yet started	No	No	Yes	Yes
With approved AF funded Project, and implementing it	No	No	No	Yes
With approved AF funded Project, completed with a final report on completion	No	No	No	No
No approved AF funded Project	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

AF Reaccreditation Standards – cont'd



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Legal status (criterion 1)

- Demonstration of legal personality
- Ability to contract with AF and authority to directly receive funds

Financial and Management Integrity (Criteria 2-4)

- Financial Statements and External Audit requirement
- Internal Control Framework
- Internal Audit/Assurance and Oversight arrangements
- Preparation of Business plans and budget

AF Fiduciary Standards – cont'd



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Institutional Capacity

(Criteria 5-9)

- Procurement
- Project Preparation and Appraisal
- Project Implementation Planning
- Project Monitoring and Evaluation
- Project Closure and Final Evaluation

Transparency, Self-investigative Powers, Anti-corruption measures and mechanism to address E&S and gender complaints

(Criteria 10-12)

- Policies and Framework and capacity to deal with fraud, corruption and other forms of malpractice
- Mechanism to deal with complaints on environmental and social harms caused by projects
- **Commitment by the entity to apply the Fund's Environmental & Social and Gender policy**

AF Accreditation standards – cont'd



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- ☐ **Anti Money Laundering (AML) and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT)**
:“examples of supporting documentation” related to the “internal control framework”,
“procurement” and “policies and framework to deal with financial mismanagement”
criteria in the accreditation application form (Criteria 3 (b); 5(a); 10 (c))

- ☐ The documentation needed to meet these requirements include:
 - ☐ (i) Policies and procedure related to anti-money-laundering/countering the financing of terrorism;
 - ☐ (ii) Screening system which documents all individuals and/or organizations before the entity transfers money to them; and
 - ☐ (iii) Decision-making process that the entity follows when it identifies risks related to any individuals and/or organizations.

Relevant Resources for reference



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- ☐ [Regular Reaccreditation Application Form](#) (English, French and Spanish)
- ☐ [Guidance on Accreditation Standards](#) (English, French and Spanish)
- ☐ [The Re-accreditation Process](#) (English & Spanish; *French under translation*)
- ☐ [AF e-Learning course on Direct Access](#) (English, French and Spanish)
- ☐ [AF Environmental and Social Policy](#) (English & Spanish; *French under translation*)
- ☐ [AF Gender Policy](#) (updated in March 2021) (English & Spanish; *French under translation*)
- ☐ [NIE Accreditation Toolkit](#) (English & French)
- ☐ [Information Note for Designated Authorities for IE nomination](#)



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Thank you for your attention!

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