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Overview of the AF Re-accreditation process

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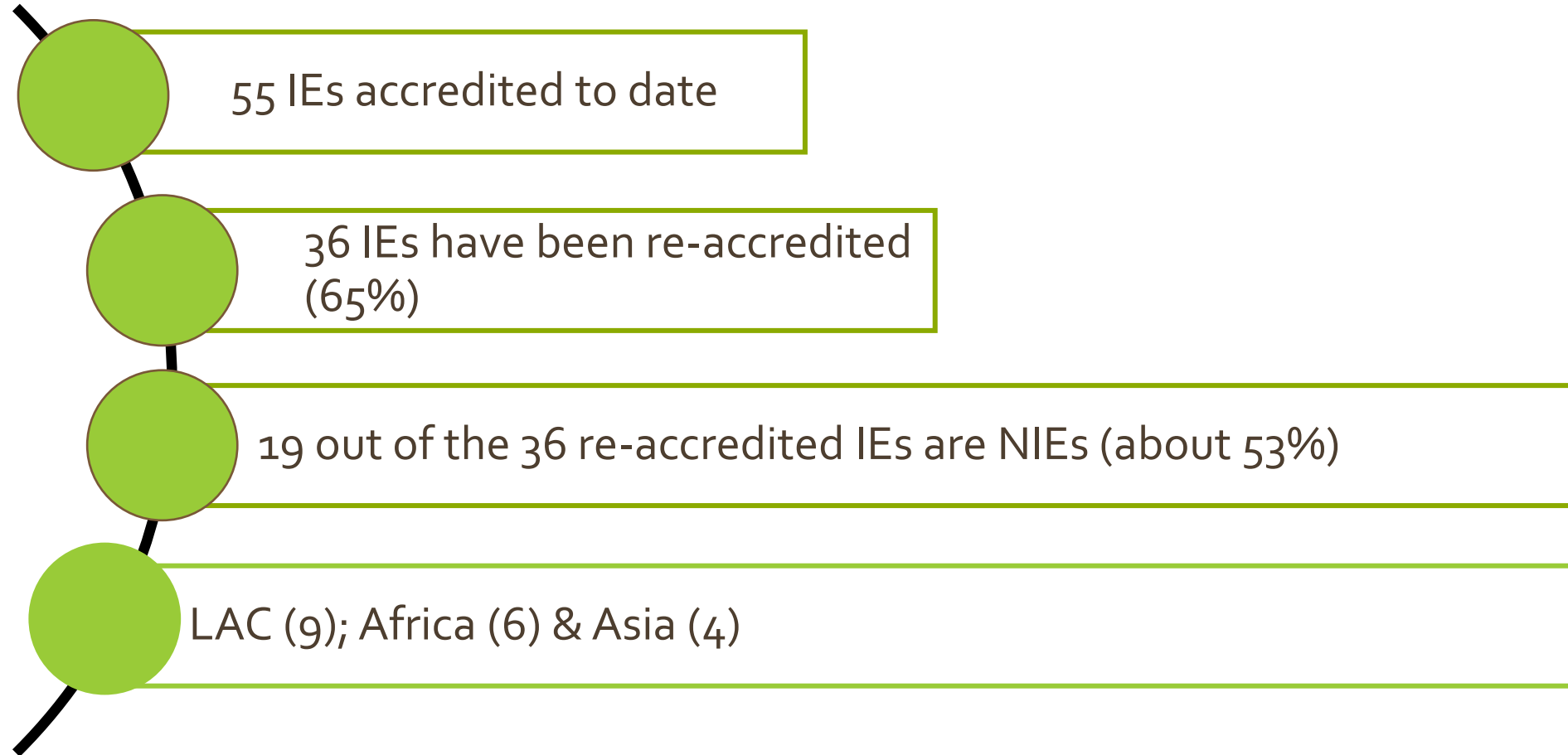


- ❑ Accreditation is valid for a period of **5 years**
- ❑ An organization can change significantly in five-years and therefore the process of accreditation renewal must be commensurate with any potential changes to the organization.
- ❑ An applicants is requested to describe any changes that have occurred 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.
- ❑ Fast-track re-accreditation of IEs accredited with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) within a period of 4 years prior to the submission of the re-accreditation application with the AF

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.
- ❑ Re-accreditation Process
 - NIE expression of interest to pursue re-accreditation from the management
 - re-accreditation application submission
 - Screening by AFB Secretariat
 - Review by Panel & back-and-forth process between Panel and IE
 - Panel's Recommendation and Board Decision.

Requesting Grace Period for Re-accreditation



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❑ 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

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
- ❑ Areas of assessment for re-accreditation applications depend on factors:
 - Regular re-accreditation vs fast-track re-accreditation
 - With or without AF Funded project
- ❑ 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:**
 - **(Criterion 1)** The fiduciary standard related to the legal capacities
 - **(Criterion 10)** Policies and framework to deal with financial mismanagement and other forms of malpractice by the IE
 - **(Criterion 11)** Commitment by the implementing entity to apply the Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy (GP); and
 - **(Criterion 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 (c)(ii))** 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 GCF** fast-track accreditation 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 criteria.

AF Standards and required competencies



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- ❑ Consist of four broad categories:
 - Legal status (Criterion 1);
 - Financial and management integrity (Criteria 2-4);
 - Institutional capacity (Criteria 5-9); and
 - Transparency, Self-investigative Powers, Anti-corruption measures and mechanism to address E&S and gender complaints (Criteria 10-12).

- ❑ 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.

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 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.

Top Level Management Statement (criterion 11)



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(Decision B.40/5)

To also take note of the *revised and alternative template for the top-level management statement (TLMS) to be submitted by implementing entities* (IEs) for consideration by the Accreditation Panel for accreditation and reaccreditation with the Adaptation Fund, as contained in annex VI to document AFB/B.40/12/Add.1;

To reinforce its previous position that *IEs shall implement projects and programmes supported by the Adaptation Fund in accordance with the Operational Policies and Guidelines* for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund and the IE's standard practices and procedures, as set out in the Adaptation Fund's standard legal agreement;

☐ Length of time for the re-accreditation process: factors affecting time

- ☐ FTR re-accreditation duration varies
- ☐ IE unprepared for the documentation requirements
- ☐ IE not demonstrating compliance with more recent developments in AF policies since its initial accreditation (e.g., ESP and GP)
- ☐ Lack on relevant information on the IE website
- ☐ Reorganization of the IE structure and legal status requires careful consideration
- ☐ Difficulty to ascertain no incident of any fraud or impropriety cases, or any E&S and gender harm complaints at the IE
- ☐ Exhaustion of the AF country cap for financing reduced the sense of urgency

Unique challenge



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☐ Dormant Applications

- ☐ Re-accreditation process can be delayed when IE is not committed
- ☐ Country-driven process
- ☐ Secretariat ensures regular reminders
- ☐ AF sends **4 notification letters** re: dormancy/inactivity
- ☐ Panel can recommend to change the status from "Accreditation" to "Not-accredited"

☐ De-accreditation restarts the entire accreditation process for a country

- ☐ DA can **nominate another entity** to pursue accreditation with the Fund
- ☐ DA may **renominate the de-accredited entity**, if it demonstrates compliance and commitment

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](#)
- ❑ [Streamlined Accreditation Process](#)
- ❑ [Bridging the Gaps in Accreditation](#) (Case studies)



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Thank you for your attention!

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