

CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS

JOINT CTF-SCF/TFC.15/4
October 26, 2015

Joint Meeting of the CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees
Washington, D.C.
Monday, November 9, 2015

Agenda Item 4

**PROPOSAL ON THE FUTURE OF THE PARTNERSHIP FORUM
(SUMMARY)**

PROPOSED DECISION

The joint meeting of the CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees, having reviewed the document *JOINT CTF-SCF/15/4 Proposal on the Future of the Partnership Forum* endorses the following option:

[*Option I*: The Partnership Forum is retained as a large two-day conference targeting multiple stakeholders and covering all CIF themes, with modifications, including:

- (i) Content should be specific and focus on lessons, solutions, and results with a limited number of sessions to enable a deeper discussion of key questions. To the extent possible, the Partnership Forum should showcase questions and lessons from the emerging CIF work program on evidence-based learning.
- (ii) Participation should be guided by who has useful experience and knowledge to share and who has a strong business case or operational need to learn.
- (iii) The knowledge bazaar concept would be dropped with networking facilitated through structured and unstructured approaches.
- (iv) The Partnership Forum should be part of a process, including learning and sharing before and during the event and follow-up work and actions.
- (v) A political dimension could be explored through linking the Partnership Forum to a high-level international event such as a COP and including a ministerial session as part of the agenda.
- (vi) The co-hosting arrangement is discontinued with the CIF Administrative Unit now taking the lead in organizing future Partnership Forums working in close collaboration with all MDB partners and other relevant stakeholders.
- (vii) The timing of the Partnership Forum should be flexible and would be determined by the CIF Administrative Unit Program Manager in collaboration with the joint meeting and need not necessarily adhere to the 18 month cycle. If there is a strong business case for organizing the Partnership Forum apart from the semi-annual CIF trust fund committee meetings, then this should be pursued with the agreement of the joint meeting.

The next Partnership Forum will be convened in association with COP 22 in Marrakech, Morocco in November 2016.]

[*Option II*: As an alternative to the Partnership Forum, existing pilot country meetings would be both consolidated and strengthened into three sets of thematic meetings focusing on energy (CTF and SREP countries), resilience (PPCR countries), and forests (FIP countries) (with possibilities to explore synergies among topics where relevant). Several modifications proposed in the preceding option would apply, including:

- (i) Specific content focusing on lessons, solutions, and results with fewer overall sessions to enable a deeper discussion of key questions. To the extent possible, the pilot country meetings “plus” would showcase questions and lessons from the emerging CIF work program on evidence-based learning.
- (ii) Participation would be guided by who has useful experience and knowledge to share and who has a strong business case or operational need to learn.
- (iii) Networking would be facilitated through structured and unstructured approaches.
- (iv) The meetings would be part of a process, not a one-off event, and would include follow-up work and actions, including potential actions to be further explored through the evidence-based learning work stream.
- (v) A political dimension could be explored through linking the meetings to a high-level international event and including a ministerial session as part of the agenda.

If this option is endorsed, it is proposed that each thematic pilot country meeting “plus” be held once every 18 to 24 months and that the first pilot country meeting “plus”, a joint CTF-SREP energy meeting, be convened by June 2016.]

I. Introduction

1. This paper responds to the request made by the Joint Meeting of the CTF and SCF Trust Fund Committees in May 2015 to present a proposal on the future of the Partnership Forum.

II. Background

2. The Governance Documents of the CIF state that the Partnership Forum:

- a) Is a broad-based meeting of stakeholders of the CIF;
- b) Will be convened every eighteen months to provide a forum for dialogue on the strategic directions, results and impacts of the CIF;
- c) Will provide an opportunity for independent scientific, technical and other advice on major issues of implementation in integrating climate change and development and for sharing cutting edge knowledge concerning climate change challenges; and
- d) Will be a meeting for dialogue and consultation and will not lead to written outcomes, such as agreed texts or declarations.

3. Since 2008, the CIF has held five Partnership Forums co-hosted by one of the five partner multilateral development banks (MDBs).

4. Given the busy international calendar of events in 2015 leading up to COP 21, the joint meeting agreed in May 2015 that there would be no CIF Partnership Forum in 2015 and instead requested the CIF Administrative Unit to organize smaller and more targeted events. Two events were held:

- (i) A panel at the Barcelona Carbon Expo in May 2015 on the CIF experience in leveraging private sector finance for renewable energy projects; and
- (ii) A double panel session at the UN Climate Change Conference in Bonn in June 2015 sharing CIF results on the ground and complementarities and coherence that recipient countries can achieve through a strategic alignment of financing from different climate funds.

5. In addition, the CIF will be visible at COP 21 in Paris. The CIF also organized a number of events in 2015 for internal constituents, including three pilot country meetings (for SREP new countries, and FIP and PPCR new and existing countries) and two geothermal dialogues. For the first time, CIF developing country Observers were sponsored to participate in the FIP and PPCR meetings.

6. The CIF Administrative Unit carried out a survey in August-September 2015 to gather feedback on the usefulness of the Partnership Forum and other CIF events. The options on the future of the Partnership Forum have been developed taking into account the feedback provided through the survey, as well as the views expressed by different CIF stakeholders through informal consultations.

7. Survey respondents suggested that CIF events, including the Partnership Forum, should: (i) have a strong knowledge sharing focus grounded in concrete case studies and results; (ii) better target participants based on who has useful information to share and an operational need to learn; and (iii) be built around a less dense agenda with more time for discussion and engagement on a smaller number of topics. Informal consultations suggest that there is appetite among some CIF stakeholders that the Partnership Forum in particular should also include a political dimension.

III. Options of the Future Format of the Partnership Forum

8. Two options on the future format of the Partnership Forum are proposed:

Option 1: Retain the Partnership Forum, with modifications

9. Under this option the existing format of a large two-day conference targeting multiple stakeholders and covering all CIF themes would be retained, with the following modifications:

- (i) Content should be specific and focus on lessons, solutions, and results. The number of sessions should be limited to enable a deeper discussion of key questions.
- (ii) With fewer sessions covering more specific topics, participation would necessarily be reduced. Identification of participants, including sponsored participants, should be more selective and based on who has useful experience to share and who has a strong business case to learn.
- (iii) The knowledge bazaar concept would be dropped. Networking would be facilitated through structured and unstructured approaches.
- (iv) The Partnership Forum should be part of a process. Learning and sharing should happen before and during the event, and there should also be follow-up work and actions.
- (v) A political dimension could be explored through linking the Partnership Forum to a high-level international event such as a COP and including a ministerial session as part of the agenda.
- (vi) The timing of the Partnership Forum should be flexible and enable synergies with other events when feasible.

10. If this option is selected, it is proposed that the next Partnership Forum be convened in association with COP 22 in Marrakech, Morocco in November 2016.

Option 2: Pilot country meetings "plus"

11. Under this option, there would be no Partnership Forum. Rather, existing pilot country meetings would be both consolidated and strengthened into three sets of thematic meetings focusing on energy (CTF and SREP countries), resilience (PPCR countries), and forests (FIP countries). If this option were selected, the modifications proposed in the preceding option would apply.

12. If this option is endorsed, it is proposed that each thematic pilot country meeting "plus" be held once every 18 to 24 months and that the first pilot country meeting "plus", a joint CTF-SREP energy meeting, be convened by June 2016.

Budget

13. Activities undertaken during FY 16 pertaining to either of the two options would be financed through the CIF FY 16 administrative budget. For FY 17, the budget implications of the selected option would be included in the CIF FY 17 work program and budget.