CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS

Introduction

Context and Background

In October 2013, the CTF and SCF Joint Trust Fund Committees asked the CIF Administrative Unit, in collaboration with the MDBs, to identify evidenced-based approaches to learning (evaluative approaches) throughout the CIF project cycle with the goal of increasing the number of initiatives that include these approaches as part of their design. There are multiple reasons for this, including improving project selection, strengthening project design, identifying where mid-course corrections are needed, and identifying results. Generally speaking, these approaches are intended to support learning and accountability.

The nine evidence-based approaches described below and in the corresponding fact sheets offer an initial response to this request. These are intended to support data-driven learning, adaptation, and improvement. They apply to different project stages, including before projects begin (ex-ante), during implementation (mid-course), and after project completion (ex-post).

To keep it simple, only six approaches are proposed as options for each CIF program. However, other approaches may also be suitable. Many evidence-based approaches to learning are relevant for CIF programs and projects as the diversity and plurality of our programming is naturally reflected in how we learn and understand results.

The table below shows the list of approaches suggested for each CIF program, and indicates where each approach can apply throughout the project cycle. In an effort to keep the list of options short, only six approaches have been indicated for each program; however, additional approaches (both on and not on this list) are also suitable for CIF programs.

Selected Approach Options for CIF Programs

Relevant Stage of Project / Program

Approach	CTF	SREP	FIP	PPCR		Ex-Ante	Design*	Mid-Course	At End	Ex-post
1. Adaptive Capacity Assessment				✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Cost Effectiveness Analysis	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓	✓
3. Developmental Evaluation			✓	✓			✓	✓		
4. Formative Evaluation	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
5. Impact Evaluation	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6. Outcome Evaluation	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓
7. Real-Time Learning	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		
8. Rapid Stakeholder Consultation	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
9. Vulnerability Assessments				✓		✓	✓	✓		

*Design refers to the stage after a project has been selected, when details of strategy and implementation plans are being developed.