

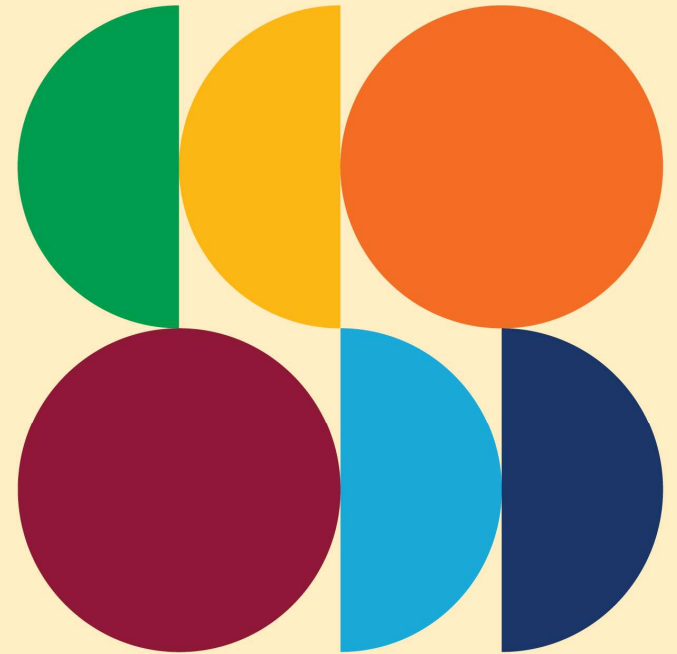


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# INTRODUCTION TO GCF'S PROJECT-SPECIFIC ACCREDITATION (PSAA)

**Timothy Breitbarth**, Investment Operations Manager  
Green Climate Fund



**FROM INVESTMENT TO IMPACTS**  
4-5 SEPTEMBER 2023, NAIROBI, KENYA



# AGENDA

- What is PSAA?
- How does PSAA work?
- Is PSAA the right partnership with GCF?
- Questions





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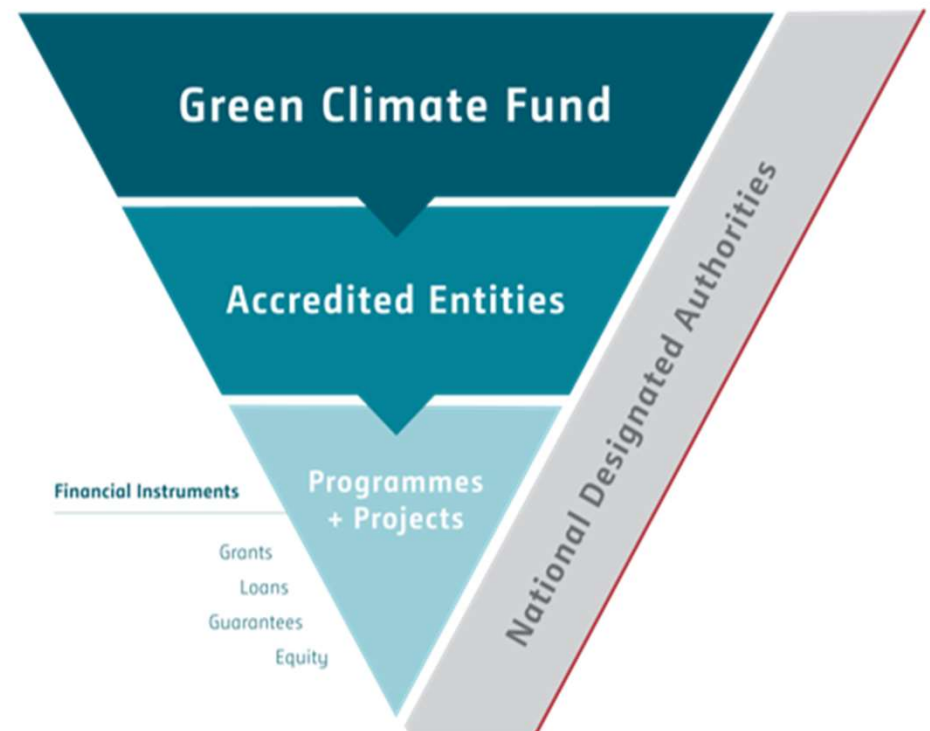
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# WHAT IS PSAA?



# GCF'S PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION MODEL

- GCF relies on *accredited entities* to implement projects & programmes
  - GCF assesses entity capacity & decides whether to accredit
  - Accreditation allows an entity to submit a pipeline of funding proposals to GCF
  - Only accredited entities may submit funding proposals
- Coordination with NDA throughout project to ensure country ownership



# GCF ACCREDITATION

Public, private, non-governmental

## Direct Access

**Subnational, national and regional entities** that are registered in a developing country that will implement projects in developing countries only, including the country where they are registered

## International Access

**International entities**, including United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks, international financial institutions and regional institutions

## Mandate & track record

- Alignment with Fund objectives
- At least 3 year of operations\*

## Project/ programme size

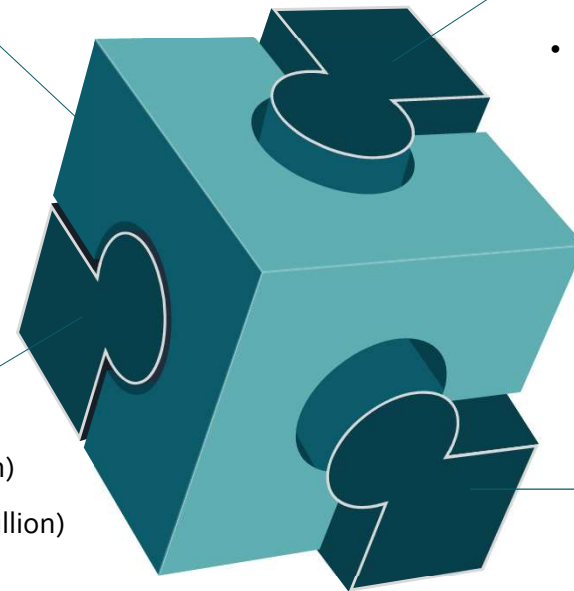
- Micro ( $\leq 10$  Million)
- Small ( $>10-50$  Million)
- Medium ( $>50-250$  Million)
- Large ( $>250$  million)

## Financing modalities

- Basic
- Specialized
  - Project management
  - Grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms
  - On-lending and/or blending (loans, equity and/or guarantees)

## Environmental & social risk category

- A/I-1 (high)\*
- B/I-2 (medium)
- C/I-3 (minimal or no)





# PSAA

(PROJECT-SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT APPROACH TO GCF ACCREDITATION)

**PSAA is a new approach for entities to access GCF financing for a single project or programme**

- 3-year pilot launched in April 2023
- Accreditation and project reviews occur in parallel
- Assessment of entity's capacity to meet GCF accreditation standards in the context of the project
- Project should be aligned with:
  - Country programmes & national priorities
  - GCF Strategic Plan 2024-2027
  - GCF sectoral guides
  - GCF Private Sector Strategy





# PSAA

(PROJECT-SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT APPROACH TO GCF ACCREDITATION)

## Benefits

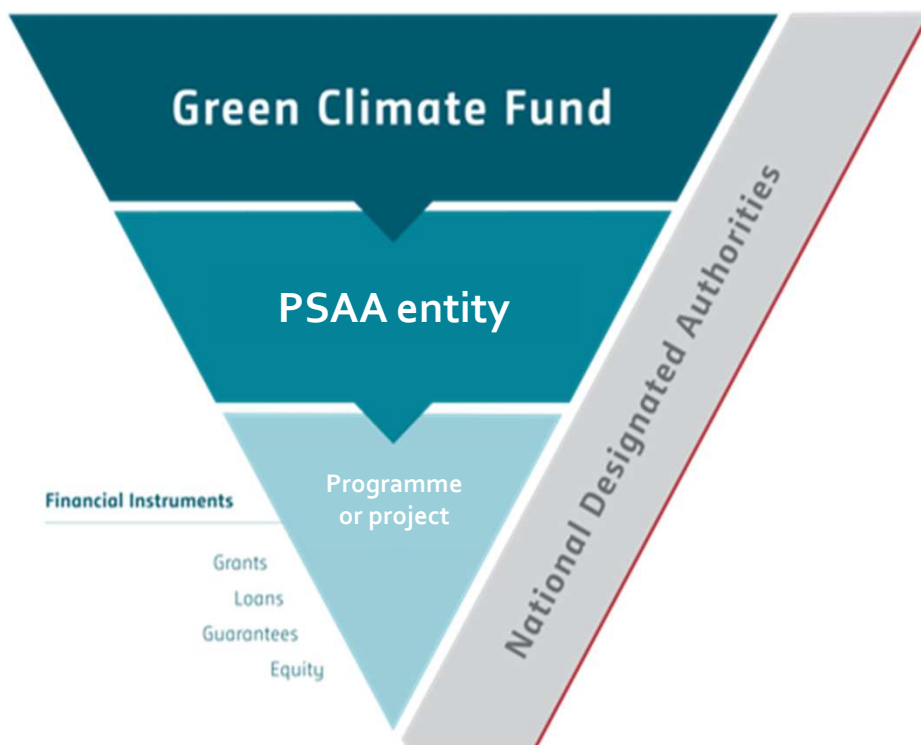
- Any project size
- All financial instruments
- Any GCF approval process, including SAP & RFPs
- Single legal agreement for accreditation & project financing

## Requirements

- 1 funding proposal maximum
- Entity must have capacity & independent legal personality
- Only projects with low to medium environmental & social risks
- Annual reporting on accreditation & project



# PSAA ENTITY RESPONSIBILITIES



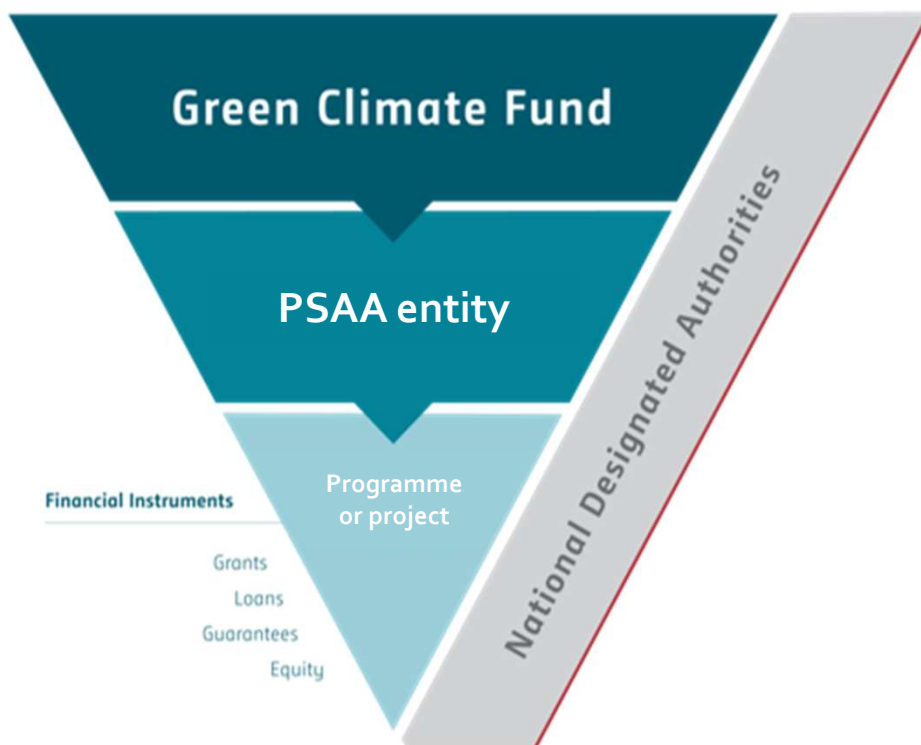
## Operational responsibilities:

- Engage with GCF & NDA throughout project cycle
- Design funding proposal
- Implement & deliver project/programme
- Monitor & report on results





# PSAA ENTITY RESPONSIBILITIES



## Administrative responsibilities:

- Provide evidence of institutional systems, policies, procedures & track record
- Ensure downstream executing entities apply GCF policies & standards
- Monitor, report, verify & uphold GCF standards, safeguards and policies
- Enter into legal agreements with GCF



# GCF ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Where applicable, PSAA entity provides evidence of:



## Basic Fiduciary Standards

- Key administrative and financial capacities
- Transparency and accountability



## Gender Policy

- Policies, procedures, and competencies

## Specialized Fiduciary Standards

- Project management
- Grant award and/or funding allocation mechanisms
- On-lending and/or blending



## Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)

- Institutional ESMS policy level
- ESMS project level

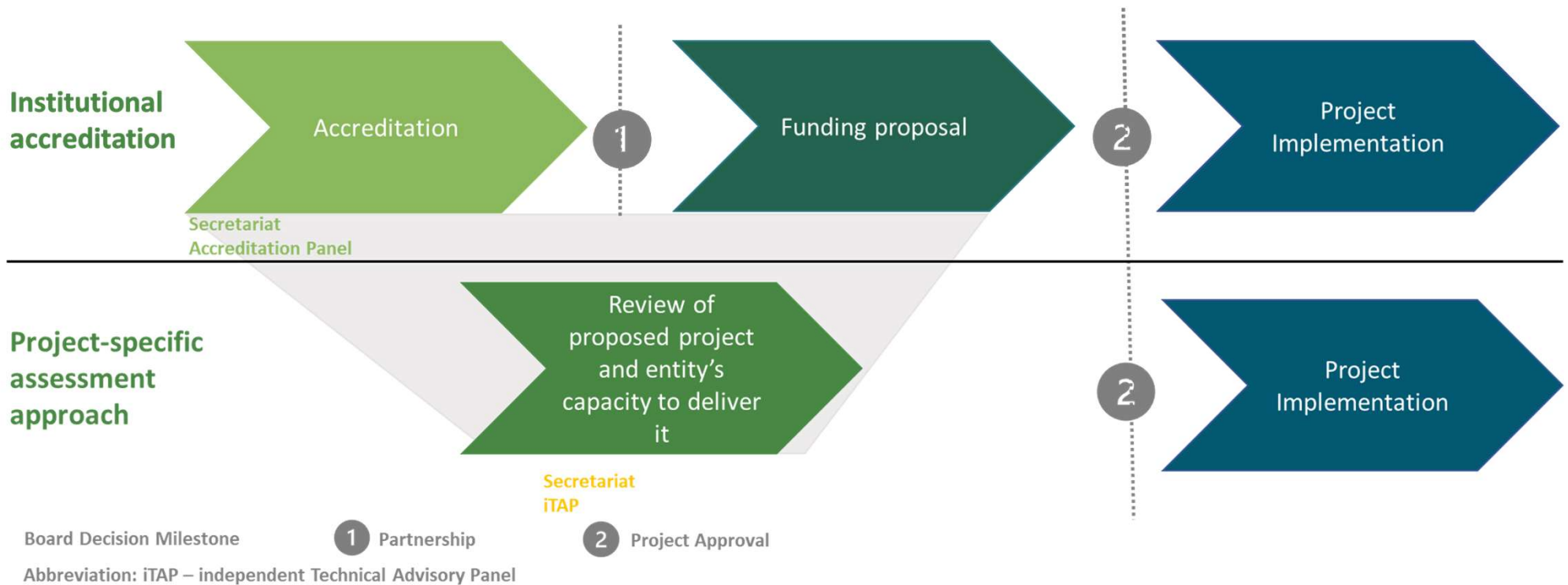




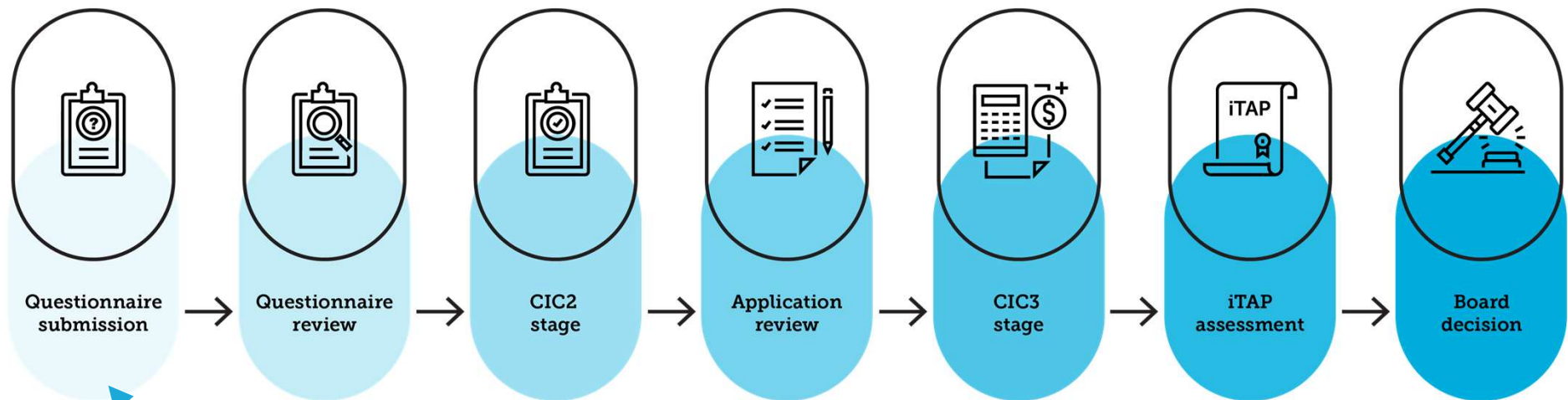
# HOW DOES PSAA WORK?



# GCF'S ACCREDITATION APPROACHES



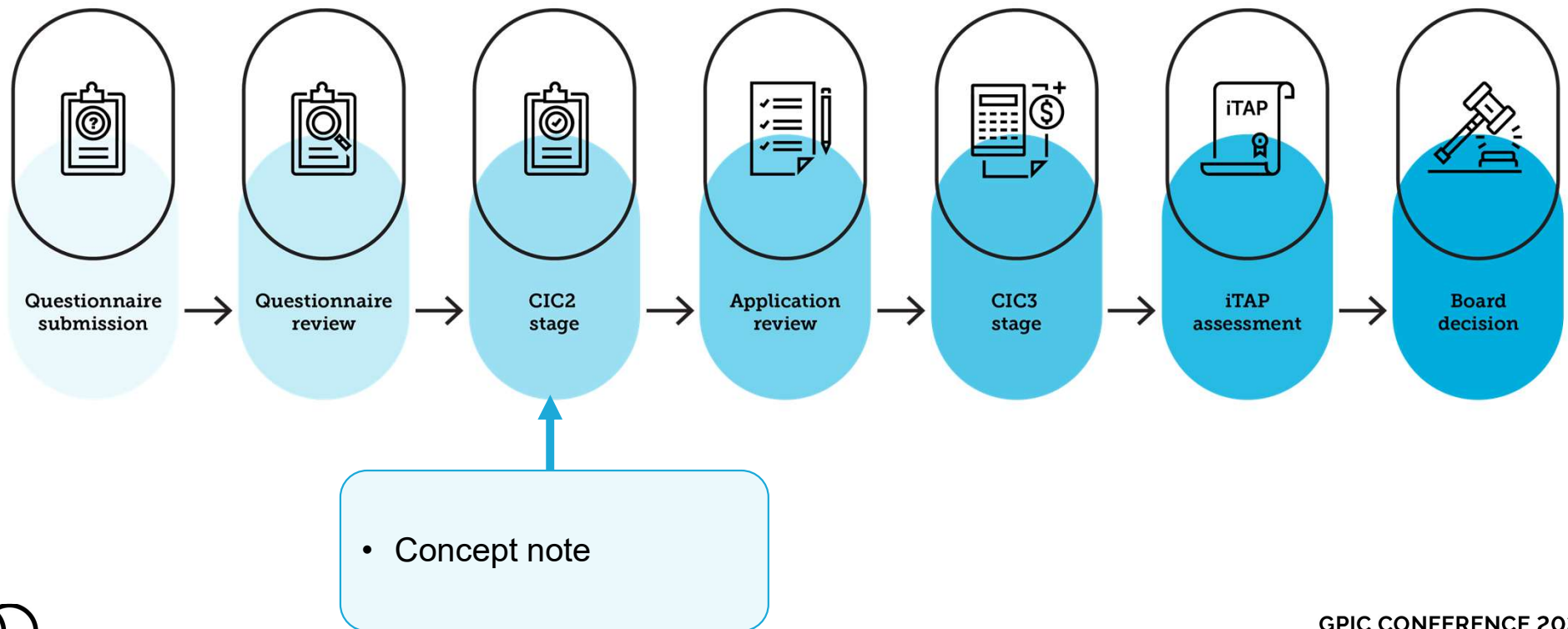
# PSAA APPLICATION PROCESS



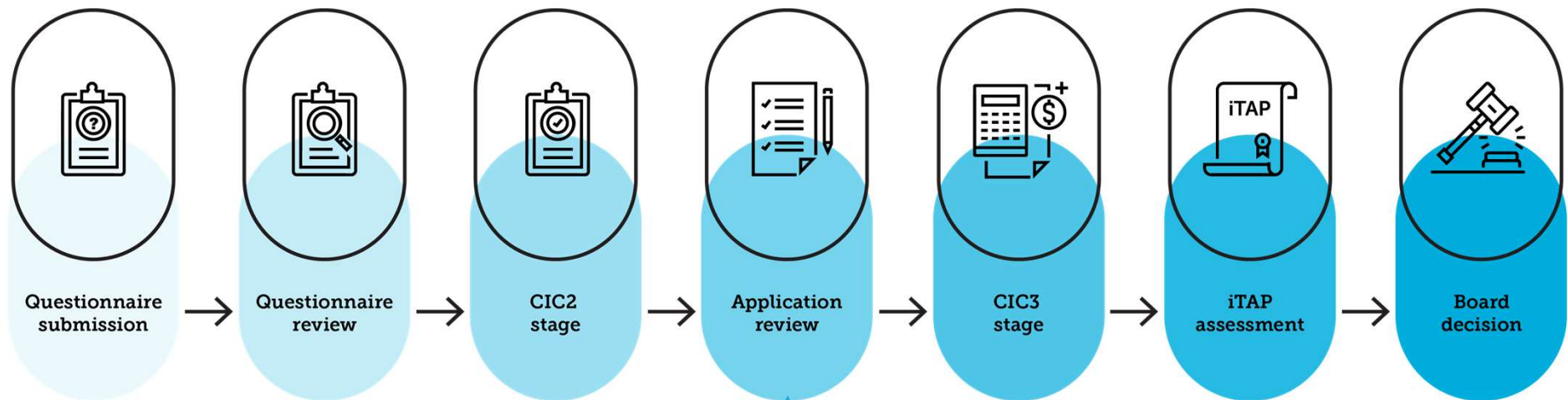
- PSAA Questionnaire (~20 minutes)
- Project pitchbook (6-8 slides)
- Summary of stakeholder engagement & country ownership



# PSAA APPLICATION PROCESS



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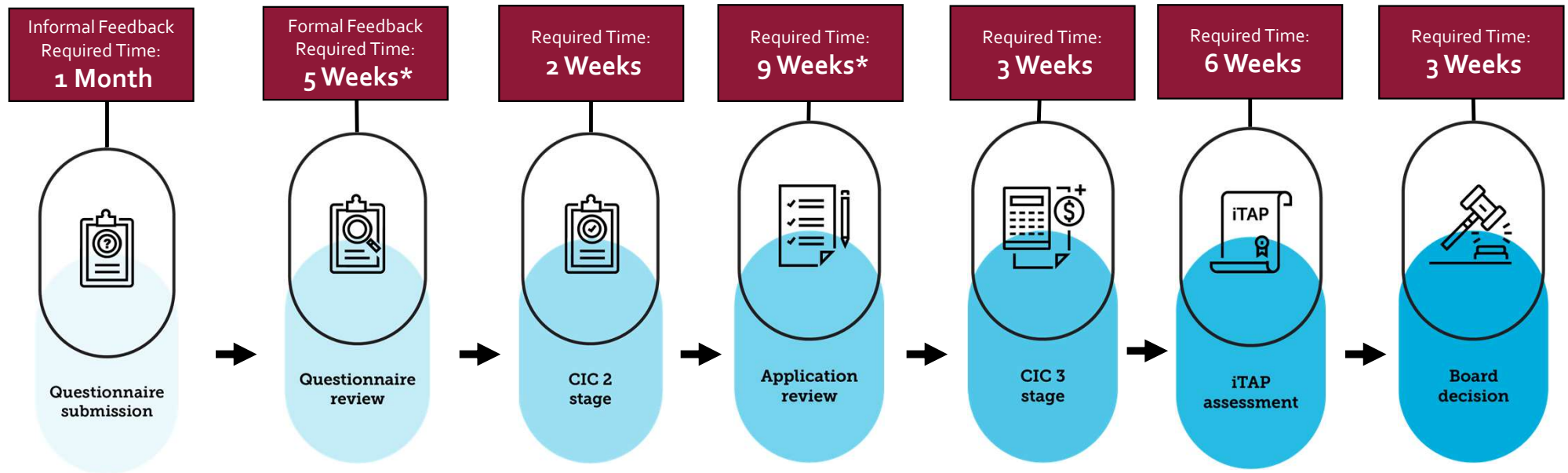


- Complete PSAA application
- Funding proposal
- Required annexes (no-objection letter, feasibility study, budget, economic analysis, safeguards documents, etc.)



# APPLICATION REVIEW TIMELINE (BEST CASE)

Time for development of application materials not included

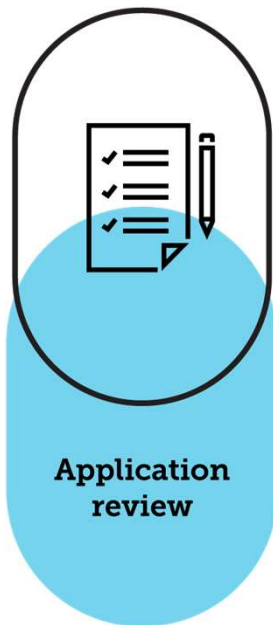


*\*Add 2-4 weeks per additional iteration considering quality of materials and time taken for responses*



# PSAA REVIEWS

GCF is projecting  
10 PSAA application reviews per year



GCF is currently prioritizing  
applications from:

- **Subnational, national and regional entities** based in developing countries
  - Particularly countries that have yet to access GCF funding
- Entities responding to GCF **requests for proposals**





# IS PSAA THE RIGHT PARTNERSHIP WITH GCF?



# WAYS TO PARTNER WITH GCF



- Many ways to partner with GCF
- Potential partners should consider their objectives
  - Accreditation may not always be the best fit
  - PSAA may not be the best fit
- GCF will assess an entity's suitability for PSAA in the first steps of the process



## IS PSAA THE RIGHT PARTNERSHIP?

1

**Does your entity seek GCF financing for one or many projects?**

2

**Does your entity have a single well-formed project idea aligned with GCF strategic objectives?**

3

**Is the proposal aligned with country priorities, and is there country support for the project idea?**

4

**Does your entity have a track record of similar projects and capacity to uphold GCF accreditation standards in implementing the project?**

7

# FIRST STEP FOR INTERESTED ENTITIES



Questionnaire  
submission

## Submit to GCF:

1. PSAA questionnaire (~20 minutes)
2. Project pitchbook (6-8 slides)
3. Summary of stakeholder engagement & country ownership

## Following review, GCF will:

- Invite entity to submit Concept Note & supporting information; or
- Request additional information about the entity and/or project; or
- Issue regrets for proposals not well-suited for PSAA



## SUMMARY

- PSAA is a new approach for entities to access GCF financing for a single project or programme
- GCF conducts PSAA project and capacity reviews in parallel
- Interested entities should carefully assess whether PSAA is the right partnership
- PSAA process begins with questionnaire submission on website



# PLEASE SEE THE GCF WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

[www.greenclimate.fund/projects/psaa](http://www.greenclimate.fund/projects/psaa)

- PSAA Overview
- Eligibility criteria
- Process
- Questionnaire
- Resources

Questions?

Email us at [psaa@gcfund.org](mailto:psaa@gcfund.org)



The screenshot shows the Green Climate Fund website page for the Project-specific Assessment Approach. The page features a navigation menu with links for ABOUT GCF, PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES, NEWS & EVENTS, DATA & RESOURCES, and GCF BOARD. The main heading is "Project-specific Assessment Approach" under the sub-heading "PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES / OTHER FUNDING MODALITIES". Below the heading is a navigation bar with tabs for Overview, Eligibility criteria, Process, Questionnaire, and Resources. The "Overview" tab is selected, displaying a text description of the PSAA Pilot and a video player titled "Introduction to the Project-specific Assessment Approach (PSAA)". The video player shows a man speaking, with a red play button overlay and a caption that reads "The PSAA pilot will run for three years". To the right of the text is a "SHARE" section with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Print.



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