GCF DOCUMENTATION ACCOUNTABILITY

# Redress



### **Independent Redress Mechanism**

**Grievances and Complaints** 

 $Extension \ of \ time \ for \ initial \ steps$ 

GCF Project: FP034

Case C-0011-Uganda

**Date: 15 April 2025** 

### **IRM Extension of Time Decision - Initial Steps**

## GCF Project FP034 - Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda

#### **Date** 15 April 2025

- 1. On 15 November 2024, the IRM acknowledged a complaint concerning a fatal drowning incident in south-western Uganda with relevance to GCF funded project FP034 "Building Resilient Communities, Wetland Ecosystems and Associated Catchments in Uganda." The complaint relates to a drowning incident of a 17-year-old that occurred on 29 September 2024 in Rukiga District in Uganda. During eligibility, the IRM determined that the incident occurred at a water retention facility that was reportedly under construction, and part of livelihood support activities being implemented under the GCF-funded project FP034. The IRM declared the case eligible on 13 December 2024.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. According to the IRM's Procedures and Guidelines (PGs),<sup>2</sup> the IRM has 60 calendar days from declaring a complaint eligible to conduct the initial steps phase, which includes consulting with the complainant(s) and other potential parties to:
  - a) understand the issues in the complaint;
  - b) provide further information regarding problem solving and compliance review;
  - c) ascertain whether the complainant would like to pursue problem solving and/or compliance review; and
  - d) ensure that the complainant is able to make an informed decision.
- 3. In accordance with the PGs, the IRM's 60 calendar days to complete the initial steps phase came to an end on 13 February 2025. During initial steps, the IRM visited relevant project sites and engaged with parties to explore options to urgently address the reported adverse impacts being experienced by complainants and the affected community. Prior to the conclusion of the initial steps phase, it was determined that additional time would be needed by parties to agree upon preliminary actions to address immediate needs. The initial steps phase was subsequently extended from 13 February 2025 to 13 April 2025.
- 4. In March 2025, an agreement was reached and signed by parties outlining proposed activities to meet the requests of complainants. However, more recent information received has called into question the technical feasibility of one or more agreed upon actions.
- 5. Recognizing the need to confirm the feasibility of agreements reached and to ascertain stakeholders' preference for facilitated dialogue to address adverse impacts, the IRM, acting in terms of paragraph 95 of the PGs, has decided to extend the time period for completing the initial steps phase from 13 April 2025 to 09 June 2025.

[Signed]

### Preksha Krishna Kumar

Registrar and Case Officer Independent Redress Mechanism Green Climate Fund

 $<sup>^1\,</sup> The \ eligibility \ determination \ for \ is \ available \ at: \\ \underline{https://irm.greenclimate.fund/case/c0011-uganda}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://irm.greenclimate.fund/document/2019-procedures-and-guidelines-irm