

Redress



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Mechanism

Independent Redress Mechanism

Grievances and Complaints

Case Closure Report

GCF Project FP134: Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016

Case C-0016-Colombia

18 June 2026

Case Closure Report

The Terms of Reference (TOR)¹ and the Procedures and Guidelines (PGs)² of the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) set out how the IRM deals with grievances or complaints from a person, group of persons, or community who have been, or may be affected by the adverse impacts of a GCF funded project or programme.

This closure report documents the steps undertaken by the IRM and relevant stakeholders and describes the reasons for closure.

SUMMARY OF OUTCOME

On 12 September 2025, the IRM acknowledged receipt of a complaint pertaining to GCF Project FP134 “Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016.” The complainant alleges they were improperly denied benefits previously allocated to them as part of a program to support sustainable forest management in the region of Caqueta, Colombia.

GCF Project FP134 recognizes Colombia’s results in climate mitigation for the period of 2015-2016 where a volume of 5.5 MtCO₂eq (million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent) was deemed eligible under GCF requirements for results-based payments under the REDD+ framework. The proceeds of this payment – valued at 28.2 million USD – would be used by Colombia to invest in activities to support the implementation of its Integrated Strategy of Deforestation Control and Forest Management. GCF Project components are broadly categorized as (i) strengthening national and local capacities for monitoring and control; (ii) sustainable forest management and agricultural frontier reduction and (iii) strengthening indigenous territorial governance and capacities.

The complainant engaged with GCF Project FP134 via activities implemented under the larger Vision Amazonia program. The Vision Amazonia Program aims to strengthen indigenous and local community governance of the Colombian Amazonian biome through interventions to reduce deforestation and promote a transition to a sustainable and ‘forest-positive’ economy.³

On 13 January 2026, the IRM determined the complaint eligible under its TOR and PGs.⁴ Consequently, the IRM started engaging with the complainant in the initial steps phase to better understand the issues in the complaint and to provide further information on the two complaint handling modalities (problem solving and compliance review), as indicated in paragraph 36 of the IRM PGs.

During the initial steps phase, the IRM did not gather information to determine the merits of the complaint or assess any compliance-related matters. Its objective was limited to better understanding parties’ perspectives and determining whether the complaint could be processed through problem solving. During the initial steps phase, the IRM team separately met with the complainant and Accredited Entity to understand the concerns raised in the project and to better understand the project implementation arrangements, specifically as it related to determining eligibility for receipt of certain benefits.

¹ Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/document/irm-tor>

² Available at: <https://irm.greenclimate.fund/document/2019-procedures-and-guidelines-irm>

³ <https://www.fao.org/gcf/news-and-events/news-detail/climate-solutions-that-leave-no-one-behind/en>

⁴ Available at: [C0016 Colombia | Independent Redress Mechanism | Green Climate Fund](https://www.greenclimate.fund/en/projects/c0016-colombia-independent-redress-mechanism)

Following an initial series of engagements, the IRM shared information on access to grievance mechanisms and additional information on the project with the complainant. Despite several attempts to move forward with the processing of the complaint, the IRM was unable to establish continued communications with the complainant. The IRM understands that the complainant has been unable or isn't willing to continue engagements in the IRM complaints handling process.

The IRM will therefore proceed with case closure, understanding that the complainant has received information on available grievance handling processes at the project-level and country-level should the complainant wish to re-activate their concerns.

[Signed]

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