

# Redress



GREEN  
CLIMATE  
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Independent  
Redress  
Mechanism

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## Independent Redress Mechanism


Grievances and Complaints

Eligibility Determination

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

IRM Case C-0016 Colombia

13 January 2026



## Eligibility Determination

The Terms of Reference (TOR)<sup>1</sup> and the Procedures and Guidelines (PGs)<sup>2</sup> of the Independent Redress Mechanism (IRM) sets 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. Once a grievance or complaint is received and registered by the IRM, the PGs require the IRM to determine if the grievance or complaint meets the eligibility criteria set out in paragraphs 20 – 21 and 23-24 of the PGs of the IRM. It is to be noted that this determination is procedural, and that it does not represent a judgement on the merits or the substance of the case.

### SUMMARY OF ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

For reasons substantiated in greater detail in this document, the IRM determines that this grievance/complaint is eligible under the IRM's TOR and PGs.

### BACKGROUND

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. The complainant has not requested confidentiality.

GCF Project FP134 recognizes Colombia's results in climate mitigation for the period of 2015-2016 where a volume of 5.5 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq (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.

FP134 was approved during the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GCF Board on 21 August 2020. The Accredited Entity (AE) of this Project is the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Project is 'Under Implementation' with an expected completion date of 21 July 2026.<sup>3</sup>

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.<sup>4</sup>

During the phase of eligibility determination, the IRM reviewed relevant project documents and publications to understand the relevance of concerns raised to the GCF Project. The eligibility phase was extended through January 2026 to allow for additional time to seek

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

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

<sup>3</sup> [FP134: Colombia REDD+ Results-based Payments for results period 2015-2016 | Green Climate Fund](#)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.fao.org/gcf/news-and-events/news-detail/climate-solutions-that-leave-no-one-behind/en>

clarifications from the complainant on confidentiality and further details on adverse impacts. On the basis of the above, the IRM *prima facie* concludes that the eligibility criteria, as set out in more detail below, have been met.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The IRM examined the eligibility of the complaint/grievance against the eligibility criteria set out in paragraphs 20 – 21 and 23-24 of the PGs of the IRM. The primary eligibility criteria and the IRM's findings in relation to these criteria are set out in the table below.

Criterion	Does the grievance or complaint meet the criterion?	Reason(s)
Was the grievance or complaint filed by a person, group of persons, community (or any duly authorised representative of the aforementioned groups) who have been or may be affected by the adverse impacts of a GCF funded project or programme?	Yes	The complainant belongs to a vulnerable population identified as intended beneficiaries of project activities. As set out above, <i>prima facie</i> , the complainant has experienced adverse impacts linked to improper consultation for the allocation of benefits under a GCF funded project or programme.
<p>Was the grievance or complaint submitted to the IRM before whichever is the later of the following two dates:</p> <p>(a) Two years from the date the complainant becomes aware of the adverse impacts referred to in paragraph 20 of the PGs; or</p> <p>(b) two years from the closure of the GCF funded project or programme.</p>	Yes	The complaint was submitted on 12 September 2025. At the time of submission, the project was under implementation. The complaint was accordingly submitted to the IRM before the later of the dates mentioned in paragraph 23 of the IRM's PGs.

Does the grievance or complaint fall into any one or more of the exclusions listed in paragraph 24 of the PGs?	No	None of the exclusionary criteria appear to be triggered by this complaint.
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## ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

For the reasons stated above, the IRM determines that this grievance or complaint is **eligible** under the IRM's TOR and PGs. The IRM will now engage with the complainant to understand the issues in the complaint and to provide further information on the next steps available to process the complaint. For further information on the process that the IRM will follow, please refer to paragraph 36 of the PGs.

*[Signed]*

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