

LOGISTICS NOTE



2nd GCF Integrity Forum: Partnering for Integrity in Climate Action

13-15 SEPTEMBER 2023 | BANGKOK, THAILAND

Grand Mercure Bangkok Atrium

1880 New Phetchaburi Road, Bangkapi Huay Kwang Bangkok 10310 Kingdom of Thailand



The Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) is delighted to host the second edition of the GCF Integrity Forum on **13 to 15 September 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand**. Following a temporary pause due to the exigencies of the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Integrity Forum returns this year and brings the flagship IIU event to Asia-Pacific for the first time.

Following a successful first engagement in Madrid in 2019, this year's theme is **"Partnering for Integrity in Climate Action."** The annual Forum brings together Direct Access Entities (DAEs) from across regions and provides an opportunity to become familiarised with GCF integrity policies and standards, platforms for capacity building and peer learning, and other engagements for sharing of best practices.

This Logistics Note provides general guidance on venue arrangements, travel and arrival information, accommodation options, preliminary agenda/programme, and other details relevant to the organisation of the Forum. Please click on the underlined items (URL links) to access further information on certain sections.

VENUE INFORMATION

The 2nd GCF Integrity Forum will be held at the **<u>GRAND MERCURE BANGKOK ATRIUM</u>**, a five-star facility located on a bustling thoroughfare at the heart of Bangkok.



GRAND MERCURE BANGKOK ATRIUM

Combining elements of modern hospitality and genuine Thai culture, the hotel offers a unique setting along Phetchaburi Road with stunning skyline views and accessible connection to the business district and attractions of Sukhumvit. It is conveniently located along popular cultural and lifestyle spots in the city – an easy access to local experiences!

Grand Mercure has a capacity of 540 generously proportioned rooms inspired by touches of Thai heritage and offers a rooftop pool, spa, and fitness centre.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

The main international airport serving Bangkok is **SUVARNABHUMI AIRPORT** (BKK), located about 30 kilometres outside of the Bangkok city centre. There are numerous transportation options available to get into the city, including an Airport Rail Link, public buses, and taxis.

Another large airport serving Bangkok is **DON MUEANG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT** (DMK), located about 27 kilometres outside of the city centre. Public city buses and taxis are the primary transportation connecting the airport to the city.

Getting around the city is also convenient as there are a variety of transportation modes available. For further information on public transport services and access in and around Bangkok, you may visit the following website:

• TRANSIT BANGKOK



SHUTTLE SERVICES: GRAND MERCURE BANGKOK ATRIUM

For participants staying at the Grand Mercure, hotel staff may arrange for shuttle services (airport pickup and/or drop-off) upon request and for an additional fee. You may refer to the rates¹ below:

- By TOYOTA CAMRY: THB 1,200 net per way (maximum of 3 passengers)
- By PRIVATE VAN: THB 1,500 net per way (maximum of 6 passengers)

For shuttle service reservations, kindly contact Grand Mercure directly through email at <u>grandmercure.bangkokatrium.reservations@accor.com</u>. Please note that full payment is required to secure the reservation.

AGENDA & PROGRAMME

The most up-to-date detailed agenda can be found on the IIU website at <u>bit.ly/integrityforum2023</u>.

The Forum will have a full programme on 13 (Wednesday) to 15 (Friday) September 2023. Participants are kindly advised to arrive in Bangkok at least a day prior to the official opening. To maximise the benefit of in-person learning and exchange during the Forum, all are encouraged to stay until the end of the three-day programme.

The Forum sessions will be offered in English with simultaneous interpretation in French. Headphones will be provided to all participants. Relevant documents and other collaterals will be available in English only.

OTHER PROGRAMME INFORMATION

- All Forum sessions will take place at the **BUSARAKAM BALLROOM** of the Grand Mercure. Signages will be placed around the hotel to assist with directions.
- Lunch and coffee breaks will be provided daily throughout the programme. Lunch will be served at the **PUBLIC**, the in-house buffet restaurant of Grand Mercure. Morning and afternoon coffee breaks will be served at the foyer adjacent to the Busarakam Ballroom. Specific dietary requirements indicated by participants during the online registration have been considered when planning the menu.
- Participants will receive their name badges and conference kits onsite. All are expected to wear their respective badges at all times during the Forum sessions.
- A Group Photo session is scheduled for the noon of Day 1 of the Forum (13 September, Wednesday).
- A summary of the discussions, outcomes, and presentations will be circulated to participants a few weeks following the Forum.

SOCIALS

Participants are invited to join social events to be hosted by the IIU on the sidelines of the Forum.

WELCOME RECEPTION: 13 SEPTEMBER (DAY 1, WEDNESDAY)

The IIU will host a Welcome Reception (dinner) on Day 1 of the Forum at the Grand Mercure Bangkok Atrium and is open to all participants. The dinner will take place in the **PAILIN ROOM** of the hotel.

Programme starts at **1900H** and is as follows:

- 1900H Participants arrive. Dinner will be served buffet-style.
- 1915H Introduction and Welcome Remarks (Karen Ernst, Head of IIU).
- 2000H Cultural Performance.
- 2100H Dinner closes.

¹ Subject to availability. The hotel reserves the right to update the rates without prior notice.



FAREWELL COCKTAIL: 15 SEPTEMBER (DAY 3, FRIDAY)

Participants are welcome to join an informal farewell gathering (cocktail) on Day 3 of the Forum to be hosted by the IIU following the official closing of the Forum. This is an additional opportunity for participants to expand their networks, reflect on recent exchanges from the workshop, and appreciate the sights and sounds of Bangkok.

The details are as follows:

VENUE	<u>AIRE Bar</u> 28/F Hyatt Place Bangkok Sukhumvit 22/5 Sukhumvit 24, Khlong Tan, Khlong Toei, Bangkok
TIME	1700H – 1830H
OTHER DETAILS	 A free flow mix of spirits and non-alcoholic beverages will be served, including light snacks and appetisers. Please present your Integrity Forum name badge to the bar staff upon arrival. Roundtrip shuttle service from Grand Mercure to AIRE Bar (and vice versa) will be available to participants. Schedule is as follows: Grand Mercure to AIRE Bar: Departs at 1645H AIRE Bar to Grand Mercure: Departs at 1845H

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Kingdom of Thailand is located in Southeast Asia, with Bangkok as its capital and largest city. Thai is the official language.

TIME DIFFERENCE

At the time of the Forum, Thailand is at GMT +7 hours.

WEATHER

In September, the expected average temperature in Bangkok is 29 degrees Celsius. The expected maximum daily average temperature is 32 degrees Celsius.

CURRENCY

The unit of currency is the Thai Baht (THB). As of o6 September 2023, 1 United States Dollar (USD) is equivalent to about 35 Thai Baht (THB). You may check prevailing foreign exchange rates online prior to departure via **OANDA CURRENCY CONVERTER**.

ELECTRICITY

The standard voltage in Thailand is 220 volts. The power plug sockets are of type A, B, C, F and O.

FOR ENQUIRIES

Please contact the IIU through any of the channels below:

Organising Committee

integrityforum@gcfund.org +82 10 2954 6324 Emma Johnson (Communication Officer) ejohnson@gcfund.org

Raphael Acabado (Operations Officer) racabado@gcfund.org