

## **NABARD accredited as the first National Implementing Entity of Green Climate Fund**

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been accredited as the first National Implementing Entity (NIE) of Green Climate Fund (GCF) established under United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The decision to accredit NABARD was taken on 09 July 2015 at the Board meeting of GCF at Songdo, Republic of Korea in which Shri.R.Amalorpavanathan, Dy Managing Director, NABARD participated.

The NIEs are those national legal entities that are recognized by the Board as meeting the fiduciary standards established by the Board. The NIEs bear full responsibility for the overall management of the projects and programmes financed by the Green Climate Fund and have all financial, monitoring, and reporting responsibilities.

Given the urgency and seriousness of climate change, the purpose of the Green Climate Fund is to make a significant and ambitious contribution to the global efforts towards attaining the goals set by the international community to combat climate change. In the context of sustainable development, the Fund will promote the paradigm shift towards low-emission and climate-resilient development pathways by providing support to developing countries in order to limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the impacts of climate change, taking into account the needs of those developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

NABARD has earlier submitted its application to GCF with due recommendation from Govt of India. The application has undergone Fund's stringent accreditation process based on three stages. Finally, based on the recommendation of the Accreditation Panel, the application was approved by the Board.

NABARD is already supporting projects many of which can be classified under climate finance. Over 28% of NABARD's cumulative disbursements have links with climate change adaptation and mitigation. Specifically, NABARD's thematic areas of forestry, agriculture, animal husbandry, land development, minor irrigation, etc., have projects / components with emission reduction potential.

NABARD has earlier been accredited by the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) of UNFCCC as the only National Implementing Entity (NIE) for India. In all five projects amounting to US \$ 7.07 million have been submitted to AFB, of which 3 with an outlay of US \$ 5.0 million have been approved by AFB.

NIE of Green Climate Fund would give thematic leadership to NABARD in India in the area of climate change adaptation and mitigation particularly in agriculture and rural sectors. Accreditation provides NABARD access to financial assistance from Green Climate Fund, for both adaptation and mitigation projects/programmes. The fund could be used to finance climate change adaptation and mitigation projects identified in the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) of Govt of India and State Action Plan for Climate Change (SAPCC) of the State Governments besides feasible projects from private sectors including NGO sector. As such, accreditation to GCF is the first step towards enabling NABARD to play a larger role in financing climate change adaptation and mitigation projects in India.