

# The Exit Strategy

The BRAVE project's Exit Strategy explains how the **specific interventions** will be sustained, institutionalized, and scaled after GCF support ends. The strategy focuses on continuity of services, institutional ownership, and market-based incentives which have been embedded into project design. Sustainability is achieved through five mutually reinforcing pillars that correspond directly to project outcomes, outputs, and activities.

1. Strengthening local capacity and institutional ownership
2. Securing operations and maintenance of key investments
3. Financial sustainability and private sector engagement.
4. Policy and governance integration to enable replication and scaling.
5. Post-exit actions for monitoring, learning, and accountability

Together, these elements ensure that support for project activities and ownership transitions from GCF and project implementing partners to local governments, private sector actors, and communities, ensuring that benefits endure over the long term.

**1. Strengthening local capacity and institutional ownership.** The foundation of BRAVE's Exit Strategy is the institutionalization of skills, tools, and planning processes developed under the project. BRAVE localizes climate information and translates it into practical, decision-oriented formats that farmers, aquaculture producers, and MSMEs can directly apply to seasonal planning, production cycles, and investment decisions. Targeted training ensures that these stakeholders are able to interpret, use, and act on climate information independently, rather than relying on external project support. Core investments, particularly the Climate Information System (CIS), climate-informed planning methodologies, and community action plans, are explicitly designed for long-term use by government and community institutions. By project completion, CIS tools for agriculture and aquaculture will be fully operational and embedded within the routine functions of relevant sectoral agencies, including planning, extension, and advisory services.

At the community level, BRAVE supports the development of participatory and gender-sensitive Climate-Resilient Livelihood and land-use action plans under Outcome 1. These plans are formally integrated into Village Development Plans, providing a clear pathway for continued implementation through local government budgeting and planning cycles after project closure. This integration anchors climate-resilient practices within existing governance structures, ensuring that planning tools, decision-support systems, and adaptation measures remain part of regular local development processes rather than isolated project outputs.

**2. Operations and maintenance (O&M) of key investments.** BRAVE will invest in tangible assets, including Climate Information Systems (CIS), and blue-green infrastructure, that require continued operation and maintenance to deliver benefits over time. The project's

Exit Strategy ensures that systems and infrastructure are handed over to capable local institutions, such as provincial Agriculture and Marine and Fisheries Agencies. Memoranda of Understanding will clearly define operational responsibilities, maintenance schedules, and financing arrangements. To build capacity and support, the handover host agencies and local committees will receive technical training to operate, maintain, and upgrade systems as needed. Training will also cover contingency planning, data management, and community communication protocols.

The project advocates for the inclusion of O&M budget lines within annual local government planning and financing cycles, ensuring sustainable funding. Local universities and NGOs will be engaged to provide ongoing technical support, troubleshooting, and research collaborations that keep systems up to date. Blue–green spaces, established as multifunctional runoff management systems, will be co-managed by communities and local governments. Community stewardship models will be formalized, linking blue–green space management to livelihood opportunities (e.g., eco-tourism, carbon projects), thereby incentivizing local upkeep.

**3. Financial sustainability and private sector engagement.** Financial sustainability of livelihood outcomes is anchored in the climate-resilient business models and bundled service schemes explicitly developed under Outcome 3. These models link farmers and aquaculture producers to offtakers, input suppliers, and financial institutions through formal agreements, including guaranteed offtake arrangements, access to finance, and technical advisory services. BRAVE adopts a Market Systems Development approach that ensures that resilient livelihoods are financially sustainable and market-driven rather than donor-dependent. The project supports closed-loop agriculture and resilient aquaculture systems that link producers to off-takers, processors, and financial institutions. These systems reduce production risks by providing access to climate information, quality inputs, and technical advice and strengthen market access through value chain agreements and guaranteed off-take arrangements. The project also enhances financial inclusion by co-developing bundled service packages with banks, microfinance institutions, and insurers, including credit, savings, and risk transfer products.

By demonstrating profitable, resilient, and inclusive business models, BRAVE will crowd in private investment during and after project implementation. Four companies and two financial institutions have already expressed interest in the project and commitment will be formalised through MoUs, providing a strong foundation for scale-up. Once resilient value chains are proven viable and profitable, champion companies are expected to replicate and scale these models independently in other locations, reducing reliance on concessional finance.

**4. Policy and governance integration to enable replication and scaling.** BRAVE's Exit Strategy places strong emphasis on embedding tested project approaches within existing policy, planning, and regulatory frameworks so that replication and scaling can occur without continued project support. Outcome 3 ensures that lessons generated through implementation, across climate-informed planning, integrated water resource management (IWRM), and risk-informed livelihood development, are translated into evidence-based policy recommendations and planning instruments at local, provincial, and national levels.

Through policy analysis, multi-level dialogues, and stakeholder consultations, BRAVE supports the adoption of climate-resilient IWRM principles and planning approaches within existing development policies and plans. The co-development of a climate-resilient IWRM framework with government agencies and other stakeholders strengthens ownership and political buy-in, while the formal inclusion of IWRM principles in provincial and local policies

establishes a legal and institutional basis for continued implementation beyond the project period.

The project also catalyzes a shift from reactive disaster response toward proactive, ecosystem-based risk management and resilient livelihoods by institutionalizing community-led, evidence-based planning processes. CIS tools and climate-informed planning methodologies developed under BRAVE serve as standardized, transferable models that government agencies and private sector actors can apply in other watersheds using their own resources. As a result, scaling occurs through normal planning, budgeting, and regulatory processes, rather than through parallel project structures, ensuring that climate resilience becomes a routine component of governance, resource allocation, and public service delivery.

**5. Post-exit monitoring, learning, and accountability.** To track resilience gains beyond the project period, BRAVE establishes a community-based monitoring and evaluation system that will remain operational post-exit. Community groups will collect data on key indicators such as productivity gains, flood impacts avoided, and ecosystem health, providing evidence for continued investment. Local governments will assume financing and oversight roles, using data to inform adaptive planning and decision-making. Academia and civil society will support independent evaluations, knowledge dissemination, and advocacy to sustain policy momentum. A dedicated Exit Strategy monitoring framework will be integrated into the project's MEL Plan to ensure that progress toward sustainability targets is tracked and reported during the final phases of implementation.

Through its integrated approach, BRAVE ensures that the transition from GCF-supported implementation to nationally owned and community-driven continuation is smooth, financially viable, and technically robust. Its Exit Strategy guarantees that climate-resilient livelihoods, improved governance, and ecosystem restoration will not only be maintained but also scaled and replicated. By aligning with Indonesia's national priorities, mobilizing private sector investment, and embedding resilience into institutions and policies, BRAVE contributes to a lasting transformation toward climate-resilient, inclusive, and sustainable development pathways.