

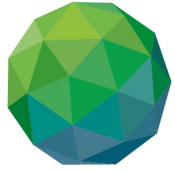
GREEN
CLIMATE
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GCF REGIONAL DIALOGUE

with THE PACIFIC & ASIAN SIDS

Rarotonga, Cook Islands
6–9 May 2025





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Evolving Concept Notes to full Funding Proposal

Ebere Ihetu, CIO-FO Consultant, DAPAC

Moderator: So Ozaki, Project Officer, DAPAC

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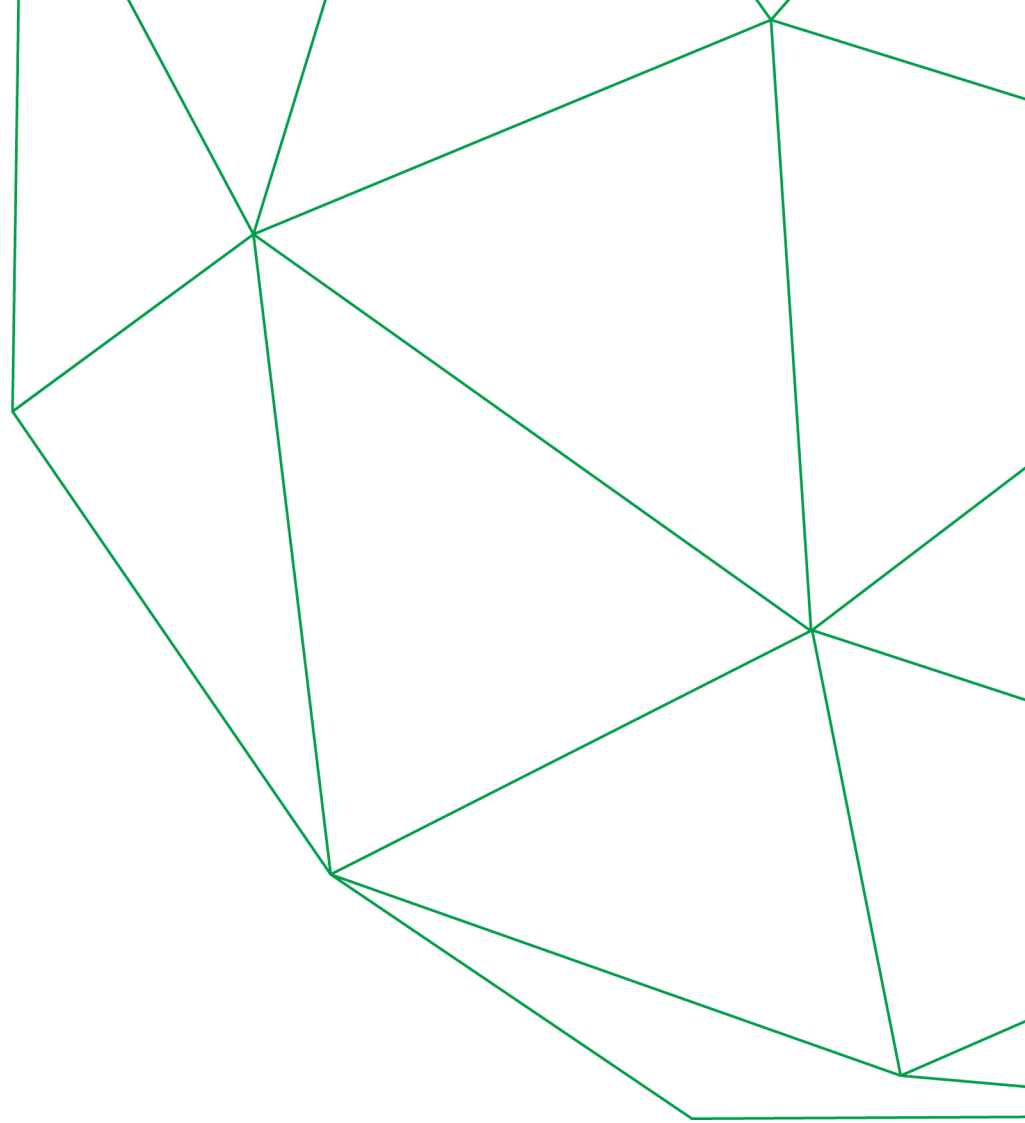


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New GCF Concept Note template and screening process - 1/4



From concept to approval in 9 months:

Our commitment to speed up climate finance

- GCF will complete reviews of Concept Notes and Funding Proposals in nine months or less, ready for Board approval.
- The nine months will include the time taken to review a Concept Note and the time taken to appraise a Funding Proposal and secure iTAP endorsement.
- It does not include the time taken by the Entities between these stages to develop the full proposal.

New GCF Concept Note template and screening process - 2/4



The new CN template facilitates faster screening

- ✓ **New digital Concept Notes:** To receive rapid and clear feedback and direction on the Concept Note in 6 weeks
- ✓ **Concise inputs:** Each section includes a word limit to ensure clarity and brevity, focusing on the core information necessary for Concept Note screening
- ✓ **Very specific questions are asked** which focuses on information needed for Concept Note screening and this allows us to *engage, assess and move forward*
- ✓ Delegated authority for faster decisions

GCF to provide clear feedback on whether the concept:

- ☐ Aligns with GCF's mandate and criteria merits development into a FP;
- ☐ Does not fully align with GCF's mandate and/or criteria, with up to one resubmission requested to address specific issues; or
- ☐ Does not align with GCF's mandate and/or criteria and does not merit further development

New GCF Concept Note template and screening process - 3/4

Concept Note access and submission



Accredited Entities can access the new digitized Concept Note template via the GCF Partner Portal: <https://partners.gcfund.org/>

Simply click on "+ Submit proposal" and then select "Create a new proposal using the new digital template for GCF concept notes".

New GCF Concept Note template and screening process - 4/4



Structure of the new Concept Note template

Section	Purpose
A. Basic proposal data	Basic project data to enable GCF to properly catalog and track the CN against key organizational metrics
B. Proposal executive summary	Provide a succinct narrative of the proposed project/programme and the need for GCF financing
C. Proposal information	Clearly describe the proposal's: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Climate change context• Activities and potential to achieve mitigation and/or adaptation impact• Country ownership and engagement with stakeholders• Indicative safeguards profile• Exit strategy and sustainability of impacts
D. Indicative financing information	Enumerate the financial structure of the project/programme: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Total financing, including sources, uses and instruments• Indicative terms for non-grant instruments• Financial, contractual and governance structure• Justification of GCF funding request
E. Accredited entity / Executing entity information	Overview of roles and capabilities of organizations participating in the project
F. Key risks / mitigation measures	Identify key risks to the project/programme and proposed mitigants
G. Supporting documents	Maps, studies, ESS screening, theory of change diagram, simplified economic and financial model

GCF Concept Note

VERSION 1 GCF Concept Note

Submit proposal

Form Progress 0%

NOT STARTED

A. Basic Proposal Data

Project scope definition

NOT STARTED

B. Executive Summary

Comprehensive project summary

NOT STARTED

C. Proposal Information

Technical foundation of the project

NOT STARTED

D. Indicative Financing Information

Financial architecture of the project

NOT STARTED

E. Accredited Entity / Executing Entity Information

Detailed overview of the entities responsible for project execution

NOT STARTED

F. Key Risks/Mitigation measures

Systematic identification of key project risks and corresponding mitigation measures

NOT STARTED

G. Supporting documents to be uploaded

Optional supplementary materials that strengthen the proposal

☒ I confirm that I have read the [disclaimer](#) above and agree to all terms and conditions.

A. Basic Proposal Data

Project Title

Type here

Country (ies)

x

▼

Accredited Entity(ies) (AE)

▼

A.1. Confidentiality

☐ Confidential

☐ Not confidential

i Concept notes (or sections of) not marked as confidential may be published in accordance with the Information Disclosure Policy ([Decision B.12/35](#)) and the Review of the Initial Proposal Approval Process ([Decision B.17/18](#)).

A.2. Sector

☐ Public

☐ Private

A.3. Funding modality

☐ Proposal Approval Process (PAP)

☐ Simplified Approval Process (SAP)

i You can learn more about the funding modalities [here](#)

A.4. Executing Entity(ies) (EE)

Type here

A.5. Indicate the result areas for the project and estimated percent of total project cost (GCF + co-finance) by theme (mitigation & adaptation)

Mitigation

Type here

%

Reduced emissions from:

- ☐ Energy access & generation
- ☐ Low emission transport
- ☐ Buildings, cities, industries & appliances
- ☐ Forestry & land use

Adaptation

Type here

%

Increased resilience of:

- ☐ Livelihoods of people & communities
- ☐ Health, food & water security
- ☐ Infrastructure & built environment
- ☐ Ecosystems & ecosystem services

A.6. Estimated mitigation outcome (tCO₂eq over lifespan)

Type here

A.7. Estimated adaptation outcome (number of beneficiaries and % of population)

Direct beneficiaries

Direct %

Indirect beneficiaries

Indirect %

Type here

Type here

%

Type here

Type here

%

A.8. Indicate targeted results in the [GCF strategic plan 2024-2027](#) (check all that apply)

- ☐ T1. Countries: More than 100 developing countries directly supported by GCF to advance the implementation of their NDCs, NAPs or LTS through integrated climate investment planning and/or developing high quality-climate project pipelines for GCF funding
- ☐ T2. DAEs: Doubling the number of DAEs with approved GCF funding proposals through strengthened climate capacity and increasing the allocation of GCF resources through DAEs
- ☐ T3. CIEWS: Countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change protected by new or improved early warning systems
- ☐ T4. Food: Beneficiaries adopting low-emission climate-resilient agricultural and fisheries practices, securing livelihoods while reconfiguring food systems
- ☐ T5. Ecosystems: Hectares of terrestrial and marine areas conserved, restored or brought under sustainable management
- ☐ T6. Infrastructure: Countries supported by GCF to develop or secure low-emission climate resilient infrastructure, through systemic and/or country-driven resilience planning, funding and/or de-risking of investments, including those that draw on nature-based solutions or ecosystem based approaches
- ☐ T7. Clean Energy: Countries supported to expand access to sustainable, affordable, resilient, reliable renewable energy, particularly for hardest to reach, and/or to increase renewable energy sources in the energy mix
- ☐ T8. Transport, buildings, industry: Countries supported to shift toward clean and efficient energy end-use for transport, building and industry sectors, including through electrification, decreasing energy consumption and novel solutions and emerging technologies for hard-to-abate sectors
- ☐ T9. Locally-led climate action: Does the project have potential to support locally-led climate action by enabling local actors to decide over the use of GCF finance at project activity level or maintain a strong involvement across the project cycle? (If yes, please expound in sections C.2 and C.3.)
- ☐ T10. MSMEs: Local private sector early-stage ventures and MSMEs provided with broad-based seed and early-stage capital for innovative climate solutions, business models and technologies, with a focus on adaptation, energy access and transport sectors, and removing barriers for home-grown innovation
- ☐ T11. LFIs: National and regional financial institutions supported to access GCF resources, and other green finance, particularly for MSMEs



GCF expectations



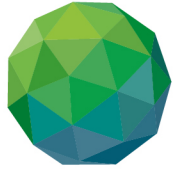
- ✓ Strong climate narrative
- ✓ Country priorities need to be illustrated
- ✓ Paradigm shift potential
- ✓ Alignment with GCF mandate and strategy
- ✓ Opportunities and potential to meet investment criteria
- ✓ Risks and development approach

Key messages

1. At concept note, focus is on checking alignment with Country Priority and GCF's objectives
2. The process is designed as a fit-for-purpose assessment conducted by smaller team members
3. A number of questions on the alignment with the investment criteria, through a screening questionnaire
4. Seeks to improve quality at entry and reduce FP appraisal times



Thank you



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Evolving Concept Notes to full Funding Proposal (development, appraisal, and approval)

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Clinic 2: Funded Activities

Evolving Concept Notes to full Funding Proposal



- Early / informal engagement
- Ensure it is a Climate Project
- **GCF Results areas**

Project idea

- Digital submission
- Climate narrative
- Country priorities
- Paradigm shift
- **Filter for IC potential**

Concept Note

Align to
GCF Inv

1. Impact
2. Paradigm
3. Sustainable
4. Country
5. Efficiency
6. Recipient

Mitigation

Adaptation

Complete FP Package

- No-objection letter(s)
- Feasibility study
- EFA & cofinancing models
- Execution arrangements
- Safeguards analysis
- Term sheet

Livelihoods of people
and communities

Health, food and
water security

Infrastructure and
the built environment

Ecosystems and
ecosystem services

Recap - GCF requirements



8 Results Areas



Energy



Transport



Buildings, Cities,
Industries



Ecosystems



Livelihoods of
people & comm.



Health, food
and water
security



Forests and
land use



Infrastructure

Complete FP Package

- No-objection letter(s)
- Feasibility study
- EFA & cofinancing models
- Execution arrangements
- Safeguards analysis
- Term sheet

Strong Climate Narrative

- Climate Impact of investment is key
- Scientific evidence to be provided

Country Driven Approach

- Alignment with NDCs
- Early country (NDA) engagement
- No-objection letter
- Stakeholder Engagement

Investment Criteria

1. Impact potential
2. Paradigm shift potential
3. Sustainable development potential
4. Recipient needs
5. Country ownership
6. Efficiency & effectiveness

Compliance with GCF Policies

- Accreditation
- Fiduciary standards
- AML, CFT, compliance
- E&S safeguards
- M&E, IRMF, legal, other

Additionality of GCF Funding

- Why GCF?
- Projects must crowd-in additional financing on top of GCF