

Ministry of Economy

Pacific GCF Accredited

Entities Roundtable

Final Report

20 April 2021

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Objectives and Approach	4
2.1 Objectives	4
2.2 Approach	4
3. Participation	5
4. Session content	6
4.1 Panel Discussion 1: Accreditation Experiences, Challenges and Solutions	6
4.2 Questions from the Audience	10
4.3 Panel Discussion 2: Preparing to Submit a First Project Proposal to GCF and Putting Together a Project Pipeline	10
4.4 Questions from the Audience	13
5. Polls Results	15
6. Best Practices and Lessons Learned	20
6.1 Experiences and lessons learned from the accreditation process	20
6.2 Common needs for advisory services and capacity building	20
6.3 Developing GCF project pipelines and aspects of project design	21
Annex 1 - Meeting Agenda	22
Annex 2 - List of Questions to the Panelists	23
Annex 3 - Details of Roundtable Meeting Participants	25
Annex 4 - Evaluation Analysis	28
Annex 5 - Concept Note	33

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AE	Accredited Entity
AF	Adaptation Fund
AP	Accreditation Panel
DAE	Direct Access Entities
CCICD	Climate Change and International Cooperation Division, Fiji
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management System
FDB	Fiji Development Bank
FJD	Fijian Dollar
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GoF	Government of Fiji
MCT	Micronesia Conservation Trust
MFEM	Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Cook Islands
MoE	Ministry of Economy, Fiji
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOL	No Objection Letter
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
PIC	Pacific Island Countries
PPF	Project Preparation Facility
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDP	United Nations Development Program

1. Introduction

Pacific Island Countries (PIC) are extremely vulnerable to climate change. The ecosystems in the Pacific are continually being degraded by pollution, overfishing, and unsustainable development. The most substantial impacts of climate change include losses of coastal infrastructure and land, more frequent and intense cyclones and droughts, failure of crops and coastal fisheries, losses of coral reefs and mangroves, and the spread of certain diseases. Countries in the Pacific also increasingly face severe climate impacts including sea-level rise, changing temperature and rainfall patterns. These impacts result in changes in food and water security, loss of identity, climate-induced migration, and threats to sovereignty.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a fund established within the framework of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement to assist developing countries scale adaptation and mitigation practices and promote a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development¹. The objective of the GCF is to "support projects, programmes, policies and other activities in developing countries using thematic funding windows". Since 2015 the GCF has been the largest multilateral contributor of finance for climate change projects to Small Island Developing States (SIDS). According to the Climate Funds Update², USD 255 million was approved for climate finance projects in SIDS in 2018 with 76 percent of this funding coming from the GCF.

The GCF works through a wide range of institutions to finance projects and programmes. To access funding, these institutions must go through a process of "accreditation," designed to assess whether they are capable of strong financial management and ensuring environmental and social safeguards for funded projects and programmes. Once accredited, entities develop funding proposals to be considered and approved by the GCF and once a project is approved, they oversee, supervise, manage and monitor their respective GCF-approved projects and programmes. Therefore, finance to the Pacific from the GCF must flow through International, Regional or National (also called Direct Access) accredited entities.

On 20 April 2020, the Climate Change and International Cooperation Division (CCICD) of the Ministry of Economy (MoE), as the National Designated Authority (NDA) of Fiji to the GCF, convened a Roundtable of accredited entities (AE) in the Pacific. The meeting was convened with two 30-minute panel discussions, each followed by a question-and-answer session. This report provides a summary of the panel discussions, the question-and-answer sessions, and outcomes from the Roundtable meeting. The meeting was supported by the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) via a GCF readiness grant.

¹ GCF IN BRIEF: ABOUT THE FUND. https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/gcf-brief-about-fund_0.pdf.

² Climate Finance Regional Briefing: Small Island Developing States (2020). Climate Funds Update. (2020). <https://climatefundsupdate.org/publications/climate-finance-regional-briefing-small-island-developing-states-2020/>

2. Objectives and Approach

2.1 Objectives

The main objectives of the AE Roundtable were as follows:

- 1) To share experiences and lessons learned among entities that have been accredited by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and those that are applying for accreditation
- 2) To discuss common needs in terms of support, including for advisory services and capacity building and to identify solutions on how to address challenges that are impacting the ability of PICs to access climate finance
- 3) To discuss how to develop a GCF project and current and potential future project pipelines for countries and regional projects

2.2 Approach

In preparation for the meeting, the GGGI and the CCICD team circulated a meeting agenda (**Annex 1**) and the following documents to the participants:

- AE Roundtable – Invitation Letter for Pacific GCF Accredited Entities
- AE Roundtable – Concept Note (**Annex 5**)

The format of the meeting was divided into two 30-minute panels with 5 speakers each and each afterwards having 30 minutes time for questions and answers to promote an interactive approach and to encourage maximum engagement from the participants. The topic of the first discussion panel was, “**Accreditation Experiences, Challenges and Solutions**” and the topic of the second discussion panel was, “**Preparing to Submit a First Project Proposal to GCF and Putting Together a Project Pipeline**”. The list of questions that were posed to the panelists are given in **Annex 2**.

The facilitation team for the Roundtable consisted of Vineil Narayan (Acting Head - CCICD), Katerina Syngellakis (GGGI), Marita Manley (consultant, GGGI) and Yawar Herekar (consultant, GGGI – joining remotely), with Prelish Lal (CCICD), Shaunalee Katafono (consultant, GGGI) and Roshika Gounder (GGGI) providing administrative and technical support.

The expected outcomes of the meeting were as follows:

- Up-to-date and Pacific-focused knowledge and experiences regarding GCF accreditation and project pipeline development shared between climate finance professionals enabling them to draw upon lessons learnt to date;
- Identification of potential accreditation bottlenecks and how to overcome them;
- Articulation of good practices and policies that will allow for access to GCF funds (practices in concept and proposal development and policies such as environmental and social safeguards (ESS), gender, information disclosure etc.); and
- Greater awareness amongst the participants of current and potential future GCF projects in the Pacific and potential areas of collaboration/cooperation.

3. Participation

The Roundtable was by invitation of the Fiji MoE to international and regional organizations having offices in the Pacific that are already accredited to the GCF, and to Pacific Island government ministries and organisations which are either already GCF accredited, are in the process of gaining accreditation to the GCF or are interested in applying to be accredited to the GCF in the future. The Fiji MoE is itself in the process of seeking accreditation.

Given the on-going COVID-19 travel restrictions and need to follow COVID-safe meeting guidelines in Fiji, the Roundtable had a hybrid format with virtual panel sessions and participants joining online and in-person (for MoE staff) to enable participation by organizations and government ministries based in other PICs and allow for safety of the participants in Fiji.



MoE staff and GGGI consultants that attended the Roundtable event in-person.

The Roundtable successfully brought together staff from the GCF, international, regional and national accredited organizations and government ministries with direct experience in the GCF accreditation process and project pipeline development as panelists to give 3 to 5-minute interventions sharing their thoughts and perspectives on specific aspects regarding accreditation and project development. They were followed by questions-and-answers sessions dedicated to exchange and open debate.

Altogether, a total of 41 participants (exclusive of the 7-member facilitation team – 4 females and 3 males) attended the Roundtable event online and in-person (28 online; 13 in-person). The panelists were made up of 6 women and 3 men. Attendees comprised of 18 women and 23 men. A participants list is available in

Annex 3 - Details of Roundtable Meeting Participants. An introductory poll was conducted which confirmed that there was a good mix of participants from NGOs, government officials, development organizations, multilateral banks and bilateral development organizations from across the Pacific. Accredited entities from PICs in various stages of accreditation were also in attendance.

4. Session content

Each of the panel discussions are detailed below. Recommendations provided by participants have been noted under each respective session.

4.1 Panel Discussion 1: Accreditation Experiences, Challenges and Solutions

The first panel discussion provided an overview of the GCF accreditation process. Panelists also talked about the challenges that come with applying for accreditation and highlighted possible solutions that accredited entities have identified. The answers given by each panelist to the questions that they were asked are as detailed below.

Panelist 1: GCF - Ms. Rouna A (*Accreditation Associate Professional*)

What are the latest updates on the GCF accreditation process?

GCF would really like to see the following:

Potential Direct Access Entity's (DAEs) engaging with the National Designated Authorities (NDAs) of their country to align their entity work program with the GCF Country Programme and country priorities so that the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) can be fulfilled as per the Paris Agreement. The DAE should also then engage with the GCF early in the accreditation process.

A strong linkage between the Entity Work Program (EWP) and the country priorities, so that the NDA and the DAE at the strategic level can complement each other and advance the country program in line with GCF standards.

The accreditation process serving as an institutional capacity building process to see what policies and procedures could align with the GCF standards.

In terms of the accreditation process, the Secretariat is working on streamlining Stage 1 (Review by the GCF Secretariat) and Stage 2 (Review by the Accreditation Panel) of the accreditation process with the hope that they can speed up the accreditation process. Right now, the GCF does not have any prioritization but are proceeding on a first come-first serve basis.

The Secretariat is working on a new digital accreditation system and online platform so that the DAEs can have a more user-friendly system. This is because currently when a DAE goes through the accreditation process, there is a lot of back and forth that takes place between the GCF and the DAE.

Is there a way that GCF accreditation can be fast- tracked/enhanced for entities in the Pacific?

GCF has a fast-track process for entities accredited by the Adaptation Fund (AF). This means that whatever in the GCF accreditation application has already been assessed by the AF, would not be assessed again by the GCF. This is one way of harmonizing and complementing the accreditation process with other funds. However, certain sections of the accreditation process cannot be exempted which are specifically required by the GCF.

Panelist 2: MFEM Cook Islands - Ms. Tessa Vaetoru (GCF Coordinator)

What were the most challenging parts of GCF accreditation and are there any low hanging fruits?

The accreditation process is rigorous and lengthy, but the entire accreditation process builds capacity of the human resources and strengthens institutional systems of an entity.

The most challenging part of accreditation is getting the documents and frameworks together and making sure that they meet GCF standards. MFEM had to do a lot of research to find policies and procedures that were adequate for Small Island Developing states (SIDs). In the process, MFEM reached out to some of the regional organizations to get some guidance on how to develop their E&S safeguards.

In the second stage of the accreditation panel in which the application is reviewed by the Accreditation Panel (AP), full advantage should be taken of this. The AP is full of experts who are extremely helpful since they review the application documents pretty thoroughly and can provide input and guidance.

MFEM did not have challenges developing the gender policy because the Ministry of Internal Affairs (Cook Islands) had already developed the national gender policy for the Cook Islands which they based the MFEM Gender Policy off.

Have there been any co-benefits to institutional strengthening for the MFEM by seeking GCF accreditation?

Since being accredited, MFEM Cook Islands has had a lot of support from the GCF readiness program and funds as well as to the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) offered by the GCF for project preparation. While going through the accreditation process, MFEM was able to strengthen their national systems, developed an activity management framework and a robust Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS).

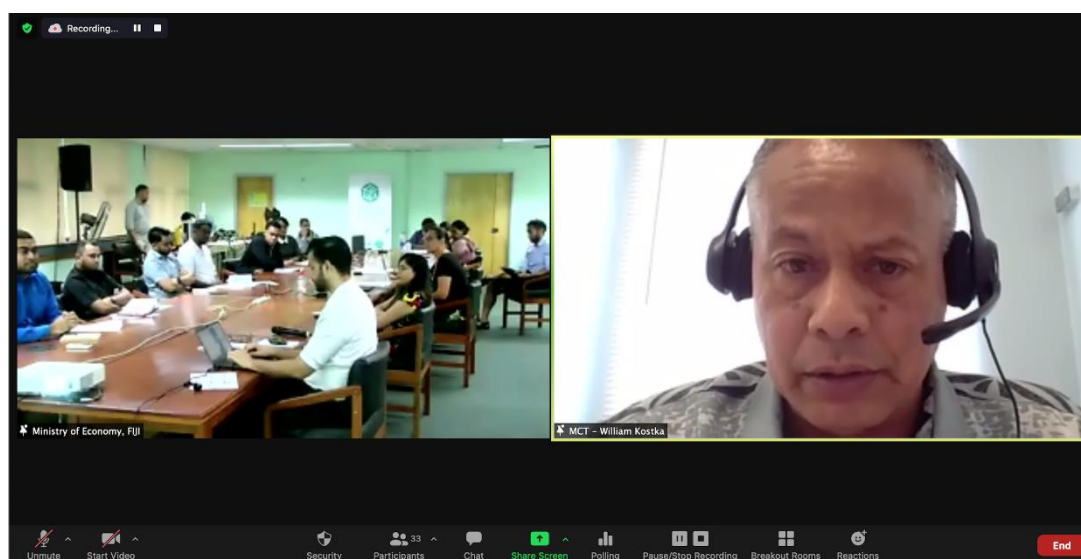
Panelist 3: Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) - Mr. William Kostka (Director)

Did you have to adjust your processes/policies/procedures to meet GCF ESS requirements? If so, what adjustments did you make and do you have any advice for others currently revising their ESS policies/processes?

MCT was already accredited to the Adaptation Fund (AF), so they did have a head start because they could use the fast-track method provided to entities accredited by the AF. Because of this, MCT's policies were in place already. However, they had to make the policies more robust such

as the ESS and Gender policies to meet GCF standards. They developed a Guide to Project Performance focusing on E&S risk for themselves and for their executing entities to use.

Accreditation helped them institutionalize the policies which they are now using in all their projects, regardless of them being funded by the GCF. Policies such as the gender policy is based on the FSM national gender policy and makes sure that gender is mainstreamed in projects and this is because of applying for GCF accreditation. MCT has a Gender Assessment and Analysis template as well as a MCT Environment, Social and Economic Screening System which they are happy to share with others. MCT did receive a lot of support from the GCF for both accreditation and for project preparation.



Panelist Mr. William Kostka, Director of MCT, joining remotely from the Federated States of Micronesia

How can an entity prove to the GCF that the policies that have been put in place have been implemented?

The challenge MCT had was that they did not have a track record to prove to the GCF that they were implementing their E&S standards and Gender policy. That was a challenge that they had to deal with. So, a lesson learnt is that documentation and record-keeping is important.

Panelist 4: Fiji Development Bank - Ms. Setaita Tamanikaiyaroi (Manager - Green Banking)

What can be done to increase capacity of organizations to meet GCF accreditation requirements?

Training around GCF requirements is extremely helpful for learning and growth of the organization. GCF as well as the NDA and DAE can conduct trainings frequently. The training should consider the stage at which the DAE is in the accreditation process. Some of the training might not be relevant to the DAE depending on where it is at in the accreditation process. For instance, for FDB, some of the trainings that they attended, some of the training material was not relevant to FDB as a DAE at that point. So FDB did have to try and recall earlier trainings when they reached that accreditation stage.

FDB attended a lot of training capacity building sessions but they were conducted by external parties to the GCF, so when it came to questions related to the GCF, external trainers were not always in a position to answer on the GCF's behalf and these issues had to be brought up with the GCF later.

Access to learning and knowledge sharing platforms is a constraint. When DAEs have access to things like climate data, they can learn a lot and it can be immensely helpful for project design and preparation.

The DAE also needs to have a dedicated team to GCF accreditation. Initially, if FDB had access to GCF readiness funds when they were going through the accreditation process, they could have come up with that team and a better outcome to the accreditation process.

Has or will GCF accreditation influence(d) how FDB does business, for example regarding the new Gender policy which was introduced?

GCF accreditation allowed FDB to strengthen its existing business model and processes. For instance, once FDB came up with a gender policy aligned to GCF standards that sought to mainstream gender issues, it allowed FDB to target a new pool of customers (products related to women and young people).

FDB also revamped their Procurement Policy which allowed them to reevaluate their relationships with vendors and customers. A monitoring and supervision platform shared by GCF to FDB was also extremely helpful.

GCF accreditation enhanced schemes like giving incentives for SMEs or Executing Entities to go green. FDB allocated prize money for SMEs who met certain criteria that they were judged upon by a panel of judges to ensure that they have greened their process. Securing GCF accreditation helped to enhance that.

Panelist 5: Ministry of Finance, Vanuatu - Ms. Dorothy Erickson (Director of Finance and Treasury)

What processes are you/have you used to engage other ministries as well as your own staff and departments in the accreditation process?

The readiness project has focused on capacity building within the government. Through the readiness funds, MoF has been able to deliver four tailored capacity building trainings which provided detailed overview of the GCF.

Readiness funding also allowed the Ministry to prepare national training modules for the government to make sure that new members are up to date on project appraisal and project guidelines. Additionally, the readiness project has supported the Ministry to meet GCF accreditation criteria.

The government continues to use readiness funds to build capacity of government ministries and those government entities applying for GCF accreditation.

What are some of the challenges of formulating the GESI policy?

The Ministry of Women in Vanuatu worked on formulating the national gender policy and readiness funding helped with formulating the ministry level policy. The Ministry's Gender policy builds on the national gender policy that is already in place so that made it more straightforward than it would otherwise have been.

4.2 Questions from the Audience

The panel session was followed by questions from the audience to the panel.

Q1: When the entity applying for accreditation is the same as the National Designated Authority (NDA), what are the examples of succeeding in this for accreditation purposes and how can a conflict of interest be prevented?

Katerina Syngellakis from GGGI commented by sharing that the Fiji Climate Change Bill that the MoE has developed clearly defines the roles of the NDA and the DAE and their separation to avoid a conflict of interest.

Rouna from the GCF stated that the GCF does not recommend the NDA be nominated as a DAE. GCF wants to ensure that there is an ethical screen between the NDA and the DAE so as to avoid a conflict of interest. The reason for this being that once there is a review committee of the DAE that is unbiased, it can look at the project without conflict of interest being present.

Q2” How can the private sector get more involved into the accreditation process and climate financing?

Rouna from the GCF commented that the GCF would like to see more private sector entities getting accredited. For this, the private sector would have to have to engage with the NDA and the Private Sector Facility (PSF) team at the GCF Secretariat. Having the private sector involved allows them to use equity and loans in the lending process.

Q3: Is there a fast-track process for re-accreditation?

Rouna from the GCF said that re-accreditation was quite fast-tracked. The process looks at whether there have been any changes with the accredited entity and those changes need to be highlighted to the GCF before getting re-accredited.

4.3 Panel Discussion 2: Preparing to Submit a First Project Proposal to GCF and Putting Together a Project Pipeline

The second panel discussion focused on project pipeline development and project submissions. Panelists discussed common country needs such as capacity building and the bottlenecks that they face in ensuring that projects are sufficient to qualify for GCF funding.

The answers given by each speaker to the questions that they were asked are listed in the table below.

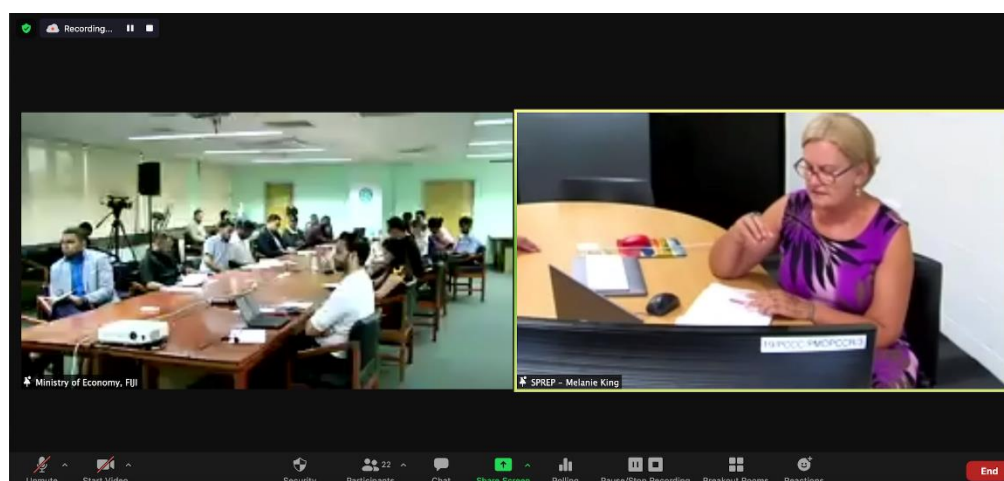
Panelist 1: SPREP - Ms. Melanie King (*Manager Project Coordination Unit*)

What are two or three of the common country needs across the region relating to project development?

There is the perception that the accredited entities like SPREP must do everything themselves. That is not correct as project development can be done with other entities while ensuring the roles and responsibilities about project development and project implementation are properly allocated. A common country and regional need that is missing in project development is the overall project mapping and the strategic thinking about how it aligns with country needs.

There are multiple steps and multiple iterations to project development. Many entities go to a fixed template for project development but this causes them to lose what their goals and visions are. That is something that must be looked at before considering other factors such as Theory of Change and various project templates.

SPREP works very closely with the GCF to build the capacity, understanding and take a collaborative approach with project planning. SPREP does a lot of informal training and mentoring and working with their colleagues as to what works and what does not work.



Panelist Ms. Melanie King (on the right) joining remotely from SPREP headquarters in Samoa

Please give one concrete example on how SPREP is addressing those needs

SPREP has a Pacific Climate Change Centre that is starting to run formal online e-learning courses (such as around project development) for building capacity and understanding.

SPREP also runs a training course in national adaptation planning and is working closely with the GCF on that. This is one of the ways for them to build capacity while working jointly with the GCF on projects.

Panelist 2: SPC - Mr. Dirk Snyman (Climate Finance Adviser)

What are the biggest bottlenecks that AEs are faced from getting from a project pipeline to turning the pipeline into actual projects?

There is limited project prioritization, so changes happen when there is a change in partners, change in which agency/ministry is the National Designated Authority (NDA), or when there is a change in national focus. Projects need to have a proper climate rationale. It must be clear that the project is a climate project and not a 'normal' sustainable development project. So, projects often lack a detailed climate rationale and is one of the reasons why they do not proceed forward. Multiple projects can be similar and create difficulties of coordination. There is a need to avoid duplication and overlap. Projects must align with NDCs or country priorities, but this is not always explicit.

There are capacity constraints within DAEs and NDAs. This does not only relate to technical knowledge but simply a lack of staff or personnel numbers to support project implementation. It is extremely hard to get the data (climate change data, climate change modeling) that is required by the GCF and which might not be available.

Given the small size of the SIDS, there are often very few beneficiaries or emission reductions which might affect the impact potential that a project might have.

Panelist 3: Office of the Prime Minister, Cook Islands - Mr. Wayne King (Director of Climate Change)

How do you select delivery partners for projects?

The Cook Islands used GCF readiness funding to finance the Cook Islands Country Program while the GCF itself facilitated them through a similar roundtable for developing a project pipeline. Potential delivery partners like the Bank of the Cook Islands are also going through the accreditation process because the Cook Islands wants to complement grant funding with on lending and equity financing.

How do you prioritize and encourage entities to develop projects that are relevant to the country work program?

Projects that are developed by entities are linked to what risk category they fall under and what the country want to achieve using its country work program. The delivery partners in-country design the projects themselves and following that, they then go to market for accredited entities and development partners to secure climate financing. The Cook Islands is currently employing this approach with an infrastructure project and can share their experiences on whether this worked as an approach to securing finance.

Panelist 4: Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) – Mr. William Kostka (Director)

How do you promote action at the local level as an NGO as part of your GCF project implementation? Please share examples of grassroots partnerships.

In terms of engaging civil society organizations and NGOs, MCT has a history of working in close collaboration with them as well as government entities. For instance, the recently approved food security project funded by the GCF involved farmer groups from the outset during the design. These groups are not only the implementers but also the beneficiaries. MCT works with NGOs and government organizations so that all kinds of stakeholders are involved in the development of the project and that there is proper and effective implementation.

Panelist 5: ADB - Ms. Hanna Uusimaa

How can IAEs support Direct Access Entities (DAEs)?

IAEs like ADB provide a lot of technical assistance and capacity building through projects, in areas such as financial management, procurement, project/portfolio management, safeguards, or development of roadmaps. They are also conducting some upstream analysis and risk

assessments for identification of meaningful adaptation investments. This provides a basis for resilience planning and for long-term adaptation pathways.

Adaptation investments that ADB has worked on implementing with the GCF have focused more on specific climate change components of projects. But these upstream risk assessments will form a basis for spatial planning and transformative adaptation, and help identify and prioritize adaptation needs at different scales, which can be implemented either through and AE like ADB, or DAEs, so that we are able to build on the respective strengths of partners.

One challenge in developing GCF proposals is that it is a fairly long process, involving huge upfront transaction costs without a guarantee that the funding will be approved. Direct Access Entities might also find this challenging, as it seems that there is no differentiated approach in review process and the requirements for Pacific SIDS. It is important to be realistic about the time and effort the process takes.

Are there any incentives that would be needed to be given to the IAEs to provide this support?

ADB supports potential direct access entities, by strengthening capacity of our developing member countries to access climate finance more generally. The incentive for this is that we have common goals on climate change, and we have an interest in scaling up climate financing for the Pacific.

4.4 Questions from the Audience

The panel session was followed by questions from the audience to the panel.

Q1: The GCF looks for innovation in its projects. However, to ensure that a project is innovative enough, a pilot of the project must be conducted to prove that it is a bankable project. How can we ensure that?

Wayne King from the Cook Islands answered this question. He said that many countries have considered piloting the project and the Cook Islands have used funding from the Adaptation Fund (AF) to help scale up projects because innovation is also built into the AF projects. This can also be explored with the GCF and readiness funding could be used for this.

Melanie King from SPREP also echoed this. She said that the AF is a good fund to look at it because countries are not accessing it and SPREP used AF funding to do 3 pilots which then were scaled up.

Q2: Has being accredited led to an influx of funding for projects?

Melanie King from SPREP answered this question. She said that just because an entity is accredited, it does not mean you get funding automatically. It still takes a lot of work and proposal development has an upfront cost which must be covered somehow. SPREP had a list of 20 pipeline projects which was whittled down to a few so that funding for them could be secured. Getting projects approved from the GCF takes a lot of time, almost 2 years.

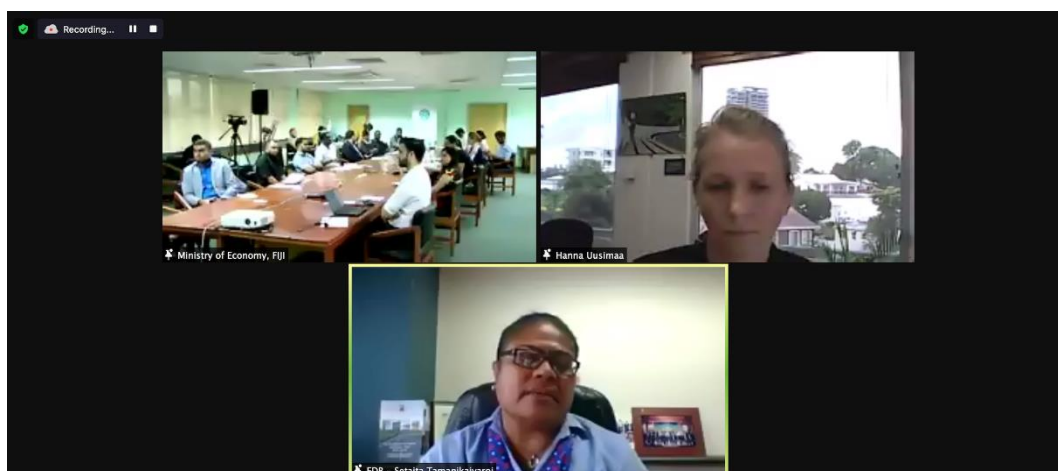
Q3. How can accredited entities involved the private sector in project implementation?

Mr. William Kostka from MCT answered this question. For our food security project, we are involving the private sector. The Partnership Guaranteed System farmers group who are the main targets of our food security program are going to operate as small businesses. We are

also involving the College of Micronesia – FSM’s Entrepreneurial Program which will be responsible for working with the private sector to support market awareness and access by developing new awareness and opportunities for market participation for household farmers. The project will create new structures (both formal and informal) and a positive feedback loop that will provide financial incentives to replicate results. Additionally, the success of these markets and structures will create best practices that can be leveraged to drive additional market development beyond the initial project impact. Through Component 3 farmers will be connected to local businesses and the project will support the creation of an agreement for farmers to provide a consistent supply of locally grown produce. This will increase business confidence in local farmers and their produce, which will in-turn increase demand.

Q3. Is ADB able to support DAEs accredited for on-lending to manage the forex risk? Forex risk become a huge risk to manage for the entities. FDB as a DAE is on-lending and that has been a challenge given that there is foreign exchange risk because the GCF lends in USD which also has to be repaid in USD.

Hanna from ADB answered this. She said it is a little bit difficult to support the on-lending for DAEs by taking up the foreign exchange risk, but ADB can provide technical assistance to countries to support them to develop procedures and processes to reduce exposure to foreign exchange risk. Setaita from FDB stated that TCX (The Currency Exchange Fund) is a global organization that FDB is working with and can be helpful for other DFIs in the Pacific to work with them to manage their foreign exchange risk.



Q&A session with Hanna from ADB and Setaita from FDB

5. Polls Results

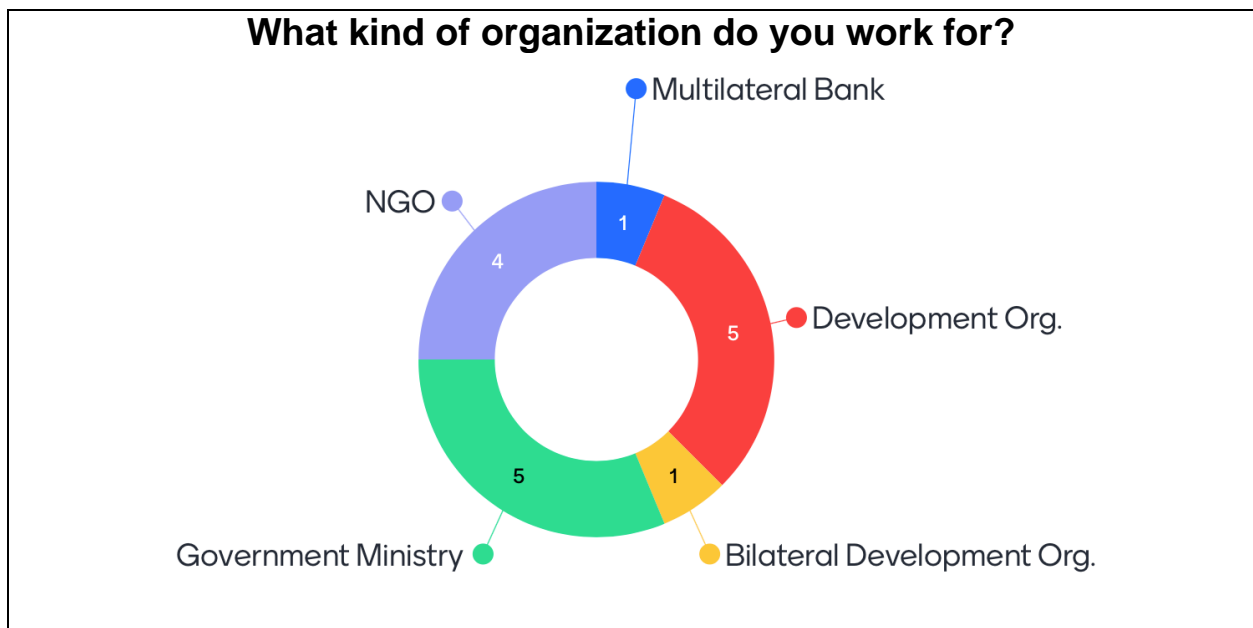
Polls were conducted throughout the workshop and were designed to get input and views from all the participants regarding GCF accreditation and project development.

Three polls were conducted through Mentimeter, an online polling website and were done once at the start of the workshop (Introductory Poll), once after Panel 1 (GCF Accreditation Process and Best Practices), and once after Panel 2 (Knowledge and Information Management).

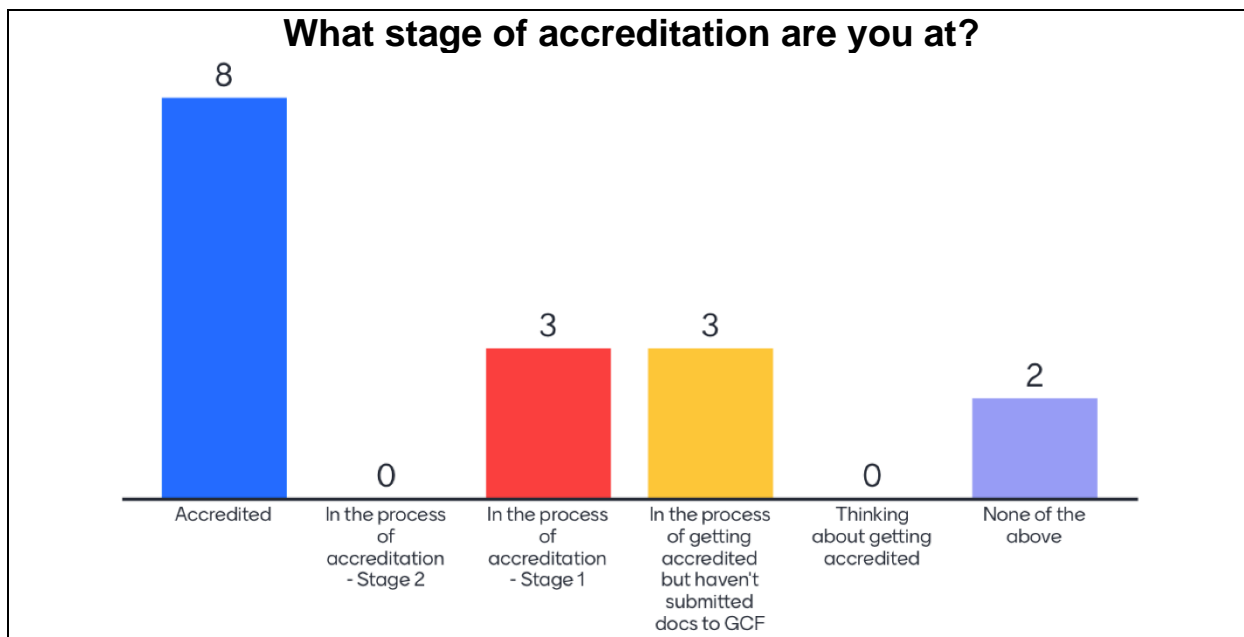
Introductory Poll – Who is in the room?

The Introductory Poll asked two questions, “What kind of organization do you work for?” and “What stage of accreditation are you at?”.

The answers to the first question showed that there was a good mix of participants from NGOs, government officials and development organizations. There was also one participant each from a multilateral bank and a bilateral development organization.



The answers to the second question showed that there was representation from many accredited entities from across the Pacific attending the workshop (8), a further three (3) that were in the first stage of accreditation and another three (3) that there were in the process but had yet to submit their application to the GCF for Stage 1.

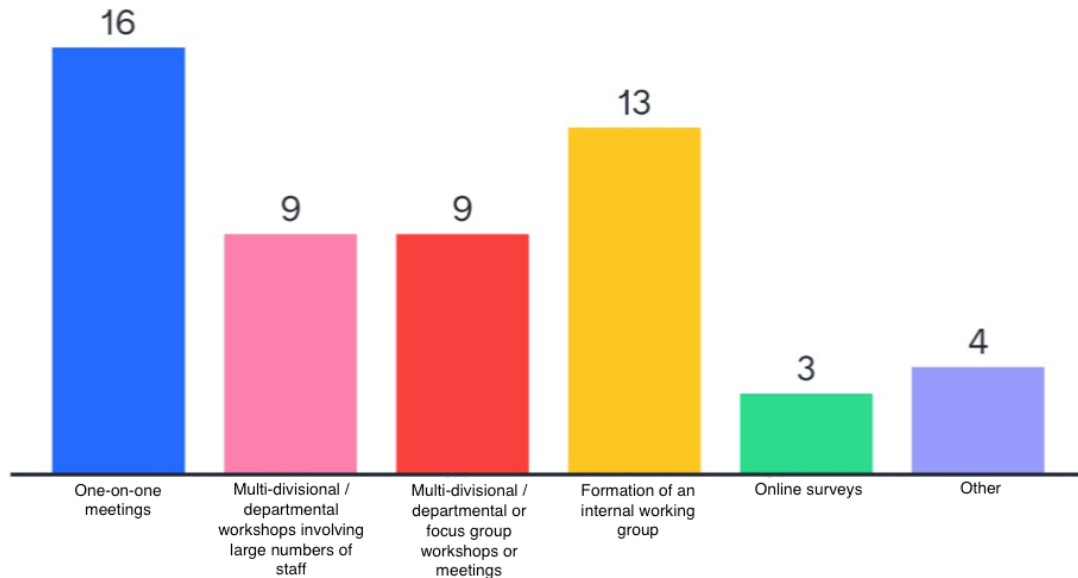


GCF Accreditation Process and Best Practices Poll

The GCF Accreditation Process and Best Practices Poll asked two questions, “What processes are you/have you used to engage your staff and department in the accreditation process?” and “What are the most important tools to share information and obtain information and bring the whole organization up to the GCF standards required for accreditation?”

The answers to the first question regarding staff engagement showed that many of the respondent entities were doing this through one-on-one meetings. Internal Working Groups (IWG), which are composed of senior management within an entity and serve as a decision-making body, was also a popular way to ensure staff engagement from the highest levels of management. Some of the entities also used workshops and focus groups which involved multi-dimensional stakeholders and involved many staff members.

What processes are you/have you used to engage your own staff and departments in the accreditation process?



The answers to the second question showed that organizations communicated through various means with the most popular being the use of emails and meetings with less popular being the use of the intranet, e-learning and workshops.

What are the most important tools to share information, obtain information and bring the whole organization up to the GCF standards required for accreditation?



Project Development Poll

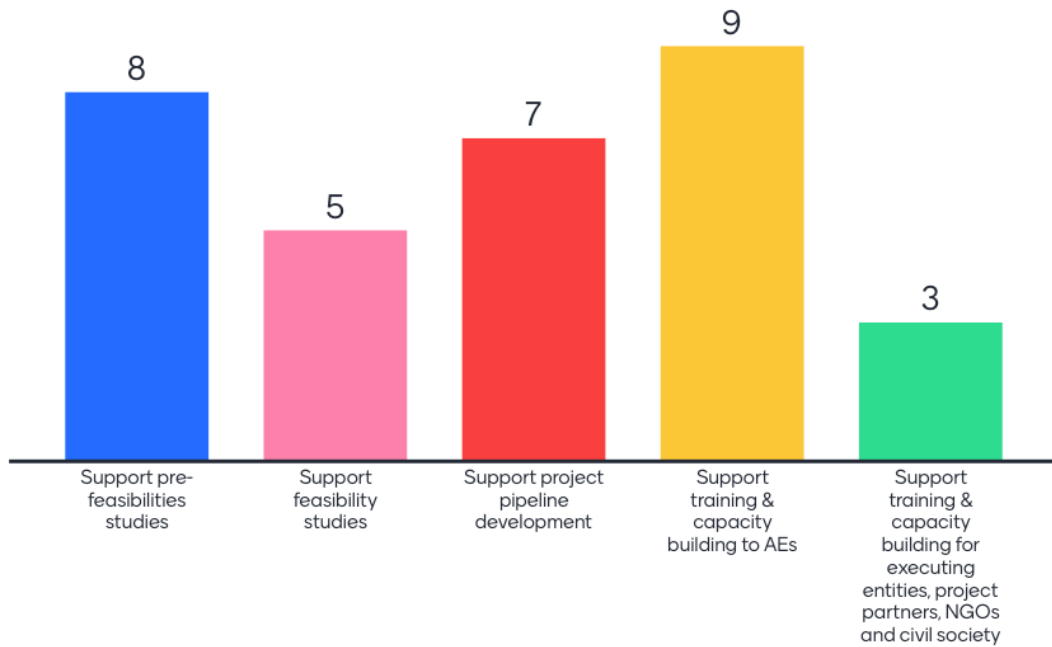
The Project Development Poll asked two questions, “What were the 3 most important factors that catalyzed your first project to become a reality?” and “What is the best use of readiness program funds to support project development and submission once accreditation has been received?”

The factors listed as answers to the first question show that all the participants believe that passion, commitment and collaboration and other words that are synonymous with them are the most important factors for turning projects into reality. Other comments focused on proper project management such as time management, teamwork and a well-developed concept note.



The answers to the second question showed that the participants thought that the best use of readiness program funds was to support training and capacity building in accredited entities as well as for project preparation by using those funds to support pre-feasibility studies as well as project pipeline development.

What is the best use of readiness program funds to support project development and submission once accreditation has been received?



6. Best Practices and Lessons Learned

This section summarizes some of the best practices related to accreditation, and the lessons learned from both the panel discussions and the questions and answers sessions that followed. It is structured according to the objectives of the Roundtable.

6.1 Experiences and lessons learned from the accreditation process

Maintaining engagement between the NDA, DAE and GCF: Potential Direct Access Entity's (DAEs) should start engaging at an early stage with the National Designated Authorities (NDAs) of their country to align their entity work program with the country priorities. This would ensure that the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) can be fulfilled as per the Paris Agreement by the DAEs. The DAE should also then engage with the GCF early in the accreditation process.

Documentation: For the accreditation process, one of the biggest challenges lies in getting the documentation together to demonstrate that the potential DAE has a track record of implementing GCF fiduciary standards, E&S standards, and Gender policy. When such documentation is missing, it can be developed by looking at other similar entities that have been accredited.

Dedicated team: A key lesson learnt is that any potential DAE should have a dedicated team to GCF accreditation. Since the GCF accreditation process is very rigorous and time-consuming, a dedicated team can give it the time and resources that are needed for accreditation.

Private sector representation: The NDA should try and include representation from the private sector within their stakeholder engagement framework since this will allow them to use the different financial instruments that are available such as equity and loans and help to complement grant funding.

Re-accreditation involves looking at the changes that might have happened since the entity first got accredited. When applying for re-accreditation, it is suggested that DAEs highlight any updated policies and procedures or other changes that may have happened since accreditation.

6.2 Common needs for advisory services and capacity building

Funds for Readiness Provided by The GCF Should Be Used for Capacity Building: Readiness funding should focus on capacity building within the government, civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector. Through the readiness funds, capacity building and training that provide a detailed overview of the GCF should be delivered. Readiness funding should also prepare national training modules for the government to make sure that new members are up to date on project appraisal and project guidelines with trainings being conducted frequently. Additionally, readiness projects should view the accreditation process as a mechanism for general institutional capacity building. Meeting GCF criteria requires upgrading general institutional capacity and processes that are relevant for all forms of financing.

Access to Learning and Knowledge Sharing Platforms: Readiness funds can be used to provide training focused around GCF requirements since it is extremely helpful for learning and growth of the organizations. DAEs should also be provided access to things like climate data, to support project design and preparation. Starting formal online e-learning courses (such as around accreditation and project development) can be helpful and readiness funding can be used for this as well. These should be tailored to the stage of accreditation the entity is at.

Gender mainstreaming: GCF accreditation allows potential DAEs to strengthen their gender-based policies and processes. For instance, the requirement to institutionalize a gender policy which is aligned to GCF standards involves mainstreaming gender issues and there may be strong alignment to other processes such as gender-responsive budgeting. It may allow them to target a new pool of customers (products related to women and young people) as well as ensure that their policies are non-discriminatory and meet international standards. This can often help with facilitating access to other financing facilities and meeting the gender and social inclusion requirements of other development partners.

6.3 Developing GCF project pipelines and aspects of project design

Link Between an Entity Work Program and the Country Program: It should be ensured that there is a strong link between the DAE's Entity Work Program (EWP) and the country priorities, so that the NDA and the DAE at the strategic level can complement each other and advance the country program using GCF standards.

Projects to Be Prioritized in Line with The Country Work Program: NDAs should start prioritizing projects so that there are minimum changes when there is a change in partners, a change in which agency/ministry is the National Designated Authority (NDA) or when there is a change in national focus.

Project Mapping: When developing projects, care must be taken to ensure that there is adequate project mapping and strategic thinking behind the process. This may involve a lot of informal and formal training to build capacity in associated parties.

Climate Rationale and Impact Potential: DAEs and those entities submitting projects must show that the project being submitted has a strong climate change rationale behind it (mitigation and adaptation). The projects must also have a significant impact (number of beneficiaries, tons of CO2 removed) to qualify for GCF funding.

Working Closely with Stakeholders: Project developers and executing agencies implementing the projects must work closely with grassroot organizations such as NGOs and CSOs to ensure that there is sufficient stakeholder engagement and implementing partners with deep grassroot networks.

Annex 1 - Meeting Agenda

AE Roundtable – 20 April 2021

Ministry of Economy, Level 2, East Wing Conference Room and Online

Agenda	Duration
Morning tea and arrival for in-person participants and online connection for virtual participants	Pre-meeting (30 mins)
Introduction by Fiji Ministry of Economy	5 minutes
Panel Topic 1 – Accreditation experiences, challenges and solutions	30 minutes
Open discussion / Q&A	30 minutes
Panel Topic 2 – Preparing to submit a first project proposal to GCF and putting together a project pipeline	30 mins
Open discussion / Q&A	30 mins
Conclusion – summary and end of online session	10 mins

Annex 2 - List of Questions to the Panelists

Panel Session 1 - Accreditation experiences, challenges and solutions (30 minutes)	
Speaker(s)	Questions
GCF - Ms. Rouna A (<i>Accreditation Associate Professional</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the latest updates on the GCF accreditation process? Is there a way that GCF accreditation can be fast-tracked/enhanced for entities in the Pacific?
MFEM Cook Islands - Ms. Tessa Vaetoru (<i>GCF Coordinator</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What were the most challenging parts of GCF accreditation and are there any low hanging fruits? Have there been any co-benefits to institutional strengthening for the MFEM by seeking GCF accreditation?
Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) - Mr. William Kostka (<i>Director</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did you have to adjust your processes/policies/procedures to meet GCF ESS requirements? If so, what adjustments did you make and do you have any advice for others currently revising their ESS policies/processes? How can an entity prove to the GCF that the policies that have been put in place have been implemented?
Fiji Development Bank - Ms. Setaita Tamanikaiyaroi (<i>Manager - Green Banking</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What can be done to increase capacity of organizations to meet GCF accreditation requirements? Has or will GCF accreditation influenced how FDB does business, for example with regard to the new Gender policy which was introduced?
Ministry of Finance, Vanuatu - Ms. Dorothy Erickson (<i>Director of Finance and Treasury</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What processes are you/have you used to engage other ministries as well as your own staff and departments in the accreditation process?
Panel Session 2 - Preparing to submit a first project proposal to GCF and putting together a project pipeline (30 minutes)	
Speaker(s)	Questions
SPREP - Ms. Melanie King (<i>Manager Project Coordination Unit</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are two or three of the common country needs across the region relating to project development? Please give one concrete example on how SPREP is addressing those needs
SPC - Mr. Dirk Snyman (<i>Climate</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the biggest bottlenecks that AEs are faced from

<i>Finance Adviser)</i>	getting from a project pipeline to turning the pipeline into actual projects?
Office of the Prime Minister, Cook Islands - Mr. Wayne King (<i>Director of Climate Change</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you select delivery partners for projects? • How do you prioritize and encourage entities to develop projects that are relevant to the country work program?
Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) - Mr. William Kostka (<i>Director</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you promote action at the local level as an NGO as part of your GCF project implementation? Please share examples of grassroots partnerships.
ADB - Ms. Hanna Uusimaa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can IAEs support Direct Access Entities (DAEs)? • Are there any incentives that would be needed to be given to the IAEs to provide this support?

Annex 3 - Details of Roundtable Meeting Participants

#	Name	Gender	Department	Position	e-mail Address	Attendance
Ministry of Economy (MoE)						
1	Anikay Singh	Male	MoE - Budget & Planning	Senior Budget Analyst	anikay.singh@economy.gov.fj	In-person
2	Ankeet Prasad	Male	MoE - Budget & Planning	Senior Budget Analyst	ankeet.prasad@economy.gov.fj	In-person
3	Asenaca Lewaravu	Female	MoE – FPRA	SE	asenaca.lewaravu@economy.gov.fj	In-person
4	Ashmita Chand	Female	FPRA	Economist	ashmita.chand@economy.gov.fj	In-person
5	Atelini Qalova	Female	MoE – CCICD	OA	atelini30@gmail.com	In-person
6	Diana Ralulu	Female	MoE – CCICD	Agriculture Officer	diana.ralulu@gmail.com	In-person
7	Filimone Ralogaivau	Male	MoE – CCICD	Adaptation Officer	tuivanualevu@gmail.com	In-person
8	Laurie Singh	Female	MoE - Budget & Planning		laurie.singh@economy.gov.fj	In-person
9	Makarita Peniseni	Female	MoE - Admin	HRO	makaritaevelynvmo@gmail.com	In-person
10	Mere Manisau	Female	MoE – CCICD	Oceans Officer	m.manisau@gmail.com	In-person
11	Penioni Kuinikoro	Male	CCICD	Senior Policy Analyst	penioni.kuinikoro@gmail.com	In-person
12	Sandip Kumar	Male	MoE - Budget & Planning	Senior Budget Analyst	sandip.kumar@economy.gov.fj	In-person
13	Tevita Tuibau	Male	MoE-Budget & Planning	Senior Budget Analyst	tevita.tuibau@economy.gov.fj	Online
Online Participants						
14	Melanie King	Female	SPREP	Manager Project Coordination Unit	melaniek@sprep.org	Online
15	William Kostka	Male	Micronesia Conservation Trust	Director	director@ourmicronesia.org	Online
16	Habiba Gitay	Female	World Bank		hgitay@worldbank.org	Online
17	Paul Kaun	Male	GGGI		paul.kaun@gggi.org	Online
18	Mani Mate	Male	The Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM)	Acting Director of Development Coordination Division	mani.mate@cookislands.gov.ck	Online
19	Hannah-Marie Isaac	Female	Vital FSM PetroCorp		hisaac@fsmmpc.com	Online
20	Hanna Uusimaa	Female	ADB		huusimaa@adb.org	Online

21	Dirk Snyman	Male	SPC	Climate Finance Adviser	dirks@spc.int	Online
22	Silesa Taumoepeau-Pousima	Female	Tonga Development Bank	Executive Assistant	silesa.taumoepeau90@gmail.com	Online
23	Ilaisaane Lolo	Female	Tonga Department of Finance & Planning	Chief Economist & Head of Climate Change Resilient Unit	slolo@finance.gov.to	Online
24	Winifereti Nainoca	Female	UNDP		winifereti.nainoca@undp.org	Online
25	Johann Bell	Male	Conservation International		jbelle@conservation.org	Online
26	Jared Morris	Male	Vital FSM PetroCorp	CEO	jmorris@fsmmpc.com	Online
27	Karlos Lee Moresi	Male	PIFS		karlosm@forumsec.org	Online
28	Rouna A	Female	GCF	Accreditation Associate Professional	ra@gcfund.org	Online
29	Mason Smith	Male	IUCN	Executive Director	mason.smith@iucn.org	Online
30	Exsley Taloiburi	Male	PIFS		exsleyt@forumsec.org	Online
31	Bridget Kennedy	Female	Conservation International		bkennedy@conservation.org	Online
32	Kevin Petrini	Male	UNDP	Deputy Resident Representative	kevin.petrini@undp.org	Online
33	Mark Drew	Male	WWF Pacific	Director	mdrew@wwfpacific.org	Online
34	Andrew Foran	Male	IUCN		andrew.foran@iucn.org	Online
35	Ledua Vakaloloma	Male	PIFS		Leduav@forumsec.org	Online
36	Jean-Paul Penrose	Male	UK High Commission		jp.penrose@fco.gov.uk	Online
37	Tessa Vaetoru	Female	The Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM)	Development Programme Manager	tessa.vaetoru@cookislands.gov.ck	Online
38	Jan Steffen	Male	GIZ	Pacific Representative	jan.steffen@giz.de	Online
39	Setaita Tamanikaiyaroi	Female	Fiji Development Bank		setaita.tamanikaiyaroi@fdb.com.fj	Online
40	Wayne King	Male	Climate Change Cook Islands Division of the Office of the Prime Minister	Director of Climate Change	Wayne.king@cookislands.gov.ck	Online
41	Leta Havea Kami	Male	Tonga Development Bank		lkami@tdb.to	Online
Meeting Facilitators						
42	Vineil Narayan	Male	CCICD	Acting Head	vineilnarayan@gmail.com	In-person

43	Prelish Lal	Male	CCICD	Climate Finance Officer	prelishl@gmail.com	In-person
44	Katerina Syngellakis	Female	GGGI	Pacific Programme Advisor	katerina.syngellakis@gggi.org	In-person
45	Marita Manley	Female	GGGI	Consultant	marita@talanoa-consulting-fiji.com	In-person
46	Roshika Gaunder	Female	GGGI	Intern	roshika.gaunder@gggi.org	In-person
47	Shauna Katafono	Female	GGGI	Consultant	shauna@traseable.com	In-person
48	Yawar Herekar	Male	GGGI	Consultant	yah2103@columbia.edu	Online

Annex 4 - Evaluation Analysis

Out of the 41 meeting participants, 53.7% (22) responded to the evaluation survey.

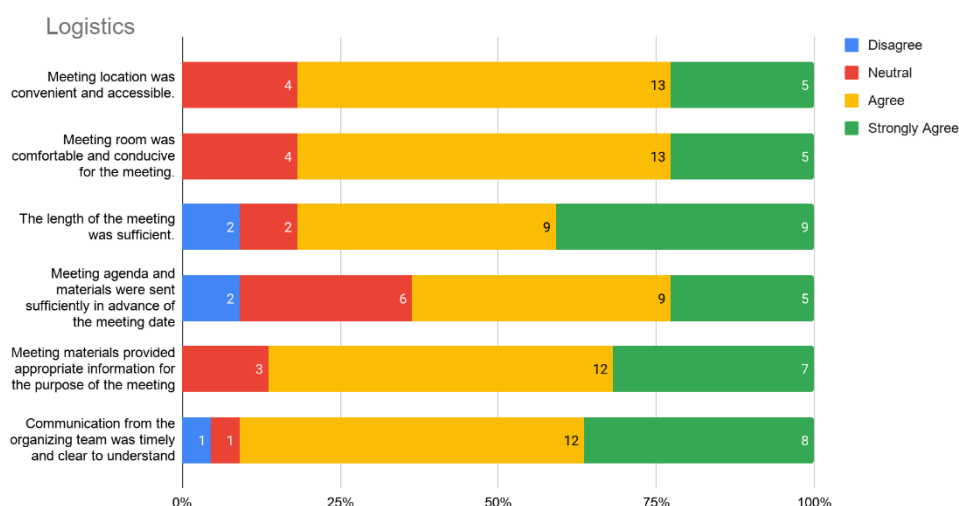
12 of the survey respondents had attended the meeting remotely and 10 attended in-person at the Ministry of Economy, Level 2 Conference Room in Suva.

Logistics

On average, 18 out of the 22 survey respondents found all the logistical aspects of the meeting were particularly good and sufficient. More detailed feedback with relation to the evaluation questions on logistics are as follows:

- 18 out of 22 respondents were satisfied with the convenience and accessibility of the meeting location and agreed that the venue was comfortable and conducive for the meeting. It is assumed that the online participants responded to these questions based on their online experience using Zoom for the meeting. The remaining 4 neither agreed nor disagreed with the above.
- 18 out of 22 respondents thought the length of the meeting was sufficient while 2 disagreed and the other 2 neither agreed nor disagreed.
- 14 respondents were satisfied and agreed that the meeting agenda and relevant material were sent well in advance before the meeting. 2 disagreed while the remaining 6 did not agree or disagree.
- 19 out of 22 respondents agreed the materials provided were appropriate for the purpose of the meeting. The remaining 3 neither agreed nor disagreed.

20 of the respondents were satisfied with the communication they received from the event organizers in the lead up to the meeting. 2 respondents noted that better communication was needed as they had only received the information a few minutes prior to the meeting.



The evaluation form also included a comment section allowing for suggestions to improve future meeting logistics. While several respondents noted that the event was well organized and on time, and included compliments to the event organizers for the pre-meeting briefing and testing with speakers, some respondents also provided the following suggestions:

- a. A list of confirmed speakers to be included in the programme that is circulated
- b. A final email to be sent out to all participants prior to the meeting
- c. Encourage speakers to remain until the end of their sessions
- d. Participants to be notified in advance of the meeting
- e. Ensure there is enough printouts of the agenda

It should be noted that the above suggestions were provided by individuals that were not on the initial meeting invitation list and were notified by their organizations just prior to the start of the meeting.

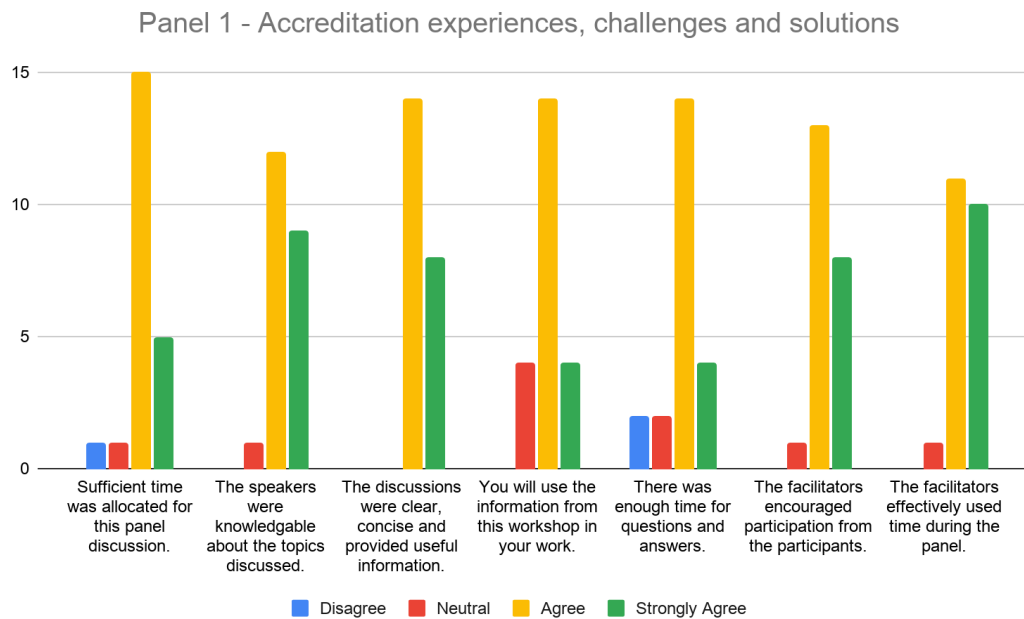
Content

The Roundtable consisted of 2 panel sessions with 5 speakers on each panel all joining remotely. The first panel was on GCF accreditation experiences, challenges and solutions, while the second panel focused on experiences with preparing to submit a first project proposal to GCF and putting together a project pipeline. The following feedback and evaluation results are based on each panel session's content and delivery.

Panel Session 1

According to the evaluation responses received, all respondents agreed that the discussions during the first panel session were clear, concise and provided useful information. 21 out of 22 respondents agreed that the speakers for this session were knowledgeable about the topics being discussed and only one did not agree neither disagree with that statement. When asked if they would apply information received from the meeting at their workplace, 18 respondents agreed that they would and the remaining 4 were neutral to the notion. The respondents also felt that the facilitators encouraged participation from all the participants and ensured that the time during the panel was used effectively. In terms of time allocated for the panel discussion and questions and answers for this session, the results are as follows:

20 out of 22 respondents agreed there was sufficient time allocated for panel discussion, 1 disagreed and another person did not agree nor disagree with the time allocation for this session. 18 out of 22 respondents agreed that there was enough time for questions and answers at the end of the panel discussion. The remaining 4 consisted of 2 that disagreed and felt more time was needed for Q&A and another 2 that neither agree nor disagreed.

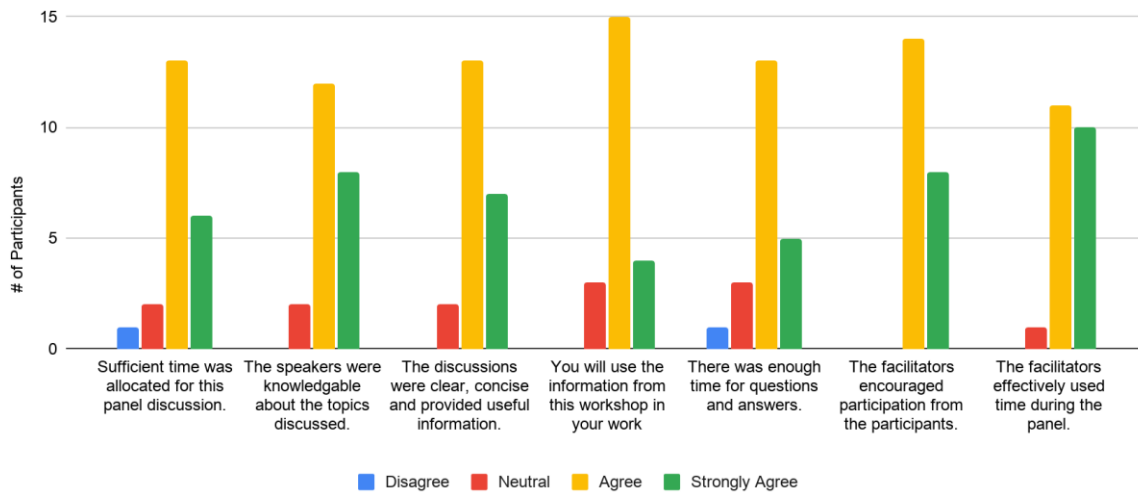


Panel Session 2

The second panel session followed the same format as Panel Session 1 and therefore, the same questions were asked in the evaluation to gauge participants' satisfaction with its overall content and delivery. Overall, participants found this panel session useful. On average, 20 out of 22 respondents were very satisfied with the knowledge the speakers had on the topics discussed and how clear, concise and useful the information they provided were. 19 respondents agreed to use the information from the workshop at their workplace, while the remaining 3 did not agree nor disagree to using information they learned from this session at their workplace. All respondents agreed that the facilitators encouraged participations from the participants and had effectively used time during the panel except for 1 person who did not agree nor disagree with the latter. With regards to timing:

- 19 respondents were satisfied with the time allocated for this panel discussion; 1 disagreed noting that more time was needed and 2 were neutral.
- 18 respondents agreed that there was sufficient time for questions and answers following the panel discussion and 3 did not agree nor disagree that there was enough time. However, 1 person disagreed with there being enough time for Q&A.

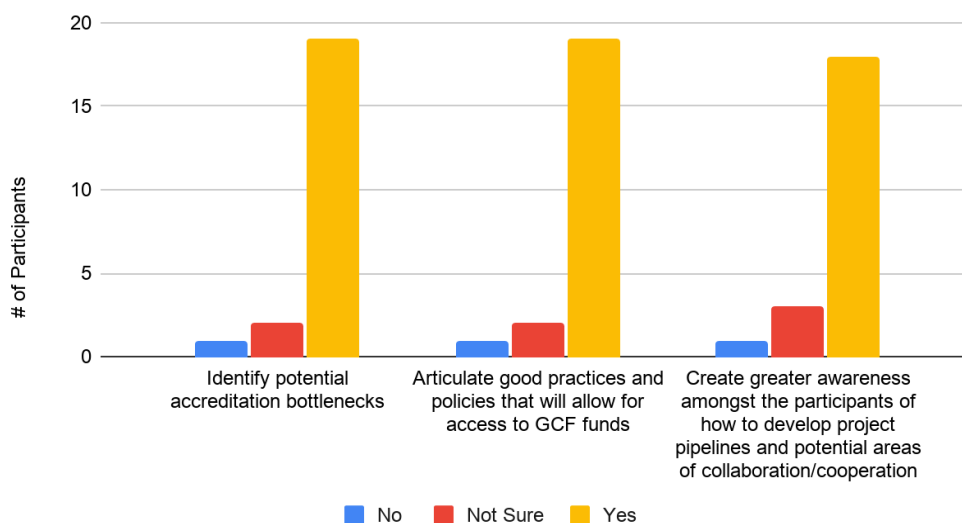
Panel 2 - Preparing to Submit a First Project Proposal to GCF and Putting Together a Project Pipeline.



Meeting Outcomes

The evaluation form asked participants whether they thought the expected meeting outcomes were achieved during the meeting. The expected meeting outcomes included: (i) to identify potential accreditation bottlenecks, (ii) articulate good practices and policies that will allow for access to GCF funds, and (iii) create greater awareness amongst the participants of how to develop project pipelines and potential areas of collaboration/cooperation. On average 19 of the evaluation respondents agreed that each of the meeting outcomes were achieved. However, for each of the meeting outcomes, there was 1 respondent (all different) who thought that particular outcome had not been achieved.

Achievement of Meeting Outcomes



Other comments

Some comments worth noting from additional feedback elicited through the evaluation survey were:

- around the challenge of keeping the meeting to the right time given that it also involved online participants;
- the usefulness of the information shared for MoE officials;
- that more questions could have been asked by MoE staff;
- having more time for discussions; and
- that there was a lot of experience in the meeting outside of the panelists and that it would have been good to have had some comments and inputs from those participants which would have added more value to the event.

Annex 5 - Concept Note

Pacific Accredited Entities Roundtable to Share GCF Accreditation Knowledge and Project Development Experiences

Date and time: 12-2pm FJT, Tuesday 20th April, 2021

Venue: Holiday Inn, Suva, Fiji / Virtual (Zoom)

Rationale:

Pacific islands are extremely vulnerable to climate change. The ecosystems in the Pacific are continually being degraded by pollution, overfishing, and unsustainable development. The most substantial impacts of climate change include losses of coastal infrastructure and land, more frequent and intense cyclones and droughts, failure of crops and coastal fisheries, losses of coral reefs and mangroves, and the spread of certain diseases. Countries in the Pacific also increasingly face severe climate impacts including sea-level rise, changing temperature and rainfall patterns. These impacts result in changes in food and water security, loss of identity, climate-induced migration, and threats to sovereignty.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a fund established within the framework of the [UNFCCC](#) to assist developing countries in [adaptation](#) and [mitigation](#) practices to counter [climate change](#). The objective of the GCF is to "support projects, programmes, policies and other activities in developing countries using thematic funding windows". Since 2015 the GCF has been the largest multilateral contributor of finance for climate change projects to Small Island Developing States (SIDS). According to the Climate Funds Update¹, USD 255 million was approved for climate finance projects in SIDS in 2018 with 76% of this funding coming from the GCF.

Green Climate Fund works through a wide range of institutions to finance projects and programmes. To access funding, these institutions must go through a process of "accreditation," designed to assess whether they are capable of strong financial management and of safeguarding funded projects and programmes. Once accredited, entities develop funding proposals to be considered and approved by the GCF and once a project is approved, they oversee, supervise, manage and monitor their respective GCF-approved projects and programmes. Therefore, finance to the Pacific from the GCF must flow through International, Regional or National (also called Direct Access) accredited entities.

Objective:

A roundtable to share GCF accreditation knowledge and experiences will take place in April 2021 with the following objectives:

- 1) To share experiences and lessons learned among entities that have been accredited by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and those that are applying for accreditation
- 2) To discuss common needs in terms of support, including for advisory services and capacity building and to identify solutions on how to address challenges that are impacting Pacific countries ability to access climate finance
- 3) To discuss on how to develop a GCF project and current and potential future project pipelines for countries and regional projects

Participants:

The roundtable is by invitation of the Fiji Ministry of Economy to organizations that are already accredited which have offices in the Pacific and to Pacific Island government ministries and organisations which are already accredited, are in the process of or interested in being accredited to the GCF. The roundtable will have a dual format of an in-house and virtual sessions to enable participation by organizations and government ministries based in other countries (given the on-going travel restrictions).

Methodology:

The roundtable will host staff from accredited organizations and government ministries and other persons with experience in the GCF accreditation process and project pipeline development to be panelists and give 3 to 5-minute interventions to share their thoughts and perspectives on specific aspects regarding accreditation and project development. There will also be sessions entirely dedicated to exchange and open debate. Interventions and discussion will be informal without power-point presentations.

Format:

Agenda	Duration – 2 hours
Morning tea and arrival for in-person participants and online connection for virtual participants	Pre-meeting (30 mins)
Introduction by Fiji Ministry of Economy	5 minutes
Panel Topic 1 – Accreditation experiences, challenges and solutions	30 minutes
Open discussion / Q&A	25 minutes
Panel Topic 2 – Preparing to submit a first project proposal to GCF and putting together a project pipeline	30 mins
Open discussion / Q&A	25 mins
Conclusion – summary and end of online session	5 mins
Networking lunch	For those attending the in-person session in Suva

Outcomes:

1. Up to date and Pacific-focused knowledge and experiences regarding GCF accreditation and project pipeline development shared between climate finance professionals enabling them to draw upon lessons learnt to date
2. Identification of potential accreditation bottlenecks and how to overcome them
3. Articulation of good practices and policies that will allow for access to GCF funds (practices in concept and proposal development and policies such as environmental and social safeguards (ESS), gender, information disclosure etc.)
4. Greater awareness amongst the participants of current and potential future GCF projects in the Pacific and potential areas of collaboration/cooperation

The intention is to produce a short report after the roundtable on Pacific SIDS lessons learnt and good practice with regards to GCF accreditation and project pipeline development experience to date.