



**ADAPTATION FUND**

AFB/PPRC.21-22/5  
30 November 2017

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Adaptation Fund Board  
Project and Programme Review Committee

**SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION GRANT PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT  
NIE ACCREDITATION FOR MALDIVES**

## Background

1. At its twenty-second meeting, the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat (the secretariat) had prepared document AFB/B.22/6 which outlined the possible elements and options for a phased programme to support Readiness for Direct Access to Climate Finance for National and Regional Implementing Entities and presented a framework and budget for a first phase of the programme. Following a discussion of the document, the Board decided to:

- (a) *Approve Phase I of the Readiness Programme as detailed in document AFB/B.22/6, on the basis that it would follow performance-based funding principles;*
- (b) *Take note of the options provided by the secretariat on a programme to support readiness for direct access to climate finance for national and regional implementing entities;*
- (c) *Request the secretariat to submit to the Board intersessionally between the twenty-second and twenty-third meetings, execution arrangements, criteria/eligibility criteria to allocate the funds to the accredited implementing entities for specific activities, as well as a timeline of activities, with a view to start implementing the programme before the twenty-third Board meeting; and*
- (d) *Approve an increase in the Administrative Budget of the Board, secretariat and trustee for FY2014 of US\$ 467,000 for the programme described in AFB/B.22/6, and authorize the trustee to transfer such amount to the secretariat and request the trustee to set aside the balance amount of US\$ 503,000 from the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund resources for subsequent commitment and transfer at the instruction of the Board.*

### **(Decision B.22/24)**

2. At the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 10), the Parties recognized the Readiness Programme of the Adaptation Fund and decided to:

*Invite further support for the readiness programme of the Adaptation Fund Board for direct access to climate finance in accordance with decision 2/CMP.10, paragraph 5;*

### **Decision 1/CMP.10**

and also decided to:

*Request the Adaptation Fund Board to consider, under its readiness programme, the following options for enhancing the access modalities of the Adaptation Fund:*

- (a) *Targeted institutional strengthening strategies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to accredit more national or regional implementing entities to the Adaptation Fund;*

- (b) *Ensuring that accredited national implementing entities have increased and facilitated access to the Adaptation Fund, including for small-sized projects and programmes;*

**Decision 2/CMP.10**

3. Upon completion of Phase I of the Readiness Programme, the secretariat had prepared document AFB/B.25/5 which outlined the progress made in Phase I and proposed Phase II of the Readiness Programme, taking into account the results from Phase I of the programme and integrating decision 2/CMP10. Following a discussion of the document, the Board decided to:

*Approve Phase II of the Readiness Programme, as outlined in document AFB/B.25/5, with a total funding of US\$ 965,000, including funding of US\$ 565,000 to be transferred to the secretariat's budget and funding of US\$ 400,000 to be set aside for small grants to National Implementing Entities from resources of the Adaptation Fund trust fund.*

**(Decision B.25/27)**

4. At its twenty-seventh meeting, the Board decided to integrate the Readiness Programme into the Adaptation Fund (the Fund) work plan and budget and set aside funding for small grants to be directly transferred from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund. At this meeting, the Board decided to:

- a) *Take note of the progress report for phase II of the Readiness Programme;*
- b) *Integrate the Readiness Programme into the Adaptation Fund work plan and budget; and*
- c) *Approve the proposal for the Readiness Programme for the fiscal year 2017 (FY17), comprising its work programme for FY17 with the funding of US\$ 616,500 to be transferred to the secretariat budget and US\$ 590,000 for direct transfers from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund for allocation as small grants.*

**(Decision B.27/38)**

5. At the twenty-eighth meeting of the Board, the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) had recommended to the Board to establish a standing rule following on decision B.26/28 on the intersessional project review cycle for grants under the Readiness Programme become a standing rule to allow for continued review and approval of readiness grants intersessionally each year. Having considered the comments and recommendation of the Project and Programme Review Committee, the Board decided to:

- a) *Request the secretariat to continue to review readiness grant proposals annually, during an intersessional period of less than 24 weeks between two consecutive Board meetings;*
- b) *Notwithstanding the request in paragraph (a) above, recognize that any readiness grant proposal can be submitted to regular meetings of the Board;*

c) *Request the PPRC to consider intersessionally the technical review of such readiness grant proposals as prepared by the secretariat and to make intersessional recommendations to the Board;*

d) *Consider such intersessionally reviewed proposals for intersessional approval in accordance with the Rules of Procedure; and*

e) *Request the secretariat to present, in the twentieth meeting of the PPRC, and annually following each intersessional review cycle, an analysis of the intersessional review cycle.*

**(Decision B.28/30)**

6. At its twenty-ninth meeting the Board approved the Readiness Programme workplan for fiscal year 2018 and set aside a budget for readiness grants. *Having considered the comments and recommendation of the Ethics and Finance Committee, the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) decided:*

(a) *To approve the draft secretariat work schedule and the proposed work plan for the Readiness Programme for fiscal year 2018, as contained in AFB/EFC.20/7; and*

(b) *To approve the readiness budget increase of US\$ 239,794 to be set aside for direct transfers from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund for allocation as small grants under the Readiness Programme, to be transferred at the instruction of the Board as outlined in Annex II of document AFB/EFC.20/7.*

**(Decision B.29/36)**

7. Following the decision by the Board to set aside readiness grants for fiscal year 2018, the secretariat launched a call for proposals and eligible countries were given the opportunity to submit applications for a grant to receive support for accreditation through a selected number of eligible National Implementing Entities (NIEs). The types of eligible support included but were not limited to (i) identifying potential NIE candidates and/or (ii) preparing an application for NIE candidates to be submitted to the Accreditation Panel and/or (iii) continuous support during the application process. It is expected that peer-peer support will effectively help build national capacity and sustainability.

8. Eligible NIEs to provide peer support were those entities that had tangible achievements with the Fund. The selection was based on the accredited entity's experience with the Adaptation Fund, including in project preparation and implementation, and in supporting other countries at different stages of their application processes. Eligible NIEs were the ones fulfilling all of the following criteria, as at the time of the 21-22 intersessional review cycle:

- Have been accredited by the Board,
- Have an Adaptation Fund project or programme under implementation, hence demonstrating effective compliance with the AF fiduciary standards, and
- Have experience advising, participating in, or organizing support to other NIE candidates.

7. Following the call for submission of grant proposals undertaken intersessionally between the twenty-ninth and thirtieth Board meetings, the secretariat had received three proposals from two NIEs, to support NIE accreditation in three countries.

8. The NIE discussed in this document that submitted proposal documents was eligible to receive South-South Cooperation Grants, i.e. the Department of Environment (DoE) of Antigua and Barbuda.

9. The present document introduces the grant proposal submitted by the Department of Environment (DoE) of Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of the government of Maldives. It includes a request for funding of US\$ 50,000 outlining the activities to be undertaken by DoE to support the accreditation process in Maldives. The secretariat had reviewed the grant proposal by DoE and provided its comments to the proponent for further clarification. The proponent had submitted a revised version of the proposal, taking into account the secretariat's comments. The secretariat's final review and the proponent's revised grant proposal are available in the following sections of this document.



ADAPTATION FUND

## ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL UNDER THE READINESS PROGRAMME

PROJECT CATEGORY: South-South Cooperation Grant

South-South support recipient Country: **Maldives**

Accredited Implementing Entity: **Department of Environment (DoE), Antigua and Barbuda**

Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): **\$50,000**

Reviewer and contact person: **Farayi Madziwa**

Co-reviewer(s): **Daouda Ndiaye**

IE Contact Person: **Lia Nicholson**

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments 1 November 2017	Comments 22 November 2017
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country that does not yet have an accredited NIE a Party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes	
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project submitted through an Implementing Entity accredited by the Board?	Yes	
	2. Is the project submitted through an accredited NIE eligible to provide South-South support?	Yes	
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund in the country seeking accreditation endorsed the project?	Yes	

	2. Are the proposed activities to support NIE accreditation adequate?	<p>Uncertain.</p> <p><b>CR1:</b> Please clarify if MEE is the nominated candidate NIE for Maldives and write out the full name of MEE where it is mentioned for the first time in the proposal. It should be noted that NIEs providing support through South-South cooperation grants are not expected to provide technical consultancy services although they are free to do so should they have such capacities and expertise to do so in-house. The grants may not be used to hire external consultants. As such;</p> <p><b>CR2:</b> Please clarify if the Department of Environment will “Develop any missing or upgrading important policy documents which need to be provided with the application” on behalf of MEE.</p>	<p>Addressed.</p> <p>Addressed.</p>
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project funding within the cap for South-South Cooperation grants set by the Board?	Yes	
	2. If the implementing entity has requested, is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	The implementing entity has not requested a management fee.	The DOE has added a management fee of about 4% (USD 2,000) for the project.
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	Yes. A timeframe 12 months has been proposed.	

	2. Is a summary breakdown of the budget for the proposed activities included?	Yes	
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Secretariat's Overall Comment	<p>The Department of Environment (DoE) of Antigua and Barbuda proposes to provide peer support to the government of Maldives during the application process for accreditation of a National Implementing Entity (NIE) from Maldives.</p> <p>However, the following clarification requests (CRs) to the submission are made:</p> <p><b>CR1:</b> Please clarify if MEE is the nominated candidate NIE for Maldives and write out the full name of MEE where it is mentioned for the first time in the proposal.</p> <p><b>CR2:</b> Please clarify if the Department of Environment will develop and/or upgrade policy documents which need to be provided with the application” on behalf of the candidate NIE for Maldives.</p>
Date:	1 November 2017

NIE response to initial review and comments by the secretariat	<p><b>CR1:</b> The Maldives Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE) is the nominated NIE candidate. The nomination letter has been added as an annex, and a paragraph is added on the baseline context. The grant will not be used for external technical consultancy services. Both the Department of Environment and the MEE will use in-house capacity to deliver the outcomes presented.</p> <p><b>CR2:</b> The DOE will “support the development” of the MEE’s policies and other documents, with both entities using in-house capacity to do so. The activity has been updated to reflect this.</p>
Date:	13 November 2017



**Application for a Grant to support NIE accreditation**

Submission Date: 5 October 2017

Adaptation Fund Grant ID:

Country/ies: **Maldives**

Implementing Entity: **Department of Environment, Antigua and Barbuda**

**A. Timeframe of Activity**

Expected start date of support	1 December 2017
Completion date of support	1 December 2018

**B. Experience participating in, organizing support to, or advising other NIE candidates**

Describe the type of support provided to other national institutions, relevant to the accreditation process

Year	Type of support provided	Outcome of the	Country/institution supported
2016	In-country mission to St. Lucia to deliver presentations and one-on-one meetings with the OECS Commission on opportunities to access climate finance in SIDS	OECS Commission started accreditation process to Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, St. Lucia
2017	Department of Environment co-hosted a sub-regional dialogue with the GCF with the theme, <i>Accelerating direct access in the Eastern Caribbean</i>	Grenada nominated their direct access entity the Grenada Development Bank for accreditation to	Grenada Development Bank, Grenada
2017	The Department of Environment built the capacity of the Internal Audit Unit and the Audit Department in the Ministry of Finance to perform activities to support the national Direct Access entity	Strengthened enabling environment for national direct access entities	Ministry of Finance in Antigua and Barbuda

### C. Proposed activities to support NIE accreditation

Describe the activities to be undertaken to support the accreditation of NIE candidate(s) in the target country(ies)

#### Baseline at time of application submission

The Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE) was nominated on 4 January 2017 as the NIE to the Adaptation Fund for the Maldives (see endorsement letter in Annex 1). The MEE has a dedicated staff member working on its accreditation application to the Adaptation Fund, who is coordinating the accreditation process for the MEE. The Department of Environment (DOE) in Antigua and Barbuda will support the accreditation process of the MEE by presenting strategies for capacity building in a SIDS context, providing guidance on the development of policies and manuals for direct access which requires segregation of roles and responsibilities, and lessons learned with leading multi-sector stakeholder engagement processes. The following activities are proposed.

<b>Proposed Support Activities</b>	<b>Expected Output of the Activities</b>	<b>Country/Institution to be Supported</b>	<b>Requested budget (USD)</b>	<b>Tentative timeline (Completion date)</b>
i. Review existing documentation	Revised documents, procedures and Standard Operating Procedures	Maldives: Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE)	8,000	31 January 2018
ii. Support in addressing gaps in existing documentation	Support the development of any missing or upgrading important policy documents which need to be provided with the application	Maldives: MEE	12,000	31 February 2018

iii. Workshop in Male' with MEE and consultation of accreditation roles and	Presentation, experience sharing, stakeholder mapping & report	Maldives: MEE, Ministry of Finance and Treasury, Attorney General's Office and Audit Office, Gender, etc.	8,000	31 March 2018
iv. Exchange mission (Study tour) from MEE to NIE	Field a mission from MEE (3 officials); knowledge products and lessons learned for SIDS mentoring	Maldives: MEE	12,000	31 April 2018 <sup>1</sup>
v. Post-submission support for responding to Accreditation	Assistance (calls, written exchanges) to respond to Accreditation questions	Maldives: MEE	8,000	31 November 2018
vi. Project Management fee (up to 8.5%)	Project coordination, administration, and audit	Department of Environment (DOE), Antigua & Barbuda	2,000	
<b>Total Grant Requested (USD)</b>			<b>50,000</b>	

#### D. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures

Head of Implementing Entity	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Implementing Entity Contact	Telephone	Email Address
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<sup>1</sup> The timeline for this activity will be contingent on events within the Eastern Caribbean and will seek to target a sub-regional meeting where the Maldives and Antigua and Barbuda can continue to work with other potential Direct Access accredited entities in the Eastern Caribbean who are interested or seeking accreditation to the Adaptation Fund.

Diann Black-Layne			Lia Nicholson	+1 268 462-4625	lia.nicholson@ab.gov.ag

### E. Record of request of support on behalf of the government

Provide the name and position of the government official, the Designated Authority of the Adaptation Fund, and indicate date of endorsement. If the proposed support targets more than one country, list the officials requesting support for all the participating countries. The request letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the application.

<i>Mr. Ahmed Waheed  Director  Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE)  Ameenee Magu, 20392  Male, Maldives  Tel.: +960 301 8300  Fax: +960 301 8301  Email: ahmed.waheed@environment.gov.mv</i>	<i>Date: October 4, 2017</i>
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# Annex 1. Nomination of the Maldives Ministry of Environment and Energy as the NIE



**Ministry of Environment and Energy**  
Male', Republic of Maldives.

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4 January 2017

No: 438- CC.S /PRIV/2017/G

Mr. Mikko Ollikainen  
Interim Manager  
Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
c/o Global Environment Facility  
1818 H Street NW  
Washington DC 20433  
USA

Dear Mr. Ollikainen,

### Nomination of National Implementing Entity from Maldives

In my capacity as the Designated Authority from Maldives to the Adaptation Fund, I am writing to nominate the Ministry of Environment and Energy, Government of the Republic of Maldives, for accreditation to the Adaptation Fund.

In this regard, I request the Secretariat to facilitate the Ministry of Environment and Energy to submit its accreditation application through provision of access to the online portal.

Yours sincerely,

Ahmed Waheed  
Director



Green Building, Handhuvaaree Hingun,  
Maafannu, Male', 20392, Republic of Maldives.

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