



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.23-24/6
19 November 2018

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee

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

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;*

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 its twenty-third meeting, the Board had decided through decision B.23/26 to approve "the execution arrangements, criteria/eligibility criteria to allocate the funds to the accredited implementing entities for specific activities", contained in document AFB/B.23/5, which included grants for technical assistance and South-South (S-S) cooperation. Annex I to document AFB/B.23/5 presented an application form through which implementing entities could submit proposals for S-S cooperation grants.

6. Based on the Board Decision B.23/26, the first call for readiness project proposals was issued in May 2014 and eligible countries were given the opportunity to submit applications for a readiness grant.

7. According to the Board Decision B.28/30, a readiness project proposal can be submitted for consideration by the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and decision by the Board at the regular meetings of the Board and can also be submitted for review during an intersessional period of less than 24 weeks between two consecutive Board meetings.

8. Following Decision B.31/28 by the Board to approve the secretariat work schedule and work plan for fiscal year 2019 as contained in document AFB/EFC.22/7, the secretariat

launched a call for project proposals intersessionally between the thirty-first and thirty-second Board meetings and eligible countries were given the opportunity to submit applications for a S-S cooperation grant to receive support for accreditation through a selected number of eligible NIEs.

9. The size of the S-S cooperation grant could be up to a maximum of US\$ 50,000 per country as outlined in document AFB/B.27/7, and the eligible support could include but was 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.

10. 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 23-24 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.

11. The following readiness project proposal was submitted by an NIE eligible to receive South-South Cooperation Grants, i.e. the *Centre de Suivi Ecologique* of Senegal (CSE).

12. The present document introduces the South-South cooperation grant project proposal submitted by CSE on behalf of the government of Mauritius. It includes a request for funding of US\$ 49,910 outlining the activities to be undertaken by CSE to support the accreditation process in Mauritius.

13. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal and completed a review sheet.

14. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with CSE, and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.

15. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25.15, the proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.

Project Summary

Project – Application for a grant to support NIE accreditation in Mauritius

Implementing Entity: *Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE)*

Project Execution Cost: 0

Total Project Cost: USD 46,000

Implementing Fee: USD 3,910

Financing Requested: USD 49,910

Project Background and Context:

The CSE of Senegal has been repeatedly invited by various actors (Development Agencies, CSOs, Projects and Programmes, UN Agencies) to share its experience and to support other NIE candidates in assessing their readiness and/or to prepare and submit their application for the accreditation by the AF. To date, CSE has provided technical assistance to nine countries in the framework of the Adaptation Fund's Readiness Programme and provided support services to several other developing countries on project pipeline development and access to other sources of climate finance outside of the Adaptation Fund.

CSE proposes to provide peer support to the government of Mauritius during the application process for accreditation of a National Implementing Entity (NIE) in Mauritius. CSE intends to provide support for screening and identifying a suitable candidate NIE, training candidate NIE staff to enhance understanding of the accreditation process, identifying supporting documentation, and responding to queries raised by the Accreditation Panel (AP).



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: **Mauritius**Accredited Implementing Entity: **Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE)**Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): **49,910**Reviewer and contact person: **Cristina Dengel**Co-reviewer(s): **Farayi Madziwa**IE Contact Person: **Dethie Soumare Ndiaye**

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments 5 November 2018	Comments 13 November 2018
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	

	<p>2. Are the proposed activities to support NIE accreditation adequate?</p>	<p>For the most part yes.</p> <p>CR1: From the proposal, it is understood that the first activity will be a screening exercise and support for the nomination of a candidate NIE. However, the result of a nominated NIE is not included in the outputs. Please include this milestone in the proposal.</p> <p>CR2: Activity 3 proposes to do a review of questions raised by the Accreditation Panel (AP) with the expected output being a summary of the questions addressed by the AP. It is expected that the provider of peer support would in fact, support the candidate NIE to address queries and issues raised by the AP. Please clarify this activity and output.</p> <p>CR3: Activity 3 proposes the “<i>review of questions raised by the Accreditation Panel during previous applications</i>”. Please clarify which previous applications are referred to.</p> <p>CR4: The Adaptation Fund currently has a guidance document on its accreditation standards, available on the Fund website. Please explain why Activity 3 proposes to prepare accreditation standards.</p> <p>CR5: You may consider including a brief description of requirements for each supporting document in the proposed outcome for the checklist</p>	<p>CR1: Addressed. Nomination of the candidate NIE is now included as an output.</p> <p>CR2: Addressed.</p> <p>CR3: Addressed.</p> <p>CR4: Addressed.</p> <p>CR5: Addressed.</p>
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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?	No. The requested fee is 9.89% CAR1: Please request an implementing entity management fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee.	CAR1: Addressed. The fee is now 8.48%
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	The time frame proposed is 15 months, which seems long, considering that the entity is receiving support. CR6: Please provide justification for the proposed duration of support.	CR6: Addressed.
	2. Is a summary breakdown of the budget for the proposed activities included?	Yes. However, the management fee exceeds the cap of 8.5%. Please refer to CAR1 above.	

Secretariat's Overall Comment	<p>The <i>Centre de Suivi Ecologique</i> (CSE) of Senegal proposes to provide peer support to the government of Mauritius during the application process for accreditation of a National Implementing Entity (NIE) in Mauritius. CSE intends to provide support for screening and identifying a suitable candidate NIE, training candidate NIE staff to enhance understanding of the accreditation process, identifying supporting documentation, and responding to queries raised by the Accreditation Panel (AP).</p> <p>The initial technical review found that the proponent had requested an implementing fee above the cap of 8.5% set by the Adaptation Fund Board, had not included the nomination of a candidate NIE in Mauritius as one of the outputs from support provided, had not been clear about the nature of other proposed activities and related outputs, and had not provided a clear justification for the proposed length of time during which peer support would be provided.</p>
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	The final review finds that the revised proposal has sufficiently addressed the clarification and corrective action requests made in the initial technical review.
Date:	13 November 2018



ADAPTATION FUND

Application for a Grant to support NIE accreditation

Submission Date: 24 October
2018

Adaptation Fund Grant ID:
Country/ies: Mauritius Islands
Implementing Entity: Centre de Suivi Ecologique

A. Timeframe of Activity

Expected start date of support	March 2019
Completion date of support	June 2020

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

The CSE has been repeatedly invited by various actors (Development Agencies, CSOs, Projects and Programmes, UN Agencies) to share its experience and to support other NIE candidates in assessing their readiness and/or to prepare and submit their application for the accreditation by the AF. To date, CSE has provided technical assistance to nine (9) countries in the framework of the AF Readiness Programme.

Year	Type of support provided	Outcome of the support	Country/institution
2012	Technical Support to Department of Finance for Assessment of Institutional Capacity and Readiness for the Adaptation Fund's NIE Accreditation	Documentation collected and reviewed, strengths and weaknesses of the DOF identified, as well as the remedial actions to be undertaken.	Philippines / Department of Finance (DOF)

2013	Facilitating accreditation of a National Implementing Entity to the Adaptation Fund	Application submitted	Nigeria / Bank of Industry
2013	Technical advice on project formulation and implementation	Knowledge sharing	Benin / Direction Générale du Fonds National pour l'Environnement (FNE)
2014	Technical advice on grant management (type of bank account used), payment of services, procurement process,	Better understanding of procedures put in place by the CSE regarding grant management, procurements and implementation	Morocco / Agence de Développement Agricole (ADA)
2014	Sharing execution documents (project launching report, technical and financial reports) and technical	Better understanding of procedures put in place by the CSE regarding grant management, procurements and implementation	Rwanda / Ministry of Natural Resources (MINIRENA)
2014	Sharing of experience of achieving NIE accreditation	Experience sharing	Malawi / Civil society Network on Climate change (CISONEC)
2014	Sharing execution documents (Project Risk assessment/management manual, Project Monitoring and evaluation Manual) and	Templates of documents	Nigeria / Bank of Industry (BOI)
2014	Sharing execution documents (Project Risk assessment/management manual, Project Monitoring and evaluation Manual) and	Templates of documents	Tanzania / National Environment Management Council (NEMC)
2015	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Chad / Fonds Spécial pour l'Environnement (FSE)
2015	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Niger / Banque Agricole du Niger (BAGRI)
2015	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Cape-Verde / Agence Nationale de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement (ANAS)

2015	Delivery partner	Supporting countries for the implementation of the Green Climate Fund Readiness programme	Senegal
2015	Delivery partner	Supporting countries for the implementation of the Green Climate Fund Readiness programme	Djibouti
2015	Delivery partner	Supporting countries for the implementation of the Green Climate Fund Readiness programme	Democratic Republic of Congo
2016	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Mali/ Agence de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (AEDD)
2016	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Sierra Leone/ Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MOFED)
2016	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Guinea / Centre d'Etude et de Recherche en Environnement (CERE)
2016	Delivery partner	Supporting countries for the implementation of the Green Climate Fund Readiness programme	Togo
2016	Delivery partner	Supporting countries for the implementation of the Green Climate Fund Readiness programme	Chad
2016	Capacity building	Enhanced capacity for French speaking countries for a better access to Climate Funds (AF and GCF)	Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, DRC, Gabon, Guinea, Haiti, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo (Funded by the IFDD/OIE)
2016	Sharing of experience of achieving AF project	Experience sharing	National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) of Kenya (with financial support from WRI)

2017	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Togo / Office de Développement et d'Exploitation des Forêts (ODEF)
2017	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Burundi / Fonds de Promotion pour l'Habitat Urbain (FPHU)
2017	Delivery partner	Supporting countries for the implementation of the Green Climate Fund Readiness programme	Cote d'Ivoire
2018	Readiness technical assistance	Experience sharing on AF accreditation process	Cote d'Ivoire/Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricoles (FIRCA)

C. Proposed activities to support NIE accreditation

The first step of the process will consist in a screening exercise to select the best NIE candidate at national level, using interviews, focus-group discussions and, to a lesser extent, document review. This activity will be conducted in close collaboration with the Designated Authority (DA). This screening exercise will be performed using the guidance and the evaluation sheet (Annex 2) based on criteria and guidance provided by the AF (Annex 1).

Once the appropriate candidate is identified, a five-man committee will be established within the selected organization. The members of this committee will be chosen based on their availability and capacity for collecting required supporting documentation. This committee will be tasked to work in close cooperation with the CSE in order to:

- perform an assessment of institutional capacity and readiness of the selected organization for the AF's accreditation application. This will be done through qualitative assessment, using document review, SWOT analysis, risk analysis or any other relevant tool or approach.
- collect required supporting documents within the selected organization, but also through key partners they are used to work with for project formulation and implementation. To facilitate this work, a guidance sheet on "accreditation standards" (Annex 3) will be prepared, using information available in the accreditation toolkit developed by the AF. In the same view, a summary of comments and recommendation made so far by the Accreditation Panel during applications reviews will be prepared. This should help focus efforts on the most relevant documents and keep in mind the most

important aspects;

- review the adequacy of all required back-up documentation to ensure it meets the requirements of the AF Accreditation Panel. This will be done based on the supporting documents check-list provided by the AF (Annex 4);
- conduct follow-up discussions and advise in addressing identified gaps, if any, in the collected supporting documentation, and in completing all the remaining aspects of the assessment;
- proceed with the online submission of the NIE application.
- address comments made by the AF Secretariat and/or the Accreditation Panel following the online submission.


Proposed Support Activities	Expected Output of the Activities	Country/Institution to be Supported	Requested budget (USD)	Tentative timeline (Completion date)
1. Screening exercise, including an information workshop on the AF and the main features of an operational NIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Screening report - Check-list of key questions addressed during assessment - Presentation and set of slides - Evaluation sheet - NIE nominated 	Mauritius Islands	3,000	30 April 2019
2. Training the NIE on accreditation process and set up a Task force and elaborate a road map for collecting supporting document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation and set of slides -Road map for collecting supporting document 	Mauritius Islands	3,000	30 April 2019

Proposed Support Activities	Expected Output of the Activities	Country/Institution to be Supported	Requested budget (USD)	Tentative timeline (Completion date)
<p>3. Collecting supporting documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collecting and analyzing relevant supporting documents for each performance criteria required in the application form - Review of questions raised by the Accreditation Panel during previous applications submitted with CSE support (to better understand what is expected) - Preparing and sharing a note on accreditation standards (to better understand what is expected), using the AF's guidance document on its accreditation standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - List of supporting documents/information collected - Summary of previous questions raised by the Adaptation Panel and the Board to applicants during accreditation process - Note on accreditation standards 	Mauritius Islands	6,600	30 September 2019
<p>4. Review of the adequacy of all required back-up documentation to ensure it meets the requirements of the AF Accreditation Panel, and filling gaps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Checking the documents collected against AF requirements - Identifying potential gaps or weaknesses - Providing guidance on how to overcome issues identified - Supporting the task-force in organizing supporting documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting documents checklist including a brief description of AF requirements - Documentation of the main findings 	Mauritius Islands	3,000	13 January 2020
<p>5. Translation of supporting documents</p>	<p>Supporting documents in English</p>	Mauritius Islands	2,000	28 February 2020

Proposed Support Activities	Expected Output of the Activities	Country/Institution to be Supported	Requested budget (USD)	Tentative timeline (Completion date)
6. Submission of the application folder	- An application for accreditation as a National Implementing Entity - A one-page summary report	Mauritius Islands	5,400	16 March 2020
7. Responding to AP comments		Mauritius Islands	3,000	Not more than 3 months after submission
8. Communication		Mauritius Islands	1000	
9. Travel		Mauritius Islands	16,500	
10. Workshops and logistics	Documentation of main findings	Mauritius Islands	2,000	
11. Management Fees (Monitoring, review and completion report)	Monitoring and completion report	Mauritius Islands	3,910	
Total Grant Requested (USD)			49,910	

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
Dr Assize TOURE Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE)		22 OCT. 2018	Dethie Soumare Ndiaye	+221 338258066 +221 776583878	dethie@cse.sn

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.

 D.D Manraj, G.O.S.K <i>Financial Secretary & Designated Authority for Mauritius Ministry of Finance and Economic Development</i>	Date: <u>23/10/18</u>
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	Nbr of staff	Staff unit cost (CFA)	Nb of days/travels	Total (CFA)	Total (USD)
Communication				750,000	1,500
Ticket Mauritius		1,750,000	3	5,250,000	10,500
DSA		150,000	20	3,000,000	6,000
Screening exercise (in-country)	2	150,000	5	1,500,000	3,000
Assessment of institutional capacity and readiness (in-country)	2	150,000	4	1,200,000	2,400
Set ting up a task force and developing a road map (in-country)	2	150,000	1	300,000	600
Monitoring remotely the collection/preparation of supporting documents	2	150,000	5	1,500,000	3,000
Analyzing in-country supporting documents collected	2	150,000	6	1,800,000	3,600
Translation of supporting documents (lump sum)				1,000,000	2,000
Review of the adequacy of all required back-up documentation	2	150,000	5	1,500,000	3,000
Preparation of the application folder	2	150,000	5	1,500,000	3,000
Submission of the application folder (in-country)	2	150,000	4	1,200,000	2,400
Backstopping (adressing AP comments and CR)	2	150,000	5	1,500,000	3,000
Workshops and logistics		1,000,000	1	1,000,000	2,000
Management Fees		lumpsum		1,955,000	3,910
TOTAL				24,955,000	49,910



Ministry of Finance & Economic Development
Government Centre, Port Louis, Republic of Mauritius

In your reply, please quote:

CF/50/100/40/38

22 October 2018

Endorsement Letter

The Manager
Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org

Dear Madam,

**Endorsement for support in NIE accreditation under the Call for South-South
Cooperation Grants 2018**

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Mauritius, I confirm that the Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE) has been requested by my government to support the process of accreditation of a National Implementing Entity for the Adaptation Fund in my country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the grant proposal submitted by Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE) for funding from the Adaptation Fund.

Yours Sincerely,

D.D. Manraj, G.O.S.K
Financial Secretary &
Designated Authority