

SPREP's strategic focus for Opportunities and Challenges in accessing climate finance for Members

Opportunities	SPREP's Strategic Focus
Effectively accessing all available funds and resources	<p>At the Strategic level SPREP will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As an accredited entity to both the Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund, SPREP will continue to work on behalf of Member Countries to increase opportunities for funding from both Funds. • Continue to communicate and highlight the opportunities and funding modalities from both Funds to Members • Collaborate with partners to access the full range of funding available at both the Country and Regional levels
	<p>Country Level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPREP will work with Member Countries on developing project ideas, concept notes and plans under both the GCF and AF. • SPREP will work with Member Countries to fill the gap in climate financing and improve / increase access to the Adaptation Fund through the various modalities available e.g. readiness, single country projects, innovation grants etc
	<p>At the regional level SPREP will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPREP will collaborate with SPC and Micronesia Conservation Trust to develop regional adaptation project(s) benefitting all Members under the Adaptation Fund regional project modality which enables regional projects up to USD14 million. • Work on regional innovation grants under the Adaptation Fund to strengthen regional platforms (e.g. Pacific Climate Change Centre) and undertake regional approaches under the AF thematic areas (gender equality, disaster risk reduction, enhancing cultural heritage, inclusion of youth, enhancing communities, urban adaptation, nature-based solutions, social innovation, water and food security, innovative adaptation financing etc) to support Members.
<p>Ensure synergies between Funds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blending across Funds: As an accredited entity to the Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund, SPREP will capitalize on this and explore mechanisms for 'blending' across the Funds. For example, a programme or project may not fully meet the criteria for one fund, however, elements may meet the criteria under another fund. The aim is to incorporate joint funding into the project proposal at the commencement of the design and development phase. • Scaling up: Utilise access to both the Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund to scale-up projects either geographically or sectorally. This would ensure a phased approach to be undertaken to large-scale or complex projects and provide better opportunities for Countries to be able to absorb such projects. It will also assist in managing the geographical, logistical and budgetary challenges of project implementation, and enable lessons from one phase to be captured in subsequent phases with the necessary adjustments made. • Work with Members to identify and explore options for scaling-up and blending through current Country Programmes and Entity Work Programmes. • Identify opportunities within the SPREP project portfolio for cross-integration across projects to fill gaps in on-ground adaptation e.g. blue economy and nature-based solutions.
<p>Readiness Preparatory Support</p>	<p>SPREP will continue to:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Member Countries as a Delivery Partner on Readiness projects to develop and deliver institutional strengthening projects and activities to strengthen Countries' platforms and systems. • Provide continued support through the establishment of its Readiness Team.
<p>National Adaptation Planning</p>	<p>SPREP will continue to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Member Countries as a Delivery Partner on NAPs to develop and deliver on these projects. • Provide continued support through the NAP Team. • Work closely with Countries to ensure the development of the NAPs and identification of adaptation priorities are integrated into the Country Programmes and resource mobilization plans. • Where SPREP is a Delivery Partner on both a Readiness and NAP project for a Country, ensure alignment between the projects to maximize opportunities, synergies and linkages.

Challenges	SPREP's Strategic Focus
<p>Knowledge and understanding of Fund's focus and investment criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where SPREP is a Delivery Partner on Readiness projects, provide guidance and focus to strengthen alignment of Country Programmes to appropriate Fund's mandates and investment criteria to maximize opportunities for financing access. This is aimed at aligning to climate issues and rationale and strengthen project ideas from the onset. • Strengthen national Direct Access Entities through support to improve key project management systems e.g. the SPREP Readiness proposal is requesting funding to review and strengthen all Pacific DAE Grievance Redress Mechanisms. • Exchange learnings from SPREP's re-accreditation processes with both the Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund. This will assist DAEs in preparing for their re-accreditation and understanding expectations and process better.
<p>Capacity Constraints</p>	<p>At the project level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During project design / development, and where appropriate - identify and plan for phased approaches to the implementation of project i.e. adjusting implementation of projects to better suit the Country's capacity. • Explore alternative executing arrangements for projects on-ground which support Governments without adding additional requirements e.g. alternative executing entity considerations. <p>At the Direct Access Entity level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refining the Entity Work Programme and / or project pipeline to ensure projects can meet Funder's requirements as part of the pre-qualification check prior to SPREP accepting projects onto the pipeline. • Undertaking a review of internal capacity to better support Countries in accessing climate financing. • Strengthen internal systems and processes to better support project development and implementation. • It is not always a capacity issue, but a strategic direction issue. Therefore, review the strategic focus as a regional implementing entity and ensure effective capacity is in place i.e. not numbers but rather efficiency and effectiveness through people's expertise, skills and through strengthening support mechanisms.

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Regional and Programmatic Approaches	<p>SPREP will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with regional partners (e.g SPC, MCT, PIFS etc) to collaborate on regional approaches and projects to support Countries. For example, the Adaptation Fund provides funding for projects and innovation activities at the regional level. Projects can be designed to benefit across countries and be executed by regional partners. • Work with Countries to increase understanding or programmatic or phased approaches to project design and implementation and how this can benefit over the longer-term to meet their goals as well as overcome the challenge of absorbing large-scale projects.
Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek funding (e.g. SPREP Readiness) to undertake a Pacific-wide, country-by-country in-depth analysis of the private sector in the Pacific, what is it per country and what this means in terms of private sector engagement and mobilization of private financing in the Pacific. The analysis can be used by Direct Access Entities, Countries and International Accredited Entities to support projects and provide evidence to funders of private sector involvement (or lack of) in projects.
Articulation and Mapping of Key Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where SPREP is a Delivery Partner, work with Countries to refine Country Programmes and clearly articulate priorities in-line with mandates and investment criteria of Funders. • Review SPREP project pipeline and adjust to ensure project ideas are meeting Funders' criteria. • Insert pre-qualifications (e.g. Funder mandates and investment criteria) onto project ideas / concepts as part of consideration by SPREP to have the proposed project enter the pipeline i.e. for SPREP to be the accredited entity. • Where SPREP is the Delivery Partner on Readiness and NAP projects, ensure integration and complementarity across activities to maximize benefits and fill gaps in Country capacity.
High Transaction / Operational Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue dialogue with Funders on the Pacific context and the high transactional / operational costs for projects to build support to have this increased in project designs and budgets. • Consider options for collective procurement across projects where appropriate to reduce transactional costs and provide potential shared benefits e.g. lower costs. • Where appropriate encourage a multi-country approach on projects to reduce costs and share benefits. • During project design and development, ensure the project budgets are well designed and take into account geographical challenges, logistical challenges etc and activities are appropriately budgeted for. • Improve project designs through consolidation of activities or reduce scope, rather than doing too much for reduced funds and higher costs.