



Virtual training program on Understanding **Access to Finance**
(under the Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific)

1. Background

The Pacific Small Island States who are parties to the UNFCCC are eligible to access climate finance through multilateral climate change funds such as the GCF in addition to bilateral arrangements or partnerships. In order to respond to critical needs of the Pacific countries to enhance resilience and achieve low carbon development, the number of projects being planned and implemented are growing, so as the sectors and stakeholders being engaged in climate activities.

When accessing the climate finance for the climate change projects, the projects will not only contribute their national and local climate priorities but also support the objectives and requirements of multilateral or bilateral funds which they aim to access. Strategic and holistic approaches to incorporate all those priorities and requirements are indispensable to plan tangible and bankable projects supported by climate finance. The governments and stakeholders should also oversee the progress of the project implementation through robust monitoring and evaluation scheme.

The opportunities and supports of climate finance and the number of projects are increasing, and responsibilities, roles and functions required for projects development and execution are upon the limited capacity in the PICs. Accordingly, there are vast rooms of capacities to be improved through capacity building programs. First, the number of the government officials remains relatively small and there are frequent turnovers of the staffs. They may have technical background but less experience or capacities in climate project management. There are constant needs to train newly appointed officials and staffs especially in the relevant sectors' divisions and organizations. Second, Lack of basic knowledge of climate finance and funds, e.g. their objectives, requirements and essential concepts (climate rational etc.), should be addressed. Cross-cutting issues especially gender and environmental and social safeguards should be also understood and responded appropriately through the projects. Lastly, another fundamental knowledge and skill of project planning, implementation and management, especially on cost estimation, budgeting, scheduling, resource management and project monitoring and evaluation (M&E), as well as practical knowledge and methods to manage consultants should be further strengthened. This training program of the Project for Capacity Building on Climate Resilience in the Pacific in the Pacific Climate Change Centre (CBCRP-PCCC) will address these needs and support capacity building of the above identified staffs.

2. Objective

This training program aims to enhance capacities to access to climate financing by focusing on enhanced understanding on requirements and essential concepts of the climate finance, especially GCF, and improved capacity of project planning and management in the Pacific regions.

3. Expected outputs of the Access to Finance Training Course

The training program aims the following outputs:

- Robust understanding of various essential requirements, including gender, social inclusion and safeguards, to access to climate finance especially GCF; and
- Understanding of the practical knowledge and gaining basic skill of planning and budgeting for project formulation and implementation, project management and overseeing functions.

4. Expected participants

Government officials from the climate change divisions and line ministries and practitioners working with the governments with the following roles and experiences:

- i) currently engaging in planning, formulation and/or implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation projects;
- ii) having worked in the relevant divisions or organizations for less than two years; and
- iii) having no experience in climate project management in previous divisions or organizations.

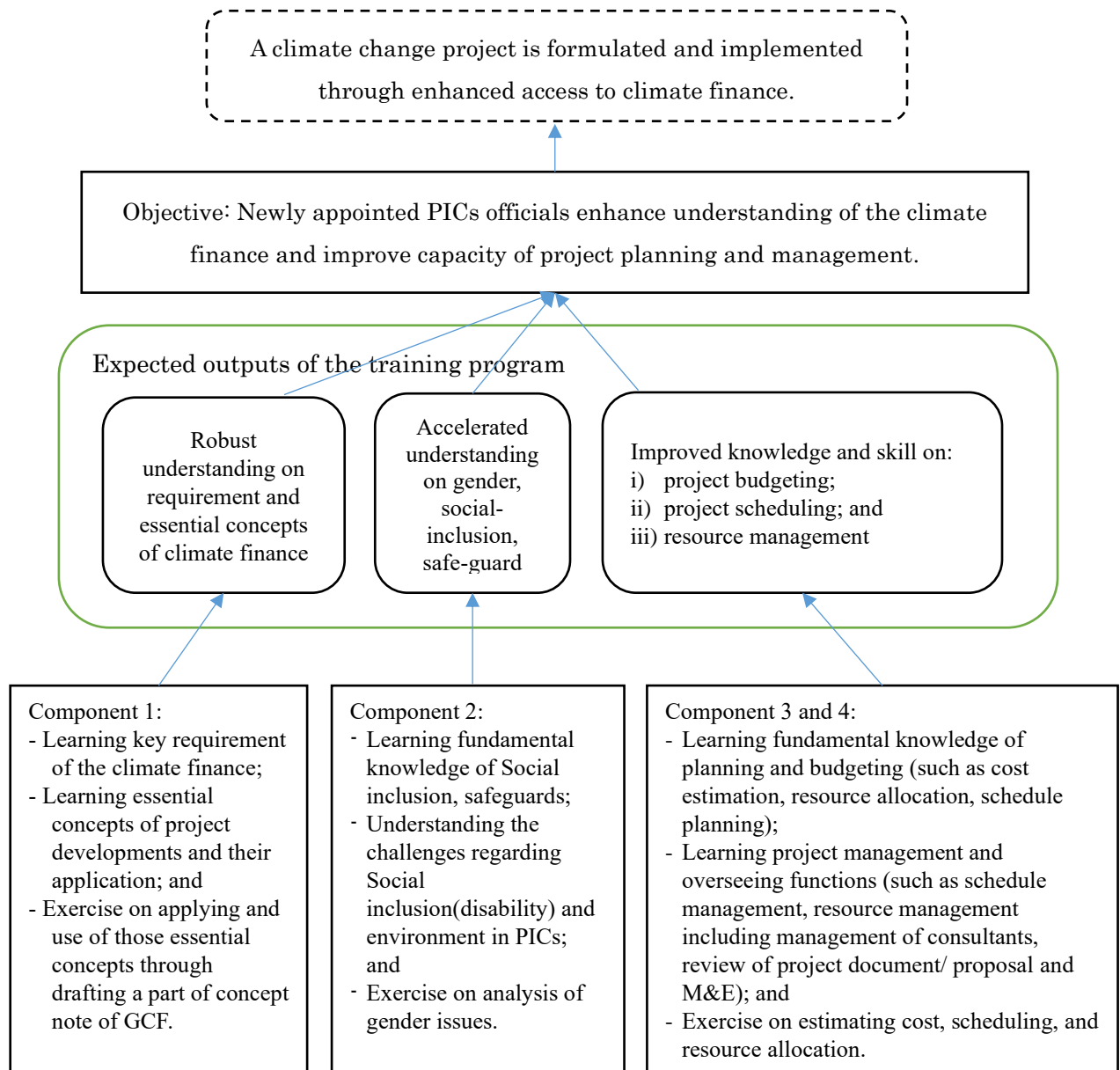
Participants are recommended to join all four components of training program.

5. Experts/Trainers

Experts will be invited from SPREP, SPC, GCF, Japanese institutions and other relevant organizations.

6. Tentative Schedule

- I. Nov. 2020: Essential aspects to access climate finance (component 1)
- II. Nov-Dec. 2020: Social Inclusion and safeguards (component 2)
- III & IV. TBC in 2021: Essentials in project planning and management (component 3 and 4)



Structure of the training program

7. Components of training program on access to climate finance

COMPONENT 1: Essential aspects for access to climate finance (Nov. 2020)

Expected outputs

- 1) Understand the essential guidelines, requirements, and funding criteria of climate finance.
- 2) Understand essential concepts to formulate climate projects including Theory of Change, Transformation/paradigm shift, Climate rationale, Log-frame, Country-ownership, Sustainability and Co-benefits and;
- 3) Gain practical skill to develop a project proposal through exercising formulation of a part of

Concept Note for GCF application.

Training outline

- 1) Self-paced learning of the following topics:
 - Learning: strategies, policies and guidelines such as results areas, investment strategy and criteria, application and approval process, and supporting programs of major climate finance including GCF
 - Learning: essential concepts (see above) and their application; and
 - Exercise: GCF concept note formulation through applying essential concepts such as theory of change and log-frame to identify the problem and justify why a country is requesting climate finance.
- 2) Virtual consultations (country-by-country / Groups) (1 time) on 18-20, 24, 25 of Nov.
 - Consultations with an international expert to review the outputs of exercise.

Experts

Mr. Tetsuya Yoshida (Japanese short-term expert), Dr. Peter King, additional experts (TBC)

COMPONENT 2: Gender, Social Inclusion and safeguards (Nov-Dec. 2020)

Expected outputs

- 1) Obtain the fundamental knowledge for gender and environmental and social safeguards (policy, guidelines and attached documents when applying for GCF such as Gender Assessment, Gender Action plan Environmental Impact Assessment, etc.)
- 2) Understand the challenges which PICs are facing in terms of gender, environment and social inclusion (mainly for person with disability)
- 3) Obtain skills of gender analysis in the climate adaptation and mitigation projects and categorizing the environmental and social risk included in the project (Screening the project).

Training outline

- 1) Self-paced learning of the following topics:
 - Learning: principles of gender streaming and environmental and social safeguards
 - Learning: practical tips to address gender and environmental social safeguards through referring materials regarding gender, disability and environment in PICs (see References).
 - Exercise: analysis of gender issue and judgement of the risk category of the projects regarding climate adaptation and mitigation projects.
- 2) Virtual consultations (country-by-country / Groups) (1 time) on 1-3, 9-10 of Dec.
 - Consultations with an international expert to review the outputs of exercise.

Experts

Mr. Muneo Matsukawa (JICA short-term experts), (additional experts TBC)

References

- 1) Gender; The Pacific Gender & Climate Change Toolkit Tools for Practitioners,
- 2) Social inclusion; Pacific Disability Forum SDG-CRPD Monitoring Report 2018
- 3) Safeguards;
 - Pacific Island Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Climate Change Adaptation: Building on Nature's Resilience, SPREP
 - Legal Frameworks for Ecosystem-Based Adaptation to Climate Change in the Pacific Islands, SPREP
 - Sustainability guidance note: screening and categorizing GCF-financed activities, GCF

COMPONENT 3-4: Project planning and management (to be refined further in 2021)

Expected outputs

- 1) Obtain the fundamental knowledge for planning and budgeting for project formulation including cost estimation, resource allocation, schedule planning, M&E plan;
- 2) Obtain the fundamental knowledge for project management and overseeing functions including schedule management, resource management, management of consultants, M&E execution; and
- 3) Obtain practical skills on developing relevant documents for project planning/project management

Training outline

- 1) Self-paced learning:
 - Learning: fundamental knowledge and methodology of planning and budgeting for project formulation and implementation and project management and overseeing functions;
 - Exercise: development of an effective ToR for consultant by applying knowledge of cost estimation, schedule planning and resource allocation;
 - Exercise: overseeing and reviewing outputs (procured works) of consultant;
- 2) Virtual consultations (country-by-country / Groups) (1 time)
 - Consultations with an international expert to review the outputs of preliminary exercises

Resources

Policies, Strategies and Guidelines of GCF, AF, LDCF and GEF
Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030

SPC, SPREP et al.: The Pacific Gender & Climate Change Toolkit – Tools for Practitioners
WMO, 2019: Gendered Impacts of Weather and Climate: Evidence from Asia, Pacific and Africa, Capstone Project Research Report
Pacific Disability Forum, 2018: Pacific Disability Forum SDG-CRPD Monitoring Report 2018.
PIF, 2013, Pacific Climate Change Finance Assessment Framework
IFC, 2012, Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability
UN HABITAT, 2014, Cities and climate change initiative tool series, Planning for Climate change
Acclimatise, IIED, ICCCAD. GCF Project Toolkit 2017
Solomon Islands Government, 2017, Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Plan
GCF, Gender assessment, Gender Action Plan, and Environmental and social safeguards (ESS) report for FP035 (Vanuatu), FP037(Samoa), FP044 (Solomon Islands)