

July 11, 2023

36th Board Meeting of the Green Climate Fund (GCF)

GCF Observer Network of Civil Society, Indigenous Peoples, and Local Communities

INTERVENTION

SAP029: Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) for Reducing Community Vulnerability to Climate Change in Northern Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) (Micronesia Conservation Trust)

Access the document: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-b36-02-add16>

We are glad to see the fourth Enhanced Direct Access programme proposal come through, the first since 2021, and the advantages of this approach show why we are eager to see more such proposals implemented by the GCF.

This programme takes advantage of the Accredited Entity's expertise in capacitating local communities through small grants by establishing small grant facilities with two types of grants. The approach is grounded in recognizing the importance of capacity strengthening and assessment in ensuring that well-placed organizations, with the right interventions for their communities, are supported to access these funds and poised to successfully implement their sub-projects. The matching of local organizations with higher-capacity organizations and the various support and training mechanisms provided throughout the grant application and implementation processes holds much potential for further scaling-up and replication.

Additionally, the programme's presentation of eligible interventions and their benefit to adaptation, in unfortunate contrast to some of the funding proposals here, highlights what effective climate action should look like. Without providing an exact list of subprojects, this programme shows exactly what will be supported by these small grants, with a level of clarity and an evidence basis that we do often find lacking and obscured in much larger programmes. We are glad but unsurprised that this shortlist of ecosystem-based adaptation measures was developed through consultation with national and sub-national stakeholders, in addition to reliance on technical reports and national policy. These approaches epitomize the reasons why we support ecosystem-based adaptation, as climate resilience, ecosystem integrity, biodiversity, and human livelihoods and wellbeing are intertwined.

The proposal is evidence-based, values local knowledge and the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples on adaptation, highlights the importance of addressing climate-related impacts in small island communities, and reflects true paradigm shift, sustainable development, and country ownership.

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