GCF WATCH

46th Board Meeting of the Green Climate Fund

October 26-29, 2026, Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea

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

Intervention on

FP325: Climate Actions for Building Resilience in Coastal Communities (CABRIC) in the Caribbean

Access the document: https://www.greenclimate.fund/board-document/gcf-b46-02-add18

We welcome FP325. This approach to a proposal is one civil society has been advocating for since the start of GCF and since the Enhanced Direct Access modality was created in 2015, and of which we have unfortunately seen far too few examples. We strongly support the use of EDA to place climate finance directly in the hands of local actors, and we particularly welcome the small grants window with various funding options, tailored to the sizes of local CBOs, NGOs and other groups, and appreciate that the project is designed in such a way that access is facilitated through capacity building and proposal development support.

We also appreciate what the grants will fund: gender-transformative and climate-resilient livelihoods security, community health, mental health, and safe shelters, with a clear focus on women and other vulnerable groups. These topics and issue areas address some of the real needs at the local level with tangible action. This programme isn't the kind of broad programmatic intention without details that we too often see in private sector programmes, where intention alone seems to be enough to get funding.

Local actors are not just beneficiaries of climate finance. Local groups, including women's groups, fisherfolk associations, farmer cooperatives, youth groups and Indigenous Peoples' organizations, and local authorities have the right skills and capacities, as well as key data, analysis, and insights, to take on climate action. They know where the needs are, what works in their communities, how to manage risks, and how to keep action going long after a project ends. What they lack is direct access to finance and a say in how it is used. Letting communities set their own priorities and monitor their own results is the right approach.

We want to see more proposals like this, and we hope that this proposal, as well as the Locally Led Climate Action framework, will give new momentum to the Secretariat and to AEs, to bring forward more proposals like this one. Devolved finance to local actors should be a regular and larger part of the GCF portfolio, not an occasional pilot.

We affirm that the EDA should remain a particularly robust and important process for operationalizing Locally Led Climate Action, and we want to ensure that the integration of the LLCA framework and guidance into other proposals, which can also inform smaller-scale elements and efforts, does not reduce the opportunity to continue to see singular proposals that are full EDA projects.