



Energy, Environment and Climate Change

Pacific American Climate Fund

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

The Pacific American Climate Fund is a five-year grant facility implemented in 12 island-countries: Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

OBJECTIVES

This facility provides grants to selected civil society organizations (CSOs) in the Pacific Islands region in order to support climate change adaptation measures and reduce related vulnerabilities. Resources for managerial and financial capacity-building are also provided to CSO grantees, so as to ensure the sustainability of their efforts to meet the longer-term challenges of a changing climate.

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BACKGROUND

Pacific island-countries are highly vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change. More than 8.5 million people in the region depend for their livelihood primarily on tourism, fisheries, forestry and agriculture, all of which are highly sensitive to rising sea levels, changing ocean temperatures and acidity, and shifting rainfall and storm patterns. Civil society organizations (CSOs) play a critical role in social and economic development, yet are often hindered by a lack of resources to implement their climate change projects and managerial capacity.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Grants are awarded on an open and competitive basis to non-sovereign CSOs, including local, national, and internationally-operating entities. The Fund supports grantee projects focused on climate change adaptation in the technical areas of (a) improving natural resources and water management, and (b) enhancing livelihood development and income diversification.

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The Pacific American Climate Fund encourages the development of adaptation measures that incorporate proven best practices or technologies, which can be replicated and scaled-up at the community level. Special consideration is given to climate change interventions by female community members, or those that create opportunities for women's economic participation.

The grantee selection process begins with the submission of project concept papers from interested CSOs to the Administrative Office of the Pacific American Climate Fund. CSOs with promising concept papers are then invited to develop these into full proposals for review.

The Pacific American Climate Fund works in tandem with the CSOs to ensure proper grant implementation and reporting in compliance with USAID guidelines and procedures. In this manner, CSOs “learn by doing” and strengthen their internal capacities.

Improved proficiency in grant management will enable these organizations to eventually scale up their climate change adaptation efforts, leverage with other organizations, and engage in more complex projects, including public-private partnerships. The grant facility will also capture and disseminate best practices and lessons learned to a variety of stakeholders, including those at the community level.

Pacific American Climate Fund activities are conducted in coordination with U.S. Government partners, including U.S. Embassies, the Peace Corps, and implementers of other USAID activities in the Pacific Islands.

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