

Independent Evaluation Unit



TRUSTED EVIDENCE INFORMED POLICIES HIGH IMPACT



Country case study report





Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Result Area "Health and Wellbeing, and Food and Water Security" (HWFW)

GREEN CLIMATE FUND INDEPENDENT EVALUATION UNIT

Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Result Area "Health and Wellbeing, and Food and Water Security"

COUNTRY CASE STUDY REPORT: FIJI

01/2025

© 2025 Green Climate Fund Independent Evaluation Unit 175, Art center-daero Yeonsu-gu, Incheon 22004 Republic of Korea Tel. (+82) 032-458-6450 Email: ieu@gcfund.org https://ieu.greenclimate.fund

All rights reserved.

First Edition

This evaluation is a product of the Independent Evaluation Unit at the Green Climate Fund (GCF/IEU). It is part of a larger effort to provide open access to its research and work and to contribute to climate change discussions around the world.

While the IEU has undertaken every effort to ensure the data in this report is accurate, it is the reader's responsibility to determine if any and all information provided by the IEU is correct and verified. Neither the author(s) of this document nor anyone connected with the IEU or the GCF can be held responsible for how the information herein is used.

Rights and Permissions

The material in this work is copyrighted. Copying or transmitting portions all or part of this report without permission may be a violation of applicable law. The IEU encourages dissemination of its work and will normally grant permission promptly.

Citation

The suggested citation for this evaluation is:

Independent Evaluation Unit (2025). Independent Evaluation of the GCF's Result Area "Health and Wellbeing, and Food and Water Security". Country case study report: Fiji (January). Songdo, South Korea: Independent Evaluation Unit, Green Climate Fund.

Credits

Head of the GCF Independent Evaluation Unit: Andreas Reumann Task managers: Daisuke Horikoshi, Principal Evaluation Officer; Yeonji Kim, Evaluation Uptake Specialist, Independent Evaluation Unit Editing: Beverley Mitchell Layout: Giang Pham Cover design: Therese Gonzaga Cover photo: © Yeonji Kim

A FREE PUBLICATION

Printed on eco-friendly paper

CONTENTS

Ав	BREVIATIONSV
A.	INTRODUCTION1
B.	BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT
1.	Overview of Fiji1a.Geographyb.Demographyc.Economy22d.Politics2
2.	HWFW sectors' climate change context
3.	Climate change policy in Fiji
4.	Institutional arrangements and the GCF portfolio5
C.	Key findings
1.	Relevance and responsiveness
2.	Coherence and complementarity
3.	Effectiveness and impact
4.	Innovativeness in result areas
5.	Sustainability, replicability and scalability
6.	Gender and social equity
7.	Efficiency14
D.	CONCLUSIONS
AP	PENDIX 1. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

APPENDIX 2.	MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION FUND-LEVEL IMPACT INDICATORS . 2	20
Appendix 3.	STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED2	23
REFERENCES		24

TABLES

5
17
19
20

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank			
AE	Accredited entity			
APR	Annual performance report			
B.39	Thirty-ninth meeting of the Board			
ESS	Environmental and social safeguards			
FDB	Fiji Development Bank			
FJD	Fijian dollar			
GCF	Green Climate Fund			
GDP	Gross domestic product			
GFCR	"Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window" funded project (FP180)			
GHG	Greenhouse gas			
GSA	Greater Suva Area			
HWFW	Health and Wellbeing, and Food and Water Security			
IEU	Independent Evaluation Unit			
NDA	National designated authority			
NDC	Nationally determined contribution			
RA	Result area			
SIDS	Small island developing State			
WAF	Water Authority of Fiji			

A. INTRODUCTION

This case study was undertaken as part of the independent evaluation of the Green Climate Fund's (GCF) Result Area (RA) "Health and Wellbeing, and Food and Water Security" (HWFW). The evaluation was launched in April 2024 by the GCF Independent Evaluation Unit, with the objectives of reporting on the GCF's HWFW results and progress towards targets, while also shedding light on why results have been achieved or not, and how the GCF's interventions can be improved. These objectives fulfil the accountability and learning functions of this evaluation. The evaluation also explores the value addition of adopting an RA approach. To do so, the evaluation has adopted a mixed-methods approach, which includes six country case studies.

The present case study report provides insights from the Republic of Fiji (hereafter referred to as Fiji). This case study was informed by a one-week, in-country field visit, from 15 to 19 July 2024. The field visit entailed a site visit to one of the GCF HWFW RA projects and a series of interviews undertaken with the national designated authority (NDA), government representatives, delivery partners and accredited entities (AEs), as well as beneficiaries. Stakeholder engagement was complemented by an in-depth document review of programme documents and country-level strategic/policy documents.

B. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

1. OVERVIEW OF FIJI

a. Geography

Fiji is an archipelagic small island developing State (SIDS), located in the south Pacific Ocean. The country spans an area of 18,274 km², encompassing 332 islands, of which 110 are inhabited, and over 500 smaller islets (Central Intelligence Agency, 2024). Several of the country's islands are surrounded by coral reefs, offshore rocks and shoals that make coastlines dangerous to navigate (MacDonald and Foster, 2024). Nearly half of Fiji's land area is forested, and mangroves can also be found on the eastern coasts of the islands (MacDonald and Foster, 2024). Fiji has a tropical marine climate with only slight seasonal temperature variation (Central Intelligence Agency, 2024). The dry season runs between May and October, when temperatures average around 23–25°C, and the wet season runs from November to April, with temperatures averaging around 26–27°C (World Bank Group, 2021b). Monthly precipitation ranges from 250 to 400 millimetres during the wet season, rainfall practically ceases in the western regions, creating a stark contrast in climatic conditions and agriculture between the eastern and western parts of the country (MacDonald and Foster, 2024). Tropical cyclones are a major feature of Fiji's climate, and their effects are experienced annually (World Bank Group, 2021b).

b. Demography

Fiji has a population of approximately 936,375. The population has been increasing since 2019, reaching a growth rate of 0.7 per cent in 2023 (World Bank Group, 2024d; 2024e). The country has a relatively young population. According to 2024 estimates, nearly a quarter of the population is under 15 years of age (24.7 per cent), 66.4 per cent is between 15 and 64 years, and 8.9 per cent is over 65 years (Central Intelligence Agency, 2024). The majority of the population lives on two of

Fiji's largest islands: Viti Levu and Vanua Levu (Fiji, 2021). Fiji's capital, Suva, is located on the southeast coast of Viti Levu. The urban population has been steadily increasing, with 59 per cent of the population living in urban areas and 41 per cent in rural areas (World Bank Group, 2024f). Fiji has three official languages: English, Fijian and Fijian Hindi. Indigenous Fijians make up over half the population, and Indo-Fijians comprise another two fifths (MacDonald and Foster, 2024). Indo-Fijians are people of Indian descent, most of whom are descendants of the 60,000 indentured labourers brought to Fiji by British colonists to work in sugarcane plantations (Central Intelligence Agency, 2024). Indo-Fijians predominantly live in the sugar-producing areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, whereas Indigenous Fijians predominantly live in the rural areas of smaller islands (MacDonald and Foster, 2024). According to a 2010 law, the term "Fijian" or "Indigenous Fijians" is to be replaced by "iTaukei" (Fiji, 2010).

c. Economy

Fiji has been classified as an upper-middle-income country and has a gross domestic product (GDP) of USD 5.49 billion, making it the second-largest economy in the Pacific region (Metreau, Young and Eapen, 2024; World Bank Group, 2024b). The Fijian economy has been recovering from contraction during the COVID-19 pandemic, and GDP growth rose to 8 per cent in 2023 (World Bank Group, 2024c). In 2019, 1.32 per cent of the population was living on below USD 2.15 per day, and nearly a quarter of the population (24.1 per cent) was living below the national poverty line (World Bank Group, 2019). Poverty rates are highest in the outer islands, and there is a stark contrast between poverty rates in rural (36.2 per cent) and urban (13.8 per cent per cent) areas (World Bank Group, 2019). Unemployment has been decreasing, with the unemployment rate averaging 4.3 per cent in 2023 (World Bank Group, 2024h). The services sector accounts for 52.8 per cent of Fiji's GDP, followed by the manufacturing sector at 9 per cent and the agricultural sector at 8.3 per cent (World Bank Group, 2024a). The country's economy is largely tourism-based, and 40,000 people were directly or indirectly employed in the tourism industry in 2017 (Sawe, 2019). Although agriculture was once Fiji's primary economic sector, it has been surpassed by tourism. However, the agricultural sector continues to support the livelihoods of 27 per cent of Fiji's population and employs 83 per cent of the country's rural population (Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance, 2022). Today, agriculture in Fiji is largely commercial, with sugarcane, coconuts and pineapples as key crops. Fiji's sugar industry was negatively impacted after the European Union dropped its preferential prices for Fijian sugar in 2009 (Sawe, 2019; Anderson, 2023).

d. Politics

Fiji has a parliamentary political system, and its current constitution was enacted in September 2013 (MacDonald and Foster, 2024). Fiji gained independence from the United Kingdom in 1970, and its most recent elections were held in December 2022, where a coalition of three parties formed government. Sitiveni Rabuka was elected as the country's twelfth Prime Minister, winning by one vote and ousting Josaia Voreqe (Frank) Bainimarama, who had been leading the government for 16 years.

2. HWFW SECTORS' CLIMATE CHANGE CONTEXT

In 2020, Fiji's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions amounted to 1,745 kt CO₂ equivalent. In 2019, the energy sector had the largest share of the country's GHG emissions, accounting for 52.74 per cent. The energy sector was followed by the forest and other land-use sector at 21.18 per cent, the agricultural sector at 13.14 per cent, and the waste and industrial sectors at 9.7 per cent and 3.24 per cent respectively (Gauss International Consulting, 2023). As a SIDS, Fiji is particularly vulnerable

to climate change impacts and is ranked 77th out of 182 countries in the 2021 ND-GAIN Index (University of Notre Dame, 2024). It is important to note that predicting climate impacts in Fiji carries a degree of uncertainty. This uncertainty stems from the spatial resolution of climate models often being too coarse, and many of Fiji's islands are smaller than the grid squares used in the global circulation models that underpin climate projections (Fiji, 2021).

Fiji's health care infrastructure is at risk of being damaged by the extreme weather events induced by climate change. Like most SIDS, Fiji's health care facilities are often located in low-lying areas vulnerable to flooding and storm surges that could disrupt service provision (World Health Organization, 2020). Mean annual temperatures are also expected to rise along with the frequency and intensity of heat waves, making a large number of people vulnerable to developing heat-stress and heat-related medical conditions (World Health Organization, 2020). Dengue fever, leptospirosis and typhoid are considered as Fiji's "three plagues" (Fiji, 2021). Climate change-induced flooding in Fiji is linked to a rise in dengue outbreaks, with transmission rates expected to increase by 30-40 per cent (World Health Organization, 2020). Leptospirosis is particularly sensitive to increases in temperature and rainfall. Similarly, typhoid outbreaks are projected to become more frequent as the incidence of flooding and cyclones increases (Fiji, 2021; World Bank Group, 2021b). Additionally, a study conducted in Fiji found a 3 per cent increase in diarrhoea cases among infants with every 1°C increase in temperature (Fiji, 2021). Climate change is also expected to impact Fijians' health through extreme temperatures and natural disasters such as droughts, cyclones and floods that damage food crops, causing food shortages that may then lead to malnutrition. During such episodes, people typically consume canned and preserved foods with a high salt and sugar content, increasing their risk of high blood pressure, stroke, diabetes, obesity and cardiovascular disease (Fiji, 2021).

Fiji's food security is compromised by tidal surges, saltwater intrusion, drought and floods that damage domestic agricultural systems by destroying crops, trees, farming and fishing equipment, and infrastructure (Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance, 2022). With climate change, these phenomena are expected to become more frequent and intense, further undermining agricultural productivity. As a result, Fijians may be forced to rely on food imports. This dependence may exacerbate food insecurity, with Fiji's food supply becoming vulnerable to disruptions in international food chains (World Bank Group, 2021a; Fiji, 2021). This is compounded by the fact that the prices of imported food commodities, typically consisting of grains such as rice and wheat, are expected to rise as their productivity declines with climate change. Increasing food prices are projected to seriously impact Fijian households' ability to access sufficient and nutritious foods, with a 1 per cent price increase potentially pushing at least 1,000 Fijians below the poverty line (Fiji, 2021). Furthermore, while Fiji's traditional production systems are relatively resilient to climate variations, they are increasingly being replaced by commercial production systems that are more vulnerable to climate change (Fiji, 2021).

Sea level in Fiji is projected to rise between 0.4 to 0.9 metres by 2090, leading to an increased frequency of coastal flooding from tropical cyclones, tsunamis and earthquakes; river flooding in tidal zones; and coastal inundation during high tides or storm surges (World Bank Group, 2021a; Fiji, 2021). Low-lying Fijian islands' coastlines are also particularly vulnerable to erosion and saltwater intrusion (World Bank Group, 2021a). Without investments in coastal protection, rising sea level is expected to permanently inundate certain areas (World Health Organization, 2020). Extreme rainfall events in Fiji are projected to become more intense and frequent, raising the likelihood of landslides (Fiji, 2021). The frequency of flooding events is also expected to rise (Fiji, 2021). Fiji has historically experienced more than one flood per year on average, with devastating

flooding episodes occurring in 2004, 2009, 2012 and 2014 (Fiji, 2021). Fiji's water and wastewater infrastructure is exposed to extreme weather events and climate change, largely due to poor design and the location of facilities. For instance, one in five pumping stations and water treatment plants are located in areas prone to being submerged during floods and are at risk of overflowing (Fiji, 2021). Moreover, 50 per cent of Fiji's urban water supply system draws fresh water from coastal and low-lying areas that may experience saltwater intrusion (Fiji, 2021).

Fijians are already facing internal displacement, and this trend is expected to increase with climate change. In 2014, Fiji became the first Pacific Island nation to relocate a community due to climate change and rising sea level. Additionally, the tourism sector may be impacted as rising sea level and coastal erosion reduce the quantity and quality of beach space and extreme weather events damage tourism infrastructure. One study found that rising temperatures could reduce tourism revenue in Fiji by 18 per cent by 2030 (World Bank Group, 2021a).

3. CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY IN FIJI

At a global scale, Fiji has been actively advocating for urgent action to address climate change. Fiji ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016 and committed to limiting global warming to 1.5°C through the development, adoption and implementation of policies and measures to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and adapt to these changes (Gauss International Consulting, 2023). The Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change is Fiji's national agency responsible for addressing climate change policy issues. The Climate Change Division works in collaboration with government agencies, NGOs, regional and international agencies, and development partners.

- National Adaptation Plan (2018): Fiji's national adaptation plan seeks to comprehensively spearhead efforts to address climate change and improve the country's resilience to it. This plan contains 160 adaptation measures to be prioritized over a five-year period. Actions cover 10 sectoral components: climate information services and management; horizontal integration; vertical integration; climate change awareness and knowledge; resource mobilization; food and nutrition security; health; human settlements; infrastructure; and biodiversity and the natural environment. The plan also brings adaptation efforts from across multiple government entities under one document.
- Fiji Low Emission Development Strategy 2018–2050: This strategy defines pathways to achieve low-emission development in Fiji. A central goal of the strategy is reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050 across all sectors of its economy. The strategy elaborates on four possible low-emission scenarios for Fiji: (i) business-as-usual, (ii) business-as-usual conditional scenario, (iii) high ambition scenario, and (iv) very high ambition scenario. Sectors for action include electricity and energy; land transport; domestic maritime transport; domestic air transport; coastal wetlands; agriculture, forestry and other land-use; waste; and cross-cutting sectors such as tourism, industry and manufacturing.
- Nationally Determined Contribution (2020): Fiji submitted its first nationally determined contribution (NDC) in 2016 and submitted an update in 2020. The 2020 update reaffirms the country's target of a 30 per cent reduction in CO₂ emissions, particularly from the energy sector, by 2030 compared to a business-as-usual scenario. This target is to be achieved by striving to reach 100 per cent renewable energy power generation and reducing domestic maritime shipping emissions by 40 per cent (Chandra, 2023). The NDC also commits to achieving net zero GHG emissions by 2050.

- The Climate Change Act (2021): This Act provides a framework for Fiji to develop and implement clear and long-term climate change measures and policies to safeguard the future of Fiji and its people and ecosystems. It was enacted to help Fiji meet its international obligations and to implement Fiji's 2020 NDC. This Act also establishes institutional and governance structures for its implementation and facilitates evidence-based considerations of climate change issues in specified areas of governmental and private sector decision-making.
- National Inventory Report (2023): This inventory outlines the sources and sinks of anthropogenic GHG emissions and is used to assess mitigation efforts for meeting commitments made in Fiji's NDC. This inventory addresses five sectors: (i) energy, (ii) industrial processes and product use, (iii) agriculture, (iv) forestry and other land uses, and (v) waste.

4. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE GCF PORTFOLIO

The NDA sits in the Office of the Prime Minister, within the Climate Change Division, overseen by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (Fiji, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, 2022). This is a change from two years ago when the NDA was housed in the Ministry of Economy. After the 2022 elections, Fiji experienced a change in government, which sparked the restructuring of the NDA to a new ministry. According to consulted stakeholders, the new Fijian NDA key contacts are not the same as those prior to the change in government, leaving gaps in institutional knowledge and limited comprehensive insight regarding all the GCF projects currently implemented in-country. Nevertheless, some stakeholders indicated that this change has not affected the delivery of GCF projects, including HWFW RA projects. Additionally, the NDA is currently taking steps to strengthen and improve mechanisms to ensure its systematic overview of all GCF projects and portfolio development (see section C.2).

As of the thirty-ninth meeting of the Board (B.39), four AEs have GCF approved projects in Fiji. These are the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Pegasus Capital Advisors, and the Fiji Development Bank (FDB). It should be noted that the FDB is a direct access entity and has only one GCF approved project, "Fiji Agrophotovoltaic Project in Ovalau" (SAP016). Two projects have been identified as relevant for this case study and are presented in Table 1 below.

PROJECT NAME	AE	GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Status	GCF FINANCING
FP008. Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Project	ADB	Fiji	Fully disbursed	USD 31,040,000
FP180 . Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window	Pegasus Capital Advisors	Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Comoros (the), Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Mexico, Mozambique, Panama, Philippines (the), Seychelles, Sri Lanka	40% disbursed	USD 125,000,000

Table 1. Proportion of climate-relevant ministerial budgets

These two HWFW RA projects are at various stages of implementation. "Fiji Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Project" (FP008) is a single-country project, whose first component of

improving water supply through the construction of a water treatment plant and water reservoir has been completed. FP008's second component of improving waste management has faced significant delays and, according to stakeholders, is currently undergoing restructuring. The FP180 "Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window" (GFCR) is a multi-country project that operates as a blind pool of funds. Specific countries, including Fiji, have been identified as possible countries to be considered as investment opportunities. However, to date, none of the three out of 15 GFCR investments were made in Fiji. In Fiji specifically, FP180 is still developing a pipeline of possible investments in the country. Given the set-up of the project, while the investment window of the GFCR seeks to invest in all countries named in the funding proposal, which includes Fiji, the exact final fund size and list of investments is unknown at this stage.

In addition to the two HWFW RA projects, the GCF mitigation project SAP016 "Fiji Agrophotovoltaic Project in Ovalau" has an agriculture and adaptation component, which serves as a key co-benefit of the project that connects to the HWFW RA. Although several key stakeholders related to SAP016 were interviewed during the field visit, because SAP016 is a mitigation project this case study does not incorporate insights on SAP016's project components. However, broad insights from key stakeholders have been included in relevant evaluation criteria sections – namely, those on coherence and complementarity (section C.2) and efficiency (section C.7).

C. KEY FINDINGS

1. Relevance and responsiveness

The overall HWFW RA approach and investments are highly relevant to the adaptationthemed mandate of the GCF and the Paris Agreement on climate change, with varying degrees of relevance and responsiveness to the priorities and needs of the country/beneficiaries. As a SIDS country, Fiji has already been experiencing the effects of climate change through rising sea level and frequent periods of drought. One of the projects in the HWFW RA, FP008, responds directly to these challenges and the need for adaptation. Component one of the FP008 project is to design and build a water supply intake infrastructure, including a water treatment plant and water reservoir that would improve water supply for the Greater Suva Area (GSA) (Green Climate Fund, 2015). As outlined by the funding proposal and echoed by in-country stakeholders, this investment and component is not only a development infrastructure project, but one that considers climate resilience and Fiji's adaptation needs. For example, the design of the water treatment plant's water intake point allows for a high variability in the water level so that the plant can maintain a consistent and reliable supply of water despite low or high water levels caused by variable rainfall or dry spells, an increasing problem for Fiji. Similar adaptation design considerations were incorporated into the original design of component two of the project (improvement of the wastewater management system). However, this component has faced severe delays and is yet to be implemented, with in-country stakeholders sharing that this component will be restructured. Despite the anticipated restructuring, in-country stakeholders with knowledge of the project reported that the original objectives of the component would still be met. According to consulted in-country stakeholders and project documentation, component one of FP008, in particular, was highly relevant to the priorities and needs of beneficiaries due to a large gap between the demand for and the supply of water in the GSA.

The second HWFW RA investment, FP180, also aligns with the larger GCF adaptation mandate through its objectives of "enhanc[ing] the resilience and adaptive capacity of the communities,

productive systems and businesses that depend on coral reef systems" that have been negatively affected due to climate change (Green Climate Fund, 2021b). According to project documentation, Fiji is one of the seven countries "that account for 70 per cent of the regeneration capacity of coral reefs globally", thus creating a specific need for such investments in Fiji (Green Climate Fund, 2021b).

There is moderate to high alignment of the GCF's investments in the HWFW RA with Fiji's own national commitments at the time of funding approval, with varying degrees of continued relevance to more recent government priorities. Approved in 2015, FP008's funding proposal highlights alignment with key Fiji government documents such as the 2013 Fiji Constitution, the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) draft Water Supply and Sewerage Master Plan 2013–2033, the WAF 2014 corporate plan and the *Government of Fiji: Roadmap for Democracy and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development 2010–2014* (Green Climate Fund, 2015). Approved in 2021, FP180's funding proposal states that the multi-country project "will be implemented in full alignment with national development plans and global commitments" (Green Climate Fund, 2021b). According to interviews with stakeholders who have knowledge of FP180, the project's investment criteria should also be aligned with the NDCs and national development plans of each country in which investments are made. This is, however, difficult to assess given that no investments have as yet been made in Fiji.

The 2018 national adaptation plan identifies 160 adaptation measures with "prioritized actions" across 10 systems and five sectors (Fiji, 2018). These five sectors include the HWFW-relevant sectors of health and food and nutrition security, highlighting the continued relevance of the HWFW RA more broadly. Of note, FP180's goal of "unlock[ing] and de-risk[ing] private investment" to support coral reef recovery speaks more to the 2018 national adaptation plan's priority sector component of biodiversity and the natural environment than to the sector components that align most with the overall HWFW RA (Fiji, 2018). However, stakeholders with knowledge of FP180 also mentioned other mechanisms to ensure FP180 alignment with national commitments and priorities, such as through frequent consultations with NDAs and other government entities. In this regard, it is important to recognize the challenges given the loss of institutional knowledge at the NDA level in Fiji, which may affect continued alignment with the priorities of the current Fijian government. In fact, both HWFW RA projects went through the no-objection letter and funding proposal approval process before the recent change in government. Although project documents and interviewed stakeholders with knowledge of both HWFW RA projects reported strong relationships with in-country stakeholders, none mentioned a strong, consistent relationship with the current NDA. This has led to an almost decentralized way of working among the HWFW RA projects, with limited oversight by the new NDA. Given the GCF's model, which emphasizes the important role that the NDA plays in country ownership and alignment with priorities, this presents a challenge to ensuring and maintaining the relevance of the HWFW RA investments. This challenge is more relevant to FP180 than FP008 because FP180 is still in the fundraising stage and is currently assessing a potential pipeline for investments in Fiji and looking for possible investment opportunities. Given FP180's early stages in Fiji, the alignment of possible future FP180 investment opportunities with current country priorities remains to be seen.

The overall HWFW RA approach continues to align with Fiji's more recent national

priorities. In April 2024, the Government of Fiji released the *Fiji Water Sector Strategy 2050*, detailing priorities in the water sector for the next few years. In the Prime Minister's foreword to the strategy, he makes the explicit link between the water sector and public health (Fiji, 2024). Further on, the Water Sector Strategy 2050 highlights the key priorities of accessing "reliable clean and

efficient water services" and "supporting liveability and sustainability outcomes", reflecting alignment with the GCF's HWFW RA approach and the continued relevance of the FP008 project – even nine years after the project was approved. Furthermore, these three sectors are encompassed within Fiji's overarching climate finance priorities identified at a regional programmatic approach workshop in spring of 2024. In a document shared by the NDA, seven climate finance priorities were identified, with the public infrastructure and waste management sectors equally regarded as the top priority. Below is the complete list in order of priority:

- 1) Public infrastructure; waste management (including water infrastructure and wastewater)
- 2) Renewable energy
- 3) Innovative financing
- 4) Food security and agriculture
- 5) Coastal adaptation and protection
- 6) Health

The HWFW RA approach links priorities 1, 4 and 6. FP008 is specifically aligned to priorities 1 and 6, and FP180 has a direct link to priority 3, pending any investments to be made in the country. These priorities are framed more as a sector-specific approach compared to the GCF's multifaceted HWFW RA approach. A key stakeholder reported it was the AEs' job to align priorities with GCF requirements, thus highlighting the importance of GCF guidance around how to operationalize RAs.

2. COHERENCE AND COMPLEMENTARITY

In Fiji, there does not yet appear to be a systematic approach to ensuring coherence within the HWFW RA portfolio specifically; evidence points to complementarity with other international climate/development institutions and governments mainly occurring at a regional level. Funding proposals for both HWFW RA projects do not indicate any effort to build on existing GCF or HWFW RA projects, partly because FP008 represents the very first GCF HWFW investment in Fiji. Due to the NDA's restructuring and limited oversight of the total GCF portfolio in Fiji, a systematic approach to coherence has not yet fully developed. However, evidence suggests that the NDA is starting to play a stronger coordinating role in the GCF's portfolio development. Stakeholders reported that three different projects in the pipeline – with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Wildlife Fund and FDB – have overlapping and duplicative components, although they are at different stages of the project activity cycle. The NDA has reportedly taken the initiative to coordinate a meeting among all three institutions to explore how these projects can complement each other rather than duplicate efforts. While these three projects are not HWFW RA-tagged projects, this effort indicates promising steps towards enhancing coherence across the entire GCF portfolio.

Of the two current HWFW RA investments, complementarity has been pursued and realized to varying extents. FP008 was co-financed by the European Investment Bank and the Government of Fiji. According to the project's 2020 annual performance report (APR), the European Investment Bank's role in the project was to help with technical assistance, highlighting efforts to complement FP008 implementation by leveraging external expertise. Additionally, country government stakeholders reported that the Government of Fiji helped co-finance a complementary project that expanded the reach of the project.

FP180's approach to complementarity goes beyond simply co-financing. FP180 project documents and stakeholder interviews pointed to collaboration with United Nations agencies (United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Capital Development Fund, and United Nations

Environment Programme) to build an enabling environment in Fiji. It is envisioned that United Nations agencies would complement the commercial investments of FP180 with technical assistance and monitoring and evaluation. Stakeholders with knowledge of the project also mentioned that there are regular meetings/touchpoints between United Nations entities and the international AE to ensure continued alignment and coherence. The funding proposal for this project also refers to support for the project from the governments of Germany and the United Kingdom, as well as from the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Vulcan, another private foundation (Green Climate Fund, 2021b).

Regional complementarity is largely being driven by Fiji's regional approach to GCF projects and funding. A recent regional programmatic approach workshop was held in April 2024 to identify common priorities across Pacific countries in order to pursue a regional proposal (see section C.1). Once common priorities were identified, the AEs would be responsible for writing a proposal targeting the Pacific region's top priorities. Outside of this workshop, other AE stakeholders interviewed echoed similar efforts towards mainly regional collaboration, particularly in relation to procurement issues.

The GCF's comparative advantage and value add in Fiji is largely observed as the GCF's large funding size and its perceived role as a catalyst to attract additional co-financing. Funding proposal documents reveal an impressive GCF investment of USD 156.04 million in total for the two HWFW RA projects.¹ Although FP008 is labelled as a small project and FP180 as medium-sized, an interviewed AE stakeholder considered these funding amounts to still be significant. It was noted that these substantial funding amounts were necessary in Fiji to achieve transformative outcomes. Of note though, the issue of concessional loans and foreign exchange risk was reported as a key challenge for Fiji. As one stakeholder stated, "Fiji balance sheets are so small to sustain any major movements in foreign exchange", which creates unique challenges when loans and GCF funding are not provided in local currency.

Across the stakeholder groups consulted, many reported that GCF financing can be a tool to attract funding across multiple sectors from other bilateral agencies or funding organizations. In fact, the GCF's catalytic potential was reported as a core element of FP180 by a key stakeholder. As stated in the funding proposal, the project design of FP180 utilizes the GCF's contribution to its junior tranche of the investment window to "enable greater private investment mobilisation", serving as an anchor investor to de-risk investments and attract other sources of financing (Green Climate Fund, 2021b). Additionally, GCF financing was seen as a way to unlock funding from within organizations that the GCF already works with. One key stakeholder reported that if a project is approved by the GCF, AEs sometimes have their own funding sources that they will commit, to "top up" GCF funding. In the same vein, successful GCF funded projects were perceived as having the potential to serve as case studies to access further funds for replication or scaling up.

3. EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPACT

Given the various stages of implementation of the HWFW RA projects, this section will mainly focus on the effectiveness and impact of FP008's component one, with limited discussion on the desired or expected results of FP180. As there have been no investments made in Fiji for FP180, the potential impact in terms of HWFW core indicators in Fiji remains the same as it was when the funding proposal was approved in October 2021. Similarly, component two of FP008 is significantly delayed and, according to stakeholders, currently in the process of restructuring.

¹ For FP180, the funding proposal identifies equity as the financial instrument used to deliver USD 125 million.

Overall, the most significant impacts in the HWFW RA are in relation to water security and health and wellbeing, with limited to no impacts in food security in the Fiji context. However, much of the impact on these core results comes from a qualitative perspective, with limited quantitative reporting. Core results are noted by the performance measurement framework's adaptation and three HWFW-specific core fund-level impact indicators and are listed below.²

- Adaptation core fund-level indicators:
 - Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries; Number of beneficiaries relative to total population
- HWFW-specific core fund-level indicators:
 - A2.1: Number of males and females benefiting from introduced health measures to respond to climate-sensitive diseases
 - A2.2: Number of food-secure households (in areas/periods at risk of climate change impacts)
 - A2.3: Number of males and females with year-round access to reliable and safe water supply despite climate shocks and stresses

However, reporting on the hard numbers of these core results is limited for FP008, highlighting significant challenges and likely underreporting with the GCF's HWFW RA monitoring and reporting system (see section C.7). The 2021 APR, which is the most recent available APR for FP008, indicates only **expected** impact towards the adaptation core fund-level impact indicators, and notes that these numbers could not be updated given a lack of available data. The expected numbers of direct and indirect beneficiaries in both the 2020 and 2021 APRs continue to report on the **expected** total number of beneficiaries as identified in the funding proposal from 2015. Despite this, qualitative data from interviews and a project site visit to the Viria Water Treatment Plant (component one) in July 2024 provide valuable evidence on the impact in terms of core results, as well as on co-benefits.

The project is seen as a flagship project in the region, as reported by country government stakeholders. The project and its positive results are mentioned in the newly released *Fiji Water Sector Strategy 2050* as an "exemplar" project. The water treatment plant has positively impacted reliable water security for communities in the GSA region. Stakeholders reported that there were some areas in the GSA where community members had previously never had running water for showers (only buckets of water) or had had only very intermittent water supply, but as a result of this project, the number of communities with access to 24/7 water supply has increased. In a document shared with the evaluation team during the project site visit, the number of villages/settlements with access to a 24-hour supply of water has increased by 61.97 per cent, and the number of those with no water supply has decreased by 7.04 per cent, leaving only one village/settlement without water supply.³

According to consulted stakeholders, this has also improved sanitation and hygiene among communities, with likely results towards decreasing waterborne diseases. Additionally, beneficiaries spoke about the mental health benefits of having consistent water supply: it has alleviated the mental stress associated with having an intermittent and limited water supply. While qualitative data clearly

 ² These indicators reflect the performance measurement framework rather than the new integrated results management framework, because FP008 was approved before the integrated results management framework came into effect.
 ³ These figures are not the most recent, with stakeholders reporting that updated figures have only continued to improve.

Updated data had not yet been shared at the time of writing this case study.

highlight these health and wellbeing benefits of FP008, none are being reported on in the GCF's reporting system (see section C.7).

An important consideration when examining the HWFW RA investments in Fiji is the minimal impact on food security, a core HWFW RA result and fund-level impact indicator (*A2.2*). The only implemented HWFW RA project, FP008, was not designed to target water usage for irrigation purposes. Additionally, the FP180 funding proposal states that one high-level output of the GFCR investment window is "increased sustainable production of food"; however, as no investments in Fiji have been made yet, there has been no progress directly made towards achieving this output (Green Climate Fund, 2021b).

Key co-benefits reported by stakeholders stemming from FP008's component one include the following:

- Job creation: Employment opportunities, mainly related to construction, employed surrounding community members. The 2021 APR reported "up to 336 locals employed", although COVID led to a large portion of them being on leave without pay (Green Climate Fund, 2022). Critically, this co-benefit has been reported to overwhelmingly benefit men, with in-country stakeholders reporting that only approximately 7–10 per cent of the new jobs created employed women.
- **Increased development:** Stakeholders reported that given the increase in water supply infrastructure and job creation, the surrounding area of the water treatment plant has also seen an increase in development, in the form of newly paved roads around the water supply infrastructure.
- **Lower operating costs:** Stakeholders reported that the energy-efficient design of the water treatment plant has led to lower operating costs and thus financial savings for WAF.
- **Improved working conditions:** Country government stakeholders reported increases in job satisfaction due to the community benefits of the water treatment plant. Health and safety conditions have also been reportedly improved due to the water treatment plant's automated design.
- **Reportedly fewer calls made to WAF for "water carting" services from the communities of the GSA:** WAF stakeholders mentioned that as a result of improved water supply to the people of the GSA, WAF was reportedly getting fewer calls from people requesting "water carting" services from the entity than before the completion of component one of FP008. As the term implies, water carting means that WAF officials bring water carts to areas where the water supply is cut or unstable.

Several factors have contributed to the FP008 project's achievement of results. Stakeholders pointed to the robust project design and the long record of solid data dating back 100 years that helped to inform it. Factors that undermined the achievement of results were WAF staff turnover and COVID-19, which led to significant implementation delays (Green Climate Fund, 2019; 2021a). Additionally, as a small island nation, Fiji is resource constrained both in terms of human skills and physical resources. Country government representatives spoke of challenges in having to acquire necessary resources from other countries, which takes time and is also easily impacted by supply chain issues. The size of Fiji's economy has also reportedly impacted the possible implementation of FP180. Interviewed stakeholders reported that, while not impossible, it is challenging to find Fijian companies that meet all the investment criteria due to the fact that SIDS countries have smaller economies.

4. INNOVATIVENESS IN RESULT AREAS

Evidence of the GCF fostering innovation and deploying diverse financial instruments for HWFW RA projects in Fiji is limited. In terms of innovation, the only "innovative" aspect that emerged from the in-country interviews was FP008's technological innovation in component one of the project. Country government stakeholders highlighted that the automation of the water treatment plant was an innovative design feature and improved the health and safety conditions and maintenance of the plant (see section C.3). Additionally, it should be noted that this project is also one of the GCF's first HWFW investments in the Asia-Pacific region and the very first in Fiji, highlighting innovation in the investment itself.

In regard to the GCF being catalytic in promoting innovative approaches to crowding in climate finance, FP180 aims to attract other investors to coral reef investment through equity financing. Through the GCF's provision of equity, the GFCR investment window has the potential to unlock financing for "coral reef rescue" that has previously been limited (Green Climate Fund, 2021b). The project itself could therefore be considered an innovative approach to crowding in climate finance. Given that the project is still developing a possible pipeline of investments in Fiji, the potential for impact and crowding in climate finance related to HWFW RA remains, but its impact and success cannot currently be determined. There is no evidence available on whether the GCF has struck a balance between risk appetite and innovation in its approach to the HWFW RA.

5. SUSTAINABILITY, REPLICABILITY AND SCALABILITY

One cannot generalize about whether or the extent to which HWFW RA projects in Fiji are likely to be sustainable, given the various stages of implementation of the two HWFW RA projects. However, there is reasonable evidence to suggest that component one of FP008 is likely to remain sustainable, including that the water plant's automation makes for relatively easy maintenance, and that it has a reasonable likelihood of replication. Based on interviews with FP008-related stakeholders, the project remains operational and continues to benefit those living in the GSA, and there are ongoing informal discussions around the possibility of replicating the project in other areas. In the 2021 interim evaluation of the FP008 project, the evaluation ranked sustainability, replication and scalability as likely (Asian Development Bank, 2021). In regard to replication, the interim evaluation specifically pointed out that not only could the design elements and other activities of the project be replicated in other regions of Fiji, but they could also be beneficial and needed (Asian Development Bank, 2021).

However, the 2021 interim evaluation also highlighted that the main barriers to sustainability and replication were financing/funding issues. These issues persist and remain the biggest risk to be addressed. Consulted FP008-related stakeholders noted that the issue of low revenue continues to affect WAF, a commercial entity. WAF customers are required to pay monthly tariffs to WAF in order to receive and maintain their connection to the water supply line. These tariffs are low and have not increased in recent years, causing revenue issues for WAF. In addition, consulted stakeholders provided insight that consumer expectations persist that this monthly tariff should be paid for or subsidized further by the government, with some consumers refusing to pay the monthly tariff or not wanting to pay the connection fee required to be connected to the WAF water supply. These persistent issues of low revenue greatly hinder the sustainability and specifically the replication and scalability of the project in the country. In fact, *Fiji's Water Sector Strategy 2050* estimates that to augment the Viria Water Treatment Plant to meet the census growth rate would cost 100 million Fijian dollars (FJD) for Phase 2 and FJD 50 million for Phase 3 (Fiji, 2024). The

amount of funding required poses as the biggest hurdle to replicating and scaling component one of FP008.

Regarding FP180, its project design incorporates sustainability even though the specific outcomes remain highly speculative at this stage. As per project documents and echoed by an interview with stakeholders who have knowledge of the project, the project's objective is to attract diverse capital investments into the country that will remain after the AE exits the market. As stated by the funding proposal, the businesses and projects that the GFCR will invest in are expected to continue operating after the GFCR's closure (Green Climate Fund, 2021b). Furthermore, the investment window targets "bankable businesses and projects" that reduce or eliminate local stressors on coral reefs, showcasing the project design's emphasis on supporting **long-term** resilience of the reefs.

6. GENDER AND SOCIAL EQUITY

Both HWFW RA projects have considered environmental and social safeguards (ESS) and gender equity considerations at the project design stage. In terms of ESS, the two projects took slightly different approaches, positioning their ESS plans to their relevant institutional or sector guidelines; both these institutional guidelines are noted to be consistent with GCF ESS practices and policies.

For FP008, the project design adheres to the international AE's own institutional policy (Asian Development Bank, 2009) as well as Fiji's own country policies (Green Climate Fund, 2015). For FP180, the funding proposal states that an environmental and social management system will be developed and, eventually, operated. Given the private sector focus of this project, the project design aligns the system to the "requirements and standards of development financing institutions" such as the GCF, the European Investment Bank, the International Finance Corporation, and the guidelines of the World Bank (Green Climate Fund, 2021b). The environmental and social management system reportedly would guide the project's investments at all stages: identification, development, investment, and monitoring and reporting (Green Climate Fund, 2021b). Monitoring of ESS plans and relative implementation progress are reported on in the APRs available for both projects.

In regard to gender equity considerations, both HWFW RA projects produced gender action plans and gender assessments at the design stage. The gender action plans for both projects propose specific outputs, activities, targets and key stakeholders responsible for each activity. However, notably, for FP008, key implementation challenges on gender mainstreaming activities were mentioned by project stakeholders regarding the target of employing of "at least 20–30 per cent women in construction and maintenance work" (see section C.3).

Between the gender action plans and gender assessments of the two projects there are some key distinctions. First, FP180's gender action plan also includes timeline considerations for each activity, as well as noting whether associated costs should be part of the project- or GFCR-level budget (Green Climate Fund, 2021c). Second, unlike FP008, FP180's gender assessment is not specific to Fiji, but rather outlines the project category assessment as well as the entry points for various gender-responsive elements within the overall project design. This is partly due to the nature of FP180 – not only being a multi-country project but also a "blind-pool investment vehicle" where investments are not determined at the onset of the project (Green Climate Fund, 2021d). FP180's gender assessment notes that once a prospective pipeline of investments in a country has been identified, country-specific data and gender-responsive plans will be produced.

In regard to considering Indigenous Peoples' priorities or concerns, neither project lays out intentional approaches for responding to iTaukei's (Indigenous Fijians) specific concerns.

7. EFFICIENCY

The approach to the selection of RAs for GCF projects differs by AE, highlighting inconsistencies and a lack of a systematic approach to the HWFW RA and to other RAs more broadly. Based on FP008's and FP180's funding proposals, both projects were tagged to all of the RAs, not just HWFW. However, the reasoning behind why all RAs were selected differed between the two AEs, signifying either insufficient guidance from the GCF or a lack of understanding on the purpose of the RAs. Interviews with consulted AE stakeholders highlighted various reasons why each of the specific RAs was selected, ranging from the desire to follow the project's logic framework closely, feedback from the GCF (noting that the reasoning behind the GCF's requested changes is not always clear to AE stakeholders), to advice from independent consultants hired to help draft and formulate funding proposals.

Core fund-level impact indicators are reported on in an inconsistent manner and are sometimes not being reported on at all. For FP008, the funding proposal outlines that reporting will be done on the following core fund-level impact indicators: *Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries; number of beneficiaries relative to total population, A3: Increased resilience of infrastructure and the built environment to climate change threats,⁴ and <i>A7: Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks.*⁵ None of the RA-specific indicators (*A3* or *A7*) are specific to HWFW, despite the project being marked as within the HWFW RA. See Appendix 2 for a full list of both adaptation and mitigation performance measurement framework fund-level impact and project/programme indicators.

Further inconsistencies in reporting can also be seen throughout all the available FP008 APRs (2018, 2020 and 2021). The adaptation core fund-level impact indicators (*number of direct* and *indirect beneficiaries*) are only reported in the APRs for 2020 and 2021; however, notably, this is reported in section 2.2.1 Impact Potential, **not** section 2.4.1 Core Indicators. This can lead to some reporting problems and aggregation issues when reporting on the impact of core indicators in section 2.4.1 at a portfolio level. In particular, this issue may stem from the proposal template, which only identifies this indicator in section E.1 Impact Potential and not in section H.1 Logic Framework, thus leading to potential confusion regarding which section in the APRs these core indicators should be reported on.

Furthermore, the RA-specific core fund-level impact indicators (*A3* and *A7*) highlighted in the FP008 funding proposal are not reported on at all in the available APRs. In fact, these APRs report on indicators that were not initially identified in the funding proposal. For example, in the 2018 APR, the fund-level impact indicators reported on were *A2.3* (a HWFW-specific core fund-level impact indicator), *A5.1*, *A7.1* and a mitigation indicator, *M5.1*. There is also further evidence that indicator *A2.3* is being reported on, but as a project/programme-level outcome and output. Both the 2020 and 2021 APRs for FP008 report on this as a project/programme-level indicator, although the current value was marked as "unknown" in both, showcasing continued challenges in reporting progress towards results in the HWFW RA (Green Climate Fund, 2021a; 2022).

Similar issues can be seen with project FP180; however, there are signs that reporting on indicators identified in the funding proposal has been more consistent. FP180 was approved in 2021, six years after FP008. Although implementation of FP180 has not happened in Fiji, the one available APR

⁴ The exact language used in the funding proposal is "Degree to which the activity avoids lock-in of long-lived, climatevulnerable infrastructure". As no adaptation indicators use this exact language, it most closely aligns to A3, which best captures the essence of the funding proposal's indicator.

⁵ The funding proposal also mentions that relevant indicators were established in annex I of the project appraisal report. This document was not available for this case study.

(2022), which reported on investments made in other countries, shows a more consistent approach to reporting, where all but one of the indicators initially selected in the funding proposal are being reported on. It is important to note that, like FP008, these initially selected indicators are not HWFW-specific core fund-level impact indicators, despite the project being an HWFW RA-tagged project.

This inconsistency in reporting on HWFW-specific core fund-level impact indicators signifies a likelihood of underreporting within the HWFW RA for core results and co-benefits. This issue of likely underreporting can also be attributed to several other factors. For one, the RA approach is not adequately integrated into all stages of a project (design and implementation). Consulted stakeholders related to project FP008 consistently spoke about the health benefits of the project, yet stated that none of these benefits are being reported on to the GCF (see section C.3). According to stakeholders, the reason behind this was linked to the original project design lacking health-specific aspects and to challenges in collecting the health data. For another, AEs may be limited in staff time and capacity to report on non-mandatory indicators, such as co-benefits. An AE stakeholder interviewed reported that due to lack of staff time and capacity for reporting, even if a project were to produce positive co-benefits, they would not be inclined to report on them. Rather, their approach would be to report only on the mandatory standard items. This challenge is particularly interesting in light of the mitigation project SAP016 "Fiji Agrophotovoltaic Project in Ovalau" and its identified adaptation co-benefit. The funding proposal for this project does not indicate reporting will be done on any HWFW-specific core fund-level impact indicators. Furthermore, the funding proposal highlights that the agriculture component fuelling this HWFWrelevant co-benefit is being funded by another development agency (Korea International Cooperation Agency), suggesting that reporting on progress towards adaptation results would not necessarily be mandatory for the GCF. As this project has yet to be implemented, it remains to be seen how the project's adaptation co-benefits would be captured (if at all) in the GCF reporting system. These two challenges suggest an opportunity to clarify the objectives of the HWFW RA to AEs and a need to find ways to embed the HWFW RA approach into all stages of a project (design and implementation) rather than just reporting. Doing so could help clarify the multifaceted HWFW RA approach and encourage AEs to consider and include a more integrated approach.

There were diverse opinions on the GCF's RA approach and reporting system, with AE stakeholders highlighting advantages as well as disadvantages. On the positive side, AE stakeholders noted that even though the GCF reporting system did not align with their own institution's reporting system, this can be beneficial. For one AE stakeholder, it enabled them to think outside the box and encouraged thinking about the project from different angles. For another AE stakeholder, it was seen as an opportunity to further align with the GCF. The ability to select multiple RAs was also seen as an opportunity to maintain a broad approach and be able to target multiple sectors with the same project.

On the other hand, key stakeholders reported challenges such as the submission due date of the APR being near end of year. Given the annual leave of many colleagues, the submission due date creates challenges in collecting necessary data from various stakeholders. For projects with multiple co-financers, it was noted that GCF reporting can become a duplicative burden because staff must report the same data in multiple reporting structures. Another issue raised was the perception that although improvements in the GCF's policy have been made, the GCF's reporting system is still not fully aligned with reporting standards in the investment community. The misalignments with the

investment community's approach were noted as disclosure and confidentiality practices that go beyond those typical of the private sector.

D. CONCLUSIONS

In Fiji, the overall HWFW RA approach and the investments themselves prove to be highly relevant to the GCF's adaptation-themed mandate and the Paris Agreement on climate change. There are varying degrees of alignment between the GCF's investments in the HWFW RA and Fiji's own national commitments and government priorities. However, the overall HWFW RA approach does align with more recent national priorities in Fiji. The approach to the GCF's portfolio, and more specifically within the HWFW RA, does not appear to be systematic, although positive steps are being taken by the NDA to enhance this. There is also evidence of complementarity, mainly occurring at a regional level but also occurring through the co-financing of HWFW RA projects, highlighting one of the GCF's perceived comparative advantages in Fiji as being a catalyst to attract additional co-financing. There is limited evidence that the GCF has fostered innovation and the deployment of diverse financial instruments for the two HWFW RA projects in Fiji. The most significant impacts in the HWFW RA in Fiji are related to water security and health and wellbeing, with limited to no impacts in food security. As the HWFW RA investments are at varying stages of implementation in Fiji, generalizations about sustainability cannot be made. However, available evidence points to FP008's component one as likely to be sustainable. At the design stage, both projects have considered ESS and gender equity.

Notably, significant issues arise in regard to the reporting of the two HWFW RA projects in Fiji. There appears to be a lack of a truly systematic approach to the HWFW RA and RAs more broadly in the country. There is an inconsistent approach to reporting, as evidenced by available APRs, indicating likely underreporting of adaptation and HWFW-specific core fund-level impact indicators and co-benefits. Given the relevance of the HWFW RA approach to Fijian national priorities, there is an opportunity to clarify the HWFW RA, as well as the broader RA approach and its objectives, and to clarify guidance to AEs and other key stakeholders in order to strengthen the GCF's reporting systems and more accurately report on progress towards achieving results. Furthermore, challenges with the GCF's reporting structure – such as APR submission dates, the duplicative nature of reporting, and misalignment with investment community standards – create an opportunity for the GCF to simplify requirements and enhance complementarity across development finance institutions and other institutions.

Appendix 1. PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Table A - 1. Fiji HWFW portfolio

Project	PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	Тнеме	COUNTRIES	AE	PROJECT TIMELINE	Financial instrument
FP008	Fiji Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Project	The project will strengthen water supply through the design and construction of a new water intake by the River Rewa, with a pumping station, wastewater treatment plant, clear water reservoir, and pipeline to increase water production by 30,000 m ³ per day. This will improve climate resilience by taking water from further up the river system to avoid salinity. Wastage will be reduced through metre replacement and improved leak detection and repairs. Wastewater management will be strengthened by upgrading and increasing the capacity of the Kinoya wastewater treatment plant, improving sewer coverage and adding new treatment facilities. The project will also strengthen water management and delivery capacity of the responsible institutions.	Adaptation	Fiji	ADB	Pipeline -23 March $2015 - 228$ days Approved -05 November 2015 - 799 days Under implementation -11 January $2018 - 2,350$ days so far FAA effective -11 January 2018 Disbursement $-$ USD 4,500,000 - 21 June $2018APR -01 March 2019Disbursement - USD16,640,000 - 29$ November 2019 Disbursement $-$ USD 3,900,000 - 28 January $2021Disbursement - USD6,000,000 - 17$ December 2021 To be completed -11 January $2026 - 573$ days to go	GCF grant: USD 31,040,00 Co-financing: USD 374,100,000 100% disbursed
FP180	GFCR Investment Window	As GCF's first at-scale private sector programme in the blue economy, the Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window (implemented with Pegasus	Adaptation	Bahamas, Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Comoros	Pegasus Capital Advisors	Pipeline – 17 April 2021 – 174 days Approved – 07 October 2021 – 264 days	GCF grant: USD 125,000,000 Co-financing

PROJECT	PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION	Тнеме	COUNTRIES	AE	PROJECT TIMELINE	FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT
		Capital Advisors) will create a private equity fund to encourage investments in the blue economy, protecting coral reefs. Targeting 17 countries in Africa, the Asia- Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, it aims to address critical financing and private investment barriers centred around the blue economy. The GCF will act as anchor investor with its USD 125 million investment commitment, encouraging further public and private sector investment in the following areas: sustainable ocean production, ecotourism, and sustainable infrastructure and waste management. Additionally, the programme will benefit from synergies with the GFCR Grant Window, which aims to mobilize USD 125 million of concessional capital from philanthropies and other agencies in order to foster an enabling environment for seeding a pipeline of investment-ready projects.		(the), Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Mexico, Mozambique, Panama, Philippines (the), Seychelles, Sri Lanka		Under implementation – 27 June 2022 – 722 days so far FAA effective – 27 June 2022 Disbursement – USD 25,000,000 – 31 August 2022 Disbursement – USD 25,000,000 – 09 May 2023 To be completed – 27 June 2032 – 2,932 days to go	equity: USD 375,000,000 40% disbursed

Source: GCF DataLab Tableau Server [iPMS – Projects – ResultArea_Long_B.39].

Table A - 2. Fiji Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme proposals

ID	PROJECT TITLE	Delivery partner/AE	SUBMISSION DATE	Committed amount (USD)	Endorsement date	APPROVAL DATE	Disbursed (USD)	Agreement type
1906-15796	Fiji – Enhancing Direct Access to Climate Finance in Fiji	Global Green Growth Institute	09-May-19	846,388.44	19-Sept-19	17-Oct-19	0.50 million 0.31 million (0.04 million) (0.12 million)	Framework agreement
2009-16479	Fiji – Mainstreaming Adaptation Planning at the Local Level in Fiji	Global Green Growth Institute	16-Mar-21	1,523,328	18-Sept-23	21-Sept-23	27,617	Framework agreement
2106-16863	Fiji – Enhancing Direct Access to Climate Finance in Fiji Phase 2	Global Green Growth Institute	16-Sept-21	960,000	06-Jul-22	07-Jul-22	281,534	Framework agreement

Source: GCF DataLab Tableau Server [iPMS – Projects – ResultArea_Long_B.39].

Appendix 2. MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION FUND-LEVEL IMPACT INDICATORS

Table A - 3 below depicts the Fund-level impacts and project/programme indicators for both the mitigation and adaptation performance measurement frameworks. Note that the expected results have an added "M" or "A" to help distinguish between the mitigation and adaptation performance measurement frameworks; these are added in and not included in the original indicators.

Table A - 3. Mitigation and adaptation performance measurement frameworks

EXPECTED RESULTS	INDICATOR* = CORE
Mitigation performance measurement framework	
Fund-level impacts	
	Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO ₂ eq) reduced as a result of Fund-funded projects/ programmes
	*Cost per t CO ₂ eq decreased for all Fund-funded
	*Volume of finance leveraged by Fund funding
M1. Reduced emissions through increased low-emission energy access and power generation	M1.1. *Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO ₂ eq) reduced or avoided as a result of Fund-funded projects/programmes – <i>gender-sensitive energy access power generation (sub-indicator)</i>
M2.0. Reduced emissions through increased access to low- emission transport	M2.1. *Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO ₂ eq) reduced or avoided as a result of Fund-funded projects/programmes – <i>low-emission gender-sensitive transport (sub-indicator)</i>
M3.0. Reduced emissions from buildings, cities, industries and appliances	M3.1. *Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO ₂ eq) reduced or avoided as a result of Fund-funded projects/programmes – <i>buildings, cities, industries and appliances (sub-indicator)</i>
	Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO ₂ eq) reduced as a result of Fund-funded projects/ programmes
M4.0. Reduced emissions from land-use, deforestation, forest degradation, and through sustainable management of forests and conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks	M4.1. Tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO ₂ eq) reduced or avoided (including increased removals) as a result of Fund-funded projects/programmes – <i>forest and land-use (sub-indicator)</i>
	Social, environmental, economic co-benefit index/indicator at impact level
Project/programme outcomes	

Expected results	INDICATOR* = CORE			
	Number of technologies and innovative solutions transferred or licensed to support low-emission development as a result of Fund support			
M5.0. Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for low- emission planning and development	M5.1. Institutional and regulatory systems that improve incentives for low-emission planning and development and their effective implementation			
	M5.2. Number and level of effective coordination mechanisms			
M6.0. Increased number of small, medium and large low- emission power suppliers	M6.1. Proportion of low-emission power supply in a jurisdiction or market			
	M6.2. Number of households and individuals (males and females) with improved access to low- emission energy sources			
M7.0. Lower energy intensity of buildings, cities, industries and appliances	M7.1. Energy intensity/improved efficiency of buildings, cities, industries and appliances as a result of Fund support			
M8.0. Increased use of low-carbon transport	M8.1. Number of additional female and male passengers using low-carbon transport as a result of Fund support			
	M8.2. Vehicle fuel economy and energy source as a result of Fund support			
M9.0. Improved management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions	M9.1. Hectares of land or forests under improved and effective management that contributes to CO_2 emission reductions			
Adaptation performance measurement framework				
Fund-level impacts				
	* Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries; number of beneficiaries relative to total population			
A1.0. Increased resilience and enhanced livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities and regions	A1.1. Change in expected losses of lives and economic assets (US\$) due to the impact of extreme climate-related disasters in the geographic area of the GCF intervention			
	A1.2. Number of males and females benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate-resilient livelihood options (including fisheries, agriculture, tourism, etc.)			
	A1.3. Number of Fund-funded projects/programmes that supports effective adaptation to fish stock migration and depletion due to climate change			
A2.0. Increased resilience of health and wellbeing, and food and	A2.1. Number of males and females benefiting from introduced health measures to respond to			

EXPECTED RESULTS	INDICATOR* = CORE
water security	climate-sensitive diseases
	A2.2. Number of food-secure households (in areas/periods at risk of climate change impacts)
	A2.3. Number of males and females with year-round access to reliable and safe water supply despite climate shocks and stresses
A3.0. Increased resilience of infrastructure and the built environment to climate change threats	* A3.1. Number and value of physical assets made more resilient to climate variability and change, considering human benefits (reported where applicable)
A4.0. Improved resilience of ecosystems and ecosystem services	A4.1. Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected and strengthened in response to climate variability and change
	A4.2. Value (US\$) of ecosystem services generated or protected in response to climate change
Project/programme outcomes	
	Number of technologies and innovative solutions transferred or licensed to promote climate resilience as a result of Fund support
A5.0. Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development	A5.1. Institutional and regulatory systems that improve incentives for climate resilience and their effective implementation
	A5.2. Number and level of effective coordination mechanisms
A6.0. Increased generation and use of climate information in decision-making	Proposed A6.2. Use of climate information products/services in decision-making in climate-sensitive sectors
A7.0. Strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate risks	Proposed A7.1. Use by vulnerable households, communities, businesses and public-sector services of Fund-supported tools, instruments, strategies and activities to respond to climate change and variability
	A7.2. Number of males and females reached by [or total geographic coverage of] climate-related early warning systems and other risk reduction measures established/strengthened
A8.0. Strengthened awareness of climate threats and risk reduction processes	A8.1. Number of males and females made aware of climate threats and related appropriate responses

Appendix 3. STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	Position/title	ORGANIZATION
Blaik	Stephen	Principal Urban Development Specialist	ADB
Cerelala	Albert	Associate Project Officer	ADB
Chanan	Amit	Chief Executive Officer	WAF
Chand	Deepak	Assistant Director	Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport
Dewan	Ravneeth	Principal Climate Finance Officer	Ministry of Waterways and Environment
Gartmann	Natalie	Environmental, Social or Governance and Impact Manager	Pegasus Capital Advisors
Kumar	Kelvin	Project Manager	WAF
Lamb	Jeffrey	Strategic Advisor	Pegasus Capital Advisors
Lata	Mohini	N/A	N/A
Maharaj	[Unknown]	N/A	N/A
Majumder	Sourav	Chief Infrastructure Delivery Officer	WAF
Prasad	Unesh	N/A	N/A
Prasad	Vishal	Scientific Officer	Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport
Puamau	Belvina	Project Officer	ADB
Rao	Sachida Anand	Chair	[Unknown]
Senikuta	Alisi	Community Engagement Officer	WAF
Sigavou	Iliesa	Scientific Officer	Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport
Tamanikaiyaroi	Setaita	Manager – Climate & Eco Finance	FDB
Valemei	Joeli	Principal Scientific Officer	Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport
Wadi	[Unknown]	N/A	N/A

REFERENCES

- Anderson, Kym (2023). Loss of Preferential Access to the Protected EU Sugar Market: Fiji's Response. Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics, vol. 67, No. 3 (June), pp. 480–499. Available at <u>https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-8489.12526</u>.
- Asian Development Bank (2009). *Safeguard Policy Statement*. Available at <u>https://www.adb.org/documents/safeguard-policy-statement</u>.

_____ (2021). Interim Evaluation of Fiji Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Investment Program. Interim Evaluation Report.

- Central Intelligence Agency (2024). The World Factbook, Fiji. Available at <u>https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/fiji/</u>. Accessed on 27 August 2024.
- Chandra, Prashant (2023). *Fiji's Climate Change Policies, Plans and Strategies*. Suva: Government of Fiji. Available at <u>https://fijiclimatechangeportal.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/10.-Fiji s-Climate-Change-Policies-Plans-and-Strategies.pdf</u>.
- Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance (2022). *Fiji: A Case Study Conducted by the Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance*. Available at

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/CRFSA Fiji Case Study.pdf.

Fiji (2010). *iTaukei Affairs Amendment Decree 2010 / Dec No. 31 of 2010. LEAP: Law and Environment Assistance Programme.* Available at https://leap.unep.org/en/countries/fj/national-legislation/itaukei-affairs-amendment-decree-2010-dec-no-31-2010.

_____ (2018). *Republic of Fiji National Adaptation Plan: A Pathway towards Climate Resilience*. Available at

https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/National%20Adaptation%20Plan Fiji.pdf.

(2021). Climate Vulnerability Assessment: Making Fiji Climate Resilient. Available at https://theprif.org/sites/theprif.org/files/documents/WB%20Climate-vulnerability-assessment-making-fiji-climate-resilient.pdf.

_____ (2024). *Fiji Water Sector Strategy 2050*. Water Authority of Fiji. Available at https://waterauthority.com.fj/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Fiji-Water-Sector-Strategy-2050.pdf.

- Fiji, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (2022). About CCD. Fiji Climate Change Portal (FCCP). Available at <u>https://fijiclimatechangeportal.gov.fj/about-ccd/</u>.
- Gauss International Consulting (2023). *National Inventory Report (NIR) of Fiji*. Suva: Government of Fiji. Available at <u>https://fijiclimatechangeportal.gov.fj/ppss/national-inventory-report-nir-of-fiji/</u>.
- Green Climate Fund (2015). Funding Proposal FP008: Fiji Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Project. Songdo, South Korea. Available at <u>https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/fiji-urban-water-supply-and-wastewater-management-project</u>.

(2019). Annual Performance Report 2018 – FP008: Fiji Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Project. Songdo, South Korea.

- (2021a). Annual Performance Report 2020 FP008: Fiji Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Project. Songdo, South Korea.
- (2021b). *Funding Proposal FP180: Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window*. Songdo, South Korea. Available at <u>https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/global-fund-coral-reefs-investment-window</u>.

(2021c). Gender Action Plan– FP180: Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window. Songdo, South Korea. Available at <u>https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gender-action-plan-fp180-global-fund-coral-reefs-investment-window</u>.

(2021d). Gender Assessment – FP180: Global Fund for Coral Reefs Investment Window. Songdo, South Korea. Available at <u>https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gender-assessment-fp180-global-fund-coral-reefs-investment-window</u>.

_____ (2022). Annual Performance Report 2021 – FP008: Fiji Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Project. Songdo, South Korea.

International Labour Organization (2014). Direct Request (CEACR) - Adopted 2013, Published 103rd ILC Session (2014). Available at

https://normlex.ilo.org/dyn/nrmlx_en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:13100:0::NO::P13100_COMMENT_ID%2C

<u>P11110 COUNTRY ID%2CP11110 COUNTRY NAME%2CP11110 COMMENT YEAR:3140384</u> %2C103278%2CFiji%2C2013.

- MacDonald, Barrie K., and Sophie Foster (2024). Brittanica, Fiji. Available at https://www.britannica.com/place/Fiji-republic-Pacific-Ocean. Accessed on 18 December 2024.
- Metreau, Eric, Kathryn Elizabeth Young and Shwetha Grace Eapen (2024). World Bank Country Classifications by Income Level for 2024–2025. World Bank Blogs, 1 July. Available at <u>https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/opendata/world-bank-country-classifications-by-income-level-for-2024-2025</u>.
- Sawe, Benjamin Elisha (2019). What Are the Biggest Industries in Fiji? *WorldAtlas*, 13 August. Available at https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-are-the-biggest-industries-in-fiji.html.
- University of Notre Dame (2024). Rankings. ND-GAIN: Notre Dame Global Adaptation Initiative. Available at <u>https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings/</u>.
- World Bank Group (2019). Poverty & Equity Brief East Asia & Pacific: Fiji. October. Washington, D.C. Available at <u>https://databankfiles.worldbank.org/public/ddpext_download/poverty/95142451-550D-4C1B-A389-26FD74C6B018QA-2019/Global_POVEQ_FJI.pdf</u>.
 - (2021a). *Climate Risk Country Profile: Fiji*. Available at https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/country-profiles/15854-WB Fiji%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf.
 - (2021b). Fiji: Country Summary. Climate Change Knowledge Portal. Available at <u>https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/fiji</u>.
 - (2024a). World Bank Data, Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing, Value Added (% of GDP) Fiji. Available at <u>https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.AGR.TOTL.ZS?locations=FJ</u>. Accessed on 27 August 2024.
 - _____ (2024b). World Bank Data, GDP (Current US\$) Fiji. Available at <u>https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.CD?locations=FJ</u>. Accessed on 11 September 2024.
 - (2024c). World Bank Data, GDP Growth (Annual %) Fiji. Available at
 - https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.KD.ZG?locations=FJ. Accessed on 27 August 2024.

_____ (2024d). World Bank Data, Population Growth (Annual %) - Fiji. Available at <u>https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.GROW?locations=FJ</u>. Accessed on 27 August 2024.

- _____(2024e). World Bank Data, Population, Total Fiji. Available at https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL?locations=FJ. Accessed on 27 August 2024.
 - _____ (2024f). World Bank Data, Rural Population (% of Total Population) Fiji. Available at https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.RUR.TOTL.ZS?locations=FJ/. Accessed on 27 August 2024.
- (2024g). World Bank Data, Unemployment, Total (% of Total Labor Force) (Modeled ILO Estimate) Fiji. Available at <u>https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS?locations=FJ</u>. Accessed on 27 August 2024.
- World Health Organization (2020). *Health & Climate Change Country Profile 2020: Fiji*. Geneva. Available at <u>https://iris.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665/336275/WHO-HEP-ECH-CCH-20.01.08-eng.pdf</u>.





www.ieu.greenclimatefund.org

