



# Independent Evaluation of the Relevance and Effectiveness of Green Climate Fund Investments in Small Island Developing States

## Context

As part of its Board-approved 2020 workplan, the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) is assessing the relevance and effectiveness of the GCF's investments in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The impact of climate change on SIDS is disproportionately higher compared to their contribution to greenhouse gas build up: SIDS emit negligible greenhouse gas emissions, yet for some islands climate change is an existential threat. Additionally, SIDS are particularly vulnerable due to their small size, dispersion, exposure to natural disasters, high sensitivity to global economic downturns, heavy reliance on fossil fuels, limited private sector opportunities, low institutional capacity and fragile environments.

## Purpose and objectives

This evaluation is part of the IEU's broader mandate to examine the relevance and effectiveness of the GCF's strategy and investments in the world's most vulnerable countries.

The aim of the evaluation is to ask **if the GCF is fit-for-purpose for SIDS** and how this may be improved. **It addresses four key questions:**

- Is the GCF portfolio **relevant** to the specific **needs and urgency** of climate action in SIDS?
- Is the GCF **business model appropriate** for the specific needs and urgency of climate action of SIDS?
- Is the GCF's support **effective in delivering sustainable results** and learning from those results?
- Is the GCF's climate finance **complementary and coherent** with other climate finance delivery channels?

The IEU's SIDS evaluation team, consisting of IEU staff and external consultants, will answer these and other key questions in the evaluation's final report. The IEU will submit the report at the twenty-seventh meeting of the Board in late 2020.

## Scope

The evaluation will address its four key questions within the broader context of all GCF operational modalities, programmes and processes, including an analyses of:





- Portfolio of accredited entities.
- Funding proposals and the GCF's approval process.
- Country programmes and country ownership.
- The Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme.
- The Project Preparation Facility.
- The Private Sector Facility.
- Financial instruments.
- Regional projects.
- GCF outreach and engagement with SIDS.
- Gender and Indigenous Peoples Policy and other related requirements.

The evaluation will regard **private sector engagement and innovation as cross-cutting themes**.

### Methods

The methods for the SIDS evaluation include conducting:

- Comprehensive document review.
- Portfolio and other data analyses.
- Thematic analyses on the private sector and innovation.
- Stakeholder consultations and interviews.
- Surveys using in-person interviews or via a digital platform.
- Benchmarking exercise.
- Literature Review.
- Country case studies.

### Country visits

The IEU's SIDS evaluation team will conduct case studies in **Barbados, Belize, Saint Lucia, Comoros, Marshall Islands, and Kiribati**.

Because of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the team's country case studies will use both remote and in-person methods. The IEU selected these six countries according to the following criteria:

- Geographic coverage that is representative of experience incurred by SIDS in the Caribbean, the Pacific and Africa.
- Inclusion of at least one country in each region with an approved project.
- Diversity of focus (mitigation, adaptation, cross-cutting).
- Diversity of multi-country and single-country projects.
- Diversity of accredited entities with approved projects in the selected countries.
- Inclusion of at least one country with a national direct access entity.

The SIDS evaluation team will treat all comments received during country visits as confidential. The team will also release responses from country visits anonymously. After each country visit the team will circulate a report on its findings among relevant stakeholders for review and fact checking. The team will also include an annex on country visits in the final report.

The IEU has requested GCF country focal points, members of accredited entities, delivery partners, and civil society and private sector organizations to support the evaluation team in identifying suitable stakeholders for interviews and assist in making appropriate introductions.



### Contact the IEU