



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Building Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems in African Small Island Developing States.

Countries: Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles

Thematic Focal Area¹: Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office for Africa

Executing Entities: Governments of Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles

Amount of Financing Requested: 13 900 478 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request: Yes ☒ No ☐

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: 20 000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all countries: Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTE: LOEs should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities>

Stage of Submission:

☐ This pre-concept has been submitted before

☒ This is the first submission ever of the pre-concept

Please note that pre-concept should not exceed 5 pages (in addition to this first cover page)

¹ Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

Project/Programme Background and Context

Climate-induced health problems, such as vector- and water-borne diseases and food insecurity, are on the rise globally and in the African region, putting millions of people at risk. Adverse climate events also have a disproportionate impact on the health of persons with disabilities, women and children; they are often at greater risks of injury, death and additional impairments in such events, exacerbating the existing inequities linked to poverty, discrimination and stigma. Existing evidence points to critical weaknesses in health systems to respond to climate-related health emergencies. As such, strengthened leadership, capacities, equity and partnerships for integrated health and climate actions are essential to build long-term resilience of health systems.

This project addresses climate change impacts on public health in Cabo Verde, Comoros, and Seychelles—African SIDS facing sea level rise, extreme weather, and ecosystem disruption. Cyclone Kenneth (2019) displaced over 20,000 people in Comoros; Seychelles recorded a 60% increase in dengue cases between 2016 and 2021; Cabo Verde faced a 30% drop in crop yields due to drought, increasing food insecurity. WHO AFRO (2022) notes vector-borne diseases and malnutrition as rising regional threats. The IPCC warns of a 10–20% rise in climate-related health burdens by 2030 in SIDS.

Shared vulnerabilities require a unified response aligned with the Libreville Declaration and SAMOA Pathway. Members of the WHO Alliance for action on climate change and health (ATACH) initiative, Cabo Verde and Seychelles have already committed to the COP26 Health Programme, while Comoros has yet to join—presenting a valuable opportunity to engage national stakeholders and advocate for their participation.

Guided by the Framework for Building Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems in the WHO African Region 2024–2033, the project aims to promote integrated, inclusive, evidence-based and climate-sensitive health interventions by strengthening countries' capacities, governance, equity and partnerships in climate and health. A multi-sectoral participatory approach will be used, involving sectors beyond health, major donors, civil society organizations, communities and private sector partners, to address the broader health impacts of climate change. Health systems will be strengthened by building national capacities for conducting vulnerability and adaptation assessments, developing and implementing Health National Adaptation Plans, improving climate-sensitive data systems, enhancing primary health care.

Unlike existing efforts that target specific sectors, this inclusive approach emphasizes holistic health and climate co-benefits, driving high-impact, scalable and sustainable health-climate solutions in Small Island Developing States highly vulnerable to climate change.

Project/Programme Objectives:

Overall objective: *To build climate-resilient and sustainable health systems in African Small Island Developing States (SIDS).*

Specific objectives

1. *Support the creation and implementation of national climate and health policies and strategies based on climate vulnerability and adaptation assessments aligned with international and regional frameworks.*
2. *Enhance health infrastructure and systems for climate resilience, adopting regional standards, early warning systems, and advanced data analytics to address climate-related health risks.*
3. *Improve access to climate-sensitive primary healthcare services by harmonizing essential health service packages, training health workers in climate-responsive care, and addressing workforce capacity gaps through targeted education and digital technologies.*
4. *Strengthen strategic partnerships and financing mechanisms through national investment plans, policy dialogues, and frameworks for tracking health expenditures to ensure long-term sustainability.*

Project/Programme Components and Financing:

| Project/Programme Components | Expected Outcomes | Expected Outputs | Countries | Amount (US\$) |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Policy and Strategy Development | 1. Countries have developed and implemented national climate and health policies and strategies, informed by relevant assessments and research, in line with international and regional policy frameworks. | Output 1.1: Completed multi-sectoral climate change and health vulnerability and adaptation assessments, providing a comprehensive analysis of key risks and adaptation strategies. | Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles | 1,900,000 |
| | | Output 1.2: Global and Regional frameworks on climate change and health are translated into National policies, strategies, and action plans on climate change and health. | | |
| | | Output 1.3: A regional research agenda established to guide the mutual integration of climate and health actions. | | |
| Health Systems and infrastructure Strengthening | 2. Countries' climate-resilient health infrastructure and systems are strengthened through the adoption of regional standards and frameworks, and the establishment of early warning systems and data analytics. | Output 2.1: Regional standards for climate-resilient health infrastructure developed and disseminated. | Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles | 4,700,000 |
| | | Output 2.2: A regional framework for extreme event preparedness in SIDS established. | | |
| | | Output 2.3: Strengthened and harmonized mechanisms and practices for the acquisition, management, and maintenance of biomedical and hospital equipment. | | |
| | | Output 2.4: Strengthened early warning systems for epidemic preparedness and response to disease outbreaks and other public health threats. | | |
| | | Output 2.5: Mapping of cyclical patterns completed, with integration of climate data analytics into risk assessments and preparedness planning. | | |
| Climate-Health Policy and Strategy Development | 3. The delivery of primary health care services is strengthened in the context of Health National Adaptation Plans through the harmonization of service packages and capacity building for service providers. | Output 3.1: Climate-Informed essential health service packages developed, harmonized regionally and adopted by countries. | Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles | 1,400,000 |
| | | Output 3.2: Capacity building provided to community health workers on monitoring and responding to climate-sensitive health service. | | |
| | | Output 3.3: A climate-sensitive, people-centered primary health care implementation guide developed and implemented. | | |
| Sustainable Financing and strategic partnerships for climate-resilient and sustainable health systems | 4. Strategic partnerships and sustainable financing are strengthened through advocacy to support the effective implementation of the Health National Adaptation Plans. | Output 4.1: National investment plans for climate-resilient health systems developed. | Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles | 2,400,000 |
| | | Output 4.2: Annual climate-health policy dialogues convened to strengthen advocacy and raise awareness among stakeholders | | |
| | | Output 4.3: A harmonized framework for tracking climate change financing. | | |
| Climate-Health education | 5. Health professions education is aligned with climate resilience. | Output 5.1: Climate-Resilient Health Workforce diagnostic report and pathway plan developed. | Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles | 1,300,000 |
| | | Output 5.2: A pool of trainers established for workforce development. | | |
| | | Output 5.3: Technologies leveraged to scale up health professional training. | | |
| Total project cost | | | | 11,700,000 |
| Executing fees (9.5 %) | | | | 1,111,500 |
| Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee - Implementing Entity Fees (PSC 8.5%) | | | | 1,088,978 |
| Total Amount of Financing Requested | | | | 13,900,478 |

Project Duration: 36 months

PART II: PROJECT/PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

Climate change significantly threatens public health, especially in African Small Island Developing States (SIDS) like Comoros, Seychelles, and Cabo Verde. These islands face extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and ecosystem disruptions, exacerbating their vulnerability due to geographical isolation and reliance on climate-sensitive sectors such as tourism, fisheries, and agriculture. In Comoros, agriculture employs 40% of the workforce and contributes 19% of GDP, with crops like vanilla and ylang-ylang highly sensitive to weather changes. Seychelles relies heavily on tourism, which accounts for 25% of GDP and over 15% of direct employment, while fisheries contribute 20% of exports, making the economy vulnerable to rising sea levels and coral reef degradation. Cabo Verde's economy also depends on tourism (over 20% of GDP) and agriculture, despite frequent droughts.

These dependencies highlight the urgent need for climate-resilient health systems. Disruptions in these sectors directly impact public health and socio-economic stability, exacerbating health challenges such as vector- and water-borne diseases, food insecurity, and climate-induced health emergencies. Vulnerable populations, including persons with disabilities, women, and children, are disproportionately affected. National health strategies often lack adequate climate adaptation measures, leading to fragmented public health responses, limited early warning systems, weak primary healthcare services, and insufficient strategic partnerships. Health professionals frequently lack the training and tools to respond effectively to climate-driven health challenges. Without robust adaptation measures, these weaknesses will worsen, increasing the burden on already strained healthcare systems.

This project aligns with the WHO Framework for Building Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems in the WHO African Region (2024–2033), emphasizing governance, infrastructure, workforce capacity, and partnerships to integrate climate and health actions, ensuring long-term resilience and sustainability. The project aims to enhance national capacities for climate vulnerability and adaptation assessments, develop Health National Adaptation Plans (HNAPs), and integrate climate-sensitive policies into health strategies. It focuses on sustainability and scalability by setting regional standards for climate-resilient health infrastructure, improving early warning systems, and fostering strategic partnerships. Strengthening local workforce capacity and using innovative digital tools will ensure ongoing adaptation of climate-health interventions. By investing in primary healthcare resilience, the project aims to reduce climate-sensitive diseases, enhance emergency preparedness, and promote sustainable health system transformation. WHO, in collaboration with government partners, civil society organizations, and private sector stakeholders, seeks to create a model for climate-health integration that can be expanded beyond the target countries. The project supports multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Good Health and Well-being (SDG 3), Climate Action (SDG 13), Gender Equality (SDG 5), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17), ensuring resilient health systems for future generations.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The World Health Organization (WHO) will take full responsibility for managing and overseeing the project, including financial, monitoring, and reporting functions, adhering to internationally accepted procurement principles, practices, and regulations. The Ministries of Health (MoH) in the target countries will serve as the Executing Entities, responsible for implementing the project at national and subnational levels under WHO's guidance and support. A Project Management Unit (PMU), jointly established by WHO and the MoHs, will include staff embedded in the MoHs and Regional Staff to execute the project. National and regional staff will coordinate the implementation, ensuring compliance with WHO policies and procedures for procurement and fund disbursement.

The country-level implementation teams will consist of technical officers, program managers, and administrative staff, ensuring seamless execution of project components. At the regional level, the WHO Regional Office for Africa will provide strategic guidance and oversight, technical support, and capacity-building assistance to ensure coherence across all three countries and alignment with global and regional strategies. WHO headquarters will offer specialized technical expertise and facilitate global knowledge-sharing and best practices.

The project will ensure national ownership and align with broader climate finance mechanisms for long-term sustainability. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) will be a key partner, enhancing climate and health early warning systems, integrating meteorological and health data, and building capacity for national meteorological agencies. This partnership will improve climate risk monitoring and forecasting, enabling better preparedness and response. National steering committees, chaired by the Ministry of Health or a designated authority, will oversee project activities. These committees will include representatives from relevant ministries (environment, finance, agriculture, energy, education, and meteorological services), the national AF-accredited entity, academia, civil society, and private sector stakeholders, ensuring comprehensive oversight and collaboration.

A digital project dashboard will provide real-time tracking of key indicators, ensuring accountability and transparency. Findings and best practices will be documented and disseminated to support replication and scale-up in other countries facing similar climate-health challenges. Through these robust implementation arrangements, the project will deliver tangible improvements in climate-health integration, ensuring that health systems in Comoros, Seychelles, and Cabo Verde are better prepared to withstand climate-related health threats. The approach will create a lasting impact by fostering institutional capacity, strengthening governance, and embedding climate resilience into national health strategies, ultimately benefiting the most vulnerable populations and advancing global health equity.

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government²

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| CABO VERDE Mrs. Ester Araujo de Brito Executive Administrator, National Institute for Meteorology and Geophysics (INMG) Espargos CP 76, Ilha do Sal, Cabo Verde ester.brito@inmg.gov.cv ; | Date : 07/03/2025 |
| COMOROS Mr. Fawaz Mohamed Moumini Spécialiste négociations et financements climat (DGEF), Comoros fawaz.moumini@gmail.com ; | Date: 08/04/2025 |
| SEYCHELLES Mr. Will Michel Agricole Technical Adviser, Climate Change and Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment National Botanical Garden, PO Box 445, Mt Fleuri, Victoria, Mahe, Seychelles w.agricole@meteo.gov.sc ; | Date: 26/02/2025 |

B. Implementing Entity certification

| | |
|---|--|
| I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans in the Republics of Cabo Verde, Comoros and Seychelles and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme. | |
| Dr Jeremiah MUSHOSHO, Team Lead – Climate Change, Health and Environment (WHO AFRO) Implementing Entity Coordinator | |
| Date: 8 April 2025 | Tel. and email: mushoshoj@who.int |
| Project Contact Person: Dr. Jeremiah MUSHOSHO, Team Lead – Climate Change, Health and Environment (WHO AFRO) | |
| Tel. And Email: mushoshoj@who.int , Tel +242 06 419 3924 or +263 772 326 001 | |

Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.



INMG
INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE
METEOROLOGIA E GEOFÍSICA

DE: **Mrs. Ester Araujo de Brito**
Executive Administrator,
Espargos CP 76, Ilha do Sal
Cabo Verde

A: **The Adaptation Fund Board**
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org

Sal island, march 07, 2025

N.Refº024/GP.INMG/2025

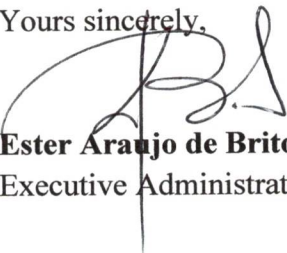
Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: ENDORSEMENT OF THE PROJECT TITLED «BUILDING CLIMATE-RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SYSTEMS IN AFRICAN SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES: STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES, GOVERNANCE, EQUITY AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR INTEGRATED HEALTH AND CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ».

As the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Cabo Verde, I confirm that the regional project proposal titled "*building climate-resilient and sustainable health systems in african small island developing states: strengthening capacities, governance, equity and partnerships for integrated health and climate solutions*" is in line with the national priorities of the Government in implementing adaptation activities aimed at reducing the negative impacts and risks associated with climate change in the Cabo Verde.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the aforementioned project proposal with the support of the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the WHO Regional Office for Africa and executed by the Ministry of Health of Cabo Verde and the Ministry of Health of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros and the Republic of Seychelles.

Yours sincerely,


Ester Araujo de Brito
Executive Administrator





Réf. N°025 - 02 /MET/DGEF

Date : Moroni, le 08/04/2025

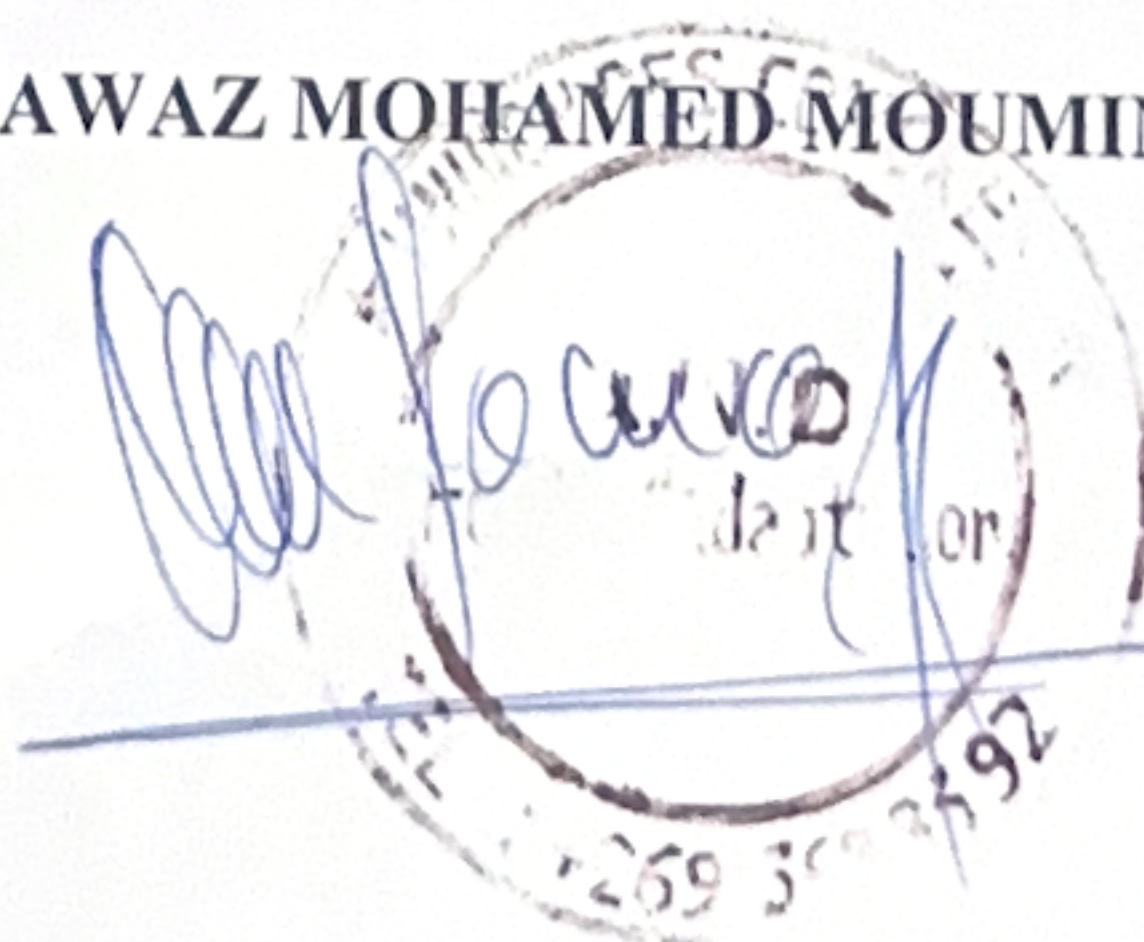
Subject: Endorsement of the Project Titled "Building Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems in African Small Island Developing States: Strengthening Capacities, Governance, Equity, and Partnerships for Integrated Health and Climate Solutions"

As the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Union of the Comoros, I confirm that the regional project proposal titled "Building Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems in African Small Island Developing States: Strengthening Capacities, Governance, Equity, and Partnerships for Integrated Health and Climate Solutions" aligns with the national priorities of the Government in implementing adaptation activities aimed at reducing the negative impacts and risks associated with climate change in the Union of the Comoros.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the aforementioned project proposal with the support of the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the WHO Regional Office for Africa and executed by the Ministry of Health of the Union of the Comoros, as well as the Ministries of Health of the Republic of Seychelles and Cabo Verde.

Yours sincerely,

FAWAZ MOHAMED MOUMINI



**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT
CLIMATE CHANGE & ENERGY DEPARTMENT**



Office of the Principal Secretary

Unity House, Block A, 3rd Floor, P.O. Box 445, Victoria, Mahe, Republic of Seychelles

Tel. No. (+248) 4670504

Email: pscce@gov.sc

Please address all correspondence to the Principal Secretary

Date: - 26th February 2025

The Adaptation Fund Board

c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE : ENDORSEMENT OF THE PROJECT TITLED «BUILDING CLIMATE-RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE HEALTH SYSTEMS IN AFRICAN SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES: STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES, GOVERNANCE, EQUITY AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR INTEGRATED HEALTH AND CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ».

As the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Republic of Seychelles, I confirm that the regional project proposal titled " *building climate-resilient and sustainable health systems in African small island developing states: strengthening capacities, governance, equity and partnerships for integrated health and climate solutions* " is in line with the national priorities of the Government in implementing adaptation activities aimed at reducing the negative impacts and risks associated with climate change in the Seychelles.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the aforementioned project proposal with the support of the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the WHO Regional Office for Africa and executed by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Seychelles and the Ministry of Health of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros and Cabo Verde.

Yours sincerely,

Will Michel Agricole (Mr.)

Technical Advisor for Climate Change & Energy

Adaptation Fund National Designated Authority For Seychelles