



Application for a Grant to support NIE accreditation

Submission Date: October 5, 2017

Adaptation Fund Grant ID:

Country/ies: **Commonwealth of
Dominica, and Member States of
the OECS¹**

Implementing Entity: **Department of Environment, Antigua and Barbuda**

A. Timeframe of Activity

Expected start date of support	1 December 2017
Completion date of support	1 December 2018

B. Experience participating in, organizing support to, or advising other NIE candidates

Describe the type of support provided to other national institutions, relevant to the accreditation process

Year	Type of support provided	Outcome of the	Country/institution supported
2016	In-country mission to St. Lucia to deliver presentations and one-on-one meetings with the OECS Commission on opportunities to access climate finance in SIDS	OECS Commission started accreditation process to Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission, St. Lucia
2017	Department of Environment co-hosted a sub-regional dialogue with the GCF with the theme, <i>Accelerating direct access in the Eastern Caribbean</i>	Grenada nominated their direct access entity the Grenada Development Bank for accreditation to GCF	Grenada Development Bank, Grenada

¹ OECS full member states include: Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts and Nevis, and St. Lucia.

2017	The Department of Environment built the capacity of the Internal Audit Unit and the Audit Department in the Ministry of Finance to perform activates to support the national Direct Access entity	Strengthened enabling environment for national direct access entities	Ministry of Finance in Antigua and Barbuda
2017	The Department of Environment was accredited to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) on 2 October 2017 as a fast-track entity in the project management, on-granting, and on-lending instruments.	DOE is better positioned to support potential DA entities	

C. Proposed activities to support NIE accreditation

Describe the activities to be undertaken to support the accreditation of NIE candidate(s) in the target country(ies)

The proposed South-South cooperation will support the Commonwealth of Dominica to accredit its NIE, and will contribute lessons learned to the Eastern Caribbean Economic Union sub-region. The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) is an economic union established by a Treaty as an inter-governmental group of countries that share a common currency, legal framework, free movement of labour, trade, and other aspects. The OECS countries share common features including very small ~100,000 populations, predominantly tourism economies, exposure to global economic changes, and vulnerability to climate change. The OECS Commission is the Secretariat for the Economic Union, headquartered in St. Lucia. The OECS Member States ratified the St. Georges Declaration for Principles of Environmental Sustainability, which harmonizes national approaches to environmental management and climate change. The OECS Commission is tasked with developing model laws, policies and procedures, and assisting Member States to adopting and implementing these enabling environments.

In 2016, the Council of Ministers for Environmental Sustainability of the OECS mandated Antigua and Barbuda to support all OECS member states to improve their direct access to climate finance, including by accrediting the OECS Commission as well as the Member States respective NIEs.

This grant will support Antigua and Barbuda to implement the Ministerial mandate, through cooperative engagement with Dominica. In addition to supporting Dominica, this South-South Cooperation grant is targeted to strengthen the sub-regional NIE network and support systems, which is a beneficial approach for SIDS to overcome individual capacity constraints through improved collaboration and cooperation.

Baseline

The ECU in Dominica has not yet been nominated as the NIE for Dominica. The ECU has served as the national Executing Entity for ~15 GEF projects over the years, including winning 2 awards, and therefore has the requisite experience and track record for accreditation, once its own policies are strengthened. The main objective of this cooperation grant is to assist with transitioning the

ECU of Dominica from a project-specific to a programmatic approach, with more long-term and institutionalized capacity, as has been done in Antigua and Barbuda, building on lessons learned.

Proposed Support Activities	Expected Output of the Activities	Country/Institution to be Supported	Requested budget (USD)	Tentative timeline (Completion date)
i. Support nomination of ECU as NIE	Endorsement of direct access institutional arrangements; Cabinet endorsement; NIE nomination letter for the ECU	Dominica – Environment Coordinating Unit (ECU)	3,000	1 January 2018
ii. Review existing documentation for the Dominica NIE	Revised documents, Standard Operating Procedures fiduciary compliance, procurement, ESS, consultative processes, M&E	Dominica – Environment Coordinating Unit (ECU)	8,000	1 March 2018
iii. Support in addressing gaps in existing documentation	Support the development of any missing or upgrading important policy documents which need to be provided with the application Online accreditation application submitted	Dominica – Environment Coordinating Unit (ECU)	11,000	1 June 2018

iv.	Direct Access workshop for the Eastern Caribbean potential NIEs	Intensive training and peer learning to accelerate direct access in the Eastern Caribbean and develop a supporting NIE sub-regional network. Members of the Adaptation Fund accreditation panel will be invited to present, answer questions, and enhance learning. Engagement with the Direct Access Community of Practice of the AF	Nominated (or potential) Direct Access entities in Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines) OECS Commission	18,000	31 June 2018
v.	Post-submission support for responding to Accreditation questions	Assistance (calls, written exchanges) to respond to Accreditation questions	Dominica – Environment Coordinating Unit (ECU)	8,000	31 October 2018
vi.	Project Management fee (up to 8.5%)	Project coordination, administration, and audit	Department of Environment (DOE), Antigua & Barbuda	2,000	
Total Grant Requested (USD)				50,000	

D. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures

Head of Implementing Entity	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Implementing Entity Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address

Diann Black-Layne			Lia Nicholson	+1 268 462-4625	lia.nicholson@ab.gov.ag

E. Record of request of support on behalf of the government

Provide the name and position of the government official, the Designated Authority of the Adaptation Fund, and indicate date of endorsement. If the proposed support targets more than one country, list the officials requesting support for all the participating countries. The request letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the application.

<i>Mr. Lloyd Pascal Director of the Environmental Coordinating Unit (ECU) Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources, Physical Planning, and Fisheries Tel: +767 266 5256/5270 Email: pascallloyd@gmail.com</i>	Date: <i>Endorsement via email on 26 September 2017²</i>
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² An official endorsement letter was not able to be sent by the deadline due to the devastating impacts of Hurricane Maria on Dominica. Email confirmation of the request for assistance is provided, and the 2016 Ministerial mandate for Antigua and Barbuda to provide such support is included in Annex I. The official endorsement letter will be provided as soon as possible.

Annex I. Decision of the OECS Council of Ministers for Environmental Sustainability (COMES) in 2016 mandated the OECS Commission to explore accreditation to the Adaptation Fund (Item 6), and requests Antigua and Barbuda to assist in this regard (Item 7). The proposed South-South Cooperation grant will advance the implementation of this Ministerial mandate.

CLIMATE CHANGE
Post-COP 21, Strategic Actions, Engagements and Collaboration
OECS/COMES/05/16/02

The Council of Ministers is invited to:

1. **NOTE** the key elements of the Paris agreement including the legally binding and non-binding obligations and the obligations and opportunities arising thereof;
2. **URGE** MSs that have not yet done so to ratify the Paris Agreement as early as possible during 2016 so that it can enter into force as soon as possible;
3. **NOTE** that the Paris agreement, under Article 4, paragraph 16, allows for regional economic integration organizations and their Member States that have reached an agreement to do so, to act jointly with respect to nationally determined contributions and agree that the OECS Commission should examine this option and report at the next meeting of the Council;
4. **NOTE** the need for MSs to pursue climate finance readiness activities including the establishment of relevant national frameworks and preparation of national implementation plans;
5. **ENCOURAGE** OECS Commission and MSs to continue to participate, with full, appropriate and consistent representation, in international climate change negotiations and related activities to ensure that their interests are taken into account in the decisions taken, including, but not restricted to, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF);
6. **MANDATE** the OECS Commission to explore accreditation to Climate funds such as the Adaptation Fund, the GEF and the Green Climate Fund (as mandated sections 4.2 (e) of the Treaty);
7. **ENDORSE** the constitution of a high level OECS working group that would support MSs with the Climate Finance accreditation process and to seek Antigua and Barbuda's assistance to support this process.



MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATING UNIT

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November 11th, 2017

The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for support in NIE accreditation

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Commonwealth of Dominica, I confirm that the Department of Environment in Antigua and Barbuda, has been requested by my government to support the process of accreditation of a National Implementing Entity for the Adaptation Fund in my country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the grant proposal submitted by the Department of Environment for funding from the Adaptation Fund.

Sincerely,

LLOYD PASCAL
DIRECTOR
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATING UNIT