On Tuesday August 13, 2019 the Launch of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Toolkit, Belize Country Programme and Readiness Support 2 at the Radisson Hotel and Marina in Belize City. The Launch of the toolkit marked the implementation of the “Capacity Building of the National Designated Authority (NDA) and Preparation of Country Strategic Framework - Belize” project.

The launch was organised by the Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum (MEDP) in collaboration with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC).

The project saw the strengthening of the MEDP in its role as the National Designated Authority, along with the development of a Country Strategic Framework to guide Belize’s engagement with the GCF.

In addition to launching the toolkit and Readiness 2 the event was designed to emphasise the role of the GCF and funding opportunities, provide an overview of the Country Strategic Framework, sensitize stakeholders on the Role of the NDA; familiarize stakeholders about the No-objection Procedure and update stakeholders on all GCF related activities in Belize.

The Belize Readiness 2 project titled “Building Capacity for Direct Access to Climate Finance (Readiness II)” was also launched on the same day as the Operational Guidelines and Toolkit which was held on August 13, 2019 at the Radisson Fort George Hotel in Belize City.

Belize’s NDA to the GCF and CEO of MEDP Ms. Yvonne Hyde gives opening remarks.

(Continued on page 5)
Regional experts trained in Adaptation and Mitigation Planning for Climate Change Project Development

Guided panel discussion with GCF Beneficiaries

Over 40 climate experts from the Caribbean, Mexico met in Bridgetown Barbados from July 15 to 17, 2019 for training in the formulation of project proposals to access funds for Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, at a workshop being organised by the United Nations (U) Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in partnership with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC).

Dr Renata Clarke, Sub-regional Coordinator for FAO indicated that given the pace and intensity of climate hazards, it is now time to put measures in place to mitigate the risks associated with climate change is now.

"It is against this background that FAO, the Government of Mexico, the Government of Canada, CARICOM, national bodies responsible for risk management, namely the Agriculture and Environment Ministries, as well as sub-national governments, among other national stakeholders, will all be participating in the upcoming three-day training workshop on Project Formulation for Green Climate Fund (GCF),” Dr Clarke said.

"The participants will learn how to develop proposals responding to the GCF requirements, which will assist Caribbean SIDS in implementing low-emissions, climate resilient measures in accordance with their national priorities and action plans and international commitments," Dr Clarke continued.

The Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the Caribbean are vulnerable and susceptible to natural disasters, and while some islands have experience increased flooding due to rise in sea levels and, recurrent droughts and the increasing presence of sargassum seaweed, the common thread of destruction continues to be that of hurricanes.

In response to the increasing pace, intensity and magnitude of climate hazards worldwide, especially in the Caribbean, the FAO is joining regional counterparts in making this matter a global priority for policy-makers and international organisations. The increasing and consistent change in weather patterns, intensity and frequency of hurricanes, rise of sea levels, increasing droughts and floods phenomena are strong indicators that preparedness, adaptation and mitigation plans for disaster risk and climate hazards management are mandatory requirements to prevent the depletion of natural resources and to safe-guard food security and nutrition.

About the CCCCC

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) is a Green Climate Fund (GCF) direct-access Accredited Entity (AE) based in Belize, and is the arm of CARICOM (Caribbean Community) that has responsibility for leading climate change actions in the member states.

As an Accredited Entity, the Centre is positioned to assist government departments and agencies and private sector organisations in the Caribbean to access GCF grants for climate adaptation and mitigation projects of up to US$50 Million per project.

Officially opened in August 2005, the Centre is the key node for information on climate change issues and the region’s response to managing and adapting to climate change.

The CCCCC maintains the Caribbean’s largest collection of climate and climate change information and data specific to the region, which in part, enables Agency to provide policy advice and guidelines to CARICOM member states through the CARICOM Secretariat. In this role, the Centre is recognised by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and other international agencies as the focal point for climate change issues in the Caribbean.

The Centre is one of an elite few recognised as a Centre of Excellence by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.
A team from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) visited the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) May 6-8 and May 14-15, 2019 while on a mission to Belize to strengthen its engagement with its partners.

During the visit, the GCF team comprising of Mr Keith Alger, Entity Relations Specialist; Dr Patrick Van Laake, Senior Ecosystems Management Specialist at GCF; and Mrs Neranda Maurice-George, Regional GCF Advisor for the Caribbean; held meetings with CCCCC’s executive director Dr Kenrick Leslie and senior officers from the Centre, to discuss and evaluate the progress and challenges of the Belize Readiness another projects. On Monday, May 6, the GCF Team accompanied by Dr Leslie, of officers from the Centre and Ambassador Yvonne Hyde, who serves as Belize’s National Designated Authority (NDA), visited the Arundo donax project site and the Belize Sugar Industry in Orange Walk, proposed site for a GCF Simplified Approval Process (SAP) project currently in the pipeline. While at the sugar Factory they witnessed the combustion of Arundo donax (wild cane) fibres at the Belize Cogeneration Energy Company (Belcogen).

The Arundo donax Renewable Energy Project in Belize was the Caribbean’s first project preparation facility (PPF) for which the GCF provided US$694,000 in grant funding to investigate the use of the wild cane as an alternative source of fuel.

During the visit to Orange Walk, the team also met with sugarcane growers’ associations and visited the Belize Sugar Industry (BSI) variety research lab, the Sugar Industry Research and Development Institute (SIRDI) and several farms. They heard ‘first-hand’ the climate change effects impacting sugarcane farmers and their families, as well as, observed ongoing efforts to address the impacts.

At a meeting at the CCCCC’s Belmopan offices on Tuesday, May 7, Dr Leslie expressed gratitude for the guidance provided by the GCF’s support team during the Centre’s accreditation process in 2015 and during the project development and approval processes. He noted the timeliness of the GCF Mission to Belize and voiced his satisfaction with what he saw at the various sites visited during the field trip, and the importance of the projects to help communities mitigate and adapt to climate change. He thanked the GCF for their continued support for project development, approval and implementation processes.

(Continued on page 4)
In addressing the Centre’s executive and senior officers, Dr Alger outlined the plan of engagement, noting that while in Belize, his team would provide an update on the revised GCF rules and processes. He provided information on the Fund’s role and its direction under the new GCF Executive Director, Mr Yannick Glemarec.

While in Belize the GCF reviewed and provided feedback on the Centre’s pipeline projects and other projects submitted for approval. explored areas for further collaboration and provided guidance on proposed collaborations between the CCCCC and its existing partners, while also setting the framework for and the agreement on a way forward in programming and the Centre’s readiness and re-accreditation.

Since February 2018, the CCCCC has received more than US$38.54 million in GCF grant funding for the implementation of Climate Change and readiness projects in several countries. These include the implementation of the WSRN S-Barbados Project, a project preparation grant for the Arundo donax Renewable Energy Project, and Country Readiness grants for Belize, Bahamas, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

(Continued from page 3)

GETTING TO KNOW US PROFILE: Keith Nichols, PDMU, CCCCC

A national of the island of Saint Lucia, Keith Nichols attained a degree (BSc) in Natural Sciences from the UWI Cave Hill Campus; a post Graduate degree in Marine Affairs from Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada, majoring in Law of the Sea and Marine Management; and a Master’s Degree in Marine Management from the University of Rhode Island, USA.

His focus on environmental management began in 1981 when he was employed as a Marine/Fisheries Biologist within the Department of Fisheries in Saint Lucia. In 1991, Keith was appointed Deputy Chief Fisheries Officer up until 1997 when he left to join the then OECs Secretariat as a Programme Officer specialising in Coastal Zone Management. In 2005 he was appointed Head of the then OECs Environment and Sustainable Development Unit (OECs ESDU).

In March 2012, Keith left the OECs Secretariat to take up a position with the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) in Belize as a Project Development Specialist. Mr. Nichols now leads the Head of the Centre’s Programme Development and Management (PDMU).

Mr. Nichols has worked extensively in a number of environmental areas over his entire career. He pioneered the concept of Island Systems Management (ISM) based on the extensive work done by the late Ed Towle on Island Systems (Island Resources Foundation - IRF), and published papers on that topic. The broad foundation of ISM emerges from his background, training and extensive experience in Fisheries/Marine Biology and Management, Coastal Resources Management, Marine Use Management, Governance Frameworks for Sustainable Development, and Environmental Management in general, coupled also by his wealth of experience in Protected Areas Management, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.

Keith has also led programs on artificial reefs, mariculture of red seaweeds, aquaculture, coastal and marine protected areas, ocean governance among others.

GCF visits the CCCCC

Mr Keith Heads of the Project Development Management Unit
Launch of Belize Readiness 2 and the GCF Toolkit

(Continued from page 1)

The Readiness 2 project is funded with a grant from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) as part of its Readiness and Preparatory Support.

The CCCCC serves as the delivery partner and is responsible for the implementation of the project.

The project will run for 24 months and has an investment value of US $355,365. Key stakeholders of the project are the Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum, which is Belize’s National Designated Entity (NDA) to the GCF, the Protected Areas Conservation Trust (PACT) and the Belize Social Investment Fund (SIF).

The project’s overall goal is to build Belize’s capacity to effectively mobilise, manage and monitor climate finance in an effort to achieve the goals and objectives outlined in national strategies and actions plans. It is geared at achieving three specific outcomes and their accompanying sub-outcomes.

In summary, Outcome 1: Institutional capacity and coordination mechanism strengthened to govern and coordinate climate finance and Outcome 2: County programming process, both aim at enhancing the NDA’s institutional capacity and coordination by updating and placing all the necessary mechanisms to inform, guide, mobilize the country’s stakeholders towards accessing and mobilizing GCF financing.

Outcome 2 involves supporting SIF to achieve the necessary standards and requirements to achieve GCF Accreditation. Given that SIF was nominated as a national Direct Access Entity (DAE) for the GCF, SIF is benefiting from pre-accreditation support through the development of a gap assessment and action plan against the GCF accreditation standards.

Lastly, Sub-Outcome 3.1: Direct Access Entity’s (DAE) Work Programme alignment with Country Programme is geared towards providing post accreditation support to PACT, as an accredited GCF DAE, through the delivery of stakeholder capacity building trainings and technical assistance towards accessing GCF financing. Also, support is also being provide to develop PACTs Entity Work Programme and Stakeholder Mobilization Action Plan.

Ahnivar Peralta, CCCCC explaining the objectives, components and status of Belize Readiness 2

Khara Roches, National GCF Coordinator, MEDP informs of the toolkit

Ryan Zuniga, CCCCC Belize Readiness 2 Project Manager and Khara Roches, National GCF Coordinator
GCF invites Observers

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has issued an invitation for the Twentieth Round of Application for Accreditation as an Observer Organisation.

The invitation is being made in line with the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund (the GCF) and the Rules of Procedures of the Board. The Co-Chairs in consultation with the Board, invite accredited observer organisations to attend meetings of the Board of the GCF, to be held from 12 to 14 November 2019.

The communiqué noted: “Following the GCF’s Governing Instrument and Rules of Procedures of the Board, which encourage accredited observer organisations to designate representatives to attend meetings of the Board, the Co-Chairs of the GCF Board invite civil society organisations (CSOs), private sector organisations (PSOs), and international entities (IEs), wishing to obtain observer status, to apply for accreditation.”

Applications should be submitted no later than Monday, 2 September 2019, 18.00 KST (UTC+09:00) via the new online form on the following address: https://gcf.observeraccreditation.

To ensure a smooth transition from the current offline application, the GCF will continue to accept applications on the forms available at the link (form available HERE) and sent through observers@gcfund.org.

Additional details, including submission guidelines are available from the GCF website.

In its four years of existence, the GCF has allocated more than US $5 billion of the US $7 billion it received from contributors. As a result, its Board launched the first GCF replenishment in October 2018. (GCF News)

Green Climate Fund must take risks in warning fight, says new Executive Director

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) can become a “completely unprecedented” tool to ramp up action on climate change in developing nations, allowing states, companies and communities to experiment more - as long as its coffers are refilled this year, its new head said.

In his first interview since starting a month ago, Yannick Glemarec described the fund as the “financial alchemists of climate change”, because it can design funding to meet needs.

But if governments fail to deliver a “successful and ambitious replenishment” of the fund’s depleting resources, its ability to transform responses to global warming will be hobbled, he warned.

The Green Climate Fund which was set up by the U.N. climate talks in 2010, began approving projects in 2015 to help poorer nations develop cleanly and cope with wilder weather and rising seas.

The GCF has 84 partners - from commercial and development banks, to state agencies and civil society groups - who do the work on the ground and look to the fund to help them test innovative approaches. That would stop without new cash, Glemarec said.

“It is very important that when they ask us to help them to deliver, we are in a position to be there, and that we have enough resources also to take risk,” the executive director, who is French, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

So far, for instance, the fund had provided different types of support to push the envelope on renewable energy, he noted.

That has ranged from helping put in place power purchase agreements and cheap finance for the world’s biggest solar plant in Egypt, to providing equity capital for small businesses working on off-grid energy in Kenya.

Glemarec said the GCF expected to allocate this year all the remaining money from its first fund-raising push in 2014, which resulted in pledges of more than $10 billion.

That amount fell, however, after U.S. President Donald Trump refused to deliver two-thirds of a $3-billion promise made by his predecessor and as currency fluctuations shaved off a further $1 billion, according to analysts.

The fund, based in South Korea, has committed about $5 billion to more than 100 projects in developing countries, with about $2 billion of that now being spent.

In the coming months, the GCF will make the business case to donor governments for more cash, asking for a second round of pledges at a conference in the autumn, Glemarec said.

It is too early “to try to read the tea leaves and come up with a guess on where we could land” in terms of a financial target, he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

But he welcomed announcements already made by Germany and Norway that they would double their initial contributions, describing it as “an extremely positive signal”.

The fund hopes “a couple more countries” will announce fresh money at a climate change summit organized by the U.N. secretary-general in September. That would “bode very well for the full pledging session” to come soon afterwards, he said.

The fund also aims to solicit contributions from philanthropic foundations in the future to broaden its donor base, and to collaborate with them on projects in areas such as agriculture, he said. (Thomson, Reuters)

Preventing sexual abuse in GCF projects: Lessons from the World Bank

In May this year, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) introduced measures to prevent sexual abuse in its project. According to the Fund, officials “further solidified its actions for zero-tolerance of sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEAH) by introducing an updated SEAH Policy through the Independent Redress Mechanism’s (IRM) preparation of an advisory report on preventing SEAH in GCF projects”.

In “Preventing Sexual Abuse in Projects: Learnings from the World Bank,” Chair of the World Bank’s Inspection Panel Imrama Jalal shared her insights on gender-based violence at the project level and its far-reaching impacts on local communities and institutions. The talk was jointly organised by the Independent Integrity Unit (IIU) and IRM of GCF. (Source GCF)
The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has issued an invitation for the Twentieth Round of Application for Accreditation as an Observer Organisation. Interested organisations have until Monday, 2 September 2019, 18.00 KST (UTC+09.00) to apply.

The invitation is being made in line with the Governing Instrument for the Green Climate Fund (the GCF) and the Rules of Procedures of the Board, the Co-Chairs in consultation with the Board, invite accredited observer organisations to the twenty-fourth meeting of the Board of the GCF, to be held from 12 to 14 November 2019.

The commune released by the fund noted: “Following the GCF’s Governing Instrument and Rules of Procedures of the Board, which encourage accredited observer organisations to designate representatives to attend meetings of the Board, the Co-Chairs of the GCF Board invite civil society organisations (CSOs), private sector organisations (PSOs), and international entities (IEs), wishing to obtain observer status, to apply for accreditation”.

Applications for accreditation as an observer organisation should be submitted no later than Monday, 2 September 2019, 18.00 KST (UTC+09.00) via the new online form on the following address: https://g.cf(observeraccreditation).

To ensure a smooth transition from the current offline application, the GCF will continue to accept applications on the forms available at the link (form available HERE) and sent through observers@gcfund.org.

Additional details, including submission guidelines are available from the GCF website.

In its four years of existence, the GCF has allocated more than US $5 billion of the US $7 billion it received from contributors. As a result, its Board launched the first GCF replenishment in October 2018.

---

GCF也就宣布了“绿色践行者”奖

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) has launched the GCF Green Champions Awards to recognise and promote the most noteworthy and successful efforts to fight climate change in developing countries.

The awards will recognise outstanding individuals and organisations driving climate transformation. The GCF Green Champions Awards will promote initiatives that stand as examples of environmental, social and business-led commitments to combat climate change. These include activities that limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and those that encourage adaptation to climate change impacts.

Nominations will open in the coming days, and the awards will be made at a ceremony in the margins of COP25 in Santiago, Chile, in December 2019.

GCF Deputy Executive Javier Manzanares launched the awards on 19 August at GCF’s Global Programming Conference.

“We want to recognise the contribution of these climate champions, and shine a light on their efforts,” said Mr Manzanares. “Around the world, dedicated people are responding to the threats we are facing, and they are changing our world for the better.”

The awards are designed to acknowledge achievements that are charting new paths of climate action in the following areas.

Awards Categories
Climate Youth Champion - Young people who are making a difference in responding to the climate challenge. The nominees must be aged 25 years or less.

Climate Gender Champion - A person that has a track record in emphasising the inclusiveness of women in climate action.

Climate Community Champion - A person or organisation that is central to a community’s engagement with climate action.

Transformational Country Champion - A person or organisation in a developing country which has made notable progress in pursuing a GCF country programme, using GCF readiness effectively; excelling in stakeholder consultation, among other things

Climate Entrepreneur - A person or organisation making inroads in bringing the private sector into climate finance.

Climate Lifetime Achievement Champion - An individual who is a recognized trailblazer in promoting climate action.

Eligibility
Organisations and individuals engaged in supporting GCF projects and readiness activities are eligible to be nominated. However, it will not be limited to GCF activities: any individual or organisation engaged in noteworthy climate action will be eligible for nomination.

Nominations will be accepted from September 2nd on the GCF website.

(Continued on page 8)
The awards jury will consider the following evaluation criteria:

- Paradigm Shift Potential: How has the champion helped to develop long-lasting low-emission or climate-resilient pathways?
- Climate Impact / Result Potential: How has the champion created a difference across the planet or in their local communities in tackling climate change?
- Innovation: How has the champion used new methods to drive positive change? This could include using technology, financial instruments, interpersonal networks, new ways of thinking.
- Knowledge Sharing: How effective has the champion been in sharing knowledge and experiences in the climate sphere, and has this changed other people’s behaviour?

UPCOMING EVENTS

GCF Project Development Training Workshop – Private Sector
September 5-6, 2019
Jewel Runaway Bay Beach and Golf Resort, Jamaica

This two-day workshop is a continuation of project to assist sector organisations develop into GCF concept notes. This initiative is led by the Climate Change Division (CCD) within the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation (MEGJC), of the Government of Jamaica.

Water Sector Workshop titled, “Transformational Climate Resilience Water Project Concepts for the Green Climate Fund (GCF)”. September 3-5th, 2019
Wyndham Panama Albrook Mall Hotel and Convention Centre, Panama City, Panama

Workshop to help Latin America and the Caribbean countries to strengthen capacity of NDAs, DAEs, and water ministries to prepare climate resilient water security projects that can access GCF financing.

Launch of Intra-ACP GCCA+ programme in the Caribbean: Enhancing climate resilience in CARIFORUM countries. September 16-17, 2019 at the Radisson Aquatica Resort Barbados, Bridgetown, Barbados.

Project to support the climate compatible development of the CARIFORUM countries to combat the negative impacts of climate change and disasters.

Knowledge Sharing and wrap-up Event of the Japan Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP). September 16-17, 2019

Participants from eight J-CCCP beneficiary countries (Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines), to include agriculture practitioners, farmers and technical specialists, in addition to regional agencies and NGOs who work in agriculture and nature farming and research experts from Jamaica.

The workshop will foster knowledge sharing through peer to peer learning exercises among agriculture practitioners, farmers, regional agencies and NGOs working in the field. Participants will also get a chance to visit pilot field initiatives in St. Lucia where technology or knowledge from Japan was transferred.