SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

PO Box 240, Apia, Samoa
E: sprep@sprep.org
T: +685 21929
F: +685 20231
W: www.sprep.org

CLEAN PACIFIC

The Pacific environment, sustaining our livelihoods and natural heritage in harmony with our cultures.

CIRCULAR

FILE: FN 3/2/11

TO: SPREP National Focal Points (Pacific Island Countries)

DATE: 25 November 2013

CIRCULAR: 13/81

SUBJECT: **The Adaptation Fund**

Dear SPREP Members and Partners,

On 1 November 2013 SPREP secured status as a Regional Implementing Entity under the Adaptation Fund of the Kyoto Protocol. SPREP has been working on achieving this accreditation since March 2010 at the direction of its Members. The process was difficult, and a large number of policy, procedure and regulatory changes were required from SPREP to become accredited. Experts from the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) accreditation panel guided the process. This required the establishment of an independent internal audit function, a SPREP code of ethics and expected behaviors and a rigorous analysis of SPREP procurement and financial management procedures.

With this accreditation SPREP can now better assist countries in developing and submitting adaptation to climate change proposals to the AFB for financing. An action plan is being developed by SPREP staff in this regard. This is particularly important for countries in the region with limited administrative capacity. At the same time SPREP will continue to support Pacific countries to attain national implementing entity status.

It should be noted that currently there are no national implementing entities in the Pacific (although several countries are now in the process of applying), and some countries have so far successfully developed projects with multilateral implementing entities such as UNDP. The experience of seeking accreditation will be documented and shared widely, with a view to informing Pacific Island Countries in their endeavours to become national implementing entities. It is also expected that when the Green Climate Fund becomes fully operational that the criteria for implementing entities

will be similar to the AFB. This will place SPREP in an excellent position to assist the region with climate change financing.

As mentioned SPREP, is developing an action plan for how best to assist Pacific Island Countries in applying for AF funding. A fact sheet is attached as an annex to this circular.

I wish to thank SPREP staff and members that were involved in this lengthy endeavour.

SPREP would welcome any comments or queries from members on its accreditation with the Adaptation Fund Board.

Yours sincerely,



Kosi Latu
Acting Director General

KL/ER/rmg

Att.

Questions and answers for Pacific in regards to SPREP as Regional Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund

Getting started

Are you eligible to apply for funding? Only if you are a Party to the Kyoto Protocol, which all Pacific Island Countries are.

Prepare by studying the project eligibility and preparation process in the Operational Policies and Guidelines for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund.

Some key factors on what can be funded are contained in the definition of concrete adaptation projects and programmes. A concrete adaptation project/programme is defined as a set of activities aimed at addressing the adverse impacts of and risks posed by climate change. The activities shall aim at producing visible and tangible results on the ground by reducing vulnerability and increasing the adaptive capacity of human and natural systems to respond to the impacts of climate change, including climate variability. Adaptation projects/programmes can be implemented at the community, national, regional and trans-boundary level.

Projects/programmes require a specific objective(s) and concrete outcome(s) and output(s) that can be measured, monitored and verified.

An adaptation programme is a process, a plan or an approach for addressing climate change impacts that is broader than the scope of an individual project.

Develop the proposal

SPREP and other regional experts can be contacted for advice on the eligibility of a proposal, the content and scope, as well as potential synergies with existing programmes and projects. It is important to

Next, fill out the form entitled "Request for Project/Programme Funding from Adaptation Fund," which can be found at the Submission Materials page.

Kindly e-mail your proposal submissions to SPREP, through Espen Ronneberg, Climate Change Adviser, espenr@sprep.org, who will transmit this to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org. Please be sure to cc dndiaye@thegef.org and mollikainen@thegef.org

What can be funded?

Funding will be provided on full adaptation cost basis of projects and programmes to address the adverse effects of climate change. Full cost of adaptation means the costs associated with implementing concrete adaptation activities that address the adverse effects of climate change. The Fund will finance projects and programmes whose principal and explicit aim is to adapt and increase climate resilience. The project/programme proponent is to provide justification of the extent to which the project contributes to adaptation and climate resilience.

Decisions on funding by the Fund shall take into account the criteria outlined in the Strategic Priorities, Policies and Guidelines of the Adaptation Fund, specifically:

(a) Level of vulnerability;

(b) Level of urgency and risks arising from delay;

(c) Ensuring access to the fund in a balanced and equitable manner;

(d) Lessons learned in project and programme design and implementation to be captured;

(e) Securing regional co-benefits to the extent possible, where applicable;

(f) Maximizing multi-sectoral or cross-sectoral benefits;

(g) Adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change.

These are important considerations to include in the proposal, and there is a need to demonstrate these clearly. It is useful to have a look at successful proposals to the Adaptation Fund: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/funded_projects

Please Keep in Mind:

Parties seeking financial resources from the Adaptation Fund who do not have a National Implementing Entity *must* submit their project and programme proposals directly through accredited Regional or Multilateral Implementing Entities.

Proposals require endorsement by the Designated Authorities of the country in which the project or programme would take place. The Designated Authority should be communicated to the Adaptation Fund if not on this list.

The Adaptation Fund Board requests that all proposals be written in English.

Parties can request clarification from the Secretariat of the Adaptation Fund Board on matters related to submissions:

+1 202 473-6390 (Phone)
+1 202 522-3240 (Fax)

The Adaptation Fund Board accepts and considers project and programme proposals throughout the year on a rolling basis.