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

Natural Solutions for Island Resilience

CIRCULAR

FILE: ORG 1/69

DATE: 28 April 2015

CIRCULAR: 15/36

TO: SPREP National Focal Points
Pacific GCF National Designated Authorities
CROP Organisations

SUBJECT: **Invitation to forward initial activity concepts for potential Green Climate Fund project proposal development**

Dear SPREP Members and Pacific GCF National Designated Authorities,

Further to Circular 15/25 on the GCF accreditation of SPREP as a Regional Implementing Entity (RIE), I would like to provide you with additional information on how SPREP can coordinate and help manage the development and delivery of climate change mitigation and adaptation projects, funded through the Green Climate Fund (GCF). All SPREP Members which are signatories to the UNFCCC are eligible to apply.

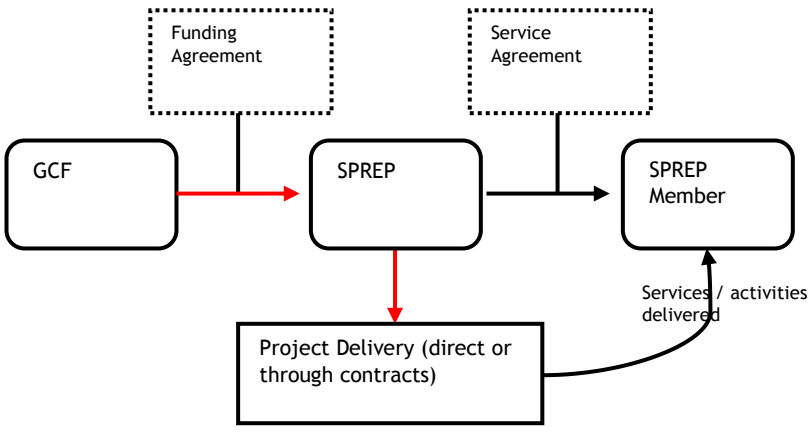
Background:

SPREP is accredited to the GCF to deliver 'Category C' (low-risk) projects of up to $50 million through a project management modality. Eligible SPREP Member countries may develop project proposals that when approved by the GCF Board will be delivered in a collaborative manner, that supports low-carbon and / or resilient development.

Two main delivery modalities are available. In both instances SPREP maintains responsibility for the relationship with the GCF, and ensuring the GCF reporting (and other) requirements are met.

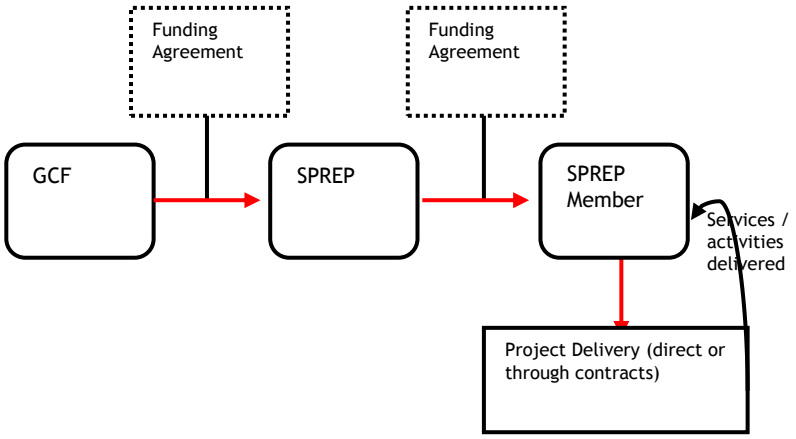
Option 1: SPREP would lead delivery / management of project activities as described in Figure 1 below

Figure 1:



Option 2: SPREP Members would lead delivery / management of project activities as described in Figure 2 below.

Figure 2:



Note: red arrows depict the flow of funds

Next Steps

At the 9th GCF Board Meeting held in Korea in March, the GCF Board encouraged accredited entities to work with its constituents to develop project proposals for approval at the 11th Board Meeting, to be held in October 2015. ***This will require full project proposals to be submitted to the GCF Secretariat by early August***. This presents a tight time frame to engage with the GCF at this early stage, though SPREP is keen to facilitate country driven proposals to meet the deadlines of this first round.

SPREP is proposing submitting up to three (3) proposals on behalf of its Members, for the October GCF Board Meeting. Of the three proposals SPREP anticipates at least one (1) mitigation and one (1) adaptation project, which could be at the national, sub-regional or regional level.

Through this circular I invite all eligible SPREP Members to take the opportunity to raise their interest and outline their capacity to work with SPREP to prepare and lodge project proposals for the GCF, in particular for the October GCF Board meeting. To this end, I invite you to work with SPREP through the following steps:

1. Complete the attached **SPREP GCF Concept Checklist**, providing basic details on proposal activities and your readiness to collaborate with SPREP on development of a full proposal, and future implementation. **Please return to SPREP by the 8th of May 2015**. The GCF Concept Note Template is also available for completion if you prefer, visit link: http://www.gcfund.org/operations/resource-guide.html

2. Work with SPREP, including at the Pacific Climate Change Roundtable (PCCR), to finalise an initial Project Concept Note for initial feedback from the GCF Secretariat in mid-late May.

3. Work with SPREP, and / or other technical assistance including through the Readiness programme to develop a full Project Proposal for submission to the GCF in August.

The GCF Readiness Programme

To assist national entities to engage with the GCF, the GCF has established the GCF Readiness programme. Readiness aims to support countries to develop their capacity to engage with the GCF, and benefit from its resources. Readiness support can be accessed (i) directly, or (ii) indirectly through SPREP as an accredited Regional Implementing Entity (RIE) to support Nationally Designated Authorities (NDA) / Focal Points in:

- institutional strengthening
- development of a strategic GCF investment framework and project pipeline; and
- national GCF accreditation efforts.

If you are interested in applying for readiness support in the short to medium term, ***please indicate and provide details of this in the attached concept template.***

I have written separately to my CROP colleagues advising them of SPREP accreditation, and inviting them to work with SPREP on potential GCF opportunities. SPREP, in consultation with our Members, will look for opportunities for collaboration and coordination opportunities with our partner CROP agencies and other delivery partners.

The accreditation of SPREP to the GCF provides SPREP Members with a good opportunity to take action to address the urgent climate mitigation and adaptation priorities. I encourage all Members to consider this initial opportunity and return your GCF project concepts by 8 May, 2015.

SPREP will also follow-up in due course, to facilitate further development of a longer term GCF project pipeline and engagement strategy, based on the priority climate change issues of our Members.

Please return concept checklists to espenr@sprep.org. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or the SPREP Director of Climate Change Dr. Netatua Pelesikoti netatuap@sprep.org

Yours faithfully,



Kosi Latu
Acting Director General

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