



Strategic Planning Consultant to Conduct a Comprehensive Long-term Readiness Needs Assessment and Develop an Associated Action Plan

Readiness Needs Assessment Report and Action Plan for St. Kitts and Nevis

Readiness Needs Assessment Report (Deliverable 4)

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List of Acronyms:

AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use
ATGS	Agricultural Transformation and Growth Strategy 2022-2031
AVEC	Advanced Vocational Education Centre
CBD	Caribbean Development Bank
CBFC	Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College
CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
CIC	Chamber of Industry & Commerce
CSO	Civil Society
CZMU	Coastal Zone Management Unit
DAE	Direct Access Entity
EV	Electric Vehicle
ESP	Education Sector Plan
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IFS	Implementation and Financing Strategy
IPP	Independent Power Producer
ISLANDS	Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States
MSME	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCC	National Climate Change Committee
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDMD	Nevis Disaster Management Department
NDPF	National Development Planning Framework
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NEP	National Energy Policy
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NSDCC	National Sustainable Development Coordination Committee
ODA	Overseas Development Assistance
PA	Protected Area
RE	Renewable Energy
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SKN	St. Kitts and Nevis

SKNGIS	St. Kitts and Nevis Geographic Information System
SKNMMA	St. Kitts and Nevis Marine Management Area Management Plan
SKNMS	St. Kitts and Nevis Meteorological Services
SKWMC	St. Kitts Solid Waste Management Corporation
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
URP	Urban Resilience Plan

1. Background

Despite only contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, St. Kitts and Nevis (SKN) is expected to be significantly affected by the impacts of climate change, including increasing temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns that may result in either flood or drought, increasing storm frequency and intensity and rising sea levels. The country's vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change is already evident in key socio-economic and service sectors, in particular agriculture, tourism, water, and health, as well as in its effect on particularly vulnerable communities and groups. Cognisant of the country's vulnerability to the current and projected impacts of climate change, St. Kitts and Nevis is actively working on identifying its climate related priorities and investment needs.

A key exercise in this respect is the 2021 update of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) that outlines the country's climate priorities, targets, and commitments. To determine the actions needed to reach the NDC targets, the government developed an Implementation and Financing Strategy (IFS) and a corresponding NDC Implementation Plan, which was launched in April 2022.

For funding meaningful climate action, St. Kitts and Nevis is strongly dependent on international climate finance, as the country is non-eligible for Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). To this point, the country inter alia engaged with regional institutions, such as the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) or the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) to access climate finance from sources such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) or the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

SKN has in place a number of policies and strategies to govern its climate policy and climate finance activities. Also, an institutional framework for consultation and coordination of matters relating to accessing GCF funding exists. However, the country still experiences certain shortcomings when it comes to formulation and enforcement of policies, strategies, and plans, its institutional systems, and human capacities. Here, support of the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme can be harnessed to identify, design and implement transformational climate change interventions. Identifying specific support needs to enable access to climate finance readiness needs can help the National Designated Authority (NDA) in further planning the use of GCF Readiness Funding over the next years in accordance with the GCF Country Programme.

Hence, commissioned by the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, a *Long-term Readiness Needs Assessment* was initiated in early 2022. Through a consultation process with a broad variety of stakeholders key topics for a future GCF Readiness portfolio for St. Kitts and Nevis were identified.

This report presents the findings of the needs assessment and a long-term action plan for addressing climate finance priorities. The Readiness Needs Assessment in chapter 3 hereby summarizes needs as per the categories of the Green Climate Fund country programming process, namely in the areas *institutions and governance, policy environment, pipeline development*, as well as *information, data and knowledge*. In addition, needs are summarized by priority sectors, in accordance with the GCF country programme. A long-term action plan addressing the readiness needs is presented in chapter 4, structured along the categories, also summarizing proposed activities per priority sectors. This action plan serves as the basis for a multi-year planning of readiness activities for St. Kitts and Nevis (while using the labels "long-term" and "multi-year", it must be clear that GCF Readiness support should be sought rather sooner than later in order to set the stage for accessing GCF funding in the near future; hence, the action plan works with a timeline until 2025).

The Annex holds information about the consultation process, as well as a Long-term Readiness Action Plan Matrix. The latter is reflecting the GCF Readiness and Support Programme objectives *capacity building, strategic frameworks for low-emission investment, strengthened adaptation planning, paradigm shifting pipeline development*, as well as *knowledge sharing and learning*.

2. Approach and methodology

“Ready for what? Through accessing readiness support, countries are ready for engaging with the GCF in order to accomplish the common objectives of implementing the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.”

GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme Guidebook, 2020

The overall approach of developing a long-term Readiness Action Plan is to support the process of NDC and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) development and implementation while preparing St. Kitts and Nevis to access finance in the immediate term. As pointed out in the 2020 GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme Guidebook¹, this means that the country can “develop and submit Readiness proposals that take a comprehensive and long-term view while also seeking support to address near- and medium-term capacity and technical gaps and barriers”. Accordingly, a long-term readiness assessment can assist countries to answer, inter alia, the following key questions:

- What support would be required to prepare a long-term climate strategy (such a strategy could assume a world that would have achieved net-zero emission but would be at least 1.5 degree warmer by 2050)?
- What data and knowledge gaps exist nationally to inhibit the development of ambitious NDCs and NAPs informed by net-zero carbon emissions and an at least 1.5-degree warmer world by 2050?
- What support is needed to facilitate and expedite implementation of priorities identified in the NDC and other national climate change strategies?
- What barriers exist to accessing scaled-up finance across priority sectors, especially with regards to leveraging private sector investment and technology deployment?
- How can national and subnational institutions be strengthened to deliver on mitigation and adaptation priorities, including through new and innovative financial mechanisms?
- How can the country increase a) complementarity of climate action funded through multiple financial streams and b) the coherence of their programming processes to drive long-term low-emission and climate-resilient development?

In general, the GCF Readiness programme categorizes 5 “objectives”, i.e. areas for which Readiness funding could be spent. These objectives comprise *capacity building*, strategic frameworks for low-emission investment, *strengthened adaptation planning*, *paradigm shifting pipeline development*, as well as *knowledge sharing and learning*. Each objective addresses different areas that GCF RSP funding could be used for, as illustrated below:

- **Objective 1 - Capacity building**
 - O1.1 - NDA strengthening

¹ Compare https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/readiness-guidebook_2.pdf

- O1.2 - Enhancing coordination mechanisms
- O1.3 - Other capacity building support for Direct Access Entities (DAEs), executing entities, and civil society and private sector stakeholders
- **Objective 2 - Strategic frameworks for low-emission investment**
 - O2.1 - Development of Country Programmes, Entity Work Programmes, long-term low-emission development strategies and action plans
 - O2.2 - Efforts to update, enhance or implement NDCs
 - O2.3 - Improve the enabling environment for climate finance (such as engaging the private sector and/or devising or adapting innovative financial mechanisms for deployment)
- **Objective 3 - Strengthened Adaptation Planning**
 - O3.1 - Development of a national, subnational, or sectoral adaptation plan
 - O3.2 - Catalyzing private sector engagement in adaptation finance
 - O3.3 - Producing the evidence basis for impactful adaptation investments
- **Objective 4 - Paradigm shifting pipeline development**
 - O4.1 - Development of concept notes, pipeline metrics and indicators
 - O4.2 - Costed action plans for priority documents such as NDCs
- **Objective 5 - Knowledge sharing and learning**
 - O5.1 - Peer-to-peer and south-south learning exchanges
 - O5.2 - Development of tailored knowledge products

The Readiness Needs Assessment for St. Kitts and Nevis is based on a desk review of key documents, consultations with key stakeholders, as well as a validation of findings during a stakeholder workshop in September 2022. The approach for the stakeholder consultations was determined in a stakeholder engagement plan, while a consultation report summarizes the discussions held with stakeholders; both reports were presented as separate documents to the NDA. A list of consultations held for this assessment is provided in Annex I. The participants engaged with during the validation workshop are presented in Annex II, the agenda for that workshop is provided in Annex III.

The desk review regarded most recent policy and strategic documents, including the NDC and the NDC Implementation Plan (2022), the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2018) as well as the National Climate Change Policy (2017). In addition, sectoral plans and strategies were reflected. Overall, the desk review is closely aligned with the on-going elaboration of the GCF country programme, which is developed by the author of this report.

3. Readiness Needs Assessment for St. Kitts and Nevis

This section summarizes the key findings of the assessment, grouped as per priority sectors of SKN and in alignment with the GCF country programme.

3.1. Readiness Needs by category

This first section highlights specific needs for the categories *Institutions and Governance*, *Policy Environment*, *Pipeline Development Information*, as well as *Data and Knowledge*.

3.1.1. Institutions and Governance

Responsibility for climate matters in St. Kitts and Nevis is shared amongst several ministries, including the Ministry of Sustainable Development; Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Marine Resources Ministry of Environment and Cooperatives, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Public Infrastructure; and Ministry of Finance. Ensuring effective coordination and communication amongst these ministries is therefore vital to avoid project duplication. It will also help to facilitate a synergized and integrated national approach to climate change adaptation, and support ministries on approaches to planning and implementing adaptation and climate resilient development activities. During a workshop held with key stakeholders in May 2022, when asked about most important needs in the context of institutions and governance, the sentiment was that better coordination and collaboration are at the core.



Figure 1: Responses concerning needs for institutions and governance

Hence, several needs exist in this respect that hinder inter sectorial coordination, as summarized below.

Needs relating to the objective “Capacity building”

- **Insufficient central coordination and guidance on climate activities:** A lack of central coordination and guidance exists for various sectors and ministries on approaches to planning and implementing adaptation and climate resilient development activities. While a national coordination mechanism is established through the National Sustainable Development Coordination Committee (NSDCC), the body is not active since its inauguration and lacks operational guidance. The establishment of the

National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) is in planning and Terms of Reference for the committee have been prepared, but it has not yet been established.

- **Linking with the private sector:** A lack of institutional coordination exists with the private sector when it comes to investment opportunities in climate friendly projects / access to international climate finance
- **NDA training needs and capacity constraints:** Concerning the GCF, previous assessments indicate that SKN's NDA is well-positioned to fulfil all required responsibilities, namely to ensure an effective readiness programme grant cycle with the GCF, to ensure an effective country programming with the GCF, to lead the establishment of a direct access entity to be accredited by GCF, to lead the no-objection process, and to assume oversight for GCF activities, keeping track of national priorities and convening stakeholders (see NDA Assessment Report elaborated for NDA in 2022). Still, the NDA can benefit from specific capacity development measures in the field of climate finance. Also, the NDA is engaged in various processes and experiences staff constraints – enhancing the NDA's capacities with creation of multi-year positions for climate finance coordination would be beneficial.
- **Training needs on climate matters amongst public sector entities:** At the national level, there is a lack of trained professionals with technical skills and relevant experience, or competent professionals are not supported in relevant spaces for action. This applies particularly for actions such as vulnerability assessments, ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and climate finance. This is further accentuated by high staff turnover, lack of formal training procedures and performance management systems, and a lack of accountability for delivering annual work plans.

Needs relating to the objective “Strengthened Adaptation Planning”

- **Lacking integration of climate resilience and vulnerability decision making:** There is a lack of integration of climate change considerations in SKNMS, NEMA, NDMD and SKGIS management processes, inter alia due to weak plans and operational frameworks.
- **Lacking engagement of civil society and the private sector in climate action:** There is limited engagement of civil society and the private sector in adaptation and climate-resilient development planning and decision-making, thus impeding the level of adaptation-specific knowledge and skills among these stakeholders.
- **Insufficient monitoring and evaluative processes:** Monitoring and evaluation processes and priority setting based on vulnerability assessments are insufficient due to limited availability of climate data.

3.1.2. Policy Environment

Important policies, strategies and initiatives exist that set the course for domestic climate policy and form the basis for envisaged mitigation and adaptation measures (and respective climate finance needs) in St. Kitts & Nevis. Among the most relevant are the National Climate Change Policy, the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and the National Physical Development Plan. Additional sectoral policies and strategies, official documents and plans also inform the work of the NDA and need to be reflected when planning to access climate finance sources. The updated NDC of October 2021² and the respective NDC implementation plan and financing strategy of April 2022 are important strategic documents that guide climate action of the country. In the context of the GCF, with funding from the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme a number of strategic documents are elaborated, including the GCF country

² The initial NDC of SKN was submitted in 2016.

programme, an Urban Resilient Plan for Greater Basseterre, as well as this Long-term-Readiness Needs Assessment Plan (all of which are forthcoming in late 2022). Moreover, the GCF Readiness funding supports strengthening the country’s capacity for resilient planning by developing a National Development Planning Framework (NDPF). Upon completion of the NDPF (targeted for January 2023), it will reinforce the planning framework that embraces climate change resilience through the NDPF’s defined development priorities, strategies and targets to be achieved over the period 2023-2037. While this policy framework is established and under elaboration, it must also be operationalized. During the workshop held with key stakeholders in May 2022, when asked about most important needs in the context of policy environment, in particular enhanced enforcement was highlighted as an important need by the participants.



Figure 2: Responses concerning needs for policy and regulatory environment

The relevant needs in the category policy environment are further spelled out below:

Needs relating to the objective “Capacity building”

- **Lack of enforcement:** While SKN has developed a comprehensive national policy regime that mainstreams climate change into many relevant policy documents, measures must be taken to ensure their enforcement.³
- **Lack of structures for enhancing private sector action:** Limited use of public private partnerships (PPP’s) for realizing investments in climate-friendly infrastructure, in an inclusive and transparent manner, ideally involving local businesses. Also, limited institutional coordination on the existing access to climate finance.

Needs relating to the objective “Strategic frameworks for low-emission investment”

- **Lack policy incentives to strengthen the mobilization of resources:** Several types of policy measures can be distinguished, such as (i) regulations and guidelines, (ii) market-based incentives, (iii) financial measures, (iv) information & technology, or (v) de-risking. In terms of regulations, the

³ Mitigation of GHG emissions as well as enhancing resilience to the adverse effects of climate change, and along with the principle of social and gender inclusiveness.

country is on a good track for guidelines, road maps, target setting, etc. while for example environmental and social standards could be strengthened. Also, the use of other policy instruments could be enhanced, for example: carbon taxes or feed-in-tariffs (market-based incentives); catastrophe bonds, climate derivatives, access to microfinance (financial measures); certification schemes, rating systems, information and data requirements, technical assistance (information and technology); insurance schemes, and/or access to concessional finance instruments (de-risking).

- **Lack of a national long-term climate finance strategy:** The financing needs outlined in the NDC implementation plan, the GCF country programme, and several sector strategies are not reflected in a centralized strategic manner.
- **Financial Institutions** are not well positioned to access international climate finance and are not well **integrated in effective coordination with public sector entities.**
- **Reporting of national climate change matters not subject of a streamlined process in SKN:** Reporting is an essential component of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and promotes consistent, transparent, and comparable, information on the implementation of the Convention and international climate treaties. A streamlined reporting mechanism can also help SKN to have an enhanced oversight of ongoing activities to inform on future strategies.

Needs relating to the objective “Strengthened Adaptation Planning”

- **National Adaptation Planning not sufficiently aligned with climate finance:** As stated in the recent NDC update, “Limited funding and inadequate technical and human resources are consistently identified as significant barriers to implementing adaptation measures.”⁴ While these aspects relate to capacity development needs, upgrading the national adaptation strategy and / or putting forward a NAP is regarded as supportive for boosting (sectoral) adaptation measures.
- **Lacking vulnerability assessments:** Even though almost all sectoral policies and plans identify climate change as a major risk, the majority have not been informed by systematic vulnerability assessments and research into climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and potential measures for adaptation and building resilience.

⁴ Government of St. Kitts and Nevis (2021), p. 8

3.1.3. Pipeline Development

Emanating from strategic frameworks and entity work programmes, it is important, that a country develops and maintains a transformational pipeline of quality concept notes and funding proposals. St Kitts and Nevis is fostering such pipeline development, but still experiences challenges. During the workshop held with key stakeholders in May 2022, when asked about most important needs in the context of developing a pipeline of projects, participants mentioned various aspects including for human capacity development, stakeholder engagement and better coordination.



Figure 3: Responses concerning needs for developing a project pipeline

Key needs in the category policy environment are further spelled out below:

Needs relating to the objective “Capacity building”

- **Limited understanding of bankable project design requirements:** Identifying and developing projects that comply with investment criteria of climate finance donors and vehicles requires basic understanding of eligibility criteria and further requirements, which many public and private sector stakeholders do not possess.
- A lack of understanding exists on **barriers to accessing scaled-up finance across priority sectors**, especially with regards to leveraging private sector investment and technology deployment need.
- **Lack of coordination on project development:** Project identification, design and planning oftentimes happens in silos, and lacks collaboration and alignment between line ministries. This also limits the complementarity and coherence of programming processes to drive long-term low-emission and climate-resilient development.
- A lack of understanding on the potential and **development of de-risking tools and methods** through innovative financial instruments and structures exists with many public sector stakeholders, as well as with FI’s and private sector entities.

Needs relating to the objective “Paradigm shifting pipeline development”

- With the NDC implementation plan and the NDC investment strategy, as well as certain sectoral strategies (such as the 2022 Agricultural Transformation and Growth Strategy (ATGS)), as well as

the development of concept notes, the government is already working towards developing a project pipeline in a coordinated manner. Here, **a more centralized project development approach** would be needed to ensure a most efficient use of resources and to avoid duplication of efforts across ministries and departments (and islands).

3.1.4. Information, Data and Knowledge

Relevant data on climate variability and climate change is being collected and housed in various government ministries and agencies. However, this data is not widely accessible to all stakeholders to inform adaptation planning and decision-making. In addition, a lack of human, technical and financial resources have limited the possibility of developing a comprehensive and ongoing system for research and M&E on climate change to provide reliable data for decision-making and to foster experimentation and innovation. At the workshop held with key stakeholders in May 2022, when asked about most important needs in the context of information, data and knowledge, inter alia an improved sharing approach, data repositories, and updated IT equipment was mentioned.

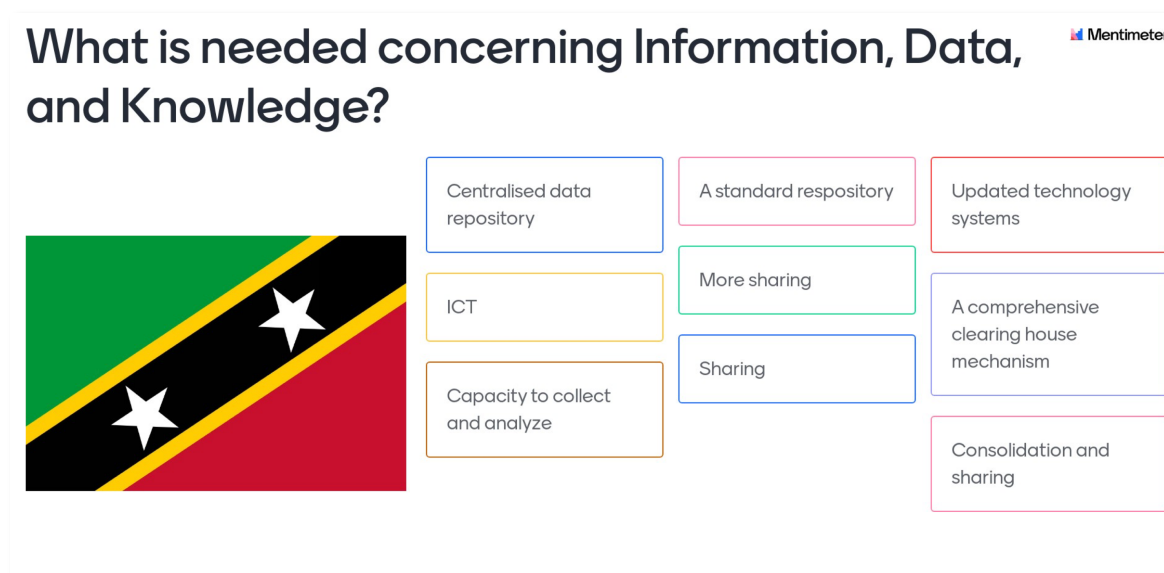


Figure 4: Responses concerning needs for information, data and knowledge

Key needs in the category policy environment are further spelled out below:

Needs relating to the objective "Capacity building"

- **Limited existing cooperation and knowledge-sharing** among national sectoral agencies and administrations.

Needs relating to the objective "Strengthened Adaptation Planning"

- **Limited capacity for interdisciplinary research** to enable in-depth understanding of impacts of climate change that cut across sectors and require integrated approaches for adaptation and building resilience.
- **Lack of baseline data on the status of key areas and sectors**, including biodiversity and ecosystems and resource use and management practices.

- **Assistance is required on environmental statistics**, including the identification of core environmental statistics, compilation of the environmental statistics, and data analysis of environmental statistics.

Needs relating to the objective “Knowledge sharing and learning”

- **Information management systems** for analysing, disaggregating, storing and sharing climate change data and information across sectors and various stakeholders are lacking
- Where data generation is taking place, there is **limited dissemination of this information** within and between sectors.

3.2. Readiness Needs by priority sectors

This section lists needs of key priority sectors, in accordance with the GCF country programme.

3.2.1. Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use (AFOLU)

With the closure of the sugar industry in 2005, SKN has not managed to put the agri-food systems on a sustainable pathway. Today, the agricultural sector only contributes to less than 1% of the GDP. Being already a net importer for agricultural products, food imports steadily increased over the last two decades and account for about 80% of total national food requirements (in 2017). To increase the domestic agricultural production, an enhanced resilience of the sector to climate change is imminent (given the high climate sensitivity of the sector, and the increasing weather extremes and unfavourable climatic conditions. Greater rainfall variability and extremes will impact on water availability for crop and livestock production. This has major impacts on all ecosystems, particularly rainforests, which shelter the headwaters of Saint Kitts and Nevis’ major rivers and serve to recharge the aquifer.

In 2022, based on a broad consultation process, the St Kitts and Nevis ATGS was released. It outlines a broad variety of measures, many of which could be realized with support of climate finance. To access GCF funding, a concept note titled “Enhancing the water security of smallholder farmers against climate risks in St. Kitts and Nevis” is being developed by the NDA with support of CCCCC. This concept note already addresses many barriers, including institutional and regulatory ones.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- In terms of institutional coordination, the Department of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture are not well corresponding.
- There is apparently not one "desk" for agriculture that could actively support accessing funds for the sector.
- There is need for improved information exchange among farmers and technical experts, and limited capacity to support agricultural innovation and product development for small-scale farming. Also, cooperation and harmonization of policies and plans, as well as forward-looking interlinked policy and regulatory approaches are lacking
- A lack of early warning systems, short-term rain forecasts, and access to agricultural insurance to address extreme weather events and related impacts on agriculture.
- Farmers continue to use unsustainable practices that increase vulnerability (e.g. farming on steep hillsides).
- There is a weak farm to market linkage, and growing reliance on imported foods.

- A lack of integrated and coordinated approach (such as “ridge to reef”) and the effective establishment of land-based solutions for prevention and control of pests, diseases, invasive species, soil erosion and downstream pollution.
- Availability of quality data for planning and implementation of agricultural programmes is inadequate. Regarding data, a centralized approach to agricultural and meteorological data would be needed.
- Need for strengthening ecosystems and ecosystem services to naturally regulate climate and water services, generate biodiversity, provide carbon storage, and soil retention.

3.2.2. Integrated Water Resources Management

Freshwater resources in St. Kitts and Nevis are mainly supplied from groundwater aquifers through the St. Kitts Water Services Department and Nevis Water Department respectively, although surface water from springs also comprises a portion of St. Kitts’ supply⁵. In St. Kitts, there is heavy reliance of the Basseterre Valley Aquifer for its piped water supply, which is under pressure from land development and over pumping. In Nevis, piped water supply is exclusively from groundwater, which consists of three shallow coastal aquifers and two deep aquifers drilled under a private-public partnership to secure additional supplies. Climate change will impact on the availability and quality of freshwater resources in several ways. Erratic rainfall and drought could compromise aquifer recharge and reduce the potential for rainwater harvesting as an alternative supply. Nevis already experiences lower levels of rainfall and recharge than St. Kitts due to its geographic location. Sea level rise also poses a risk to aquifers due to saltwater intrusion. Extreme weather, such as floods, hurricanes and storm surge, could also damage water infrastructure, disrupt power supplies for pumping of groundwater and impact on sewerage and solid waste management resulting in water contamination.

To access GCF funding, a concept note titled “Transitioning to a low carbon, climate resilient development pathway in the Water Supply Sector in St. Kitts and Nevis (SKN TransWater Project)” is being developed by the NDA with support of CCCCC. This concept note already addresses many barriers, including institutional and regulatory ones. It aims to advance adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development to exploit synergies and reduce trade-offs among these actions. Adaptation will be facilitated through catalysing demand side management to respond to climate change by reducing per capita water consumption and/or increasing water use efficiency. Also, supply side management shall be boosted to respond to climate change by expanding water supply, reducing water losses and improving cooperation on shared water resources. Mitigation will be pursued through changing water production processes/ techniques/operations to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions per unit of water output produced. Sustainable development will be advanced through addressing gaps in the enabling environment for adaptation and mitigation at fiscal, institutional, regulatory, community and household levels. The project seeks some USD 37.7 million funding from the GCF in grants, and foresees USD 4.5 million in co-financing from the government. Hence, any future Readiness activity addressing matters of water resources management would need to be aligned with the concept note, the respective funding proposal and the eventual GCF project.

⁵ There are plans to construct desalination plants in St. Kitts and Nevis with sponsorship from United Arab Emirates which is forthcoming but not yet established. Additionally, there are plans to establish additional desalination plants as part of a water-related CN.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- Limited coordination between Water Departments and agencies responsible for physical planning in terms of land use and zoning to protect freshwater resources and enable future drilling and development of deep-water wells.
- Legislation, regulations, and policies related to water resources management, such as the Water Courses and Water Works Ordinance of 1956, are outdated or lacking.
- Demand for water is expected to increase significantly, especially in the agricultural and tourism sectors where water use could double over the next ten years, and there is need for greater investment in water conservation and demand side management. There is already a shortfall between water supply and demand in St. Kitts, resulting rationing and the need for new hotel developments to utilise desalination plants which raises their operation costs.
- Pumping operations for groundwater aquifers in St. Kitts and Nevis are heavily reliant on a reliable power supply and highly vulnerable to disruptions due to extreme weather events, such as hurricanes and storms.
- Non-revenue water, which is estimated at 53% in St. Kitts and 30% in Nevis, remains an issue due to leakages, billing and metering errors and unauthorised uses.
- There is no central sewage system for St. Kitts and Nevis, and approximately 6% of the population uses pit latrines and has poor access to toilet facilities, exacerbating the risk of water contamination and spread of water-borne diseases.

3.2.3. Climate Change and Health

The impacts of climate change on human health are well-documented and could pose significant threats to the residents of St Kitts and Nevis in the form of water-borne, vector-borne, and communicable diseases, as well as through ramifications in nutritional supply.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- Lack of qualified public health professionals to support disease prevention and treatment.
- Lack of research and monitoring to enhance understanding of the linkages between disease and climate change and potential vulnerabilities. This also includes a lack of research and monitoring of the effects of newly emerging diseases on the population, such as chikungunya and zika.
- An important topic are climate proof health facilities, on which regional work is ongoing with the Pan American Health Organization already - this could be further assessed for SKN
- Lack of a central sewage system in SKN. With 6% of the national population using pit latrines and having no access to toilet facilities, the risk of water contamination and water borne disease. proliferation is exacerbated.
- Lack of understanding of the potential clean energy can play for the health infrastructure.
- A lack of epidemiological capacity (disaster & emergency management as well as water borne vectors).
- Lack of knowledge transfer between key stakeholders.
- Awareness and sensitization of the general public (education) on issues relating to hygiene and the use of water and waste is key.

3.2.4. Coastal and Marine Ecosystems

Coastal and marine ecosystems in St. Kitts and Nevis are key for sustainable development, especially within the tourism and fisheries sectors. Despite its small shelf area, St. Kitts and Nevis boasts a representative cross-section of Caribbean marine life, including endangered corals, marine mammals, fish species, and sea turtles. Climate change will pose a significant risk to coastal and marine ecosystems due to sea level rise; extreme weather and storm surges; increased sea surface temperatures resulting in coral bleaching; ocean acidification; and sargassum influx. These changes will also impact on ecosystem services such as coastal protection. Vulnerable and endangered coastal and marine species, including those endemic to St. Kitts and Nevis, may also be at risk due to impacts on population size and distribution and habitat availability. These climate change impacts will compound existing threats from coastal development, pollution, habitat loss and degradation, and invasive species.

As a response to the climate impacts, St. Kitts and Nevis has embarked on an ecosystem-based approach to enhance the management of coastal and marine areas. Focus areas are, first, aquacultures to cultivate freshwater and saltwater populations (e.g. fishes shrimps and oysters) under controlled conditions for enhancing productivity and release pressure on natural marine resources. Second, Marine Management Areas which are specific geographical areas whose resources and their use are administered/regulated in a structured manner to allow for sustainable development, protection, and conservation. Third, St. Kitts and Nevis fosters the use of fish aggregation devices, man-made objects that naturally attract fishes and other species. In St. Kitts and Nevis where large parts of incomes are rooted in the blue economy, such aspects are important components of a comprehensive ocean governance framework that the country and its ecosystems is highly in need.

The elaboration of a GCF concept note on coastal protection and blue economy was initiated by the NDA and CDB in July 2022. While the scope of the concept is under development, a close alignment of any future Readiness activities with the contents of the concept / funding proposal / project must be ensured by the NDA.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- Lack of a dedicated management regime to regulate activities and of enforcement of existing legislation and regulations for conservation and environmental management. For instance, regulations for the Marine Resources Act need to be developed.
- Coordination and capacity for coastal zone management is limited among government agencies.
- Need for an integrated and coordinated approach for prevention and control of invasive species and land-based pollution.
- Lack of comprehensive baseline study on coastal zone management
- Data is inadequate to gain a clear understanding of the impacts of climate change and potential adaptation strategies for ocean acidification and recent sargassum influxes.
- Lack of comprehensive monitoring systems of national ecosystems and climate impacts.
- Need for enhanced linkage of data bases with regional platforms, like the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Regional Information System.
- Need for updating the Nevis Development Plan to respond to coastal protection needs.
- Limited investment and capacities exist for development of underutilised fisheries and new and value-added products in small-scale fisheries and increasing reliance on imported fish.
- A lack of awareness of and access to insurance and other disaster risk reduction mechanisms to address the impacts of extreme weather events on small-scale fisheries.

3.2.5. Climate-proofed Tourism

Tourism is an important source of employment and revenue for St. Kitts and Nevis following the closure of the sugar industry in 2005, contributing 25-30% of GDP. This sector is highly vulnerable to climate variability and change. Current and potential climate change impacts include the degradation of natural ecosystems and biodiversity that serve as tourism attractions; reduced water and energy supply due to saltwater intrusion into groundwater and extreme weather such as drought, floods and hurricanes; loss and damage to physical infrastructure due to sea level rise and extreme weather including hurricanes, storms and storm surge; reduced access to high-quality local food due to impacts on agriculture; and threats to human health due to increasing incidence of water-borne and vector-borne diseases. Tourism can be regarded as a cross-cutting sector, which involves matters relating to coastal and environmental protection, urban development, sustainable energy, transportation, as well as waste matters, agriculture and water use.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- There is rapid growth of the tourism sector, and authorities are unable to effectively monitor and enforce legislation, regulations and policies to prevent unregulated development and unsustainable resource use particularly of energy and water resources.
- Legal authority, roles and responsibilities for coastal development are unclear, and in some cases overlapping, among government agencies (e.g. the St. Kitts process should mirror that of Nevis) and this enables unregulated tourism development along coasts.
- While the Tourism Sector Strategy and Action Plan identifies climate change as a risk, no comprehensive assessment of its key impacts and vulnerabilities has been undertaken for the sector.
- There is a disconnect between strategies and plans for development of tourism sector and other sectors, such as agriculture, energy and water, in St. Kitts and Nevis.
- One identified need is the update of the tourism sector strategy with a particular focus on adaptation needs. As the 2023 readiness proposal is addressing vulnerability assessments of sectors, including tourism, this would have to be aligned.
- On climate proof tourism, an awareness raising effort is needed, starting on the school level. The Ministry of Tourism identified internal capacity building needs on monitoring, identifying and evaluating data to identify climate proof tourism.
- Legislative measures for a ban on plastic are needed, which is currently being assessed by the Department of Environment.

3.2.6. Energy

Most of the electricity in St. Kitts and Nevis is generated through diesel power plants (95%), with only 3% coming from wind and 2% from solar power. As a result, the major source of national GHG emissions stems from diesel fuel consumption for electricity generation (60%) followed by the transport sector as the second largest contributor (approx. 30%). The government pledged a reduction of CO₂ emissions of 61% by 2030 (compared to 2010), as part of its revised NDC, which is largely to be achieved by an ambitious transition to 100% renewable energy for power generation. St. Kitts and Nevis intends to expand power generation through renewable sources such as distributed solar (rooftop), utility scale solar, wind, and geothermal. Some efforts are already underway to construct a solar generation and storage system in St. Kitts with the Leclanché Solar Project. The NDC Implementation Plan aims at deploying additional 15 MW of geothermal in St. Kitts and 10 MW in Nevis. Efforts to construct a geothermal plant are already underway in Nevis (first

drilling and pre-feasibility studies) and have not yet begun in St. Kitts. Lastly, technical planning support is needed to deploy 6.6 MW of wind power in St. Kitts. Furthermore, plans for a wind battery storage system and offshore wind in Nevis exist, but need to be further elaborated. In parallel to these electricity generation measures; St. Kitts and Nevis also pledges to reduce electricity demand by 5% across the two islands by 2030. Also, St. Kitts and Nevis' electricity grid has high distribution losses relative to other countries in the region, with some 20% of electricity generated lost. The revised NDC aims to reduce transmission and distribution losses to 10% in St. Kitts and to 6% in Nevis by 2030.

Regarding complementarity and coherence, currently a GEF-7 project is in the approval process, which aims at revising the National Energy Policy (NEP) to create a sufficient policy and regulatory framework for the upscaling of REs in St. Kitts and Nevis. With such a conducive environment established by GEF activities, other funders including the GCF can continue fostering the energy transition by supporting the required investments in the mid- to long-term in St. Kitts and Nevis. GCF resources can address lacking investments to deploy and upscale geothermal⁶, solar, and wind resources. Meanwhile, also the grid infrastructures need to be enhanced for integration of intermittent renewable energy sources and interconnection between the islands. Energy storage facilities will be required to optimise the balancing and dispatching of renewable energy sources, which will also facilitate and accelerate the sector coupling between the electricity and mobility sector related rising electricity demand through envisaged electrification of vehicle fleets.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- Enhancing the enabling policy and regulatory framework is needed, this includes the use and design of tariffs for distribution of Renewable Energy (RE.)
- A regulator for electricity generation is absent.
- Lack of capacities on renewable energies and their opportunities and challenges amongst public sector decision makers, including those working in the energy context. This comprises knowledge on bidding-processes for geothermal energy.
- Lack of grid stability and critical infrastructures that is prepared for increased electricity demand through sector coupling. In this respect, the existing legislation does not account for smaller and larger RE installations, updated with rules as to how companies and Independent Power Producer's (IPP) could connect to the grid.
- Incentives for private sector to investments in RE are missing.
- Lack of understanding about regional support schemes for renewable energy.
- No physical interconnectivity between the two islands as well as between SKN and other Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Caribbean region. Further assessments are needed to identify investment opportunities.
- A study for better understanding the potential of waste to energy for the country is needed.

3.2.7. Transport

To meet the NDC target of 61% reduction of CO₂ emissions by 2030, decarbonizing the transport sector will be key. St. Kitts and Nevis is committed to beginning this transition by increasing the share of electric vehicles to at least 2% of total vehicles by 2030. As outlined in the NDC Implementation Plan, the country intends to

⁶ Under FP020 the GCF supports through the Sustainable Energy Facility for the Eastern Caribbean geothermal deployment in St. Kitts and Nevis. The FP can be accessed here: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp020>

reduce emissions from the transportation sector through vehicle electrification, firstly by articulating a national policy framework to decrease the barriers to Electric Vehicle (EV) penetration, including through the establishment of EV targets and adoption of EV incentives. To meet its NDC target of 2% vehicle electrification, significant investments estimated at over USD 15 million are needed to procure over 600 electric vehicles, electrify the government vehicle fleet, and install the adequate charging infrastructure. GCF resources can support the establishment of a political and regulatory framework and kick start EV deployment through pilot projects in the private vehicle market and in public transport. The GCF country programme (forthcoming in 2022) features an e-mobility project at early idea stage.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- Limited understanding of the impacts and implications of e-mobility on government infrastructure and revenue and to inform policymaking.
- Lack of technical know-how, enabling environment and physical infrastructure to facilitate and manage the electrical fleet.
- Inadequate governmental structure for transport (the current transport department does not have the expertise and mandate to inform matters on climate change).
- Limited climate change standards for infrastructure development and road construction.

3.2.8. Waste Management and Recycling

St. Kitts and Nevis is outpacing its existing landfills and will need some solution to address this issue. Moreover, ecosystems, including mangroves, are being negatively impacted due to improper handling and dumping of industrial waste. As tourism is contributing to SKNs waste challenges (and St. Kitts and Nevis is a net off-taker of waste, e.g. from cruise ships), an enhanced waste management will be important from the perspective of tourism (to ensure the reputation as sustainable destination, and to retain SKN’s attractiveness for visitors). Though, there is no waste management strategy to address waste minimization, reuse, recycling and recovery. The St. Kitts Solid Waste Management Company is exploring a waste to energy facility.

Saint Kitts and Nevis will be participating in the GEF “Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States” (ISLANDS) project – Readiness support measures would need to be aligned with the project once implemented.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- No comprehensive waste management strategy.
- No existing practice of waste minimization, reuse, recycling and recovery.
- Sectoral waste management policies and strategies are needed, including for the tourism and manufacturing sector.
- Lack of knowledge on waste reduction and avoidance.

3.2.9. Urban Resilience

In an already urbanized world, an increasing concentration of people, vital infrastructure and socio-economic vulnerabilities in cities and urban agglomerations underlines the need for an integrated approach towards resilience building.

Following the closure of the sugar cane industry in St. Kitts and Nevis in 2005, also many people on the island moved from rural areas of the country to the main urban area Basseterre, seeking economic opportunities as well as higher standards of living. While Basseterre's geography, environment, and biodiversity, are heavily influenced by both terrestrial and marine ecosystems, development, and population growth outside of the city's traditional limits has put new pressures on these ecosystems (particularly the city's watershed). Enhancing resilience of Basseterre and other urban agglomerations involves understanding, adapting, and responding to shocks and stressors that impact a region's social and ecological systems. For the country's urban areas most significant potential shocks are flooding, strong winds, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions. Chronic stressors include coastal erosion, water scarcity and drought, sea level rise, energy scarcity, pollution, social inequality, and poverty.

In 2022 an Urban Resilience Plan for Greater Basseterre is being developed, aiming to establish an integrated approach to the protection of homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure from environmental hazards and improved urban housing and living conditions for the residents of St. Kitts (and Nevis). As the plan identifies several needs that also can be addressed with GCF Readiness funds, the further implementation of the plan needs alignment with any future Readiness activities.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- A key shortcoming is the absence of an urban resilience development corporation as a statutory body.
- Moreover, an inter-departmental working group is identified that could focus on enabling the transition from plan to implementation.
- Assessments and strategies for approaching the legislative and regulatory changes needed to implement the Urban Resilience Plan, including an upgrade of building codes, may be reflected in the light of GCF readiness.
- Ensuring the greater Basseterre area to become climate resilient will require data, enhanced awareness and institutional coordination.
- Support is furthermore needed for identifying financing models for the implementation of the Urban Resilience Plan (such as tax based models), here feasibility studies are lacking.
- Tools to conserve, protect, and shift to more water efficient systems in urban areas are lacking.
- Road network and other critical facilities lack infrastructure and preparation for flooding, storms and coastal erosion – vulnerability assessments and feasibility studies are needed.

3.2.10. Education

Fostering the transition to a low-carbon economy and climate-resilient development pathway will necessitate vast investments in new technologies, equipment, buildings, and infrastructure, with major implications for the workplace. Education is often overlooked addressing the climate change issue. Currently there is a mismatch between jobs and workforce requirements in St. Kitts and Nevis. With the implementation of new climate change initiatives, the issue of the adequacy of the job market will be exacerbated. Therefore, to prepare for this eventuality, some initiatives must be put in place to promoting the sustainable use of the blue and green economy and associated job creation.

In this context, the strategic approach to mainstream education into GCF funded activities in St. Kitts and Nevis is important. First and foremost, the outlined education reforms are a significant facilitator of paradigm shift potential and the long-term transition of the country to a sustainable society. Second, in terms of a just transition, education can play its role to facilitate the social transition that must go along with the envisaged

economic transition towards a sustainable green and blue economy. Third, educational measures and reforms should be considered when designing the technical assistance components of projects or formulating readiness needs.

Important needs that could be addressed with GCF Readiness funds comprise:

- Lack of a holistic approach to identify the gaps and catalogue the areas of green development and the jobs that will be required to fill the areas.
- A lack of climate mainstreaming in curricula of tertiary level organizations to raise awareness and educate the labour market for future opportunities of working towards enhanced climate resilience.

4. Readiness Action Plan for St. Kitts and Nevis

By mid 2022, 10 GCF Readiness activities have already been approved for St. Kitts and Nevis, of which 6 are regional Readiness programmes encompassing several Caribbean island states. So far, the Readiness activities have supported the country in establishing important procedures, developing the country programme, with the elaboration of concept notes and capacity building of Direct Access Entities. The most recent approved proposal was passed lately in February of 2022 and addresses resilience to extreme weather events, by enhancing the capacity of the St. Kitts and Nevis Meteorological Services (SKNMS), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Nevis Disaster Management Department (NDMD) and St. Kitts and Nevis Geographic Information System (SKNGIS), while also strengthening private sector involvement in climate action.

For developing future Readiness proposals, it will be important to reflect on which measures have been undertaken with GCF RSP funding already, or are approved and to be implemented on a short-term. The GCF country programme for St. Kitts and Nevis, as well as the website of the GCF provide information about all approved Readiness activities⁷. In general, the needs identified above can be addressed with further support of the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme, including for instance:

- Formally enhance a national coordination body for climate change (e.g. NSDCC)
- Strengthen institutional arrangements to inform vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning and decision-making
- Public sector reform: Greening policies in government
- Readiness resources for the NDC implementation Plan
- Conduct baseline and gender studies for relevant sectors to feed the country's, project pipeline
- Development of a database of all ongoing climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and programmes and coordinate all ongoing knowledge sharing approaches
- Enhance the collection, analysis and use of climate change related data and statistics to inform vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning and decision-making
- Enable effective information management and sharing for adaptation planning and implementation.

The sections below describe a long-term *Readiness Action Plan*, grouped as per the GCF Programme categories and per priority sector. A tabular version is presented in Annex IV.

4.1. Readiness Action Plan by category

Subsequently, potential GCF Readiness activities are summarized for the categories *Institutions and Governance*, *Policy Environment*, *Pipeline Development*, as well as *Information, Data and Knowledge*.

4.1.1. Institutions and Governance

Regarding institutions and governance, the following Readiness activities are proposed, structured as per the RSP objectives:

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective "Capacity building"

Enhance central coordination and guidance on climate activities

- Establish the NCCC, in close alignment with the NSDCC and other institutional coordination bodies.

⁷ See <https://www.greenclimate.fund/countries/saint-kitts-nevis> to access all approved Readiness Proposals for St. Kitts and Nevis.

- Reform the NSDCC and ensure its institutional alignment with other coordination bodies, such as the NCCC.
- Offer focused GCF training for the NSDCC membership to ensure its proper functioning in the future.
- Revise the NSDCC's TORs to strengthen operations, e.g. by updating the roles and responsibilities, the membership and setting up a work plan for the NSDCC (in alignment with the recommendations of the Country Coordination Mechanism Report provided to the NDA in 2022).
- Improve the institutional coordination with the private sector when it comes to investment opportunities in climate friendly project / access to international climate finance (e.g. by reforming the NSDCC).

Enhance engagement of civil society and the private sector in climate action.

- Foster institutional coordination of civil society and the private sector when it comes to investment opportunities in climate friendly projects / access to international climate finance, e.g. by engaging those groups stronger with the NSDCC, and potentially setting up a civil society / private sector working group.
- Offer training for civil society and private sector stakeholders for enhancing understanding about opportunities of engaging in climate action, and the benefits of climate finance.
- Enhance knowledge, data collection and storage, in a coordinated approach of SKNMS, NEMA, NDMD and SKGIS.

Address NDA training needs and capacity constraints

- Assess training needs and design / offer specific training measures for NDA staff on climate finance matters
- Establish a climate finance coordination support unit to relief the NDA and equip with sufficient local staff.
- Address training needs particularly for actions such as vulnerability assessments, ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and climate finance.

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective "Strengthened Adaptation Planning"

Enhance understanding on climate matters amongst public sector entities

- Consider measures to reduce staff turnover.
- Strengthen plans and operational frameworks for promoting the integration of climate change considerations in SKNMS, NEMA, NDMD and SKGIS management processes.

Enhance integration of climate resilience and vulnerability decision making

- Strengthen technological capacities of relevant institutions, e.g. enhancing the institutional framework and information technology infrastructure and developing early warning systems in collaboration with NEMA and NDMD and other national and regional agencies.
- Engage civil society and private sector in planning processes for climate action in order to allow those actors to bring in their perspective into decision making.

4.1.2. Policy Environment

With respect to the policy environment, the following Readiness activities are proposed, structured as per the RSP objectives:

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Capacity building”

- Ensure enforcement of climate policies and strategies by creating the required regulatory and institutional enabling framework (if needed with support from climate finance sources such as GCF readiness funding).
- Ensure institutional coordination on the existing access to climate finance – a central committee such as the NSDCC could bring key actors together to align and plan their activities.
- Further enhance the use of PPP’s for realizing investments in climate-friendly infrastructure, in an inclusive and transparent manner, ideally involving local businesses.
- Support the establishment of a national or regional credit bureau.

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Strategic frameworks for low-emission investment”

- Assess policy incentives needed to improve the enabling environment for climate investments, inter alia by strengthening environmental and social standards (also to comply with requirements of climate funds), or introducing economic instruments such as carbon taxes, feed-in tariffs, or concessional finance instruments for de-risking.
- Setting up a long-term climate finance strategy that responds to the needs outlined in the NDC implementation plan, the GCF country programme and the Long-term Readiness-Needs-Assessment and reflects collaboration with the private sector.
- Ensure local FI’s are positioned to access international climate finance and are integrated in effective coordination with public sector entities.
- Ensure a comprehensive long-term alignment of the national development agenda with climate matters, for instance through the NDPF.
- Also, based on the findings of the mapping and MRV exercises, establish a mechanism for streamlined UNFCCC reporting. This will help the government in keeping an overview of planned climate finance spending, needs and respective funding gaps.

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Strengthened Adaptation Planning”

- Develop a National Adaptation Plan (or sectoral NAPs) including a (sectoral) financing strategy. This can be done in alignment with the results of the on-going MRV and climate finance mapping consultancies (commissioned by CDB as delivery partner, executed by Baastel and CCCCC, respectively).
- Conduct further systematic vulnerability assessments and research into climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and potential measures for adaptation and building resilience to inform sectoral policies and plans and specify funding needs.

4.1.3. Pipeline Development

With respect to the pipeline development, the following Readiness activities are proposed, structured as per the RSP objectives:

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Paradigm shifting pipeline development”

- Optimize the coordination of project development (i.e. project identification, design and planning) regarding the collaboration and alignment between line ministries.
- Enhance the understanding of bankable project design requirements: Engage public and private sector representatives in project design training, and on identification and development of suitable de-risking methodologies to attract investment in priority sectors. Also engage DAE candidate entities in this process, as those can either support the training process or benefit from receiving such trainings.
- Strengthen complementarity and coherence of climate projects and investments through different financial streams, e.g. by enhanced institutional coordination (see above), applying climate finance mapping tools and UNFCCC reporting approaches. Make this an effort of national relevance.

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Paradigm shifting pipeline development”

- Assess barriers to accessing scaled-up finance across priority sectors to identify customized approaches for overcoming such barriers.
- Ensure a more centralized project development approach is put forward to ensure a most efficient use of resources and to avoid duplication of efforts across ministries and departments (and islands).
- Continue Concept Note Development / implement Country Programme.

4.1.4. Information, Data and Knowledge

With respect to the category information, data and knowledge, the following Readiness activities are proposed, structured as per the RSP objectives:

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Capacity building”

- Enhance cooperation and knowledge-sharing among national sectoral agencies and administrations.

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Strengthened Adaptation Planning”

- Increase capacities for interdisciplinary research to enable in-depth understanding of impacts of climate change that cut across sectors and require integrated approaches for adaptation and building resilience.
- Elaborate baseline data on the status of key areas and sectors, including biodiversity and ecosystems and resource use and management practices.
- Support the identification, compilation, and data analysis of environmental statistics. The Central Statistics Office could be strengthened to produce more economic and social statistics that will impact development in the country.

Proposed Readiness Activities relating to the objective “Knowledge sharing and learning”

- Set-up information management systems (including cloud-solutions) for analysing, disaggregating, storing and sharing climate change data and information across sectors and various stakeholders.
- Enhance dissemination of data within and between sectors.

4.2. Readiness Action Plan by priority sectors

This section responds to identified needs in key priority sectors and outlines potential GCF Readiness Action.

4.2.1. Agriculture, Forestry and Land Use (AFOLU)

The AFOLU sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below. Any activity should check the exact scope of the GCF concept note “Enhancing the water security of smallholder farmers against climate risks in St. Kitts and Nevis”, which is being developed in 2022 and converted into a full funding proposal in 2023, potentially. Moreover, any Readiness activities must be aligned with the most recent version of the ATGS sector strategy.

GCF Results Areas

- Health, food and water security
- Livelihoods and people and communities
- Forests and land use

Proposed Readiness Activities for the AFOLU sector

- A forum for institutional coordination of sector matters amongst key stakeholders could be beneficial, for instance as sub-group of the National Sustainable Development Coordination Committee (NSDCC).
- Foster the development of a coordination unit that assists in implementing the ATGS and accessing funds for the sector in this respect.
- Increase the capacity for risk assessment and improve access to finance and insurance for farmers and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) in the agri-food sector for the implementation of climate-resilience measures, for instance through capacity building programmes and awareness raising campaigns.
- Mainstream climate change and disaster risk management considerations into legislation, regulations, policies and plans for the agricultural sector and incentivising the private sector to foster transformation.
- Building on the ATGS, assess systematically the key climate change impacts and vulnerabilities and specific adaptation measures for the agricultural sector.
- Improve climate information services and response mechanisms for climate risk and disaster management in small-scale farming, including the establishment of an agriculture research for development system.
- Promote climate smart practices and technologies in agriculture and agroforestry through investments in capacity building, strengthening science and implementation of innovative practices.
- Invest in digital innovations and human capacity development to strengthen agricultural and household data collection, analysis and management for evidence-based planning and decision-making.
- Establish a soil data and information system and promote sound soil management practices.
- Promote low-cost, energy efficient on-farm and market floor food storage units to reduce food loss, waste and environmental pollution.

4.2.2. Integrated Water Resources Management

The water sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below. Any activity should check the exact scope of the GCF concept note “Transitioning to a low carbon, climate resilient development pathway in the Water Supply Sector in St. Kitts and Nevis (SKN TransWater Project)”, which is being developed in 2022 and converted into a full funding proposal in 2023, potentially.

GCF Results Areas

- Health, food and water security
- Ecosystems and ecosystems services

Proposed Readiness Activities for the water sector

- Strengthen legislation and institutions to govern the sustainable use of water.
- Resources and address possible conflicts and gaps, including revision of the Water Resources Act and establishment of a new Water Resources Agency.
- Promote integrated water resources management through policies and programmes for water security, including development of a Watershed Policy and Integrated Water Resources Management Policy that consider climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
- Enable private sector and community participation in integrated water resources management, including enhanced use of water conservation technologies, use of storage tanks, rainwater harvesting and recycling of grey water for demand side management. Also, close gaps in the regulatory framework that is creating an environment for private sector engagement in the water resource management that serves to the benefit of the population.
- Protect catchments and freshwater resources from pollution, including through suitable watershed, wastewater and solid waste management strategies, in close collaboration with the agricultural and tourism sectors.
- Reduce the vulnerability of the water supply system through climate-proofing water storage, supply and distribution infrastructure.
- Promote increased energy efficiency and use of renewable energy technologies, which are affordable, reliable and environmentally friendly, to provide a decentralised and secure energy supply for water supply and distribution.

4.2.3. Climate Change and Health

The health sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below.

GCF Results Areas

- Health, food and water security
- Ecosystems and ecosystems services

Proposed Readiness Activities for the health sector

- Systematically assess the key climate change impacts, vulnerabilities, and specific adaptation measures for the health sector.
- Develop and implement an early warning system and response mechanisms focused on disease Prevention.

- Build the capacity of government officers and service providers involved in public health to support disease prevention and response.
- Integrate Civil Societies (CSO) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) in discussions and the implementation of activities. E.g. facilitate Public-Private-Partnerships to enhance reach and impact and develop short Memorandum of Understandings between relevant institutions.
- Assess the potential of clean energy can for the health infrastructure, e.g sustainable cooling.
- Enhancing epidemiological capacity through better health surveillance (disaster & emergency management as well as water borne vectors).
- Enhance knowledge transfer between key stakeholders.
- Foster awareness and sensitization of the general public (education) on issues relating to hygiene and the use of water and waste.

4.2.4. Coastal and Marine Ecosystems

Coastal and marine ecosystems can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below. As a GCF concept note on coastal protection and blue economy is under development in 2022, the NDA must ensure to align any future Readiness activities closely with the contents of the concept / funding proposal / project.

GCF Results Areas

- Ecosystems and ecosystem services
- Livelihoods and people and communities
- Health, food and water security

Proposed Readiness Activities for coastal and marine ecosystems

- Strengthen institutions for coastal and marine conservation and management through alignment of BLUE and GREEN economy-based entities at the ministerial and department level and the provision of shared resources. That includes integrating climate change, ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction considerations into legislation, regulations and policies, in alignment with the Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Resources Act 2016 and the St. Kitts and Nevis Marine Management Area Management Plan (SKNMMA).
- Design and establish a dedicated Coastal Zone Management Unit (CZMU) and a Protected Areas Systems Unit within the Department of Environment.
- Build the capacity of resource managers to ensure effective and participatory planning and management of coastal and marine resources, including in protected areas and management areas.
- Establish a comprehensive system of coastal and marine management areas based on the Protected Area (PA) System Plan and the sustainable financing component of the SKNMMA Management Plan.
- Conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify the key climate change impacts and vulnerabilities and specific adaptation measures for fisheries and marine resources and related livelihoods.
- Develop a baseline study on coastal zone management that would build on existing projects such as the project to protect Bay Road from Port Zante to Fortlands, the plans to expand Port Zante to the east, and existing flood risk modelling. The study would also examine institutional roles in coastal zone management and make recommendations for balancing coastal development and ecological conservation.

- Expand research and monitoring of coastal and marine ecosystems to better understand climate change vulnerabilities and potential adaptation options. Also, standardize methods of data collection and database management as well as increase the number of capacity and training fisheries.
- Improve fisheries extension services and technical support for enterprise and product development and disaster risk reduction mechanisms in small-scale fisheries, including insurance.
- Enhance research, data management and monitoring in terms of (i) data collection management systems to include ecosystem services outputs (ii) implementation/funding for conservation policies, plans, and legislation (MMA Regulations, ridge to reef' and watershed management, ecosystem approach to fisheries and marine spatial planning), (iii) ecosystem-based research (i.e. on disease prevention, control, reporting, ecosystem health monitoring, Invasive Alien Species), (iv) Habitat Monitoring Plan and Framework development. Also link data bases with regional platforms, like the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Regional Information System.
- Manage coastal and marine ecosystems, and relevant species, to reduce non-climate threats that weaken their resilience, including through reducing environmental degradation, unsustainable resource use and the spread of invasive species such as Lionfish (*Pterois* spp.) or Halophila Stipulacea.
- Update the Nevis Development Plan to respond to coastal protection needs.
- Raise awareness of and access to insurance and other disaster risk reduction mechanisms to address the impacts of extreme weather events on small-scale fisheries.

4.2.5. Climate-proofed Tourism

The tourism sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below.

GCF Results Areas

- Livelihoods of people and communities
- Infrastructure and built environment
- Ecosystems and ecosystem services

Proposed Readiness Activities for the tourism sector

- Authorities require training and support in effectively monitoring and enforcing legislation, regulations and policies to prevent unregulated development and unsustainable resource use particularly of energy and water resources.
- Clarity on legal authority, roles and responsibilities for coastal development must be enhanced, and tuned for both islands. This could mitigate unregulated tourism development along coasts.
- The St. Kitts and Nevis sustainable destination council, an inter-sectoral stakeholder roundtable, would need to ensure to be up to date on climate finance opportunities and potential support opportunities through GCF Readiness funding.
- Ensuring coordination between strategies and plans for development of tourism sector and other sectors, such as agriculture, energy and water, in St. Kitts and Nevis is core. Here the Sustainable Destination Council could play an important role.
- Revise legislation, regulations and policies concerning tourism development to address conflicts and pursue incentives regarding climate change.
- Conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify the key climate change impacts and vulnerabilities and specific adaptation measures for the tourism sector.

- Mainstream climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction considerations into policies, plans and programmes for planning and development of the tourism sector, including the St. Kitts Tourism Sector Strategy and Action Plan and draft Nevis Tourism Strategy. Should a readiness proposal (2023 or later) address vulnerability assessments of sectors, including tourism, this would have to be aligned.
- Revise and enforce building codes and standards, such as coastal setbacks, to climate proof any new tourism related infrastructure including through ecosystem-based solutions that maintain natural defences against coastal erosion, flooding, drought and heat stress.
- Explore linkages with other sectors to diversify and expand the sustainable tourism product, including agro-tourism, eco-tourism and heritage tourism, and target other source markets beyond the United States and Europe.
- Any negative climate impacts on marine and coastal environment must be minimized from the perspective of the tourism industry.
- As tourism is contributing to SKNs waste challenges (and SKN is a net off-taker of waste, e.g. from cruise ships), an enhanced waste management will be important from the perspective of tourism (to ensure the reputation as sustainable destination, and to retain SKN’s attractiveness for visitors). Hence, any potential for supporting waste management in SKN with GCF Readiness funding is regarded highly relevant.
- Identify and develop innovative, market-based incentives to promote sustainable tourism.
- Enhance awareness raising on climate resilience matters and the role of sustainable tourism, starting from school levels.

4.2.6. Energy

The energy sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below. Any future Readiness activities need to be tuned with the activities planned and implemented under GEF-7 regarding the decarbonization of the energy sector.

GCF Results Areas

- Energy generation and access
- Buildings, cities, industries, and appliance

Proposed Readiness Activities for the energy sector

- Enhancing the enabling policy and regulatory framework, including the use and design of tariffs for distribution of RE. In particular, update the 2014 National Energy Policy to develop the needed policy and regulatory framework (This will be undertaken through GEF-7 CEO Endorsement Document [10856]).
- Capacitating public sector decision makers, including those working in the energy context, on renewable energies and their opportunities and challenges. This comprises knowledge on bidding-processes for geothermal energy. Relate to capacity needs assessments of the energy unit, which may inform future readiness formulation.
- The understanding about regional support schemes for renewable energy should be enhanced through trainings and regional collaboration, such as conferences.
- Supporting the installation of a regulator for electricity generation by developing terms of reference and offering trainings.

- Assess which incentives are missing for private sector to investments in RE. Here a study on how to involve the private sector (and how to dispatch solar energy from IPPs to the grid) would be needed.
- Enhance grid stability and critical electricity infrastructure to become ready for increased electricity demand through sector coupling. In this respect, the existing legislation does not account for smaller and larger RE installations, updated with rules as to how companies and IPP’s could connect to the grid (requires a grid code).
- Allow grid connectivity across the two islands as well as electricity interconnectivity across other island states in the region. Here, further assessments should be supported to identify investment opportunities.
- A study for better understanding the potential of waste to energy for the country should be initiated, in close collaboration with St. Kitts Solid Waste Management Corporation (SKWMC).

4.2.7. Transport

The transport sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below.

GCF Results Areas

- Transport
- Infrastructure and built environment

Proposed Readiness Activities for the transport sector

- Develop the institutional and operational mechanisms to improve the Department’s ability to advise and manage the sector.
- Articulation of a national policy framework for electric vehicles.
- Supporting procurement efforts for electric vehicles and installation of charging infrastructure, including for government fleet. Readiness could support baseline studies, impact studies feasibility studies of e-mobility in the country and offer awareness raising.
- Elaborate an GCF concept note on promoting sustainable means of transportation by facilitating the uptake of the electric vehicle market in St. Kitts and Nevis and enhancing the public transport system by creating an e-mobility conducive ecosystem, as outlined in the GCF country programme.
- Training of governmental agents to service and maintain the fleet.

4.2.8. Waste Management and Recycling

The waste management sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below.

GCF Results Areas

- Ecosystems and ecosystems services
- Forests and land use
- Building, cities, industries, and appliances

Proposed Readiness Activities for the waste management sector

- Elaborate a comprehensive waste management strategy, that addresses household waste management (grey and blackwater and/or management of liquid waste particularly in the urban areas), latrine management/aerobic tank septic tanks/communal tanks as well as the tourism sector and environmental impact management (including mangrove restoration).
- A dedicated emissions/waste management policy for key sectors such as tourism and manufacturing should be elaborated, which includes incentives for greening businesses and/or adopting green technologies etc.
- Baseline studies and feasibility studies for addressing waste challenges and for waste to energy solutions must be undertaken in close collaboration with the SKWMC.
- Where needed waste monitoring systems should be designed and put in place.
- Participate in the GEF Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) project.
- To foster practice of waste minimization, reuse, recycling and recovery, guidelines should be developed. A more aggressive education and awareness raising campaign on waste reduction and avoidance must be put forward.

4.2.9. Urban Resilience

The urban sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below. Any activity must be aligned with the Urban Resilience Plan (URP) of 2022.

GCF Results Areas

- Buildings, cities, industries, and appliances
- Ecosystems and ecosystems services
- Livelihoods of people and communities

Proposed Readiness Activities for the urban sector

- Set up an urban resilience development corporation as a statutory body to enhance coordination and management of urban resilience matters. This must be tuned with the existing Urban Development Unit of the Ministry of Sustainable Development.
- Install an inter-departmental working group to focus on enabling the transition of the URP from plan to implementation. The existing (though informal) working group on urban resilience (coordinated by the Urban Development Unit) could serve as a starting point in this respect.
- Develop and implement an urban heat response plan including urban greening measures.
- Assessments and strategies for approaching the legislative and regulatory changes needed to implement the Urban Resilience Plan, including an upgrade of building codes, must be undertaken and put forward.
- Identify financing models for the implementation of the Urban Resilience Plan (such as tax based models), here feasibility studies could benefit from GCF Readiness funding.
- Tools to conserve, protect, and shift to more water efficient systems in urban areas need to be developed.
- Create linkages to other priority sectors for shifting away from fossil fuels towards renewable energy and balancing efficiencies in water consumption with new water supplies.
- Catalyze investment and transform public space in downtown Basseterre by supporting ongoing initiatives.

- Monitor and report on progress towards achieving the URP vision by implementing the action plan of the Urban Resilience Plan for Greater Basseterre
- Vulnerability assessments and feasibility studies are to be undertaken regarding the infrastructure of road network and other critical facilities for flooding, storms and coastal erosion.

4.2.10. Education

The education sector can benefit from GCF Readiness funding inter alia for the actions proposed below.

Proposed Readiness Activities for the education sector

- Develop an employment masterplan which will identify the gaps and catalogue the areas of green development and the jobs that will be required to fill the areas. For example, jobs in areas such as electricity generation, forest management, waste management, transportation, agriculture, coastal management and marine resources (blue economy).
- Curriculum reform at the tertiary level organizations – foster the amalgamation and curricula of Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC), Advanced Vocational Education Centre (AVEC) and Youth Skills to support the acquisition of green job certifications in such areas as mechanics, construction, architecture etc.
- Upgrading current Education Sector Plan (ESP) which is outdated and does not speak to climate resilient education.
- Such reforms could include partnerships with Civil Society Organizations to support and supplement awareness building, internship experience, training and capacity development.

Annex I: List of consultations

The consultations held with stakeholders are presented below:

Table 1: List of stakeholder meetings

No	Meeting with	Date	Venue	Scope
1	Mr. Auren Manners, Teslyn Morris, Thelma Richard – Dept. of Economic Affairs & PSIP (NDA), with larger group of participants from Dept. of Environment, Statistics, etc.	25.04.22	virtual	Discussion of short term readiness needs
2	Mrs. Janet Harris, Chief Executive Officer, St. Kitts Cooperative Credit Union	04.05.22	virtual	Discussion of barriers and investment needs for sector
3	Meeting with Mr. Ivan Hanley, St. Kitts Solid Waste Management Company	10.05.22	virtual	Discussion of barriers and investment needs for sector
4	Meeting with Ms. Dianille Taylor-Williams, Ministry of Tourism	11.05.22	virtual	Discussion of barriers and investment needs for sector
5	Meeting with Mr. Michel Frojmovic, Urban Resilience Plan Consultant and Jessica Ferdinand-Phipps, Local Consultant	15.05.22	Marriot St. Kitts	Discussion on barriers and needs relating to Urban Resilience Planning in SKN
6	Mr. Clement Jomo Williams (virtual), General Manager, St Kitts Electricity Co (SKELEC) and Mr. Bertill Browne, Energy Unit	16.05.22	Energy Unit	Discussion on energy vulnerability, mitigation and adaptation needs and gaps, funding priorities
7	Ms. Chantal Hanley, Assistant Water Engineer & Mr. Shawn Greenaway, Inspector of Quality, Water Services Department (WSD)	16.05.22	Water Services Department	Discussion on water vulnerability, adaptation needs and gaps, funding priorities and readiness needs
8	Ms. June Hughes, Ms. Cheryl Jeffers, Director/ Conservation Officer II, Department of Environment	16.05.22	Parliamentary Lounge, Government Headquarters	Discussion of country programme & concept notes, NDC implementation plan and potential readiness needs
9	Meeting with designated representatives for Mrs. Hilary Hazel, Financial Secretary and Ms. Lavern Queeley, Senior Director Budget (former Senior Director in Dep't of Economic Affairs & PSIP and GCF Focal Point)	17.05.22	Ministry of Finance Meeting Room	Discuss country priorities for climate change related projects and programmes and funding options for implementation.
10	Meeting with private sector representatives - Chamber of Industry & Commerce (CIC)	17.05.22	CIC Headquarters	Discussion on CIC role, barriers and opportunities in the climate finance landscape of SKN and potential readiness needs for the private sector

11	Mrs. Oureika Lennon-Petty, Planning Officer, Ms. Ophelia Blanchard, Planning Officer, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)	17.05.22	NEMA Building	Discussion on disaster vulnerability, adaptation needs and gaps, funding priorities
12	Joint meeting with Nevis representatives: Mr. Colin Dore, PS, Finance; Mr. Ernie Stapleton, PS Communications & Works; Ms. Joyce Moven, Coordinator, Sustainable Development Unit, Representative of NEVLEC and other line ministries.	18.05.22	Disaster Management Conference Room	Discussion of barriers and investment needs for Nevis
13	Country Programme Validation Workshop (see list of attendees in Annex 2)	19.05.22	Marriott Conference Room	Engaging with a broad group of stakeholders to discuss the country programme to ensure inclusivity and country ownership, including investment needs, barriers and readiness needs
14	Stakeholder Workshop – Water Concept Note (facilitated by Ms. Roché Mahon)	20.05.22	virtual	Discussion on country priorities for the water sector and reflect GCF concept note for the water sector, discuss potential readiness needs
18	Ms. Dianille Taylor-Morton (MoTourism/Transport)	16.06.22	virtual	Discussion on Readiness Needs with experts from the transport sector
21	Mr. Joseph Williams (CDB)	16.06.22	virtual	Discussion on Readiness Needs with experts from CDB, the Department of Environment, the energy unit and NDA on energy
17	Ms. Sharon Jones (IICA), Mrs. Teslyn Morris (NDA), Ms. Aisha Howell (MoAgriculture), Mr. Andrew Satney (local consultant)	17.06.22	virtual	Discussion on Readiness Needs with experts from the agriculture sector
20	Mr. Donnell Cain (CCCCC) and Ahnivar Peralta (GCCA+)	20.06.22	virtual	Discussion on Readiness Needs with experts from CCCCC and GCCA+
19	Ms. Amicia Mussenden, Mr. Fitzroy Edinborough, (ICT Department)	21. Jun	virtual	Discussion on Readiness Needs with experts on ICT

Annex II: Validation Workshop List of Participants

List of stakeholders participating in the validation workshop

Table 2: List of participants

No	Name	Agency represented	Email
1	Kistian Flemming	CARDI	kflemming@cardi.org
2	Tracey Recinos Hanson	Caribbean Community Climate Change Center	thanson@caribbeanclimate.bz
3	Ansel Dubon	Caribbean Community Climate Change Center	adubon@caribbeanclimate.bz
4	Andrew Satney	Caribbean Community Climate Change Center/National Designated Authority	a_satney@yahoo.com
5	Leighton Naraine	Clarence Fitzroy Bryant college	Leighton.naraine@CFBC.edu.kn
6	Tracey Challenger	Department of Agriculture	tchallengerwe@gmail.com
7	Elizabeth Bass-Nisbett	Department of Economic Affairs and PSIP/NDA	bettbo@msn.com
8	Maritza Queeley	Department of Marine Resources	maritzaqueele@gmail.com
9	Amicia Mussenden	ICT Department	amicia.mussenden@gov.kn
10	Sharon Jones	IICA	Sharon.jones@iica.int
11	Nikkita Browne	IUCN-GEF Project	nikkita.browne@iucn.org
12	Mark Pennyfeather	Mac pennies LTD	mark@macpennies.com
13	Aisha Howell	Ministry of Agriculture	aisha.howell@gov.kn
14	Samantha Boone	Ministry of Tourism and Transport	Samanthaboone.sktourism@gmail.com
15	Oureika Lennon-Petty	NEMA	oureika.lennon-petty@gov.kn
16	Abdias Samual	NEMA	Abdias.Samuel@gov.kn
17	Ophelia Blanchard	NEMA	ophelia.blanchard@gov.kn
18	Joyce Moven	NIA	joyce.moven@niagov.com
19	Cuthbert John	P.B.M. Caribbean	cuthbertjohn@pbmcaribbean.com
20	Jonathan Kelly	SKELEC	jkelly@SKELEC.kn
21	Azilla Clarke	Social Development and Gender	Azillaclarke.govkn@gmail.com
22	Ivan Hanley	Solid Waste Management Cooperation	ivanhanleyjr@gmail.com
23	Navinjendra Persaud	St. Kitts Cooperative Credit Union	NPersaud@skccu.com
24	Jinelle James	St. Kitts Cooperative Credit Union	JJames@skccu.com
25	Stanley Jacobs	St. Kitts Investment Promotion unit	promo@investstkitts.kn
26	Cosbert Woods	UNRCO	Cosbert.woods@un.org
27	Montraville Pemberton	Water Department	Projectpride21@gmail.com
28	Chantal Hanley	Water Department	Chantal.hanley@gov.kn

No	Name	Agency represented	Email
29	Mr. Elmo Burke	St. Kitts Meteorological Service	elmo.burke@scaspa.com
30	Floyd Robinson	IWRM	Floyd.robinson@niagov.com
31	Therez Versailles	Ministry of Tourism	Therez.Versailles@gov.kn
32	Karen Douglas	Department of Economic Affairs and PSIP/NDA	Karen.douglas@gov.kn
33	Kimone Moving-Pinney	Nevis Investment Promotion Agency	kmoving@nevisipa.org
34	Jessica Ferdinand-Phipps	Local Consultant to the NDA	jpferdinand@hotmail.com
35	Janelle Mills	St. Kitts Investment Promotion unit	promo@investstkitts.kn
36	Miranda Herbert	First Federal Credit Union	Miranda.herbert@firstfederalcreditunion.com

Annex III: Validation Workshop Programme

The workshop was held from 10-12 am on 13 September 2022 as virtual format through MS TEAMS. The invitation link was shared with the participants beforehand through the NDA of St. Kitts and Nevis. The agenda contained the following items:

- Welcome & Overview/Description of Consultancy - Mr. Andrew Satney
- Introduction of Consultant - Mr. Andrew Satney
- Presentation by Consultant & interactive polling - Mr. Bjoern Dransfeld
- Discussion (Q and A)
- Closing remarks - Mr. Andrew Satney/5Cs

Annex IV: Long-term Readiness Action Plan Matrix

This matrix summarizes identified activities to address needs in the context of accessing climate finance in SKN. The matrix is clustered as per the objectives and scope of the GCF Readiness and Preparatory support programme (which will make it easier to attribute activities when designing Readiness proposals). Proposed action is further broken down to specific activities. The column “next steps” indicates what the NDA should undertake to initiate the activities, while the timeline section refers to the priority of such measures / proposes when to become active. The NDA should reflect whether certain activities can still be addressed by already approved and on-going Readiness projects (such as measures for engaging with the private sector, that can be covered by the 2022 Readiness proposal with CCCCC). Otherwise, the matrix indicates whether the activities should be included in the Readiness Proposals of 2023, 2024 or 2025. The column “category” refers to the categories used in section 4.1, so that the reader can reference the proposed activities.

How to use? => As a first step, it is recommended that the NDA checks how activities labelled with a timeline 2022/2023 can be processed. This should happen as soon as possible in late 2022 / 2023. In 2023, this matrix can then inform the Readiness Proposal development (starting from the activities with an “x” in the column 2023).

Objective	Scope	Proposed Action	Activities	Next steps	Timeline	Readiness Proposal			Category
						2023	2024	2025	
Objective 1 - Capacity building	O1.1 - NDA strengthening	Address NDA training needs and capacity constraints	Assess training needs and design / offer specific training measures for NDA staff on climate finance matters	NDA: formulate self-assessment on capacity needs; share results with DPs, AEs, DAEs for coverage in on-going and planned Readiness support.	2022/2023	(x)			Institutions and Governance
			Address training needs particularly for actions such as vulnerability assessments, ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and climate finance.	NDA: formulate self-assessment on capacity needs; share results with DPs, AEs, DAEs for coverage in on-going and planned Readiness support, particularly the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022, as well as the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	(x)			Institutions and Governance
	O1.2 - Enhancing coordination mechanisms	Enhance central coordination and guidance on climate activities	Establish a climate finance coordination support unit to relieve the NDA and equip with sufficient local staff	NDA: Develop TORs and share with DPs, AEs, DAEs for funding in on-going and planned Readiness support, particularly the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022, as well as the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	x			Institutions and Governance

Objective	Scope	Proposed Action	Activities	Next steps	Timeline	Readiness Proposal			Category
						2023	2024	2025	
			Reform the NSDCC and ensure its institutional alignment with other coordination bodies, such as the NCCC.	NDA: Refer to GCF country coordination mechanism report recommendations, start with review of NSDCC TOR, set up NSDCC annual work plan for 2023. Check if funding is available, particularly the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	(x)			
			Offer focused GCF training for the NSDCC membership to ensure its proper functioning in the future.	NDA: include in NSDCC annual work plan. Check funding through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	(x)			Institutions and Governance
			Revise the NSDCC's TORs to strengthen operations, e.g. by updating the roles and responsibilities, the membership and setting up a work plan for the NSDCC (in alignment with the recommendations of the Country Coordination Mechanism Report provided to the NDA in 2022).	NDA: Refer to GCF country coordination mechanism report recommendations, start with review of NSDCC TOR, set up NSDCC annual work plan for 2023. Check if funding is available, particularly the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	n.a.			Institutions and Governance
			Improve the institutional coordination with the private sector when it comes to investment opportunities in climate friendly project / access to international climate finance (e.g. by reforming the NSDCC).	NDA: Check coverage in on-going and planned Readiness support, particularly the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022, as well as the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	n.a.			Institutions and Governance
			Enhance cooperation and knowledge-sharing among national sectoral agencies and administrations. Also strengthen plans and operational frameworks for promoting the integration of climate change considerations in SKNMS, NEMA, NDMD and SKGIS management processes.	NDA: Check coverage in on-going and planned Readiness support, particularly the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022, as well as the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	n.a.			Institutions and Governance
			Establish the NCCC, in close alignment with the NSDCC and other institutional coordination bodies.	NDA: liaise with Dpt. of Environment on the establishment of the NCCC, coordinate this out of the NSDCC (could become task in the annual work plan of the NSDCC).	2022/2023	n.a.			Institutions and Governance

Objective	Scope	Proposed Action	Activities	Next steps	Timeline	Readiness Proposal			Category
						2023	2024	2025	
	O1.3 - Other capacity building support for DAEs, executing entities, and civil society and private sector stakeholders	Enhance engagement of civil society and the private sector in climate action.	Foster institutional coordination of civil society and the private sector when it comes to investment opportunities in climate friendly projects / access to international climate finance, e.g. by engaging those groups stronger with the NSDCC, and potentially setting up a civil society / private sector working group.	NDA: Align with CCCCC RP of 2022 for fostering private sector engagement, as well as CANARI RP on CSO engagement. Remaining gaps should be addressed in 2023 RP development in 2023.	public	(x)			Institutions and Governance
			Offer training for civil society and private sector stakeholders for enhancing understanding about opportunities of engaging in climate action, and the benefits of climate finance (and bringing in their perspective).	NDA: Align with CANARI Readiness Proposal on CSO engagement. Remaining gaps should be addressed in RP development in 2023.	2022/2023	(x)			Institutions and Governance
			Enhance knowledge, data collection and storage, in a coordinated approach of SKNMS, NEMA, NDMD and SKGIS.	NDA: NDA: Check coverage in on-going and planned Readiness support, particularly the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022, as well as the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	(x)			Institutions and Governance
			Strengthen technological capacities of relevant institutions, e.g. enhancing the institutional framework and information technology infrastructure and developing early warning systems in collaboration with NEMA and NDMD and other national and regional agencies.	NDA: Check coverage in on-going and planned Readiness support, particularly the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022, as well as the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	(x)			Institutions and Governance
Objective 2 - Strategic frameworks for low-emission investment	O2.1 - Development of Country Programmes, Entity Work Programmes, long-term low-emission development strategies	Enhance long-term climate finance planning	Ensure a comprehensive long-term alignment of the national development agenda with climate matters, for instance through the NDPF.	NDA: Reflect on-going NDPF consultancy under CDB RP. Otherwise check coverage through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	n.a.			Policy Environment
			Setting up a long-term climate finance strategy that responds to the needs outlined in the NDC implementation plan, the GCF country programme and the Long-term Readiness-Needs-	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022, as well as the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Otherwise should be addressed in RP development in 2023.	2022/2023	(x)			Policy Environment

Objective	Scope	Proposed Action	Activities	Next steps	Timeline	Readiness Proposal			Category
						2023	2024	2025	
	and action plans		Assessment and reflects collaboration with the private sector.						
	O2.2 - Efforts to update, enhance or implement NDCs	Implement NDC implementation plan and sectoral strategies	Implement NDC Implementation plan	NDA: liaise with Dpt. of Environment. Check coverage through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Otherwise should be addressed in RP development in 2023.	2022/2023	(x)			Pipeline Development / sectoral action plans (chpt. 4.2)
			Implement sectoral climate strategies and action.	NDA: liaise with line ministries on state of sectoral action / funding needs. Check the respective sector section in chapter 4.2. Check coverage through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Otherwise should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024. Also align with already on-going GCF Concept Note development.	2022/2023	x	x		Pipeline Development / sectoral action plans (chpt. 4.2)
	O2.3 - Improve the enabling environment for climate finance (such as engaging the private sector and/or devising or adapting innovative financial mechanisms for deployment)	Enhancing the enabling environment for climate finance in SKN	Consider measures to reduce turnover and reductions of staff working in climate contexts.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Continue climate mainstreaming / awareness raising elements in 2023/2024 RP development.	2022/2023	x	x		Institutions and Governance
			Establish a mechanism for streamlined UNFCCC reporting. This will help the government in keeping an overview of planned climate finance spending, needs and respective funding gaps.	NDA: Already prepared by regional Readiness with CDB in 2022/2023. Ensure that results are reflected and inform activities under the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022.	2022/2023	n.a.			Policy Environment
			Ensure local FI's are positioned to access international climate finance and are integrated in effective coordination with public sector entities.	NDA: Refer to results of Readiness project on accreditation and DAE capacity building. Remaining gaps to capacitate selected DAEs should be addressed in RP development in 2023.	2022/2023	x			Policy Environment
			Assess policy incentives needed to improve the enabling environment for climate investments, inter alia by strengthening environmental and social	NDA: Reflect alignment in NDPF development (in 2022, with the CDB institutional RP). Check coverage through the Readiness proposal	2022/2023	x	x		Policy Environment

Objective	Scope	Proposed Action	Activities	Next steps	Timeline	Readiness Proposal			Category
						2023	2024	2025	
			standards (also to comply with requirements of climate funds), or introducing economic instruments such as carbon taxes, feed-in tariffs, or concessional finance instruments for de-risking.	submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.					
			Ensure enforcement of climate policies and strategies by creating the required regulatory and institutional enabling framework.	NDA: Reflect alignment in NDPF development (in 2022, with the CDB institutional RP). Check coverage through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Policy Environment
			Further enhance the use of PPP's for realizing investments in climate-friendly infrastructure, in an inclusive and transparent manner, ideally involving local businesses.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023.	2022/2023	x			Policy Environment
			Support the establishment of a national or regional credit bureau.	NDA: should be addressed in RP development in 2023.	2023	x			Policy Environment
Objective 3 - Strengthened Adaptation Planning	O3.1 - Development of a national, subnational, or sectoral adaptation plan	Plan and implement adaptation measures	Develop a National Adaptation Plan (or sectoral NAPs) including a (sectoral) financing strategy. This can be done in alignment with the results of the on-going MRV and climate finance mapping consultancies (commissioned by CDB as delivery partner, executed by Baastel and CCCCC, respectively).	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024. Also consider accessing NAP funding from the GCF and develop an NAP. Also align with already on-going GCF Concept Note development.	2022/2023	x	x		Policy Environment
	O3.2 - Catalyzing private sector engagement in adaptation finance	Engage the private sector	Enhance the understanding of bankable project design requirements: Engage public and private sector representatives in project design training, and on identification and development of suitable de-risking methodologies to attract investment in priority sectors. Also engage DAE candidate entities in this process, as those can either support the training process or benefit from receiving such trainings.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Check also if activities still fit under Readiness project on accreditation and DAE capacity building. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023.	2022/2023	x			Pipeline Development

Objective	Scope	Proposed Action	Activities	Next steps	Timeline	Readiness Proposal			Category
						2023	2024	2025	
	O3.3 - Producing the evidence basis for impactful adaptation investments	Capacities, research and vulnerability assessments	Increase capacities for interdisciplinary research to enable in-depth understanding of impacts of climate change that cut across sectors and require integrated approaches for adaptation and building resilience.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Information, Data and Knowledge
			Elaborate baseline data on the status of key areas and sectors, including biodiversity and ecosystems and resource use and management practices.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Information, Data and Knowledge
			Conduct further systematic vulnerability assessments and research into climate change impacts, vulnerabilities and potential measures for adaptation and building resilience to inform sectoral policies and plans and specify funding needs.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Policy Environment
			Support the identification, compilation, and data analysis of environmental statistics.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Information, Data and Knowledge
			Strengthen the Central Statistics Office to produce more economic and social statistics that will impact development in the country.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Information, Data and Knowledge
Objective 4 - Paradigm shifting pipeline development	O4.1 - Development of concept notes, pipeline metrics and indicators	Identify and prioritize bankable projects	Ensure a more centralized project development approach is put forward to ensure a most efficient use of resources and to avoid duplication of efforts across ministries and departments (and islands).	NDA: recommend including this in NSDCC annual work plan in 2023. Align with on-going and upcoming concept note development processes.	2022/2023	x			Pipeline Development
			Optimize the coordination of project development (i.e. project identification, design and planning) regarding the collaboration and alignment between line ministries.	NDA: recommend including this in NSDCC annual work plan in 2023. Align with on-going and upcoming concept note development processes.	2022/2023	x			Pipeline Development
	O4.2 - Costed	Access domestic,	Assess barriers to accessing scaled-up finance across priority sectors to	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC	2022/2023	x	x		Pipeline Development

Objective	Scope	Proposed Action	Activities	Next steps	Timeline	Readiness Proposal			Category
						2023	2024	2025	
	action plans for priority documents such as NDCs	regional and international finance	identify customized approaches for overcoming such barriers.	approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024. Also engage with the DAE candidate of SKN.					
			Strengthen complementarity and coherence of climate projects and investments through different financial streams, e.g. by enhanced institutional coordination (see above), applying climate finance mapping tools and UNFCCC reporting approaches.	NDA: Check coverage through the Readiness project with CCCCC approved in Feb 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024. Also engage with the DAE candidate of SKN.	2022/2023	x	x		Pipeline Development
Objective 5 - Knowledge sharing and learning	O5.1 - Peer-to-peer and south-south learning exchanges	Continue national and regional exchange	Enhance dissemination of data within and between sectors.	NDA. Check coverage through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Information, Data and Knowledge
	O5.2 - Development of tailored knowledge products	Enhance sharing of information	Set-up information management systems (including cloud-solutions) for analysing, disaggregating, storing and sharing climate change data and information across sectors and various stakeholders.	Check coverage through the Readiness proposal submitted by CCCCC in 2022. Otherwise, should be addressed in RP development in 2023 and 2024.	2022/2023	x	x		Information, Data and Knowledge