



Building The Bahamas capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID

10427

Project Type

MSP

Type of Trust Fund

GET

CBIT/NGI

CBIT **Yes**

NGI **No**

Project Title

Building The Bahamas capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Countries

Bahamas

Agency(ies)

UNEP

Other Executing Partner(s)

Department of Environmental Planning and Protection (DEPP)

Executing Partner Type

Government

GEF Focal Area

Climate Change

Taxonomy

Focal Areas, Climate Change, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency, Influencing models, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Civil Society, Type of Engagement, Information Dissemination, Private Sector, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Capacity Development

Rio Markers

Climate Change Mitigation

Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change Adaptation 1

Submission Date

5/18/2021

Expected Implementation Start

9/1/2021

Expected Completion Date

8/31/2024

Duration

36In Months

Agency Fee(\$)

128,649.00

A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS

Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	GEF Amount(\$)	Co-Fin Amount(\$)
CCM-3-8	Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation and adaptation concerns through the development of capacity building initiatives for transparency	GET	1,354,200.00	338,333.00
Total Project Cost(\$)			1,354,200.00	338,333.00

B. Project description summary

Project Objective

Build the capacity of The Bahamas to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1. Strengthening The Bahamas's enabling environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement	Technical Assistance	1A. The Bahamas submits to the UNFCCC secretariat high-quality climate reports aligned with the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement. 1B. The Bahamas government advances towards making decisions based on climate analysis and implementing climate transparency activities.	1.1. The Ministry of Environment and Housing has access to a proposal for institutional arrangements and a platform to coordinate and implement climate transparency activities	GET	318,500.00	45,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
-	Technical Assistance	-	1.2 The government, academia, private sector and civil society have strengthened capacities to compile data for and manage the improved greenhouse gas inventory	GET	257,000.00	65,000.00
-	Technical Assistance	-	1.3 Governmental stakeholders have strengthened capacities, tools, and protocols to track the implementation of the nationally determined contribution	GET	275,750.00	126,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
-		-	1.4 Government decision-makers have strengthened capacity to incorporate climate analysis into national planning, including through a sustainable capacity building mechanism and guidelines	GET	345,000.00	69,000.00
Monitoring and Evaluation	Technical Assistance			GET	35,000.00	
Sub Total (\$)					1,231,250.00	305,000.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)						
	GET		122,950.00		33,333.00	
Sub Total(\$)			122,950.00		33,333.00	
Total Project Cost(\$)			1,354,200.00		338,333.00	

C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of The Environment & Housing	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	238,333.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Public Works	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100,000.00
			Total Co-Financing(\$)	338,333.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

N/A

D. Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
UNEP	GET	Bahamas	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	1,354,200	128,649
Total Grant Resources(\$)					1,354,200.00	128,649.00

E. Non Grant Instrument

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required **true**

PPG Amount (\$)

50,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

4,750

Agency	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programmin g of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
UNEP	GET	Bahamas	Climate Change	CBIT Set-Aside	50,000	4,750
Total Project Costs(\$)					50,000.00	4,750.00

Core Indicators

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	50	60		
Male	50	40		
Total	100	100	0	0

Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

Direct beneficiaries: There are 24 different national institutions from government, private sector, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) listed as stakeholders in the project. Training activities are planned in five different fields through this Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) project: ? Related to the use of a centralised data platform. ? Related to the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory. ? Related to data and mechanisms necessary for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) tracking. ? Related to climate finance flows tracking. ? Related to the use of projections, scenarios and assessments on impacts, vulnerability, adaptation and mitigation for policy planning and decision-making. The trainings will be implemented in coordination with the Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report (TNC/BUR1) project which foresees technical capacity building and training including participation in international, regional and national trainings of: ? the National GHG Inventory Team on GHG inventories (activity 2.1.2.), ? the National Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment Team on Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment (activity 3.1.3.), ? relevant national agencies on mitigation analysis (activity 4.1.5.), ? national planners and policy makers on climate change issues and policies to guide interventions (activities 6.1.1. and 6.1.2.). There will at least be two training sessions for each activity. Each of the five trainings will have around forty participants. An overlap of 50% is estimated for each training session. For example, while the activities on GHG inventory targets mainly public stakeholders, the trainings under 4.2 and 4.3 include private stakeholders as well, and a wider array of public actors. This conservatively amounts to around 100 people trained through the project ($5 \times 40 \times 50\% = 100$).

Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

1a. Changes in project design

The main changes in the project design concern the rewording of project outputs and activities to guarantee the main project objective is achieved and to provide clear guidance for the relevant stakeholders. This has not changed the main aim of the outcome and the approved PIF funding for each project output has been slightly redistributed to allocate a total of 35,000 USD for monitoring and evaluation activities without alteration of the total budget.

The following table summarises the changes against approved PIF.

Approved at PIF stage	At CEO Endorsement Document stage	Justification and added value of changes
Outcome 1. The Bahamas establishes a transparency framework through which it meets reporting requirements in accordance with Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.	1A. The Bahamas submits to the UNFCCC secretariat high-quality climate reports aligned with the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement. 1B. The Bahamas government advances towards making decisions based on climate analysis and implementing climate transparency activities.	The outcome was split into two to clearly identify the scope of the project. The first part focuses on the ambition of the country to comply with the ETF by submitting high quality reports (Output 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3); the second part describes the outcome of the work on provision of tools, institutional arrangements and capacity to The Bahamas government stakeholders to implement transparency activities and to make decisions based on climate information (Output 1.1 and 1.4).

<p>Output 1.1 Institutional arrangements established and strengthened to coordinate and manage transparency activities in The Bahamas</p>	<p>1.1. The Ministry of Environment and Housing has access to a proposal for institutional arrangements and a platform to coordinate and implement climate transparency activities</p>	<p>To shift the focus on the beneficiaries and specify the Ministry in charge of adopting the arrangements.</p>
<p>Output 1.2: Technical support, training and tools are provided to The Bahamas, enabling it to submit transparent, consistent, comparable, complete and accurate GHG inventories.</p>	<p>Output 1.2: The government, academia, private sector and civil society have strengthened capacities to compile data for and manage the improved greenhouse gas inventory.</p>	<p>To provide a more concrete output focused on capacity building beneficiaries and institutional GHG inventory MRV set up as the elaboration and submission of the GHG inventory will be done under the TNC/BUR1 project.</p>
<p>Output 1.3: Technical support, training and tools are provided to The Bahamas, enabling it to track its NDC implementation transparently.</p>	<p>Output 1.3: Governmental stakeholders have strengthened capacities, tools and protocols to track the implementation of the nationally determined contribution.</p>	<p>To provide a more concrete output focused on capacity building and mechanisms (methodologies and guidance) for NDC tracking and facilitate its future update.</p>
<p>Output 1.4: Technical support, training and tools provided to The Bahamas to use climate analysis in decision-making.</p>	<p>Output 1.4 Government decision-makers have strengthened capacities to incorporate climate analysis into national planning, including through a sustainable capacity building mechanism and guidelines</p>	<p>To provide a more concrete output focused on capacity building and required guidelines for policy planners and decision-makers to implement appropriate policies based on informed decisions, and to include a capacity building mechanism designed and established in partnership with an educational or training institution.</p>

<p>Output 1: 188,825</p> <p>Output 2: 309,925</p> <p>Output 3: 443,225</p> <p>Output 4: 289,125</p> <p>PMC: 123,100</p>	<p>Output 1: 318,500</p> <p>Output 2: 257,000</p> <p>Output 3: 275,750</p> <p>Output 4: 345,000</p> <p>M&E: 35,000</p> <p>PMC: 122,950</p>	<p>During PPG phase, resources needed for the outputs 1-4 were investigated in deeper detail and budget was redistributed according to the findings. Also, a total of 35,000 USD was allocated to monitoring and evaluation activities.</p>
<p>GEF Core Indicator 11:</p> <p>50 males, 50 females</p>	<p>GEF Core Indicator 11:</p> <p>40 males, 60 females</p>	<p>Given the very high representation of women in the institutions for environment and transparency issues, the previous target was considered too ambitious and unlikely to be achieved.</p>
<p>Co-financiers:</p> <p>Ministry of The Environment & Housing</p> <p>Ministry of Public Works</p> <p>Water and Sewage corporation</p>	<p>Co-financiers:</p> <p>Ministry of The Environment & Housing</p> <p>Ministry of Public Works</p>	<p>While the amount of total co-financing has not changed, the Water and Sewage corporation has not confirmed its co-financing contribution. The Ministry of Environment & Housing will provide the in-kind support to achieve the co-financing amount committed at PIF stage.</p>

1b. Project Description

1) Global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed.

In 2019 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released the Special Report on Oceans and The Cryosphere. It established that a 2.6 to 4.8-degree Celsius increase in global average temperature by the end of the century, as well as precipitation fluctuations, frequent extreme weather events and sea level rise of between 0.26 and 0.55 m above the 2005 level in 2100, sets global temperature on a path for a 2°C increase scenario[1]¹. Due to past emissions, even if greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are brought to complete cessation today, the world is already locked into substantial irreversible future changes in the Earth geography[2]². Mitigation remains a priority. However, as climate change is already happening and is irreversible, we have no choice but to adapt to the climate-related challenges that are leading to economic disruption.

As per the Paris Agreement, ratifying countries will aim to keep warming well below 2°C, and for the first time to pursue efforts to limit temperature increases to 1.5°C. Article 13 of the Paris Agreement provides for an enhanced transparency framework (ETF) aiming to build mutual trust and confidence and to promote effective implementation of the actions identified under the nationally determined contributions (NDCs). Article 13 provides a clear understanding of climate change action and support considering the Convention's objectives. It includes built-in flexibility, which considers the Parties' different capacities, and builds on collective experience, clarity and tracking of progress towards achieving NDCs. Article 4 of the Paris Agreement highlights that, in communicating their NDCs, all Parties shall provide information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) per decision 1/CP.21. Further, Article 4 requests for a full, exhaustive, comparative and robust account of the measures and actions. The progressions and achievements made determining that each country, except for least developed countries (LDC) and small islands developing states (SIDS), shall report no less frequently than on a biennial basis their GHG inventory, their progress towards the implementation of their NDCs and the support needed and received.

The 'Modalities, procedures and guidelines' (MPGs), the implementation guidelines for the ETF, outline in detail the reporting requirements for all country Parties, developed and developing country Parties alike, to the Paris Agreement. Building on the existing transparency arrangements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the MPGs require Parties to regularly provide a national GHG inventory report and information necessary to track progress of the implementation of their NDCs. The reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation is voluntary for all country Parties. Developed country Parties are further required to provide information on financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support provided, while developing country Parties are encouraged to provide information on financial, technology transfer and capacity-building support needed and received. Developing country Parties that provide support to other developing country Parties are equally encouraged to report on their support provided. The different informational elements

are to be reported to the UNFCCC from 2024 every two years in the form of a 'Biennial Transparency Report' (BTR), while the GHG inventory report can be reported as a standalone report.

While the MPGs provide a few flexibility provisions to developing country Parties that need them in the light of their capacities, for instance about the number of greenhouse gases covered, they overall imply a strengthening of the reporting requirements for developing country Parties, regarding frequency and scope of reporting. Even the use of flexibility provisions by developing countries, requires a detailed description of their capacity constraints and estimated timeframes for improvements in relation to those constraints. The new reporting requirements thus demand substantial and immediate progress in developing countries' domestic monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) systems. This entails moving from often uncoordinated, not consistently updated, and disparate methodologies for data collection to integrated and robust Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems. The MPGs further require developing countries to set up new transparency governance structures, or strengthen existing ones, to develop and implement MRV methodologies, and update, implement, and integrate new data and information flows with pre-defined periodicity. A key condition for successful implementation of the Paris Agreement's transparency requirements is therefore the provision of adequate and sustainable financial and capacity building support to enable developing countries to significantly strengthen their efforts to build robust domestic reporting processes.

After the Kyoto Protocol on 9th April 1999, The Bahamas signed the Paris Agreement on 22nd April 2016 and deposited its instrument of ratification on 22nd August 2016.

The Bahamas' Climate Change Risks

The Commonwealth of The Bahamas consists of an archipelago of 700 islands covering approximately 260,000 km² located between latitudes 21° and 27° North and longitudes 72° and 79° West. Of all the islands, thirty islands and cays are permanently inhabited. The capital of The Bahamas, Nassau, is located on New Providence Island, which measures around 34 km in length and 10km in width. The Bahamas is a SIDS that suffers from the constraints experienced by several of the SIDS. Many disadvantages derive from its small size, dependence on fossil fuels, a service-based economy, a limited range of natural resources and limited adaptive capacity. This further emphasizes the country's excessive dependence on international trade and the vulnerability to climate change and climate variability, which will predictably lead to catastrophic impacts in the form of:

- (i) rising sea-level (as an archipelago of low-lying islands The Bahamas is particularly vulnerable);

- (ii) loss of biodiversity (inland ecosystems, migration of fish stocks, ocean acidification affecting crustaceans such as lobster, conch, and coral reefs);
- (iii) economic loss;
- (iv) loss of agricultural lands;
- (v) human health impacts such as heat stress, and vector-borne diseases such as dengue fever and malaria;
- (vi) degraded groundwater supplies;
- (vii) losses and damage to critical infrastructures such as hospitals, airports and hotels which are mainly located in coastal areas and biological resources such as coral reefs.

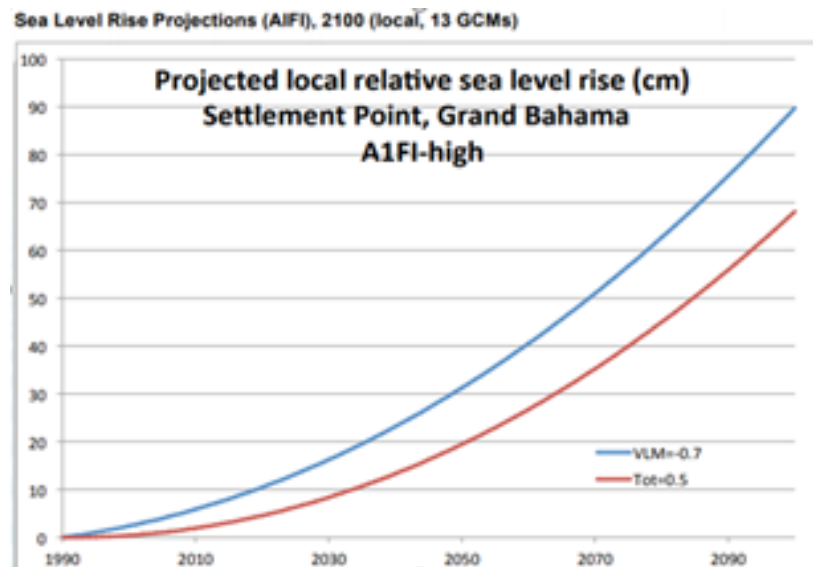


Figure 1 Sea level rise projections (aifi), 2100 (local, 13 gcms). The blue line shows vertical land movement (vlm), and the red line shows total sea level rise (tot). The y-axis is in mm.[3]³

Furthermore, the high population density increases the pressure on the already limited resources, causes overuse of resources and their premature depletion. The Bahamas also assumes costly public administration and infrastructure, including transportation and communication. There are limited institutional capacities and domestic markets are too small to provide significant economies of scale.

These constraints are magnified by the fact that many island States are not only small but are also made up of several small islands.

The Bahamas is a low lying, coastal nation, and is therefore one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the impacts of climate change. Approximately 80% of all the land surface of The Bahamas is within 1 meter of mean sea level. The climate of The Bahamas is sub-tropical with relatively high mean temperatures, moderate rainfall, and distinct summer and winter regimes. The climate in the country can be described as tropical maritime wet and dry type climate with winter incursions of modified polar air. During the dry season from November to April, the islands experience less than 10 rainy days per month. The rain falls around 10 to 20 days per month during the wet season, which lasts from May to October. The rainy months are considered the summer months in The Bahamas, during which the mean daily temperature exceeds 25°C.

This high vulnerability of the country to climate change has been constantly emphasized by stakeholders in The Bahamas. Impacts include increased temperatures, sea-level rise, increased storm surges (which has implications on freshwater resources and biological diversity), ocean acidification and increased frequency and intensity of hurricanes. These hurricanes are a regular occurrence during the Atlantic hurricane season (June 1 to November 30), and they occur most frequently in August to November. The 2016 and 2017 Atlantic hurricane seasons proved particularly devastating for the country, with Hurricane Joaquin in 2016, and Hurricanes Maria and Irma in 2017, which caused significant damage on several islands. In 2019, Hurricane Dorian caused catastrophic damage, injuries, loss of life and livelihoods, and the internal displacement of families and vulnerable communities in the Northern Bahamas. The estimated economic impact of Hurricane Dorian on The Bahamas amounted to US\$ 3.4 billion (approximately 25% of The Bahamas' GDP). Storm surges are often associated with the movement of hurricanes and occur in The Bahamas. The surge of water often lasts for several days due to the height of the waves, the strength of the non-tropical process and the ocean wind dynamics at the site. The ability of the public treasury to absorb the costs of these impacts and adapt was already being exceeded, and concern was expressed that the country should further integrate climate change adaptation into development planning and consider plans to migrate the population. It was generally agreed that there was a lack of urgency in the international discussions on climate change, and further resources should be committed to this process.

As in other countries, in The Bahamas climate change has a more significant impact on those sections of the population that are most reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods and/or have the least capacity to respond to natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. Studies have found that women make up to 70 to 80% of the victims of natural disasters, and they are 14 times more likely to die in them. Similarly, low-income populations, composed of women in its majority, face higher risks and must endure greater burdens from the impacts of climate change. As the gender analysis exposes below (section "3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, a significant portion of

women a significant portion of women in The Bahamas do not participate in the labour force; this means they are more prone to suffer from income insecurity and poverty. As it has become more evident, climate change hits the poorest hardest, preventing millions from escaping poverty and forcing some back into it. The 2014 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), confirms that climate change is already having severe impacts on those already living in poverty. The report states that "climate variability, climate change, and extreme weather events constitute an additional burden to rural and urban people living in poverty. These climate-related hazards act as a "threat multiplier", often with negative outcomes for livelihoods."

Main national barriers and capacity constraints in implementing the Paris Agreement.

The main barriers and capacity constraints relate to the increased reporting obligations under the Paris Agreement and the corresponding problems The Bahamas faces to comply to them. The Paris Agreement rests upon a foundation of NDCs submitted by Parties to represents the national plans and pledges individual countries have made to combat climate change. Consequently, a key result of the Paris Agreement was the establishment of an enhanced transparency framework for tracking and reporting the progress of existing and future country commitments. As a party to the Convention The Bahamas is required to submit Biennial Update Reports (BURs) and National Communications (NCs) to the UNFCCC and Conference of Parties (at their discretion according to the existing capacities) and with the Paris Agreement, it will be required to submit Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR) which will replace the BURs from 2024 - to achieve a transparent and accessible flow of information for international reporting and national decision making.

While climate change has significant implications for The Bahamas, there have been limited policy responses by the government to build local and institutional capacity to comply with the Paris Agreement and there has been limited public engagement. These weak national instruments for transparency-related activities are not aligned with national priorities, causing the country to not properly track and report its progress. The Bahamas' experience to compile and submit reports under the UNFCCC has mainly been limited to NCs prepared by external consultants on a project-by-project basis. In 2001, The Bahamas submitted to the UNFCCC its Initial National Communication (INC) along with a first GHG inventory. It submitted the Second National Communication (SNC) in 2015 along with a National Inventory Report (NIR) on GHG emissions and sinks with time series emission data for the period 1990-2000.

This second national GHG inventory of The Bahamas was conducted with various constraints, with the national regulations governing the use of statistical data impacting the process. The available data was not immediately suitable for input into the IPCC spreadsheets, resulting in assumptions made to allow

the incorporation of this data. The GHG emissions were estimated with a top-down approach, and the more suitable bottom-up data was not included because the statistical data was unavailable in the disaggregated format required for input into the IPCC spreadsheets. The top-down reference approach had to be further modified to accommodate the type, format, and accuracy of the collected data by the national authorities. In some instances, the types of national data were simply not available, or available in very limited form.

In addition to the constraints related to tracking and reporting its progress, The Bahamas faces obstacles in increasing the public engagement and capacities related to climate change issues. The Public Education and Outreach (PEO) subcommittee under the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC), which was established to increase public awareness about climate change, has had no budget provided for public education and outreach, resulting in limited outputs that have relied on financial and personnel support from academia and NGOs.

These various tracking and reporting constraints and lack of funding for outreach have resulted in GHG emission mitigation projections being based on theoretical data. For example, electricity generation and transportation are the two most significant sources of GHG emissions in The Bahamas. However, in the transport sector, data on fuel usage and numbers, types, and sizes of vessels in the marine transport, commercial, and recreational fishing sub-sectors are not available, and only limited data is available from the electricity sector. This has resulted in broad categorization of energy data into power production and transportation and future scenarios for mitigation GHG emissions being supported by incomplete or inaccurate data.

With the lack of direct legislation in force to address climate change assessments and reporting, these constraints will continue to affect the reporting obligations and impede the compliance of The Bahamas under the Paris Agreement. Continuous capacity building and tools are needed to assist with the performance of future inventories, the tracking of the NDC and the identification of climate finance flows in the country. The lack of established agreements, procedures and protocols between the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC), which oversees and verifies the reports prepared to be submitted to the UNFCCC, and various data providers and sectoral experts for retrieval and quality checks of inventory, Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and climate finance data, is a barrier to ultimately realise a national transparency system for data collection, storage, and archiving, and trained personnel for its set up is also needed.

Under Paragraph 84 of the Conferences of the Parties (COP) decision adopting the Paris Agreement, it was decided to establish a Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) in order to build institutional and technical capacity, both pre- and post-2020. Under the Global Environment Facility

(GEF), the CBIT is proposed to support activities aligned with its aim at the national and regional/global levels to strengthen national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities, provide relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement and assist in the improvement of transparency over time.

The goal of this CBIT project is to assist the country in mainstreaming and integrating climate change consideration into national and sectoral development policies by providing continuity to the institutional and technical capacity strengthening process. This project will additionally enhance the sustainability of efforts for the improvement of the country's current and future NDCs and the preparation of future NCs/BURs/BTRs on Climate Change, also facilitating reporting requirements to the UNFCCC. The immediate objective of the project is to meet enhanced transparency requirements as defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement by strengthening institutional and technical capacity for measuring and reporting on GHG emissions, mitigation, and adaptation activities, and support needed and received. This CBIT project will therefore strengthen The Bahamas' enabling environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement by establishing the necessary institutional arrangements for GHG inventory compilation, NDC tracking (both mitigation and adaptation) and the support needed and received to allow for a coordinated reporting effort to the UNFCCC. The project will additionally establish procedures, guidelines, and tools to standardize the collection of data for the GHG inventory, NDC tracking, and support needed and received. To provide a sustainable and continuous process and flow of climate data, trainings will be provided within this project to build the capacity of both public and private actors to input data into scenarios and projections, and to use these for their decision making.

Barriers

Although The Bahamas has advanced in the last 15 years in terms of national institutional arrangements and technical capacities to respond to the challenges posed by climate change, the country still encounters several barriers. Currently, there is no regular data collection procedures and indicators to properly track and report the country's NDC progress over time. Neither there is active participation of national institutions in the preparation of the national communications. This is caused by the lack of direct legislation in force to address climate change commitments under the UNFCCC, and the limited policy options to implement the national climate change policies. This lack of national institutional arrangements concerning climate change issues has led to inadequate national data collection and distribution initiatives, policy interactions, and prioritisation of climate change at the institutional and executive level. Lack of awareness of private sector and the scattered geographical location of sub-national stakeholders have also had an impact on the lack of arrangements and the quality and availability of the data needed for the UNFCCC reporting. The staff turnover and the lack of capacity retention mechanisms is an additional constraint for the sustainability of the national transparency system. Lack of financial resources at the systematic and institutional levels has been identified as a key obstacle to staff training in The Bahamas.

More details on the barriers mentioned above, and on some additional barriers for establishing a transparency framework in The Bahamas through which it can meet the reporting requirements of the Paris Agreement are presented in the following table.

1. Weak national instruments for transparency-related activities and not aligned with national priorities	1.1 Poor institutional coordination and inadequate capacity for data collection and management for GHG inventories and for NDC tracking
	<p>In The Bahamas there is a lack of established agreements, procedures and protocols between coordinator, sectoral experts, and data providers for elaborating the reports to be submitted to the UNFCCC. There is also a need to improve the institutional coordination and capacity for data collection and management in the country. Current reporting efforts in The Bahamas are uncoordinated with no clear roles and responsibilities.</p>
	1.2 Weak policy and regulatory frameworks
	<p>In The Bahamas, there is a lack of direct legislation in force to address climate change, and the current legislation and policies do not include gender aspect related to climate change. Weak policy and regulatory frameworks result in a lack of formalised roles and responsibilities to work in the transparency framework. It also results in policy makers not being able to make informed decisions about what to regulate, whom to regulate, and how to regulate.</p>
	1.3 Lack of clear mandates for data collection and sharing, management and verification
	<p>This barrier impacts the inter-agency and inter-sectoral coordination, funding, and streamlining of responsibilities and roles in data collection, analysis, reporting and verification. There is currently a lack of clear mandates in the data collection, analysis, reporting and verification system in The Bahamas to allow for a coordinated effort in reporting to the UNFCCC.</p>
	1.4. Lack of a centralised data management system
<p>The Bahamas lacks formalised processes and standardized data collection and storage mechanisms. Data collection was undertaken differently between the two national communications preparation (different questionnaires, different stakeholders and the information collected under the first national communication got lost). Due to the lack of tools to collect and store data the country starts the process of report preparation from scratch in each reporting cycle. The Bahamas does not have in place a national MRV system for data collection and storage and needs trained personnel for its set up. The scattered geographical location of sub-national stakeholders makes the data collection processes difficult and enhances the need for a centralised information platform. In addition, with the Paris Agreement the frequency of the reporting will be increased (every two years) generating the need to develop tools for the preparation of the reports on a continuous basis.</p>	

	1.5 Lack of national funding sources for climate change activities
	<p>The Bahamas lacks a clear national source of funding for climate change activities which generates a dependence on international support for reporting to the UNFCCC. The National Climate Change Committee oversees and verifies the reports prepared to be submitted to the UNFCCC on a voluntary basis. However, with the increased reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement and the need of reporting on a continuous basis the NCCC may need to be strengthened regarding its technical capacities and financial resources.</p>
	1.6 Lack of reporting on support needed and received for climate action
	<p>The Bahamas lacks the institutional arrangements and a methodology to track climate finance flows, both domestic and international and assess the financial needs and the support needed and received. An inter-institutional climate finance architecture will be needed to implement the climate finance strategy as well as a methodology to identify and classify the climate finance flows in the country. .</p>
2. GHG inventories do not meet the requirements to be transparent, consistent, comparable, complete, and accurate	2.1 Lack of data and inadequate quality of available data
	<p>GHG inventories are an essential input to monitor projections towards climate goals and targets, including NDCs, to evaluate the effectiveness of policies and measures, either ex-ante, to estimate the potential emission savings before policies are implemented, or ex-post, to evaluate whether implemented policies have delivered the expected results. The Bahamas currently lacks quality data to establish a GHG inventory which is comparable and verifiable.</p>
	2.2 Inadequate capacities for elaborating high quality GHG inventories
	<p>In their National Communications The Bahamas is not making use of all the relevant information available for the national GHG inventory preparation and is not applying the most recent international guidelines and metrics.</p>
	2.3 Lack of mechanisms for data collection and management for GHG inventories
	<p>In addition to the lack of data and the inadequate quality, The Bahamas currently does not have mechanisms for data collection and management for GHG inventories on a continuous basis. This prevents to have a sustainable system which can be repeated on a biennial basis to comply with the obligations under the UNFCCC. It will also cause considerable time delays during the process. GHG inventories have been compiled in the country on a project-by-project basis. The Second National Communication of The Bahamas therefore suggests the establishment of a national system for data collection and storage.</p>
3. The country is unable to properly track	3.1 Lack of coordination system for integration of transparency activities among the different institutions to track NDC.

<p>its NDC (mitigation, adaptation, and support needed and received)</p>	<p>Under the Paris Agreement enhanced transparency framework there are new reporting requirements for The Bahamas, especially in relation to its NDC. However, to properly track both its mitigation and adaptation components, the Government will need to be aware of the MRV and M&E practices used by the Ministries and institutions or implement these practices for monitoring the progress of the NDC over time. Currently, there is a lack of integration of MRV and M&E activities for a consolidated and coordinated system.</p>
	<p>3.2 Lack of capacities to inform the NDC on actions, policies and measures and monitor and report progress</p>
	<p>The first NDC of The Bahamas include actions helping to assess the vulnerability and the need for adaptation measures as well as GHG emission targets and some actions in the energy sector. However, the information provided does not include specific actions, policies, and measures along with the corresponding institutions responsible for its monitoring and implementation.</p>
	<p>3.3 Absence of accounting methodology and indicators for tracking the NDC</p>
	<p>There is an absence of gender-sensitive indicators for monitoring and evaluating the development of mitigation and adaptation activities proposed in the NDC and to track the progress towards its targets. Without the implementation of nationally consistent MRV and M&E indicators, the monitoring and evaluation will not be coherent and consistent, especially in relation to the highly locally dependent adaptation activities.</p>
	<p>3.4 Lack of mechanisms for data collection for NDC tracking (adaptation, mitigation, and support needed and received)</p>
	<p>The Bahamas lacks mechanisms for data collection for its NDC tracking which prevents the country to carry out this activity effectively and on a continuous basis, and to allow The Bahamas appropriate and timely tracking of its NDC.</p>
	<p>3.4 Absence of and integrated MRV system</p>
	<p>As mentioned above, to properly track both its mitigation and adaptation components, the Government of The Bahamas will need to be aware of the national MRV and M&E practices. However, there is currently no established MRV system in the country, preventing it from tracking its NDC.</p>
<p>4. The country lacks the capacity to</p>	<p>4.1 Lack of guidelines to use assessments to help in policy planning and decision making at national or local level</p>

<p>integrate climate analysis in policy making</p>	<p>The Bahamas currently lacks guidelines to enhance policy- and decision-making based on the provided or available information. There is a need for these guidelines to standardize methodologies on adaptation and mitigation measures at national and local level. Also, gender aspects are not adequately included in decision making when addressing climate issues. For instance, although in 2015, the Government of the country adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) which emphasizes that "women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations", and indicate to "empowering women" to publicly lead and promote gender-equitable and universally accessible response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction approaches is key." Therefore, gender aspects should be more adequately included in the decision-making process.</p>
	<p>4.2 Inadequate capacity to use projections and scenarios at national level for policy planning</p>
	<p>Ministry staff and other decision-makers in The Bahamas do not adequately use the provided or available climate information, leading to poorly substantiated targets and climate reporting in the country's NCs and NDC. There is a need to extend and retain the current capacity in The Bahamas to make projections and scenarios at the national level for the reporting of NCs, BURs and BTRs and for updating the NDC. The current capacity does not allow to make specific and precise projections, resulting in uncertainty in which adaptation measures and mitigation actions would be the most effective to achieve the NDC.</p>
	<p>4.3 Limited policy options to implement the national climate change commitments</p>
<p>5. Cross-cutting barriers</p>	<p>Lack of technical specialized staff</p>
	<p>The Ministries and stakeholders from all sectors in The Bahamas active in GHG inventory preparation, climate change adaptation and mitigation policies lack adequate number of specialized staff to carry out the task and there is a national lack of adequate personnel to fill the available positions. This will either lead to activities being carried out by under-qualified staff resulting in poorly validated decision-making processes or dependence on international experts.</p>
	<p>Dependence on international support</p>
	<p>As a result of a lack of national technical specialized staff present in the country, The Bahamas must depend on international experts to implement and complete the tasks. This adds additional financial strain on the country and the uncertainty of finding suitable candidates. Reports are elaborated by these external experts on ad-hoc basis and not on a sustainable continuous basis by national specialized staff.</p>

	<p>Need for sustainable capacity building mechanism and institutional memory</p>
	<p>Current climate change activities are performed by international experts on project specific contracts on an ad-hoc basis. This prevents the country from incorporating standard operational procedures, methodologies, guidelines, and tools for a sustainable retention mechanism and impedes the country to attain any institutional memory as each project will be completed by different international experts.</p>
	<p>Lack of awareness and educational platforms</p>
	<p>There is still an overall lack of awareness on the current climate change issues and the resulting increased extreme weather events and potential risks for The Bahamas and for vulnerable groups and women. This is a result of insufficient educational platforms to educate actors and increase the awareness in the country which address the issue.</p>
	<p>Lack of continuity and knowledge transfer</p>
	<p>The Bahamas currently lack continuity in their climate reporting obligations due to a lack of knowledge transfer between the different actors for all its climate change activities. The Second National Communication of The Bahamas also highlighted this barrier and suggested the "<i>continuous capacity building to assist with the performance of future inventories and the establishment of memoranda of understanding between climate change committee and various statistical databases for retrieval of inventory data</i>" (p.77).</p>
<p>Barriers that are not directly addressed by the project</p>	<p>High turn-over of political representatives</p>
	<p>There is a high turn-over of political representatives in The Bahamas in key areas which makes it difficult to maintain and strengthen teams and reach a sustainable reporting system in the country.</p>
	<p>Lack of political commitment and buy-in</p>
	<p>In the current political landscape of The Bahamas there is a lack of acceptance of, and willingness to, actively support and participate in climate change issues. This can be partly explained by the lack of awareness and training of the political representatives on climate change issues.</p>
	<p>Fast-changing policies</p>
	<p>The policies in The Bahamas change fast, proving it difficult to establish long-term climate commitments under the obligations of the UNFCCC. More structure such as clear institutional arrangements and legal framework to base long-term commitments on are important to improve the reporting obligations of the country.</p>
	<p>Limited national funding</p>

	<p>The projects carried out in The Bahamas rely on international experts due to a lack of nationally specialized staff and are not financed by national resources but by international funds. This is caused by a lack of nationally available funding for climate change issues. This results in a lack of ownership of the projects and the funds are directed to where the international community defines the need and not according to domestically identified needs.</p>
	<p>Hesitation to share information</p>
	<p>There is a current general hesitation to share information within the Ministries and political representatives, which can be caused by a lack of Memorandum of Understandings or confidentiality rules. This affects the transparency requirements of the country and provides difficulties to report all the necessary data.</p>

The following figure contains the problem tree for The Bahamas.

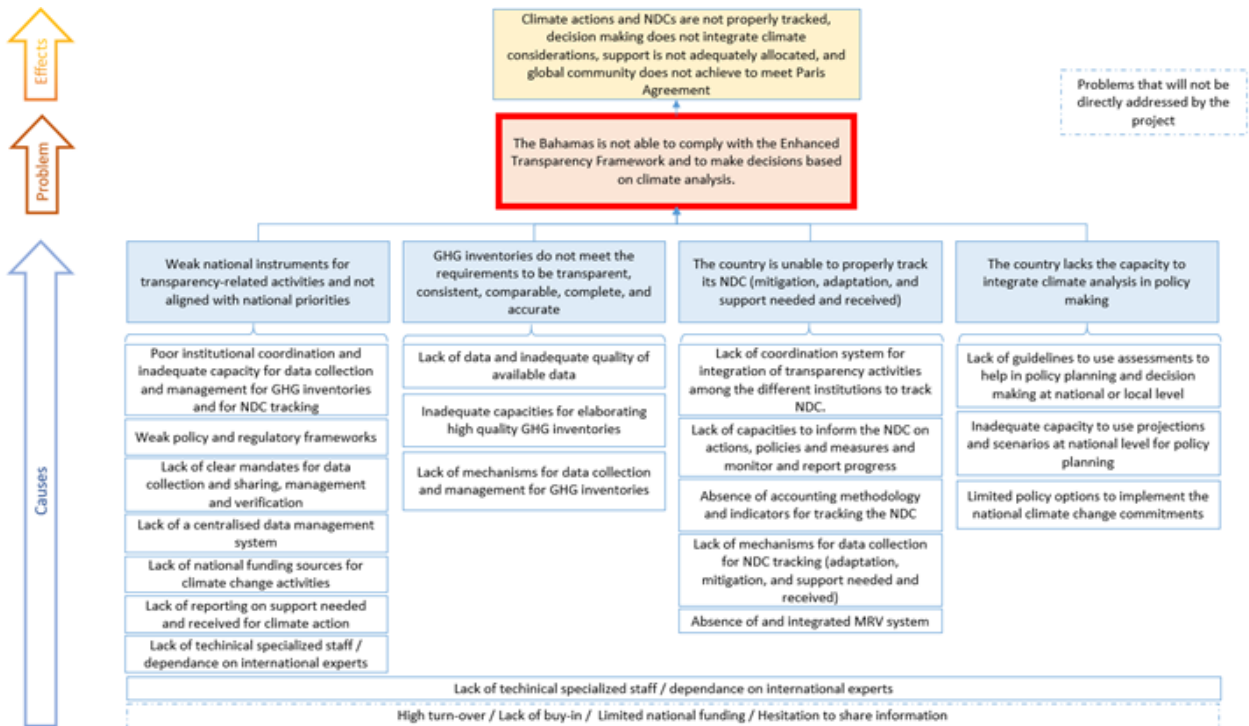


Figure 2 CBIT project Problem Tree

2) Baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects

Institutional framework for climate action

The Bahamas has made marked advancements over the last years. In terms of institutional arrangements to respond to the challenges posed by climate change, in The Bahamas the Cabinet constitutes the executive branch of the country and possesses the general direction and control of the Government of the country. There are currently 16 Cabinet Ministries in The Bahamas, with the Ministry of the Environment and Housing responsible for climate change issues in the country.

The Ministry of the Environment and Housing established the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection (DEPP) on 17th January 2020, which replaced The Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology (BEST) Commission, when the Environmental Planning and Protection Act (No. 40 of 2019) came into force. The Department's mandate is to prevent and control pollution, regulate the activities, the administration, conservation, and sustainable use of the environment, and supervises the following programmes:

- Environmental Protection Standards
- Regulations for the Discharge of Waste at Sea
- Environmental Emergency Programme
- Environment Information, Research, Education and Training

Furthermore, the Department also manages multilateral environmental agreements and consolidates all environmental protection and planning measures in one place to ensure a timely and coordinated response to environment and natural resource issues and emergencies.

In 1996, the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) was established to coordinate the fulfilment of The Bahamas' obligations and activities under the UNFCCC and to track The Bahamas' responses to the issue of climate change at the national, regional, and international levels. The Committee was originally established as a sub-committee of the BEST Commission, but now operates under the DEPP. To date, the committee comprises various government agencies, private stakeholders, and civil society organizations (CSOs). Since 2019, the NCCC has been meeting at least once per month to discuss, inter alia, the next steps required to implement climate projects and set more ambitious GHG reduction targets. The NCCC guides implementation measures and ensures the support of politicians and

policymakers. The activities of the NCCC are performed without any financial support and on a voluntary basis.

Currently, members of the NCCC have:

- Driven major policy mandates, including a recent act, The Environment Planning and Protection Act (2019) passed by The Cabinet that, as a component, seeks to "develop a robust climate change regime that applies adaptation and mitigation technologies to address vulnerabilities" (PART I, Section 2, Subsection (h)); and to develop National Policy for the Reduction of Emissions from Greenhouse Gases as set out in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its related Protocols? PART III, Section 15, Subsection 3(b).
- Served as the body that reviews national climate change related projects.
- Driven major climate change mitigation and adaptation projects especially in coastal protection/reinforcement and vegetative sequestration potential.
- Implemented climate change public education activities, for example the publication of a cartoon book on climate change for Bahamian school children, providing information on climate change in the national context.
- Led the gazettment of a Cabinet endorsed National Climate Change Policy.
- Led in the development of the First and Second National Climate Communications to the UNFCCC. The first was submitted in 2001, and the Second in 2015.
- Led in the development of increased national capacity in sectors related to climate change.
- Driven support for the procurement of climate adaptation modelling tools to the Department of Meteorology.
- Served to ensure the nationalization of climate change projects and reports (e.g., related to climate-associated gender aspect, the NDC, and climate educational programs).

The NCCC has the formal mandate and responsibility to prepare climate mitigation and adaptation reporting to the UNFCCC. However, with the increased reporting requirements driven by the ETF, the NCCC's capacity needs to be strengthened.

Country's vision and policy framework

The Bahamas is signatory of many international conventions and treaties that impact the national, regional, or global environment, such as various international multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) including the three "Rio Conventions" - the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nation Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and the

United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Bahamas signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 12th June 1992 and ratified it on 29th March 1994. The Convention came into force on 27th June 1994. The Bahamas ratified the Kyoto Protocol on 9th April 1999. It additionally ratified the Paris Agreement in 2016. Other international legal instruments concerning pollution, the remediation of pollution, conservation and protection of natural resources, and the protection of endangered wildlife that have been signed by The Bahamas are listed below:

- Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer Concluded at Vienna on 22 March 1985 (Ratified on 1 April 1993)
- Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer Concluded at Montreal on 16 September 1987 (Ratified on 4 May 1993)
- Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Ratified on 4 May 1993)
- Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Ratified 4 May 1993)
- Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal. Concluded at Basel on 22 March 1989 (Ratified 12 August 1992)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Concluded at New York on 9 May 1992 (Signed 12 June 1992; ratified 2 September 1994)
- Convention on Biological Diversity (Signed 12 June 1992; ratified 2 September 1994)
- Washington Convention or Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Law of the Sea Convention (1982)
- International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 1973 and 1978) (Effective application: 16 February 1979 and 2 October 1978 respectively)
- International Coral Reef Initiative
- Agenda 21
- The Barbados SIDS Action Plan
- Wider Caribbean Initiative on Generated Waste (MARPOL)
- UNEP Programme of Action
- Action Plan of the Summit of the Americas
- Programme of Action of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development
- Programme of Action of Conference of Parties (COP) II
- International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil (Ratified 22 October 1976)
- Amendments to the International convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954, Concerning Tank Arrangements and Limitation of tank Size (Ratified 16 February 1979)
- Amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, Concerning the Protection of the Great Barrier Reef (Ratified 16 February 1979)
- Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Use of Outer Space and Under Water (Ratified 11 August 1976)

- Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space Including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (Ratified 11 August 1976)
- International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage (20 January 1976)
- International Convention relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Oil Pollution Casualties (Ratified 30 March 1983)
- Protocol relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Marine Pollution by Substances Other than Oil (Ratified 30 March 1983)
- International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensating Oil Pollution Damage as Amended (Ratified 16 October 1978)
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxic Weapons, on their Destruction (Ratified 26 November 1986)
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10th December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (Ratified 16 January 1997); Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region
- Cartagena Convention to Negotiate Final Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities
- Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean (SPAW)
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention)

At national level, The Bahamas has several pieces of legislation that address natural resources management, environmental protection, and climate change. Among these are the Environmental Planning and Protection Act (2019), which established the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection (DEPP) and aims to prevent or control pollution, regulate activities, and work towards the administration, conservation, and sustainable use of the environment, The Bahamas National Trust Act (Chapter 391) 1959, Water and Sewerage Act (Chapter 196) 1976, Environmental Health Services Act (Chapter 232) 1987, Forestry Act 2010, The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund Act 2014, the National Policy for the Adaptation to Climate Change (2008) and the National Energy Policy (2013-2033), which aims to modernise, diversify and make the energy sector more efficient through the following four goals:

- Energy savings through improvements in energy-using technologies and energy supply systems.
- Modernise energy infrastructure consisting of energy efficient generation plants and distribution systems including a protocol for replacing old and inefficient plants.
- Develop indigenous renewable energy sources with the goal of increasing the percentage of renewables in the energy mix to 30% by 2030.
- Developing, implementing, maintaining, and continuously improving an effective legislative system to create a modern energy sector.

Accelerating action to adapt to and mitigate the consequences of climate change is critical. The Government of The Bahamas recognises the importance of addressing climate change both from a mitigation and adaptation perspective and is focussed on delivering adequate mitigation and adaptation actions under its NDC. However, the country has yet to put the systems in place to monitor and report on its progress.

Mitigation

The Bahamas has set an ambitious GHG mitigation target through its NDC (2016) and is planning to increase the ambition during the NDC update that will be done in 2022 (for presentation at COP 27). The country intends to reduce its emissions by 30% when compared to its Business as Usual (BAU) scenario by 2030 with mitigation actions in the prioritised electricity and transport sectors envisaged to lead to the emission reductions. The country is taking the need to reduce GHGs extremely seriously despite conflicting economically attractive opportunities of local coal and lignite availability. The electricity and transport sectors are the main usage sectors of fossil fuels in The Bahamas according to its last GHG inventory for 2000. Through the country's National Energy Policy, the Government has defined the policy framework for a low carbon development plan. The Policy sets a national target to achieve a minimum of 30% renewables share in the energy mix by 2030 and will allow for a 10% Residential Energy Self Generation Programme. The country aims to improve efficiency and energy diversification which will involve moving from a high dependence on petroleum to increased contributions of environmentally friendly locally available energy sources such as energy from solar, ocean and wind which will ultimately reduce the volumes and amounts of imported fossil fuels.

In addition, efforts under The Forestry Act have resulted in the establishment of a permanent forest state, of which 20% is designated into one of three categories, namely forest reserves, protected forests, and conservation forests. These areas will be subject to a management plan to ensure environmental conservation. The establishment of the National Forest Estate in The Bahamas will result in GHG emission reductions from land degradation and deforestations and increased carbon sequestration of approximately 5,661,077 tCO₂eq across several pine islands in the country.

Adaptation

The Bahamas has a relatively pristine environment which is under threat from climate change. It therefore needs to build adaptation into its national sectoral strategies and development practices and needs to make sure that these fit well with its mitigation strategies and its broader sustainable development goals (SDGs). The National Policy for the Adaptation to Climate Change (2008) is the

country's leading policy framework in the context of climate change adaptation. The policy recognizes the country's vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change, and to sea level rise, as well as its limited human and economic resources to address these impacts. The policy, therefore, focuses on adaptation and stresses the importance of biodiversity and the country's exclusive economic zone (EEZ). The National Adaptation Plan (2005) provides an assessment of the degree of vulnerability of The Bahamas to the projected impacts of climate change by sectors; of the capacity for adaptation to anthropogenic climate change; and proposes strategies for anticipating and ameliorating or avoiding the negative impacts. The country does acknowledge that building resilience through adaptation is a primary objective and is therefore focussed on committing to adaptation measures through its NDC. The key sectors for which adaptation options are proposed for implementation in The Bahamas' NDC are the following:

- Agriculture, livestock development and fisheries: Formulate and implement strategies and measures that will help to enhance food security and sustainable food production.
- Tourism: Work with stakeholders in the tourism sector to develop a strategic plan, which incorporates climate change considerations and appropriate measures such as water conservation programmes, as well as general sustainability concerns.
- Health and wellbeing: Inform, sensitize, and educate health personnel and the public-at-large about climate change related health matters including but not limited to heat stress, vector borne diseases and impacts on the vulnerable sub sector of society. Ensure that national emergency management planning also include heat stress, the impacts of vectors on human settlements and wellbeing.
- Human settlement (including housing, design of critical infrastructure, roads, bridges, air, and seaports): Develop a comprehensive National Land Use and Management Plan, which inter alia, incorporates climate change concerns and regulates the location of future settlements and urban developments without compromising water supply and other such requisites for sustainability. Establishing environmental guidelines for heights of infrastructure relative to mean sea level, incorporate climate change considerations in public building, and improving the building code to provide for stronger wind loads.
- Water resources management (including water supply services and potable water systems): Incorporate climate change concerns including 'worse case' scenarios of sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, flooding, and storm surges leading to inundation of well fields, and the needs to regulate water supplies to the different sectors. Provide for water reserves, the safe disposal of wastewater effluent and minimization of outflows into the marine environment by conserving wetlands and near and far shore marine ecosystems including mangroves.

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Remaining gaps

The Bahamas is taking this opportunity to integrate the tracking and management of its mitigation and adaptation actions, as well as climate finance, alongside its sustainable development goals. This work requires engagement with a wide range of different stakeholders and to ensure an adequate level of data

quality required by that of the UNFCCC. To do this, The Bahamas needs to establish a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system with reliable data flows and a robust evidence base for stakeholder engagement. This requires a transparent framework and structures for data exchange and the development of national Methods, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs), which are aligned with the MPGs adopted in Katowice, for the appropriate consideration of climate action across all areas of government, private sector, and civil society.

The transparency system will support The Bahamas to ensure that its climate actions complement and avoid conflicts with its sustainable development goals. The Bahamas has limited resources for implementing climate and other SDG actions. Well informed transparent decision making that maximizes synergies between climate action (SDG 13) and the other SDGs is needed. This is only possible with a transparency system which provides transparent, accurate and complete national data which informs national decision-makers and facilitates international assessments of progress.

Further investment in public education and outreach on environmental matters need to be made, with new investment in science, technology, and education. A general communications strategy for environmental issues was recommended, as well as further strengthening of public participation in development decisions, and rules regarding Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and access to environmental information. The lack of access to and development of national data, particularly disaggregated data, was a consistent concern of stakeholders. Several recommendations were made, including increased education for sustainable development, a new focus on a green economy, and the development of targets for monitoring and implementation of sustainable development.

Regarding the GHG Inventory, the second national communication (SNC) describes how the national rules governing statistical data made the GHG Inventory compilation process difficult. This was because no institutional framework exists under which agencies are required to provide data. This lack of a clear mandate has prevented institutions from providing the necessary data which would allow The Bahamas to accurately and adequately track its GHG emissions. Thus, this lack of a clear framework has had implications on which type of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) approaches could be used. To date, it has not been possible to go beyond a modified Tier 1 approach, i.e., inventories are heavily dependent on default rather than country-specific emission factors and assumptions.

The Second National Communication (SNC) suggests several actions to improve the inventory process. These are both of a systemic manner, such as reviewing and reforming the frameworks governing data collection and sharing between public institutions, and some are of a specific matter, such as a detailed study about the transport sector to determine what type of vehicles are used in the public and private

sectors. There is, however, no funding identified and limited technical knowledge for implementing these improvement suggestions. The SNC draws on the National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) report from 2005 which states that the "current levels of government funding are insufficient to adequately support the implementation of four international environmental conventions", which includes the UNFCCC. This leads to government institutions having to prioritize among their different responsibilities, choosing not to perform some to deliver on essential tasks. The SNC further describes the lacking capacity of the staff, which exacerbates the issue. Moreover, the preparation of international reporting uses international consultants who come in to write the reports; their capacity is not integrated into the government.

The SNC also highlighted the systemic needs of data disaggregation and transparency. This includes the different components countries can report on under the ETF - the GHG Inventory, the NDC progress, and support needed and received, and projections and scenarios for both mitigation and adaptation. Current technical capacity is lacking for NDC tracking, support needed and received and for generation of projections and scenario building. Specific tools for NDC tracking are additionally missing in the country.

Additionally, the approval process to participate in international training workshops is a rigorous and lengthy process which renders it difficult for many to participate in trainings. The SNC reiterates the conclusion of the 2005 National Environmental Management and Action Plan (NEMAP) that additional stable financial resources need to be made available for training. This underscores the need to establish a national capacity building mechanism.

With assistance from United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), The Bahamas is currently developing its Third National Communication (TNC) to the UNFCCC, which includes a national inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and sinks. The project started in January 2020 and is planned to end in April 2023. For the first time, a Biennial Update Report (BUR) will be furnished as an additional transparency component. This process will address some of the gaps which are identified in the SNC. The following work will be carried out in the development of The Bahamas' TNC and BUR1 projects:

- Address National Circumstances, Integration of Climate Change into National Development Priorities, Education, Training and Public Awareness, Information and Networking, and Capacity-Building in the context of the preparation of the TNC and BUR1.
- Enhance capacities of national experts in GHG Inventory and prepare the National Inventory Report (NIR) on GHG emissions in the context of the preparation of the TNC and BUR1.
- Address Environmentally Sensitive Technologies (EST) and Information on Research Programmes in the context of the preparation of the TNC and BUR1.

- Address and enhance capacity related to Research and Systematic Observation in the context of the preparation of the TNC and BUR1.
- Mitigation Assessment & Analysis Consultant in the context of the preparation of the TNC and BUR1.
- Enhance local capacity and support in vulnerability and adaptation initiatives in the context of the preparation of the TNC and BUR1.

The Enhanced Transparency Framework brings new challenges as The Bahamas is expected to report on the progress of its NDC as well. A system to tackle this has not been conceived in The Bahamas. The system would need to identify the indicators required to report on, and the methods to collect the data. It will also need to clarify the ways to report and communicate. While it is true that The Bahamas, as a SIDS, enjoys flexibility under the ETF, The Bahamas intends to build its capacity to report to the greatest possible degree.

Figure 3 shows The Bahamas' history of international climate change transparency reporting.



Figure 3 The Bahamas' transparency reporting history

On-going activities

The following table provides an overview of the results and findings of completed and ongoing projects which the CBIT project builds upon and considers in the project design and with which the project will be coordinated.

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
CBIT Global Coordination Platform	<p>This project provides streamlined support and capacity building at the country, regional, and global level to enable Non-Annex I countries under the UNFCCC and developing countries under the Paris Agreements to better respond to reporting requirements and to catalyse increased ambition within country NDCs.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: The Platform facilitates sharing of information, knowledge, and peer learning at the regional and global level. The Bahamas CBIT project will ensure knowledge sharing on the Global Platform and will draw expertise and information on best practices from it.</p>	2016-2024	Several global GEF projects, Global, UNEP/UNDP as Implementing agencies.
Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee	<p>A Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee of the NCCC was established in 2010 and has been active in education and outreach activities on climate change, e.g. ? the Subcommittee produced a comic book on climate change for Bahamian school children, providing nationally appropriate information on climate change.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: This project is a capacity building project that is facilitating early education of climate change in curricula and supports the ?learning by doing? initiative. It builds the capacity of the school system to raise awareness of climate change, and it is these lessons learnt which the CBIT project will draw on.</p>	2010 ? to date	The University of The Bahamas (formerly The College of The Bahamas), The Bahamas National Trust and Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
?Caribbean Planning for the Adaptation to Climate Change (CPACC)?	<p>A regional project that seeks to build capacity in the Caribbean region for the adaptation to climate change impacts, particularly sea-level rise through the completion of vulnerability assessments, adaptation planning, and capacity building activities.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: The project established sea level and climate monitoring systems throughout the region. It is also assisted with the establishment of the National Implementation Coordinating Unit (NICUs), the National Climate Change Committee.</p>	1997-2001, US\$5.6 m	GEF, World Bank, Organization of American States (OAS), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), The Bahamas, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent, and Trinidad and Tobago
Umbrella Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports to the UNFCCC	<p>A global project to support 25 countries to prepare their national communication and Biennial Update Reports to the UNFCCC.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: This project is highly relevant as it will prepare the Third National Communication and the first BUR of The Bahamas. The project is currently under implementation and will thus provide an up-to-date assessment of the current institutional arrangements, methodologies, capacity gaps and needs. This knowledge will be used through the implementation of the project.</p>	2017-2019, US\$15.3m	GEF, UNEP, DEPP. Countries included are Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Burundi, Chad; Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Mauritania, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Swaziland, Tanzania, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uzbekistan & Zimbabwe

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
National Cooling Strategy	<p>First draft of a strategy to address energy efficiency, ozone depletion and GHG reduction. The Strategy calls for a ban on high emission cooling systems.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: The strategy proposes the introduction of innovative, interactive, and comprehensive tracking tools at The Bahamas Customs Department for tracking the import of global warming potential (GWP) gases. It facilitates ways to make it easier for stakeholders and decision-makers to understand ozone-depleting and GWP gases data.</p>	2019	GEF, Various Ministries

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
Pine Island Project	<p>In the Pine Island Project, the Government allocated 283,750.2 hectares of forest for the development of a Forestry Estate in which three classes of forest have been created. Conservation Forest (52.65% of the total hectares), Protected Forests (13.33%), and Forest Reserves (34.02%). With assistance from UNEP and the GEF, these undertakings, among several others, support the conservation of biological resources (under the Convention on Biological Diversity), the prevention of desertification, land degradation,</p> <p>and drought (under the Convention to Combat Desertification), the sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of genetic resources,</p> <p>and the goals of the UNFCCC on the preservation of forests as carbon sinks for Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR). A Forestry Unit was established in 2010 by an Act of Parliament, and this unit will be monitoring forest outputs beyond the project.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: Development of a Forestry Estate to permanently protect national forests to increase carbon dioxide absorption capacity (or Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR)) and to improve national climate forcing to advance The Bahamas NDC</p>	2015-2019	GEF, UNEP

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
Water supply systems	<p>A Partnership with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to co-finance a project to improve access, reliability, and quality of the water supply systems in communities in New Providence and six Family (peripheral) Islands that have had limited access to potable water. The project has included new water-supply and water-distribution systems. In the mitigation and adaptation risk component, it puts special emphasis on placing the facilities at locations where vulnerability to water supply constraints during climate-related events and natural disasters are considerably reduced. The Production and Distribution facilities seek to be powered by traditional and renewal energy sources.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: Leverages the opportunity for the integration of sustainable development goals and climate resiliency in the water sector.</p>	2016-2020, \$41m	Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
Caribbean Climate Online Risk and Adaptation Tool Project	<p>Participation in training in the use of an online risk assessment and management tool- Caribbean Climate Online Risk and Adaptation Tool (CCORAL) whose purpose is intended to integrate climate resilience into Caribbean countries' daily decision-making processes for Policy & Legislation Framework, Land Use Planning and Land Development.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: Supports Institutional arrangements and governance structures to help play an important role in ensuring climate resilience screening of national policies, legislation, and development projects (Output 1, and 4)</p>	2015-2018, \$10m	Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), Multiple Government Ministries and Agencies

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
The Economics of Climate Adaptation & Ecosystem Based Services in San Salvador, Bahamas	In partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), engaged in a pilot project to determine costs of climate change, strategy, and action for one of the Family (outer) Islands called San Salvador (Bahamas). The project assessed the economic impact of climate change in San Salvador (Bahamas) and designed and prioritize measures to minimize their effects on tourism development. The results of the project were reinforced with workshops intended for local training.	2017- Current	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Factor-Ideas for Change; Institute De Hidraulica (IH) Ambiental ? University of Cantabria
Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas	<p>In partnership with The Bahamas National Trust, The Department of Agriculture, The Department of Marine Resources, and The Nature Conservancy, this GEF project seeks to Develop more effective management of Marine Protected Areas and to integrate the management plan into landscape planning. The project aims to reduce pressures on ecosystem services and biodiversity for competing resources. This project has been monitored by the Department of Environmental Planning & Protection (DEPP) and will continue to be monitored by DEPP.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: This GEF Project seeks to ensure 2,105,539 tCO₂-eq emissions are reduced in the Exuma Cays Land and Seas Park, Andros West Side National Park and Bonefish Pond National Park. The project will produce up to 5 carbon-neutral Marine Protected Area facilities (photovoltaic substitute for diesel generators), subsequently reducing tCO₂ emissions by 1,502,769.6 tCO₂ over several years and will introduce fees to help sustain the design.</p>	2016-2020, \$21m	GEF, Multiple Government Ministries and Agencies, The Nature Conservancy

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub (MRV Hub)	<p>The Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub (MRV Hub) assists the English-speaking countries in the Caribbean region to efficiently develop GHG inventories, mitigation projections, and track their NDCs. This initiative will pool experts from participating countries to establish regional MRV institutional arrangements and products. Last year the MRV Hub team completed a Capacity Building Report for The Bahamas which included a limited needs assessment, which could be further developed to meet the needs of the CBIT project. The MRV Hub is currently under contract to DEPP to map out and strengthen the national institutional arrangements, produce transparent MRV and mitigation outputs and to provide mentoring and capacity building for DEPP staff including the National Inventory Team (NIT) and external stakeholders. Although the scope and resources for such support are very limited.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project: The MRV Hub was set to empower English-speaking countries in the region to efficiently develop GHG inventories, mitigation assessments, and track NDCs. This goes hand in hand with the transparency goals of this CBIT to strengthen The Bahamas' environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement. The DEPP, who coordinates the MRV Hub support as well, has the intention to integrate the work of the MRV Hub team with outputs of the CBIT work. It can be added that UNEP is a close partner to the MRV Hub project as well, thus further strengthening the coordination of the project. Moreover, it is important to note that MRV Hub's support will be limited, as it is \$3m for 12 countries. Additionally, a MRV Hub was consulted during PPG phase and reviewed the CBIT proposal to ensure coordination, synergies and avoid duplication of efforts during project implementation.</p>	2018-2023, \$3m	International Climate Initiative (IKI), Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI), Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad, and Tobago

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme	<p>This project aims at removing barriers to renewable energy utilization in the Caribbean. Through specific actions to overcome policy, finance, capacity, and awareness barriers it is estimated that the contribution of renewable energy sources to the region's energy balance will be significantly increased. Currently, renewable energy provides less than 2% of the region's commercial electricity. It is estimated that due to the planned barrier removal activities the share of renewable energy could reach 5% by 2015. This would imply annual reductions of CO2 emissions by some 680,000 tons. Part of the GEF funding will be used through non-grant instruments to remove incremental risks related to RE investments thus improving the cost-effectiveness of the GEF resource utilization.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project:</p> <p>The programme aims to overcome policy, finance, capacity, and awareness barriers to renewable energy utilization in the Caribbean. Lessons learned can be taken away from this project to assess how barriers in the CBIT project can be overcome in The Bahamas on similar issues concerning policy, finance, capacity, and awareness barriers.</p>	1998-2013, USD 21.9 M	<p>GEF, UNDP, Caribbean Community (CARICOM)</p> <p>The countries included are Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Turks and Caicos.</p>

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
Caribbean: Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change	<p>The overall objective of the proposed project is to build capacity in the CARICOM Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to develop Stage II adaptation strategies and measures, according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the guidance issued at the Conference of Parties. This will be sought through support to: (i) the mainstreaming of climate change considerations into development planning and sectoral investment projects; (ii) appropriate technical and institutional response mechanisms for adaptation to global climate change; and (iii) regional climate change monitoring and modelling.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project:</p> <p>The project works towards increased capacity building to develop adaptation strategies and measures. One of the aims of the CBIT project is to increase awareness through educational trainings and workshops and the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change project can provide fruitful insight in capacity building opportunities and possibilities in The Bahamas.</p>	2001-2009, USD 9.6 M	<p>GEF, The World Bank, Caribbean Climate Change Center (CCCC), and Caribbean Community (CARICOM)</p> <p>The countries included are Antigua And Barbuda, Barbados, Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, and St. Vincent and Grenadines.</p>

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
Promoting Sustainable Energy in The Bahamas	<p>The general objective of this project is to promote and support the development and implementation of sustainable energy sources in The Bahamas providing alternatives to reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels. The specific objectives of this project are: (i) provide technical assistance to the Government of The Bahamas (GoBH) to achieve energy efficiency (EE) in public buildings, the residential sector and commercial sectors, and to implement demonstration projects, in particular the phase-out of incandescent lights by replacing them with Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) and installation of Solar Water Heater (SWH) systems at the residential level; (ii) explore alternatives for renewable energy (RE), and implement pilot projects in RE, in particular a demonstration project for household photovoltaic (PV) systems connected to the grid using net metering devices; (iii) strengthen the energy sector in Bahamas; (iv) support the GoBH with a review of energy legislation, regulatory and policy issues to promote sustainable energy as well as institutional strengthening in the areas EE, RE and WE; and (v) dissemination of findings. GEF resources will be used to finance two pilot/demonstration projects one in RE consisting of the installation of solar photovoltaic generators on buildings (PVB) using net metering devices as well as an EE program via the installation of solar water heaters (SWH) in representative parts of The Bahamas.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project:</p> <p>Two objectives of this GEF project are to provide technical assistance to the Government of The Bahamas and review legislation, regulatory and policy issues in the energy sector in The Bahamas. The dissemination of the findings of this project can assist the CBIT project in the analysis of current institutional arrangements and the analysis of gaps and issues in the energy sector.</p>	2009-2014, USD 3.8 M	GEF, Inter-American Development Bank, Ministry of Environment of The Bahamas

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
<p>A Participatory Approach to Managing the Environment: An Input to the Inter-American Strategy for Participation (ISP)</p>	<p>The project aims to build capacity within the countries of the Americas for the successful incorporation of public participation practices in sustainable development policy formulation and decision-making; to design mechanisms to improve communication and promote partnership among governments (national and local), nongovernmental organizations, community and local groups, the private sector, and academic organizations in these matters; and to provide technical assistance for exchanging information and developing methodologies for conflict resolution and consensus building.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project:</p> <p>It aims to build capacity through a participatory approach for the successful incorporation of public participation practices in policy formulation and decision-making. There is a current lack of awareness and educational training and participation which the CBIT project will work towards overcoming. The GEF project can provide insights in previous participation approaches and practices.</p>	<p>1997-2001, USD 1.5 M</p>	<p>GEF, UNEP, Organization of American States (OAS)</p> <p>The countries included are Antigua And Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Bahamas, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Paraguay, El Salvador, St. Vincent and Grenadines</p>

Project name	Description and relevance to the CBIT project	Time frame and funding (USD)	Key stakeholders
GEF SGP Sixth Operational Phase- Strategic Implementation using STAR Resources, Tranche 2 (Part IV)	<p>To support the creation of global environmental benefits and the safeguarding of the global environment through community and local solutions that complement and add value to national and global level action.</p> <p>Relevance to CBIT project:</p> <p>This project can support the CBIT project in providing information on the integration of community and local stakeholders in national and global level action.</p>	2017-Current, USD 39.1 M	<p>GEF, UNDP, and UNOPS</p> <p>The countries included are Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Bahamas, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Georgia, Jordan, St. Kitts And Nevis, Lao PDR, St. Lucia, Marshall Islands, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Sierra Leone, Turkey, Tuvalu, Tanzania, Ukraine, and Uganda</p>

At the stage of the CEO Endorsement request preparation:

The Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI) in partnership with the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub, has been contracted to produce The Bahamas? Greenhouse Gas National Inventory Report, Mitigation Assessment (NAMAs), Report on Support Received to Enable Preparation of the BUR, and Domestic Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Roadmap under the Third National Communication/Biennial Update Report. Although the project scope was limited, GHGMI/CCMRV has supported capacity-building efforts through office hours conducted for members of the NCCC enrolled in the IPCC 501 course (with over 90% of participants passing the course). During the CBIT project development, GHGMI/CCMRVH has been conducting capacity building and training on Mitigation and GHG Inventories - including modelling (with over 20 participants across the public, private and civil society sectors) who will eventually form the National Inventory Team. GHGMI/CCMRVH is also building upon a Climate Finance MRV manual that has been developed under a previous GCF readiness project.

- IADB has approved a small grant in September of 2014 to help assess carbon footprints of islands in The Bahamas (Harbor Island), Belize, and Trinidad. These islands were chosen as pilots as they have aggregate carbon emission data spanning several years. The project was trying to achieve a low carbon island as a function to attract a certain class of tourist, and the project had three components. All these project coordinators and project participants, and the following trained participants should be involved in the CBIT project implementation, in the capacity building activities on GHG inventory.
- Three Technical Officers from the DEPP, one Consultant, and a Senior Medical Officer from the Ministry of Health's climate change unit have been involved in a training hosted by the Inner City Fund and USAID partnership on "Integrating Climate Risk in Long Term Strategy Planning" (September, 2020), these experts and the following trained ones should be involved in the CBIT project

implementation, in particular in the capacity building activities related with vulnerability assessments and monitoring and evaluation of adaptation.

- There are other activities coming on stream which will be coordinated with the CBIT project.

3) Proposed alternative scenario with a description of project components, outcomes, outputs, and activity/deliverables.

The objective of the CBIT project is to assist The Bahamas in improving the data collection for the GHG inventory, NDC tracking, and support needed and received and establish a sustainable system which thereby improves the reporting (NCs, BTRs, etc.) and transparency and provides a firmer basis for evidence-based-policymaking. The current collection of data is insufficient for the GHG inventory and for NDC tracking, and the data and methodologies for identifying the support needed and received are also lacking. Therefore, without this project, the methodologies and tools needed to enhance transparency as stipulated in Article 13 of the Paris Agreements will not be implemented in the country and future reporting requirements will not be fulfilled within the required timeline. The Bahamas will not be able to put in place a system that will smoothen and facilitate provision of accurate information and monitoring and assessment of the instruments that the country selects to address climate change. It will additionally not be able to track emissions progress against the NDC targets and for future revisions to the NDC target, as there is a major need to improve its institutional capacities and establish sustainable institutional arrangements, procedures, and protocols.

Thus, the CBIT project provides an alternative approach that is structured around one single component and two outcomes. This will be achieved through four outputs, through which the project will contribute to the overcoming of existing barriers and an increased coordination and capacity of institutions that participate in the preparation of national reports or contribute with their programs, projects, and activities to comply with the country's commitments expressed in the NDCs. The CBIT project will enhance capacities to meet the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The following activities will be carried out under the four outputs:

? Establishing and strengthening The Bahamas' institutional arrangements for robust coordination and implementation of climate action transparency activities.

? Enhancing and operationalizing the national GHG inventory system according to the guidelines and protocols stipulated in the Paris Agreement.

? Provision of tools, training, and assistance for meeting the transparency provisions established in the Paris Agreement and the MPGs and enabling The Bahamas to track its NDC.

? Provision of tools, training, and assistance for incorporating climate analysis into decision-making and establishment of a sustainable capacity building mechanism.

The outcome and all the outputs of the CBIT project have been designed to address the short and long-term capacity building needs for The Bahamas, including strengthening the technical capacity of key stakeholders in addressing the linkages between gender and climate change. Capacity building will be done at private and public sector and at institutional, individual and policy levels. This will ensure creation of a robust, transparent, and sustainable system to be put in place, which will facilitate the elaboration of a better quality GHG inventory and the management of data and information on climate change mitigation and adaptation and utilized to track progress towards achievement of country's NDCs. Under Output 2 and 3 tools and trainings that are expected to result in efficiency improvements are provided, which will allow The Bahamas to increase the frequency of its transparency reporting, mainly but not limited to, the BTRs. Moreover, the development of transparency system and of the institutional arrangements for transparency will facilitate the development of national and international reporting documents. The definition of roles, processes and mandates will clarify the division of responsibilities and the nature of collaboration between the different actors. This will enable The Bahamas to increase the frequency and quality of reporting to the UNFCCC, including NCs, BTRs, NIR, etc. In the absence of this support, The Bahamas will continue relying heavily on external consultants without the necessary institutional arrangements being in place, the technical knowhow not being fully built.

The following figure illustrates the strategy and the theory of change of the project.

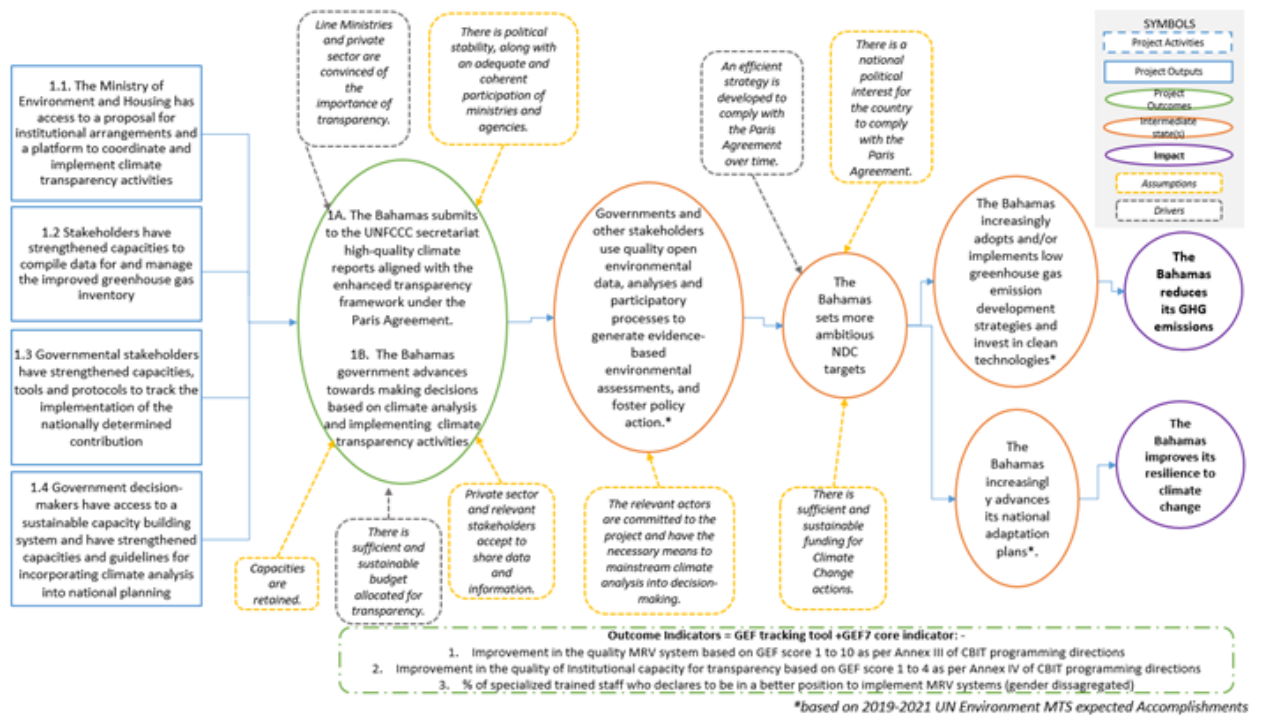


Figure 4 CBIT project Theory of Change

As illustrated in the theory of change figure, the main gaps, and constraints of The Bahamas for the implementation of a national system to meet the requirements of the enhanced transparency framework will be addressed by the CBIT project outputs and outcome.

The following table further analyses the gaps in The Bahamas according to the Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs) and explains how the CBIT project will overcome these gaps. The MPGs are based on a set of guiding principles and define the reporting information to be provided in the upcoming Biennial Transparency Reports.

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
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Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
<p>National inventory report of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases (Chapter II of the MPGs)</p>	<p>Lack of implemented national inventory arrangements.</p>	<p>The process for accessing and retrieving data collected for statistical purposes in The Bahamas was governed by rules that make access and data usage difficult for stakeholders as ?a framework for reporting of the data and obtaining access to the data did not exist?. As such, data held in statistical databases could not be made available for the inventory without violating existing rules and regulations. This issue applied to all sectors during the country?s last GHG inventory. The MPGs suggest that each Party should implement and maintain national inventory arrangements, including institutional, legal, and procedural arrangements for the continued estimation, compilation, and timely reporting of national inventory reports in accordance with these MPGs (Chapter 2, section B, paragraph 18 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project will provide support to draft formal institutional arrangements and legal framework to collect and manage GHG inventory data under Output 1 of the project.</p> <p>The project will additionally train GHG inventory experts to elaborate the GHG inventory according to the arrangements established as well as key stakeholders on how to use the GHG inventory to do projections, scenarios, and mitigation assessments, to build the appropriate indicators to track the NDC and to integrate climate data into policy planning and decision-making processes under Outputs 2, 3 and 4.</p>	<p>National inventory arrangements will be formalized using best international practices and according to the national circumstances.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>Not applying the most recent international guidelines and assessment reports available for the national GHG inventory preparation.</p>	<p>The Bahamas uses the Revised 1996 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories for its national inventory of greenhouse gases. The MPGs states that each Party to use the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, and shall use any subsequent version or refinement of the IPCC guidelines agreed upon by the CMA (Chapter 2, section C, paragraph 20 of the MPGs).</p> <p>The Bahamas uses the global warming potential (GWP) values for 100-year time horizon from the Second Assessment Report (SAR). The MPGs state that each Party shall use the 100-year time-horizon global warming potential (GWP) values from the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, or 100-year time-horizon GWP values from a subsequent IPCC assessment report as agreed upon by the CMA, to report aggregate emissions and</p>	<p>The project will provide capacity building support to train technical staff on 2006 IPCC Guidelines or the latest applicable as well as relevant tools and protocols to improve the national GHG inventory in The Bahamas under Output 2 of the project.</p>	<p>National stakeholders are trained to use the 2006 IPCC Guidelines/latest applicable and relevant tools and protocols to elaborate the GHG inventory sector.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>Insufficient data in certain IPCC sectors.</p>	<p>In some cases, in the previous national GHG inventory of The Bahamas the data available was not immediately suitable for input into the IPCC spreadsheets. In such cases, assumptions were made to allow the incorporation of this data and modifications needed to be made to the IPCC reference approach to accommodate the type, format and accuracy of the data collected by national authorities, even though this might not have better reflected the national circumstances. In some instances, the types of national data were simply not available. The MPGs state that Parties may use nationally appropriate methodologies if they better reflect its national circumstances and are consistent with the IPCC guidelines (Chapter 2, section c, paragraph 22 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project has set up a stakeholder's engagement plan (including the private sector) through which both required and unavailable data and information will be identified for implementing the relevant mechanisms for its regular production and update. The institutional arrangements formalized under output 1 will cover all data needs, who and how data should be shaped and its reporting to a centralized platform.</p> <p>The most important stakeholders of the GHG inventory (the biggest energy consumers/suppliers from the private sector) have been consulted through bilateral meetings during PPG preparation and engaged for CBIT project implementation.</p> <p>Additionally, the CBIT project will support the adoption of a centralised data platform, including the procurement of the necessary hard- and software to improve the overall quality of the GHG inventory according to the 2006 IPCC/latest available Guidelines under Output 1 of the project. It will additionally provide capacity building on the IPCC 2006 Guidelines and relevant tools and protocols under</p>	<p>A centralised data platform is in place where all data can be collected according to the 2006 IPCC/latest available Guidelines and the GHG inventory process is improved to provide good quality data.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>Key category analysis has not been performed in the national GHG inventory.</p>	<p>The Bahamas has not conducted a key category analysis in its national GHG inventory. The MPGs state that each Party shall identify key categories for the starting year and the latest reporting year, including and excluding land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) categories, using approach 1, for both level and trend assessment (Chapter 2, section c, paragraph 25 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project will provide training on the use of the 2006 IPCC/latest available Guidelines including cross-cutting sessions that will deal on key category analysis and uncertainties under Output 2 of the project.</p>	<p>Key category analysis is an integral part of The Bahamas' upcoming GHG inventories.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>Uncertainty analysis has not been performed in the national GHG inventory.</p>	<p>The Bahamas has not conducted an uncertainty analysis in its national GHG inventory. The MPGs state that each Party shall quantitatively estimate and qualitatively discuss the uncertainty of the emission and removal estimates for all source and sink categories, including inventory totals, for at least the starting year and the latest reporting year of the inventory time series (Chapter 2, section c, paragraph 29 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project will provide training on the use of the 2006 IPCC/latest available Guidelines including cross-cutting sessions that will deal on key category analysis and uncertainties under Output 2 of the project</p>	<p>Uncertainty analysis are an integral part of The Bahamas? upcoming GHG inventories.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>Insufficient information and data unavailability.</p>	<p>In some instances, in The Bahamas? previous GHG inventory, types of national data were simply not available. In the transport sector, for example, data on fuel usage and numbers, types, and sizes of vessels in the marine transport, commercial, and recreational fishing sub-sectors, were not available. Limited data was available from the electricity sector which is dominated by two large power producers, and this allowed broad categorization of energy data into power production and transportation. However, the MPGs suggest that each Party should indicate the sources and sinks (categories, pools, and gases) that are not considered in the national inventory report but for which estimation methods are included in the IPCC guidelines (Chapter 2, section c, paragraph 30 of the MPGs). Additionally, it states that each Party shall use notation keys where numerical</p>	<p>The CBIT project will provide training on the use of the 2006 IPCC/latest available Guidelines including cross-cutting sessions that will deal on data collection, estimation methods when data is not available, QA/QC procedures and improvement plans under Output 2 of the project. Additionally, the CBIT project has set up a stakeholder's engagement plan (including the private sector) through which both required and unavailable data and information will be identified for implementing the relevant mechanisms for its regular production and update. The institutional arrangements formalized under output 1 will cover all data needs, who and how data should be shaped and its reporting to a centralized platform.</p> <p>The most important stakeholders of the GHG inventory (the biggest energy consumers/suppliers from the private sector) have been consulted through bilateral meetings during PPG preparation and engaged for CBIT project implementation.</p>	<p>Data is available from all sectors according to the 2006 IPCC/latest Guidelines and is reported on a regular and complete basis to the centralised data platform developed under output 1.</p> <p>Relevant staff is trained on data collection and reporting, estimation methods when data is not available, QA/QC procedures and improvement plans, and the information included in the upcoming GHG inventory reports.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	Lack of quality assurance and quality control analysis in the national GHG inventory.	The Bahamas has provided information on quality assurance and quality control in its national GHG inventory. The MPGs suggest that each Party shall elaborate an inventory quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) plan in accordance with the IPCC guidelines (Chapter 2, section c, paragraph 34 of the MPGs). Additionally, it states that each Party shall implement and provide information on general inventory QC procedures (Chapter 2, section c, paragraph 35 of the MPGs).	The CBIT project will provide training on the use of the 2006 IPCC/latest available Guidelines including cross-cutting sessions that will deal on data collection, estimation methods when data is not available, QA/QC procedures and improvement plans under Output 2 of the project.	Quality assurance and quality control analysis are an integral part of The Bahamas' upcoming GHG inventories.

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
<p>Information necessary to track progress made in implementing and achieving nationally determined contributions under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (Chapter III of the MPGs)</p>	<p>Lack of implemented institutional arrangements to track NDC.</p>	<p>The Bahamas does not report on the institutional arrangements in place to track its NDC yet. The MPGs state that each Party shall provide information on the institutional arrangements in place to track progress made in implementing and achieving its NDC under Article 4, including those used for tracking internationally transferred mitigation outcomes, if applicable, along with any changes in institutional arrangements since its most recent biennial transparency report (Chapter 3, section a, paragraph 61 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project will provide support to draft formal institutional arrangements and legal framework for NDC tracking under Output 1 of the project and design a domestic MRV and M&E transparency system under Output 3.</p>	<p>National institutional arrangements are established for NDC implementation, tracking and update according to international best practices on climate MRV and M&E and the national circumstances.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>Lack of procedural arrangements related to the implementation and achievement of its NDC.</p>	<p>The Bahamas does not report on the procedural arrangements related to the implementation and achievement of its NDC. The MPGs state that each Party shall provide information on legal, institutional, administrative, and procedural arrangements for domestic implementation, monitoring, reporting, archiving of information and stakeholder engagement related to the implementation and achievement of its NDC under Article 4 (Chapter 3, section a, paragraph 62 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project will provide support to draft formal institutional arrangements and legal framework for NDC tracking under Output 1 of the project and design a domestic MRV and M&E transparency system under Output 3. Trainings are foreseen under outputs 2, 3 and 4 to help tracking and updating the NDC including the procedures developed which will be also tested under the CBIT project. A strong stakeholders engagement plan has been initiated during PPG preparation and strengthen during project implementation.</p>	<p>National procedural arrangements are established for NDC implementation, tracking and update according to international best practices on climate MRV and M&E.</p> <p>The stakeholder's engagement plan is maintained through provision of information from the stakeholders following the procedures established on a regular basis for NDC tracking and further update.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>No selected indicators for NDC tracking.</p>	<p>The Bahamas has set targets for mitigation and adaptation in its INDC but has not provided information regarding the tracking of these commitments. The MPGs state that each Party shall identify the indicator(s) that it has selected to track progress towards the implementation and achievement of its NDC under Article 4. Indicators shall be relevant to a Party's NDC under Article 4 and may be either qualitative or quantitative (Chapter 3, section c, paragraph 65 of the MPGs). These indicators could include, as appropriate, for example: net GHG emissions and removals, percentage reduction of GHG intensity, relevant qualitative indicators for a specific policy or measure, mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans or other (Chapter 3, section c, paragraph 66 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project will support the design of monitoring indicators for NDC sectors and support the implementation of tools, templates, protocols, and guidelines for NDC tracking under Output 3 of the project.</p> <p>Policy planners and decision makers will be trained under Output 4.</p>	<p>The tracking of The Bahamas' NDC will include validated indicators according to national circumstances and the content of the NDC and methodological descriptions for each indicator. Roles, Arrangements, Tools, templates, protocols, and guidelines for NDC tracking are established and used on a regular basis (at least every two years for BTR reporting and every five years for NDC update). Policy planners take informed decisions and implement the right policies for the achievement of the NDC.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
	<p>Insufficient information on actions, policies and measures that support the NDC.</p>	<p>The Bahamas has not reported information in its NDC on other actions, policies and measures that might support its implementation. The MPGs state that each Party shall provide information on actions, policies and measures that support the implementation and achievement of its NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>focusing on those that have the most significant impact on GHG emissions or removals and those impacting key categories in the national GHG inventory. This information shall be presented in narrative and tabular format (Chapter 3, section d, paragraph 80 of the MPGs).</p>	<p>The CBIT project will analyse current best practices on climate MRV and M&E and support the implementation of tools, templates, protocols, and guidelines that support the NDC under Output 3 of the project. It will provide training on integrating climate data and projections into decision-making in Output 4 of the project.</p> <p>Policy planners and decision makers will thus be trained under Output 4 on how to develop and monitor actions, policies and measures that support the NDC.</p>	<p>The Bahamas incorporates and monitors related actions, policies, and measures to support the implementation of its NDC.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
<p>Information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement (Chapter IV of the MPGs)</p>	<p>Lack of a monitoring and evaluation system of adaptation</p>	<p>The Bahamas provided information related to climate change impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation in its second NC (Chapter 4 Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation). So, The Bahamas meets this requirement, although the reporting of this information is not mandatory.</p> <p>The Bahamas provided information about national circumstances, institutional arrangements, legal frameworks, impacts, risks, vulnerabilities, adaptation priorities and barriers and limited information on adaptation strategies, policies, plans, goals, and actions to integrate adaptation into national policies and strategies. The completeness of the information is not enough to properly meet all information requirements of the MPGs related to climate change impacts and adaptation. The Bahamas does not provide</p>	<p>The CBIT project will support the design and implementation of a M&E system which will be developed under the TNC/BUR1 project under Output 3.</p> <p>Training to track adaptation actions, policies and measures proposed in the NDC will be provided under Output 3.</p> <p>Additionally, policy planners and decision makers will be trained on how to use climate projections, scenarios, and vulnerability assessments to develop adaptation measures under Output 4.</p>	<p>National stakeholders dealing with adaptation are trained to develop, implement, track, and evaluate adaptation measures.</p> <p>Decision makers are well prepared to take informed decisions on the measures to implement.</p> <p>The adaptation component of the NDC is tracked on a regular basis.</p>

Information to be provided	Main current gaps and constraints	Implications for meeting the requirements of the ETF and the MPGs	How is the gap addressed in the CBIT project	End of the project situation
<p>Information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9?11 of the Paris Agreement (Chapter VI of the MPGs)</p>	<p>Lack of a climate finance strategy, architecture, and methodology to track and report on international and domestic climate finance flows and the support needed and received is not quantified.</p>	<p>According to the MPGs, developing country Parties should provide information on financial, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building support needed and received under Articles 9?11 of the Paris Agreement. The Bahamas provided this information in its second NC (Chapter 6 Constraints, Gaps and Related Financial, Technical and Capacity Needs).</p> <p>Regarding the contents and characteristics of the report, The Bahamas provided information on the financial, technology, and capacity-building support that it needs and has received, but the completeness of the information is not enough to properly meet all information provisions of the MPGs. In particular, the country does not provide information related to institutional arrangements relevant to reporting on support needed and received and</p>	<p>The CBIT project will provide the design of a climate finance strategy, a climate finance architecture, and the procedures for its implementation under Output 3.</p> <p>A methodology to track climate finance flows and assess the financial needs will be also provided under Output 3.</p>	<p>Financial resources are secured for climate action and reporting.</p> <p>International and domestic climate finance flows are tracked and reported.</p> <p>Financial needs are identified, tracked, and updated.</p>

Overcoming the challenges described in the previous table will only be possible through the implementation of the CBIT project and are essential to allow The Bahamas to meet the requirements of the ETF by 2024.

The following paragraphs provide more detailed information on the CBIT project, in particular the expected outputs and the suggested activities and deliverables by output.

Component 1: Strengthening The Bahamas? enabling environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement.

Outcome 1:

1A. The Bahamas submits to the UNFCCC secretariat high-quality climate reports aligned with the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.

1B. The Bahamas government advances towards making decisions based on climate analysis and implementing climate transparency activities.

The current (limiting) behaviour that will be addressed to support realization of the outcome	Desired transformation of behaviour
Government officials are not institutionally able to prepare high quality climate reports, including GHG inventory.	Government officials prepare high quality climate reports including GHG Inventory, Mitigation actions MRV through NDC progress tracking, Support needed and received tracking.
Government officials are not technically able to prepare high quality climate reports, including GHG inventory.	Government officials prepare high quality climate reports including GHG Inventory, Mitigation actions MRV through NDC progress tracking, Support needed and received tracking.

National stakeholders are not able to integrate high-level climate analysis in decision-making for national planning	National stakeholders integrate high-level climate analysis in decision-making for national planning
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Through the projects' support, the Government of The Bahamas will expand the legal mandate for all institutions involved in the transparency activities and climate action including the NCCC, under the coordination of the Department of Environmental Planning & Protection (DEPP), to also shoulder the additional reporting responsibilities. The project will develop the required institutional arrangements to ensure the data flow for the new transparency areas. The project will also develop the methodologies, guidelines, and procedures to improve inventory reporting and establish NDC reporting. These will be aligned with the modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs) adopted in Conference of Parties (COP) 24 in 2018. The project will also establish mechanisms to use the information generated by these systems for actors in both the private and public sectors. These systems will allow The Bahamas to compile more complete reports to the UNFCCC - both the GHG inventories as part of the National Communications, and for the coming Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs). The tools and systems also enable The Bahamas to monitor the development of climate and other types of data. Moreover, the project will build the capacity of The Bahamas to use the information to create projections, scenarios and assessments and incorporate this into both public and private decision-making processes.

The CBIT project in The Bahamas will be implemented by the core staff, consisting of the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), the National Project Coordinator, a Junior Officer and a technical Transparency Officer specialized in transparency and climate change matters. This core team will perform key tasks in each activity under each output below. However, when external support is needed to complete a specific activity, this will be sourced outside the core team. The strong involvement and strengthening of the NCCC in the project will allow for better information sharing between all the relevant institutions in the country, which also can act to reduce the challenges when staff leaves positions, as the counterpart in another institution will maintain part of the knowledge on their side.

•Output 1.1 The Ministry of Environment and Housing has access to a proposal for institutional arrangements and a platform to coordinate and implement climate transparency activities.

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- This output will strengthen the DEPP's role in coordinating and implementing transparency activities in The Bahamas. The coordinating entity will collect and compile data from all the relevant ministries for the GHG emission inventory and mitigation and adaptation NDC reporting needs, as well as support needed and received tracking. This output will define, design, and propose the institutional arrangements and procedures for all processes and will implement an IT centralised data management and knowledge platform in consultation with key national stakeholders. The proposed institutional arrangements and procedures and the legal instrument for the implementation will be presented to the

Ministry of the Environment and Housing for adoption, and technical support will be provided to the Ministry for the adoption process.

This output will also strengthen the NCCC as the verification entity for climate data collected for the GHG emission inventory and NDC reporting. The Bahamas currently lacks a national system for data collection, storage, archiving and retrieval of data, which was highlighted in the SNC as one of the main activities to improve the GHG inventory process. This output will therefore address this barrier by providing the software and hardware to create a centralised climate-resilient data management platform for the stakeholders involved in the preparation of the reports and a knowledge platform where the public can access the climate data and the reports produced by the country. This platform will thus allow collecting and storing information from all relevant stakeholders that is needed for the preparation of the GHG inventory and the tracking, implementation, and update of the NDC. Also, the DEPP will publish information on The Bahamas' transparency activities on the knowledge platform and make it available to the public. This will include communications and information on the CBIT project activities and the knowledge products produced by the CBIT project.

The SNC also describes how in the preparation of the second GHG inventory, national rules and regulations governing public statistics made the access to emissions data impossible. A framework for reporting of the data and obtaining access to the data did not exist during the preparation of the second GHG inventory. This issue applied to all sectors of the inventory and meant that while data existed and was stored in statistical databases, it was not possible to be accessing it without violating rules and regulations, and thus it was not possible to disaggregate it to have a more accurate GHG inventory. This output will address this barrier with the proposal of the formal institutional arrangements, which include data-sharing agreements.

The Bahamas needs to implement mitigation and adaptation action urgently to counter the impacts of climate change and meet the commitments under the Paris Agreement and its NDC. However, most financing needs are conditional, as per The Bahamas' NDC. By developing a climate finance strategy, The Bahamas can better position itself to rapidly mobilize and scale up climate finance. An inter-institutional climate finance architecture will be needed to implement the strategy as well as a methodology to identify and classify the climate finance flows in the country. The needs of financial resources for transparency activities and climate action and the lack of information on climate finance flows will be addressed under this output. In addition, the NCCC, which coordinates the fulfilment of The Bahamas' obligations and activities under the UNFCCC, currently operates on a voluntary basis. Under this output, a financial assessment will be carried out to propose a financing scheme for the NCCC to ensure that it can be sustainably and sufficiently staffed and properly track information on climate finance flows. This will strengthen the NCCC's capacity to meet the increased reporting requirements driven by the ETF.

This output also addresses the current lack of technical specialized staff and the subsequent dependence on international support by providing capacity building and institutional memory activities in the shape of multiple trainings on the use of the centralized data and knowledge platform operationalized under this output. Training is additionally provided on tracking financial flows in The Bahamas for government stakeholders involved to be able to conduct these activities after completion of the CBIT project.

This output will be realized through the following suggested activities:

? Assess the national institutions capacities, existing procedures, and mandates to coordinate, perform and implement transparency activities, including the analysis of current gaps and propose ways and recommendations to overcome them and design a conceptual transparency framework for GHG inventory compilation and NDC tracking with an action plan and a roadmap for its implementation. This activity will be done in close consultation with national transparency stakeholders who will validate the conceptual framework before this is presented to the Government for adoption.

This activity will be supported by an international transparency consultant.

? Draft and propose for adoption formal institutional arrangements and legal framework to collect and manage GHG Inventory data and information for tracking and updating the NDC (on mitigation: electricity, transport, and forestry; on adaptation: agriculture, livestock development and fisheries, Tourism, Health and wellbeing, Human settlement, and Water resources management), support needed and received to the Ministry of the Environment and Housing. The legal framework will be validated by relevant stakeholders before presentation to the Government.

Based on the proposals from the transparency consultant, this activity will be implemented with the support of a national legal consultant who will develop the necessary draft documents. Technical support to the adoption process by the Ministry of the Environment and Housing will be provided by the project staff, transparency, and legal consultants.

? Establish a centralized data tracking and knowledge platform, including the procurement of the necessary hard- and software, its design, the development of procedures and protocols for its use, training to platform users, and pilot test. The platform will allow collecting and managing the data for GHG Inventory and NDC progress tracking and sharing CBIT and transparency activities related information with the public.

The pilot phase of the centralized data and knowledge platform will be conducted in parallel with Outputs 2 and 3 from which the tools and data for GHG inventory and NDC that are developed will be integrated.

This activity will be undertaken by an international consultant who should propose the content (data sharing templates and reporting formats) and functionalities (protocols for data providers and

methodologies and automatic checks) needed by the platform. The centralised data and knowledge platform will then be developed by a national IT expert. Two training sessions will be provided to stakeholders involved in GHG management and NDC implementation and GHG inventory data providers on the use of the centralized data and knowledge platform, also to enable them to participate to the pilot test. The international transparency consultant, who proposed the content and functionalities of the platform will be present during the testing phase for questions and for receiving feedback for potential improvements.

? Analyse and identify financial sources in close consultation with national stakeholders, including the national public budget, to assess financial support needed and received, ensure that the NCCC can be sustainably and sufficiently staffed and track information on climate finance flows. Under this activity a climate finance strategy and an inter-institutional architecture to manage, monitor and report climate finance flows should be developed for the country as well as methodologies to track financial flows (international and domestic). A financial assessment report with a proposal for financing the National Climate Change Committee should be also elaborated. Two training sessions will be provided for government stakeholders involved in climate finance on tracking financial flows.

The goal of this activity is to ensure that climate finance can be effectively accessed, mobilized, and scaled up to contribute to achieving climate goals and ensure the financial sustainability of the key institutions participating in the ETF. The objective is to make the scaling up of climate finance predictable and clear and to provide opportunities for attracting climate-friendly investment, to increase in adaptation action and the capacity to cope with the consequences of climate change; to increase mitigation action and the capacity to mitigate GHG emissions and to strengthen institutional capacity to effectively implement climate action and their mandates under the ETF.

This activity will be undertaken by a climate finance consultant who should develop a national climate finance strategy, propose the procedures of a climate finance architecture and a methodology to track climate finance flows and assess the financial needs and make proposals for the financial sustainability of the NCCC.

The activities under this output are aligned with activities from the CBIT Programming Directions related to strengthening national institutions (a).

The following deliverables will result from the completion of the activities under output 1.1:

Deliverable 1.1.1. Report on existing national mitigation and adaptation transparency activities and institutional arrangements and gaps, and recommendations, based on international best practices, to comply with the Paris Agreement modalities, procedures and guidelines.

Deliverable 1.1.2. One (1) validation workshop, including workshop report on:

- i. The conceptual national transparency framework
- ii. The institutional and legal arrangements for GHG inventory planning, management and preparation, and
- iii. The tracking of NDC progress.

Deliverable 1.1.3. National transparency framework, including institutional and legal arrangements and procedures required for preparing the GHG inventory and tracking NDC implementation presented to the Ministry of the Environment and Housing for adoption.

Deliverable 1.1.4. Report on technical support provided to the Ministry of the Environment and Housing for adopting the national transparency framework.

Deliverable 1.1.5. Design of the centralized GHG inventory and NDC data and knowledge platform and the data sharing templates and protocols, including hard- and soft-ware specifications.

Deliverable 1.1.6. Two (2) training sessions on the use of the centralized data and knowledge platform for stakeholders involved in the preparation of the GHG inventory reports and NDC tracking, implementation, and updating, including session reports.

Deliverable 1.1.7. Centralized data and knowledge platform procured, piloted and operationalized.

Deliverable 1.1.8. One (1) validation workshop, including workshop report on the climate finance strategy, inter-institutional architecture, and methodology for tracking climate finance flows (from international and domestic sources) endorsed by the DEPP.

Deliverable 1.1.9. National climate finance strategy and architecture, including a proposal for financing the National Climate Change Committee and methodology to track financial flows, presented to the Ministry of the Environment and Housing for adoption.

Deliverable 1.1.10. Report on technical support provided to the Ministry of the Environment and Housing for adopting the national climate finance strategy and architecture.

Deliverable 1.1.11. Two (2) training sessions on tracking financial flows for government stakeholders involved in climate finance, including session reports.

•Output 1.2 The government, academia, private sector and civil society have strengthened capacities to compile data for and manage the improved greenhouse gas inventory.

The Bahamas latest GHG Inventory is included in its SNC and was calculated with the IPCC 1996 Revised Guidelines. As the Katowice MPGs demand that the National Inventory Reports (NIR) from

2024 and onwards are calculated with the 2006 IPCC guidelines or the latest available, it is necessary for The Bahamas to transition to these. The different activities under this output will facilitate this improvement and transition to the latest available Guidelines, which are currently the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.

The SNC also includes several suggestions for improvements, such as the establishment of a national system for data collection and storage, as well as the "continuous capacity building to assist with the performance of future inventories and the establishment of memoranda of understanding between climate change committee and various statistical databases for retrieval of inventory data" (p.77). The SNC also lists several specific actions to improve the GHG Inventory process of The Bahamas. Some of the actions (as indicated in pg.77 of the SNC) are:

- ? Improvements to allow for verification of data, using multiple sources, to permit the use of a top-down and bottom-up comparison.
- ? Detailed examination of the transport sector of fuel used in various sectors.
- ? Improve data on land use and land-use change as policymaking currently relies on data from the 1970s.
- ? Additional and continuous capacity building to assist with the performance for future inventories.

These suggestions together with the upcoming information requirements for the reporting of GHG inventories are addressed by this output which intends to improve the GHG inventory process. The output will address this by providing an improvement plan for the national GHG inventory according to the 2006/latest Guidelines addressing the data needs, quality, and availability, as well as improvements to the conditions for the GHG inventory process. To ensure continuous quality of the data, a Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) plan and manual for the national GHG inventory will be developed and tested by national GHG inventory stakeholders. This work will build on lessons learned from the MRV Hub trainings on GHG Inventory and IPCC guidelines conducted in 2020-2021.

To ensure national capacity building and knowledge management for the application of the improvement plan for the national GHG inventory, multiple trainings will be provided for the GHG inventory coordinating entity, GHG data providers and GHG compilation team on GHG inventory compilation covering. These trainings will include cross-cutting issues (data collection, gap-filling techniques, key category analysis, QA/QC plan and procedures) and all sectors (Energy, IPPU, AFOLU, and Waste) including didactic materials for the compilation of the GHG inventory.

This output will be realized through the following activities:

? Conduct sectoral-specific studies for all sectors (Energy, IPPU, AFOLU, and Waste) to propose measures to improve the GHG Inventory process and develop good quality data.

This activity will address data needs (data quality and availability), and thus improve the conditions for the GHG inventory process. This activity will be undertaken by an international GHG inventory consultant and will be done in consultation with key national stakeholders.

? Develop and adopt QA/QC plan and QA/QC manual with procedures.

For the development of central instruments such as these QA/QC procedures, support from external partners is planned to enhance the knowledge of the core team. The development of the improvement plan and the QA/QC plan and manual for the national GHG inventory will be done in consultation with relevant stakeholders and will be endorsed by DEPP. The QA/QC plan and manual for the national GHG inventory will be tested by GHG inventory stakeholders.

? Establish and develop fifteen training sessions including material based on the developed improvement plan for the GHG inventory coordinating entity, GHG data providers and GHG compilation team on IPCC 2006/latest Guidelines, including cross-cutting issues (data collection, gap-filling techniques, key category analysis, QA/QC plan and procedures) and all sectors (Energy, IPPU, AFOLU, and Waste) including didactic materials for the compilation of the GHG inventory.

This activity will be undertaken by the international GHG inventory consultant and the topic is part of the capacity building mechanism of the project which will ensure that the capacity is retained into the country beyond the CBIT project.

The activities under this output are aligned with activities from the CBIT Programming Directions related to providing tools, training, and assistance (d, e, and f).

The following deliverables will result from the completion of the activities under output 1.2:

Deliverable 1.2.1. Report on current GHG Inventory-related practices and gaps, and recommendations on GHG inventorying based on international best practices.

Deliverable 1.2.2. One (1) validation workshop on the improvement plan and the QA/QC plan and manual for the national GHG inventory, including workshop report.

Deliverable 1.2.3. National GHG inventory improvement plan according to the 2006 IPCC/latest Guidelines and QA/QC plan and manual approved by DEPP.

Deliverables 1.2.4. QA/QC plan and manual for the national GHG inventory tested by GHG inventory stakeholders.

Deliverable 1.2.5. Fifteen (15) training sessions for GHG inventory coordinating entities, GHG data providers and the GHG compilation team on GHG inventory compilation covering: IPCC 2006/latest guidelines, including cross-cutting issues (data collection, gap-filling techniques, key category analysis, QA/QC plan and procedures) and all sectors (Energy, IPPU, AFOLU, and Waste) including didactic materials for the compilation of the GHG inventory, including sessions report.

•Output 1.3 Governmental stakeholders have strengthened capacities, tools and protocols to track the implementation of the nationally determined contribution.

This output aims to enhance the national capacity to monitor and report progress in implementing The Bahamas' NDC. The Paris Agreement enhanced transparency framework introduces new reporting requirements for The Bahamas, especially in relation to its NDC. The current NDC of The Bahamas includes both mitigation and adaptation components. For mitigation, the NDC actions are focused on the electricity generation and transport sectors. The goal is a 30% reduction below the business-as-usual (BAU) scenario in 2030, which is an economy-wide reduction. For adaptation, the focus includes actions within the sectors of agriculture, livestock, and fisheries; tourism; health and wellbeing; human settlement; and water resources.

In the Biennial Transparency Reports (BTR), The Bahamas will have to provide information on the progress of NDC implementation. This output will support the development of coordination mechanisms so that it also ensures that the capturing and reporting of NDC data is efficient and science based.

The establishment of these systems to track the NDC implementation will require the elaboration of both tools and templates for data collection, and protocols and guidelines for data collection and sharing. This output will therefore analyse the current transparency practices and gaps and recommendations on NDC accounting, tracking and update, based on international best practices and proposed monitoring indicators for tracking NDC progress and methodology and guidelines for data collection. This development of protocols will be done with the participation of relevant organizations, thus helping to establish formal partnerships which will increase the sustainability of the system. The participation of these relevant organizations and stakeholders will allow each of them to be able to

track their contribution to the implementation of the NDC, and National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and have comprehensive GHG emission data, thus facilitating the development of future transparency reports under the Convention. A protocol that defines the obligations of two parties is a proper framework for promoting good mitigation and adaptation practices and transfer of technology and transparency, especially standards of emission accounting for the structures concerned. The developed and adopted protocols will improve the comparability and efficiency of data sharing, ensuring the sustainability of the processes as well as defining and ensuring the regularity of the dissemination of information.

As aforementioned, this also requires NDC indicator development for both mitigation and adaptation. NDC indicators, especially in relation to adaptation, are highly dependent on their local surroundings. As described, The Bahamas has a unique feature in being an archipelago which spans a vast area. Moreover, the different islands are distinct in relation to climate, and level of urbanization, and type of eco-systems present. This means that to capture the local contexts, the indicators need to be tailored to these contexts. This output will develop gender-sensitive monitoring indicators for all the sectors in The Bahamas' NDC, which include the following:

? Mitigation: Electricity, Transport, and Forestry

? Adaptation: Agriculture, livestock development and fisheries, Tourism, Health and wellbeing, Human settlement, and Water resource management.

However, as the NDC will improve its ambition, which will result in more NDC sectors being added in the future, the output will focus on sustainability of the system and building support to standardize the implementation of indicators for the NDC in the country, and not solely for the sectors of The Bahamas' Initial NDC. This will ensure that The Bahamas will have the capacity to develop NDC indicators after the completion of the CBIT project and provide a sustainable capacity building mechanism. The monitoring indicators for tracking NDC progress and the methodology and guidelines developed for data collection for each progress indicator of the NDC will be presented to DEPP for approval.

The establishment of such a system will require considerable capacity-building of different actors who will provide information to the system. The need for data and information will depend on the type of indicators developed to monitor the progress. This output will therefore provide eight training sessions on indicators and guidelines on NDC tracking, accounting, and updating for Ministry staff and other relevant stakeholders on NDC tracking. Moreover, the training sessions will take a conscious approach to address gender biases and gaps in training.

This output will also develop and implement guidelines on the methodology and procedures established under Deliverable 1.1.9, which consists of a national climate finance strategy and architecture to track financial flows, to track support needed and received for the achievement of the NDC and reporting of these climate finance flows.

The design and execution of the trainings and the other activities under Output 1.3 will be carried out in coordination with MRV Hub support to ensure complementarity, avoid duplication and build synergies. This coordination will be defined during project development, when the MRV Hub has also developed its activities. At this stage, the MRV Hub has not yet fully determined the nature of its activities and workplan, thus the coordination will be determined during project development. Coordination on national activities will be also facilitated nationally, as DEPP is the focal point to the MRV Hub and the lead government entity for this proposed GEF project.

This output will support knowledge management to capture, document, and share the broad variety of data, information, and knowledge generated by project activities. It will also enable The Bahamas to contribute and be an active partner of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, by exchanging information with other countries and the sharing of lessons learned and experiences through the global platform, which will ensure that the CBIT project coordinates with other national, regional, and global transparency initiatives. Therefore, the CBIT Project Management Unit staff (PMU) will participate in regional peer-to-peer exchanges and continuously identify relevant aspects of the work of the CBIT project and sharing it on the CBIT Global Coordination Platform. Also, inversely, this activity includes identifying the relevant lessons learnt from the information available on the platform and making it applicable for The Bahamas.

This output will be realized through the following suggested activities:

- ? Analysis of current transparency practices and gaps and recommendations on NDC accounting, tracking and update, based on international best practices.
- ? With the support of the PMU and the NCCC, the international NDC consultant will undertake this activity.
- ? Design gender-sensitive monitoring indicators for the NDC and develop a methodology and guidelines for data collection for each progress indicator of the NDC. Indicators will be designed for all the sectors in The Bahamas? NDC, which include the following:
 - i. Mitigation: Electricity, Transport, and Forestry

ii. Adaptation: Agriculture, livestock development and fisheries, Tourism, Health and wellbeing, Human settlement, and Water resource management.

However, as the NDC will improve its ambition, which will result in more NDC sectors being added in the future, this activity will focus on building support to standardize the implementation of indicators for the NDC in the country, and not solely for the sectors of The Bahamas? Initial NDC. This will ensure that The Bahamas will have the capacity to develop NDC indicators after the completion of the CBIT project.

An international NDC consultant will support the Ministry of the Environment and Housing and National institutions involved in the implementation of mitigation and adaptation to design the indicators, the methodology and the guidelines. The proposed monitoring indicators for tracking NDC progress and methodology and guidelines for data collection for each progress indicator of the NDC will be presented to DEPP for approval.

? Carry out eight training sessions for Ministry staff and other relevant stakeholders on NDC tracking on indicators and guidelines on NDC tracking, account, and updating.

This activity will be undertaken by the international consultant.

? Develop and implement guidelines on the methodology and procedures established under deliverable 1.1.9. to track support needed and received for the achievement of the NDC and reporting of climate finance flows.

This activity will be undertaken by the entities involved in the climate finance architecture with the support of an international climate finance consultant.

? Participate in three international peer-exchanges events through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform and other forums on lessons learned, and best practices in MRV and M&E components of the NDCs; indicators and guidelines on NDC tracking and climate finance tracking. This activity will be undertaken by the PMU.

The activities under output 3 are aligned with activities from the CBIT Programming Directions related to providing tools, training, and assistance (d, e, h, and i) and assisting with the improvement of transparency over time (j and k).

The following deliverables will result from the completion of the activities under output 1.3:

Deliverable 1.3.1. Report on current transparency practices and gaps and recommendations on NDC accounting, tracking and update, based on international best practices.

Deliverable 1.3.2. One (1) validation workshop, including workshop report, on gender-sensitive monitoring indicators for tracking NDC progress and a data collection methodology and guidelines for each NDC progress indicator.

Deliverable 1.3.3. Report of the proposed gender-sensitive monitoring indicators for tracking NDC progress and data collection methodology and guidelines using the results of the TNC/BUR1 project approved by DEPP. Indicators will be proposed in the following sectors:

- i) Mitigation: Electricity, Transport, Forestry
- ii) Adaptation: Agriculture, livestock development and fisheries, Tourism, Health and wellbeing, Human settlement, and Water resources management

Deliverable 1.3.4. Eight (8) training sessions, including one (1) session report on gender-sensitive indicators and guidelines on NDC tracking, accounting, and updating for Ministry staff and other relevant stakeholders on NDC tracking.

Deliverable 1.3.5. Guidelines on the application of the methodology to track climate finance established under deliverable 1.1.9 adapted to assess support needed and received for the implementation of the NDC.

Deliverable 1.3.6. Three (3) reports of participation in three peer-exchange events on lessons learned and best practices in MRV and M&E components of NDCs and on climate finance tracking shared with the Global CBIT platform.

Output 1.4 Government decision-makers have strengthened capacities to incorporate climate analysis into national planning, including through a sustainable capacity building mechanism and guidelines

In The Bahamas, there is currently a lack of guidelines to use assessments to help in policy planning and decision making and inadequate capacity to use projections and scenarios at national level for policy planning. Ministry staff and other decision-makers in The Bahamas do not adequately use the provided or available climate information, leading to poorly substantiated targets and climate reporting in the country's NCs and NDC. Under the previous outputs systems which will generate a flow of climate related information, and information related to the gender sensitive NDC indicators will be established. To ensure that this information is properly used, and that The Bahamas takes advantage of this information to enhance climate-informed policy- and decision- making, mechanisms and capacity to use the information to generate projections, baselines, and scenarios for different both the adaptation and the mitigation sectors will be generated.

Under this Output support will be provided to national policy makers on how to interpret the results from the TNC/BUR1 project. Guidelines will be developed for standardizing and implementing

vulnerability and impact assessments for adaptation measures undertaken under the TNC/BUR1 project with the aim for integration of national adaptation considerations into national planning. This refers to long-term national planning processes such as the national development plan, as well as shorter-term processes such as the annual national budget. It is thus a cross ministerial exercise, which enhances coordination between the different ministries. In addition, guidelines will be also developed to standardize, implement, and use projections and mitigation scenarios for mitigation actions for The Bahamas on a continuous basis as part of national decision-making of building on the TNC/BUR1 project. The guidelines will also include aspects about the link between gender and climate, based on consultation with the Department of Gender Affairs.

The capacity to carry out these projections, baselines and scenarios for the adaptation and mitigation sectors will also be built. Actors from the public sector will be trained through trainings and capacity building workshops to integrate these projections, baselines and scenarios into their analysis and decisions. The targeted actors are policy planners and policy makers in The Bahamas. This also provides a way to illustrate the value of national transparency system. As mentioned for the two previous outputs, the coverage of all inhabited islands in The Bahamas is one of the country's top priorities. Thus, these trainings will need to consider the costs for the extensive travel to and from the different islands to the places where these trainings will take place. Thus, part of the budget will be allocated this cost.

Knowledge management to capture, document, and share the broad variety of data, information, and knowledge generated by project activities will be supported under this output. The project will also enable The Bahamas to contribute and be an active partner of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, by sharing lessons learned and experiences through the global platform will ensure that the CBIT project is aligned with other national, regional, and global transparency initiatives. Additionally, members of the project staff will participate in two international peer-to-peer exchanges events and will share experiences and lessons learned gathered during the CBIT project implementation through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform. Also, inversely, the project staff will select relevant experiences and lessons learnt from other CBIT projects shared thorough the Platform and other fora such as the Caribbean MRV Hub and making it applicable for The Bahamas.

To improve institutional memory for The Bahamas and avoid loss of capacities and knowledge due to staff turnover a capacity building mechanism for operating the GHG inventory and compiling related data, for NDC and support needed and received tracking, and integration of climate analysis into national decision-making will be developed and formalised with a training or educational institution. Two higher educational institutions were identified as potential candidates: The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute (BTVI) and the University of West Indies (UWI), which has a virtual campus in The Bahamas. DEPP has initiated a conversation with BTVI and will explore partnership options with UWI. With the support of the international CBIT experts, the selected educational/training

institution will draft the curricula for five trainings sessions, which include one on GHG inventory, one on mitigation NDC tracking, one on adaptation NDC tracking, one on support needed and received tracking and one on the integration of climate analysis into national decision-making. The capacity of the selected trainers of the educational/training institution will be built through five 'train-the-trainer' sessions delivered by the PMU with support of the international consultants, and the institution will enter a long-term agreement with the Ministry of Environment and Housing.

This output will be realized through the following activities:

? Provide technical support for standardizing and implementing vulnerability and impact assessments for adaptation measures including gender aspect undertaken under the TNC/BUR1 project with the aim for integration of national adaptation considerations into national planning. The Department of Gender Affair will be consulted for the gender-related component.

This activity will be carried out by an international adaptation consultant.

? Provide technical support for standardizing the use of projections and mitigation scenarios for The Bahamas building on the TNC/BUR1 project, including gender aspect submitted to relevant Ministries for endorsement.

This activity will be undertaken by an international mitigation consultant. The Department of Gender Affair will be consulted for the gender-related component.

? Carry out two trainings and capacity building workshops for ministry staff and other relevant stakeholders on how to use assessments, projections & scenarios into decision-making processes.

Under this activity, two different trainings should be developed for targeting different audiences, those working with adaptation and those related with mitigation. These trainings will be provided by the international adaptation and mitigation consultants and will include gender-related transparency aspects.

? Participate in two peer-exchange events through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform and other forums on lessons learned, and best practices in the use of projections, scenarios and assessments for policy making.

? Establish a capacity building mechanism including a capacity building mechanism for operating the GHG inventory and compiling related data, NDC tracking, Support needed and received tracking, and integration of climate analysis into national decision-making. This activity will be developed in collaboration with a local technical or academic institution such as The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute and will train the selected trainers.

A local or regional institution with knowledge on GHG inventory, NDC tracking, support needed and received tracking, and integration of climate analysis into national decision-making will be appointed

to hold the capacity building mechanism of the country. The institution will participate in close collaboration with the international consultants in each field responsible for the trainings of each output. They will also work together with these international consultants and the project staff to develop the course material. It is foreseen that this institution will retain enough capacity to maintain the capacity building mechanism after CBIT project finalization. The international consultants will prepare and deliver five 'train-the-trainers' training sessions, one for GHG inventory, one on GHG inventory, one on mitigation NDC tracking, one on adaptation NDC tracking, one on support needed and received tracking and one on the integration of climate analysis into national decision-making.

The activities under output four are aligned with activities from the CBIT Programming Directions related to strengthening national institutions (a, b and c), providing tools, training and assistance (d, e, and h) and assisting with the improvement of transparency over time (j and k).

The following deliverables will result from the completion of the activities under output 1.4:

Deliverable 1.4.1. Guidelines for standardizing and implementing vulnerability and impact assessments for adaptation measures including gender aspect undertaken under the TNC/BUR1 project submitted to relevant Ministries for endorsement.

Deliverable 1.4.2. Guidelines to standardize, implement and use on a continuous basis as part of national decision-making:

i) The template for reporting mitigation actions for selected IPCC emission sectors developed under activity 5.1.1. of the TNC/BUR1 project.

ii) The process for continued updating of the NAMA registry including roles and responsibilities of key agencies and the National Mitigation Team (NMT) of the TNC/BUR1 project.

iii) Projections of emissions, scenarios and mitigation assessments elaborated under the TNC/BUR1 project.

including gender aspect submitted to relevant Ministries for endorsement.

Deliverable 1.4.3. Two (2) training sessions for policy planners and policy makers on using assessments, projections, and scenarios on adaptation and mitigation, including sessions report.

Deliverable 1.4.4. Two (2) reports on participation to two international peer-exchange events on lessons learned, and best practices in the use of projections, scenarios and assessments for policy making, shared with the Global CBIT Platform.

Deliverable 1.4.5. Capacity-building system formalised a national training institution on:

- Operating the GHG inventory and compiling related data;

- Tracking NDC implementation and support needed and received; and
- Integrating climate analysis into national decision-making, including:

- i) Signature of agreement with the training institution.
- ii) Development of capacity-building system curriculum.
- iii) Training curricula for the five "train-the trainers" modules
- iv) Training curricula for the five capacity building modules

Deliverable 1.4.6. Five (5) 'train-the-trainers' training sessions (for GHG Inventory, Mitigation NDC tracking, Adaptation NDC tracking, Support needed and received tracking, and Integration of climate analysis into national decision-making).

4) Alignment with GEF Focal Area and/or Impact Program strategies

This CBIT project is addressing GEF Focal Area Climate Mitigation 3-8 ?Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency?.

The GEF-7 Climate Change Focal Area Strategy aims to support developing countries to make transformational shifts towards low emission and climate-resilient development pathways. The CBIT, as per paragraph 85 of the COP decision adopting the Paris Agreement, complies with this Focal Area Strategy by:

(i) Strengthening national institutions for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities.

The current institutional arrangements for different aspects of the transparency system are not in place in The Bahamas, which leaves the reporting obligations uncoordinated and the information on the current situation and climate action and support limited. The CBIT project will strengthen these national institutions in the country by drafting and establishing institutional arrangements and legal framework with clear roles and responsibilities and data-sharing agreements. These institutional arrangements will support the inventory process and national capacity building mechanisms. The project additionally includes several capacity building activities for national institutions on transparency issues.

These capacity building activities will be carried out for relevant ministry personnel, academia, private sector data suppliers, and other public servants on topics such as transparency guidelines, developed methodologies and the efficient use of tools for data collection and delivery. This will improve public servants' knowledge and understanding of the transparency guidelines for developing GHG estimates for key sectors, including understanding IPCC guidelines, data management issues and reviewing legal arrangements for long-term data sharing. The training will additionally focus on substantive measures to avoid data duplication.

(ii) Providing relevant tools, training, and assistance for meeting the provisions stipulated in Article 13 of the Agreement.

The CBIT project will establish procedures, guidelines, and tools to standardize the collection of data for the GHG inventory, NDC tracking, and support provided/received to increase the overall transparency. These will be aligned with the modalities, procedures, and guidelines (MPGs) adopted in Conference of Parties (COP) 24 in 2018. It will establish a centralized storage centre for climate data and acquire the necessary software to create a knowledge platform where the public can access the climate data and the reports produced by the committee.

The project will additionally establish a capacity-building system which includes the development of capacity building material, such as a guidebook on transparency management processes, guidelines, protocols, methodologies, and tools. This handbook will serve as reference material for government agencies, private sector, academia, and civil society, by providing an overview of good practices in ensuring compliance with Article 13 of Paris Agreement, which requires transparent, effective, and accurate reporting.

Activities in the CBIT project will also support the design and establishment of a functional transparency system to monitor and evaluate (M&E) adaptation measures, monitor, report and verify (MRV) mitigation actions, and monitor support needed and received. The establishment of these systems to track the NDC implementation will additionally lead to the elaboration of both tools and templates for data collection, but also protocols and guidelines for how the data collection and sharing will occur. This development of protocols will take place with the participation of relevant organizations, thus helping to establish formal partnerships which should increase the sustainability of the system.

(iii) Assisting in the improvement of transparency over time.

The CBIT project will ensure that The Bahamas uses the available information to create climate projections and scenarios and incorporates this into public and private decision-making processes, allowing the country to additionally compile more complete reports to the UNFCCC such as the National Communications (NCs) and the Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs). The established formal partnerships within the CBIT project will increase the sustainability of the system and will improve the tracking of the implementation of the NDC and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), thus facilitating the development of future transparency reports under the Convention. The developed and adopted protocols will improve the comparability and efficiency of data sharing, ensuring the sustainability of the processes as well as defining and ensuring the regularity of the dissemination of information. Incorporating this sustainable capacity building mechanism will ensure institutional memory, more technical specialized staff, and continuity of the knowledge transfer after the completion of the CBIT project.

The CBIT project will additionally enable The Bahamas to contribute and be an active partner of the CBIT Global Coordination Platform by exchanging information with other countries as well as actively participating in CBIT workshops on a continuous basis. Sharing lessons learned and experiences through the global platform will ensure that the CBIT project is aligned with other national, regional, and global transparency initiatives and will assist in the improvement of transparency over time. Therefore, The Bahamas will contribute actively to the CBIT Global Coordination Platform and participate in regional peer-to-peer exchanges. Relevant identified lessons learned from the available information on the platform will be made applicable for The Bahamas on a sustainable basis.

5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing

The CBIT programme is designed to improve mandatory reporting of signatories to the UNFCCC. In this regard, this project is financed on the full agreed cost basis. In the case of this programme, eligible activities have been described in the GEF document "Programming directions for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (GEF/C.50/06)". The activities of this project are consistent with the scope of the programming directions. Co-financing is not a necessary requirement for this project. However, there is a foundation of activities that are considered co-financing and have been considered when estimating in-kind co-finance of USD 338,333 as indicated in table C. The CBIT project builds upon co-financing of the ministry (available and potential resources) and upon existing projects and investments.

The CBIT request has been designed to address short and medium-term national capacity building needs as highlighted under the implementation of the project to develop Capacity Building Initiatives for Transparency. It will help The Bahamas to provide a more holistic and comprehensive report on its

mitigation and adaptation actions, technology transfer, technical support and climate finance flows, especially for the coming BTRs. With the GEF intervention, The Bahamas will have an improved coordinated transparency system that will provide a full account of the country's contribution to its NDC and global targets. This includes the GHG inventory, where different aspects of the data collection and management process will be improved, the NDC tracking for both mitigation and adaptation, as well as climate finance support needed and received. The project will also develop processes and capacities to integrate the generated information into decision-making processes, enabling better scenario building and projection of climate effects and GHG emissions. The project will use these generated scenarios and projections and build the capacity of public actors to incorporate these into decision-making processes, enabling more informed decisions. The integration of this sustainable capacity building mechanism will ensure that there is a continuity in the increased awareness and knowledge, and specialized trained staff on GHG inventories, NDC tracking, climate finance received, and the integration of climate change related generated information into decision-making processes.

In the absence of this GEF intervention, The Bahamas would have to continue to heavily rely on overseas consultants to undertake its reporting obligations. Institutional coordination would remain a challenge as sector specific MRV systems are rolled out. The development of an NDC tracking system, especially for the adaptation aspect, would be challenging to develop in time for the first BTR. These, among other challenges, will persist without this much-needed intervention. Moreover, the systematization of data collection, and the establishment of mechanisms to integrate this into decision-making processes, are not established under the type of support offered for meeting the reporting obligations. This is thus another gap which this project closes.

6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)

This project will indirectly lead to increased mitigation and adaptation efforts through improved tracking of NDC implementation. This project will increase the quality and availability of climate data for The Bahamas through the systems which are to be established. In addition, the establishment of NDC progress tracking system will allow The Bahamas to see improvements in both mitigation and adaptation efforts as the NDC is being implemented. The capacity building, through the project, will also enable The Bahamas to integrate this information into future decision-making processes. The Bahamas will have better information on how its climate work is contributing to sustainable development and will be enabled to identify opportunities to increase mitigation and adaptation actions in the different sectors. These effects will translate to a higher ambition when presenting the next NDC in 2024, and for the consecutive ones as well. As shown in the Theory of Change of the project above, the achievement of these results is based on the following assumptions made at different steps of logical pathway to achieve the desired impact starting from the CBIT project outputs:

- ? There is political stability, along with an adequate and coherent participation of ministries and agencies.
- ? Capacities are retained.
- ? Private sector and relevant stakeholders accept to share data and information.
- ? The relevant actors are committed to the project and have the necessary means to mainstream climate analysis into decision-making.
- ? There is a national political interest for the country to comply with the Paris Agreement.
- ? There is sufficient and sustainable funding for Climate Change actions.

This project will monitor the main indicators from the CBIT tracking tool, especially Indicator 3-Quality of MRV Systems, and Indicator 5-Qualitative assessment of institutional capacity built for transparency related activities proposed under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

7) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Innovativeness:

This project improves the existing system for the GHG inventory and establishes a system for NDC progress monitoring which is new for the context of The Bahamas. The capacity-building approach for reporting to the UNFCCC is also an innovation compared to how earlier and current projects have been executed.

The data management systems, which will be designed to be able to withstand hurricane related damages, is also an innovative feature which can benefit not only the climate transparency system, but also serve as a model to handle other information systems data management. The most innovative aspect of the CBIT project related to capacity-building activities, where innovative educational method will be applied, as opposed to the provision of standard workshops. The capacity building mechanism for the project will be designed and implemented in partnership with an education national or regional institution, and the institution trainers will be trained and will support in delivering the CBIT capacity building activities (D 1.1.11 and D 1.3.4) to the targeted CBIT beneficiaries. This system will be also

innovative in training methods, as it will apply participant-centred learning methods and e-learning technologies. Finally, constant feedback and progress-checking will characterise the training sessions, so that learning follows a dynamic and reflective process and not a one-way flow of information that is assumed to be absorbed at each stage. This will ensure that The Bahamas will be able to conduct these activities after the completion of the project. Output 1.4, which will train national decision-makers in integrating climate data in their decision-making processes, will generate innovative outcomes beyond the project frame as well. The project will also incorporate relevant, innovative solutions appearing from other CBIT projects through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform.

Sustainability:

As described above, the current system of preparing reports to comply with the UNFCCC requirements is highly dependent on international capacity and financial support. This project will address this by building the capacity in The Bahamas to implement the national transparency system. Firstly, the CBIT project will propose institutional arrangements and a legal framework for data and information sharing and management for the National Transparency System, which will ensure continuity of transparency activities in the long run. The project will also create tools and procedures which are 'one-off' investments such as the development of a centralised climate-resilient data management platform for the stakeholders involved in the preparation of the reports and a knowledge platform where the current and future public can access the climate data and the reports produced by the country. It will also create the quality control and quality assurance systems to maintain and improve the centralised data and knowledge platform, as well as the capacity-building system through a training institution to train national stakeholders in using them. The capacity-building system will be designed in partnership with a training institution, which DEPP will enter in an agreement with, to ensure that the capacity building mechanism will be consolidated into the training institution offer and sustainable after CBIT project completion. The trainings delivered by the training institution will extend the pool of experts available in the country and will enable The Bahamas to implement transparency activities after the project completion without the need of engaging international experts. The developed capacity-building material will also be shared on the knowledge platform and available to current and future transparency stakeholders.

Moreover, The CBIT project addresses a future need that is (a) recurring and (b) imposed by Paris Agreement and MPGs reporting requirements ? that of a periodically updated national GHG inventory that informs National Communications and BTRs. Not only it will improve the quality of the inventory and the NDC tracking but also will improve the process by which the inventory is compiled and the NDC monitored and updated and by building the capacities of relevant institutions to contribute to the inventory and the NDC and to inform other policy development/implementation needs, the project will ensure that its benefits are sustained into the future.

Under Output 1.1, the financial sustainability of the established national transparency system and institutional arrangements will be ensured, since various ways to finance the integral transparency systems will be explored, including private and public finance sources. This will allow the established system to continue to be operational after the end of this project. The knowledge management activities will increase the awareness and interest of government stakeholders to access NDC and GHG inventory data. These groups will serve as sources of co-finance to ensure project continuity beyond the project close date. Under Output 1.4., guideline to standardise the use of climate information in national planning will be delivered, to help policymakers to guide decisions to lead to further reductions in GHG emissions, increase of resilience, implement policy options aligned with the NDC commitments and the national priorities and favouring of sustainable development outcomes. This will further serve to convince the government of the value of these systems and securing their long-term financing.

Potential for scaling-up:

Within GHG Inventories, the project will be able to provide the knowledge and the methodologies to improve its quality. The project will establish a way to improve the estimation from some emission sources in the short term, which then can be adapted and replicated in the other emission sources in the medium and longer terms.

Moreover, building on their experience and expertise developed during the project, all involved stakeholders will be able to improve the information they collect and provide the assessments they undertake for use in policy planning and monitoring.

Additionally, the ambition mechanism of the Paris Agreement will mean that the NDC of The Bahamas will need to be updated over the years to come. Higher ambition based on better quality assessments and informed decisions will be included in a future NDC and more NDC sectors will be included, which provides further potential for scaling-up. The project in fact provide support for standardizing the implementation of indicators for the NDC and the potential for scaling up.

Lastly, through this project, The Bahamas will participate in both global and regional knowledge exchange networks, such as the CBIT Global Coordination Platform, and the MRV Hub for the Caribbean countries. Here, the experiences and information of The Bahamas will be shared with a broader audience and other countries participating in the platform. This will ensure that the lessons learned from other national, regional, and global transparency initiatives can be implemented in The

Bahamas in the years to come and provides an entry-point for scaling-up, and inversely that The Bahamas CBIT results will trigger an increase and enhancement of the transparency activities in the region.

[1] IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, 2014

[2] Solomon et al., 2009. (Irreversible climate change due to CO₂ Emissions. Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. USA)

[3] The Bahamas Second National Communications

1b. Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

The Commonwealth of The Bahamas is an archipelago of 700 islands and more than 200 cays, islets and rocks in the western Atlantic Ocean (latitude 21° and 27° North and longitude. 72° and 79° W) covering over 100,000 square miles (mi²) or 260,000 squares kilometres (km²) of ocean. Thirty islands and cays are permanently inhabited.

The total land area is 5,382 mi² (13,943 km²) stretching from the northwest tip of Grand Bahama Island to the southeast coast of Inagua Island (approx. 550 miles (mi) / 880 kilometres (km)). The Bahamas platform extends from the coast of Florida to the island of Hispaniola (840 miles (1,335 km)). The Project will take place primarily in New Providence but will have several components implemented on surrounding islands. Below you will find the map of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, which has also been included in Annex E.



Figure 5 The Commonwealth of The Bahamas map

1c. Child Project?

If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

N/A

2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Civil Society Organizations Yes

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Private Sector Entities Yes

If none of the above, please explain why:

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

To ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement, the stakeholders will actively participate in the activities of the CBIT project in which they have clear roles and responsibilities. Consultation and validation meetings were held with all stakeholders together on barriers, activities and deliverables of the CBIT project.

This document has been prepared through extensive consultation with representatives of the Department of Environmental Planning & Protection. The elaboration of the document has been discussed through virtual technical working meetings, a consultation workshop, and a validation workshop. This approach ensured that the views of the Ministries, Departments, Agencies, NGOs, and the Private Sector and representatives of the National Climate Change Committee under the DEPP were considered during the project preparation phase. Also, the project was discussed with relevant stakeholders through bilateral interviews. Additionally, MRV Hub was consulted and reviewed the CBIT proposal to ensure coordination, synergies and avoid duplication of efforts during project implementation.

During the project preparation phase, stakeholder consultation workshop and a validation workshop were held where representatives from The Bahamas' government and civil society and the private sector were invited to participate. Women participation was predominant. The workshop presented the project, and asked for inputs, especially on the general direction of the project, the planned activities and deliverables, the barriers to overcome and the stakeholder's engagement plan to implement. It also served to deeply understand the current baseline and challenges of The Bahamas' climate transparency and identify synergies with existing initiatives. These inputs have been integrated into the project design, and in the activities and deliverables.

Moreover, the key documents have been reviewed to develop this package proposal, such as the Readiness Proposals submitted to the Green Climate Fund, the First and Second National Communications, the Intended National Determined Contribution, National Policy for the Adaptation to Climate Change (2005), the Hazard and Risk Study (2016), The Bahamas National Energy Policy 2013 - 2033, The Bahamas Voluntary National Review on the Sustainable Development Goals to the High Level Political Forum of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (2018), the Environmental Planning and Protection Act 2019 and other key documents which have been developed through a participatory stakeholder approach.

Further details on the stakeholder's consultation process can be found in the attached Stakeholders Consultation Report.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

A description of the relevant key stakeholders and their role in the CBIT project are provided in the table below.

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of the Environment and Housing	<p>Areas of Responsibility:</p> <p>The Department of Environmental Planning & Protection (DEPP)</p> <p>Department of Forestry</p> <p>Bahamas National Geographic Information System (BNGIS) Centre</p> <p>Department of Environmental Health Services</p>	<p>Assist with climate-resilient planning, adaptation and mitigation.</p> <p>Assist in preparing and disseminating climate change-related information on a national level, including climate education.</p> <p>Review and ensure that environmental sustainability measures are incorporated into CBIT activities.</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment and Housing will be the national focal point for energy and solid waste sectors ensuring the tracking of mitigation actions in these sectors.</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment and Housing will adopt the CBIT deliverables.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	The Department of Environmental Planning & Protection (DEPP)	<p>The Mandate of The Department of Environmental Planning and Protection (DEPP) is to provide for the prevention or control of pollution, the regulation of activities and the administration, conservation and sustainable use of the environment and for connected purposes. The Department also manages multilateral environmental agreements.</p> <p>The Department also manages research permit applications for scientific investigations involving or affecting natural resources within The Bahamas. In addition, the Department is responsible for the development and implementation of policies, programmes and plans for the effective management and conservation of the physical environment within The Bahamas.</p>	<p>The DEPP is responsible for the coordination and facilitation of all climate change related activities in The Bahamas, including managing multilateral environmental agreements. These include the preparation, compilation, and submission of reports to the UNFCCC. The DEPP will coordinate the activities as defined in the project scope, ensure efficient communication among relevant stakeholders, provide technical feedback, baseline information and contribute to project implementation. The Department is also responsible for managing the compilation and reporting of the national GHG emissions inventory. Additionally, the Department has established to coordinate the TNC/BUR1 project.</p> <p>DEPP will host the National Project coordinator, who will oversee the work of the PMU and ensure high-level coordination.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
All sectors	National Climate Change Committee (NCCC)	<p>The National Climate Change Committee supports the government's implementation of provisions under the Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan. The Committee comprises representatives from Ministries, Departments, Agencies, NGOs, and the Private Sector. The NCCC assists with climate-resilient planning, adaptation and mitigation and in preparing and disseminating climate change-related information, including climate education.</p> <p>Hurricane shelter and multipurpose Climate Change Facilities Committee is a member of the National Climate Change Committee.</p>	<p>The NCCC resources will be strengthened with the CBIT project. It will play the role of quality assurance of the reports to be submitted to the UNFCCC and will be involved in all activities of the CBIT project. Regular meetings will be formalized and held during and beyond the project duration. It will work closely with the PMU CBIT. NCCC will also ensure coordination with the TNC/BUR project activities and the other relevant transparency projects.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>
Government	Forestry Unit (Ministry of the Environment and Housing)	<p>Permits to remove timber, non-timber or forest produce less than 1,000 acres.</p> <p>License to remove timber, non-timber or forest produce greater than 1,000 acres.</p> <p>Permit to harvest protected tree</p>	<p>The Forestry Unit will be the national focal point for the forestry of the GHG inventory providing data to GHG sectoral expert and overseeing the work. It will also be responsible for tracking mitigation and adaptation actions of the NDC concerning the forestry sector.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Public Works	<p>Areas of Responsibility:</p> <p>Department of Public Works</p> <p>Department of Physical Planning</p> <p>Construction, Maintenance and Upkeep of Public Infrastructure including Government Buildings, Roads, Docks, Bridges and Cemeteries</p> <p>Construction of Roadside, Verges and Parks</p> <p>Explosive and Volatile Substances</p> <p>Drainage</p> <p>Relations with the Straw Market Authority</p> <p>Downtown Nassau Re-Development</p> <p>Urban Development Town and Country Planning</p> <p>Private Roads and Subdivisions</p> <p>Land Use Plan for New Providence and Family Islands</p> <p>Relations with Bahamas Power and Light</p> <p>Relations with The Bahamas Water and Sewerage Corporation</p> <p>Relations with The Bridge Authority</p> <p>Physical Planning and Land Use</p> <p>Oversight of building construction</p> <p>Issuance of site plan approvals</p> <p>Assist in the development of national criteria (standards and protocols) for climate adaptation structures such as seawalls. Assess the structural integrity of</p>	<p>Ministry of Public Works will be the national focal point for land use data and assessments of the GHG inventory.</p> <p>Ministry of Public Works will be also involved in the activities related to tracking adaptation measures in the infrastructure and building sectors.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources	<p>Areas of Responsibility: Department of Agriculture, Department of Marine Resources</p> <p>Agriculture Food Production, Agricultural Marketing, Horticulture, Quality Control of Food and Beverage, Potters Cay Dock, Veterinary Services and Animal Disease, Public Markets, Down Home Fish Fry, Regattas, Homecomings and Festivals, Slaughterhouses, Agricultural Lands, Cooperatives, Craft Markets, Credit Union, Small Business Development, Relations with The Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC), Bahamas Agriculture Marine Science Institute (BAMSI), Fisheries.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources will be the national focal point for agriculture and livestock sector adopting the institutional arrangements established under the CBIT project.</p> <p>It will be responsible for formulating and implementing strategies and measures which will help to enhance food.</p> <p>security and sustainable food production and for adopting short-, medium-, and long-term measures to protect coastlines and increase the resilience of coastal ecosystems, enforcement of setbacks, and restoration of coastal wetlands.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Bahamas Agricultural and Food Safety Authority (BAHFSA)	<p>-To protect the health and safety of animals by regulating the trade in animals and animal products to prevent the introduction and spread of animal diseases; protecting and promoting animal health; and regulating animal production through good agricultural practices.</p> <p>-To protect the safety and quality of food: regulating the safety and quality of all food (inc. fish and meat) at every stage of the supply chain; and protecting both human health and consumer interests, including fair trade practices.</p> <p>-To protect plants: regulating the trade in plants, plant products, and other regulated articles, to protect and promoting the health of the environment (including forestry and wild flora) by preventing the introduction and spread of plant diseases and alien species.</p> <p>BAHFSA has been incorporated to oversee laboratories, veterinary services, phytosanitary controls, quarantine zones, and emergency response procedures.</p>	<p>BAHFSA will provide data on agriculture and livestock for the GHG inventory and will be responsible for tracking mitigation and adaptation in the agriculture sector.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Transport and Local Government	<p>Areas of Responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Road Traffic Post Office Department Department of Local Government Department of Meteorology Port Department <p>Other Areas of Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground Transportation Road Traffic Management Motor Vehicles, Registration and Licensing Drays and Surveys Postal Service Inter-Island Passengers Freight and Mail Service Relations with Local Government Authorities Local Improvement Associations Meteorology Relations with The Bahamas Maritime Authority Ship Registration Maritime Affairs Ports Assist in the dissemination of information for disaster preparedness awareness. Communicate emergency 	<p>Ministry of Transport and Local Government will be the national focal point for land transport providing data on transport for the GHG inventory and tracking mitigation actions and adaptation measures in the transport sector.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Tourism (Sustainable Tourism Department)	<p>Areas of Responsibility</p> <p>Department of Aviation</p> <p>Other Areas of Responsibilities</p> <p>Promotion and Development of Tourism</p> <p>Tourism Product Improvement</p> <p>Relations with Nassau Tourism and Development Association</p> <p>Tourism Publicity and Advertisement</p> <p>Relations with the Hotel Corporation of The Bahamas</p> <p>Relations with Tourism Promotions Boards</p> <p>Welcome Centre, Prince George Dock</p> <p>Relations with Bahamas air</p> <p>Relations with the Gaming Board</p> <p>Lotteries and Gaming</p> <p>Aviation</p> <p>Air Traffic Licensing</p> <p>Nassau Flight Services</p> <p>Relations with the Airport Authority</p> <p>Air Transport Licensing</p> <p>Nassau Flight Services</p>	<p>Sustainable Tourism Department will provide data on international and domestic aviation for the energy sector of the GHG inventory. It will also be responsible for tracking adaptation measures in the tourism sector.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Bahamas Maritime Authority	The function of the Authority is to register vessels, enforce ship safety requirements and constantly monitor and improve standards. It also represents The Bahamas at the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and other international bodies such as the European Commission and the US Coast Guard.	Bahamas Maritime Authority will provide data on international and domestic navigation for the energy sector of the GHG inventory. It will be involved in outputs 1.1. and 1.2.
Government	Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation	Attracting new businesses and industries to Bahamian shores. It contributes to the diversification of the economy, supports the ease of doing business, and helps to strengthen the export capacity of Bahamian companies.	Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers Confederation will provide data on Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU) sector of the GHG inventory. It will be involved in outputs 1.1. and 1.2.
Private sector	Bahamas Power and Light Company (BPL), Grand Bahama Power Company (GBP), St. George's Cay Power Company (SGCP)	BPL, GBP and SGCP: National Power Generation Plant and repository for Emissions data.	Private sector representatives are essential to consult in the establishment of an integral transparency system as they are key entities to implement many of actions needed to mitigate and adapt to climate change and are key data providers for the GHG inventory compilation. These private sector stakeholders will provide GHG data for the energy sector and other relevant information. These will be key actors during project execution. They will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2. and 1.3.

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	The Bahamas Bureau of Standards and Quality	Metrology and standardization of products and services for private and public companies	<p>Assist with the integration of climate policy into national standards. It will provide support in the development of standard operating procedures in the implementation of institutional arrangements on climate action.</p> <p>It will be involved in output 1.1.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Office of The Attorney General	<p>Areas of Responsibility</p> <p>Department of Legal Affairs</p> <p>Legal Advisor to the Government</p> <p>Drafting and Preparation of Government Legislation</p> <p>Relations with the Judiciary and Bar</p> <p>Notaries Public</p> <p>Criminal Prosecution</p> <p>International Legal Cooperation</p> <p>Mutual Legal Assistance</p> <p>Inquiries</p> <p>Office of the Public Defender</p> <p>Law Reform and Revision</p> <p>Legal Education</p> <p>Coroners</p> <p>Justices of the Peace</p> <p>Law Report/Legal Aid</p> <p>Relations with the Industrial Relations Tribunal</p> <p>Registration of Documents</p> <p>Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths</p> <p>Registration of Companies</p> <p>Registration of Business Names</p> <p>Registration of Documents</p> <p>Registration of Commission Merchants</p> <p>Intellectual Property Rights</p> <p>Relations with the Utilities Regulations and Competition Authority (URCA)</p>	<p>Assists in the development of Legal Framework which integrate the institutional arrangements for GHG inventory compilation and NDC tracking and update.</p> <p>It will be involved in output 1.1.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Department of Meteorology (Ministry of Transport and Local Government)	Provides weather and climate information to Bahamians and International Community.	<p>It will be the national focal point for climate projections and the impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Provision of climate-related data, including past trends and long-term projections.</p> <p>Provision of Sea Level Rise data</p> <p>Assist in the provision of climate change and storm surge models for various islands.</p> <p>Assist in the identification of site selection for long term climate monitoring.</p> <p>It will be involved in output 1.1.and 1.3.</p>
Government	The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) (Ministry of Disaster Preparedness, Management and Reconstruction)	<p>NEMA creates an emergency management system that reduces the impact of emergencies.</p> <p>It works with central and local government, communities, iwi, and business to make sure responses to and recoveries from emergencies are effective and integrated.</p> <p>Oversight of the management and operation of the facilities Assist in the development of national criteria (standards and protocols) for climate-related emergencies.</p> <p>Assist in the dissemination of information for disaster preparedness and awareness.</p> <p>Operation of command center for disaster preparedness, management and response.</p>	<p>NEMA via the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness, Management and Reconstruction will be involved in the activities related to the analysis of vulnerabilities of the sectors.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1. and 1.3.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development	<p>Top services:</p> <p>Emergency Food Assistance (EFA)</p> <p>Financial Assistance for Inter-Island Travel</p> <p>Financial Assistance for Payment of Water or Electricity Bills</p> <p>Med-Card Assistance for Psychiatric Patients</p> <p>Rent Assistance</p>	<p>Provide demographic information for targeted vulnerable communities inclusive of gender. Facilitate gender involvement in climate mitigation and adaptation planning and projects, evaluation, monitoring and reporting of mitigation and adaptation actions. Assess and communicate the needs of vulnerable groups in targeted communities. Assist in the dissemination of information for climate-related disaster preparedness and awareness and ensure that community needs are included. It will cross-check activity data on water and electricity producers of the GHG inventory.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., and 1.3.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Health	<p>Top services:</p> <p>Child Immunization</p> <p>Adult Immunization</p> <p>Cancer Screening - Females</p> <p>Healthcare & Emergency Medical Services</p> <p>Adolescent Care Counseling</p> <p>Develop a strategic plan for medical emergencies that linked to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS) and other harmful chemicals, including transfers/evacuation.</p> <p>Communicate with key agencies for medical evacuations and transport.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health will be responsible for tracking data on environmental conditions, disease risks, and conditions, related to climate change; enhancing the science base to better understand the relationship between climate change and health outcomes; identifying locations and population groups at greatest risk for specific groups at greatest risk for specific health threats, such as heat waves and expanding capacity for modeling and forecasting health effects that may be climate - related.</p> <p>Ministry of Health will be responsible for tracking adaptation measures in the Public Health Sector.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Tourism	<p>Areas of Responsibility</p> <p>Department of Aviation</p> <p>Other Areas of Responsibilities</p> <p>Promotion and Development of Tourism</p> <p>Tourism Product Improvement</p> <p>Relations with Nassau Tourism and Development Association</p> <p>Tourism Publicity and Advertisement</p> <p>Relations with the Hotel Corporation of The Bahamas</p> <p>Relations with Tourism Promotions Boards</p> <p>Welcome Centre, Prince George Dock</p> <p>Relations with Bahamas air</p> <p>Relations with the Gaming Board</p> <p>Lotteries and Gaming</p> <p>Aviation</p> <p>Air Traffic Licensing</p> <p>Nassau Flight Services</p> <p>Relations with the Airport Authority</p> <p>Air Transport Licensing</p> <p>Nassau Flight Services</p>	<p>Ministry of Tourism will be responsible for Work with stakeholders in the tourism.</p> <p>sector to develop a strategic plan, which incorporates Climate Change considerations and appropriate measures such as water conservation programmes, as well as general.</p> <p>sustainability concerns. It will adopt the institutional arrangements developed in the CBIT project.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Academia	<p>Bahamas Agriculture and Marine Science Institute (BAMSI)/ Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute (BTVI) / University of The Bahamas/</p> <p>Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Research Centre (UB-CCARR)</p>	<p>Research activities</p> <p>Climate change projections</p> <p>Data providers</p>	<p>A partnership will be established with an academic institution to shoulder the capacity building tasks which are part of outputs 2, 3 and 4 and which will be the capacity building institution on GHG inventory beyond the CBIT project.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>
CSO	<p>Civil society organizations: Bahamas National Trust (BNT)</p> <p>Bahamas Reef Environment Education Foundation (BREEF) The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Bahamas Country Office</p>	<p>BNT: non-profit, non-government, membership organization that relies on donations to continue conserving and protecting the Bahamian environment.</p> <p>BREEF: non-profit, non-government, conservation and education organization on marine ecosystems in The Bahamas</p> <p>TNC: global environmental non-profit organization doing conservancy activities in The Bahamas among other regions in the world</p>	<p>Civil society organizations will provide input during the public consultation process and will be consulted throughout project development and execution.</p> <p>They will be consulted for outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development. Department of Gender and Family Affairs	<p>Areas of Responsibility</p> <p>Department of Social Services</p> <p>Department of Rehabilitative Services</p> <p>Department of Gender and Family Affairs</p> <p>Other Areas of Responsibility</p> <p>Social Services</p> <p>Social Development</p> <p>Child Protection</p> <p>Disabled Persons</p> <p>Public Assistance and Social Welfare</p> <p>Old Age Pensions</p> <p>Case of Indigent and Aged Persons</p> <p>Care Facilities</p> <p>Rehabilitative Services</p> <p>Urban Renewal</p> <p>The Simpson Penn Centre for Boys</p> <p>The Willie Mae Pratt Centre for Girls</p> <p>Community Development</p> <p>Women Affairs</p> <p>Inner City Development Zone</p>	<p>Assist in mainstreaming gender issues during project implementation. Gender office is essential to help to implement the gender action plan during the implementation of all activities related to all outputs of the project.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1., 1.2., 1.3. and 1.4.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Department of Statistics (Ministry of Finance)	<p>Social statistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vital Statistics Labour Force & Household Income Labour Market Information Population & Census Household Expenditure Survey Geographical Information System Bahamas In Figures <p>Economic statistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Accounts Trade & Industry Household Expenditure Survey Consumer Price Index (CPI) -Deposit insurance -Bank supervision initiatives -Monetary policies -Exchange control -Financial statistics <p>Historical repository for GHG inventory</p> <p>Provides statistics on gender and climate</p>	<p>It will provide data on climate finance flows (domestic and international) and will participate in capacity building activities on tracking climate finance.</p> <p>It will be involved in outputs 1.1 and 1.3.</p>

Stakeholder main group	Stakeholder name	Existing activities with potential to be leveraged	Content engagement, contributions to the project (identified by Component or Output)
Government	Bahamas Protected Area Fund (BPAF)	It is a national conservation trust fund devoted to helping ensure that Bahamian marine parks will have a dedicated, sustainable source of revenue to employ staff, galvanize local community support, purchase equipment, build visitor facilities and monitor ecosystem health.	It will provide data on climate finance flows and will participate in capacity building activities on tracking climate finance. It will be involved in outputs 1.1. and 1.3.
Financial institutions	Central Bank of The Bahamas	Main activities: -Deposit insurance -Bank supervision initiatives -Monetary policies -Exchange control -Financial statistics Historical repository for GHG inventory	It will provide data on climate finance flows and will participate in capacity building activities on tracking climate finance. It will be involved in outputs 1.1. and 1.3.

Select what role civil society will play in the project:

Consulted only;

Member of Advisory Body; Contractor; Yes

Co-financier;

Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body; Yes

Executor or co-executor;

Other (Please explain)

3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.

This gender analysis presents an overview of the gender inequalities in The Bahamas and the different ways how women, girls, boys, and men are affected by the current circumstances in the country. It will identify issues that are relevant to the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency Project (CBIT) and examine gender-mainstreaming opportunities in order for the project to be designed, while conforming to the 2018 Guidance to Advance Gender Equality in the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) projects and programs.[1] The Policy marks GEF's increased ambition to ensure gender equality and promote women's empowerment across its activities and outlines the following guiding principles:

Efforts to mainstream gender and promote gender equality and the empowerment of women are pursued in accordance with the decisions on gender under the Multilateral Environmental Agreements that the GEF serves, and in recognition of related international and national commitments to gender equality and human rights.

GEF-financed activities address and do not exacerbate existing gender-based inequalities.

Stakeholder engagement and analyses are conducted in an inclusive and gender-responsive manner, so that rights of women and men and the different knowledge, needs, roles and interests of women and men are recognized and addressed.

GEF-financed activities are conducted, designed and implemented in an inclusive manner so that women's participation and voice are, regardless of background, age, race, ethnicity or religion, reflected in decision-making, and that consultations with women's organizations, including indigenous women and local women's groups, are supported at all scales.

A gender-responsive approach is applied throughout the identification, design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of GEF.

Opportunities to address gender gaps and support the empowerment of women are seized to help achieve global environmental benefits.

This gender assessment is designed according to the above guidance on gender equality by meeting the following requirements for actions:

This section presents a gender analysis as recommended under GEF procedures.

A gender action plan is included to ensure that differences identified will be addressed.

The project's deliverables, primarily the progress indicators for the NDC actions, will be gender sensitive and possible to disaggregate by gender.

The project intervention logic includes gender-specific measures in the activities, such as working to maximize women's participation and decision-making power. It also includes targets for women's meaningful participation, and the project monitoring and evaluation budget supports the collection of sex-disaggregated data. The gender sensitive NDC tracking indicators will be developed in consultation with national stakeholders, ensuring an equal participation of women.

In addition, the Project Result Framework includes gender sensitive indicator, Indicator 1.6 and sex-disaggregated indicators, Indicator A, 1.4, 1.5,1.7.

Gender is also seen as a key component of the project's holistic approach for project M&E, and it will be addressed throughout the project cycle in the following way:

The project will monitor the progress against gender-sensitive indicators targets.

The project targets and activities will be monitored in project reporting, both in annual reports and the terminal evaluation.

The Project Steering Committee which oversees the project progress and implementation of Outputs, include members form the Gender and Child Affairs Division within the Office of the Prime Minister, which will ensure that gender consideration will be integrated into project decision-making and activities.

The Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) who has technical knowledge on the link of gender and climate, will quarterly track project achievements against Gender Action Plan, including conducting Gender Audits. The CTA will also review project deliverables and ensure that gender and climate-related considerations are assessed and mainstreamed as described in "Proposed alternative scenario" section and in this section.

The initial gender assessment here provides country context on gender issues. It identifies areas relevant to project design and implementation in climate change and specifically for creating an effective transparency framework.

1) Gender Analysis

Populations and communities who experience any cultural, economic, institutional, political, social, or other type of marginalization are specifically vulnerable to climate change.[2] The non-climate-related challenges these communities already face reduce their resilience and ability to respond to climate change. These obstacles can impair their adaption and mitigation responses. Furthermore, aside from the economic impacts, both at the micro and macro level, climate change also affects human health through the exacerbation of existing health conditions. Hence, the most vulnerable are those who have the weakest health protection systems.[3] This group tends to be overly represented by impoverished communities and those who are alienated by the factors mentioned above. Thus, the focus on contextual factors is particularly pertinent because these disenfranchised populations experience social determinants that lead to multidimensional inequalities and exposure. In this Project, the gender factor will be considered and mainstreamed into the project.

Gender inequality is amplified through political, social, and cultural spheres. The inequality causes disadvantages at the economic and institutional levels (aside from the physical violence it ferments), which can directly affect a woman's capacity to cope with climate change in the long and short

term.[4]⁴ Gender inequality is closely linked to poverty, as well as other development challenges that are deeply rooted in social norms, all which have a critical impact on women and even more on young women across the world.

1.1. Context of Gender and Climate Change in The Bahamas

1.1.1. The Status of Women in The Bahamas: Indexes

Through the years, several indicators have been developed to quantify the concept of gender inequality in different countries. The United Nations Development Programme provides the Gender Inequality Index (GII), which measures gender disparities in reproductive health, empowerment and the labour market (where 0 means equality and 1 means there is disparity in all dimensions).[5]⁵ The Bahamas scored 0.343 in the GII of 2018, ranking at 76 out of 162 assessed countries.[6]⁶ However, this index has remained mostly unchanged for The Bahamas throughout the last five years, indicating a lack of improvement and progress for gender equality in the country. In 2016, Bahamas had a score of 0.372 in the GII and was ranked at place 77.[7]⁷ For comparison, Barbados improved their GII by 0.035 points between 2016-2018, gaining four positions in the ranking in the same period.[8]⁸ This index portrays some worrying statistics for women in The Bahamas, for example, for every 100,000 live births, 80 women die from pregnancy related causes, and the adolescent birth rate is 30.0 births per 1,000 women between the ages 15-19.[9]⁹

Moreover, the GII is not the only index that does not show encouraging progress made by The Bahamas in gender inequality throughout the last years. The Global Gender Gap Index (GGGI) of the World Economic Forum examines the gap between men and women in four categories: economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival and political empowerment.[10]¹⁰ In 2020, The Bahamas recorded a score of 61 out of the 153 assessed countries.[11]¹¹ Nonetheless, in 2018 the country's score was 0.741 (indicating more equality), and ranking it at place 30.[12]¹² In 2017 the score was even higher at 0.743, with rank 27 worldwide.[13]¹³ In comparison to the region, the gender disparities have increased according to the GGI. In 2018 The Bahamas was ranked by the index as the fifth most equal country in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2020, that rank has fallen to place 16. This information has been summarised in the table below.

	2020		2018		2017	
Description	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
Economic participation and opportunity	0.838	4	0.863	3	0.871	3
Educational attainment	1.000	1	1.000	1	1.000	1
Health and survival	0.980	1	0.980	1	0.978	50
Political empowerment	0.061	141	0.122	100	0.122	98
Overall Gender Gap Index	0.720	61	0.741	30	0.743	27

Note: Inequality = 0.00; Equality = 1.00

Additionally, there is not enough gender disaggregated data available for The Bahamas to calculate another important index, namely the Gender Development Index (GDI).[14]¹⁴

It is important to note that the two areas where The Bahamas has declined, and which have caused lower scores in the indexes are economic or labour participation and opportunity and political empowerment. These two areas will be explored in more depth through the following paragraphs, followed by an analysis of the vulnerabilities women in The Bahamas could endure in face of the climate crisis. This gender analysis will try to provide some policy solutions that the government could implement to tackle the gender disparity in these areas. Since these two topics (labour participation and political representation) are interlinked with the realm the project is expected to contribute to, namely improving women's participation and decision making, it also comes at the project's benefit to consider these inequalities. Followed by this analysis, the Gender Action Plan will be introduced with some specific recommendations to be implemented under this project, along with indicators and target to monitor the actions during project implementation.

1.1.2. Economic/Labour Participation and Opportunity

Despite the arduous work on education,[15]¹⁵ there is still a disparity between the participation of women and men in the labour market. Female participation in the labour market is 67.6 percent

compared to 82.0 for men.[16]¹⁶ This pattern is even more visible for young women. A review of enrolment, graduation, and attainment data showed that females were more likely to enrol in higher education,[17]¹⁷ still, youth unemployment for women sits at a 29.5%, while male unemployment is at a lower 21.6%.[18]¹⁸ Additionally, it should be noted that the size of the informal sector in The Bahamas ranges from 20 to 30 per cent of GDP, a sector extremely vulnerable to current COVID-19 regulations.[19]¹⁹ This unemployment data shows a worrying pattern for gender equality. It uncovers that higher levels of education in women do not always result in better labour opportunities, possibly due to sex-based discriminatory practices that may influence their recruitment. This is a common pattern recognized by the International Labour Organization: women have a more difficult transition to working life than young men. This challenge is a result of the more limited access to information channels and job search mechanisms that women have, compared to young men. More significantly, employers in a range of countries revealed a striking preference to hire young men rather than young women for a variety of reasons.[20]²⁰

Consequently, levels of poverty are still generally higher among female-headed households (9.7%) than among male-headed ones (7.9%) and the general poverty rates are also higher among women (9.7% vs 7.9% of population respectively).[21]²¹

Steps forward

Governments need to create an environment and policies that enable the building of skills and the creation of jobs. The first step towards this goal is to identify skill gaps both between men and women and between the job market in-demand skills and the supply of skills available amongst women. Political leaders should also prioritize the advancement of young adult women through the development and growth of enterprises by facilitating access to capital (human, financial, social) for self-employment. To tackle the issue of access to information, governments should also assist with job search and acquisition, and should design interventions to keep young people in jobs once they are employed. The ILO has stated that the younger the person is, the higher the influence of formal government structures and systems over their development.[22]²² Thus, through policies, institutions, laws, access to resources, and infrastructure, there could be an improvement for young people in this area. At the same time, public donors need to allocate sufficient resources to implement policies and programs that advance youth employment.

Given the scope and complexity of the challenge, no actor can do it alone. Stakeholders may have unique roles, but they are complementary. As the young person enters adulthood, the influence of the private sector grows in terms of employment outcomes. The primary role of the private sector has traditionally been job creation and innovation. However, more recently, the private sector is playing a larger role in education and training and investing in social and community programs that engage and support young people.[23]²³

1.1.3. Political Empowerment

Women are under-represented in multiple governmental bodies despite making up 53.4% of the electorate in the last elections.[24]²⁴ In the House of Assembly, women comprise just 12.8% of the 41 Representatives. Similarly, they also comprise just 5% of the Cabinet Ministers in The Bahamas.[25]²⁵ Low percentages of female representation continue even at local government levels. In 2017, only 26% of Counsellors were women, and only three of the 32 Chief Counsellors were female. The only governmental body where there are significantly more appointed women is in the Senate where 43.8% of the 16 Senators are women, with the head of the Senate being one of them.[26]²⁶ The United Nations has requested governments to implement a quota system of a minimum of 30% women candidates in all political parties.[27]²⁷ The Bahamas has implemented some programs to close this political gap. In 2015, The Leadership for Women in Politics Course celebrated its inaugural graduation ceremony.[28]²⁸ The course sought to incentivize women to participate in politics while it provided them with better information should they decide to go into the field. The program's participants were women from divergent age groups, backgrounds, and political views. Similarly, in 2018, the Women in Politics Mentoring Conclave was held during National Women's Week, which was organized by the Department of Gender and Family Affairs.[29]²⁹ The meeting brought together more than twenty-five women who were involved in Bahamian politics at the time. In this way, attendees had a chance to meet, ask questions and network with them.

Less positively, The Bahamas voted against amending fundamental rights and provisions for women in two constitutional referenda in 2002 and 2016,[30]³⁰ indicating that the population of the country is not aware of the inequalities present in the country. The following sections will present various spheres of life and areas in The Bahamas where gender inequality is still present.

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Steps forward

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Gender mainstreaming mechanisms should be implemented in the drafting, promoting, and monitoring stages of laws and policies that aim to ensure that gender equality issues are considered in national policies. These mechanisms can take various shapes, like commissions and committees, or more informally, caucuses or working groups. Simultaneously, advocacy by women's organizations and non-governmental organizations becomes fundamental since it can influence gender representation in the political process.[31]³¹ Political mentoring and training, such as the efforts already undertaken in The Bahamas, should be strengthened, and held more regularly, since consistent and methodical training yields better results than offering stand-alone sessions. Access to funds and finance are also crucial to decrease the disadvantages between female and male candidates, this could be tackled through state funding of initiatives that promote women's participation in political parties.

Adding the constraints that both a lack of political representation and a lack of economic participation create, provide a clear picture of the obstacles that women face regarding decision-making processes and power in the country. On top of this, if the vote of the constitutional referenda is portraying a further social (or even cultural) constraint, then there is another layer of barriers that restrict women's active participation in household and community. The lack of decision-making powers is worrying, but it becomes threatening for women times of climate disasters. The relationship and implications of a lack of decision-making power for women and climate change will be presented below.

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1.1.4. Climate Change Disasters & Vulnerability

Disasters affect women, girls, boys and men differently, with each having varied capacities, strengths, needs and vulnerabilities, each of which can influence how an individual is impacted, as well as how they will react, respond and recover to the disaster. However, these climate change disasters disproportionately affect women and girls in The Bahamas, mainly due to catastrophic natural disasters such as Hurricane Dorian which made landfall in the country in September 2019.

Pre-existing social and cultural norms and expectations placed on women and girls, including their roles and responsibilities in homes and the community, their decision-making power in relation to men and boys, their engagement in paid work, level of education and other issues leads to women and girls being disproportionately impacted by environmental disasters. Rape, trafficking, sexual exploitation, and other forms of gender-based violence against women increase in times of natural disasters. Relief packages and donations often do not include items that are specific to women, such as menstrual hygiene products. In addition, the loss of shelter and privacy, possessions and limited access to safe water will compromise women and girls' ability to manage menstruation hygienically. Moreover, in the aftermath of disasters of this nature, women and girls are expected to bear the brunt of child and household care.

With the gender analysis, it became evident that there are disparities in the economic opportunities and access to productive resources between men and women in The Bahamas. This disparity renders women more vulnerable to climate change because, as shown, they are often poorer and receive less education (despite having more women in tertiary education, men still have a higher percentage of secondary education). The lower levels of education could imply that women are less prepared for contingency plans that are shared in the case of natural disasters. Moreover, the lack of political representation means that women are not involved in political, community and household decision-making processes that affect their lives. The higher levels of unemployment and poverty in The Bahamas amongst women, mean that they tend to possess fewer assets and depend more on natural resources for their livelihoods.[32]³² Alternatively, gender-defined roles and responsibilities of women, such as collecting water and fuel, frequently also lead them to be more directly dependent on natural resources, which are highly volatile to climate change. These activities also expose women and girls to health risks, such as indoor pollution, anaemia and perinatal mortality.[33]³³

Further analysis on the social and cultural norms in The Bahamas would benefit the understanding of the constraints in the face of climate change threats, beyond the ones already stated in this document. An analysis of cultural and even religious norms could clarify further limitations for women. The analysis could clarify the gender roles, which sometimes limit women's abilities to make quick decisions in disaster situations. For instance, in some cases, the clothes they wear and/or their responsibilities in caring for children can hamper their mobility in times of emergency.[34]³⁴ Also, skills that can be essential to survival in a disaster, such as tree climbing and swimming, are often taught only to boys. It is believed that women and children are 14 times more likely to die than men during disasters.[35]³⁵

The Bahamas has introduced and implemented disaster laws and is working to address this vulnerability of women after climate change disasters. In 2015, the Government of the country adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) which emphasizes that *“women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations?”*. This Framework also indicates that *“empowering women ? to publicly lead and promote gender-equitable and universally accessible response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction approaches is key?”*.

However, the geographical archipelagic landscape of The Bahamas means that many islands compete for limited national budgetary resources and continue to present the most significant challenge against the advancements of women and gender equity. From 2014 to 2019, the geographical reality of travelling over 100,000 square miles of water to replicate and distribute social protections, public capital, human resources, infrastructural services, utilities, and vital products in twenty-four (24) islands and several cays is exceptionally costly. The Bahamas made several attempts to enhance efficacy by forging new strategic corporate partnerships and engaging in numerous joint venture initiatives with other inter-agencies and regional National Machineries that promote the advancement of women and girls.

Involving women and men and drawing on their distinct experiences in communities and households will increase the effectiveness and sustainability of climate responses. In contrast, when policymakers overlook women's roles, capacities and potential, climate responses deprive nations of half of the available expertise and resources that would otherwise have made critical contributions to adaptation and mitigation action.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew in 2016, the Department of Gender and Family Affairs, in collaboration with UN Women, conducted a gender assessment in the affected areas of Grand Bahama and Andros. Recommendations from this gender assessment included:

- i) mass education regarding maladaptive coping strategies after a traumatic event.
- ii) community-based education programmes that support an understanding of human rights and recognition of sexual and gender-based violence as human rights violations.
- iii) community-based education targeting men and women about the importance of shared responsibility in recovery efforts and the need to address negative gender norms, which results in more burden being placed on one sex.
- iv) protocols to address gender-based violence.
- v) specialized psycho-social services to be provided for communities experiencing repeated hurricanes (disasters) to address re-traumatization.

1.1.5. Relevant Facts

A) Equality rights

Article 26(3) of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas defines discrimination as: *affording different treatment to different person attributable wholly or mainly to their respective*

descriptions by race, place of origin, political opinions, colour, or creed whereby person of one such description are subjected to disabilities or restrictions to which person of another such description are not made subject or are accorded privileges or advantages which are not accorded to persons of another such description.?

Discrimination based on sex, gender, or sexual orientation is not recognized under the constitution, thus allowing for the enactment of legislation that discriminates based on sex, gender, or sexual orientation, according to Equality Bahamas, an organization promoting women's rights as human rights, advocating for equality through public education, community engagement, and empowerment of women, girls, and LGBT+ people in The Bahamas. A Gender Equality Referendum was held in June 2016 to address this and several other related issues. The referendum highlighted opposition to LGBTQIA rights and political resistance to any equality laws which might 'open the door' to same-sex marriage, but all four of the constitutional amendments of the referendum were rejected.[36]³⁶

B) Gender-based violence (GBV)

Although most incidents of rape and child sexual abuse go unreported, three of the top ten recorded rape rates in the world occur in the Caribbean, which is led by The Bahamas.[37]³⁷ Between 2005 and 2010 45 women were killed as a result of intimate partner violence in The Bahamas. Annual police reports document 9,045 assaulted female victims in 5 years from 2008 to 2012. This cultural normalcy of violence against women was confirmed in a 2011 research project by the Gender Advocate for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) on masculinities and violence involving over 1000 high school youth in six English speaking Caribbean countries, as well as focus group meetings with adults. When asked whether there were instances in which a woman should be disciplined, the largest proportion (47.8%) of respondents indicated that it was important for a female intimate partner to be 'disciplined'. [38]³⁸

To work towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment for women and girls in The Bahamas, the country has ratified, implemented the following institutional bodies, and drafted the following policy frameworks:

- **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)** ? The Bahamas ratified the international Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1993. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against

Women is the body consisting of 23 experts on women's rights from around the world that monitors implementation of the convention. Since ratification, The Bahamas has submitted its First through Sixth Periodic Reports to the CEDAW Committee.

•**Belem do Para** ? The Bahamas has ratified the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women Convention in 1995. The convention is monitored by MESECVI, which is a follow up mechanism that independently evaluates the progress in implementation of the Convention.

•**Beijing Declaration** ? The priority of implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, was driven by the political will to fulfil obligations of The Bahamas as a signatory to the 1995 Beijing Declaration and the political will to achieve Goal #5 of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals. The top five national priorities for Beijing implementation include: increase women representation in parliament, increase women ownership of land and businesses, increase scientific research, increase laws for rights and protections of marginalized persons and elimination of discrimination and all forms of violence against women and girls.

•**Department of Gender and Family Affairs** ? The Department of Gender and Family Affairs, which falls under the portfolio of the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development, was established in October 2016. The Department expands on the work of the Bureau of Women's Affairs, which is mandated to assess and promote gender equality and the advancement of women's rights in The Bahamas. Though not legislated, the Department is tasked with monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on how well The Bahamas is complying with its international obligations under conventions and regulations that were adopted by the Government. Awareness raising, training and capacity building is part of the mandate of the Department of Gender and Family Affairs. Recently, there has been an accelerated engagement and community awareness through several means such as social media (radio, WhatsApp, YouTube, etc.) with the public on issues such as social abuse, political leadership, social economic empowerment, gender-based violence, and women's health and safety. These initiatives are enabled by the national machinery for gender through civil society, stakeholders, NGOs, and various Government agencies including the Ministry of Health and the SDG Unit.

•**Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act (2007)** ? The Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act provides the granting of protection orders in concerning domestic violence and for related and consequential matters. In the Act, domestic violence is defined as *“physical, sexual, emotional or psychological or financial abuse committed by a person against a spouse, partner, child, any other person who is a member of the household or dependent”*. An application for a protection order may be brought by (a) *the spouse or partner of the respondent on behalf of himself/herself, or a child of the household;* (b) *any other member of the household, other than a spouse, partner or child;* (c) *the Commissioner of Police;* (d) *with the court's leave, an agent for a spouse, partner or child;* (e) *or an officer of the Department of Social Services/Rehabilitative and Welfare Services.*

•**Draft Gender-Based Violence Bill (2016)** ? The government is in the process of drafting the Bill which defines gender-based violence *“as any physical, economic, or financial, emotional, verbal, or psychological, abuse against a person because of the person's gender or gender identification, whether or not constituting a criminal offence, etc.”*, and includes but is not limited to any of the following: (a) *an act of violence that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to the person, including threats of such violence;* (b) *an act of coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life;* (c) *abuse, whether actual or threatened, where it occurs in a domestic relationship.*

•**Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act (2014)** ? The Act strengthens the offence of sexual intercourse by procurement and provides a sex offender register and registry.

•**National Task Force for Ending Gender-Based Violence (2013)** ? The Government of The Bahamas launched the National Task Force to oversee the development, implementation, and coordination of a national strategic plan to address gender based-violence.

•**Strategic Plan to End Gender-Based Violence (2015)** ? The Strategic Plan to End Gender-Based Violence is a comprehensive plan developed by the National Task Force for Ending Gender-Based Violence which was approved by the Cabinet of The Bahamas in 2015. It is a comprehensive document which includes systems, programmes, and services to prevent, manage and eliminate gender-based violence in The Bahamas.

•**Draft National Policy for Gender Equality** ? This Gender Equality Policy was drafted in 2012 but the adoption of it has been pending for some time. The policy identifies a range of issues, customs, practices, legislation, and institutions that need to be addressed so that equal rights and justice for women and men can be achieved in The Bahamas. The Draft, which is to be implemented over a 10-year period, is the basis of a human rights framework, which aims to effect systemic change to historical and contemporary structures of inequality, eliminate attitudinal and behavioural barriers that impede equitable access to resources and opportunities, attain gender equality and sustainable human development, and promote social justice and equity, respect and tolerance. Goal 7 of the Draft aims to *?Promote a Gender Perspective in all Policies, Planning, and Programmes in Respect to Climate Change, Environmental and Disaster Management?*.

2) Gender Action Plan

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2.1. Introduction/Background

Since the project is aiming at improving women's participation and decision making, the results of the gender analysis are particularly relevant. Women in The Bahamas have been systematically excluded from political spaces (decision-making processes) and labour market opportunities (participation), thus, their inclusion in this project is critical.

As the 2015 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit notes, 'Integrating gender into climate change reporting is a particular challenge because many environmental specialists may not be familiar with gender analysis approaches and gender specialists may not have experience in climate change' (UNDP 2015: 53). Thus, this project will attempt to bring the input of as many diverse gender voices as possible. The project will take care to include women in the implementation of the project, from the project board and project management team to consultants, and from training to active participation in consultation workshops. In this sense, project management and monitoring will be gender-sensitive, including gender-disaggregated indicators showing who is involved and whose views are represented. However, not only will women be involved, but the project will also attempt to compile an expert roster of individuals and

organizations that can provide expertise on gender issues when needed. These combined measures will assert the place of women as agents of change and climate-action in the island-state.

Gender considerations will be cross-cutting in this project, in terms both of its products and its processes. There will be guarantees that those involved have the capacity to ensure gender equality and equity throughout the project. This goal could be achieved by establishing gender-sensitive measurements and reporting, and/or workshops on the intersections between climate change and gender challenges. Similarly, the project will dissect how women and men participate in climate change-related decision-making differently, and as such, create platforms where local women can express their concerns, knowledge and demands around the issue. This will also create a space for women to report the possible gaps in control over natural resources, as well as solutions that they feel comfortable with. In this way, the project will contribute to women's equal engagement and benefit from climate change action.

2.2. Strategies and Activities

The PMU staff will ensure that the recommendations for gender mainstreaming in project activities will be included and will monitor and assess the indicators semestery to report the advances in the Half-yearly progress report and Progress Implementation Reports (PIRs).

Output/Objective	Recommendations for gender-Mainstreaming in project activities	Indicator (included in the Project Result Framework)	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of project Target
Project Objective: Build the capacity of The Bahamas to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement.	The PMU staff should be able to identify the appropriate stakeholders and ensure an equal participation to the project training of women.	Indicator A: Direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment [GEF-7 Core Indicator 11] who are women	Baseline A: 0	Project mid-term target A: 20 beneficiaries (60% are Women)	End-of-project target A: 100 beneficiaries (60% are Women)

Output/Objective	Recommendations for gender-Mainstreaming in project activities	Indicator (included in the Project Result Framework)	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of project Target
<p>Output 1.1: The Ministry of Environment and Housing has access to a proposal for institutional arrangements and a platform to coordinate and implement climate transparency activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There should be a plan to train women and disseminate information to them on what the role of the NCCC is, how it can benefit them and how they can have access to it. - The draft for the adoption of the institutional arrangements should identify specific gender needs and the capacity for collection, processing and transmission of gender-disaggregated data for the national GHGI and NDC tracking. - The NCCC ToR should have a quota system for the minimum portion of women staffed, where stereotypically gendered jobs are not included. 	<p>Indicator 1.4: # of stakeholders trained and women declaring that the platform allow them to better coordinate and implement climate transparency activities</p>	<p>Baseline 1.4: 0</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.4: At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.2) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.4: At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.2) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).</p>

Output/Objective	Recommendations for gender-Mainstreaming in project activities	Indicator (included in the Project Result Framework)	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of project Target
<p>Output 1.2: The government, academia, private sector and civil society have strengthened capacities to compile data for and manage the improved greenhouse gas inventory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The GHGI process should be engendered starting with a gender lens in all protocols and tools used for collection, processing and reporting in GHG data/ information and climate action. - Enhance the availability of sex-disaggregated data for gender analysis, taking into consideration multidimensional factors, to better inform gender responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action - The capacity building and trainings should have a dedicated space for the participation of women. Their roles and contributions should be highlighted and encouraged. - The collaboration with the technical or academic institution should be valued, amongst other factors, on the inclusion of women in their activities, research, and mandates. 	<p>Indicator 1.5: # of stakeholders and of women trained declaring to be in a better position to compile data for the GHG inventory</p>	<p>Baseline 1.5: 0</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.5: 0</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.5: At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.2) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).</p>

Output/Objective	Recommendations for gender-Mainstreaming in project activities	Indicator (included in the Project Result Framework)	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of project Target
<p>Output 1.3: Governmental stakeholders have strengthened capacities, tools and protocols to track the implementation of the nationally determined contribution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The transparency analysis should compile a list of best practices on how to integrate gender considerations into MRV/transparency processes. - The MRV process should be engendered starting with a gender lens in all protocols and tools used for collection, processing and reporting data/ information and climate action. - The indicators designed for NDC tracking should be thought to ensure gender-responsive climate actions. - The peer exchange activities should include women in the process. Since the gender analysis exposed the disparities of female participation in the public sector, their lower presence should be counteracted by inviting women, from civil society organizations that work on climate change, to participate. 	<p>Indicator 1.7: # of gender-sensitive indicators for tracking progress in implementing the NDC</p>	<p>Baseline 1.6: 0</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.6: 0</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.6: 8</p> <p>(?Mitigation: Electricity, Transport, Forestry ?Adaptation: Agriculture, livestock development and fisheries, Tourism, Health and wellbeing, Human settlement, and Water resources management.)</p>

Output/Objective	Recommendations for gender-Mainstreaming in project activities	Indicator (included in the Project Result Framework)	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of project Target
<p>Output 1.4: Government decision-makers have strengthened capacities to incorporate climate analysis into national planning, including through a sustainable capacity building mechanism and guidelines.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance capacity-building for governments and other relevant stakeholders to collect, analyse and apply sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis in the context of climate change. - Share experience and support capacity-building on gender budgeting, including on the integration of gender-responsive budgeting into national budgets to advance gender-responsive climate policies, plans, strategies and action. - The trainings on how to integrate climate data and projections into decision-making processes should account for the disparities of female participation in public office as exposed by the gender analysis. - Include gender aspect in the drafting of the curricula for the training of the sustainable capacity building mechanism established. 	<p>Indicator 1.7:</p> <p># of relevant stakeholders and women trained declaring to be in a better position to use assessments, projections and scenarios for vulnerability and impact assessments for adaptation measures planning and for mitigation assessments and policy planning</p>	<p>Baselines 1.7:</p> <p>0</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.7:</p> <p>0</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.7:</p> <p>At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.4) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).</p>

Overall Recommendations:

- Adopt a statement on gender equality in project.
- Consider the needs of specific (and vulnerable) sub-groups (e.g., children, girls, women and men with disabilities, the elderly, widows).
- Identify gender differences in knowledge, interests, priorities, and power within stakeholder groups, as well as among different stakeholder groups.
- Hold meetings/workshops at convenient and friendly places and at times when women can attend.
- There should be consideration for the commitment in terms of time and need for mobility that the consultations/trainings/etc. are demanding from women. This should be addressed since it might put them at a disadvantage in relation to men.
- Do not overload women with workload.
- Plan out what are the contributions/roles that are sought from women during these gatherings. There should be a goal for their participation besides de superficial ?number of women attending? and set targets for female participation in meetings.
- If possible, grant financial support for caring and mobility responsibilities and/or provide childcare during the length of the consultations/workshops.
- The project (including the meetings and workshops) should be accessible and advertised for women specifically. By understanding the places and people that women in The Bahamas attend or listen to get informed, the project could improve and extend its reach.
- Provide information that includes specific messages highlighting the importance of women?s participation in climate change projects, their vulnerabilities and power as agents of change.
- The project should tackle sexist language and practices that reinforce the dominance of groups. The language and practices should not be allowed by those involved in the Project, the beneficiaries, the facilitators, etc.
- To guarantee this, there should be Gender-sensitive training programs available.
- Ensure women?s visibility in the Project. Provide training to women (training, mentoring) where relevant and Train and promote women in leadership positions.
- Do gender audits.
- Work with civil society organizations (including women?s groups and women?s advocacy organizations) that promote women?s participation and leadership at all levels.
- Actively reach out to women?s organizations and gender focal points of relevant national ministries, nongovernment organizations and civil society
- Share experiences with other projects across countries in the region.

2.3. Monitoring and Evaluation

The PMU staff (Chief Technical Advisor) and the Transparency Officer will ensure that the recommendations for gender-mainstreaming in project activities will be included and will monitor and assess the indicators semestery to report the advances in the Half-yearly progress report and Progress Implementation Reports (PIRs). The CTA will be responsible for the implementation of the Gender

Action Plan and for conducting Gender audits, as described in Annex K. Also, The Bahamas will benefit from the Global Coordination Platform activities on gender. Mainly, under its output 2.4 ?Assistance provided to countries with integrating the UNFCCC Gender Action Plan into enhanced transparency frameworks?.

Gender audits will be incorporated into the skeleton of the project. An accountability framework is vital to follow the achievements and challenges faced by the gender mainstreaming mechanisms in the project. Specifically, a gender audit aims to achieve the following:

- Considers whether internal practices and related support systems for gender mainstreaming are effective and reinforce each other.
- Monitors and assesses the relative progress made in gender mainstreaming.
- Establishes a baseline for the audited unit.
- Identifies critical gaps and challenges.
- Recommends ways of addressing them and suggests new and more effective strategies.
- Documents good practices towards the achievement of gender equality

A gender audit enhances the capacity to examine the activities of the project from a gender perspective and it is useful to identify strengths and weaknesses in promoting gender equality within the context.

In addition, this project will organize a gender training workshop, with co-financing resources provided by the DEPP, on how women and men have been engaged to adopt climate-smart tourism or fishing practices, etc. Institutions to be consulted on gender engagement will include, but not be limited to: The Ministry of Social Services & Urban Development, Department of Gender and Family Affairs, the gender focal point for the convention on climate change, civil society organizations as well as research institutions and development partners working in the fields of gender and climate change such as the University of The Bahamas. In the end, a document to disseminate gender-relevant best practices and lessons learned throughout the project cycle will be published for use in other projects in the region and future reference. This will be co-financed by the DEPP.

[1] Guidance to Advance Gender Equality in GEF Projects and Programs, 2018, Global Environment Facility (GEF)

[2] <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg2/>

[3] <https://eprints.qut.edu.au/114500/1/Climate%20Change%20paper%202017.pdf>

[4] <https://www.grida.no/publications/198>

[5] United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Human development data (<http://hdr.undp.org/en/data/>).

- [6] Ibid.
- [7] Ibid.
- [8] Ibid.
- [9] http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/BHS.pdf
- [10] http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2020.pdf
- [11] Ibid.
- [12] http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2018.pdf
- [13] http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2017.pdf
- [14] <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-development-index-gdi>
- [15] https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/informe_beijing25_bahamas_final.pdf
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- [22] https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/publication/wcms_413826.pdf
- [23] Ibid.
- [24] https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/informe_beijing25_bahamas_final.pdf
- [25] http://www.clgf.org.uk/default/assets/File/Country_profiles/The_Bahamas.pdf
- [26] Ibid.
- [27] DGFA Annual Report. 2015
- [28] https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/informe_beijing25_bahamas_final.pdf

[29] Ibid.

[30] <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23780&LangID=E>

[31] Advancing Gender Equality in Political Decision-Making: Good Practices, European Institute for Gender Equality, 2016

[32] Mearns, R. and Norton, A., eds., Social Dimensions of Climate Change: Equity and Vulnerability in a Warming World (Washington, D.C.: World Bank, 2010); IDS, 'Gender and Climate Change?' (2008)

[33] World Health Organization (WHO), 'Household air pollution and health?', Fact sheet No. 292, 2016

[34] Wong, S., 'Can Climate Finance Contribute to Gender Equity in Developing Countries?' Journal of International Development 28, no. 3 (2016), pp. 428-444

[35] Brody, A., J. Demetriades, and E. Esplen. (2008). Gender and climate change: mapping the linkages. UK: BRIDGE, Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

[36] Equality Bahamas, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Shadow Report, October 2018

[37] Strategic Plan to Address Gender-Based Violence, Ministry of Social Services and Community Development, 2015

[38] Rosina Wiltshire, 'Gender-based violence in the Caribbean: A cause for concern and a call to action?', 2016 presentation at the Commission on the Status of Women, New York

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment?

Yes

Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;

Improving women's participation and decision making Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women

Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?

Yes

4. Private sector engagement

Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.

Private-sector development remains a high priority for The Bahamas, and is part of the government's latest policy document, Vision 2040: The National Development Plan for The Bahamas. In this document, the government notes the urgent need for economic change and to achieve more public-private synergies. Hence, private sector representatives are essential to consult in the establishment of an integral transparency system as they are key entities to implement many of actions needed to mitigate and adapt to climate change. These private sector stakeholders are also key actors in several the outputs of the project and will provide GHG emission and mitigation actions information.

This includes small and large private actors such as companies within industry, in particular the power supply companies (see stakeholders engagement plan). These have been engaged in the project preparation phase and participated in both the consultation and validation workshops of the CBIT project but have not been involved previously (e.g. in the preparation of the two national communications submitted by the country to the UNFCCC).

Private sector stakeholders will be involved in: Output 1 ? Institutional arrangements, 2 ? GHG inventories, and finally Output 3 on NDC tracking as data providers and beneficiaries of training sessions. Under output 1, "Institutional arrangements established and strengthened to coordinate and manage transparency activities in The Bahamas", institutional arrangements need to be formalised with certain actors within the private sector. This mainly concerns the collection of activity data, which is relevant for output 2 as well. Under output 3, the private sector actors are essential actors for: developing and prioritizing indicators for tracking the NDC and deciding what is feasible in terms of what data one can be collected. Moreover, private sector actors will also be a key audience for some of the capacity building and training activities as they are key data providers and have expert knowledge on their economic activities.

5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):

Risk is defined as the effect of uncertainty on project objectives. It is formulated in terms of 'future events'. Risks have been identified during project design through detailed stakeholder consultations and tools such as the UNEP Safeguard Risk Identification Form (SRIF), the gender analysis and the theory of change. A qualitative 1-5 scale has been used to characterise the likelihood (probability of occurrence: 1 = not likely, 5 = expected) and the negative impact on the achievement of project objectives (1 = negligible; 5 = extreme) associated to each risk. In accordance with the combination of likelihood and impact, each risk is assessed as low (green), moderate (yellow), substantial (orange) or high (red) as follows:

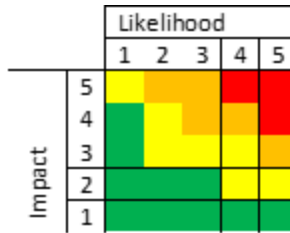


Figure 6 Risk scale assessment tool

Climate and COVID risks are identified in the sections following this table.

#	Risk description	Main risk categories	Risk level rating: probability	Risk level rating: impact	Risk mitigation Strategy and Safeguards	By whom and when managed?

1	Lack of political buy-in on the importance of transparency and long-term planning tools.	Political	2	4	<p>The transparency system to operate would require funds for staffing and funds for information collection to be allocated by the Government. The budgetary constraints of the Government can limit the resources for operating the transparency institutional arrangements. A strategy will be applied to manage the risk: creating awareness on the importance of institutions among ministers and politicians through regular communication with sectoral institutions through working groups and the Project Steering Committee which will serve to increase the buy-in by high-level officials. Further, the project will regularly report to meetings of permanent secretaries and Cabinet.</p> <p>A significant part of responsibility will be taken up by respective line ministries and institutions in collecting and providing data. Thus embedding the functions within respective organizations mitigates some of the resources needs as the resources will be included in organizations itself.</p> <p>Not only it is important to count on financial resources for</p>	<p>National Project Coordinator (DEPP)</p> <p>Project Steering Committee (PSC)</p>
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2	<p>Poor institutional coordination</p>	Institutional	2	3	<p>In recent years, the country had a good experience preparing the climate reports and coordinating Working Group for the preparation of the NC. It was an effective tool to help establish coordination channels. Along with this, the project steering committee will oversee briefing all relevant stakeholders and supporting effective institutional coordination.</p> <p>Also, the CBIT project management unit will be integrated into the existing project management institutional arrangements in Bahamas, also to avoid duplication of efforts.</p>	PSC, National Project coordinator (NPC), PMU
3	<p>Lack of interest from some sectorial institutions.</p> <p>Some sectorial institutions do not show interest in participation in project interventions.</p>	Institutional	2	3	<p>As the coordinating institution, the DEPP, through the NPD will conduct regular consultations and negotiations with key relevant institutions, to explain the importance of the planned project interventions.</p>	National Project Coordinator

4	Loss of knowledge and skills due to high turnover rates	Institutional	2	4	The knowledge products and a digital platform will be made available to the new staff to build their capacity and ensure continuous information sharing. Incentives such as training opportunities will be provided to civil service staff of the national institutional stakeholders and other inline ministries to prevent high staff turnover. Also, an agreement will be signed between the DEPP and a training institution to have a continuous and sustainable capacity building mechanism mainly targeting institutional stakeholders.	PMU, DEPP, Training institution
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5	Opposition to the collection of information from a governmental/ private sector body	Institutional	3	3	<p>Project implementation will develop recommended measures (mainly in Output 1.1) which will incorporate confidentiality considerations into its design. Moreover, the participatory process with consultation and validation workshops, will allow for a clear and effective communication with all the relevant stakeholders that will be feeding the system with data.</p> <p>The project will also develop communication material to increase awareness of the benefit of improved National Transparency System for data providers and national planning.</p>	PMU
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6	A training institution to partner with for output 1.4 is not found.	Institutional	2	3	Initial communication and negotiations between the DEPP and The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute (BTVI) started at early stage of the PPG phase. The NPC will continuously coordinate and support the negotiations for the formal agreement to be delivered under Output 1.4. Another candidate for partnering is the University of West Indies which has a virtual campus in in The Bahamas. The University of West Indies is a regional institution with an academic offer including courses on climate change, mitigation and adaption and GHG inventory, and has been already engaging with Caribbean government in transparency activities. The partnership with UWI will be explored	NPC, DEPP
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7	Beneficiaries of capacity building activities are not correctly identified	Technical	1	3	The relevant stakeholders were identified at PPG stage and engaged in consultations workshops and meeting. A stakeholders engagement plan was drafted accordingly. During project implementation, the NPC will ensure that relevant stakeholders participate in capacity building activities and will be correctly selected by government institutions. The NPC will ensure that relevant institutions understand the objective and scope of the project through continuous communication and coordination. Also, the long-term capacity building mechanism established under the CBIT project, will reach out to an increasing number of beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders.	NPC, DEPP
8	The number of women involved in project activities is limited	Social	1	2	The share of women working in the targeted sectors is high in Bahamas. The PMU will ensure equal participation of men and women in consultations for developing the transparency system and in capacity building activities. The Moreover, a detailed strategy to mitigate such risk is defined in section 3 (Gender Action Plan).	PMU

9	Government stakeholders might not understand and oversimplify gender issues and their relation to climate change, and oppose to endorse gender-sensitive guidelines to be integrated into policies and plans.	Social	2	3	<p>Although women are meaningfully involved in the climate change decision-making process, gender issues are not well integrated into transparency activities. There is a low level of awareness regarding the relationship between gender issues and climate change issues. Government agencies may not have the individual capacity to analyse the consequences of climate change policies and measures on men and women, and they lack access to materials and specialists who could provide guidance and support. Hence, when consulting Government stakeholders, issues and their relation to climate change might be oversimplified. The project will follow the Gender Action Plan developed in this document, and through the Project Steering Committee meetings the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development will ensure that gender aspect is included through project decision-making and activities. Also, gender consideration will be included in all trainings delivered, by explaining the link between gender and climate.</p>	PMU
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10	Bahamas is not willing to share information and cooperate with other CBIT countries	Political	1	2	Bahamas is engaged in regional projects (e.g. MRV Hub? project) for the implementation and coordination of transparency activities. During PPG phase, the DEPP (Executing agency) showed interest in participating to the CBIT Global Platform and share experiences and lessons learned with other CBIT countries and through the MRV Hub activities with partner countries.	DEPP
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Due to the continuous evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and its already observed and potential consequences on project design and implementation, the risks, response measures and opportunities related to the COVID-19 are addressed separately, as described hereby.

COVID-19 risk analysis, response measures and opportunities

Risk analysis and response measures

The COVID-19 pandemic poses a risk to several aspects of the project design and implementation. The key risks are related to the availability of technical expertise, capacity and changes in timelines, stakeholder engagement processes, enabling environment, and financing. The main identified risks, and the response measure considered in the CBIT project are shown in the following table.

COVID-19 related risk		Response measure
Availability of technical expertise, capacity, and changes in timelines	Training and knowledge management activities cannot be held due to restrictions	A combination of remote and digital-based guidance by international experts and utilization of national experts will be used to ensure the implementation of the activities. Activities related to knowledge management and possible exchanges will adhere to UNEP guidance on travel and precautions related to containment of the COVID-19 global pandemic, and the project will develop virtual or on-line activities to support these exchanges where possible. The same modalities will be employed when technical trainings are not possible in person.

COVID-19 related risk		Response measure
	Limited capacity and experience for remote work and online interactions affect the effectiveness of the interventions.	The development of guidelines, templates and manuals for each output developed within the project will ensure the outputs of the project can be used beyond project implementation and will allow the staff to access detailed information on MRV process, ensuring the sustainability of the work and reinforcing the institutional capacity of the institutions involved.
	Delays in project implementation	Most activities and events will be organized and conducted using virtual platforms to ensure that any COVID-19 related limitations will be dealt with in a timely manner. Furthermore, the design of the project has considered delays up to one year in the implementation of the activities by splitting the work during 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023, and allowing most of the activities to be developed in parallel.
	Limited availability of international and national consultants to support project implementation.	UNEP and the government of The Bahamas will maintain a database of consultants with expertise in the different transparency components and proven competences for carrying out home based assignments.
Stakeholder Engagement Process	Mobility of stakeholders and staff is affected	The project design has considered steps to minimize these risks such as limiting travel to or from areas where COVID-19 is prevalent, and will also provide training on regular hand washing, social distancing and wearing masks in public for the project staff and stakeholders during the inception phase. These trainings will be repeated throughout the project implementation and reinforced during settings where it is determined to be high risks areas.
	Highly vulnerable actors and typically marginalized groups are not involved in project implementation	
Enabling Environment	Government priorities change because of the pandemic	The high-level involvement and commitment of national stakeholders shown in the PPG reaffirms the interest of the country and ensures the project implementation is country driven. The design of the project activities, prioritising the use of virtual platforms, will allow stakeholder to continue with their involvement in potential lockdown phases.

COVID-19 related risk		Response measure
Financing	Co-financing availability	The contribution from the government of The Bahamas is provided in-kind, in the form of government personnel and public resources. Thus, the co-finance is not affected. The involvement of the staff from the PPG phase ensures the engagement of national stakeholders, that will be allowed to continue with project implementation home-based, if appropriate.
	Price increase in procurement	The possibility for developing the work virtually ensures that the demand for procurement is sufficient to meet the project requirements in a cost-effective way.

Opportunity analysis

In a scale from 1 to 4 for COVID-19 levels, the US health department has rated The Bahamas as Level 3: High as of March 2021. While the country experiences a first long wave of cases between August and October 2020, cases number remained low until March 2021, where new cases are currently increasing daily.



Figure 7 New COVID-19 Cases

? Travel restrictions. As of March 29th, The Bahamas is re-opening to tourism. Once in possession of a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test, travellers need apply for their required Bahamas Travel Health Visa before departure. As part of the Travel Health Visa application, travellers will be required to opt-in to COVID-19 health insurance that covers them for the duration of their stay in The Bahamas.

? Restrictions with regards to meetings and meeting size. The country has put some restriction on in-person group meetings and working in office is allowed with safety guidelines that allows a percentage of staff to ensure safe distancing at office. Gathering of people can be maximum of 20 individuals.

? Shift of government priorities. The COVID-19 related restrictions have had and will continue to have severe impacts on The Bahamas economy due to its dependence on tourism income. This has impacted the revenues of the government.

The Bahamas has a low- to moderately concentrated economy, with agriculture and industry representing less than 10%. The GDP reflects the importance of tourism-related areas, such as Hotels and restaurants (9.8%) and Real Estate Activities (16.4%). Most of the population works directly or indirectly in tourism, and it is reported by the Ministry of Tourism that the total related employment is 70%. The estimates of the total incidence of Tourism on the GDP varies from 30% by the World Tourism Organization to 50% by the Ministry of Tourism. In 2019, the country had a record 7.2 million visitors, leading the growth for the second year. But this lack of diversification makes The Bahamas vulnerable to crises such as the COVID-19.

In the aftermath of COVID-19, The Bahamas is, as numerous other countries, planning how to launch the economic recovery needed after the adverse effect the pandemic and restrictions have caused. Although the plan does not include environmental and natural resources issues, it is clear the increasingly complex interactions between economic, political and human systems on one hand and environmental systems on the other contribute to the systemic nature of risk and its cascading effects. In this context, an improved climate transparency system which can better track the progress of implementation, and thus evaluate the effectiveness of different measures, becomes a potentially powerful tool to "build back better". The CBIT project will provide a knowledge management system and tools and capacity to collect and analyse data for the implementation and tracking of mitigation in among others, the energy sector, and in adaptation sectors such as health and agriculture. The increased transparency and available information will allow national policy planners and decision-makers to formulate climate-informed policies and include better-informed climate considerations in national planning and in post-COVID-19 recovery plans and strategies.

Additionally, COVID-19 introduces the opportunity to slowly introduce e-governance (online public service provision and delivery without physical interactions) over time, enabling service provisions in both rural and urban areas. In fact, given the long-term need of practicing social distancing, COVID-19 is likely to introduce policy changes to many global meetings and conferences including those of the UNFCCC, GEF, UNCBD, UNCCD to enable innovative and digital modalities to be fully employed, applied and rolled out to countries. This is likely to change the modalities (currently travel heavy and posing risks of exposure through physical contact) of conducting Convention businesses and contribute to the long-term desired outcome of the Convention.

Climate risk assessment.

This section will assess climate change impacts and disaster risks that may threaten the CBIT project outcomes or be exacerbated by the project activities.

(i) Would the project potentially lead to improving resilience for the next 30 years against potential climate change impact beyond the project intervention period?

The main outcome of the CBIT project is the strengthening of The Bahamas' enabling environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement. One of the reporting obligations under the Paris Agreement are the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). The Bahamas NDC also includes adaptation actions and building resilience through adaptation is one of the primary objectives for the country. It is very vulnerable to inundation caused by sea level rise and storm surges due to hurricanes as 80% of the country is situated less than 1-1.5 meter above sea level[1]. According to the World Bank's ThinkHazard, an online hazard information and knowledge platform, The Bahamas has a high risk to cyclones and coastal flooding[2]. The proposed project will build the capacity of The Bahamas to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreements. This improved capacity and transparency in the country will subsequently lead to more climate change adaptation experts in The Bahamas working towards building resilience of the country. The CBIT project will therefore lead to improved resilience in The Bahamas for the next 30 years.

(ii) Would the project potentially involve areas that are now or are projected to be subject to natural hazards such as extreme temperatures, earthquakes, extreme precipitation and flooding, landslides, droughts, severe winds, sea level rise, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions in the next 30 years?

The location of the CBIT project is in the Atlantic hurricane belt, which means that the project will be subject to regular hydro-meteorological disasters including hurricanes, storms and cyclones. The low relief of the lands make them particularly vulnerable to flooding caused by storm surges and sea level rise[3]. The Second National Communication of The Bahamas also highlights the exposure of the country to hurricanes and tropical storms. Six hurricanes have made landfall in the country since 2000, impacting the islands significantly. In the in 2016 published Hazard and Risk Study under the Sustainable Nassau Action Plan, hurricanes and coastal flooding was also highlighted as one of the main hazards for the island where the capital Nassau is located. This is where the project will mainly take place. The effects and fears of these natural hazards can affect the data collection and data storage, it can affect the equipment and movement of people and prevent capacity building activities.

(iii) Would the project potentially lead to outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change (e.g., changes in precipitation, temperature, salinity, extreme events) in the next 30 years?

The outputs and outcomes of the CBIT project in The Bahamas are related to establishing institutional arrangements, strengthening transparency activities, training relevant stakeholders and overall capacity building. The effects of climate change disasters can cause changes in priorities for the participating stakeholders. It will affect the data collection and data storage; it can affect the equipment and movement of people and prevent capacity building activities. It can therefore alter the attention, progress, and interest, which will ultimately affect the success of the CBIT project. To prevent this, the project will comply with the Hurricane Preparedness Guide to assure the safety of the personnel. When activities need to be postponed due to warnings, the safety and integrity of the people will always be a priority, and the project

will only return in its course when safety can be mentally and physically assured. For the data systems generated by the project, and the storage of this data, the project will design resilient systems able to withstand the threats posed by climate change, including hurricanes. This includes storing data on a cloud outside of The Bahamas, ensure to store project documents during the project in shared cloud folders, etc. For capacity building activities, online options will be preferred when possible, to save resources for travel as a default position in the project. This approach helps limit possible adverse effects of a hurricane. For those capacity building activities which need to take place in person, they will be planned outside the hurricane season.

(iv) Would the project potentially involve local communities vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and disaster risks (e.g., considering level of exposure and adaptive capacity) in the next 30 years?

The outputs and outcomes of the CBIT project in The Bahamas are related to establishing institutional arrangements, strengthening transparency activities, training relevant stakeholders and overall capacity building. Any climate disaster will therefore not affect local communities due to possible failure or collapse of infrastructure and its structural elements.

(v) Would the project potentially lead to direct or indirect increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disasters now or in the next 30 years?

As reported under (i), the proposed project will build the capacity of The Bahamas to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreements. This improved capacity and transparency in the country will subsequently lead to more climate change adaptation experts in The Bahamas working towards building resilience of the country. The CBIT project will therefore not increase the vulnerability of communities through changes to their livelihoods. It will, on the other hand, improve the resilience of communities to cope with climate disasters and will provide The Bahamas knowledge on how to cope with urbanization processes.

(vi) Would the project potentially involve or lead to increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?

The CBIT project outcomes and outputs are not related to increasing GHG emissions associated with energy, transport, agriculture, and changes in land use and ecosystems. Neither will the project require significant travel or freight transports. For the implementation of the trainings and workshops preference is given to local entities and experts, or the core working group, which will keep the travel requirements to a minimum. There might be a need for an international consultant to provide a training or workshop, but this will result in minimal increases of greenhouse gas emissions which means that the potential of the CBIT project to increase greenhouse gas emissions is therefore low.

(vii) Would the project potentially involve or lead to sequestration of greenhouse emissions, resource-efficient and low carbon development, or other measures for mitigating climate change?

The proposed project will build the capacity of The Bahamas to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreements. Part of this work is the establishment of a

Project Management Unit, which will analyse current gaps and issues in transparency activities. This will result in improved institutional arrangements and legal framework to collect and manage GHG inventory data and NDC tracking. The project will additionally improve the GHG inventory process, develop good quality data including QA/QC tools, and train technical staff on the 2006 IPCC Guidelines. This will not directly lead to reductions of GHG emissions but will eventually result in more climate change experts in the country developing resource-efficient and low carbon development policies and other measures for mitigating climate change in The Bahamas.

[1] <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/bahamas>

[2] <https://thinkhazard.org/en/report/20-the-bahamas>

[3] <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/bahamas/vulnerability>

6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

?Institutional arrangements

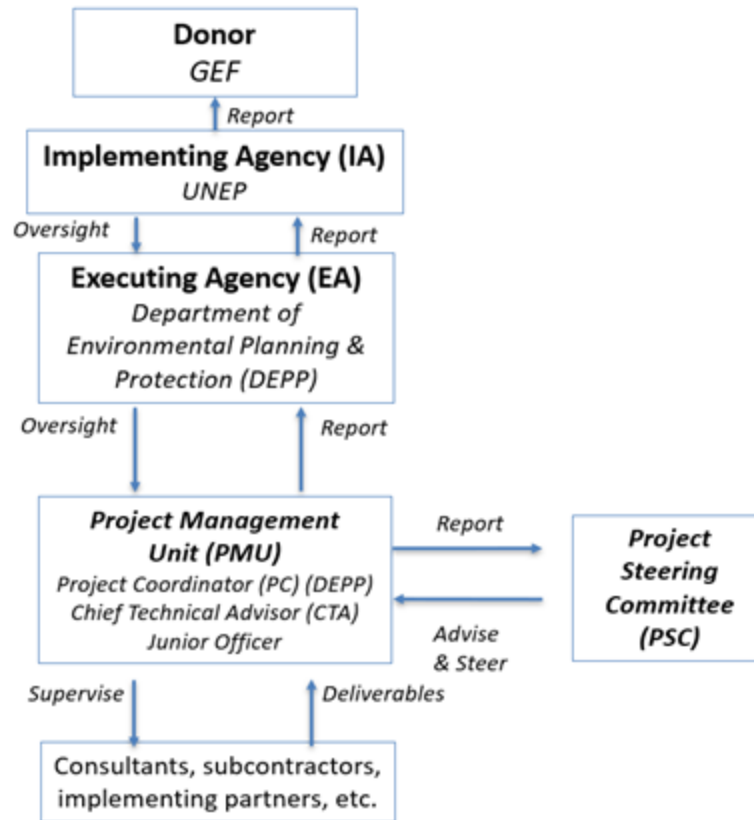


Figure 8 Project Implementation arrangements

UNEP will be the GEF implementing agency of the CBIT project. UNEP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes oversight of project execution to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with the agreed standards and provisions. UNEP is responsible for project approval and start-up, project supervision and oversight, and project completion and evaluation. UNEP is implementing more than 30 CBIT projects, including 11 CBIT projects in Latin America and the Caribbean and CBIT Global Coordination Platform. In this context, in acting as the implementing agency for this project it will ensure that the project builds on previous experiences and lessons learnt in the implementation of CBIT projects and will ensure coordination with regional activities and with the Global coordination Platform funded activities.

The Department of Environmental Planning & Protection (DEPP) will be the Executing Agency. The executing agency is the entity to which UNEP has entrusted the implementation of the assistance specified in the project documentation along with the full responsibility and accountability for the delivery of outputs, as set forth in the project documentation.

The DEPP is also the executing agencies for the Third National Communication (TNC) and the First Biennial Update Report (BUR). DEPP will also host the CBIT Project National Coordinator, which will ensure coordination with other projects and initiatives. For this project, the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) will act as the Project Steering Committee and provides support to the project activities to ensure coordination between the TNC/BUR and CBIT projects and enhance synergies. It is foreseen that a representative from the steering group of the TNC will participate in the Steering Committee of this project to facilitate coordination further. The Project Steering Committee (PSC) is also responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results, and include representatives of government institutions, including gender related institutions, academia and CSO.

Coordination with other initiatives

The project will be coordinated with the results and findings of the following completed and ongoing projects:

- ? ? CBIT Global Coordination Platform: as UNEP is implementing more than 30 CBIT projects, including 11 CBIT projects in Latin America and the Caribbean and CBIT Global Coordination Platform, UNEP will be able to ensure coordination and information exchange between The Bahamas national project and the regional activities and with the Global coordination Platform funded activities.

- ? ? Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee: A Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee of the NCCC was established in 2010 and has been active in education and outreach activities on climate change, e.g. ? the Subcommittee produced a comic book on climate change for Bahamian school children, providing nationally appropriate information on climate change. This project is a capacity building project that is facilitating early education of climate change in curricula and supports the ?learning by doing? initiative. It builds the capacity of the school system to raise awareness of climate change. The CBIT project will draw on these lessons learnt.

- ? ?Caribbean Planning for the Adaptation to Climate Change (CPACC)? is a regional project that seeks to build capacity in the Caribbean region for the adaptation to climate change impacts, particularly sea-level rise through the completion of vulnerability assessments, adaptation planning, and capacity building activities. The project established sea level and climate monitoring systems throughout the region. It is also assisted with the establishment of the National Implementation Coordinating Unit (NICUs), the National Climate Change Committee.

? Umbrella Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports to the UNFCCC is a global project to support 25 countries to prepare their national communication and Biennial Update Reports to the UNFCCC. This project is highly relevant as it will prepare the Third National Communication and the first BUR of The Bahamas which will be fully coordinated with the CBIT project to exploit the synergies and avoid any duplication in efforts. The project is currently under implementation and will thus provide an up-to-date assessment of the current institutional arrangements, methodologies, capacity gaps and needs. This knowledge will be used through the implementation of the CBIT project.

? National Cooling Strategy is a first draft of a strategy to address energy efficiency, ozone depletion and GHG reduction. The Strategy calls for a ban on high emission cooling systems. The strategy proposes the introduction of innovative, interactive, and comprehensive tracking tools at The Bahamas Customs Department for tracking the import of global warming potential (GWP) gases. It facilitates ways to make it easier for stakeholders and decision-makers to understand ozone-depleting and GWP gases data. The information generated in this project will be used in the trainings of the CBIT project on the IPPU sector for the preparation of the GHG inventory.

? Pine Island Project: In this Project, the Government allocated 283,750.2 hectares of forest for the development of a Forestry Estate in which three classes of forest have been created. Conservation Forest (52.65% of the total hectares), Protected Forests (13.33%), and Forest Reserves (34.02%). With assistance from UNEP and the GEF, these undertakings, among several others, support the conservation of biological resources (under the Convention on Biological Diversity), the prevention of desertification, land degradation and drought (under the Convention to Combat Desertification), the sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of genetic resources, and the goals of the UNFCCC on the preservation of forests as carbon sinks for Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR). A Forestry Unit was established in 2010 by an Act of Parliament, and this unit will be monitoring forest outputs beyond the project. The CBIT project will build on the developments done and the existing knowledge for the trainings on NDC, related to the development of a Forestry Estate to permanently protect national forests to increase carbon dioxide absorption capacity (or Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR)) and to improve national climate forcing to advance The Bahamas NDC.

? Water supply systems is a Partnership with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to co-finance a project to improve access, reliability and quality of the water supply systems in communities in New Providence and six Family (peripheral) Islands that have had limited access to potable water. The project has included new water-supply and water-distribution systems. In the mitigation and adaptation risk component, it puts special emphasis on placing the facilities at locations where vulnerability to water supply constraints during climate-related events and natural disasters are considerably reduced. The

Production and Distribution facilities seek to be powered by traditional and renewal energy sources. The CBIT project will use this information to provide capacity building on how streamline sustainable development goals and climate resiliency in the water sector.

? Caribbean Climate Online Risk and Adaptation Tool Project: The Bahamas has participated in training in the use of an online risk assessment and management tool- Caribbean Climate Online Risk and Adaptation Tool (CCORAL) whose purpose is intended to engender climate resilience into Caribbean countries? daily decision-making processes for Policy & Legislation Framework, Land Use Planning and Land Development. This project will support the Institutional arrangements and governance structures to help play an important role in ensuring climate resilience screening of national policies, legislation and development projects (Outputs 1 and 4).

? Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas: In partnership with The Bahamas National Trust, The Department of Agriculture, The Department of Marine Resources, and The Nature Conservancy, this GEF project seeks to Develop more effective management of Marine Protected Areas and to integrate the management plan into landscape planning. The project aims to reduce pressures on ecosystem services and biodiversity for competing resources. This project has been monitored by the Department of Environmental Planning & Protection (DEPP) and will continue to be monitored by DEPP. This GEF Project seeks to ensure 2,105,539 tCO₂-eq emissions are reduced in the Exuma Cays Land and Seas Park, Andros West Side National Park and Bonefish Pond National Park. The project will produce up to 5 carbon-neutral Marine Protected Area facilities (photovoltaic substitute for diesel generators), subsequently reducing tCO₂ emissions by 1,502,769.6 tCO₂ over several years and will introduce fees to help sustain the design. The CBIT project has engaged the relevant stakeholders for CBIT implementation as the information they have will be very relevant for the NDC.

? The Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub (?MRV Hub?) assists the English-speaking countries in the Caribbean region to efficiently develop GHG inventories, mitigation projections, and track their NDCs. This initiative will pool experts from participating countries to establish regional MRV institutional arrangements and products. Last year the MRV Hub team completed a Capacity Building Report for The Bahamas which included a limited needs assessment, which could be further developed to meet the needs of the CBIT project. The MRV Hub is currently under contract to the DEPP to map out and strengthen the national institutional arrangements, produce transparent MRV and mitigation outputs and to provide mentoring and capacity building for DEPP staff including the National Inventory Team (NIT) and external stakeholders. The MRV Hub was set to empower English-speaking countries in the region to efficiently develop GHG inventories, mitigation assessments, and track NDCs. This goes hand in hand with the transparency goals of this CBIT to strengthen The Bahamas? environment and capacity for implementing the Paris Agreement. The DEPP, who coordinates the MRV Hub support as well, has the intention to integrate the work of the MRV Hub team with outputs of the CBIT work. Additionally, MRV Hub was consulted during PPG phase and reviewed the CBIT proposal to ensure coordination, synergies and avoid

duplication of efforts during project implementation. It can be added that UNEP is a close partner to the MRV Hub project as well, thus further strengthening the coordination of the project.

? Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme: This project aims at removing barriers to renewable energy utilization in the Caribbean. Through specific actions to overcome policy, finance, capacity, and awareness barriers it is estimated that the contribution of renewable energy sources to the region's energy balance will be significantly increased. Currently, renewable energy provides less than 2% of the region's commercial electricity. It is estimated that due to the planned barrier removal activities the share of renewable energy could reach 5% by 2015. This would imply annual reductions of CO₂ emissions by some 680,000 tons. Part of the GEF funding will be used through non-grant instruments to remove incremental risks related to RE investments thus improving the cost-effectiveness of the GEF resource utilization. The CBIT project has engaged the relevant stakeholders for CBIT implementation as the information they have will be very relevant for the NDC. Additionally, the programme aims to overcome policy, finance, capacity, and awareness barriers to renewable energy utilization in the Caribbean. Lessons learned can be taken away from this project to assess how barriers in the CBIT project can be overcome in The Bahamas on similar issues concerning policy, finance, capacity and awareness barriers.

? Caribbean: Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change: The overall objective of this project is to build capacity in the CARICOM Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to develop Stage II adaptation strategies and measures, according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the guidance issued at the Conference of Parties. This will be sought through support to: (i) the mainstreaming of climate change considerations into development planning and sectoral investment projects; (ii) appropriate technical and institutional response mechanisms for adaptation to global climate change; and (iii) regional climate change monitoring and modelling. The project works towards increased capacity building to develop adaptation strategies and measures. One of the aims of the CBIT project is to increase awareness through educational trainings and workshops and the Mainstreaming Adaptation to Climate Change project can provide fruitful insight in capacity building opportunities and possibilities in The Bahamas.

? Promoting Sustainable Energy in The Bahamas: The general objective of this project is to promote and support the development and implementation of sustainable energy sources in The Bahamas providing alternatives to reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels. The specific objectives of this project are: (i) provide technical assistance to the Government of The Bahamas (GoBH) to achieve energy efficiency (EE) in public buildings, the residential sector and commercial sectors, and to implement demonstration projects, in particular the phase-out of incandescent lights by replacing them with Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) and installation of Solar Water Heater (SWH) systems at the residential level; (ii) explore alternatives for renewable energy (RE), and implement pilot projects in RE, in particular a demonstration project for household photovoltaic (PV) systems connected to the grid using net metering devices; (iii) strengthen the energy sector in Bahamas; (iv) support the GoBH with a review of energy legislation,

regulatory and policy issues to promote sustainable energy as well as institutional strengthening in the areas EE, RE and WE; and (v) dissemination of findings. GEF resources will be used to finance two pilot/demonstration projects one in RE consisting of the installation of solar photovoltaic generators on buildings (PVB) using net metering devices as well as an EE program via the installation of solar water heaters (SWH) in representative parts of The Bahamas. Two objectives of this GEF project are to provide technical assistance to the Government of The Bahamas and review legislation, regulatory and policy issues in the energy sector in The Bahamas. The dissemination of the findings of this project can assist the CBIT project in the analysis of current institutional arrangements and the analysis of gaps and issues in the energy sector.

? A Participatory Approach to Managing the Environment: An Input to the Inter-American Strategy for Participation (ISP): The project aims to build capacity within the countries of the Americas for the successful incorporation of public participation practices in sustainable development policy formulation and decision-making; to design mechanisms to improve communication and promote partnership among governments (national and local), non-governmental organizations, community and local groups, the private sector, and academic organizations in these matters; and to provide technical assistance for exchanging information and developing methodologies for conflict resolution and consensus building. It aims to build capacity through a participatory approach for the successful incorporation of public participation practices in policy formulation and decision-making. There is a current lack of awareness and educational training and participation which the CBIT project will work towards overcoming. The GEF project can provide insights in previous participation approaches and practices.

? GEF SGP Sixth Operational Phase- Strategic Implementation using STAR Resources, Tranche 2 (Part IV): To support the creation of global environmental benefits and the safeguarding of the global environment through community and local solutions that complement and add value to national and global level action. This project can support the CBIT project in providing information on the integration of community and local stakeholders in national and global level action.

7. Consistency with National Priorities

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions from below:

? **National Communications (NC) under UNFCCC** - The Bahamas? communication to the UNFCCC on the reporting of periodic GHG Inventory and the national contributions to achieve the UNFCCC?s

global objective to stabilize GHG concentrations at levels that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. The Bahamas submitted two NCs in November 2001 and November 2015, respectively. The second NC gave a detailed analysis of the risks, impacts and vulnerabilities that the nation faces with the changing environmental conditions caused by climate change. It also included the adaptation and mitigation strategies, as well as policies which are being implemented now to counteract the effects of climate change.

? **Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) under UNFCCC** - A project that assessed the technological and capacity building needs to address barriers in sustainable development, Appropriate environmental policy, and climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies in 2000.

? **National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) under UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD** - A report which addresses The Bahamas' national capacity to implement international Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as the UNFCCC and contribute to the national goal of sustainability.

? **Biennial Update Report (BUR)/Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) under UNFCCC** - The Bahamas' periodic monitoring and verification report which provides biennial updates on GHG inventories and measures to mitigate and facilitate climate change adaptation and to assist in the development of The Bahamas' National Communication to the UNFCCC.

? **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under UNFCCC** - The Bahama's action plan towards a low- carbon and climate-resilient future in the context of national priorities, circumstances and capabilities, and includes a base year (reference point), time frame and periods for implementation, planning processes, scope and coverage, and general intent and approach for estimating and accounting for GHG emissions and removals.

? **National Development Plan (NDP) under IDB** - This plan begins to address the natural and build environment and the national adaptations required by the government to combat climate change.

? **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD** - A Plan to Develop a legal entity responsible for the protection of biological resources, which includes the development for monitoring and evaluation of the resources and threats to the same including climate threats.

? **National Cooling Strategy (NCS) under UNEP** - Given High ambient temperatures make cooling systems one of the more desirable and most available resources for climate adaptation for Bahamian citizens and given many cooling systems imported in The Bahamas have staggeringly low Energy Efficiency Ratings (EERS) and Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratings (SEERS). These imported systems lack local/regional quality controls. The use of inefficient cooling systems results in inter alia increases in GHG emissions. The absence of a national cooling strategy not only promotes the above but encourages cooling manufactures to export subpar cooling systems that may carry harmful refrigerants and Global Warming Potential (GWP) gases. The NCS has Convened stakeholders to draft a national strategy for transitioning to energy-efficient and climate-friendly cooling products and has proposed a more robust and integrated MRV System.

? **National Energy Policy (NEP)** ? A policy that sets a target to achieve a minimum of 30% renewables in the country's energy mix by 2033. The policy does not include the establishment of an MRV system which can track the progress, but this relies on the establishment of such a system by the CBIT project.

? **National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) under GEFSEC** - An exercise that monitors the progress of existing GEF projects and recommend new projects that align with national priorities.

? **National Adaptation Plan (NAP)** ? This national plan provides an assessment of the degree of vulnerability of The Bahamas to the projected impacts of climate change by sectors; of the capacity for adaptation to anthropogenic climate change; and proposes strategies for anticipating and ameliorating or

avoiding the negative impacts. In addition, it examines some of the possible impacts on coastal and marine resource and fisheries, terrestrial biodiversity resources, agriculture and forestry, human settlements and human health, water resources, the energy and transportation sector, as well as on tourism and the finance and insurance sectors. The policy provides a plan of action for addressing such impacts. The national policy identifies government as the major facilitator of the implementation of the policy directives. It also provides a framework for not only advancing the capacity and capability of The Bahamas to effectively adapt to climate change impacts but also contributes significantly to the conservation and preservation of The Bahamas' natural resources for present and future generations of Bahamians.

? **Environmental Planning and Protection Act 2019** ? This Act established the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection (DEPP), and aims to prevent or control pollution, regulate activities, and work towards the administration, conservation and sustainable use of the environment.

? **Sustainable Development Goals** ? The CBIT project is aligned with SDG goals and contribute to achieve the SDG targets to combat climate change, prioritized in Bahamas NDC, which are:

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts[b]

Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

Target 13.b: Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities.

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Target 5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.

? **United Nations Sustainable Development Framework in the Caribbean (UNDAF)**

The United Nations have developed sustainable development framework for the years 2017-2021 for the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, wherein The Bahamas is included. It establishes four priority areas: An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean; a Healthy Caribbean; a Safe, Cohesive and Just Caribbean; and a Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean. Within "A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean", the focus is to strengthen national and institutional capacities to better foster the protection and sustainable use of terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems; establishment and use of renewable energy systems; and inclusive and sustainable societies. The transparency systems established under the CBIT project will contribute towards these goals through establishing tracking system of implementation of both adaptation and mitigation actions. The document further identifies that further resource mobilisation is needed for this to become a reality; the CBIT project would contribute here as well.

8. Knowledge Management

Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.

An essential part of managing this knowledge is through Output 1.1 as it will ensure the institutionalization of the developed knowledge, by establishing the institutional arrangements and define roles and responsibility of knowledge holders. Also, create a platform for centralised climate data collection and

management and for knowledge management and sharing. Will be created a piloted under Output 1.1. This will allow for better information sharing between different institutions in the country, which also can act to reduce the challenges when staff leaves positions, as the counterpart in another institution will maintain part of the knowledge on their side.

Output 1.4, the CBIT project will engage with a technical or educational institution to develop it as the centre for capacity building for the implementation of transparency activities related to NDC tracking, GHG Inventory and integration of climate consideration in national planning. The institution will receive training and will participate in all training activities of the project. It will also continue providing training to both public and private actors after project finalisation. Capacity building will be carried out for relevant ministry personnel, academia and other public servants on transparency guidelines, developed methodologies and the efficient use of tools for data collection and delivery. National training workshops will be conducted to improve public servants' knowledge and understanding of the transparency guidelines for developing GHG estimates for key sectors, including understanding IPCC guidelines, data management issues and reviewing legal arrangements for long-term data sharing. The training will focus on, inter alia, substantive measures to avoid data duplication, a concern expressed by the joint 50th Session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA50) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI50) in June 2019, Bonn, Germany. Participants can then ensure that these activities are integrated into their work programme to facilitate the inventory process and support successive NDCs. All material developed for trainings will be shared on the data and knowledge platform.

The Bahamas is made up of more than seven hundred smaller islands, with more than thirty inhabited ones. To assure that all these territories are represented in the elaboration of a transparency framework, the costs of these workshops must account for the considerable travel expenses that must be incurred if equal representation and participation are assured. Thus, part of the budget for this output will be directed towards the extensive inclusion of all Bahamians.

The PMU will ensure extraction and dissemination of lessons learned and good practices also in relation to mainstreaming gender equality considerations in climate action to enable adaptive management and upscaling or replication at local and global scales. Results will be disseminated to targeted audiences through relevant information sharing fora and networks. The project will contribute to scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks as appropriate by providing content and enabling participation of stakeholders/beneficiaries including strong and continuous involvement of the stakeholders included in the engagement plan.

CBIT information will be shared and updated on the global coordination platform. This will be done throughout the project, and for all the outputs. Sharing lessons learnt and experiences under the platform will ensure alignment of this Project with other national, regional and global transparency initiatives. Sharing of knowledge and lessons learnt will be also done in other networks The Bahamas is participating in, for example, MRV Hub, CARICOM, SIDS and AOSIS.

It is defined as the task of PMU to identify suitable aspects of Bahamas' CBIT project to share and prepare the document in coordination with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform team. Similar, it is also their task to identify which best practices available on the Platform are relevant for The Bahamas and facilitate

the peer-exchange going beyond reading the material on the platform. The responsibility has been distributed like this as it is the PMU personnel with the technical knowledge who best knows the needs and details of The Bahamas and it will also be the personnel involved full time in the CBIT project; it is thus those who can identify what is relevant as a lesson learnt to take and then also to share as well as the outputs which will be the most helpful.

The main knowledge management elements in the deliverables add up to USD 212,500, as shown in the table below:

Budget line	Description	Estimated value for Knowledge management (USD)
110601	Educational institution Consultancy	47,500
110402	Training workshops (Output 1.1)	20,000
110402	Training workshops (Output 1.2)	50,000
110402	Training workshops (Output 1.3)	40,000
110402	Training workshops (Output 1.4)	35,000
110301	Hardware and Software (For data and knowledge platform)	20,000
Total estimated budget		212,500

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

Describe the budgeted M and E plan

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) activities and related costs are presented in the costed M&E Plan (Annex J) and are fully integrated in the overall project budget. The project will comply with UNEP standard monitoring, reporting and evaluation procedures. Reporting requirements and templates are an integral part of the legal instrument to be signed by the Executing Agency and the Implementing Agency

The project M&E plan is consistent with the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation policy. The Project Results Framework presented in Annex A includes SMART indicators for each expected outcome as well as end-of-project targets. These indicators along with the key deliverables and benchmarks included in Annex L will be the main tools for assessing project implementation progress and whether project results are being achieved. The means of verification to track the indicators are summarized in Annex A.

The M&E plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary throughout the project to ensure project stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities vis-?-vis project monitoring and evaluation. Indicators and their means of verification may also be fine-tuned at the inception workshop. General

project monitoring is the responsibility of the Project Management Unit (PMU) but other project partners could have responsibilities in collecting specific information to track the indicators. It is the responsibility of the Project Manager to inform UNEP of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely fashion.

The executing agency will receive periodic reports on progress and will make recommendations to UNEP concerning the need to revise any aspects of the Results Framework or the M&E Plan. Project oversight to ensure that the project meets UNEP and GEF policies and procedures is the responsibility of the project's UNEP Task Managers. The UNEP Task Managers will also review the quality of draft project outputs, provide feedback to the project partners, and establish peer review procedures to ensure adequate quality of scientific and technical outputs and publications.

Project supervision will take an adaptive management approach. The UN Environment Programme Task Manager will develop a project Supervision Plan at the inception of the project, which will be communicated to the Project Management Unit and the project partners during the Inception Workshop. The emphasis of the Task Manager's supervision will be on outcome monitoring but without neglecting project financial management and implementation monitoring.

Progress vis-à-vis delivering the agreed project global environmental benefits will be assessed with the executing agency at agreed intervals. Project risks and assumptions will be regularly monitored both by the PMU, the project partners and UNEP. Risk assessment and rating is an integral part of the PIR. The PIR will be completed by the Project Manager and ratings will be provided by UNEP's Task Managers. The quality of project monitoring and evaluation will also be reviewed and rated as part of the PIR. UNEP's Task Managers will have the responsibility of verifying the PIR and submitting it to the GEF. Key financial parameters will be monitored quarterly to ensure cost-effective use of financial resources.

In-line with UNEP's Evaluation Policy and the GEF's Monitoring and Evaluation Policy, the project will be subject to a Terminal Evaluation (TE) commissioned by the UNEP Evaluation Office (EOU) at the end of project implementation. The EOU will be responsible for the Terminal Evaluation and will liaise with the Task Managers and Executing Agency's Project Management Unit throughout the process. The TE will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UNEP, the GEF, executing partners and other stakeholders. The direct costs of the evaluation will be charged against the project evaluation budget (as have been allocated, see annex I-1). The terminal evaluation will typically be initiated after the project's operational completion. If a follow-on phase of the project is envisaged, the timing of the evaluation will be discussed with the Evaluation Office to feed into the submission of the follow-on proposal.

The draft terminal evaluation report will be sent by the Evaluation Office to project stakeholders for comment. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the Evaluation Office in an open and transparent manner. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the Evaluation Office when the report is finalized. The evaluation report will be publicly disclosed and will be followed by a

recommendation compliance process. The evaluation recommendations will be entered into a Recommendations Implementation Plan template by the Evaluation Office. Formal submission of the completed Recommendations Implementation Plan by the Project Manager is required within one month of its delivery to the project team. The Evaluation Office will monitor compliance with this plan every six months for a total period of 12 months from the finalization of the Recommendations Implementation Plan.

The GEF Core Indicator Worksheet is attached as Annex F. It will be updated at mid-term and at the end of the project and will be made available to the GEF Secretariat along with the project PIR report. As mentioned above, the terminal evaluation will verify the information of the tracking tool.

The direct costs of reviews and evaluations will be charged against the project evaluation budget. A summary of M&E activities envisaged is provided in Annex J. The GEF contribution for this project's M&E activities is US\$ 35,000.

10. Benefits

Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?

The project is aligned with GEF focal area CCM-3-8, i.e., "Foster enabling conditions for mainstreaming mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies through capacity building initiative for transparency."

The socio-economic benefits of this project are indirect and long term; as such, it is not possible to attribute clear causalities (either positive or negative) to the scope of work. However, if the project achieves its stated aims, then it will contribute - again indirectly - to investment in climate-focused projects in support of future NDC ambitions, which in turn will lead to technology transfer and job creation in priority sectors. Assuming this transition to sustainable production and consumption is based on models of equitable and gender-sensitive development, this will result in strong socio-economic benefits, in line with the ambition of the national Vision 2040. The project will in fact contribute to the improvement of local and global environmental conditions through enhancing transparency related to GHG emissions, impacts of climate change, and mitigation and adaptation actions in the country.

The created data and knowledge platform will improve The Bahamas's knowledge of its own efforts to curb emissions and build resilience. Moreover, as the system is developed, its linkages with other environmental data will also be analysed, established and / or improved. Crucially, its relationship to the transparency system for the National Development Strategy, Vision 2040 and the progress on the SDGs, will prove to be a powerful tool to track and evaluate policies. In fact, this project will also assist The Bahamas in achieving its Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 13 by supporting the integration of climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning; building knowledge and improving education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning, and promotion of mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in the country. The project will additionally

contribute to achieving SDG 5 by supporting the empowerment of women in decision-making, land ownership and through gender-sensitive budgeting.

The strengthened national transparency system will enable The Bahamas to better track and manage its resources. Thus, it will allow for interventions to be planned, executed and evaluated quicker. The better knowledge around adaptation, and the M&E system established will serve to provide information about climate change impacts on these sectors. For agriculture, for example, this can mean better evidence on increasing droughts that could help farmers make informed decisions about irrigation practices and enable the government to prioritise sector resources toward drought management programmes for those affected.

The Bahamas' planned climate actions will require public intervention in the form of investments. With better climate data systems, The Bahamas will be able to better track and evaluate the impact of the policies, introducing adjustments to achieve better outcomes. This increased efficiency can free up resources for other public investments and interventions, which in turn could benefit Bahamas socio-economically and this aspect of the system is expected to increase political buy-in for climate policy.

Another important benefit lays on the linkage with the national planning processes. The wide array of data compiled throughout the data and knowledge platform will provide a solid basis for informed national policymaking on climate and other related matters, an element that will be fully developed as part of Output 1.1. A virtuous cycle is expected to result from the combination of coherent data that improves the consistency of climate projections and business-as-usual scenarios and leads to the further refinement of the country's NDCs.

11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification *

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Low	Low		

Measures to address identified risks and impacts

Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any

measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.

An assessment of the environmental, social and economic impact of the project was undertaken by an independent team with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). In its analysis, the team interviewed the project consultants and UNEP Task Manager on the project and reviewed the project against a series of environmental, social and economic indicators (contained in annex P of the CEO endorsement document). The assessment determined that this is a low-risk project, based on UNEP's Safeguard Risk Identification Form guidelines. In providing this rating, the UNEP Safeguard Advisor noted that: "This is a low-risk project. However, UNEP ESSF guiding principles-- resilience and sustainability; human rights, gender equality and women empowerment, accountability and leave no one behind-- are still applicable for low-risk projects. Special attention should be given to potentially affected marginalized and vulnerable population. Project level grievance mechanism should be established for any complaints to be handled swiftly at the project level."

Basing on SRIF recommendations the Project Management Unit's role and responsibility was revised (ANNEX H: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS) to include that PMU will act as the project level grievance mechanism.

Supporting Documents

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
10427_CBIT Bahamas_SRIF	CEO Endorsement ESS	
CBIT Bahamas_ESERN	Project PIF ESS	

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

Project Objective	Objective level Indicators	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of project Target	Means of Verification	Risks (Analyzed in section 5 of CEO Endorsement request document)	UN Environment MTS reference
Build the capacity of the Bahamas to meet the reporting requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement	Indicator A: Direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (individual people)	Baseline A: 0	Project mid-term target A: 20 beneficiaries (60% are Women)	End-of-project target A: 100 beneficiaries (60% are Women)	Project reports and capacity building attendance lists.	? The number of women involved in project activities is limited ? Lack of interest from some sectorial institutions; Some sectorial institutions do not show interest in part	UNEP MTS 2018-2021 Climate Change Objective: Countries increasingly transition to low-emission economic development and enhance their adaptation and resilience to climate change
Project Outcomes	Outcome&Output level Indicators	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of project Target	Means of Verification	Risks (Analyzed in section 5 of CEO Endorsement request document)	MTS Expected Accomplishment

<p>1A. The Bahamas submits to the UNFCCC secretariat high-quality climate reports aligned with the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement.</p> <p>1B. The Bahamas government advances towards making decisions based on climate analysis and implementing climate transparency activities.</p>	<p>Indicator 1.1: Improvement in the quality MRV system based on GEF score 1 to 10 as per Annex III of CBIT programming directions. While this is a subjective rating, the guidance for the ratings provides direction for benchmarking the quality of the MRV system</p>	<p>Baseline 1.1: Score 1 (Very little measurement is done, reporting is partial and irregular and verification is not there)</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.1: Score 1 (Very little measurement is done, reporting is partial and irregular and verification is not there)</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.1: Score 5 (Measurement systems are strong for a limited set of activities and periodically report on key GHG related indicators i.e. mainstreamed into the activity implementation; reporting is improved through few pathways but limited audience and formats; verification limited)</p>	<p>Stakeholders' feedback reports on the quality / ability of the National MRV system in tracking GHG emission from the key sectors, NDC progress and support received. - Project Managers' monitoring reports - Assessment report on the tracking system's functionality, including inputs from climate change focal points within ministries and key sectors, electricity generation and transportation</p>	<p>? Lack of political buy-in on the importance of transparency and long-term planning tools. ? Poor institutional coordination ? Lack of interest from some sectorial institutions; Some sectorial institutions do not show interest in participation in project interventions. ? Opposition to the collection of information from a governmental/private sector body</p>	<p>Expected Accomplishment (b): Countries increasingly adopt and/or implement low greenhouse gas emission development strategies and invest in clean technologies</p>
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	<p>Indicator 1.2: # of Ministries which endorse the guidelines developed under Output 1.4 for integrating gender-sensitive climate adaptation and mitigation information into national planning.</p>	<p>Baseline 1.2: 0</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.2: 0</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.2: 3</p>	<p>Government announcement and project reports</p>	<p>? Lack of political buy-in on the importance of transparency and long-term planning tools. ? Lack of interest from some sectorial institutions; Some sectorial institutions do not show interest in participation in project interventions. ?Government stakeholders might not understand and oversimplify gender issues and their relation to climate change, and oppose to endorse gender-sensitive guidelines to be integrated into policies and plans.</p>	
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<p>Output 1.1: The Ministry of Environment & Housing has access to institutional arrangements and platform to coordinate and implement climate transparency activities.</p>	<p>Indicator 1.3: Improvement in the quality of institutional capacity for transparency based on GEF score 1 to 4 as per Annex IV of CBIT programming directions.</p>	<p>Baseline 1.3: Score 1 (No designated transparency institution to support and coordinate the planning and implementation of transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement exists)</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.3: Score 1 (No designated transparency institution to support and coordinate the planning and implementation of transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement exists)</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.3: Score 3 (Designated transparency institution has an organizational unit with standing staff with some capacity to coordinate and implement transparency activities under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. Institution has authority or mandate to coordinate transparency activities under Article 13. Activities are not integrated into national planning or budgeting activities)</p>	<p>Stakeholders' feedback reports on the quality of Bahamas' institutional capacity for transparency-related activities - CTA's monitoring reports - Assessment report on the country's institutional capacity for transparency, including inputs from climate change focal points within ministries and key sectors; electricity generation and transportation, Agriculture, livestock development and fisheries, Tourism, Health and wellbeing, Human settlement, and Water resources management.</p>	<p>? Lack of political buy-in on the importance of transparency and long-term planning tools. ? Poor institutional coordination ? Lack of interest from some sectorial institutions; Some sectorial institutions do not show interest in participation in project interventions. ? Opposition to the collection of information from a governmental/private sector body</p>	
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	Indicator 1.4: # of stakeholders trained and women declaring that the platform allow them to better coordinate and implement climate transparency activities	Baseline 1.4: 0	Project mid-term target 1.4: At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.2) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).	End-of-project target 1.4: At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.2) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).	Survey / questionnaire to be completed by all stakeholders immediately after development and training activities have been delivered (disaggregated by sex) and included in workshop report (D 1.1.2.)	? Beneficiaries of capacity building activities are not correctly identified ? The number of women involved in project activities is limited	
Output 1.2: The government, academia, private sector and civil society have strengthened capacities to compile data for and manage the improved greenhouse gas inventory	Indicator 1.5: # of stakeholders and of women trained declaring to be in a better position to compile data for the GHG inventory	Baseline 1.5: 0	Project mid-term target 1.5: 0	End-of-project target 1.5: At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.2) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).	Survey / questionnaire to be completed by all stakeholders immediately after development and training activities have been delivered (disaggregated by sex) and included in workshop report (D 1.2.5.)	? Beneficiaries of capacity building activities are not correctly identified ? The number of women involved in project activities is limited	

<p>Output 1.3: Governmental stakeholders have strengthened capacities, tools and protocols to track the implementation of the nationally determined contribution</p>	<p>Indicator 1.6: # of gender-sensitive indicators for tracking progress in implementing the NDC</p>	<p>Baseline 1.6: 0</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.6: 0</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.6: 8 (?Mitigation: Electricity, Transport, Forestry ?Adaptation: Agriculture, livestock development and fisheries, Tourism, Health and wellbeing, Human settlement, and Water resources management.)</p>	<p>Deliverable D 1.3.4.</p>	<p>? The number of women involved in project activities is limited;</p>	
<p>Output 1.4: Government decision-makers have strengthened capacities to incorporate climate analysis into national planning, including through a sustainable capacity building mechanism and guidelines</p>	<p>Indicator 1.7: # of relevant stakeholders and women trained declaring to be in a better position to use assessments, projections and scenarios for vulnerability and impact assessments for adaptation measures planning and for mitigation assessments and policy planning</p>	<p>Baselines 1.7: 0</p>	<p>Project mid-term target 1.7: 0</p>	<p>End-of-project target 1.7: At least 14 (70% 20 participants to training activities under Output 1.4) of stakeholders participating in the training activities; and 8 are women (60% of 14).</p>	<p>Survey / questionnaire to be completed by all stakeholders immediately after development and training activities have been delivered (disaggregated by sex) and included in workshop report (D 1.4.3)</p>	<p>? Beneficiaries of capacity building activities are not correctly identified ? The number of women involved in project activities is limited</p>	

	Indicator 1.8: # of gender-sensitive capacity-building mechanisms formalized with a training institution based in Bahamas for building capacity of local stakeholders to promote climate transparency and incorporate climate information into national planning.	Baseline 1.8: 0	Project mid-term target 1.8: 0	End-of-project target 1.8: 1	MoU between DEPP and the selected training institution (D 1.4.5.)	? A training institution to partner with for output 1.4 is not found.
	Indicator 1.9: # of gender-sensitive knowledge products shared with the CBIT Global Platform.	Baseline 1.9: 0	Project mid-term target 1.9: 2	End-of-project target 1.9: 6	Global Coordinati on CBIT Platform website	? Bahamas is not willing to share informatio n and cooperate with other CBIT countries

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

N/A

ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG). (Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: US\$	
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (US\$)</i>

	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent to date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Staff & Personnel (Including Consultants)			
GEF Consultant	25,000	25,150	0
National Consultant	10,000	0	10,000
ROLAC personnel	5,000	0	0
Travels			
GEF Consultant travel	4,000	0	4,000
Contract Services			
Stakeholders? consultation workshops	6,000	0	6,000
Total	50,000	25,150	30,000

ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.

The Project will take place primarily in New Providence but will have several components implemented on surrounding islands. Below you will find the map of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. (latitude 21° and 27° North and longitude. 72° and 79° W)



ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

GEF budget category & detailed description	Outcome 1	Subtotal	M&E	PMC	Total	Responsible entity
02. Goods	30,000	30,000			30,000	
Hardware and Software	30,000	30,000			30,000	DEPP
06. Sub-contract to executing partner/entity	47,500	47,500			47,500	
Educational institution Consultancy	47,500	47,500			47,500	DEPP
07. Contractual services company		0		15,000	15,000	
Independent Auditor for Annual Financial Audits		0		15,000	15,000	DEPP
08. International Consultants	660,000	660,000	30,000		690,000	
International Adaptation Consultant	90,000	90,000			90,000	DEPP
International Climate Finance Consultant	65,000	65,000			65,000	DEPP
International GHG Inventory Consultant	130,000	130,000			130,000	DEPP
International Mitigation Consultant	90,000	90,000			90,000	DEPP
International NDC Consultant	145,000	145,000			145,000	DEPP
International Transparency Consultant	140,000	140,000			140,000	DEPP
Terminal Evaluation		0	30,000		30,000	UNEP
09. Local Consultants	57,000	57,000			57,000	
National IT Consultant	27,000	27,000			27,000	DEPP
National Legal Consultant	30,000	30,000			30,000	DEPP
10. Salary and benefits/Staff Costs	209,750	209,750		102,000	311,750	
Chief Technical Advisor	114,000	114,000		30,000	144,000	DEPP
Junior Officer		0		72,000	72,000	DEPP
Transparency Officer	95,750	95,750			95,750	DEPP
11. Training, Workshops, Meetings	165,000	165,000	5,000		170,000	
Consultation and validation workshops	20,000	20,000			20,000	DEPP
Inception Workshop		0	5,000		5,000	DEPP
Training workshops	145,000	145,000			145,000	DEPP
12. Travel	27,000	27,000			27,000	
International Travel	27,000	27,000			27,000	DEPP
14. Other operating costs		0		5,950	5,950	
General operating and other costs		0		5,950	5,950	DEPP
Grand Total	1,196,250	1,196,250	35,000	122,950	1,354,200	

ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

N/A

ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agency is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

N/A

ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies? capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).

N/A