



# BELIZE PRESS OFFICE

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **The Green Climate Fund Approves Project Preparation Facility to Build the Adaptive Capacity of Sugarcane Farmers in Northern Belize**

Belmopan. August 17th, 2020. 4:25 p.m.

Since 2015, Belize has engaged with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to improve access to international funds and to encourage investment in projects and programmes that will help the country adapt and mitigate climate change and its impacts.

The National Designated Authority (NDA) of Belize to the GCF under the Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum, and the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC), has been engaged with the Belize Sugar Industries (BSI) to design a proposed project “*Building the Adaptive Capacity of Sugarcane Farmers in Northern Belize.*” This project will help to facilitate the behavioral change necessary to sustain the livelihood of approximately 5,200 northern farmers, in addition to building resilience to the impacts of climate change through the development of knowledge and capacity within the farming community. This project, a joint public-private sector initiative, will improve and sustain agricultural productivity and enhance smallholder’s resilience to degrading natural capital and shifting precipitation patterns resulting from climate change.

The GCF has approved funding under its Product Preparation Facility (PPF), which will allow for the design of an effective and efficient climate adaptation response. The resources under this facility will enable identification of better agriculture farming technologies and practices, a cost benefit analysis, a stakeholder analysis and management engagement plan, gender analysis and action plan, in addition to an economic and financial analysis. Thus, contributing to preparation of a sound funding proposal worth US\$20 million (inclusive of US\$10 million of GCF grant funds) consistent with the requirements of the GCF. The NDA, CCCCC and BSI will be working closely with key stakeholders on this initiative.

**Ends**

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## NOTES FOR EDITORS

### **About Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum:**

The [Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum](#) (MEDP) in Belize formulates and recommends national development policies, strategies and programmes to promote macroeconomic stability, sustainable socioeconomic development and the reduction of poverty. In June 2015 it was appointed, through a Cabinet decision, as Belize's Nationally Designated Authority (NDA) to the GCF.

The Belize-based [Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre](#) (CCCCC) coordinates the region's response to climate change. Officially opened in August 2005, the Centre is the key node for information on climate change issues and the region's response to mitigating and adapting to climate change. CCCCC sought accreditation to the GCF in 2015 to undertake and scale up both mitigation and adaptation projects across the region in order to drive a paradigm shift in the region's development patterns.

### **About the Green Climate Fund:**

The [Green Climate Fund](#) (GCF) is a global fund created to support the efforts of developing countries to respond to the challenge of climate change. GCF helps developing countries limit or reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to climate change. It seeks to promote a paradigm shift to low-emission and climate-resilient development, taking into account the needs of nations that are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts. It was set up by the 194 countries who are parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2010, as part of the Convention's financial mechanism. It aims to deliver equal amounts of funding to mitigation and adaptation, while being guided by the Convention's principles and provisions. To date, the GCF has raised USD 10.3 billion in pledges from 48 countries/regions/cities, including 9 representing developing countries.

## CONTACTS

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