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PRESS RELEASE

The GCF Approves Grant Funding for a Water National Adaptation Planning Project for Belize

Belmopan. November 15, 2021. 12:00 p.m.

The Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment, Belize's National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), is pleased to announce the GCF's approval of the "National Adaptation Planning for Integrated Water Resources Management in Belize" (Water-NAP).

This project, valued at BZ\$1.8 million, is intended to support the capacitation and empowerment of the Ministry of Natural Resources, specifically the National Hydrological Service, to manage Belize's water resources in a changing climate. The project is nested within national efforts to respond to the impacts of climate change on the water sector (i.e. droughts, floods and saltwater intrusion). This readiness grant will support Belize in addressing key challenges that are necessary for comprehensive adaptation planning in the water sector.

Expected outputs of this project include:

- Climate responsive National Adaptation Plan and Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Framework for the water resources management
- Climate impacts and coastal influence analyses on ground water resources to inform adaptation solutions for improved decision making
- Strengthened observation, monitoring and forecasting systems for integrated water resources management
- Concept note and financial sustainability action plan for adaptation priorities of the water sector

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) will be the delivery partner. The CCCCC continues to support Belize's efforts to combat climate change. In addition, key stakeholders including the Ministry Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labor and Local Government, Belize Water Services, village water boards, and other vulnerable groups will be engaged throughout the implementation project.

Dr. Osmond Martinez, CEO in the ministry and the National Designated Authority, thanked the GCF and congratulated Mr. Leroy Martinez, economist/GCF focal point; Mr. Ryan Zuniga, CCCCC project development specialist; and Mrs. Tennielle Hendy, principal hydrologist, National Hydrological Service; for their effort and excellent leadership in development and seeking approval of the project proposal.

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For more information, contact:

CEO Dr. Osmond Martinez, Belize's NDA to the GCF: ceo@med.gov.bz

Mr. Leroy Martinez, GCF Focal Point: leroy.martinez@med.gov.bz

NOTES FOR EDITORS

About Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment:

About the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development, and Investment, in Belize it 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.

About the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC):

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.