

# GCF: NO OBJECTION PROCEDURE



To ensure that funding proposals received by the GCF have the full support of the country, the National Designated Authority (NDA) must be consulted on every funding proposal.

## Purpose of the No Objection Procedure

The objective of the no objection procedure is to:

1. Ensure the project/programme funded by the GCF is linked to the Cook Islands development priorities in the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP), Climate Change Policy and the Joint National Action Plan for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (JNAP), and are compliant with national laws;
2. Promote the efficient use of funds by avoiding duplication of ongoing efforts and adding value building the resilience of the Cook Islands and our people;
3. Ensure that affected communities, civil society, public and private sector entities have opportunities to participate in the planning and implementation of GCF projects/programmes;
4. Guarantee that the impacts and outputs of projects/programmes assist the Cook Islands in meeting its legal commitment to climate change agreements to which it is a party to; and
5. Review projects to ensure consistency with the GCF's requirements and policies.

## Requirements of the No Objection Procedure

The no objection procedure seeks to:

- Assess the project impacts based on the objectives above;
- Assess project risks and determine which Agency will be responsible for management of these risks;
- Assess any potential environmental, social and gender risks;
- Assess the Accredited Entity (AE) seeking the letter of no-objection;
- Assess project design and alternatives; and
- Ensure consistency with national plans, policies and laws.

The official language of the GCF is English. Any translation is provided for information purposes only. In case of discrepancies, the original English version of this document is definitive.



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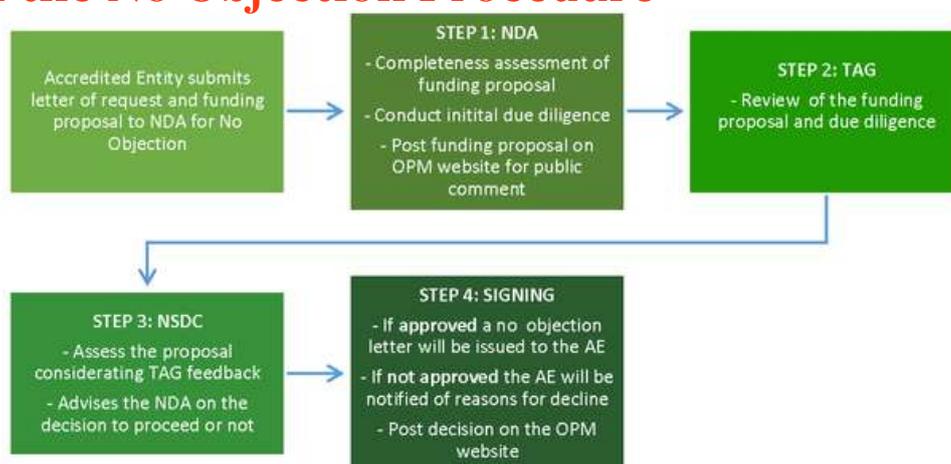


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# THE COOK ISLANDS NO OBJECTION PROCEDURE

- **The no objection procedure is initiated when the National Designated Authority (NDA) receives a request and supporting project/programme documents are provided.** The following is required for provision to the NDA:
  - An application letter requesting a letter of no objection from the NDA;
  - A funding proposal or project concept using GCF templates;
  - Any relevant annexes.
- The NDA will guide the review of funding proposals and project concepts, and will be assisted by the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) made up of the NDA, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Central Policy and Planning Office (CPPO) and National Environment Service (NES).

## Process of the No Objection Procedure



**STEP 1: NDA ASSESSMENT** - The NDA will review the project/programme proposal ensuring the template has been completed satisfactorily, and will also conduct an initial assessment of the proposal. The NDA will make a summary of the proposal available for public comment. Public comments will then be sent to the TAG as part of their decision making record.

**STEP 2: TAG REVIEW** - The NDA will request TAG to review its initial assessment and conduct further due diligence on the proposal.

**STEP 3: NSDC REVIEW** - The NDA will prepare submissions to the National Sustainable Development Commission (NSDC) for their endorsement of the project/programme proposal. The NSDC will then relay the approval/disapproval decision to the NDA.

**STEP 4: SIGNING THE LETTER OF NO OBJECTION** - Upon NSDC endorsement of the project/programme proposal, the NDA will issue a no objection letter.

*The no objection letter is submitted to the GCF by the NDA to show the proposal has gone through national processes and is supported by the NDA and National Government of the Cook Islands.*

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