



Seychelles Scoping Mission

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List of acronyms

GCCA+	Global Climate Change Alliance Plus Initiative
GCF	Green Climate Fund
MEECC	Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
PUC	Public Utilities Corporation
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

I. Summary

The mission resulted in the identification of key stakeholders and ongoing activities in Seychelles. Climate action in Seychelles is mostly limited to individual programs of development partners. As of 2018, few international organizations are active in Seychelles and only UNDP has a permanent representation on Mahé. Other organizations, such as the World Bank, AfDB, and the EU (through GCCA+) are present on a project-by-project basis. As a result, there is a push from the Government of Seychelles to coordinate the implementation of its NDC and align it with national development intentions.

Programs and activities that respond to the Request for Support letter addressed to the NDC Partnership should be aligned between Implementing Partners that are active in the country. Additional needs identified by Seychelles, including those that cannot be supported by Implementing Partners already active in Seychelles, will be circulated among the Partnership, specifically those that complement the Renewable Energy Roadmap (currently under development). Discussion is ongoing as to whether further studies and consultations need to be arranged to detail the above needs.

Information collected during the scoping mission will feed into the completion of the Rapid Situational Assessment (RSA). The RSA will be compiled by the NDC Partnership Support Unit, shared with Seychelles focal points and, upon request, with members of the Partnership (see Annex).

Update: meetings during the Subsidiary Bodies Meetings in Bonn, May 2018

The Support Unit met with Greenwerk consultants and with NDC Partnership Focal Point, Wills Agricole, during the May sessions in Bonn:

- A finalized draft of the Renewable Energy Roadmap is expected by the end of May and a kick-off workshop will be organized towards the end of June in Mahé, Seychelles. Co-financing opportunities and additional support towards feasibility studies will be surfaced then and communicated throughout the Partnership.

- The Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Mr. Didier Dogley, is now leading the Ministry for Tourism and Transport, but is still a key stakeholder in the energy transition and climate change matters. Coordination is ongoing among ministries during bi-monthly exchanges.
- There is an opportunity for ongoing programs and Implementing Partners of the NDC Partnership in Seychelles, such as GCCA+, to undertake some of the requests and avoid duplication. NDC Partnership's Focal Point, Wills Agricole, is meant to steer the internal GCCA+ Seychelles steering committee on 16 May 2018 and to introduce the above to the members and program coordinators.

II. Agreed next steps

1. The Support Unit and Seychelles Focal Point, Wills Agricole, agreed to identify opportunities for partners in Seychelles to undertake some of the requests submitted to the NDC Partnership as to avoid overlap with ongoing initiatives.
2. Needs which cannot be supported by implementing partners already active in Seychelles will be further detailed and then communicated to the NDC Partnership. Discussion is ongoing as to whether further studies and consultations need to be arranged to detail the above needs.
3. Additionally, the request for an embedded facilitator (consultant) to coordinate the process and to be embedded within the ministry is being considered. Either the Support Unit or an Implementing Partner could assume responsibility for the Facilitator's sponsorship (refer to the update above).

III. Context (Background information)

Seychelles recently achieved High-Income Status, boosted by its tourism industry, which has, in turn, reduced access to international finance and development instruments, amid persisting income inequality. Seychelles' energy production relies on imported fuel. Despite high potential, the renewable energy accounts for only about 2.5 percent of the overall capacity.

Seychelles joined the NDC Partnership late 2016. Country engagement didn't fully begin until COP23, in November 2017. Early 2018, the Support Unit organized a series of call with authorities from the Seychelles to initiate engagement. In February 2018, the NDC Partnership Support Unit received the official nomination of two focal points and a support request outlining five areas for support (see Annex).

Objectives of the mission

The objectives of the mission were to identify and meet with national stakeholders involved in climate action, and to map out a way forward in meeting the needs for NDC implementation expressed in the support request letter. A secondary purpose for this mission was to further outline those needs (Findings are included in section V of the report).

IV. Main results and findings

Line ministries—the key stakeholders in climate action—meet on a regular basis. Coordination with the Ministry of Finance is ongoing, particularly on energy matters.

Moreover, below are some findings concerning the areas for support in the letter to the NDC Partnership:

1. Review of the NDC:

- There is a strong push by the Minister of Environment to review the NDC. The current version has only restricted ambition toward mitigation and is broad, and is based on incomplete data; there was limited human capacity within the Ministry of Environment to complete the first version. It will be a challenge for Seychelles to meet its mitigation target.
- The Minister and the Government are also particularly keen on including Blue Economy components, focused on tourism, and oceans into the NDC.
- Adaptation is hardly mentioned in the NDC. Paradoxically, it seems to be well-funded and set up in Seychelles, being the primary focus of the country and partners since the signing of the UNFCCC.

2. **MRV:** There is an opportunity to involve Implementing Partners in MRV efforts through a regional or thematic program. As of yet, limited work has been done in terms of data collection and monitoring. Some work is being undertaken by industries and the statistical office, but will not be sufficient for monitoring NDC implementation, nor mitigation progress.

3. Coordination, support for facilitation, and Partnership Plan:

- Within GCCA+ a steering committee was set up. Representatives across ministries and stakeholders are assigned but meetings are taking place irregularly. Mandating this SC, for instance, with the coordination of NDC implementation could adjourn this committee. Other coordination groups and a climate change committee were established, but have not met for years.

- A request for a Partnership Plan was submitted to map ongoing activities and identify additional efforts needed. Most work is done by partners from abroad, which adds to the opacity of support provided.
- Within the GCCA+ project, 800 consultant workdays are planned for. Potentially this capacity could cater for the facilitation process but is subject to approval by EU.

4. **Mitigation and the Energy Roadmap:**

- The Ministry of Environment hired the consultancy firm 'Greenwerk' to develop an Energy roadmap, which will be submitted to the GCF. This will be the key document for mitigation and has gathered the attention of national stakeholders.
- Co-funding or pledges from additional development partners is needed to complete or leverage further finance for the GCF proposal to be approved.
- It considers the limitations of the country in terms of: space available for solar power and wind; the current reliance on imported fuel and government subsidies; the need for an adapted electric grid (250M USD).

V. Annexes

- Support

request:



- Facilitation of a review of the NDC document and its alignment with other initiatives and sectors.
- Development of an NDC monitoring plan and process: an MRV system has been set up but needs better data collection, analysis and allocation of resources and needs.
- Facilitation for developing a synergized approach to mitigation and adaptation (e.g. a Partnership Plan).
- Support/facilitation for the development of the National Energy Strategy and Act. This is flagged as a particular need to facilitate stakeholder engagement and implementation of the Seychelles Renewable Energy Road Map.
- Support for international networking to help finance the implementation of the Seychelles Renewable Energy Road Map and other initiatives/programmes for mitigation and adaptation across various sectors (e.g. assessment of climate financing opportunities).

To this end, the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change is requesting NDC Partnership for support of aforementioned prioritized areas through development and implementation of a joint work plan, as well as recruitment of a local facilitator who shall serve as technical expert among key national partners.

We are looking forward to our constructive cooperation.

Sincerely,



Mr Willis Agricole
Principal Secretary for Energy and Climate Change

Copies: Ms Elizabeth Agathine, Principal Secretary for Economic Planning
Ministry of Finance, Trade and Economic Planning;

