

# Global program on climate-resilient renewable energy systems in SIDS ? national project in Saint Kitts and Nevis

Review PIF and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**  
12231  
**Countries**  
St. Kitts and Nevis  
**Project Name**  
Global program on climate-resilient renewable energy systems in SIDS ?  
national project in Saint Kitts and Nevis  
**Agencies**  
UNIDO  
**Date received by PM**  
12/18/2025  
**Review completed by PM**

**Program Manager**  
Patricia Marcos Huidobro  
**Focal Area**  
Climate Change  
**Project Type**  
MSP

## 1. General Project Information / Eligibility

a) Does the project meet the criteria for eligibility for GEF funding?

b) Is the General Project Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments

3.20.2026 PM:

Cleared.

1.30.2026 PM:

**No.** The St. Kitts Electricity Company Ltd is included in the General Project Information Table, but it is not included in the LoE. Please remove this institution from the table (this can be added later during the preparation).

Agency's Comments This is aligned as per the suggestion. The utility was removed from the executing partners for. Further details will be clarified during the PPG phase.

## 2. Project Summary

**Does the project summary concisely describe the problem to be addressed, the project objective and the strategies to deliver the GEBs or adaptation benefits and other key expected results?**

Secretariat's Comments

3.20.2026 PM:

Cleared.

1.30.2026 PM:

**Yes, with suggestions.** Please include a reference in the summary to the Core Indicators values expected under the project.

Agency's Comments The envisaged GHG emission reductions have been captured in the summary

## 3 Indicative Project Overview

**3.1 a) Is the project objective presented as a concise statement and clear?**

**b) Are the components, outcomes and outputs sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objective and the core indicators per the stated Theory of Change?**

Secretariat's Comments

1.30.2026 PM:

Yes.

Agency's CommentsN/A

**3.2 Are gender dimensions, knowledge management, and monitoring and evaluation included within the project components and appropriately funded?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Please make sure to mainstream gender dimensions in the project outcomes/components. See comments below on gender.

Agency's CommentsGender and youth dimensions have been integrated into all the project components appropriately.

**3.3 a) Are the components adequately funded?**

**b) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional?**

**c) Is the PMC equal to or below 5% of the total GEF grant for FSPs or 10% for MSPs? If the requested PMC is above the caps, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** The M&E budget for the GEF financing portion is 9.2% (well above the recommended 5% for monitoring and evaluation activities), while the M&E budget for the co-financing is approx. 0.9%. Please consider redistributing M&E resources between the GEF financing and the co-financing.

Agency's CommentsThe M&E budget has been redistributed accordingly. The M&E budget was reduced to 5%.

#### **4 Project Outline**

##### **A. Project Rationale**

##### **4.1 SITUATION ANALYSIS**

**a) is the current situation (including global environmental problems, key contextual drivers of environmental degradation, climate vulnerability) clearly and adequately described from a systems perspective?**

**b) Are the key barriers and enablers identified?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's Comments N/A

#### **4.2 JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT**

**a) Is there an indication of why the project approach has been selected over other potential options?**

**b) Does it ensure resilience to future changes in the drivers?**

**c) Is there a description of how the GEF alternative will build on ongoing/previous investments (GEF and non-GEF), lessons and experiences in the country/region?**

**d) are the relevant stakeholders and their roles adequately described?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.** Components have been strengthened and all previous comments addressed.

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Please address the following comments:

1) The project seems to also target the energy efficiency sector. However, this has not properly described in the project document. Perhaps a preliminary list of the interventions targeted by the project would help.

2) The proposal indicates that it will complement the existing GEF project 'Achieving a Rapid Decarbonisation of the Energy Sector in Saint Kitts and Nevis (SKN-100)'. However, please provide further details on this complementarity will take place, including the innovation angle of the proposed project. The same applies to the Programs SOLARISE and Residential Rooftop Solar. What is the value added of this proposal and innovativeness of this proposal compared to the on-going initiatives?

3) Output 1.3. will focus on the installation of pilots. This, therefore, seems to be an investment type of activity instead of technical assistance as Component 1 has been tagged. Please consider breaking down Component 1 in investment and technical activities, or create a separate component for the pilot activities. At PPG, please elaborate further on the selection criteria for the pilots and overall output 1.3. in general.

4) Output 1.6: Innovative Renewable Energy Financing Framework Developed. At CEO Approval please specify on the specific financing instruments, financial structure and governance, additionality mechanisms (ensuring support reaches MSMEs that otherwise couldn't access finance) and selection criteria and inclusion strategies for women/youth-led enterprises.

5) Also, please explain the rationale for having a subsidy strategy for energy efficiency and a financial framework for DSE. Wouldn't be more efficient to have both EE and DSE under the same financial framework instead of having scattered financial schemes across subsectors?

6) Sector's standards. One of the barriers identified is the lack of standards. However the project components do not address them directly. Please provide an explanation for this.

#### Agency's Comments

1) The energy efficiency work under the project is generally aimed at replicating the regional energy efficiency policy tools like the Caribbean Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for air conditioners, refrigerators, and lighting adopted in 2015 under the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) at the national level and increase awareness about energy efficiency amongst various consumer sectors as agreed upon with the government. There are no envisaged direct immediate impacts, but rather a way of preparing the market for future interventions.

2) This is already attended to, capturing the complementarity and value proposition

3) This has been attended to. The pilots have been moved to component 2 to reinforce the project's focus on results on the ground.

4) To be reinforced at the PPG phase.

5) They have been combined into one investment strategy since they are both aimed at addressing demand-side cost-related challenges.

6) There are already standards for Solar PV which have been developed, and the adoption process is underway in SKN with no need for development of new ones.

#### 5 B. Project Description

##### 5.1 THEORY OF CHANGE

**a) Is there a concise theory of change that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements will contribute to the objective, the expected causal pathways, and the key assumptions underlying these?**

**b) Are the key outputs of each component defined (where possible)?**

#### Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's Comments N/A

##### 5.2 INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING

**Is the incremental/additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12?**

#### Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's Comments N/A

### **5.3 IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK**

**a) Is the institutional setting, including potential executing partners, outlined and a rationale provided?**

**b) Comments to proposed agency execution support (if agency expects to request exception).**

**c) Is there a description of potential coordination and cooperation with ongoing GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area**

**d) Are the proposed elements to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning outputs and strategic communication adequately described?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Please address the following comments:

1) Section "Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project" states that the final implementation and execution structure will be determined during the PPG phase. However, in the initial project info page, both St. Kitts Electricity Company Ltd. (SKELEC) and Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) have been identified as the two executing agencies of the project. Please amend to ensure consistency across the document. Note that the executing agency can be identified during the PPG phase.

2) The proposal indicates that it will complement the existing GEF project "Achieving a Rapid Decarbonisation of the Energy Sector in Saint Kitts and Nevis (SKN-100)". However, please provide further details on this complementarity will take place, including the innovation angle of the proposed project. The same applies to the Programs SOLARISE and Residential Rooftop Solar.

Agency's Comments These have been addressed across the entire PIF document. SKELEC was removed from the list of executing partners. This will be further determined during the PPG phase.

**5.4 a) Are the identified core indicators calculated using the methodology included in the corresponding Guidelines (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)?**

**b) Are the project's indicative targeted contributions to GEBs (measured through core indicators)/adaptation benefits reasonable and achievable?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.25.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Not cleared yet.** We cannot locate the GHG calculation spreadsheet. Please upload it under the Document section of the Portal.

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Please address the following comments:

- 1) Please provide a GHG calculation sheet even if it is still preliminary estimation of the mitigation achieved.
- 2) The GHG mitigated by the project are achieved under sub-core indicator 6.2 (i.e. outside the AFOLU sector) instead of 6.1. Please amend accordingly.

Agency's Comments

03.25

The GHG emission calculation sheet has been provided. Please find the GHG Calculation sheet under Roadmap and Documents Section.

**5.5 NGI Only: Is there a justification of financial structure and use of financial instrument with concessionality levels?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

N/A.

Agency's Comments N/A

**5.6 RISKS**

**a) Is there a well-articulated assessment of risk and identification of mitigation measures under each relevant risk category?**

**b) Is the rating provided reflecting the residual risk to the likely achievement of intended outcomes after accounting for the expected implementation of mitigation measures?**

**c) Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately screened and rated at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Justification for the "Overall risk rating" of the project is missing. Also, we noted that UNIDO attached Environmental and social screening template. An overall ESS risk is classified as Moderate. Please ensure inclusion of vulnerable populations including small-scale farmers and fishers and informal sectors not only women and youth, and clarify how local university and research institutions were included as apart of consultation to develop the concept of the project, and how the results of the consultations were integrated into the project concept.

#### Agency's Comments

A justification has been provided for the risk project classification as "moderate". At the moment, no university has been engaged, and the private sector has been engaged only partly. So, most of the capacity gaps being addressed by the project were designed based on the input from the Energy Ministry, UNEP SKN100 project team and SKELEC. The mentioned inclusion of vulnerable populations incl. small-scale farmers and fisheries is now explicitly mentioned in the risk table.

However, a more structured consultation will be done during the PPG phase to ensure that all key stakeholders are included in the project.

#### 5.7 Qualitative assessment

- a) Does the project intend to be well integrated, durable, and transformative?**
- b) Is there potential for innovation and scaling-up?**
- c) Will the project contribute to an improved alignment of national policies (policy coherence)?**

#### Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Innovation vs. replication needs clarification: The PIF conflates proven model scaling (ECREEE, BLOOM) with genuine innovation (new risk assessment tools, de-risking mechanisms). However, please distinguish:

- What is replication of proven models vs. genuine innovation?
- For true innovations: what makes them novel, how will they be tested/adapted, what is the risk calibration strategy?

Agency's Comments This has been addressed in the PIF document. The establishment of a distributed solar scheme and the implementation of first pilots facilitated by GEF will pave the way for larger-scale replication within the country. A good reference example is Barbados, which has introduced the renewable energy rider a few years ago. This resulted into rapid

market uptake of DSE, which needed to be well-managed as it soon reached a ceiling potentially causing challenges for grid stability.

**6 C. Alignment with GEF-8 Programming Strategies and Country/Regional Priorities**

**6.1 Is the project adequately aligned with focal area and integrated program strategies and objectives, and/or adaptation priorities?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Please address the following comments:

1) As rightly pointed out in the project document, the project is aligned with Objective 1.1 of the GEF-8 Climate Change Mitigation Strategy. However, the proposal also appears to target energy efficiency activities. If this is the case, please elaborate further on the energy efficiency baseline and project activities, and include Objective 1.1 of the GEF-8 Climate Change Mitigation Strategy as an additional objective aligned with the proposal.

2) Given the resilience-oriented nature of the project, please further elaborate on how the project is aligned with the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the GEF Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), even though the project is not requesting funding from the SCCF.

Agency's Comments The suggestions have been embedded. The EE activities (investment plan and MEPS) are now better explained.

**6.2 Is the project alignment/coherent with country and regional priorities, policies, strategies and plans (including those related to the MEAs and to relevant sectors)**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's Comments N/A

**6.3 For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e. BD, CC or LD), does the project clearly identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and how it contributes to the identified target(s)?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

N/A. However, please see comment below on the Biodiversity Rio Marker:

*"The Rio Marker for Biodiversity has been set to BD1; however, biodiversity is not described as a principal objective of the project in the proposal. Please either revise the proposal to clearly reflect biodiversity as a main aspect or update the Rio Marker to BD0."*

Agency's CommentsN/A

#### **7 D. Policy Requirements**

**7.1 Is the Policy Requirements section completed?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**7.2 Is a list of stakeholders consulted during PIF development, including dates of these consultations, provided?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Please indicate the date when the consultations will take place. In addition, please provide a brief summary of the findings of these consultations to inform project design and provide details on plans to engage and consult civil society, local and vulnerable communities, and MSMEs in project development. Finally, please consider including CARICOM in the list of stakeholder as a key partner in the region.

Agency's CommentsThis has been addressed.

#### **8 Annexes**

**Annex A: Financing Tables**

**8.1 Is the proposed GEF financing (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines? Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):**

**STAR allocation?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

Cleared.

1.30.2026 PM:

No. Please address the following comments:

- 1) In the financing table, in addition to Climate Change Mitigation Objective 1.2, please consider adding objective 1.1 in line with the energy efficiency angle of the proposal.
- 2) Sources of funds table in Portal (see screenshot below doesn't match that in LoE (see screenshot below). Please amend by either changing the Focal area allocation in Portal (providing that there are funds), or to obtain a new LoE.

#### Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
UNIDO	GET	St. Kitts and Nevis	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	100,000.00
UNIDO	GET	St. Kitts and Nevis	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,000,000.00
Total GEF Resources(\$)					1,100,000.00

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area Source	Amount (in US\$)				Total
			GEF Project Financing	GEF Project Financing Agency Fee	Project Preparation Grant (PPG)	Project Preparation Grant (PPG) Agency Fee	
GEFTF	UNIDO	Climate Change	954.566	90.684	50.000	4.750	1.100.000
<b>Total GEF Resources</b>			954.566	90.684	50.000	4.750	1.100.000

Agency's Comments This has been addressed in the portal. The new endorsement letter is attached.

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat's Comments

1.30.2026 PM:

N/A.

Agency's Comments N/A

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

N/A.

Agency's CommentsN/A

**SCCF A (SIDS)?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

N/A.

Agency's CommentsN/A

**SCCF B (Tech Transfer, Innovation, Private Sector)?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

N/A.

Agency's CommentsN/A

**Focal Area Set Aside?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

N/A.

Agency's CommentsN/A

**8.2 Is the PPG requested within the allowable cap (per size of project)? If requested, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**8.3 Are the indicative expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented and consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**Annex B: Endorsements**

**8.4 Has the project been endorsed by the country? (ies) GEF OFP and has the OFP at the time of PIF submission name and position been checked against the GEF database?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**Are the OFP endorsement letters uploaded to the GEF Portal (compiled as a single document, if applicable)?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**8.5 For NGI projects (which may not require LoEs), has the Agency informed the OFP(s) of the project to be submitted?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

N/A.

Agency's CommentsN/A

**Annex C: Project Location**

**8.6 Is there preliminary georeferenced information and a map of the project's intended location?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**Annex D: Safeguards Screen and Rating**

**8.7 If there are safeguard screening documents or other ESS documents prepared, have these been uploaded to the GEF Portal?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's CommentsN/A

**Annex E: Rio Markers**

**8.8 Are the Rio Markers for CCM, CCA, BD and LD correctly selected, if applicable?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** The Rio Marker for Biodiversity has been set to BD1. However, biodiversity is not described as one of the objectives of the proposal. Please either revise the proposal to clearly reflect biodiversity as a project's objective or update the Rio Marker to BD0.

Agency's Comments This has been addressed in the portal.

**Annex F: Taxonomy Worksheet**

**8.9 Is the project properly tagged with the appropriate keywords?**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**Yes.**

Agency's Comments N/A

**Annex G: NGI Relevant Annexes**

**8.10 Does the project provide sufficient detail (indicative term sheet) to take a decision on the following selection criteria: co-financing ratios, financial terms and conditions, and financial additionality? If not, please provide comments. Does the project provide a detailed reflow table to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. Is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**N/A.**

Agency's Comments N/A

**9 GEFSEC Decision**

**9.1 Is the PIF and PPG (if requested) recommended for technical clearance?**

Secretariat's Comments

**3.25.2026 PM:**

**Cleared.**

**3.20.2026 PM:**

**Not cleared.** Please provide the GHG calculation spreadsheet, so the GEF team can track these preliminary estimations.

**1.30.2026 PM:**

**No.** Please address comments identified above.

Agency's Comments This has been extensively addressed in the PIF.  
**9.2 Additional Comments to be considered by the Agency at the time of CEO Endorsement/ Approval**

Secretariat's Comments

**1.30.2026 PM:**

At CEO Approval, please make sure to elaborate further on the following comments:

- **Gender.** Please ensure that in the development of the results framework, gender-specific indicators are included to facilitate monitoring and reporting. In the development of the Gender Action Plan, please indicate measures to facilitate and support its implementation (e.g., budgets, staff support, regular monitoring, adaptive management, etc.). Under M&E, please make a reference to include in PIRs, MTRs and TE, reports on gender-specific results, including the implementation of the Gender Action Plan.

- **Pilots.** At PPG, please elaborate further on the selection criteria for the pilots and overall output 1.3. in general.

- **Output 1.6: Innovative Renewable Energy Financing Framework Developed.** At CEO Approval please specify on the specific financing instruments, financial structure and governance, additionality mechanisms (ensuring support reaches MSMEs that otherwise couldn't access finance) and selection criteria and inclusion strategies for women/youth-led enterprises.

Agency's Comments Most of the gender and youth aspects have been addressed. However, other comments are to be further addressed at the PPG stage.

**Review Dates**

**First Review**

**Additional Review (as necessary)**

**Additional Review (as necessary)**

**Additional Review (as necessary)**

**Additional Review (as necessary)**

**PIF Review**

**Agency Response**

**1/30/2026**

