



USAID PACIFIC AMERICAN FUND

The U.S. Agency for International Development’s Pacific American Fund is a five-year grant facility that addresses critical development challenges across 12 Pacific Island Countries, including the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

The Pacific Island Countries’ (PICs) geography and unique development context place them on the front lines of a complex array of development challenges, including high vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters, fragile governance systems, acute gender inequality, and increased stress on local livelihoods, businesses, and health systems due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Covering a vast area of the Pacific Ocean, these countries are vital to the global economy and critical to global stability. Although PICs have adopted policies and plans to address these challenges, many communities and small businesses need immediate support. Civil society organizations (CSOs) play a critical role in social and economic development yet are often hindered by limited resources and capacity.

ABOUT THE FUND

The goal of the Pacific American Fund is to improve the quality of life in vulnerable communities and improve access to services for remote communities in the region.

The Pacific American Fund awards grants on an open and competitive basis to qualifying local, national, and internationally operating CSOs, including private small-and-medium enterprises, non-governmental organizations and institutions, universities, and faith-based organizations. The \$35 million Fund will offer

Photo: USAID Pacific-American Climate Fund

at least three rounds of solicitations and grants during the first three years and support grant oversight, capacity building, performance monitoring, and knowledge sharing during its entire five-year period.

The Fund supports grantee projects focused on: addressing the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; increasing climate change and disaster resilience; promoting economic growth and facilitating market-based enterprise development; increasing biodiversity and sustainable natural resource management; extending access to quality health care, education, and water, sanitation, and hygiene services; and advancing democratic governance. The Fund will also address cross-cutting challenges, such as acute gender inequality and pervasive gender-based violence that further inhibit the growth and development of these countries.

The Pacific American Fund works closely with CSOs to ensure proper grant implementation and reporting in compliance with USAID guidelines and procedures. In this manner, CSOs “learn by doing” and strengthen their internal capacities. Where required, the Fund also provides financial resources and technical support to build the capacity of grantees to ensure the sustainability of their efforts and to strengthen self-reliance over the long-term. Improved proficiency in grant management will enable these organizations to scale up their capabilities, leverage the activities and resources of other organizations, and engage in more complex projects, including public-private partnerships. The Fund also captures best practices and lessons learned at the community level and disseminates these to a variety of stakeholders.

BENEFICIARIES AND PARTNERS

The main beneficiaries of the Pacific American Fund are its CSO grantees. Other important beneficiaries include local communities, vulnerable populations, local businesses, local governments, civil society, and private citizens, most notably disadvantaged women and children.

The Pacific American Fund is implemented in coordination with U.S. government partners, including the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Peace Corps, and implementers of other USAID activities.

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