The Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub (CCFAH) helps small and other vulnerable states secure funding to tackle climate change. The Hub places experts in government departments to support with climate finance grant applications, capacity building and project implementation. As of April 2020, the Hub has helped countries to access USD 33,605,291 of climate finance, with USD 572,639,261 in the pipeline.
Funds secured through the assistance of the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub

Jamaica

In the last three years, the CCFAH helped Jamaica to secure nearly USD 5.2 million of climate finance, largely for readiness support, targeted at a number of priority sectors such as:

- Grant of over USD 500,000 from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) for an analysis of the development and operation of a green bond market and the creation of regional green bond guidelines
- Grant of USD 272,797 from the GCF for facilitating a gender-responsive approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Grant of USD 613,000 from the GCF for REDD+ readiness actions as part of Forest Policy
- Grant of USD 582,000 from the GCF from the GCF accessed under the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support programme, with a primary focus on Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)
- Grant of USD 1.3 million from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for strengthening Jamaica’s capacity to meet transparency requirements under the Paris Agreement
- Grant of USD 253,714 for accelerating the uptake of climate smart agriculture in selected African, Caribbean and Pacific countries through the ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (CTA)
- Grant of USD 50,000 from Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) and United States Agency for International Aid (USAID) for technical assistance to provide support for pre-feasibility study for the Water is Life project
- Grant of USD 300,000 from the NAP Global Network for National Designated Authority (NDA) strengthening and GCF programme development
- Technical Assistance grant of USD 22,000 for supporting national stocktaking for adaptation planning and interventions by NAP Global Network
- Grant of USD 1.3m from the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme for Enhancing Caribbean Civil Society’s Access and Readiness for Climate Finance

Tonga

- Grant of USD 500,000 from GCF for NDA strengthening and country programming
- Grant of USD 39,207 from the GCF for preparatory support for gap assessment and action plan towards accreditation process of the Ministry of Finance and National Planning of Tonga as GCF Direct Accrediting Entity
Grant of USD 50,000 from the GEF Small Grant Programme for enhancing the climate change resilience of vulnerable families through improved sustainable sanitation and hygiene

Grant of USD 460,692 from GCF for Assessment and Reform of the Tonga Outer Island Solar Electrification Society

Grant of USD 1.68m from the GCF to fund the first phase of Strengthening Adaptation Planning in Tonga

Antigua and Barbuda

Grant of USD 21.8 million from the Green Climate Fund to fund the “Integrated Physical Adaptation and Community Resilience through Enhanced Direct Access Pilot in the Public, Private and Civil Society Sectors of the Three Eastern Caribbean Small Island Developing States of Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of Dominica and Grenada”

Grant of USD 180,560 from Green Climate Finance for Green Climate Fund Readiness and Preparatory Grant for Grenada

Mauritius

Grant of USD 2.3 million secured from the European Union and the African Union for a Global Environmental Monitoring Information Alert System. The project focus is on Marine and Coastal Management in the East Africa Region, an initiative by the Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI) for monitoring environmental pollution in the Indian Ocean and off the East African Coast

Grant of USD 1.25 million from the EU and the Government of Mauritius for an AgricTECH Park facility that will develop Smart Innovation through research in agriculture to promote climate change mainstreaming and food security

Barbados

Grant of up to USD 69,400 to recruit a consultant to develop a full funding proposal for the “River Plantation Drainage and Irrigation Climate Adaptation Project”, which will result in the building of infrastructure to support water harvesting and conveyance of water to farmers in the target area in Barbados

Grant of USD 5,000 for “Integrated Water and Energy for a Changing Climate (IWECC-B) for Small Business Agribusiness Sector of Barbados” under the GCF Private Sector Regional Readiness Grant
CommonSensing Project

CommonSensing is an innovative project, based on a partnership between Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, and a consortium of international partners including the Commonwealth Secretariat. The objective of CommonSensing is to support Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to build resilience by developing satellite-based information services to enhance climate action.

Satellite technologies that support Earth Observation (EO) have evolved rapidly, providing solutions to help tackle climate change and support disaster risk management (DRM) - especially when combined with applications such as Geographic Information System (GIS) that allow for detailed analysis. These technologies can therefore support climate action by providing accurate information on the status of oceans, coasts, rivers, vegetation and soil cover and the atmosphere using tools which can be deployed remotely from space and in-situ.

CommonSensing is leveraging EO data to provide stakeholders with access to vital satellite-based information services regarding disaster and climate risks to inform planning, food security needs and to strengthen access to climate finance. In addition to providing a data platform, the CommonSensing project also builds capacity and strengthening technical skills in the use of the platform and related satellite information services. This is enhanced by the placement of technical geospatial specialists within government ministries to support government officials and decision makers.

The Project is funded by the UK Space Agency’s International Partnership Programme (IPP) and implemented in partnership with United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT), Commonwealth Secretariat, Satellite Applications Catapult, Devex International, UK Met Office, Sensonomic and University of Portsmouth.