CONCEPT NOTE

RESIslands Initiative — Republic of Seychelles

Strengthening the Institutional Capacities of AISCC Member States to Manage Climate Risks and Bolster Resilience — National Implementation

9	US$4.943M	115
African island states covered	GCF Readiness grant (UNECA)	islands — Seychelles' national scope

1. Context and Background

The Republic of Seychelles, a Small Island Developing State, “Large Ocean State” and an African Island State, comprising 115 islands, faces acute structural vulnerability to climate change. Rising sea levels, ocean acidification, coastal erosion and extreme weather threaten its economy, coastal infrastructure, marine ecosystems and human settlements.

Despite its high-income status and leadership in conservation and Blue Economy innovation, Seychelles continues to face barriers to predictable climate finance and institutional fragmentation between disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA).

To close these gaps, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), in partnership with the African Island States Climate Commission (AISCC) and backed by a US$4.943 million Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness grant, is delivering the RESIslands Initiative across nine African island nations: strengthening institutional readiness, multi-hazard risk assessment and bankable project pipelines.

Seychelles to receive: US$500,000.

2. Project Objectives

The Seychelles national implementation aims to strengthen integrated climate risk management and resilience-building capacity, through:

- **Institutional coherence:** strengthening national policy coherence and coordination between DRM and CCA frameworks.
- **Better risk information:** improving multi-hazard risk assessment, maritime data collection, and cross-agency information sharing.
- **Finance-ready pipelines:** developing robust project pipelines and strategies to unlock international climate finance.
- **Sustained capacity:** enhancing technical expertise through national and academic partnerships.

3. Core Components and Key Activities

National delivery is structured around four mutually reinforcing pillars:

1	**Institutional Strengthening and Policy Coherence** Reviewing existing DRM and climate policies to eliminate mandate overlaps, streamline inter-agency coordination, and clarify the roles of executing bodies such as the Economic Planning Department (NDA) and the Disaster Risk Management Department.

2	**Risk Assessment and Data Standardization** Upgrading national multi-hazard risk information systems, standardizing data collection across maritime and terrestrial sectors and integrating outer-island risk management.

3	**Capacity Building and Training** Designing targeted technical training, national write-shops and academic partnerships to ensure long-term technical retention despite high-income-status training restrictions.

4	**Climate Finance and Project Pipeline Development** Building capacity to formulate bankable adaptation and resilience projects, supporting resource mobilization and preparing national stakeholders for effective access to climate funds.

4. Institutional Arrangements and Stakeholders

Delivery rests on a whole-of-government, multi-stakeholder approach:

- **National Designated Authority (NDA):** Ministry of Environment, Climate, Energy and Natural Resources - overall strategic oversight and project alignment.
- **Executing Agencies:** Disaster Risk Management Department (DRDM) and other relevant departments - DRR coordination and operational implementation.
- **Key Government Partners:** Economic Planning Department, Seychelles Meteorological Authority; Ministry of Local Government; land-use planning authorities and maritime/ ocean management agencies.
- **Specialized Operators and Academia:** University of Twente's Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (UT-ITC), UNECA, AISCC (technical training and capacity development).
- **International Partners:** UNECA (Delivery Partner) and the Green Climate Fund (Funder).

5. Expected Outcomes

- Streamlined, harmonized national disaster risk management and climate adaptation frameworks.
- A standardized, centralized national risk database improving forecasting and decision-making.
- Enhanced technical competency among national experts and reinforced institutional retention.
- A robust pipeline of climate-resilient investment projects ready for GCF and international climate financing.

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