

Contents

1. Purpose	1
2. Alignment with Cook Islands National Systems	1
3. Introduction to the Project	1
4. Indicators and Linkage to Logframe	5
5. Monitoring Systems and Tools	5
5. Roles and Responsibilities	6
6. Monitoring and evaluation plan	7
7. Evaluation Plan	13

1. Purpose

This Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan outlines how the project will track implementation progress, results delivery, and learning throughout the project lifecycle. A M&E framework will be developed during the inception phase and will provide a clear framework for measuring, analyzing, and reporting against both the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Integrated Results Management Framework (IRMF) and Cook Islands national systems, ensuring adaptive management and alignment with national priorities.

2. Alignment with Cook Islands National Systems

The project will complement and expand systems described in Annex 18 by enabling national visibility of building upgrade status, including household and community shelters. Data will be accessible to Emergency Management Cook Islands (EMCI), enabling real-time validation of compliance with the 2019 Building Code and emergency preparedness criteria.

The M&E framework will fully integrated with the Government of the Cook Islands' national monitoring tools and platforms. Specifically, data generated through project implementation will feed into:

- ArcGIS and Geoportal: Spatial mapping and visualization of infrastructure upgrades, including location-tagged cyclone and sanitation interventions.
- LiDAR datasets¹: Used for flood modelling, SLR impact monitoring, and spatial risk assessments to support targeting and impact validation. These are overlayed in the ArcGIS and Geoportal

3. Introduction to the Project

Project activities under the project will fall under the following scopes: 1) awarding sub-projects with grant finance through an open and transparent calls for applications, 2) certificate trainings and technical assistance for implementation, and 3) impact evaluations and communicating results.

¹ Please see Annex 16 – Maps, which have been created using GEOportal and LIDAR Data sets. Specifically see the digital surface models which capture all of the islands buildings.

1. The project will make affordable financing available to different target groups, each having terms and conditions appropriate for them:

- **Local communities, NGOs and CSOs** – To upgrade community buildings, particularly those which have a secondary function as a safety shelter, or which otherwise serve the community during or immediately after a tropical cyclone. Financing will be in the form of small, non-reimbursable grants, where subproject grantees may opt to provide in-kind co-finance contributions.
- **Privately owned buildings** – These can be private residences or business properties. Financing will be in the form of partially reimbursable grants, depending on the socio-economic status of the applicant. For the most vulnerable group, who would otherwise not be able to invest in climate resilience, the grant is fully non-reimbursable.
- Homeowners or privately owned buildings can be either private residences or business properties.

Total grant USD15,000 will be in the form of

Tier 1 - 100% grant for the most vulnerable group, who would otherwise not be able to invest in climate resilience, the grant is fully non-reimbursable.

Tier 2 - 40% reimbursable grant – 60% non-reimbursable grant is awarded

Tier 3 - 60% reimbursable grants – 40% non-reimbursable grant is awarded that includes businesses.

depending on the socio-economic status of the applicant.

Through the financing opportunities, the project will deliver the following outputs

Component 1 –enhancing capacity/capability to achieve climate resilience of housing/community building stock. This Component will enhanced capacity of tradespeople, construction companies, building inspectors, and other stakeholders to ensure climate-resilient housing and community buildings enhance compliance with the 2019 Climate Resilience Building Code. Targeted beneficiaries will submit proposals to upgrade their houses and buildings, while stakeholders become more engaged to support better compliance. As a result, the built environment will be more resilient, reducing damages and losses from climate-related disasters.

Output 1.1: Communities, home and business owners and the private sector (including tradespeople, builders and inspectors) are aware of the requirements of the Building Code 2019, as well as the funding opportunity to increase resilience of the building stock

Activity 1.1.1: Awareness raising campaign on Rarotonga and in the Pa Enua, the following actions will be undertaken to ensure that communities, homeowners and trades people are informed and prepared to participate in the project

Activity 1.1.1(a): Development of promotional, gender sensitive materials for home and business owners, communities, and trades people, in both English and moari to create familiarity with the projects objectives and processes.

Activity 1.1.1(b): Community outreach in the Pa Enua, Led by CCCI island Focal points, working directly with communities, home and businesses to raise awareness of the funding opportunity under the EDA Facility. Awareness raising events on Rarotonga, organised by MFEM and EE staff, to ensure broad understanding of the opportunity to upgrade housing and community buildings to meet the 2019

Activity 1.1.1©: Development of training materials for tradespeople and inspectors, undertaken by CITTI as the Implementing Partner of MFEM, with technical support from Infrastructure Cook islands, to ensure full familiarity with the requirements of the building code. Delivery of training for trades people and inspectors, conducted by CITTI, focusing on the specific technical climate change requirements of the 2019 building code to enable correct application during housing and building upgrades under Activity 2.2.1: administration of sub projects

Output 1.2: Facilitation and support of applications for access to the concessional financing from the EDA Facility for climate-resilient housing and community building

Activity 1.2.1: Support and facilitation of applications of quality subproject proposals: Island Councils and Focal Points will actively support the preparation and submission of applications under Windows 1 and 2 of the EDA Facility. This support will include:

- Training and outreach to potential applicants to ensure they understand the application process, the eligibility requirements and the benefits of upgrading housing and community buildings to meet the 2019 building code.
- End to end technical and best practice support, including pre-upgrade surveys to capture baseline technical reviews of the buildings, to document structural conditions before application submission and implementation. Ongoing technical input to ensure compliance during works and post upgrade guidance on operations and maintenance to sustain climate resilient features and embed lessons learned for future projects

Component 2 – Houses and buildings of targeted beneficiaries and communities demonstrate improved resilience to Category 3 tropical cyclones and other climate impacts, supported by increased access to affordable climate resilience financing to different target groups, each having terms and conditions appropriate for them. Given the high cost of housing in the Cook Islands as well as the high costs of borrowing, having a financing facility to provide concessional financing to homeowners and small businesses will ensure that necessary building improvements are affordable

Output 2.1: EDA Facility is established with required tools, processes, and systems for the management of the Facility, origination, appraisal, and portfolio management of the subprojects.

Activity 2.1.1: Develop the constitution of the EDA Facility: MFEM will lead the development of the EDA Facility Policy, establishing the legal, governance, and operational framework required for its effective management. The EDA Facility Policy will be drafted and presented to the Government for. The EDA Facility policy will be established in accordance with Section 46(1)(d) of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management Act 1995-96 under Part X of the MFEM Act, and will contain all relevant provisions stipulated in this project, including the sub-project

eligibility criteria, appraisal processes, and portfolio management procedures. These provisions will be based on, and implemented through, existing MFEM-approved policies currently in application. The policy will also define the financial creditworthiness requirements and technical review parameters for sub-projects, ensuring that origination, appraisal, and portfolio management processes align with the technical standards of the 2019 Building Code and the climate-resilience objectives of the programme. The only addition to the existing policy framework will be the establishment of a formal agreement between MFEM and BCI, clarifying the respective roles and responsibilities in delivering concessional financing. This activity will lay the foundation for transparent, accountable, and sustainable operations of the Facility, enabling it to deliver affordable financing to targeted beneficiaries and manage a revolving fund that sustains access to concessional finance over the long term

Output 2.2: EDA facility management has the technical capacity to effectively manage the EDA Facility and implement the subproject pipeline origination and appraisal and portfolio management.

Activity 2.2.1: Administration of subprojects: this activity focuses on the effective administration, implementation and management of subprojects financed through the EDA facility. This activity is implemented through the following sub-activities

Activity 2.2.1(a): Technical and Logistical support: MFEM will lead the technical and logistical arrangements for subprojects under both Windows 1 and 2. This includes the bulk procurement of tradespeople, coordinated with ICI and CIIC, as well as the bulk procurement of building goods and materials from local suppliers. MFEM will also arrange for the transportation/shipping of these materials to the Pa Enua to reduce overhead costs and support timely delivery, enabling efficient implementation of subproject upgrades

Activity 2.2.1(b): Window 1 Implementation: MFEM and CCCI will undertake fiduciary checks on applicants, convene and support the GAEC to evaluate and score grant applications received, and manage all administrative arrangements with grant recipients, suppliers, and trade contractors.

Activity 2.2.1(c): Window 2 Implementation: BCI will convene and/or support the GAEC in evaluating and scoring grant applications, conduct fiduciary checks on applicants, and manage administrative arrangements with grant recipients

Output 2.3: construction management and oversight of SPs

Activity 2.3.1: construction management and oversight of SPs; focuses on ensuring quality, compliance, and transparency throughout the delivery of climate-resilient building upgrades. MFEM will engage construction management specialists to rigorously monitor and supervise subproject implementation based on the approved scope of works, including verification of building materials procured and transported, and oversight of builders and tradespeople contracted. These specialists will also capture baseline surveys conducted under Activity 1.2.1, as well as data collected pre-, during, and post-upgrades. All information will be entered into the government's GEO portal and ArcGIS portal, ensuring up-to-date, live data is available throughout subproject implementation. Additionally, an accredited inspector will be appointed to conduct inspections and certify that all upgrades comply fully with the 2019 Building Code. This comprehensive oversight mechanism will safeguard technical standards, promote accountability, and ensure that all subprojects meet the required climate resilience criteria.

All sub-projects selected through the grant approval process that are required to be ESS Category C (low/no environmental and social impacts). Sub-projects will target the following activities:

- Category 3 cyclone compliance for all buildings – with more stringent requirements (category 4 and 5) for certain public and essential buildings necessary for a resilient community

- Guidelines on tying down buildings for cyclones
- Internal rooftop drainage for a 100-year return interval rainfall event
- Adequate rainwater storage to ensure a continued supply of water during periods of low rainfall and
- Upgrade of sanitation systems

4. Indicators and Linkage to the Logframe

This plan uses IRMF core and supplementary indicators identified in Section E.3 and ensures full alignment with national data infrastructure to support accurate, real-time tracking of project outcomes. Key indicators include:

Core 2: Direct and indirect beneficiaries (sex-disaggregated), captured through subproject (SP) applications received under the Call for Proposals and recorded in SP progress reports. Each household that applies will be GIS-tagged and mapped by island. Integration with ArcGIS and GEOPORTAL with overlayed LIDAR Data, databases allow identification of the number of individuals within each household, which contributes to the calculation of direct and indirect beneficiaries. This process ensures spatial accuracy and avoids duplication in beneficiary counting.

Core 3: Value of physical assets made more climate-resilient (e.g., upgraded community buildings, septic tanks, and water tanks). This data will be obtained at both the screening and technical assessment stages of the SP lifecycle, where Activity Contract Managers will record the pre- and post-upgrade status of dwellings. These inputs will be integrated directly into the ArcGIS and Geoportal platforms. The resulting datasets will provide emergency agencies with up-to-date, geospatially validated information about the status of all upgraded assets and beneficiary households across the Cook Islands.

- Supplementary 2.3: Beneficiaries with climate-resilient water security (linked to septic tank upgrades and health-related outcomes).

- Supplementary 2.6: Beneficiaries living in cyclone-strengthened dwellings or shelters.

- Supplementary 3.1: Change in expected economic losses from climate disasters (supported by EMCI and ArcGIS/Geoportal data).

These indicators, along with project-specific indicators in the logframe (e.g., number of dwellings upgraded, number of compliant shelters, percentage of Pa Enua households with upgraded sanitation), will be reported quarterly through a performance M&E framework

5. Monitoring Systems and Tools

The project will utilise existing national monitoring systems and tools to track implementation, results, and performance. Rather than developing a standalone Monitoring Information System, the project will build its Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework on the foundation of national platforms that have been established and refined over time.

These systems include the national ArcGIS platform, Geoportal, and LiDAR datasets, which allow for spatial tagging, visualisation, and analysis of project activities at the household and community levels. These tools will be central to tracking progress against key indicators, such as the number of beneficiaries reached and the value of assets upgraded—by enabling accurate geospatial validation and avoiding duplication.

The project will ensure interoperability with government-wide reporting processes, enabling seamless data sharing and alignment with national development and climate goals. Agencies such as the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM), Infrastructure Cook Islands (ICI), and Emergency Management Cook Islands (EMCI) will have access to project data through these platforms to support compliance monitoring and coordinated response planning.

Where gaps exist in applying the GCF Integrated Results Management Framework (IRMF), the project will work within national systems to adapt or enhance tools as needed, ensuring consistency and long-term integration into government reporting processes.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

Effective implementation of the M&E framework requires clear delineation of responsibilities across key institutions and personnel. The following roles are established to ensure robust tracking, reporting, and learning throughout the project lifecycle:

Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM)

- Lead Agency for M&E Implementation
 - Oversees the design and execution of the M&E framework.
 - Manages integration with national systems (ArcGIS, Geoportal, LiDAR).
 - Contracts independent evaluators for mid-term and final evaluations.
 - Monitors implementation of evaluation recommendations.
- Construction Oversight – Output 2.3. with specialized support from the Ministry of Infrastructure
 - Engages construction management specialists to supervise subproject delivery.
 - Ensures compliance with the 2019 Building Code and climate resilience standards.

Project Management Unit (PMU)

- Operational Coordination
 - Implements the M&E framework under MFEM's oversight.
 - Prepares monthly summary reports and activity updates.
 - Tracks progress against the theory of change and annual work plans.
- Evaluation Participation
- Supports independent evaluations and prepares management responses.
- Facilitates adaptive management based on evaluation findings.

Monitoring, ESS and Gender Officer

- Technical Support and Data Coordination
- Coordinates monitoring activities and ensures integration of ESS and gender targets.

- Collects and analyzes gender-disaggregated data.
- Supports reporting against outcome indicators and compliance with ESAP and GAAP.

Independent Evaluators

- Mid-Term and Final Evaluations
- Conduct outcomes-based and summative evaluations in Years 4 and 7.
- Assess strategic relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability.
- Evaluate the EDA Fund's structure, performance, and long-term viability.

Implementing Partners and Focal Points

- Community-Level Monitoring
- Support baseline surveys and data collection during subproject implementation.
- Facilitate participatory evaluations and feedback loops with beneficiaries.
- Ensure accurate reporting of beneficiary reach and asset upgrades.

Technical Agencies (EMCI, ICI, CIIC)

- Data Integration and Compliance Monitoring
- Access and utilize project data via national platforms for emergency preparedness and infrastructure oversight.

Validate compliance with building codes and climate resilience criteria.

6. Monitoring and evaluation plan

Monitoring				
Data/Source	Collection Tool	Frequency	Indicator	Indicative Budget
Paradigm Shift Indicators				
Interim and Final Evaluation Reports/ Progress Reports	Document review	Midterm and Final,	Scale	
Interim and Final Evaluation Reports/ Progress Reports	Document review	Midterm and Final,	Replicability	
Interim and Final Evaluation Reports/ Progress Reports	Document review	Midterm and Final	Sustainability	
GCF CORE INDICATORS				
Government reports Subproject (SP) Implementation Progress Reports and Completion Reports from PMU Reports of the mid-term and final evaluations	Document review	Quarterly and Annual	Core 2: Direct and indirect beneficiaries (female/male) from climate adaptation interventions	
Government reports SP Implementation Progress Reports and Completion Reports from PMU Reports of the mid-term and final evaluations	Document review	Quarterly and Annual	Supplementary 2.3: Beneficiaries (female/male) with more climate-resilient water security	

Government reports SP Implementation Progress Reports and Completion Reports from PMU Reports of the mid-term and final evaluations	Document review	Quarterly and Annual	Supplementary 2.6: Beneficiaries (female/male) living in buildings that have increased resilience against climate hazards	
Annual performance reports SP Implementation Progress Reports and Completion Reports from PMU Reports of the mid-term and final evaluations	Document review	Quarterly and Annual	Core 3: Value of physical assets made more resilient to the effects of climate change and/or more able to reduce GHG emissions	
Government statistics / reports EMCI reports SP Implementation Progress Reports and Completion Reports from PMU Reports of the mid-term and final evaluations	Document review	Quarterly and Annual	Supplementary 3.1: Change in expected losses of economic assets due to the impact of extreme climate-related disasters in the geographic area of the GCF intervention	
ENABLING ENVIRONMENT INDICATORS				
Interim and Final Evaluation Reports/ Progress Reports	Document review	Midterm and Final	Core Indicator 5: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks for low emission climate-resilient development pathways in a country-driven manner	
Interim and Final Evaluation Reports/ Progress Reports	Document review	Midterm and Final	Core indicator 8: Degree to which GCF investments contribute to effective knowledge generation and learning processes, and use of good practices, methodologies and standards	
PROJECT / PROGRAMME SPECIFIC INDICATORS				
Annual audits	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of subproject applications submitted to EDA facility.	
Progress/completion reports	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of relevant	

			stakeholders engaged in supporting the upgrading of houses and buildings	
Communication products	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of communication products that reference climate change and impacts on public buildings, homes and businesses	
Project reports, pre and post surveys, key informant interviews	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of awareness raising events undertaken for each funding round	
Project reports, pre and post surveys, key informant interviews	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of lessons learned systematized and shared	
Project reports, pre and post surveys, key informant interviews	Document review	Quarterly and annually	No. training/ lesson learned/ knowledge sharing forums/events (in addition to awareness raising events)	
Project reports, Pre * Post surveys, key informant interviews	Document review	Quarterly and annually	No. of targeted beneficiaries (including individuals, CSOs, NGOs, government officials) having better understanding on funding application development	
Progress/completion reports	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of subprojects proposals developed with the support of EDA facility.	
Annual audits	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Availability of funding through the EDA Facility	
BCI reports Annual audits	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Uptake of partial commercial financing for home upgrades	
Building completion reports - Progress/completion reports from CfP funding rounds	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of public buildings upgraded to be compliant with the 2019 Building Code	
Building completion reports - Progress/completion	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of community water tanks upgraded	

reports from CfP funding rounds				
Building completion reports - Progress/completion reports from CfP funding rounds	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of private buildings upgraded to be compliant with the 2019 Building Code	
Building completion reports - Progress/completion reports from CfP funding rounds	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of water tanks installed/upgraded	
Building completion reports - Progress/completion reports from CfP	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of septic tanks – improved sewage system	
Annual audits	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Effective revolving fund	
Publication in Official Gazette	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Articles of constitution of the EDA Facility approved by the Government	
Project reports, Facility Operational Manual, Guidelines for Applicants, CfP evaluation reports, Contracts signed, Letters for refusal	Document review	Quarterly and annually	# of systems, policies and manuals put in place for effective management of the EDA Facility.	
Project reports, Facility Operational Manual, Guidelines for Applicants, CfP evaluation reports, Contracts signed, Letters for refusal	Document review	Quarterly and annually	# of systems, policies and tools put in place for subproject design and portfolio management.	
Progress/completion reports from CfP funding rounds Annual audits	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of grants awarded	
Building completion reports - Progress/completion reports from	Document review	Quarterly and annually	# houses, private building and community buildings/infrastructure are upgraded in compliance with the Building Code	
TMO assessments via Tutaka inspections	Field observation visits	Quarterly and annually	# of incidence of septic tanks overflow reported.	

Progress/completion reports from CfP funding rounds to be disaggregated by sex	Document review	Quarterly and annually	# of staff of the EDA Facility have increased capacity in subproject pipeline development, appraisals and portfolio management.	
Surveys, key informant interviews disaggregated by sex	Field observation visits	Quarterly and annually	# of staff of the EDA Facility have increased capacity in management of the revolving fund. disaggregated by sex	
EDA Facility Statements	Document review	Quarterly and annually	# of subprojects approved for EDA Facility's funding	
EDA Facility Statements	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of subprojects completed	
Project/Programme Co-benefit indicators				
GCF Annual performance reports EE Progress reports	Document review	annually	Co-benefit 1: Job Creation -Number of new jobs created by the project disaggregated by gender	
GCF annual performance reports	Document review	annually	Co-benefit 2: increased access to climate finance for women and woman-led MSMEs - % of funding contributing to gender equity	
TMO National Health Information Bulletins	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Number of deaths due to extreme weather events reported annually	
TMO National Health Information Bulletins	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Co-benefit 3: The well-being of the beneficiaries is improved - Number of deaths due to extreme weather events reported annually	
TMO National Health Information Bulletins	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Co-benefit 3: The well-being of the beneficiaries is improved - Number of injuries due to extreme weather events reported annually	

TMO National Health Information Bulletins	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Co-benefit 3: The well-being of the beneficiaries is improved - Incidence of climate-sensitive health risks (CSHRs)	
Grant applications Project reports	Document review	Quarterly and annually	Co-benefit 4: Greater familiarity with Building Code provisions fosters investment in additional areas, further reducing risks to building owners - Number of grant award whose building plans include additional building upgrades not financed by the project	

Explanation of Monitoring Plan

To ensure robust monitoring, evaluation, and learning throughout the life of the project, the Accredited Entity will engage an international consultant to design a performance Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework. This framework will track project progress toward targets and will be fully aligned with the GCF's Monitoring and Accountability Framework, Integrated Results Management Framework (IRMF), and the Independent Evaluation Unit's policies. The framework will also incorporate locally relevant indicators and participatory approaches that reflect the project's strong emphasis on country ownership and locally led adaptation.

The M&E Framework will be built upon and integrated with existing national systems, including ArcGIS, the Cook Islands Geoportal, and LiDAR infrastructure, which have been developed over several years. These platforms enable spatially tagged, visualized analysis and reporting, and are already used across government agencies such as MFEM, ICI, and EMCI. By leveraging these national systems, the project ensures sustainability, efficiency, and the ability to report consistently across government. Where gaps exist in applying IRMF indicators, the project will adapt or strengthen national tools rather than creating parallel systems.

The Project Manager, under the oversight of MFEM, will lead the implementation of the M&E framework, supported by the Project Management Unit (PMU). A part-time Monitoring, ESS and Gender Officer will also be engaged to coordinate monitoring activities, ensure integration of ESS and gender targets, and support data collection against the project's outcome indicators. The officer will assist in reporting performance, providing technical support to the PM, and monitoring compliance with the ESAP and GAAP, including gender-disaggregated data.

Monitoring will take place at multiple levels and stages. Progress will be assessed through regular activity reports and monthly summary reports (1–2 pages), tracking implementation against the theory of change and annual work plans, while highlighting issues and proposing solutions. These reports will also assess the project's performance against the GCF's investment framework, including financial and economic efficiency.

Evidence-based impact evaluations will be conducted to assess the effectiveness of subprojects funded through the Calls for Proposals (CfPs). This will involve the use of random sampling and representative

control groups—comparing outcomes between those who received grants and those who did not—to evaluate the impact of different investments and inform scaling strategies. These evaluations will incorporate local knowledge and promote real-time learning, with implementers working alongside communities to identify challenges, surface lessons, and shape adaptive responses. Inclusive and accessible feedback channels will be prioritised to strengthen community voice and accountability.

Results from CfP evaluations will feed directly into learning and adaptive management processes. Evaluation summaries will be presented to the Grant Award Evaluation Committee (GAEC) to inform improvements to the EDA Facility Operations Manual. Additionally, highlights from previous CfP evaluations will be shared at awareness-raising events to inform prospective applicants and introduce improved procedures.

Internal monitoring efforts will be complemented by two independent evaluations—mid-term and end-of-project—to validate project performance, capture key lessons, and assess long-term impact. Where capacity gaps are identified during implementation, targeted support will be provided through the M&E professional services budget, including training in areas such as grievance redress mechanisms (GRM), gender-based violence (GBV), and sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH)

7. Evaluation Plan

Evaluation			
Type	Timing	Independent/Self-evaluation	Indicative Budget
<i>Formative</i>	Interim/Midterm	Independent	Charged to AE Fe
<i>Summative</i>	Final/terminal	Independent	Charged to AE Fee

Explanation of Evaluation Plan

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) will be responsible for managing both the mid-term (interim) and final evaluations of the project. These evaluations will be conducted independently to ensure objectivity, and they will serve as key decision-making tools to inform project improvements and sustainability planning.

The **Mid-Term Evaluation** will be conducted in the middle of Year 4 and will include a review of both overall project progress and the performance of the EDA Fund. MFEM will contract an independent consultant to carry out this outcomes-based assessment. The evaluation will determine whether the project is on track to meet its intended outcomes, identify challenges encountered, and recommend corrective actions to improve efficiency and sustainability. The review will analyse project performance against its targets, operational effectiveness, and responsiveness to community needs.

Importantly, the mid-term evaluation will also include a formal review of the EDA Fund's structure, operations, and performance to date. This review will assess the effectiveness of the fund in reaching target beneficiaries, delivering impact through the Calls for Proposals (CfPs), and supporting climate-resilient investments. Findings from the EDA Fund review will be submitted to the GCF alongside the interim evaluation report to demonstrate progress and provide a learning input for the design of the terminal evaluation.

The Project Management Unit (PMU) will actively participate in the mid-term evaluation process and will be responsible for developing a management response and implementation plan based on the evaluation's recommendations. MFEM will monitor the progress and implementation of these recommendations throughout the remainder of the project.

The **Final Evaluation** will begin in the last quarter of Year 7 and will also be conducted by an independent consultant contracted by MFEM. This summative evaluation will assess the project's overall performance using standard evaluation criteria, including:

- Strategic relevance
- Effectiveness
- Efficiency
- impact
- Sustainability

It will also evaluate performance against the project's Logical Framework indicators. The evaluation will use a range of methodologies, including documentary analysis, field observation visits, and key informant interviews.

As part of the final evaluation, a comprehensive assessment of the EDA Fund's long-term viability and future institutional arrangements will be undertaken. This will include consideration of whether the EDA Fund should:

- Continue as a standalone national financing mechanism, or
- Be absorbed into an existing national financial vehicle, such as the Cook Islands Infrastructure Trust Fund or the Sovereign Wealth Fund.

This determination will be guided by the EDA Fund's success in leveraging co-financing, supporting scalable solutions, and its potential to target the remaining 50% of non-compliant building stock. Findings will help inform the Government's decision on how to sustain and institutionalize the fund to address long-term adaptation needs