E Co. 2022:

A year in review

Feb 2023

E Co. in 2022 and beyond: Committed to accelerating the pace of climate finance flows, ensuring that communities and organisations have the means to both respond to the impacts of climate change, and reduce their contribution to it.

Foreword by E Co. Visionary and Founder Dr. Grant Ballard-Tremeer

Greetings and welcome to our E Co. 2022: A year in review report.

We've collated the most important facts and figures from our work in the 2022 year, ranging from our work with the GCF, GEF, and Adaptation Fund, to our impact in the delivery of 42 new assignments.

2022 was an inspiring year — one of growth, development, and experimentation. Our fantastic team has grown in number, and we're now working with an even larger group of committed, collaborative, and passionate global professionals. In particular, our team has expanded its presence in Latin America. I personally appreciate the diversity and vibrancy of our team, and I am looking forward to seeing how we change and grow as 2023 progresses.

One of those changes is with the appointment of our new Managing director, Rowan Putman, who is driving forward our progress as we continue to grow and develop. Rowan has started us on a fantastic track for this new year, having signed E Co. up to the Women's Empowerment Principles, a set of several principles that promote gender equality through business.

Also in 2022, we were able to send Senior analyst Marcus Arcanjo to COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, where he was able to report back on a number of important developments. We also delivered five training sessions in several different countries (both online and in-person), and had two funding proposals approved by the Green Climate Fund.

2023 is particularly exciting for me because it's a new opportunity for E Co. to help guide our clients and collaborators towards more sustainable and equitable choices that produce tangible benefits for climate-vulnerable communities. As technical experts, we find ourselves analysing the impacts caused by climate change within specific geographies and communities, from the local to the international level. What we see is often a stark reminder of what we as a sector are protecting—not just the environment, but human life, relationships, and wellbeing as well.

Here we find ourselves with another chance to put our minds together, share our skills, and guide our clients to positive impact, and another chance to ensure that an equitable amount of financial supports ends up in the hands of those who need it the most.

This review provides a small but inspiring glimpse into the work we do for communities across the globe.
I hope you enjoy reading it.

Best wishes

Grant Ballard-Tremeer
Visionary & Founder

In the last year, we joined organisations aligned with our core values:

First of all, we're incredibly happy to promote our continued position as a B-Corp certified business. 2023 will be our fifth year with this certification. What this means for us is that we have continued to provide verifiable 'performance, accountability, and transparency' on such factors as our environmental footprint and our employee benefits. We're proud to see ourselves share this certification with a large number of impressive organisations around the world who are all championing the incorporation of Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) values into everyday business practices.

Additionally, this early quarter, we are delighted to become signatories to the UN's Women's Empowerment Principles. 60% of our team are women and so these seven principles, designed to promote fairness, employee wellbeing, and transparency within the workplace, remind us of the importance of a more inclusive, more genuine, fairer organisation.

Alongside these, we continue to value our relationships with the Climate Markets and Investments Association (CMIA), an independent not-for-profit trade association that delivers leadership on climate investment policy. We were fortunate to be joined by Margaret-Ann Splawn, the Executive director at the CMIA who joined us for our GCF B.34 Unpacked webinar to discuss the then-latest Green Climate Fund board meeting.

The Climate Finance Access Network (CFAN), which, through its advisers, helps mobilise climate finance to vulnerable countries, such as the Pacific Islands; and the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP). You can read about our training partnerships on p.16.

We continue to value our relationships with

Certified B Corporation

Climate Finance Access Network

CMIA Climate Markets & Investment Association

REAP Risk-informed Early Action Partnership

A brief look at E Co's assignments in 2022

The E Co. team undertook 42 new assignments in 2022. This year project formulation continued to be our focus, with 17 assignments for the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund and Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The team also continued to develop and deliver training to help guide participants through the climate finance maze and mobilise funds across the globe.

Number of assignments by type:

Project formulation	17
Strategy development	7
Evaluation	5
Training	5
Multiple (or combination)	5
Market strategy	2
Other	1

Green Climate Fund projects approved in 2022 that E Co. worked on

FP 191 - Water Security in Vanuatu

- **TOTAL PROJECT VALUE:** USD 28.3m
- **BENEFICIARIES:** 302.6k
- **THEME:** Adaptation
- **GCF FINANCING:** USD 23.3m
- **TOTAL CO-FINANCING:** USD 4.96m

As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Vanuatu is incredibly vulnerable to climate change. According to the United Nations, climate change is the 'most significant single threat to sustainable development'. For example, Vanuatu is at dire risk of extreme weather events such as tropical cyclones but will also be much more at risk of erratic precipitation patterns and droughts, two issues which will heavily impact water issues in the archipelago nation.

Future climate projections state that:

- Tropical cyclones will be less frequent, but more intense;
- Events of extreme rainfall will occur more often;
- Air temperatures will increase alongside extreme elevated temperatures;
- Sea levels will rise from between 3-18cm by 2030 under a high emission scenario.

The objective of this project was to create safe, climate-resilient, and sustainable water utilisation and improve water security in local communities. This will be achieved by improving and scaling up the existing government-owned processes of water management as well as enhancing the capacity of relevant stakeholders in water resources management.

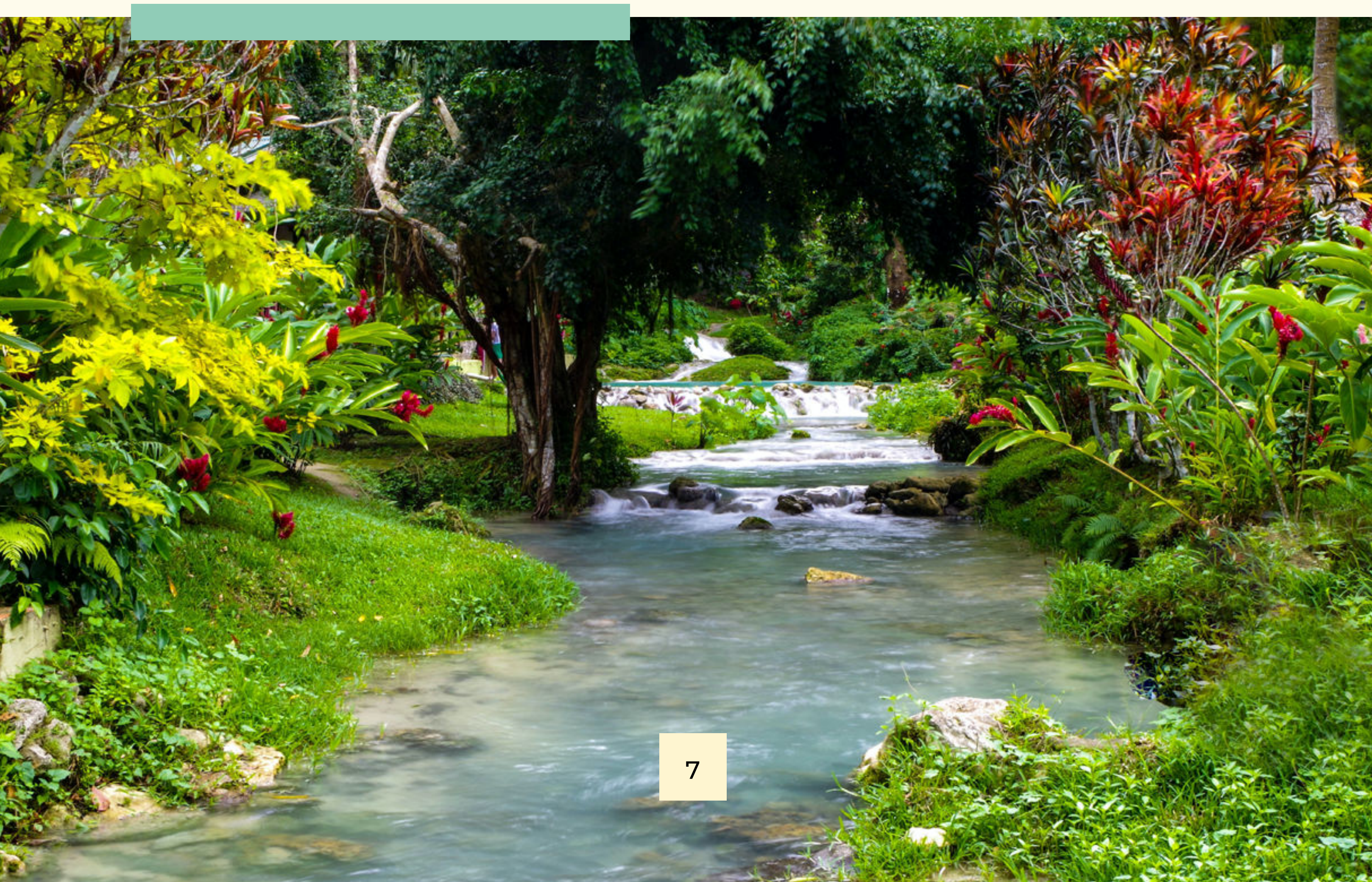
"While working on this assignment, the key issue that became clear to us was: the urgency as well as the importance of getting this right. We did not want to reinvent the wheel and establish new processes but use the country-owned Community Drinking Water Safety and Security Plan processes to ensure financing can be channelled towards local-level investments. We also wanted to ensure that women are able to participate actively and meaningfully in user committees - and found evidence that this leads to improved management and maintenance of the systems." ***- Debasmita Boral Rolland***

E Co's involvement

Working directly with the GCF and the Pacific Community (SPC), and remotely due to COVID-19 restrictions (with support from national consultants hired as external experts), E Co's role included:

- **Leading the development of the GCF Funding Proposal package** including the Feasibility Study and the required annexes (such as the Environment and Social Impact Assessment, Gender Assessment and Action Plan, Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan, Monitoring and Evaluation plan);
- **Ensuring the quality and relevance of the inputs produced by external experts** on the technical study on climate rational, water management planning and implementation, operations and maintenance plan, stakeholder mapping and engagement plan;
- **Coordinating the development of the logframe, procurement plans and project budget with SPC;**
- **Supporting the SPC in their exchanges with the GCF,** especially after the submission of the full GCF Funding Proposal package up to the board meeting and final project approval.

Read more about this project here



FP 194 - Programme for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB) Cool

- **TOTAL PROGRAMME VALUE:** USD 1.4 billion
- **BENEFICIARIES:** 1.2 million
- **THEME:** Cross-cutting
- **GCF FINANCING:** USD 225 million
- **CO-FINANCING:** USD 1.15 billion

The Programme for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB) Cool includes 11 countries (Albania; Argentina; Costa Rica; Djibouti; Indonesia; Mexico; Morocco; Nigeria; North Macedonia; Sri Lanka; Tunisia) across four continents, spanning seven different climates: the Mediterranean, humid subtropical, tropical, equatorial, arid, mountain, and continental. These countries are all impacted by climate change, with temperatures reaching levels that increase heat-related health risks. In time, this will only lead to an increase in these risks, which include more regular and extreme heatwaves and an increase in mean temperatures.

The PEEB Cool project will transform the construction sector by advancing more energy-efficient building design, construction, and operation. It prioritises sub-sectors with significant potential for climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas reduction such as large-scale new housing schemes and commercial buildings involving both the public and private sectors. Moreover, it has been developed to generate strong economic and social benefits such as the creation of green jobs.

Throughout its activities, PEEB Cool will include efficient cooling solutions, sustainable construction materials, and the involvement of construction ecosystem stakeholders.

E Co's involvement

Our team, using their expert knowledge of the GCF and the Fund's processes, revised the proposal document through discussion with the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), taking into account the feedback received. There were three main tasks:

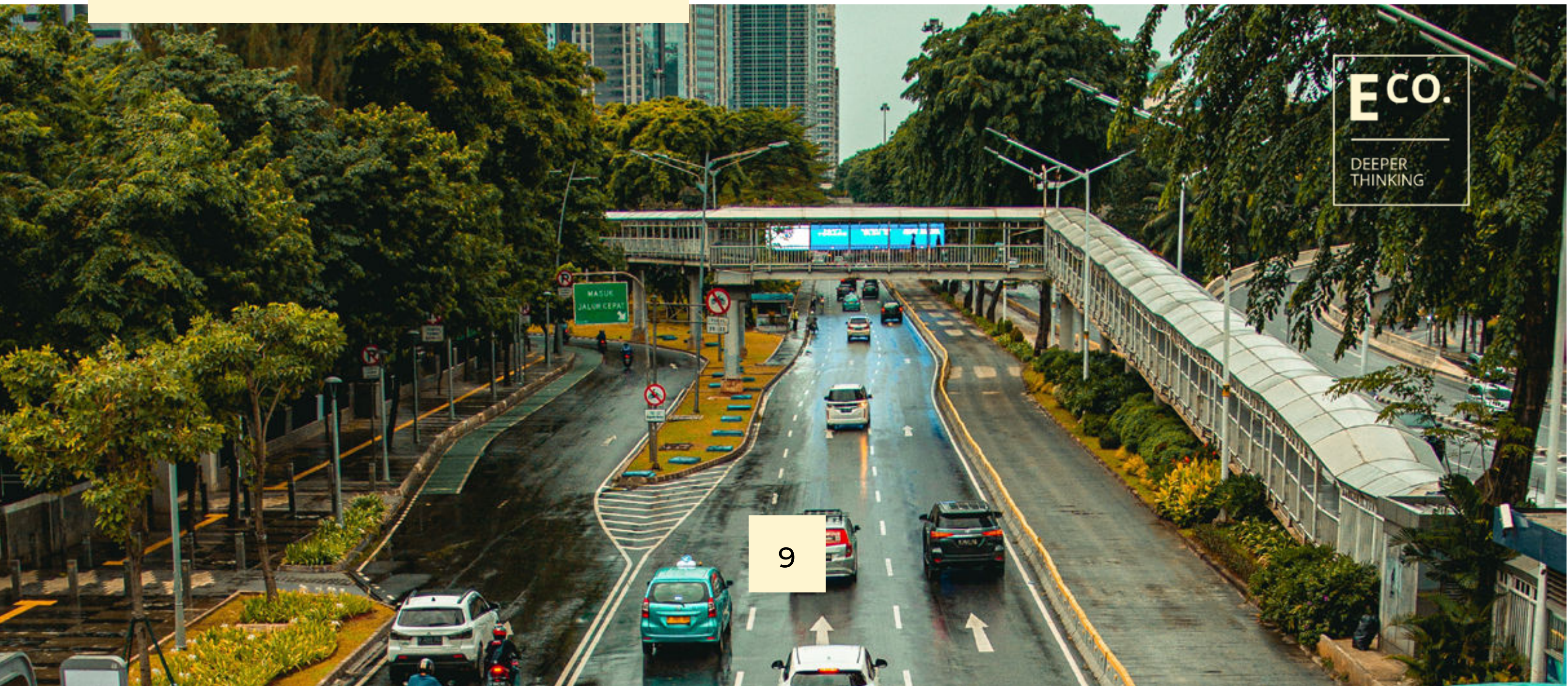
1. **Revision of the Funding proposal, including:**
   - Strengthening the climate rationale of the proposal;
   - Revising the description and the structure of programme components;
   - Clearer description of the cost-effectiveness of the GCF financing of the investments made in the programme;
   - Strengthening the theory of change, logical framework and investment criteria.

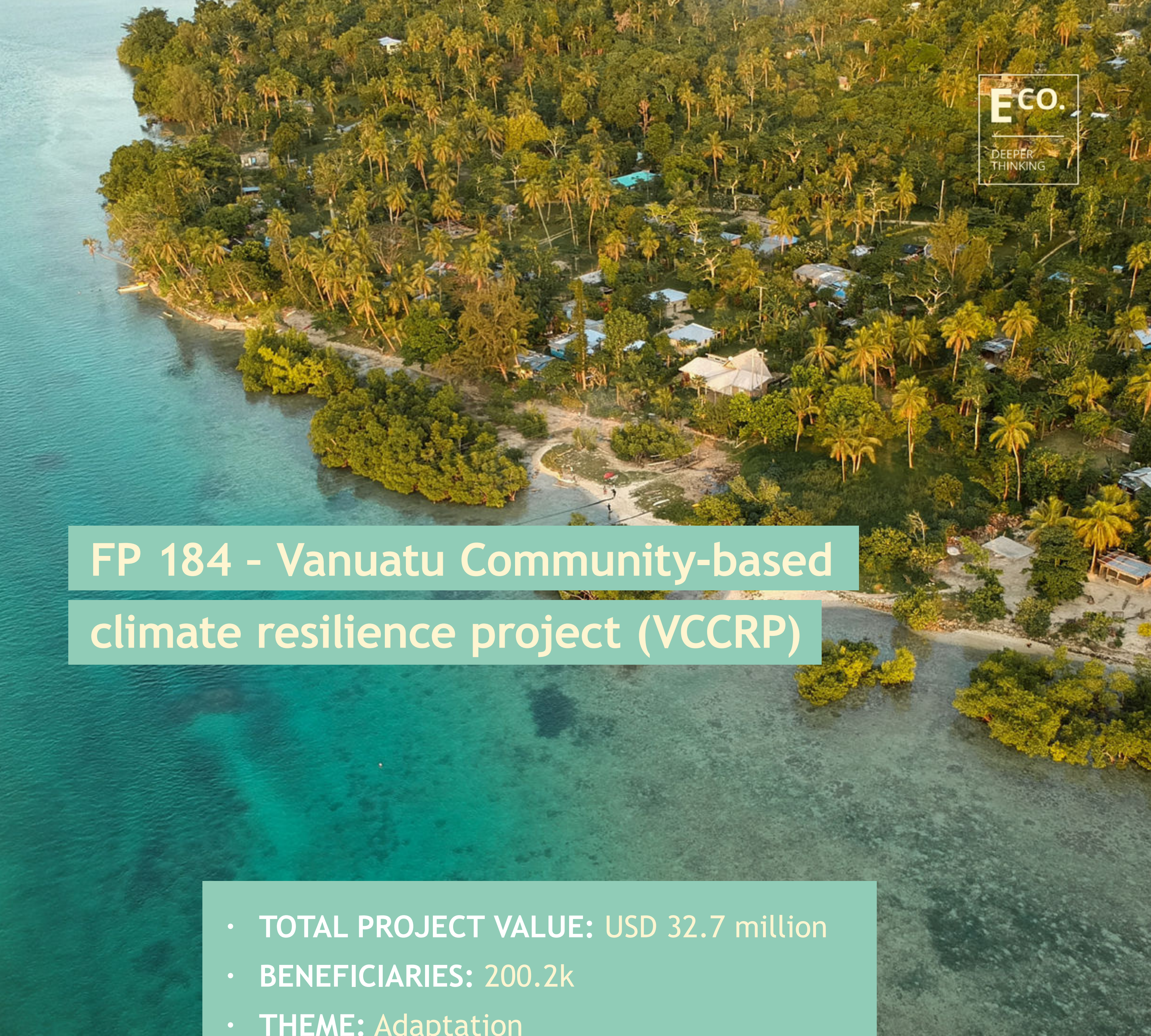
2. **Revision of the Economic and Financial Analysis;**

3. **Development of additional annexes, such as Annex 17 - Multi-country programme and the initial investment targets for each country.**

The programme was approved at the 34th meeting of the GCF Board and helped to mitigate 1.6 million tonnes of carbon.

Read more about PEEB Cool on the GCF website





FP 184 - Vanuatu Community-based climate resilience project (VCCRP)

- **TOTAL PROJECT VALUE:** USD 32.7 million
- **BENEFICIARIES:** 200.2k
- **THEME:** Adaptation
- **GCF FINANCING:** USD 26.2 million
- **TOTAL CO-FINANCING:** USD 6.46 million

The project aims to ensure that communities across Vanuatu have reduced vulnerability and increased resilience in the face of climate variability and extremes, and the adaptive capacity needed to maintain sustainable development pathways across a range of potential climate futures.

The project includes a GCF grant of over USD 26 million, with additional co-financing from the Governments of Vanuatu and Australia and Save the Children Australia. This project will support highly vulnerable rural and coastal communities to increase their resilience to climate change, through targeted community and local adaptation activities in the agriculture and fisheries sectors. The project will also provide access to climate information and early warning systems at the local level.

E Co's involvement

E Co. had the pleasure of assisting in the preparation of the funding proposal process for the VCCRP. Specifically, E Co's role was to conduct and prepare economic and financial analysis of the VCCRP project, a mandatory GCF project proposal package. As part of the analysis, E Co completed the following:

- **Reviewed available reports and secondary data** on relevant economic aspects of project;
- Worked closely with the technical team, to **prepare economic cost estimates and fund flow arrangements** which are based on verifiable data and are sufficient to support project implementation;
- **Conducted the economic analysis** covering economic cost and benefit analysis, economic internal rates of return (EIRR), economic net-present value (NPV), sensitivity analysis, risk analysis, and benefit distributional analysis;
- **Collected and calculated the conversion factors** and prepare the economic cost estimates;
- **Prepared the project's economic due diligence documents,** including project cost tables. The purpose of the economic and financial analysis is to assess the investment in the project to better understand the potential impact and value for money. They are essential for funders to determine whether or not the investment is attractive to them.

Read more about the VCCRP.

*"E Co. developed economic and financial analysis for this amazing project. We are very pleased that we have been able to support this project in its development and ensuring its effectiveness. This project will directly reach more than 90,000 people in almost 20,000 households and 282 communities across all six provinces (33% of the total population or 43% of the rural population) and a further 110,000 people indirectly (a further 40% of total population or 52% of the rural population). This extent speaks for itself. This project will be vital for meeting Vanuatu's climate adaptation needs and ensuring the countrywide climate resilience. We are looking forward to hearing about its successful implementation." - **Marijan Gajsak***

Assignment highlights

Egypt's Climate Investment Plan

In November, announced at COP27, Egypt unveiled their Climate Investment Plan in collaboration with the Green Climate Fund – the first country to adopt such a plan. The primary objective of the Investment Plan is to strengthen the portfolio of climate change investments in Egypt via moving from a project-based approach to systems' transition approach addressing climate priorities. It represents a more holistic way of successfully securing finance for a country's adaptation or mitigation projects, redirecting the focus of traditional climate investing, which previously relied on a case-by-case approach, to a systemic model.

The IP guides the GoE to allocate budgetary resources based on corresponding requirements and ensure that the actions of the key priority areas are timely and sufficiently supported with resources to address climate change and its effects. This will support the economy and society of Egypt to develop to their full potential within a well-protected and sustainable environment, safeguarded from major climate change effects, and with responsibility towards present and future generations. It will provide a framework for monitoring, reporting and accounting for the resources allocated to the sector by clearly providing strategic priorities and targets in the management of climate change.

E Co’s involvement

E Co. had the privilege of working alongside the Government of Egypt and the GCF to develop the Plan, which will be delivered in two volumes. The first volume covers the investment needs and ambitions of Egypt based on their climate vulnerabilities.

Our team worked to identify six priority investment areas to mobilise resources into key sectors and specific interventions within these areas:

1. **AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY**: Including investments into early warning systems; channelling private investment in low-carbon, climate-resilient dairy production systems; reducing food loss and waste.
2. **WATER SECURITY AND FLOOD RISK:** Improving irrigation efficiency; strengthening water resources management; development of desalination plants using solar energy.
3. **ECOSYSTEMS, ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND LAND USE:** Prioritising the delivery of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans; coastal protection to climate change through dune and beach conservation; desertification control through the production of drought-tolerant trees.
4. **LOW-EMISSION TRANSPORT:** Electrification of metro lines; transformation of public transport through the adoption of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT systems); development of high-speed rail network.
5. **ENERGY:** Energy efficiency measures such as retrofitting existing buildings and reducing cooling needs in buildings; renewable energy measures such as investing in onshore windfarms and solar-powered pumped storage hydropower; and green hydrogen generation measures.
6. **CIRCULAR URBAN ECONOMY:** The creation of a multi-capable waste management hub; waste-to-energy projects.

The GCF and the Government of Egypt are now collaborating with financial entities and the private sector to work on adaptation and mitigation priorities. This collaboration will lead to the development of volume 2, which focuses on maximising the sources of funding available from financiers.

Read the brochure E Co. wrote on the Plan, which was unveiled at 2022’s COP27 in a presentation by the Government of Egypt.

*“We were delighted to support the GCF in developing their first-ever climate investment plan, which aims to shift the focus from looking at climate projects on a project-by-project basis towards a systematic model for securing finance for a country’s mitigation and adaptation priorities. We hope this investment plan will become a flagship for other climate investment plans, both across the continent of Africa and in the wider world.” - **Irina Hauler***

Green Bonds Armenia

The Government of Armenia aims to significantly scale up the utilisation of green finance instruments to attract more proactive participation of the financial and private sectors in implementing climate adaptation and mitigation measures. The objective of this work was to contribute towards informing Armenian banks and non-banking financial institutions of the opportunities to attract financing through issuance of the green bonds.

E Co's involvement

E Co. was tasked with developing the Framework for structuring green bond issuance, including for tracking investments and results, identifying the appropriate implementing parties in Armenia, and helping to source an appropriate verifier. The team researched existing green bond frameworks and applied knowledge of the local context to determine the types of projects that should benefit the respective beneficiaries. Through the process, our experts identified and proposed a Green Definition (Taxonomy) aligned with bond standards and selected activities and investments that align directly with Armenia's 2021 NDC, which sets out priorities until 2030 by when Armenia is aiming to double its share of renewable energy generation as part of the pathway to carbon neutrality.

We facilitated and hosted workshops to confirm the Framework structure and receive feedback from key stakeholders which was then integrated into the final Framework. Once finalised, activity beneficiaries were selected using a comprehensive set of criteria. The Framework was then integrated into existing governance structures by supporting selected entities in the development of new processes and documentation relevant to the new Framework. Our team studied the database of approved verifiers and proposed third-party reviewers for the entities which then decided the best and most appropriate choice. Finally, the developed products were presented to executives and experts through a series of five workshops.

Capacity building on gender in Belize

In 2018, PACT (Protected Areas Conservation Trust), the National Environmental Trust Fund for Belize, became a GCF-accredited entity, meaning that the organisation is now able to directly access climate financing on behalf of the Government of Belize and NGOs to implement projects aimed at enhancing a low carbon and resilient development of the country.

In this capacity, PACT has secured GCF financing through the project "Capacity Building for PACT as a GCF National Direct Access Entity", a GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Project. Within this context, the main objective of this assignment was to support PACT to strengthen the capacities of its staff and of key stakeholders (potential EEs) to manage Environmental, Social and Gender Safeguards (ESG) throughout the project cycle. This will ensure that all the projects led by PACT will be developed and implemented in an environmental and sustainable way.

E Co's involvement

E Co. conducted the following two training modules on Environment, Social and Gender Risk Identification Project management and Monitoring & Evaluation. The main objectives were to:

1. **Strengthen the capacities for the identification, screening and management** of environmental, social and gender risks;
2. **Strengthen the capacities on the roles and responsibilities** to implement the environmental and social management system (ESMS);
3. **Provide guidance on processes and procedures** for the reporting, monitoring and evaluation of GCF projects.

Training highlights

Developing a training programme for Climate Finance Access Network (CFAN)

Coordinated by the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), this programme is designed for Pacific-based advisors who have been recruited to provide in-country support – aligned with country priorities – over the next two years. Advisors will participate in CFAN's state-of-the-art advisor training programme to ensure they are equipped to deliver on their mandates to unlock climate finance in developing countries.

The first cohort of CFAN advisors were from Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. Funded with an initial CAD $9.5 million contribution from the Government of Canada, CFAN is a demand-driven initiative aiming to mobilise funding to where it is most needed.

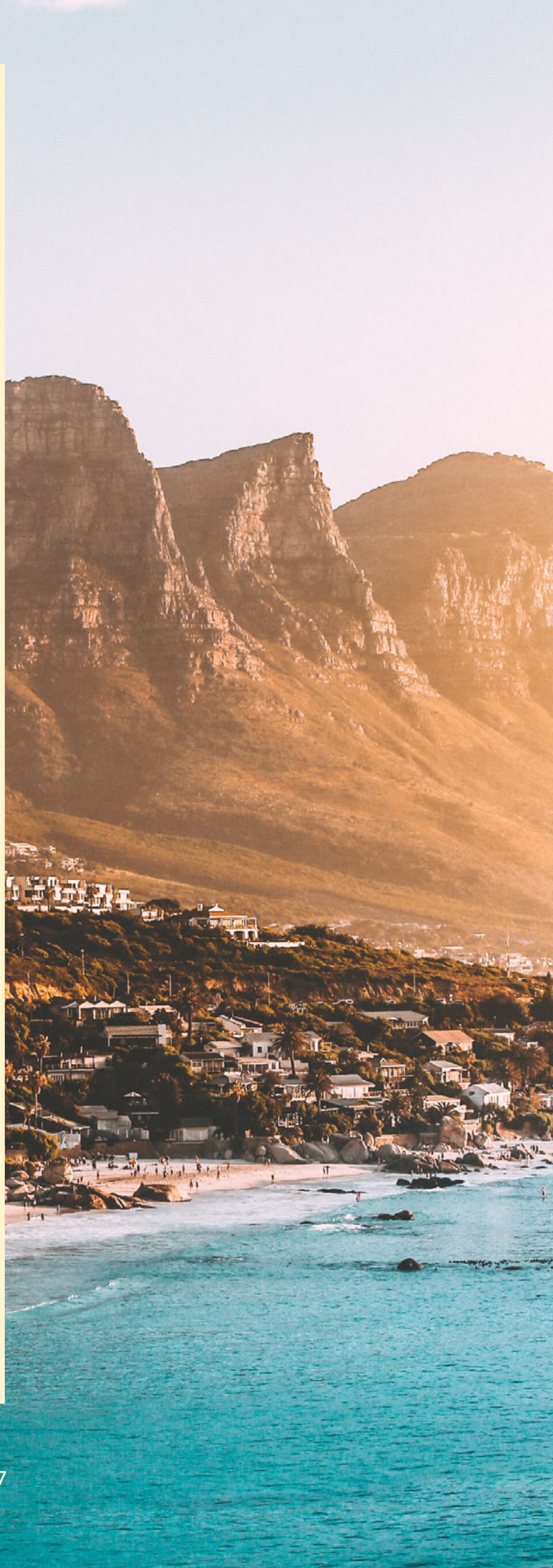
E Co. was involved in designing the training programme for the first cohort of advisors in collaboration with Bankers without Boundaries and the Pacific Climate Change Centre (PCCC) and will be continuing to support the delivery of the training programme with other partners. This multi-month training programme covered the core elements of accessing climate finance and we delivered via both online and in-person sessions, culminating in our Visionary and Founder, Dr Grant Ballard-Tremeer, delivering an in-person workshop in Fiji.

Image credit: CFAN

ICLEI Cities Training

From private sector investment to international financial institutions, finance for climate action is available. However, understanding the sources and mechanisms as well as how to successfully navigate the climate finance landscape is challenging. ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 2,500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. ICLEI Africa implements an initiative called the Covenant of Mayors in Sub-Saharan Africa (CoM SSA). The purpose of CoM SSA is to support local governments in moving from planning to implementation, with a focus on unlocking climate finance at the local level.

As part of the work being done with CoM SSA signatories, ICLEI Africa, with generous funding from GIZ, wanted to develop a virtual climate finance training course aimed at CoM SSA signatory cities and subnational governments' officials to strengthen their understanding of how to access to climate funding to foster climate and energy access projects and initiatives at local and subnational levels.

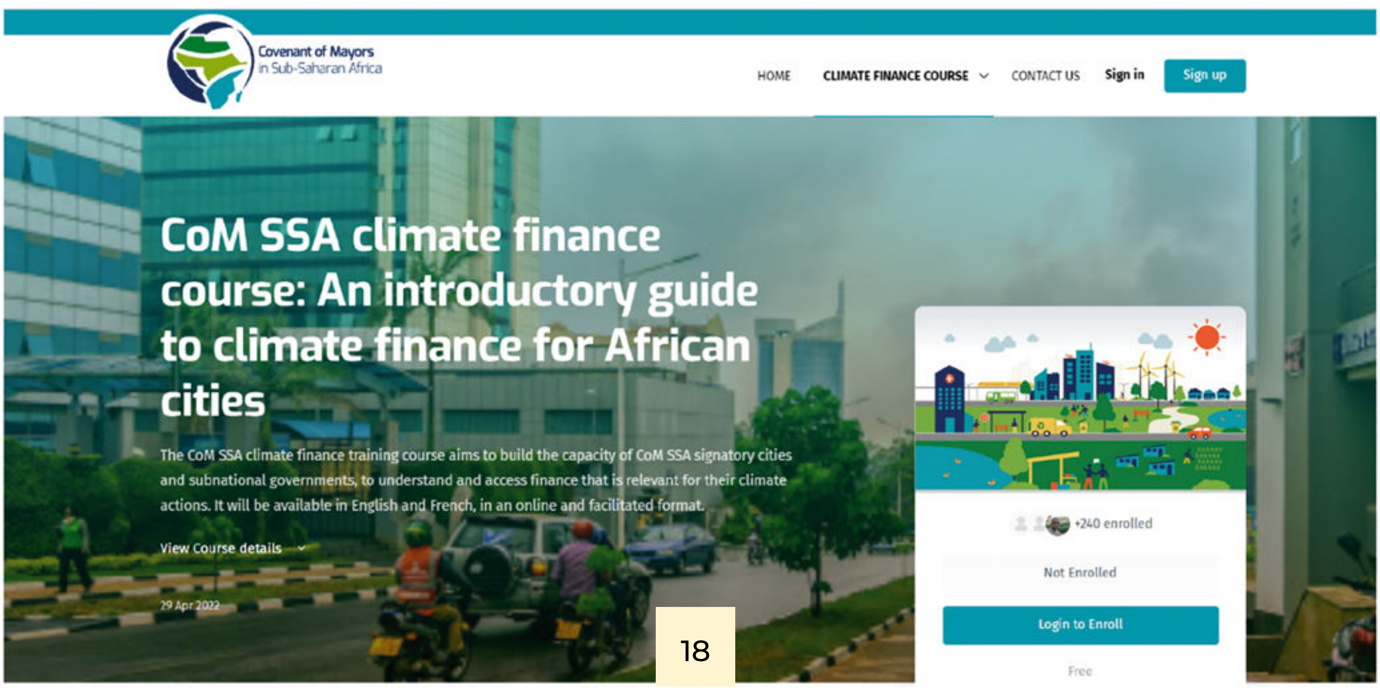


E Co's involvement

Given our significant experience in designing and delivering training on accessing climate finance, E Co. developed the content for all six modules of the course. The assignment began by conducting a gap analysis to review all relevant and recent climate finance training material and successfully identify what resources already exist and what valuable information is missing. The results of the gap analysis served as a basis for further development of the training contents and material. Building upon this, the team then conducted interviews with 11 stakeholders in the Sub-Saharan African region to understand the information that was most helpful and needed to be included in the course content. We then designed six modules covering a broad range of topics that participants could learn from to take the right steps to access climate finance. These are:

1. The basic science of climate change and the impacts in the context of Sub-Saharan Africa;
2. An introduction to climate projects and the importance of an effective and accurate climate rationale when designing a climate project;
3. Understanding the phases of the project development cycle from the start to the implementation;
4. What funders look for when designing climate projects and understanding the different financial instruments available and identifying financial institutions and donors;
5. Exploring the different climate finance mechanisms and sources available to local governments in Sub-Saharan Africa (such as international funds, like the GEF and GCF, development banks, private sector, etc.);
6. The importance of partnerships and networks to help local governments secure finance for climate action, including specific networks in the region.

To explore the course and sign up as a participant, visit the website here



E Co. institute: How to prepare an effective Theory of Change for your climate projects

In December, our Visionary and Founder, Grant Ballard-Tremeer, and consultant, Debasmita Boral Rolland, hosted a virtual training session on how to prepare an effective Theory of Change for your climate finance projects. Many major climate funds focus on the Theory of Change as a key requirement when developing a funding proposal. A Theory of Change demonstrates the logical flow between Point A and Point B resulting from interventions – those made in climate projects. It provides the opportunity to show how your project or programme can bring about positive outcomes through a series of tangible steps.

The session included:

- How to properly utilise a Theory of Change within a funding proposal and a better understanding of its value.
- Insight into why a Theory of Change is important, not just for ensuring a better chance of successful funding, but also ensuring a higher quality project.
- Examples of Theory of Change diagrams and how they should be formatted.
- How to write a Theory of Change for the Green Climate Fund specifically.

You can access the replay kit for this training here.

E Co. institute

E Co. institute training topics

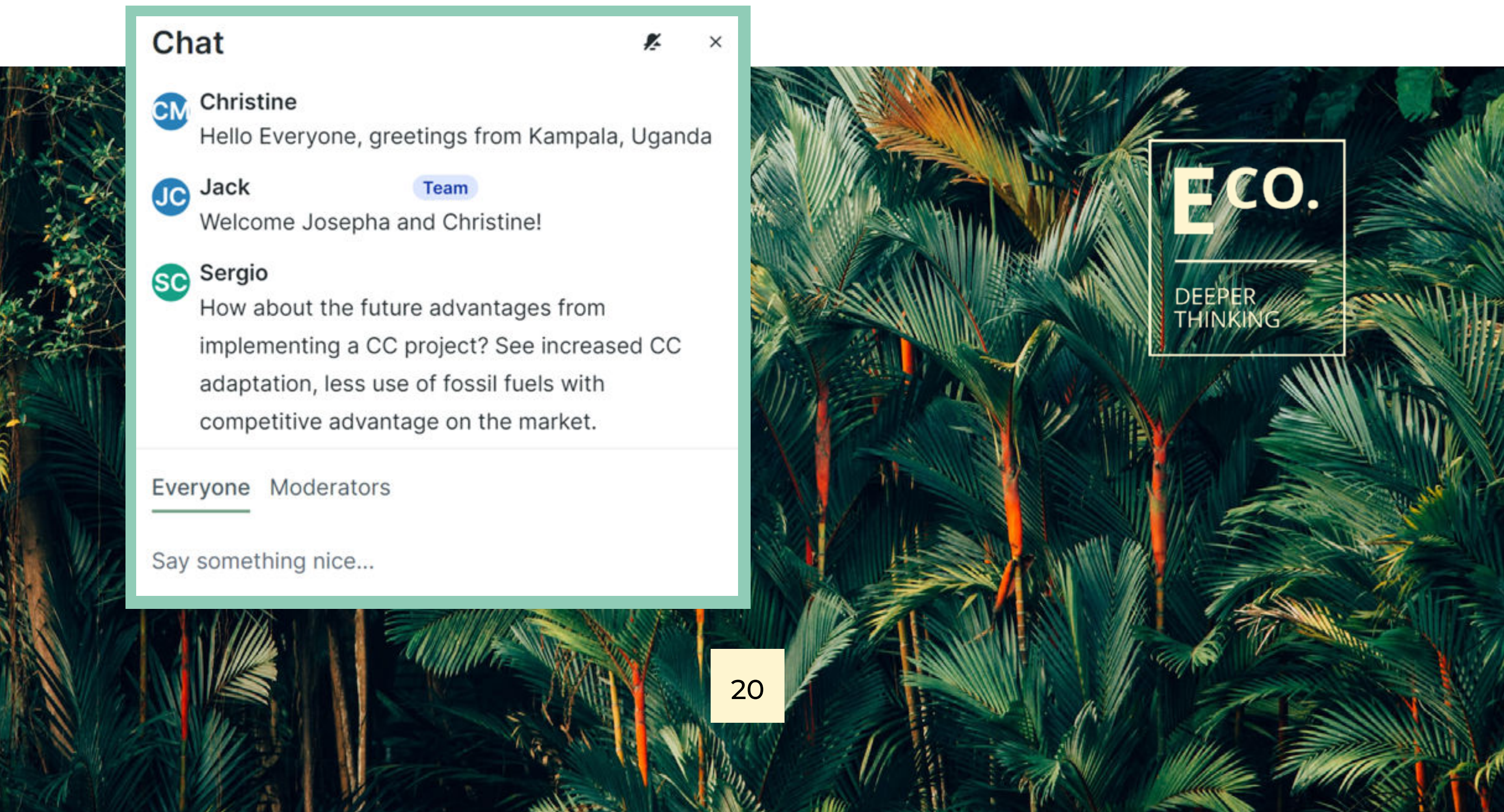
Our training capability focuses on mobilising climate finance, in particular from multilateral and bilateral funds. We can include fund-specific support covering GCF, GEF, Adaptation Fund, NAMA Facility, and post-training coaching.

We cover topics such as:

- Climate finance fundamentals;
- Development of fundable proposals;
- Baseline assessment tools and techniques;
- Strategy development tools and techniques;
- Project design;
- Theory of Change and logframe development;

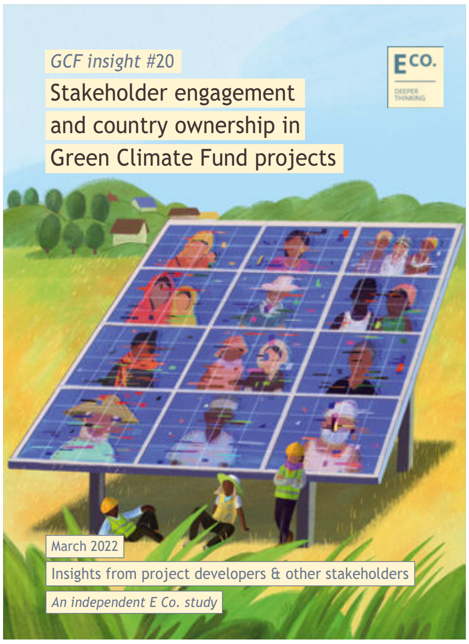
We offer short and long-format training, online and in-person.

Find out how we can deliver training to meet the needs of you and your team - visit E Co. institute page - here



GCF insight

In 2022, we published:



GCF insight #20

'Stakeholder engagement and country ownership in Green Climate Fund projects'

Our first report of 2022 uncovered the struggles faced by project developers, surrounding stakeholder engagement and country ownership, when designing projects for the Green Climate Fund.

We've explored this topic before in *GCF insight #10* in 2018, and this report helped us to better understand where the biggest hurdles lie and identified areas of frequent difficulty, along with the ways to address them. These areas of difficulty are as follows:

- Accessing representative stakeholders.
- Gaining project buy-in.
- Limited knowledge of country context hinders effective engagement.

Access *GCF insight #20* here

GCF insight #21

'Enhancing private sector investment in tackling climate change through the Green Climate Fund'.

This report builds upon our work in *GCF insight #19*, helping to answer the question 'how do we bridge the gap between what we have and what is needed?' The answer is the private sector, a relatively untapped source of huge funding potential.

In *GCF insight #21*, we take key insights from trusted stakeholders and provide intuitive ideas for improving access to the Green Climate Fund for the private sector. In the earlier edition, stakeholders told us about multiple hurdles relating to them working with the GCF. This included limited access to the Fund, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), lengthy timelines compared to other sources of funding, and the difficulty associated with accreditation.

Access *GCF insight #21* here

Our independent, consultant-led GCF insight publications continue to delve deeper into the world's largest climate fund, the Green Climate Fund, in order to evaluate what's working and what's not, and to share insights from stakeholders and the broader climate community.

To read more of our reports, news, articles and other publications from 2022, 'head to our Further thinking section on our website here.'

Event highlights

Imperial College London

"Seeing obstacles as opportunities is an essential reframing for success." - Dr. Grant Ballard-Tremeer

After two years of highly restricted travel and limited events resulting from the pandemic, we were lucky enough to be able to attend several events in 2022. Our Visionary and Founder, Dr. Grant Ballard-Tremeer, visited Imperial College Business School to deliver a speech to students on the MSc Climate change, management and finance course.

His speech reflected on four key lessons learnt over his 22 years of building E Co. from the ground up, which were:

1. **THINK DEEPLY;**
2. **SWITCH YOUR POINT OF VIEW;**
3. **ALCHEMIZE OBSTACLES;**
4. **PROMOTE OWNERSHIP.**

The topics covered included overcoming challenges in the sector, managing day-to-day work as an entrepreneur, as well as setting big-picture goals as a small business in a rapidly changing (and growing) industry.

"Lead with extreme ownership, encourage it in your team, and deliver it in your climate finance projects"

- Dr. Grant Ballard-Tremeer

London Climate Action Week

In June, E Co. analyst, Joshua White, attended the Climate Innovation Forum – a flagship event of London Climate Action Week 2022. The event connected leaders in policy, finance and innovation to drive the UK's net zero transition. This was achieved by promoting sustainability, environmentally friendly behaviours, and new, high-potential innovations and technologies.

The Forum promoted creativity and discussion about new strategies and technologies. Those attending are pioneers at the forefront of these green innovations. Exploring other companies' ingenuity allowed for business growth as multiple ideas were exchanged and adopted.

The event was useful as it enabled the catalysation for the fluidity and creativity of ideas to lead the next steps on limiting climate change. Speaking to the vast array of people demonstrated that there is passion, determination, and skills for real change. Multiple companies provided similar services that could work together whilst others vastly varied but strived for the same goals.

Read Josh's thoughts on the event - here

COP27: What's at stake for Africa?

On 18 October, Consultant Charles Callaghan attended the 'COP27: What's at Stake for Africa?' webinar held by the London Climate Action Week example, which brought together several experts and youth leaders to speak on what is at stake for Africa during COP27 and determine what would be valuable expectations within successful outcomes for the continent.

The event focused on several key talking points:

- Food systems
- Urbanisation
- Energy transition
- Gender equality and social inclusion

The onus for COP27 that this session revealed was that increased analysis was needed on where finance flows should best target and how that can be done in the most equitable fashion. The availability of investment alone is not the panacea for African cities and communities, as you need both infrastructure and software. Therefore, it is important that finance continues to be made available for capacity building and technical assistance.

*"It was a wonderful experience to represent E Co. and I was able to see the intricacies, impacts and structures of the vast and niche companies working towards a net zero society. The event offered a chance for me to build on this knowledge while analysing the global projects that involve the same topics and technologies. I was shown the positive impact that these companies are implementing beyond the research stage. I also valued meeting with the experienced individuals behind these incredible companies, who continue to innovate with the goal of combating climate change." - **Joshua White***

Creatives for Climate Amsterdam Summit

In November, our Marketing assistant, Jack Cribb, took the train to Amsterdam to attend the 'Creative for Climate Amsterdam Summit', an event focused on how to position yourselves as great climate communicators and resist the presence of greenwashing within media and communication strategies.

The event took a strong stance against corporate greenwashing and, by virtue of that, any work done within the environmental sector that does not create tangible benefits for the at-risk. From a climate communications standpoint, this is vital. Two main points were raised on how this can be done:

1. When it comes to any form of climate analysis or communication, provide unbiased, genuine data. This should come across within any form of content, bid development to social media content. When working with clients, this should be the baseline approach to any communications, because transparency and consistency are tools through which we achieve sustainable development.

2. Switch to a collaborative mindset. This means switching from a competitive mindset to one in which the only goal is to secure results for the communities in question.

We ultimately learned that open and genuine communication is vastly important when it comes to the fight against climate change.

Read Jack's write-up of the event here

COP27

In November, Senior analyst, Marcus Arcanjo, attended COP27, held in Sharm el-Sheikh. Present for the first week of this year's historic summit, which was termed 'Africa's COP', Marcus kept us up to date on many of the key proceedings that occurred within the world of climate finance, such as:

- USD 1.4 billion announced for smallholder farmers by the Gates Foundation.
- The announcement of a Loss and Damage Fund.
- Insights into best practices for private sector investments.
- Progress on the New Collective Quantified Goal.
- Further development for the Bridgetown Initiative.

Of course, COP27 was more than climate finance, with progress made on biodiversity, sustainable development, and climate justice amongst many other things. But for our work in low-carbon, climate-resilient projects, finance is the key player. Climate finance was so important at COP27 due to its presence as the driving force behind so many development projects around the world, but the climate summit also revealed how much progress is needed to make finance flows truly equitable for the most vulnerable communities.

Click here to find out our predictions for the world of climate finance in 2023 here

We look forward to another busy year of events in 2023!
Here is what we're looking out for in the world of climate finance this year.

The E Co. team

Meet our new team members

Our international team grew in 2022, with the addition of 13 new faces from all over the globe, each with their own expertise and background. Our new faces include:

Ignacia Holmes
Principal consultant

Ellie La Trobe-Hogan
Consultant

Clare Wingfield
Consultant

Cristina Dediu
Bid development assistant

Joshua White
Analyst

Jack Cribb
Marketing assistant

Charles Callaghan
Consultant

Victoria Verdesoto
Analyst

Paula Guillaumet
Consultant

Anne Gander
Senior consultant

Roberta Piacci
Consultant

Rowan Putman
Managing director

Irina Hauler
Senior consultant

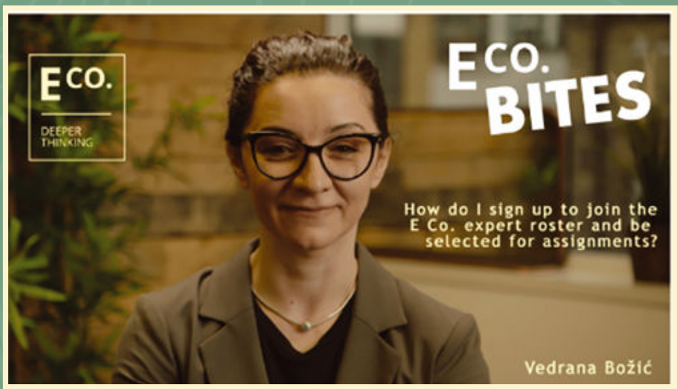
Certified B Corporation

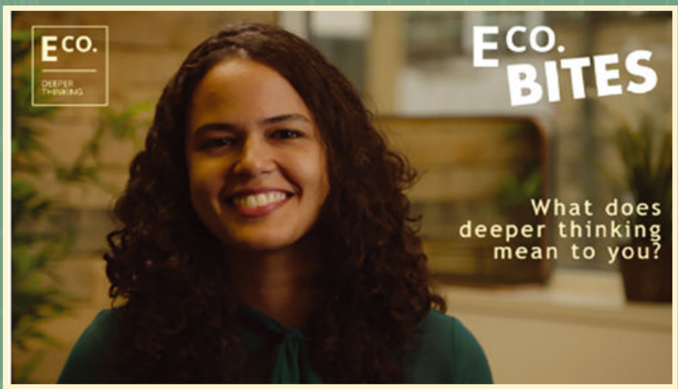
E CO. DEEPER THINKING

E Co. Bites

In our work, we have to solve problems and answer difficult questions.

Watch our E Co. bites here to see how our expert team thinks.





About E Co.

We specialise in designing low-carbon, climate-resilient projects and programmes. For over 22 years, we've been providing technical expertise to help our clients solve climate adaptation and mitigation challenges and access project funding. We assess markets, develop strategies and formulate projects to provide long-lasting solutions for vulnerable populations worldwide.

Climate finance expertise

Our 99% success rate in unlocking climate finance has led to the mobilisation of over USD $1 billion of climate finance from global climate funds, including: GCF, GEF, Adaptation Fund and NAMA Facility. We are proud members of the GCF Communities of Practice network.

Funders, project developers and local beneficiaries alike trust us to work on their projects and programmes. This spans public and private sector organisations, from National Designated Authorities (NDAs), multilateral development banks, Accredited Entities, to NGOs.

Clients include: AFD, AfDB, BOAD, EBRD, Enabel, FAO, GCF, GIZ, IUCN, NAMA Facility, NDC Partnership, PACT, UNESCO, UNDP, UNCDF and the World Bank.

- WORKED IN 160+ COUNTRIES
- MOBILISED USD $3 BILLION+
- SPEAK 15+ LANGUAGES
- DEVELOPED 300+ PROJECTS

How do we make your projects more successful?

Working with our multidisciplinary core team, key associates and expert network means:

- Your projects will be in safe hands. You can trust us to understand your needs and give your projects the due time and attention they deserve.
- Your projects will be approved more quickly, and with fewer revisions, thanks to our specialist knowledge and experience.
- You will have access to institutional support, including: selecting project partners, cutting edge tools & techniques, procurement, budget designs and project management.

"The E Co. team are smart thinkers."

- UNDP

"We have 100% funding success with E Co."

- EBRD

"We have lots of consultants working for [us] but E Co. stood out."

- World Bank

Work with our consultants on your climate-resilient projects today

Let's accelerate progress together: Get in touch with our climate finance consultants to discuss a project you're working on. Email us at: amy@ecoltdgroup.com or find us at the following:

Twitter: @ecoltdnews
LinkedIn: E Co.
Instagram: @ecoltdnews

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