BARBADOS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY FUND

CONCEPT NOTE SPECIMEN

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Disclaimer

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Applicants should follow the instructions outlined in the Call for Proposals specifications document when submitting applications.

Last updated: **August 2024**

Project Proposal

— Concept Note

Jane Doe

Email : JD@ral.com

Application ID: A6DJ71XX

Custom Ref.:

Application Start Date: 2024-08-28 20:14:47

Application Completed Date: 2024-08-29 16:49:57

	Eligibility Screening	**Tip:** Ensure you select the appropriate organisation type.
1	Organisation Type:	
	Private sector entity	
	Private Sector Entity	
1.1	Is your organisation a registered entity? E.g., with the Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office (CAIPO)? ***(Answer must be "Yes" to be eligible)***	
	yes	
1.2	Does your organisation have experience preparing technical and financial reports and are there financial management systems in place? ***(Answer must be "Yes" to be eligible)***	
	yes	
1.3	Does your organisation's vision and mission align with the BESF's strategic thematic areas? ***(Answer must be "Yes" to be eligible)***	
	yes	
1.4	Does your organisation have experience implementing projects? ***(Answer must be "Yes" to be eligible)***	
	yes	
1.5	Has your organisation been in operation in Barbados for more than two years? ***(Answer should be "Yes", for medium and large grants, only)***	
	yes	
2	Which are you applying for:	
	A medium grant ($51,000- $100,000)	
	Section 1: Applicant Information	
3	Organisation name and acronym:	
	Rainwater Augmentation and Logistics Company LLC (RAL)	
4	Total number of permanent staff:	

	5
5	Year organisation was established:
	2015
6	Organisation mission/purpose:
	Our mission is to lead the transformation of water sustainability by developing advanced rainwater augmentation systems that maximise efficiency, reliability, and environmental impact. We are dedicated to delivering innovative solutions that empower farmers to harness rainwater as a vital resource, reducing dependency on conventional water supplies and promoting resilience against a changing climate. Through our commitment to quality, education, and customer satisfaction, we aim to create a lasting positive impact on the environment while securing water access for future generations.
7	Organisation website
	www.RAL.com
8	Organisation address (mailing/physical)
	The Circle, Long Pond, St. John
9	Principal Project Officer/Contact person (name and position)
	Jane Doe, Project Manager
10	Contact telephone number
	246-555-5555
11	Contact email address
	JD@ral.com
	Section 2: Organisation's Experience
12	Summary *Provide a summarised description of the organisation's experience that is relevant to implementing the proposal. Submit documents or add links that could support your explanation*.
	Our organisation has been a leader in rainwater augmentation and management for more than ten years, demonstrating expertise in water sustainability. We have effectively developed, executed, and sustained state-of-the-art rainwater collection systems in diverse fields, such as housing, commerce, and agriculture. We have specialised knowledge in rural parishes, where we have created customised strategies to combat water shortages, empowering communities to achieve self-sustainability. We have partnered with governmental entities, non-governmental organisations, and private businesses, offering comprehensive services that cover all project management stages and activities, including preliminary assessments, planning, implementation, training, and continuous upkeep. Our dedication to innovation is evident in our ongoing investment in research and development, resulting in the development of water management technologies that are more sustainable and resilient.

	Our demonstrated history of successfully completing projects within specified timeframes and financial constraints, together with our extensive knowledge of both local and worldwide water issues, establishes us as a reliable collaborator for implementing complete rainwater augmentation solutions. Our commitment is to actively contribute to a sustainable future by using our specialised knowledge to tackle water-related issues and promote projects that enhance climate resilience.
13	List and outline up to ten (10) past and/or current projects managed by your organisation

Project Title	Summary of objectives and outcomes	Implementation period (yy-yy)	Main Funder/Donor	Project Budget (in BBD)	Web Links (if available)
Rural Rainwater Harvesting for Agricultural Resilience	The project aimed to enhance water security for farmers in rural parishes by implementing rainwater harvesting systems tailored to small and medium-sized farms. The primary objective was to reduce farmers' dependence on potable water and costly irrigation by capturing and storing rainwater. The project successfully installed 10 rainwater harvesting systems across five parishes, improving water availability during dry seasons and increasing crop yields by 25%. Farmers also received training on system maintenance and efficient water usage.	2018-2020	World Environment Facility (WEF)	800000	www.RAL.com/ruralrainwater
Sustainable Water Solutions for Rural Agriculture	The project focused on providing long-term water solutions for farmers in rural parishes. It involved constructing community-level rainwater water catchments and integrating solar-powered pumps to distribute water to individual farms. The objectives were to enhance agricultural productivity, support sustainable farming practices, and reduce the impact of water shortages. Expected outcomes include: 1. the installation of a large water catchment site,	2021-2025	Earth Development Bank (EDB)	500000	www.RAL.com/sustainablewater

	benefiting over 10 farms; and 2) a 30% increase in agricultural output across the targeted parish in 3 years.				

	Section 3: Project Description
14	Concept Note/Project Title:
	Water Augmentation and Land Preservation Techniques for Farmers in the Scotland District
15	Geographical Scope / Location: *Indicate the geographic location and if it involves a Protected Area or another Conservation Division*.
	The project is located in the rural parishes of St. Andrew and St. Joseph in Barbados, which are characterised by hilly terrain. **Protected Area/Conservation Division Involvement:** The project involves the Scotland District, with its unique geological, geographical, biological, as well as cultural features. The Scotland District was submitted to the World Heritage Convention in 2005 and is currently on Barbados' Tentative List as the site is considered to have cultural and/or natural heritage of outstanding universal value. The project will work in collaboration with the Soil Conservation Unit to ensure that rainwater harvesting and distribution systems are implemented in a manner that aligns with conservation goals, protecting the area's natural resources while supporting sustainable agricultural practices.
16	Indicate which of the BESF's thematic areas will be supported by the project:
	Climate resilience through mitigation and adaptation Integrated water resources management Sustainable livelihoods and human well-being Forestry, tourism and agriculture
17	Indicate which of the cross-cutting themes will be supported by the project:
	Environmental education and stewardship Research Capacity building Communications, outreach, public relations
18	Project Rationale: *Describe the problem to be addressed through project implementation.*
	The Scotland District, characterised by its steep slopes and fragile soils, faces significant water scarcity, land degradation, and soil erosion challenges. Farmers in this

region are particularly vulnerable to these issues, which are exacerbated by inconsistent rainfall. The lack of reliable water sources limits the ability of farmers to maintain consistent crop production, leading to reduced agricultural yields and economic instability. In addition to water scarcity, the region is prone to severe soil erosion, which not only diminishes land productivity but also contributes to the degradation of the natural landscape. The loss of topsoil threatens the long-term viability of farming in the district and pose risks to the surrounding ecosystems, including the biodiversity that the Scotland District is known for. The combination of these factors has resulted in declining agricultural productivity, economic hardship for farmers, and environmental degradation, creating an urgent need for a comprehensive approach to water management and land conservation.

19 Project Goal:
State the high-level aim/desired result of the project.

To reduce the incidences of soil erosion and improve the availability of water for agricultural purposes in the Scotland District through the use of innovative water augmentation systems and land conservation techniques.

Tip:
Your goal should be a broad, but clear statement on the purpose of your project and how the problem identified in the rationale will be addressed.

20 Project Objectives:
Describe the project's main objectives. (Objectives should be S.M.A.R.T – Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound)

The project aims to:

1. Increase the availability of water for agricultural purposes in the Scotland District, through the installation of 15 rainwater and storage systems at farms and other critical sites.
2. Increase agricultural yields by 10-15% by 2027 by providing a consistent and dependable water supply.
3. Train 10 farmers in land conservation techniques including terracing, afforestation, and the utilisation of cover crops to reduce incidences of soil erosion.

Tip:
Your objectives are more detailed statements describing how the project goal will be achieved. Objectives should be S.M.A.R.T, and include action verbs (e.g. Increase, Demonstrate, Conduct). While you can include more or less, it is recommended to limit the number of objectives to between 3-5. They should be logically ordered.

21 Approach:
Describe how the problem identified will be addressed with the project and indicate the proposed project activities. Indicate any project risks that may arise and how these will be addressed. Please be sure to review the BESF Environmental and Social Policy and Exclusion List, accessed here.

In collaboration with the Soil Conservation Unit, RAL will identify farms and critical areas in the Scotland District appropriate for the installation of the water augmentation systems. This will entail undertaking a stakeholder analysis and a knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) study to determine key stakeholders and provide situational context for the development of the capacity building demonstrations.

Sensitization sessions will be held to raise awareness of the problems and how the project proposes to address them. To ensure project results are sustained, the project will work with Champions identified in the stakeholder analysis to establish a Local Maintenance Committee.

Key project activities will include:

Activity 1: Stakeholder Analysis and KAP Study

Activity 2: Development and implementation of a Communication Plan and Strategy

Activity 3: Installation of water augmentation systems

Activity 4: Capacity Building Sessions

Activity 5: Establishment of a Local Maintenance Committee.

Activity 6: Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Reporting.

Tip:
Your approach should describe the methods or strategies that will be employed to achieve the stated goal and objectives.

Here, you will also outline high-level project activities; and indicate any project risks that may be encountered and appropriate mitigation measures.

Project Risks and Mitigation Measures

1. *Low stakeholder interest*. To mitigate this, develop a communication plan and strategy to raise awareness and foster buy-in.
2. *Installation of the water augmentation systems may have negative environmental impacts*. To mitigate this, ensure environmental safeguards are followed.
3. *Maintenance and longevity of installed systems*. To mitigate this, implement a community-oriented maintenance initiative by providing training to local farmers on system maintenance and creating a fund or cooperative to finance ongoing maintenance expenses.

22	Anticipated project beneficiaries: *Indicate the main stakeholders likely to derive benefits from the proposed project.*

The primary beneficiaries of the *Water Augmentation and Land Preservation Techniques for Farmers in the Scotland District* Project include:

- Farmers residing in the Scotland District:

Availability of a dependable water supply, enhancing agricultural output, better soil quality, and less susceptibility to droughts and land degradation. Increased ability to maintain their livelihoods and enhanced financial security.

- Communities within the Scotland District:

Enhanced food security as a result of improved agricultural production and employment opportunities generated by project-related activities (e.g. KAP study enumerators).

- Soil Conservation Unit:

Supporting their Mission: To improve, stabilize and enhance the productivity of lands in the Scotland District, by devising and implementing appropriate systems of land management.

23	Implementing partners and/or participating organisations: *Indicate the organisation(s) name(s) and contact person(s)*
	The primary participating organisation is the Soil Conservation Unit (SCU). The focal point is Mr. Swayne Barter, Projects Officer.
24	Sustainability: *Indicate how the project's outcomes will be maintained after the project's closing*
	With the establishment of the Local Maintenance Committee, it is envisioned that project results will be maintained after closure. This committee will be comprised of local farmers, community members, and a representative from the SCU, and shall be responsible for overseeing the maintenance and management of rainwater harvesting systems, soil erosion control measures, and other project components. This local ownership ensures that the systems are properly maintained, and any issues are promptly addressed by those directly affected by the project.
25	Duration (in months):
	24
26	What is the total amount being requested from the BESF? (in BBD)
	98650

Tip:
Ensure the amount falls within the selected grant tier.

Section 4: Indicative Budget

27 Complete the below budget

Budget Categories	Total (in BBD)	Details and Comments	
Personnel	0		
Consultancies and professional services	0		
Equipment and Materials	75000	Water augmentation systems	
Training and Events	8500	Training sessions	
Travel	0		
Communication	15000	End of project video, outreach activities	
Other	150	Bank charges	
Indirect Costs (10%) If eligible	0		
TOTAL	**98650.00**		
Cofinancing	200000	**Sources:**	RAL, SCU – personnel and professional services
In-kind contributions	5000		

Tip:
Ensure you include "hidden costs", like those associated with monitoring and evaluation, and currency exchange rates for overseas procurements.

	Section 5: Supporting Documentation
	Please upload the following documents, along with other documents/files to support your concept note:
28	Articles of Incorporation
	Articles of Incorporation.pdf
29	Organisational Chart (if available)
	Organisation Chart.pdf
30	Other (e.g. implementing partner details) *Ensure files are labelled appropriately.*
	Project Map.pdf
31	Do you agree to be contacted for future opportunities?
	yes
32	How did you learn about the BESF Call for Proposals? *Select all that apply.*
	Email notification Social Media

Tip: If you encounter any challenges submitting your application using the online Grant Management Platform, please email your queries to technicalofficer@besf.bb **copied to** info@besf.bb.