

## Key messages

- A multi-donor initiative for biodiversity protection and climate change adaptation using “**nature-based solutions**” in the Pacific announced by the President of the French Republic on 12 December 2017 at the Paris One Planet Summit;
- The Kiwa initiative was launched in 2020 with a budget of EUR 35M in grants, involves five international donors (Australia, Canada, France, New Zealand and the European Union) and is being implemented by the Agence Française de Développement (AFD);
- Three financing agreements to be signed between AFD and the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) on 18 November 2020 in Noumea on the sidelines of the 50<sup>th</sup> session of SPC Committee of Representatives of Governments and Administrations (CRGA);
- It is the first time AFD is collaborating with Australia, New Zealand, and Canada in the Pacific as well as globally; and
- It is an innovative means of working with both Pacific Island countries and French overseas territories, thus helping to foster regional integration.

### “The Kiwa Initiative, nature-based solutions for climate resilience” is launched

Stemming from a Franco-European process, the Kiwa Initiative aims to facilitate Pacific Island communities’ access to green funding and pool regional and international financial partners’ efforts while fostering regional co-operation.

Announced by the President of the French Republic at the 2017 One Planet Summit and launched in March 2020, the Initiative involves EUR 35M in grants (XPF 4.2 billion) and five international donors, i.e. *Australia, Canada, France, New Zealand and the European Union* addressing common challenges, **namely biodiversity protection for climate change adaptation using nature-based solutions in the Pacific.**

The Kiwa Initiative joined forces with the region’s main intergovernmental scientific and technical organisations, namely the *Pacific Community (SPC)* and *Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)*, to provide project design support to potential Initiative beneficiaries.

It also works locally on calls for projects managed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 18 Pacific Island countries and territories and regionally through a one-stop shop for regional projects managed by the Initiative Secretariat based in Noumea at the AFD’s Pacific Ocean Regional Office. The Agence Française de Développement will implement the Kiwa Initiative for five years.

The Kiwa Initiative is innovative in several ways:

- it translates the common aim of five international partners to pool their efforts in support of Pacific Island countries and territories as they address a common challenge and provides a unique forum through its governance framework;
- it is the first time French development assistance is working with its Canadian, Australian and New Zealand partners, thus participating in the implementation of France’s Indo-Pacific strategy; and
- the Initiative provides a means of supporting regional projects implemented in both Pacific Island countries and French Pacific territories.

The project is funded by

In partnership with:



## FAQ

### **About Kiwa**

#### *1) Which countries are eligible for the Kiwa Initiative?*

Pacific Island countries on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list are eligible for the Kiwa Initiative. New Caledonia and French Polynesia are also eligible through a contribution made by the French Ministry of Overseas Territories.

So far, there are 18 Kiwa Initiative eligible Pacific countries and territories, including the three French overseas territories, i.e. *Palau, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji, Nauru, Kiribati, Tonga, Samoa, Niue, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Wallis & Futuna, French Polynesia and Timor Leste.*

#### *2) What kind of organisations are eligible for the Kiwa Initiative?*

The following beneficiaries are eligible to apply through the call for projects component managed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN):

- ✓ civil society organisations, community organisations, national NGOs and local associations;
- ✓ local and national authorities; and
- ✓ international NGOs provided the project is approved by the national authorities and a local stakeholder is involved in implementation.

The following beneficiaries are eligible for the technical assistance programme and regional projects one-stop shop:

- ✓ local or national authorities
- ✓ national or local government agencies
- ✓ regional organisations recognised by Pacific Island countries and territories, such as SPC or SPREP (CROP)
- ✓ international NGOs

#### *3) Are businesses eligible for the Kiwa Initiative?*

Businesses and for-profit organisations may not submit projects to the Kiwa Initiative or receive funds directly. They may, however, operate as service providers to a project leader.

#### *4) Has IUCN already launched its first call for projects?*

No, IUCN will launch its first call for projects in early 2021. Prior notice will be provided so as to ensure potential project developers are informed.

#### *5) Is the one-stop shop for regional projects already operational?*

Yes, it is operational. The next deadline is 7 December 2020 for submitting concept notes to the Initiative Secretariat, which will be examined in February 2021.

#### *6) Where can I get information?*

All the information required is available on the AFD website's Kiwa Initiative page, i.e.: [www.afd.fr/fr/initiative-kiwa](http://www.afd.fr/fr/initiative-kiwa). You can also contact the Initiative Secretariat and AFD Pacific Ocean Regional Office at the following addresses:

- Kiwa Initiative Secretariat ([kiwa\\_initiative@afd.fr](mailto:kiwa_initiative@afd.fr))
- Mrs. Caroline Edant, Regional Biodiversity and Climate Project Officer, AFD Pacific Ocean Regional Office ([edantc@afd.fr](mailto:edantc@afd.fr))
- Mr. Kim-Lou Cargnelli, Project Officer supporting the AFD Pacific Ocean Regional Office ([cargnellikl@afd.fr](mailto:cargnellikl@afd.fr))