



GLOBAL FUND FOR
CORAL REEFS

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT:

GFCR Blue Bridge

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Report submitted by:

United Nations Capital Development Fund

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Programme Overview

Programme Title & Project Number	Programme Duration
Programme Title: Blue Bridge	Start Date: December 2021
Programme Number: 00129651	End Date: December 2029

Total Approved Budget

Total GFCR Budget:

Programme	Approved Budget	Funding Received from GFCR	Expended
Global	1,626,400	1,626,400	1,049,996
Bahamas	3,899,706	500,000	402,098
Philippines	3,372,399	2,798,264	2,077,027
Kenya Tanzania	1,815,394	1,815,394	493,188
PNG	1,484,248	978,825	6263
MAR - New Ventures	386,916	386,916	386,916
Total	12,585,063	8,105,799	4,415,488

Total Approved co-financing from other sources: Not Applicable

Executive Summary

Blue Bridge was created as a sub-window of UNCDF's BRIDGE platform to enable the Global Fund for Coral Reefs and its Convening Agents to integrate financial instruments into their Priority Ecosystem programmes. UNCDF delivers catalytic grants and concessional loans directly to referred social enterprises and projects that help preserve or restore coral reefs that 1) have a chance of surviving climate change, and 2) support adjacent low-income communities – in particular, when a Convening Agent either cannot fund the transaction directly, or if the GFCR Grant Fund needs to invest in a global project.

In 2023, Blue Bridge continued supporting GFCR's Grant Fund portfolio by performing due diligence for new transactions and deployed follow-on tranches of funding for projects originated in 2022 and under monitoring in 2023. This includes grants for social enterprises and projects in the Philippines, Fiji, Kenya, Tanzania, the Mesoamerican Reef Region, and The Bahamas. To date, \$4.4M has been expended as of year-end 2023, representing a 54% utilization rate. Sourcing challenges identified during the course of due diligence in 2023, and an organization change process within UNCDF, led to project placement delays in 2023, as well as two transactions being declined. UNCDF is working with GFCR and the remaining projects in the pipeline to resolve the sourcing issues in 2024 and the change management process within UNCDF is expected to come to a conclusion during the year.

In 2023, Blue Bridge focused on the following key initiatives:

1. Due Diligence and Origination for a potential impact investment in Ice Breaker, a documentary and live exhibition venture to put coral reef conservation on the global stage, with return on investment set to benefit Marine Protected Areas
2. Review and processing remaining deals in the pipeline
3. Monitoring existing portfolio and reviewing progress for next round of tranches and follow-on investments
4. Continued collaboration with GFCR programme teams to support integration of sustainable financing into new programme development where Blue Bridge is needed
5. Developing initial proposal for the GFCR Technical Assistance Service

In 2024, Blue Bridge will focus on the following key initiatives:

1. Processing remaining transactions in pipeline, primarily projects that face protracted delays in development but have adapted and appear ready for funding
 - a. Blue Finance Philippines Programme final grant
 - b. Bahamas National Trust MPA
 - c. Coral Vita coral restoration project
 - d. The Fertile Factory & Co in Fiji
 - e. Okavango Capital Partners Venture Studio and Investment Vehicle
 - f. PGN Blue Economy Guarantee programme
2. Monitoring existing portfolio and reviewing progress for next round of tranches and follow-on investments
3. Continued collaboration with GFCR programme teams to support integration of sustainable financing into new programme development where Blue Bridge is needed

I. Programme Objectives

The main objectives, expected outcomes, outputs, and deliverables of Blue Bridge, as outlined in the Programme Document are noted below.

Objectives:

- Support Convening Agents in executing their program strategy by deploying concessional investment instruments along different growth stages of businesses.
- Nurture businesses to access commercial capital independently, enabling the capital repaid to the Blue Bridge to be re-deployed into new early-stage businesses.
- Fill the funding gap between the Grant Fund and the Investment Fund.

Expected Outcomes:

- Relevant pipeline candidates supported through the Grant Fund will grow their businesses and access sustainable sources of investment.
- Investees will transition from the Grant Fund towards more sustainable funding sources.
- Good business practices and growth will be incentivized through appropriate financial instruments and sequencing.

Outputs:

- Blue Bridge will deploy grants, recoverable grants, loans, and guarantees ranging from \$200,000 to \$2M, or as large a maximum investment as the Grant Fund is willing to allocate to a single investee identified by Convening Agents.
- Blue Bridge will act as a lender of last resort when Convening Agents cannot identify practical local alternatives.
- Blue Bridge will coach investees through the process of obtaining external investment.

Deliverables:

- Collaboration with the Convening Agents and the GFCR Secretariat to determine the best instruments and sequence for incentivizing good business practices and catalyzing growth
- Rigorous due diligence, structuring, execution, and monitoring services on transactions identified in four Track 1 Priority Ecosystem proposals to ensure GFCR's fiduciary duties are fulfilled in its highest-risk projects, manifested through Loan and Grant Assessments and disbursed transactions.
- Referral of investments to UNCDF's investment committee for evaluation after due diligence.

The Blue Bridge programme aims to facilitate the growth of businesses and their transition towards sustainable funding sources, ultimately contributing to the overall success of the GFCR Investment Plan.

The initial budget provided for Blue Bridge to underwrite, originate and monitor transactions identified in four Track 1 Priority Ecosystem proposals for the initial two years. The Convening Agents and programmes were as follows¹:

Organisation	Country/Countries	# of Transactions
TNC	The Bahamas	4
WCS	Kenya and Tanzania	4
UNDP	Papua New Guinea	1
BF	Philippines	6

II. Programme Implementation & Results

A. Programme Results Overview

In 2023, Blue Bridge continued supporting GFCR's Grant Fund portfolio by performing due diligence for new transactions, and deploying follow-on tranches of funding for projects under monitoring that originated in 2022. This includes grants for environmental enterprises and projects in the Philippines, Fiji, Kenya, Tanzania, the Mesoamerican Reef Region, and The Bahamas. So far, Blue Bridge has expended \$4.4M as of year-end 2023, representing a 54% utilization rate of funds received from GFCR. Delays in project development, sourcing challenges identified during the course of due diligence in 2023, and a leadership and organization change process within UNCDF, led to placement delays and two transactions being declined by UNCDF and returned to GFCR. UNCDF is working with GFCR and the

¹ Subsequent to the original budget another transaction in the Mesoamerican Reef Region under MAR Fund as Convening Agent was added to the Blue Bridge mandate.

remaining projects in the pipeline to resolve any remaining sourcing issues in 2024 and the change management process within UNCDF is expected to come to a conclusion during the year.

Due diligence performed

During 2023, due diligence was performed on the following organizations:

- Coral Vita in the Bahamas advanced to UNCDF the investment committee and was recommended for approval, to be structured as a procurement contract (\$625,000), with Terms of Reference under development now in partnership with the Convening Agent and the GFCR Global Team.
- Due diligence was performed on the SBDC Blue Economy Accelerator (\$400,000) and returned to GFCR and TNC for TNC to deploy as a grant due to the sourcing of the transaction not complying with UNDP policies and procedures.
- Ice Breaker / Planet Coral (\$1,000,000) was declined by UNCDF's Officer in Charge after due diligence was complete; the completed grant assessment and risk memo were provided to GFCR to support its attempt to advance the reimbursable grant through another programme.

Follow-on tranches of funding were disbursed to the following projects:

- Perry Institute for Marine Science's Reef Rescue Network completed the milestones required for its second tranche of funding (\$125,000) and has seen rapid growth of its Reef Rescue Network partners
- The Blue Finance Philippines Programme, consisting of the major projects below, fulfilled its milestones and received the final two tranches of funding (\$922,284) under its first grant agreement
 - o Verde Island Passage MPA growth and operations
 - o Calamian Island Group MPA development
 - o Mangrove Crab Hatchery feasibility study and pilot
 - o Blue Carbon Mangrove feasibility study
- The Blue Finance Zanzibar MPA Project has performed well and its final tranche of grant funding (\$250,000) was disbursed in 2023

Projects under continued development by Implementing Partners

Two projects were not yet ready for a preparatory grant in 2022 and required further work between partners in 2023:

- The UNCDF PNG Guarantee (\$1,000,000) made better progress in 2023 compared to 2022, with a new local team in place by the second half of the year. However, progress on the Guarantee was delayed due to delays in the related UNDP Accelerator programme, which was originally intended to be the sole pipeline of guarantee recipients. In 2024, UNCDF has proposed to UNDP and GFCR to restructure the guarantee programme to offer support beyond the limits of the UNDP accelerator and be open to blue economy microentrepreneurs in target areas linked to critical coral ecosystems, since it seems to be a more viable design.
- Blue Finance and Bahamas National Trust MPA Collaboration (\$800,000) ultimately decided not to proceed with the project as partners; BNT has restructured their grant proposal, which is under review by TNC as of March 2024

Restructuring

Blue Bridge supports the UNCDF-Fiji programme loan to Beqa Adventure Divers, which supports an MPA through its revenues and operations. During the year the project performed well from an impact perspective and the organization has made all loan repayments on time and in-full. However, tourism revenues began to fall and the borrower requested a restructuring of its loan repayment schedule to provide financial flexibility and avoid laying off local staff. This request was granted by the UNCDF investment committee.

Other Programme Activities

- UNCDF completed its roster of Blue Economy investment specialists and technical assistance providers in 2023 to add capacity for accelerating capital deployment.
- Blue Bridge worked with the GFCR Secretariat in its fundraising efforts for a Technical Assistance Service (TAS) to accelerate blue bridge transactions as well as link the Grant Fund with the Investment Fund.
- Blue Bridge continued to work with upcoming programmes as they develop full proposals to GFCR in 2023, including Seychelles and the Maldives in particular, though Blue Bridge transactions are expected to materialize in these programmes after their first phase of funding, after the first replenishment.
- Blue Bridge worked with Okavango Capital Partners and WCS to shape the structure of its forthcoming special purpose investment vehicle. A preliminary no-objection was granted for two initial investments subject to a final no-objection following review of full due diligence on the transactions. A recent policy change at UNCDF may require further adjustments to the funding instruments used to support the project, which will be determined in 2024.

Looking Ahead

UNCDF's lack of a permanent Executive Secretary (its top leader) and the ongoing process to replace the former Executive Secretary has been going on for 17 months and slowed down most operations throughout UNCDF, including Blue Bridge activities. As soon as the leadership issue is resolved, hopefully by Q2 2024, as well as the organizational restructuring is complete, the guidance for operations will be improved, which will benefit UNCDF at large, including Blue Bridge activities going forward. The activities of Blue Bridge – providing pre-due diligence support, due diligence, structuring and origination – continued to support catalytic grants and concessional loans to fund projects that contribute to each Convening Agent's programme goals – and ultimately their targeted outcomes. Looking ahead, Blue Bridge will continue to work with the existing portfolio of projects for additional disbursements of funding. This will require monitoring, and likely adjustments to investment decisions based on the evolution of each project. Work will also continue with the existing pipeline of projects that are still working towards readiness for funding.

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B. Indicator-Based Performance Assessment

OUTPUT / ACTIVITY	INDICATORS	TARGET COMPLETION	IMPLEMENTATION STATUS AND ACTUAL COMPLETION DATE
Catalytic Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of due diligence assessments conducted: 3 Amount of funding referred to UNCDF IIC: \$1.625M Amount of funding disbursed: \$0M 	Final investment decision within 3-6 Months from fully developed proposal and due diligence request submission	<p>Due diligence was conducted on the following three grants in 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Coral Vita Ice Breaker / Planet Coral <p>SBDC was returned to GFCR due to lack of an open-call during the selection process, which is required by UNCDF. TNC intends to integrate this project in their replenishment and deploy the grant under their own rules and regulations.</p> <p>Coral Vita was referred to the UNCDF investment committee and recommended for approval, and subsequently approved contingent to an open-call procurement process, rather than as a programme grant. The Terms of Reference are under development in collaboration with TNC and GFCR.</p> <p>Ice Breaker / Planet Coral was declined by UNCDF's Officer in Charge after due diligence was complete; the completed grant assessment and risk memo were provided to GFCR to support its attempt to advance the reimbursable grant through another programme.</p>
Concessional Loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of due diligence assessments conducted: 0 Amount of funding referred to UNCDF IIC: \$0M Amount of funding disbursed: \$0 	Final investment decision within 3-6 Months from fully developed proposal and due diligence request submission	Underlying project development delays resulted in no concessional loans in 2023. In 2024 concessional loans are expected to be disbursed in Kenya and Fiji. Timing for due diligence and disbursement of concessional loans to three projects in the Bahamas will be determined by the pace of development of the projects.
Guarantees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of guarantee beneficiaries (MFIs): 0 Amount of guarantees issued: 0 Amount of funding mobilized: 0 	Final investment decision within 3-6 Months from fully developed proposal and due diligence request submission	The only guarantee in the pipeline is for the guarantee project in PNG, which has been delayed primarily due to staffing challenges in the country. UNCDF led a mission to PNG in 2023 to attempt to advance the project while permanent staff in PNG were identified; once permanent staff was in place and the project was reviewed, a recommendation was made in early 2024 to make slight modifications so the guarantee can be activated before year-end 2024.
Support and coaching to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of organizations or projects benefited: 10 	Rolling	Support is ongoing to Convening Agents and Projects in each Priority Ecosystem through the

Convening Agents and Projects	• Number of interventions: 10		lifecycle of the preparation, investment and monitoring stages.
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C. Gender Mainstreaming

All transactions that Blue Bridge processes must first comply with GFCR's and the Convening Agent's Gender Policies prior to being referred to Blue Bridge.

III. Programme Governance & Management

During 2023, the investment governance process within UNCDF was restructured. The former "Impact Investment Committee", which consisted of a mix of senior UNCDF managers and external experts, was phased out in favor of the new "Investment and Disbursement Impact Committee", which has similar processes and procedures but consists of exclusively senior UNCDF managers, which can call upon external experts as needed.

During the year, new top management of UNCDF shifted away from a specialized set of UNCDF operating procedures in favor of the UN Development Programme's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (UNDP POPP). This came with two material changes that affected transactions referred by GFCR and its Convening Agents to UNCDF: 1) an increased scrutiny on sourcing procedures followed when identifying loans and ensuring they strictly adhere to the UNDP POPP, rather than the specialized policies and procedures of the referring UN Agency, and 2) shifting grants for projects managed by to for-profit companies from a programme grant modality to a procurement modality. These two changes has resulted in some transactions being returned back to GFCR for deployment through other channels, as noted in Section II A.

In 2023, UNCDF was audited by the UN Office of Audit and Investigation. UNCDF has responded to recommendations for grant management, which is applicable to the GFCR grants. Firstly, it will be ensured all transactions receiving support from UNCDF will be sourced according to the UNDP POPP, instead of UNCDF's operational guidelines. Secondly, achieved milestones/conditions for disbursements to a project will be consolidated into one document for ease of reviewing the progress (rather than only documenting the same in UNCDF's Management Information System). These changes have taken place. Following the audit recommendation to UNCDF, Blue Bridge increased documentation of grantee's compliance with milestone accomplishment and deliverables to support disbursements of subsequent tranches. The actual review process did not change since it was already robust, but, the documentation of the process that was occurring in UNCDF's management information system is now duplicated in a word document to make it easier for auditors to review the paper trail without risk of confusion.

IV. Resource Mobilisation

While Resource Mobilization is not in the Blue Bridge mandate, the LDCIP team is working with the GFCR Grant Fund team to attempt to raise up to \$10M from the Nordic Development Fund to capitalize the Blue Bridge Technical Assistance Service. This transaction reached advanced stages of approval but a decision was deferred indefinitely.

V. Communications and Visibility

Communications and Visibility is not in the Blue Bridge mandate.

VI. Risk Management and Mitigation

Event / Risk	Cause	Impact/s	Risk Category	Risk Level	Mitigation / Management Measures	Remarks
Blue Bridge Global Level: Challenge to quickly and effectively deploy interventions to early-stage pipeline of projects	A high proportion of concept-stage projects, within the nascent sector of coral positive solutions and countries with challenging operating environments have resulted in wide variance in fund utilization across projects	Delayed transactions or funding projects that exceed GFCR's risk appetite could reduce the outputs, outcomes and impacts of resources deployed in the portfolio.	Risk of impact underperformance in target areas, which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental • Financial • Social 	Medium	Blue Bridge took a number of steps to mitigate these risks noted below. Initially we focused on the most advanced projects in the pipeline and utilized small initial tranches of funding to enable projects to demonstrate progress and ability to deploy larger amounts of funding. For less advanced projects, ongoing feedback has been provided to help prepare projects for initial funding, with final pipeline to be processed in 2024. In addition, UNCDF established two rosters of investment professionals and technical assistance providers specialized in Blue Economy sub-sectors and small-to-medium sized businesses to accelerate	Risk has been present since the start of GFCR.

					support to portfolio and pipeline projects.	
Blue Bridge Project Level: Due to the early stage nature of the pipeline, there is a risk that the projects supported through Blue Bridge will fail to realize their impact goals, either through lack of effectiveness, or financial self-sufficiency, actual impact on coral reefs, ability to scale or replicate, etc.	As with all nascent sectors and early-stage companies, risk of failure is caused by untested and unrefined business models, inexperienced teams and organizations, unforeseen regulatory barriers, inability to achieve product-market fit, slow customer adoption, etc.	Reduced outputs, outcomes and impacts of resources deployed in the portfolio.	Risk of impact underperformance in target areas, which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental • Financial • Social 	High	Blue Bridge has augmented its governance, management and coordination with the GFCR Global Team to reduce risk of business failure in the portfolio.	Risk has been present since the start of GFCR.
Projects often delayed due to regulatory changes, licensing delays and uncertainty	GFCR projects are inherently linked with nature and often require Environmental Impact Assessments or special government licenses or approvals, and the regulations and enforcement of laws regarding their activities can be unclear or subject to sudden changes.	Extended delays in approvals for projects have follow-on delays for project execution. This can be very detrimental to projects not just because of the delays themselves, but because of the uncertainty regarding when the delays will be resolved.	Risk of impact underperformance in target areas, which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental • Financial • Social 	High	GFCR's Convening Agents have been helpful in these regions, in Fiji in particular, affirming the GFCR strategy. UNCDF is a patient funder and work with projects to adjust grant designs, due diligence and disbursement timelines to help projects weather these unexpected delays.	As noted in the past, The Fertile Factory & Co in Fiji, the MPA in Pemba, Coral Vita and Reef Rescue Network in the Bahamas have all been subject to delays in government licensing that were unpredictable, abrupt, opaque, extended and difficult to effectively address with local government.

VII. Adaptive Management

The nascent state of the Blue Economy sector in general, and, coral positive interventions in particular, requires earlier stage preparation support and patient funding to strengthen business cases for catalytic grants and concessional loans. To date, Blue Bridge's primary adaptation has been tranching funding into several rounds disbursed on project development to provide a longer runway for projects to mature.



Blue Bridge also built a roster of Blue Economy consultant to deploy Technical Assistance once additional funding is available.

Blue Bridge and the GFCR Global Team has also become more aware of the risk of project delays due to regulatory and local government approval uncertainty. In most programmes supported by Blue Bridge at least one project has experienced protracted delays due to opaque and unreliable implementation of policies and approvals. Coral positive projects are particularly prone to this risk given their focus on environmental interventions; ironically the regulations and approvals implemented to protect natural assets are frequently the sources of delay for projects seeking to save or restore coral reef ecosystems. The GFCR Global Team and Blue Bridge will seek to explore interventions with Convening Agents that may help address these challenges, either directly or indirectly in 2024.

Annexes

Annex A: Detailed Project Tables

Bahamas

Project Title	Project Name and Description	Leading institutions	Blue Bridge Grants	Recoverable Grants, Loans or Guarantees	Total Approved GFCR Budget	GFCR Funding Received	Notes
Elizabeth Harbour Mooring and Pump-out services	Installing, maintaining and collecting fees for moorings and pump-out services so ships don't dump waste into the harbor.	Elizabeth Harbour Conservation Partnership	\$460,000	\$460,000	\$920,000	\$500k for all Bahamas projects in total	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First tranche disbursed; milestones for second tranche fulfilled. - First mooring installation in process to mitigate damage to sea grass; business planning for pump out service and solution for sewage treatment plant to prevent sewage dumping being finalized.
Andros, Bahamas MPA	Blended finance for the effective management of MPAs; integrating financial instruments to invest in better management resources and infrastructure to support tourism and park entrance fee collection.	Bahamas National Trust (BNT) and Blue Finance	\$300,000	\$500,000	\$800,000	\$500k for all Bahamas projects in total	BNT submitted a revised project proposal in 2023 without Blue Finance's involvement, but after review with TNC, GFCR and UNCDF, BNT revised its plan and resubmitted in Q1-2024, which is under initial review by TNC.
Reef Rescue Network	Developing a sustainable revenue model for an existing program to restore	Perry Institute for Marine Science (PIMS)	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$900,000	\$500k for all Bahamas projects in total	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Second tranche disbursed; - Reactivated and expanded Reef Rescue Network post-COVID; created sustainable business plan to support



	coral reefs leveraging local dive operators						network activities for financially sustainable reef restoration. Developing next phase plan to call on remaining funding.
Coral Vita	Achieving commercial viability of coral restoration as a service	Coral Vita	\$625,000	\$0	\$625,000	\$500k for all Bahamas projects in total	Regulatory change and licensing delays resolved; due diligence performed and approved for project to advance to an open-call procurement before contracting.
Blue Economy Programme Accelerator	Blue Economy Programme Accelerator	Access Accelerator Small Business Development Centre (SBDC)	\$400,000	\$0	\$400,000	\$500k for all Bahamas projects in total	Delayed throughout 2022; revised plan submitted in 2023 and DD performed; transaction declined due to sourcing. Project returned to TNC which will manage the project moving forward.

Philippines

Project Title	Project Name and Description	Leading institutions	Grants	Recoverable Grants, Loans or Guarantees	Total Approved GFCR Budget	GFCR Funding Received	Notes
Philippines Convening Agent Grant	Philippines Priority Ecosystem #1	Blue Finance	\$574,000		\$574,000	\$574,000	Funding fully disbursed
Mindoro, VIP MPA	Creating an MPA network with tourist attractions and infrastructure (rangers, moorings, mangrove restoration, etc, and also Seasensorium, visitor center, snorkel safari, etc)	Blue Finance (Blue Alliance VIP)	\$900,000	\$245,000	\$1,145,000	\$1,145,000	- 1 st grant fully disbursed and second round of funding in approval process as of Q1-24 - MPA is performing well based on monitoring and milestone achievement; verification mission conducted by GFCR and UNEP.



CIG MPA	Second of three Philippines MPAs under development.	Blue Finance (Blue Alliance CIG)	\$140,000	\$70,000	\$210,000	\$300,000	Mandate secured in 2023 with management initiated in 2024.
TSPS MPA	Third of three Philippines MPAs under development.	Blue Finance (Blue Alliance TSPS)	\$210,000	\$70,000	\$280,000	\$280,000	Progressing slower than expected. Plans to be reviewed during replenishment.

Project Title	Project Name and Description	Leading institutions	Grants	Recoverable Grants, Loans or Guarantees	Total Approved GFCR Budget	GFCR Funding Received	Notes
Developing Blue Economy businesses to support MPAs	Prep grants for Development Facility Transactions	Blue Finance with BlueYou, RARE, UBA	\$227,250		\$227,250	\$227,250	Business plans, pilots and fundraising are going well. See additional project level comments below.
Tañon strait eco-cruise	Blue Finance start-up to be launched within third MPA (TSPS). Grant followed by loan (loan not yet funded by GFCR).	Blue Finance	\$300,000		\$300,000	\$300,000	Project indefinitely delayed since management of MPAs in the area is delayed.
Mangrove crab aquaculture	Start-up grant for a crab hatchery, crab nursery, farm consolidation and sales center. SPE Blue Alliance to receive investment returns through dividends. Grant followed by loan (loan not yet funded by GFCR budget).	Blue Alliance VIP	\$304,025		\$304,025	\$304,025	Manager for business and farmers to launch initial pilot were identified and pilot is in process to demonstrate restorative silvofishery model with higher income for small-share farmers.

Mesoamerican Reef Region, Kenya/Tanzania Boarder Region, PNG

Project Title	Project Name and Description	Leading institutions	Grants	Recoverable Grants, Loans or Guarantees	Total Approved Budget	GFCR Funding Received	Notes
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New Ventures Convening Agent Sub-contract	New Ventures involvement in launching MAR Priority Ecosystem Programme, creating investment opportunities and fundraising.	New Ventures	\$386,916		\$386,916	\$386,916	Fully disbursed funding to create a venture accelerator to build a pipeline of investment-worthy coral positive businesses in the region and attract fresh investment capital into the sector.
N. Pemba, Zanzibar MPA, co-managed by Blue Finance		Blue Finance	\$350,000		\$350,000	\$350,000	Funding fully disbursed for Blue Finance to apply sustainable MPA management and blended finance approach to an under-utilized MPA in Pemba, Zanzibar Tanzania.
Okavango-WCS Venture Studio and Blue Investment SPV	Creation of Venture Studio; originating two impact investments for SPV created to facilitate investments.	Okavango Capital	\$687,000		\$687,000	\$687,000	Funding disbursed to design a Blue Economy Venture Studio and an investment facility to foster growth of early-stage companies with a coral positive business model
Okavango-sourced Direct Impact Investments	2 impact investments in short-term from Okavango pipeline	Okavango Capital		\$537,831	\$537,831	\$537,831	OCP has designed an investment facility to foster growth of early-stage companies with a coral positive business model; submitted investment proposal for sewage treatment intervention. UNCDF evaluating options for deployment following recent policy changes within UNCDF.
Guarantee program for Blue Economy companies.	Capital to fund guarantees to local MFIs and banks to support SMEs coming through Blue Economy Enterprise Incubation Facility	UNCDF PNG	\$120,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,120,000	\$978,825	UN staff turnover delayed project. New hiring complete for UNCDF, but still in process for UNDP; UN staff from other SIDs led mission to reboot project early in 2023. UNCDF



	(BE-EIF). Not a 2022 transaction						has proposed restructuring the guarantee programme to speed implementation.
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