

## FP020 Sustainable Energy Facility for the Eastern Caribbean (IDB), Multiple Countries

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### *CSO comments on the project given as intervention during the 14<sup>th</sup> GCF Board Meeting, October 2016*

- There was no public notification of the GCF's consideration of this high risk program until September 27. Although IDB has confirmed and shown that information was made available with due time in their own website, it is essential that the GCF Secretariat notifies observers in order to comply with the 120-day disclosure period.
- This is not simply a procedural mistake, but poses significant practical problems in our ability to be aware of proposals in the pipeline in time to adequately scrutinize them and gain valuable feedback from local groups. The lack of the 120-day notification is unacceptable.
- The construction of geothermal plants is risky and often takes place in rich and fragile ecosystems such as forests. There are several areas of concern that would merit further elaboration and feedback. Notably:
  - The information provided in the document is very general and does not allow site specific analyses. We have been informed that the relevant information will be identified once the exploration phase ends. With that, the IDB should report back to the GCF specifying how many plants will be built, where exactly they will be built, and which local communities/people are going to be affected by construction and operation of the plants. All of this information should be made available in compliance with the times embedded in the GCF information disclosure policy. High risk subprojects should come back to the GCF Board for consideration before moving forward.
  - The ITAP's assessment of the proposal's country ownership and efficiency and effective criteria is thoroughly insufficient. The ITAP somehow concludes that country ownership is high because "the geothermal facilities will be built in the countries and the electricity will be used in-region." That's hardly proof of country ownership. Likewise, efficiency and effectiveness are not simply assured because the IDB is the accredited entity for the program and has a "track record in supporting climate finance strategies" (as suggested by the ITAP reviewer).