

# Pacific Green Entrepreneurs Network ACCELERATOR PROGRAM Application Guidelines

At the Global Green Growth Institute, we believe that green entrepreneurs are uniquely positioned as drivers of innovation, holding the keys to unlocking a transition to a green and sustainable future for our planet. Our program aims to catalyse your business to showcase *Pacific solutions to Pacific problems* on a national, regional, and global scale.

If you are interested in scaling up the potential of your green business and securing a chance to access up to USD 50,000 in the form of zerointerest repayable grants, then keep reading to learn how you can join the Pacific Greenpreneurs Accelerator Program! What do we mean by "green entrepreneurs" or "green business"?

## $\overline{\phantom{a}}$

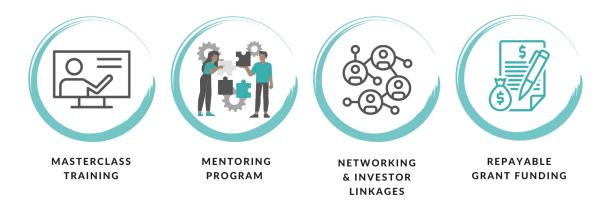
A "green business" is a **purposedriven enterprise** that is addressing **social and/or environmental issues** while generating income

# **Our Commitment to Social Inclusion**

Beyond our goals to strengthen the capacity and empower green entrepreneurs and their businesses, create opportunities for more sustainable, green jobs in the Pacific, and connect entrepreneurs to an ecosystem of business development support, we are equally committed to the prioritization of women entrepreneurs and green job creation for women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

I. What does the program provide?

The Pacific Greenpreneurs Accelerator program aims to support Incubator graduates and other highpotential green enterprises in growth stage *develop towards investment-readiness* through a structured 6-month program providing links with investors, individualized technical assistance support, mentoring, investor pitch events, networking and learning opportunities and will also offer zerointerest repayable grants to selected enterprises in amounts of between USD\$ 10,000 - \$50,000.



**Masterclass Training** – Regional masterclass webinars will be conducted on common areas of business needs, such as financial modelling, proposal writing, business pitching and more.

**Mentorship Program** – Greenpreneurs Accelerator participants will have access to a pool of experienced mentors who will act as a 'sounding board' and support to guide them through the process of building out their business pitches, investor profiles and funding proposals.

**Networking & investor linkages** – Greenpreneurs Accelerator participants will have the opportunity to build relationships and identify areas of collaboration with investment executives from national and international investment institutions, including pitching to investors.

**Repayable grants funding scheme** – During the program, participating Greenpreneurs will have the opportunity to apply for repayable grant funding of between US\$ 10,000 and a maximum of US\$ 50,000 in the form of interest-free repayable grants to cover operation and/or capital expenses. Disbursed capital will be junior to other investments/loans thus serving as first-loss buffers to leverage additional investments from private sector investors, development finance institutions and domestic financial institutions.

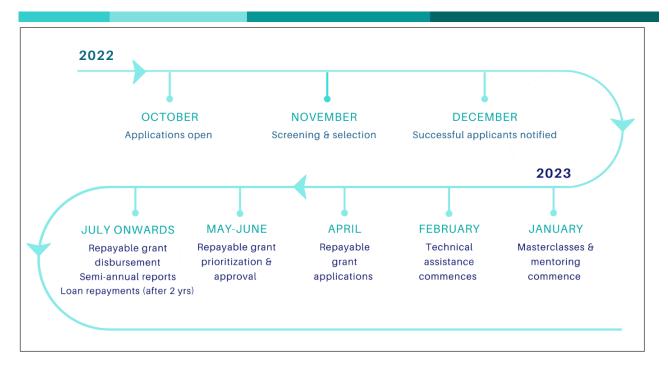
The tiers of repayable grants that may be awarded are:

- Between US\$ 10,000 \$30,000 for businesses with annual revenue of minimum US \$6,000
- Between US\$ 30,001 \$50,000 for businesses with annual revenue of minimum US \$20,000

The repayable grant amount will also be determined based on GGGI's prioritization matrix, management arrangements in place for the project and experience of applicants.

#### **II. Program Timeline (\* dates and timelines may be subject to change)**

The Pacific Greenpreneurs Accelerator Program is planned to run from January – July 2023. Key program dates are shown below (subject to change).



# III. Who are we looking for?

- You are part of a team or an individual entrepreneur with a growth-stage green enterprise.
  - We strongly encourage teams to apply.
  - We strongly encourage women, youth and persons with disabilities to apply.
- You aim to create positive environmental and/or social impact in your community or country through your product offerings, operations, or processes, while creating a profit.
- You are dedicated and eager to learn, and passionate about your cause.
- You are in a growth stage: you will typically be growing your staff and have on-going and growing sales (revenue/turnover).
- Your business is innovative and unique in some way.
- You want to learn, connect, and share with others: you are eager to network with like-minded green entrepreneurs from across the region.
- You have sufficient access to internet and a computer to enable participation in the online components of the program.
- You are committed to completing a 6-month program of training, technical assistance, mentoring & investor pitching beginning in 2023.
- You are comfortable with written & spoken English language.

## IV. Eligibility Criteria

The following criteria must be met for applications to be assessed for the Pacific Greenpreneurs Accelerator program. Please ensure that you meet the criteria listed below for the relevant stream you are applying for before completing the application form.



- A. Lead Applicant must be a citizen of **Fiji**, **Kiribati**, **Papua New Guinea**, **Samoa**, **Tonga or Vanuatu** (verified by 1 government-issued form of identification)
- B. Be a **for-profit legal entity registered** and with operations in one of the countries listed above.
- C. Enterprise must demonstrate a strong environmental focus to their business, in particular demonstrating alignment to relevant KPIs including, among others:

🔧 GHG mitigation potential



Green job creation potential



Increased resilience to climate change

- Circular economy and waste management
- D. Minimum age of lead Applicant should be 18 years old.

If you are a graduate of the Pacific Greenpreneurs Incubator program 2021 or current 2022 participant or are a graduate of accepted accelerator programs<sup>1</sup>, have at least 2 years of operations and minimum average turnover (sales revenue) of USD 6,000 per year, you are eligible to apply for <u>Stream 1: Early-stage green enterprises</u>.

If you are a green enterprise with at last 3 years of operations, a minimum average turnover (sales revenue) of USD 20,000 per year and can demonstrate your business is growing, you are eligible to apply for Stream 2: Growth-stage green enterprises.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Currently accepted programs are: Fiji Enterprise Engine and yher Pacific

#### V. Assessment Criteria & Selection

The Pacific Greenpreneurs Accelerator program is focused on supporting green enterprises to grow, generating positive environmental and social impact.

Applicants for this program will be assessed against the following broad criteria as demonstrated through submitted applications. Please keep these criteria in mind as you complete your application.

The applications will first be screened against the *Eligibility Criteria*.

Successful applications will then be scored and ranked according to the *Assessment Criteria*, from which the top enterprises will be selected.



- Ensure you meet all the *Eligibility Criteria* before applying.
- Note that all applications must be submitted by <u>Jotform online</u>.
- We strongly recommend that the full Jotform application is completed at one time (including attachments). As such, we strongly suggest that you:
  - o Review the downloadable version of the application form ahead of time;
  - Prepare the documents you need; and
  - Prepare your responses to the open-ended questions separately and paste them into the Jotform online when ready.
- Each entrepreneur is only allowed to make 1 application per enterprise.
- Please honour the submission deadlines. Applications received after the deadline will *not* be eligible for consideration.
- In case you experience any technical issues in submitting the application, please contact us (see below) *before the deadline*. Re-submissions will not be accepted after the deadline date.
- In accordance with GGGI's <u>Rules on Protection of Personal Data</u>, your application will be processed with due regard for the confidentiality of your business idea and personal details.
- Staff and immediate family members of persons working at GGGI, Emstret, Samoa Business Hub, Tonga Youth Employment & Entrepreneurship and Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce are *not* eligible to participate in this programme.
- In the case that you or your business become involved in legal proceedings following submission of the application, please contact us immediately.
- GGGI reserves the right to end the relationship immediately in the case that false or misleading information was provided by applicants.

#### VII. Contact Us

For more information, please refer to the <u>Pacific Greenpreneurs webpage</u>. If you have questions or concerns that have not been answered, you can contact GGGI Pacific Team at <u>pacificgreenpreneurs@gmail.com</u>.

