## Speaking the same language — acronyms used in this Q&A

| Acronym | What it means |
|---|---|
| AI | Artificial intelligence. The Trust's AI tools draft and explain; people review, decide, and sign. |
| AML | Anti-money-laundering: the financial checks made on every applicant. |
| BVI / VI | British Virgin Islands / Virgin Islands. |
| CEO | Chief Executive Officer of the Trust. |
| CFP / CFP1 | Call for Proposals; CFP1 is this first Call. |
| CoI | Conflict of interest: any personal or financial connection to a matter, which must be declared. |
| COP | Conference of the Parties: the annual United Nations climate conference. |
| DBA | "Doing business as": a sole trader operating under a registered business name. |
| EPTIF | Environmental Protection and Tourism Investment Fund, whose USD 10 levy funds the Trust (40 per cent share). |
| ESS | Environmental and social safeguards: the checks that keep projects from doing harm. |
| GCF / GEF / AF | Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, Adaptation Fund: global funds open only to parties to the UN climate convention, which the Territory cannot access directly; the Trust builds to their standards. |
| KPI | Key performance indicator: a measure used to track progress. |
| NGO / NPO | Non-governmental organisation / non-profit organisation. |
| NSDP | National Sustainable Development Plan of the Virgin Islands. |
| ODA | Official Development Assistance: traditional foreign aid, for which the Territory is not eligible as a high-income territory. |
| PAR | Partnership Alliance Register: the Trust's one-time partner registration. |
| RO | Reverse osmosis: a water purification technology. |
| TA | Technical assistance: free help from the Trust with applications, safeguards and reporting. |
| UK OT | United Kingdom Overseas Territory. |
| UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. |
| USD | United States dollars. |
| VICCTF | Virgin Islands Climate Change Trust Fund. |
| W1 to W6 | The Trust's six financial Windows: W1 Grants, W2 Reimbursable Grants, W3 Revolving Loans, W4 Guarantees, W5 Operations and Administration, W6 Contingency Reserve. |

## Plain-language definitions

| Term | Plain-language meaning |
|---|---|
| Accreditation | Certification by an international fund that an organisation meets its standards for handling money, safeguards and transparency. The Trust builds its systems to this bar from day one. |
| Adaptation | Action that helps communities live with climate impacts: stronger water systems, protected coastlines, resilient buildings. |
| Belonger | A person with Belonger status under Virgin Islands law. Trust eligibility follows an entity's residence and registration in the Territory, not the Belonger status of its members. |
| Call for Proposals | A published invitation to apply for grants, with its scope, criteria, dates and forms. |
| Capacity building | Support that strengthens an organisation itself: registration, governance, financial systems, track record. |
| Community resilience | A community's ability to anticipate, withstand, respond to and recover from climate impacts. The theme of this first Call. |
| Conduit | When the Trust receives funds from a donor and passes them to projects under its systems and safeguards. |
| Disbursement | A payment of grant funds to a partner under a signed agreement. |

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| **Due diligence** | The documented checks made before an award: registration, governance, finances, and AML screening. |
| **Equality of information** | The Trust's rule that every applicant receives identical information: answers of general application are published for all. |
| **Fiduciary standards** | The financial management, procurement and control standards that protect money entrusted to an organisation. |
| **Grant** | Funding that is not repaid, awarded for a project that meets the published criteria. |
| **Grant agreement** | The binding contract between the Trust and a grantee: workplan, budget, reporting, and remedies. |
| **Grievance mechanism** | The confidential channel through which anyone can raise a concern or complaint to the Trust. |
| **Guarantee** | A Trust promise that unlocks bank lending for a project; the Trust pays only if the borrower cannot. |
| **Incremental cost** | The rule that a grant pays only the additional costs of the climate action, not costs an applicant would incur anyway. |
| **Lead applicant** | In a joint proposal, the single entity that signs the contract and carries accountability. |
| **Levy** | The USD 10 Environmental Protection and Tourism Investment Fund fee collected from visitors at the ports; 40 per cent flows to the Trust each year. |
| **Mitigation** | Action that reduces the causes of climate change, such as renewable energy and energy efficiency. |
| **No-cost extension** | Extra time to finish a project, approved with cause, without extra money. |
| **Reimbursable grant** | A grant recovered over time without interest: only the principal is repaid, as savings are realised from the project. |
| **Review Committee** | The panel of technical experts constituted under the Act that evaluates applications and recommends to the Board, which decides. |
| **Revolving loan** | A loan whose repayments return to the Fund to be lent again. |
| **Tier** | The level (1 to 4) that matches grant size to an organisation's demonstrated capacity; organisations graduate upward. |
| **Track record** | Evidence of work delivered: contracts, completed projects, or documented community references. |

*If any term is still unclear, ask through the Q&A channel and the published answer will serve everyone.*