



**ADAPTATION FUND**

# **Integrating community voices in climate change adaptation financing**

**Seventh conference on community-based adaptation  
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# Outline of Presentation

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- **Overview of Climate Finance and the Adaptation Fund**
- The Adaptation Fund's approach to integrating 'the community voice'
- The role of Direct Access to climate finance in mainstreaming adaptation



# The Adaptation Fund is one of several international funds in the multilateral climate finance landscape



Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) - \$605M (pledged)  
Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) - \$259M (pledged)

(time)

2002



WORLD BANK

Pilot Program on Climate Resilience - \$1,155 (pledged)



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Adaptation Fund - \$ 325M (received)

2009



Green Climate Fund - \$ 100 billion / yr?

[climatefundupdate.org](http://climatefundupdate.org)  
[worldbank.org](http://worldbank.org)



# The Adaptation Fund was established under the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC

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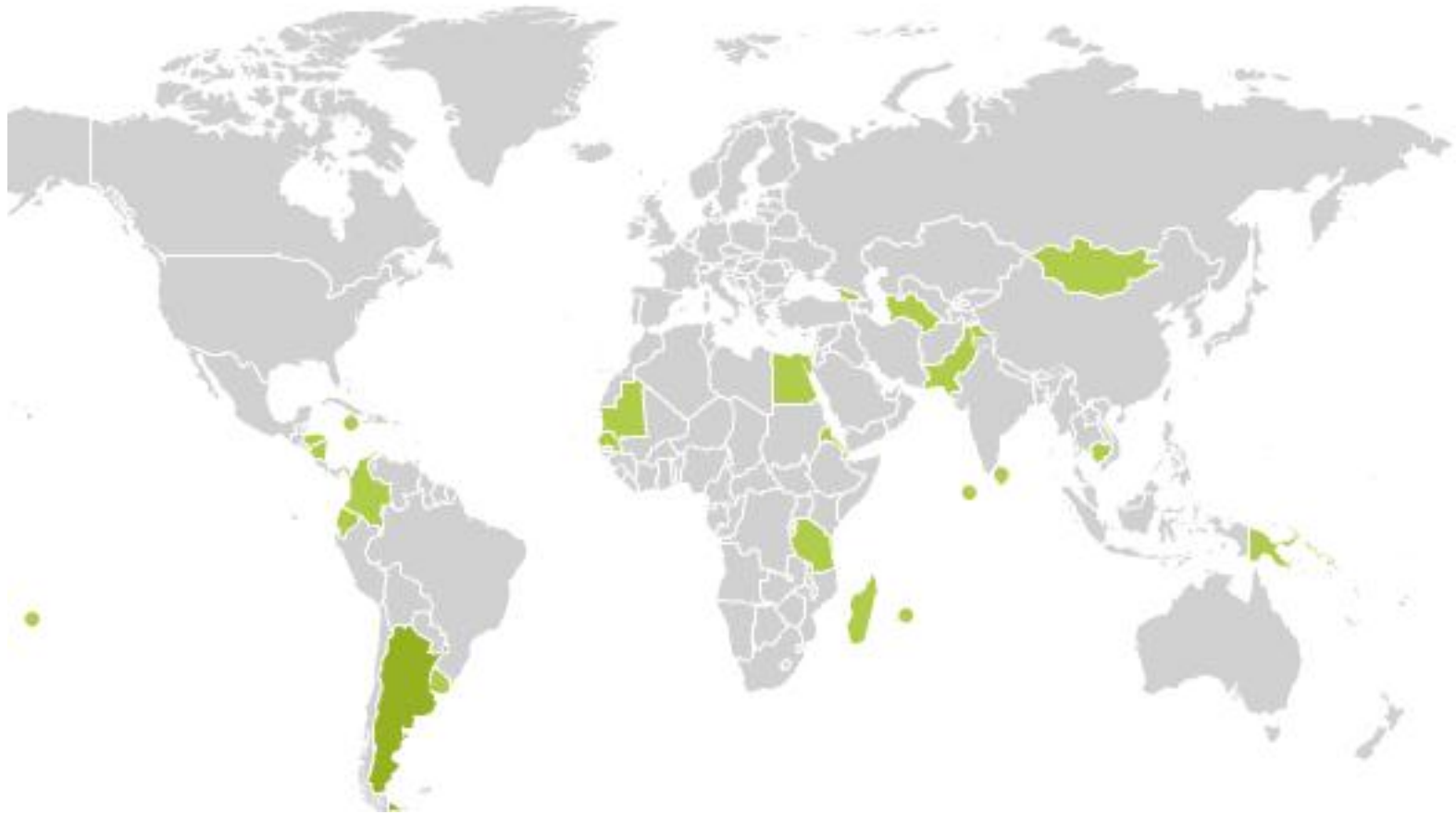


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- Financed from a **2% share of the emission reduction proceeds** on the Clean Development Mechanism project activities and other sources of funding
- Governed by a Board of **majority developing country members**
- The only fund that **all developing countries are eligible** to access



Since 2010 the Fund has approved 28 concrete adaptation projects in vulnerable developing countries



Interactive map: [www.adaptation-fund.org](http://www.adaptation-fund.org)



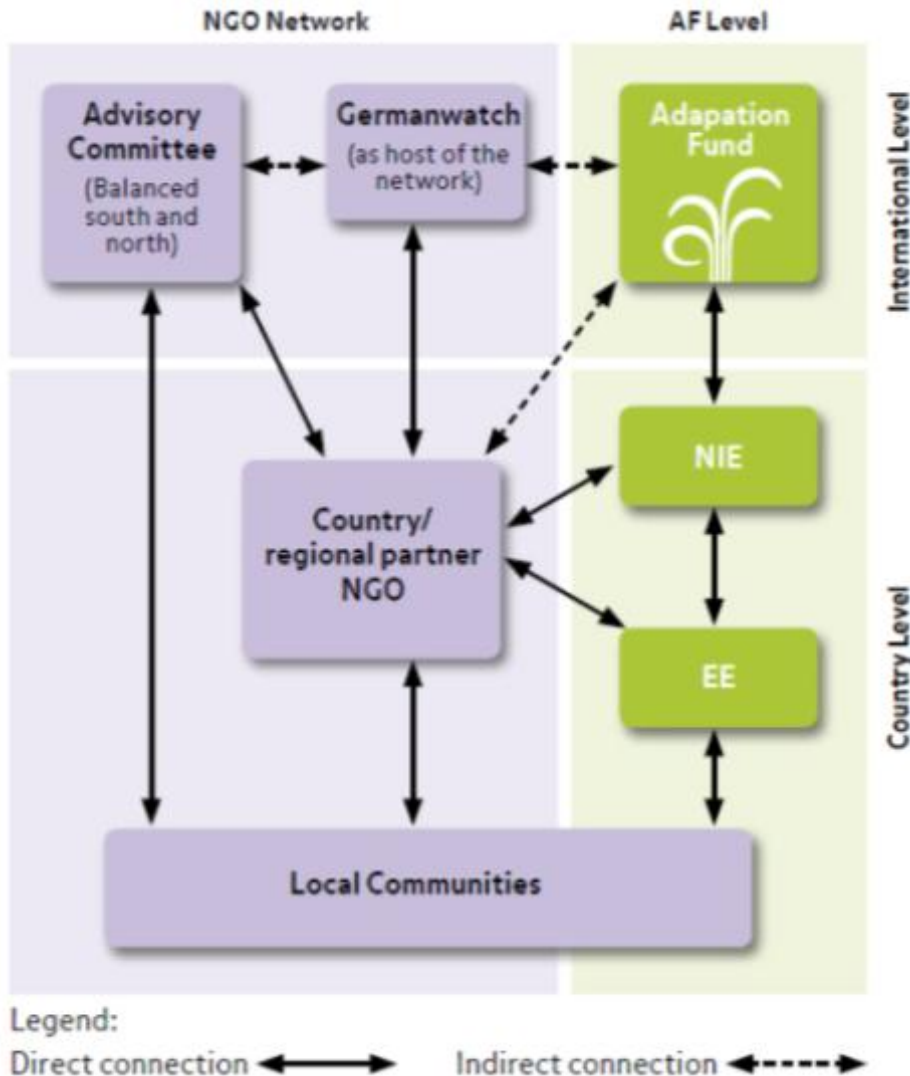
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# Since its beginning, the AF has had strong engagement with civil society through an independent NGO network



- Independent NGO/CSO network set up by Germanwatch and includes South & North NGOs following AF projects/programmes
- Provides a formal space to represent the community voice at the highest level, at AF Board dialogue at each meeting (3 per yr)
- Has allowed AF to achieve high transparency e.g. now publishing every review and document online

[www.AF-network.org](http://www.AF-network.org)



# Can the voice of vulnerable communities be fully integrated in adaptation projects?

## SELECT REVIEW CRITERIA

1

Proper consultation is required with communities and local government

2

Must articulate economic, societal and environmental benefit to vulnerable communities

3

Gender considerations must be addressed, including disaggregated results

## RELEVANCE TO CBA

- Draws out local knowledge
- Ensure **appropriate solutions**

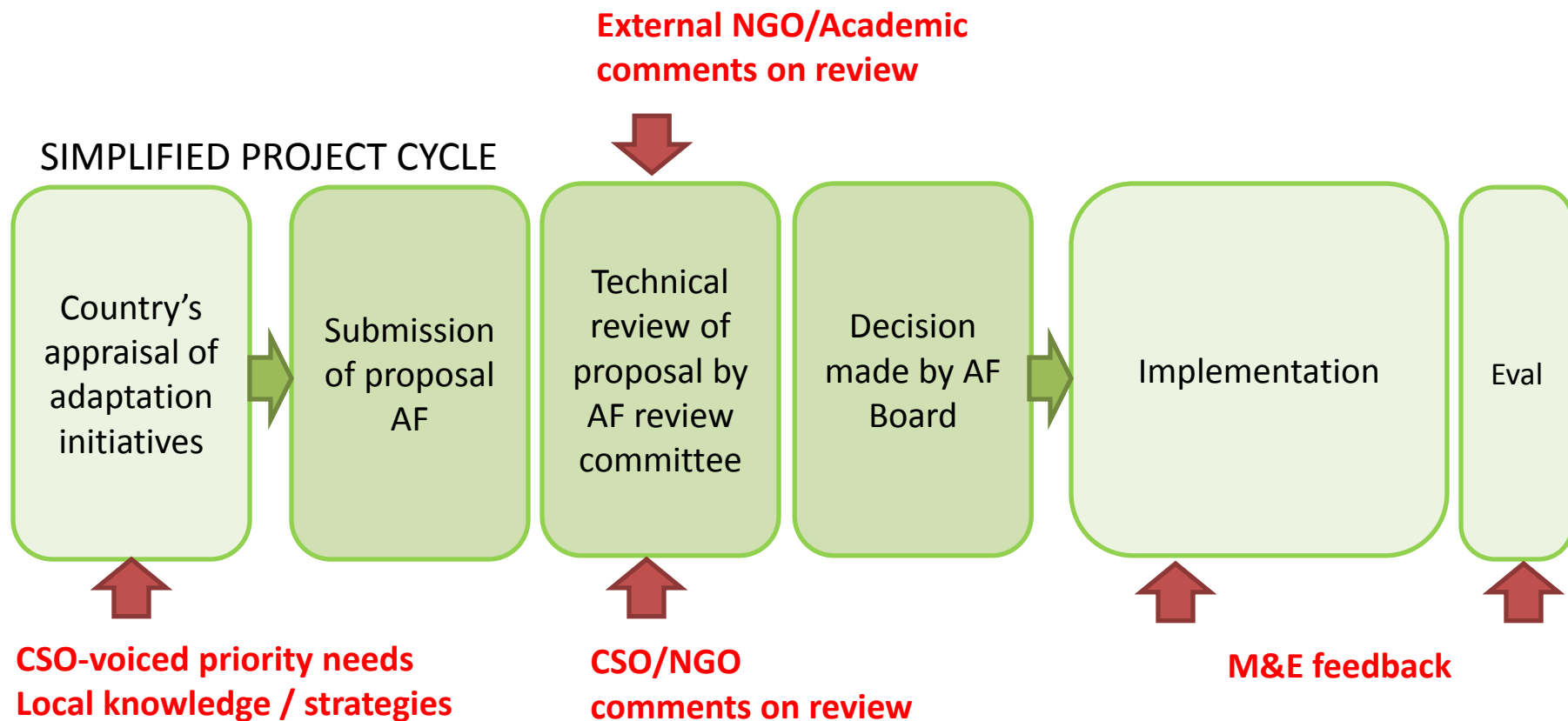
- Benefits to **most vulnerable**
- Safeguards against maladaptation

- Differing adaptation needs **within community**
- Equitable sharing of benefits





# The review process and implementation aim to mainstream the voice of vulnerable communities



**Challenge:** How can funds better engage **local communities and local practitioners** in providing input at the technical review stage?



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# The Fund has a mandate to finance concrete adaptation activities, not mainstreaming per se

- **Concrete Adaptation Project:**

“a set of activities at producing **visible and tangible results** on the ground by reducing vulnerability and increasing the adaptive capacity of human and natural systems to respond to the impacts of climate change...”

**Challenge:** With limited resources, how to balance project-based adaptation vs. mainstreaming activities to address:

- (i) **urgent adaptation needs** in the most vulnerable communities
- (ii) achieving concrete results **at scale?**



# Direct Access is an innovative modality that allows national entities full control over projects

- **Why is Direct Access groundbreaking?** It puts into practice the principles in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (**ownership, harmonization, alignment, mutual accountability and results**) by allowing entities in developing countries to access adaptation finance directly without going through an intermediary.
- The fund uses strict fiduciary standards that are internationally recognized:
  - (i) Financial integrity and management
  - (ii) Institutional capacity
  - (iii) Transparency and self-investigative powers

**National Entities (15)**

**Multilateral Entities (10)**

**have to meet the same fiduciary standards** for accreditation, then can take on full responsibility for finance and implementation



# Does Direct Access offer potential to go from project-level to integration of adaptation at scale?



**Urgent infrastructure**  
**Small anti-salt dykes**

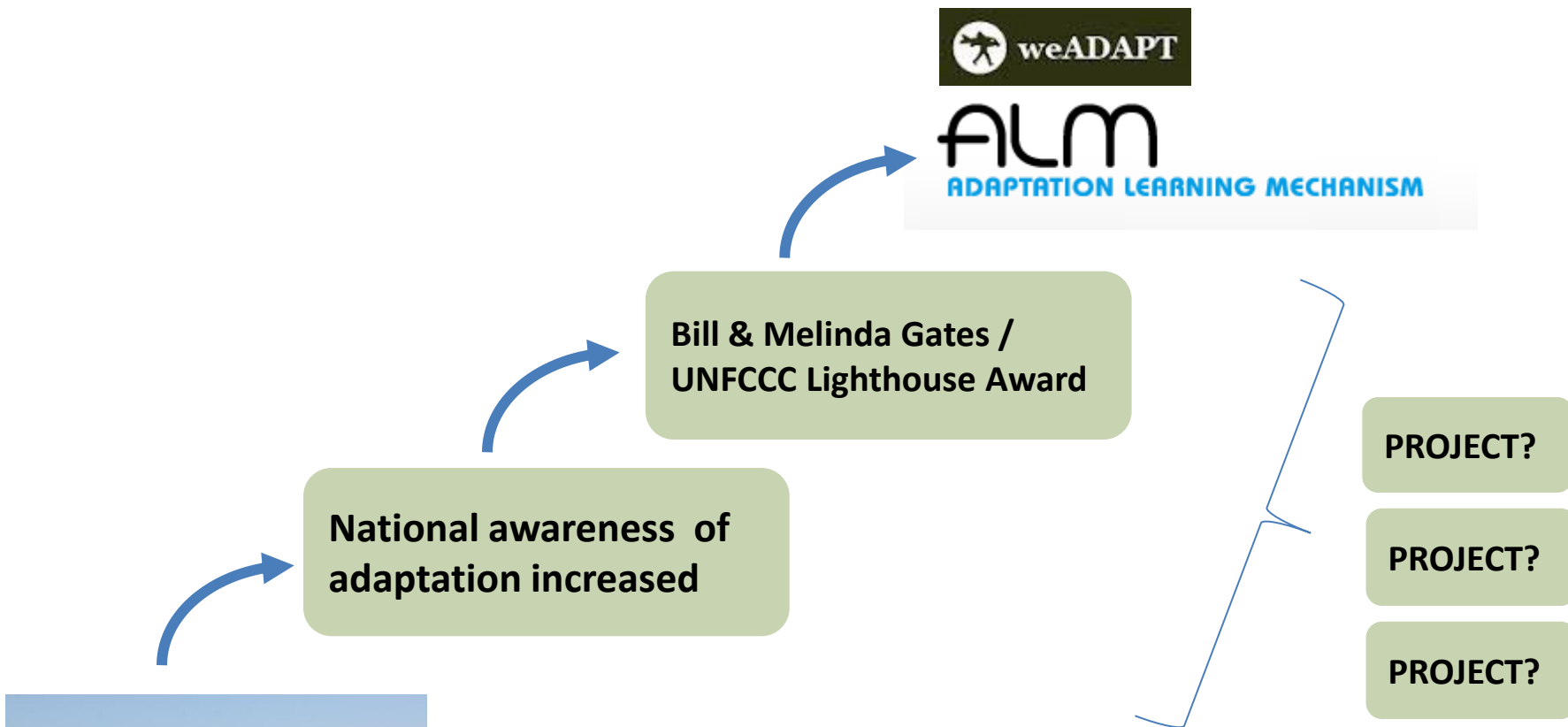


**Execution of works by womens groups**  
**Coastal Law revised with climate effects**

**Senegal:** Country entities & communities established priorities, managed all finances, executed project activities through CSOs – could this have happened with conventional financing?



# Does Direct Access offer potential to go from project-level to integration of adaptation at scale?



**THE LEGACY: Strong national institutions that do inclusive, community informed adaptation**

[http://unfccc.int/secretariat/momentum\\_for\\_change/items/7093.php](http://unfccc.int/secretariat/momentum_for_change/items/7093.php)



# Is there potential for Direct Access to mainstream concrete adaptation activities at national level?

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**Fundecooperacion, Non-profit, Costa Rica:** Motivated to become accredited since “*adaptation challenges go beyond the funds of the Adaptation Fund* “. Having strong in-country capacity on adaptation is seen as essential for replicability and sustainability of initiatives



# Three challenges facing adaptation finance in fully integrating 'the community voice' in decision-making

1

The AF has created an architecture that incorporates the community voice. How can international funds learn from this to better engage local actors in providing **input at design and review stage of proposals**?

2

How should countries balance limited adaptation resources to address:  
(i) **urgent adaptation needs** in the vulnerable communities (**projects**)  
(ii) achieving concrete results **at scale?** (**mainstreaming**)

3

Could Direct Access be the answer to mainstreaming – by creating the groundwork for communities and local government to be fully integrated? How do we **create evidence of what works for communities?**

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