

## **PRESS RELEASE**

(Bangkok, Thailand, Sept. 10, 2014) The Adaptation Fund's Climate Finance Readiness seminar series continues with today's opening in Bangkok, Thailand, of the third seminar of its Readiness Programme for Climate Finance. The Programme is designed to strengthen the effective and fully-operational direct access climate finance model the Fund has pioneered. This seminar, co-sponsored by UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) and supported by CDKN, is a three-day gathering convening stakeholders for dynamic and indepth discussions focusing on increasing the capacity of applicant and accredited implementing entities.

The Fund's <u>Climate Finance Readiness Seminar #3</u> is being held September 10-12, bringing together officials from the region's governments, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Tuvalu, and Vietnam. Diverse organizations are also joining the seminar, including the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Climate Action Network South Asia, Climate Development & Knowledge Network (CDKN), Centre for Global Change, German aid group GIZ, Practical Action, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), World Resources Institute (WRI), and others.

The Adaptation Fund's <u>Readiness Programme for Climate Finance</u> aims to help strengthen the capacity of national and regional entities to receive and manage direct access climate financing as they adapt and build resilience to changing climate conditions in sectors ranging from agriculture and food security to coastal zones and urban areas.

The Adaptation Fund's <u>direct access</u> modality enables national and regional entities to directly access financing and manage all aspects of climate adaptation and resilience projects, from design through implementation and monitoring. The Fund has accredited seventeen national and four regional implementing entities, and has committed more than US\$ 44 million to national implementing entities.

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The Adaptation Fund finances <u>projects and programmes</u> that help vulnerable communities in developing countries adapt to the negative effects of climate change. Initiatives are based on the country needs, views and priorities. The Adaptation Fund was established under the Kyoto Protocol of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and has committed US\$ 232 million in 40 countries since 2010 to help vulnerable communities in developing countries adapt to climate change. The Fund is financed in part by government and private donors, and also from a two percent share of proceeds of Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) issued under the Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism projects.

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