



ADAPTATION FUND



Pathé Dia, a hotel manager, gestures ruefully at the waves breaking against the jumble of boulders that line the shore of Saly Portudal. Just four years ago, tourists lounged under grass umbrellas, footballers played pick-up games, and fishermen unloaded their catches on a beach that was once where the ocean now churns. Saly Portudal is just one of countless coastal communities around the world that are suffering from sea-level rise and the other negative effects of accelerated climate change. After the beach was submerged, the largest tour operator in the Senegalese village departed and hotel room prices fell. "We can no longer sell a hotel with a beach, but a hotel with a sea, which obviously affects the prices," Dia said. As the number of tourists dwindled, so did the household incomes of Saly Portudal's many local craftsmen.

Sea-level rise caused by climate change is adding to the troubles of impoverished communities all along the West African coast. Erosion and salt-water flooding destroy rice fields, damage docks and buildings, pose risks to mangrove swamps, and cause silt buildups that hamper transit between rivers and the sea. West Africa is not alone. A global rise in temperature is transforming the daily realities of millions of people, from South America, to Asia and the tiny Pacific islands. In some regions, the productivity of once fertile lands has fallen due to scarce water resources. In others, increased flooding and rising sea levels threaten human health, habitats, and livelihoods.



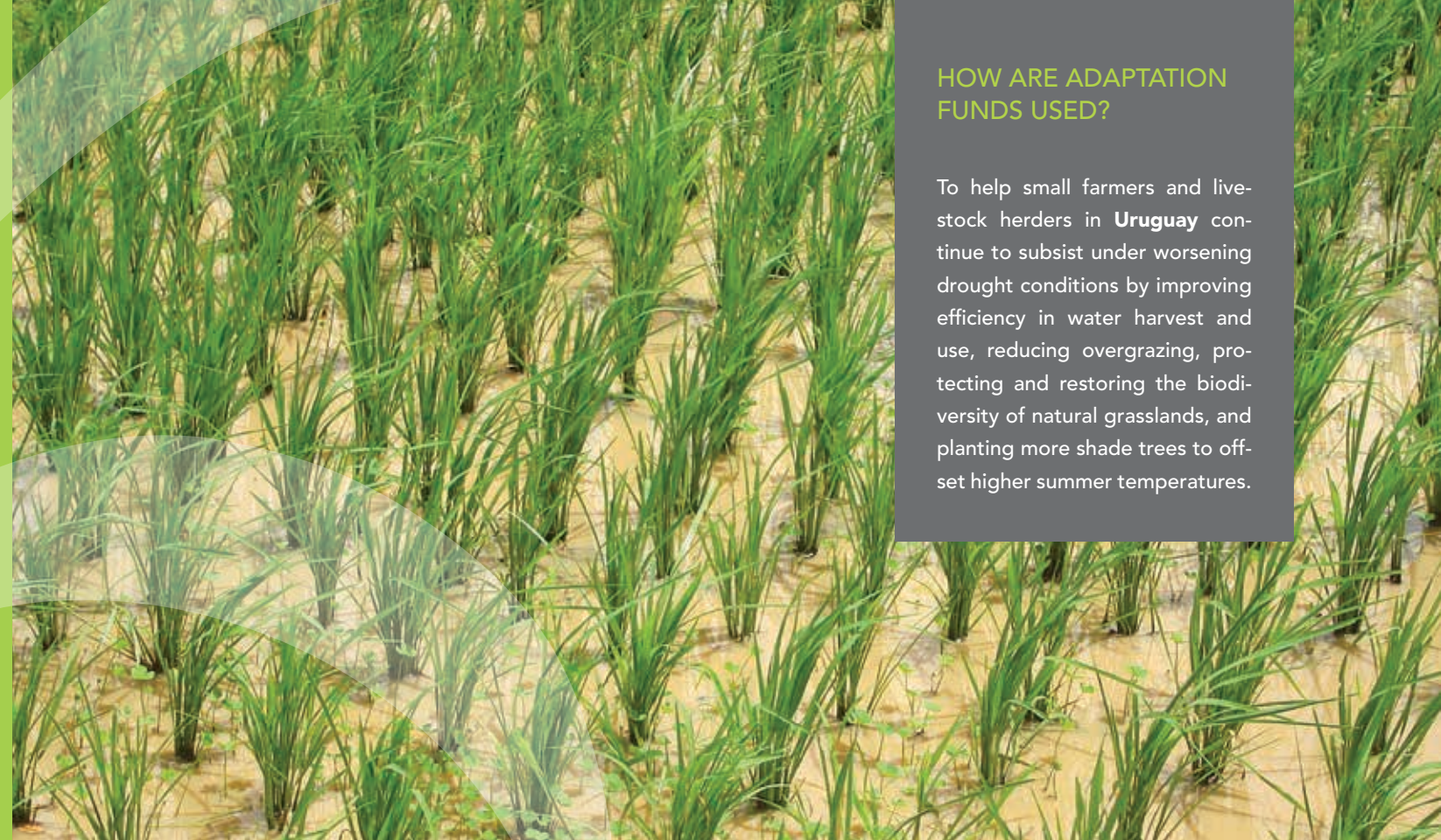
## A FUND FOR ADAPTATION

In the past three centuries, developing countries have been least responsible for burning the fossil fuels whose carbon emissions have led to climate change, yet are economically and geographically the most vulnerable to the adverse effects. A report by the Global Humanitarian Forum in 2009 posited that climate-related disasters affect about 240 million people each year, a figure that could rise to 375 million by 2015.

In 2007, 187 countries highlighted the need for adaptation by finalizing the establishment of the Adaptation Fund under the Bali Action Plan of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The fund, which began operating in 2008, finances projects that help developing countries adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. It is one of the only funds in the world specifically dedicated to the cause of adaptation. Since 2010, the fund has approved more than \$165 million for a total of 25 adaptation projects, including one that focuses on the coastal erosion issues in Saly Portudal and two other seaside villages in Senegal.

## HOW ARE ADAPTATION FUNDS USED?

To help small farmers and livestock herders in **Uruguay** continue to subsist under worsening drought conditions by improving efficiency in water harvest and use, reducing overgrazing, protecting and restoring the biodiversity of natural grasslands, and planting more shade trees to offset higher summer temperatures.

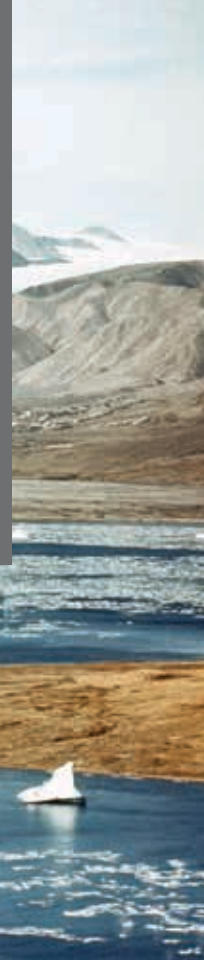






## HOW ARE ADAPTATION FUNDS USED?

To improve forecasting and hazard mapping, insurance schemes, new building codes, and other policies that will help rural residents in **Georgia** weather the increased incidences of landslides, mudflows, and flooding caused by earlier snowmelt and heavier runoff from alpine glaciers.



## WHY WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

People in developing countries who have the will, the knowledge, and the ability to adapt to climate change often lack the means. A recent study by the World Bank estimated that developing countries face climate-change adaptation costs ranging from US\$70 billion to US\$100 billion annually by the year 2050 if world average temperature rises by 20 degrees Celsius, as scientists predict.

Over the next two years, the Adaptation Fund will be working to raise \$100 million to meet the increased demand for project funding. In 2010, the first year the Fund was fully operational, financing went to four projects. In 2011, that figure had risen more than four-fold to 13 projects. The Fund expects demand for adaptation financing to continue increasing in the next few years as climate change continues to take its toll on people in poorer countries. Projections indicate that demand for funding in 2012 will reach USD 341 million, while the fund has USD 120 million available.



## HOW ARE ADAPTATION FUNDS USED?

To raise awareness in the **Solomon Islands** about the reasons for rising sea levels, more frequent and powerful rains and cyclones, and other climate change-related phenomena occurring in the **Western Pacific** in order to help residents better protect communities, infrastructure, and the small rural farms that support 80 percent of the population.







## HOW ARE ADAPTATION FUNDS USED?

To tap into **Mongolia's** deep cultural ties to nature and assist land managers in developing policies that balance the economic imperatives of livestock grazing, mining, and irrigation with ecosystem conservation practices that will help poor rural residents survive in the face of desertification and reduced rainfall.

## WHY GIVE TO THE ADAPTATION FUND?

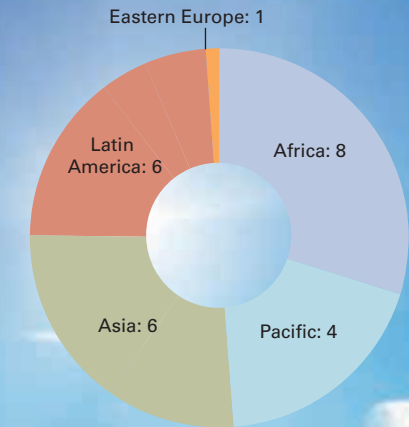
Global climate projections indicate that the need for adaptation financing in developing countries will continue to grow. The Adaptation Fund is at the forefront of this effort and operates according to the following concepts:

**EMPOWERMENT:** The Adaptation Fund Board has committed to supporting approaches to climate change adaptation that are strongly grounded in community consultations. The Fund does not prescribe approaches to adaptation, but allows for solutions that are technically sound, innovative, and location-specific.

The Fund also takes the unusual step of allowing strong, well-governed institutions in developing countries to access funds directly rather than routing the financing through a third-party multilateral institution. "Direct access," is an innovative means for these institutions to manage and implement their own projects or programs after meeting the Fund's stringent evaluation standards. Such empowerment represents a pioneering and unprecedented approach to environmental and climate change finance.

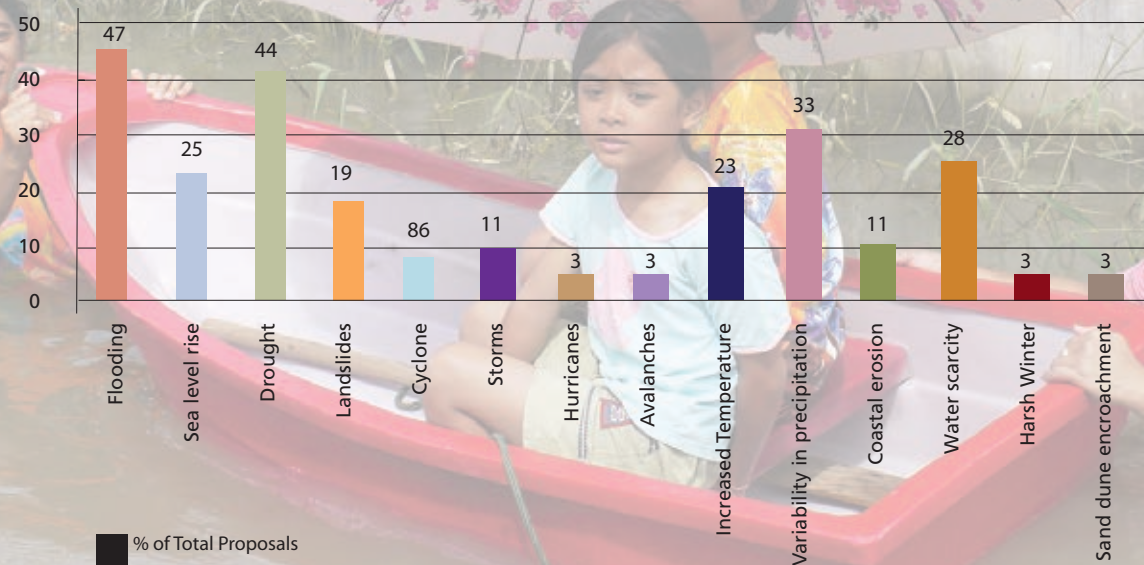
**EFFICIENCY:** The Fund has struck a balance between careful review of projects/programmes while facilitating swift disbursements to developing countries where the needs are urgent. Between the fund's inception and September 2011, 79 percent of funding has gone to projects and programs, while 21 percent went toward operational expenditures.

## FUNDED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES AS OF NOVEMBER 2012





## VULNERABILITIES TARGETED BY PROPOSALS



**RESULTS:** The Adaptation Fund has a robust results framework and reporting requirement to evaluate outcomes of projects and programs throughout their lifetimes and once they have reached maturity. All projects/programmes are required to aim for the Fund's expected results, including reduced exposure to climate-related hazards and threats, and diversified and strengthened livelihoods. Each project or programme also has its own monitoring and evaluation plan that evaluates progress based on indicators and targets disaggregated by gender.

**EDUCATION:** Most Adaptation Fund projects/programmes employ innovative techniques that have considerable potential to generate a body of knowledge on adaptation in different settings and sectors. The knowledge and management requirement of Adaptation Fund projects ensures that lessons learned from projects are documented, disseminated, and utilized in the long-term planning at the local, regional, and national levels.

### WHAT IMPACT WILL MY CONTRIBUTION HAVE?

Your contribution will support concrete climate change adaptation projects and programs in developing countries where communities are struggling to cope with the impacts of climate change.

### HOW TO GIVE?

Through its partnership with the United Nations Foundation, the Adaptation Fund receives private donations through its website. To contribute, visit [www.adaptation-fund.org](http://www.adaptation-fund.org)

The background features a dark grey horizontal band across the middle. Above and below this band are green areas. Large, overlapping, curved shapes in various shades of green and grey sweep across the entire image, creating a dynamic, abstract design.

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

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