Learning from Direct Access Modalities in Africa

Regional Climate Finance Workshop Abuja Nigeria

Alpha Oumar Kaloga
Policy Advisor Climate Change and Development
Germanwatch

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About the Adaptation Fund NGO Network (AFN)

• A coalition of NGOs and interested stakeholders tracking the development of the Adaptation Fund (AF) and its funded projects

Established in 2010

Critically and constructively accompany adaptation projects

Independent in-country civil society feedback and validation mechanism for the Adaptation Fund

Support of strategic objectives: Vulnerable people and direct access
2. Research set-up & objectives

- **CSE-Senegal**
  - Accreditation date: 2010
  - AF Project: Adaptation to Coastal Erosion in Vulnerable Areas
  - Status: Project under implementation

- **FNE-Benin**
  - Accreditation date: 2011
  - AF Project: Adaptation of Cotonou Lagoon Ecosystems and Human Communities to Sea Level Rise and extreme weather events impact
  - Status: Concept endorsed by AFB

- **MINIRENA - Rwanda**
  - Accreditation date: 2012
  - AF Project: Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change in North West Rwanda through Community Based Adaptation
  - Status: Project approved by AFB in 11/2013

- **ADA - Morocco**
  - Accreditation date: 2012
  - AF Project: Climate change adaptation projects in oasis zones
  - Status: Revised proposal submitted in 02/2014

- **NEMA - Kenya**
  - Accreditation date: 2012
  - AF Project: Integrated programme to build resilience to climate change and adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities in Kenya
  - Status: Project approved by AFB in 10/2014

- **SANBI - South Africa**
  - Accreditation date: 2011
  - AF Projects:
    1. Building resilience in the Greater uMgeni Catchment, South Africa
    2. Taking adaptation to the ground: A Small Grants Facility (SGF) for enabling local level responses to climate change
  - Status: Projects approved by AFB in 10/2014
3. Whole-System Approach

Four Areas of Assessment

a) Challenges
b) Enabling factors
c) Benefits
d) Adequacy of support
4. Accreditation Process

**CHALLENGES**

- Lack of ability to meet fiduciary standards
- Limited internal capacity of NIEs
- Language barriers for non-English speaking countries
- Overall, AP is perceived as overly intrusive and too much detail was required into what was considered inconsequential

**ENABLING FACTORS**

- Experience and capacity
- Alignment and domestic support
- Designated authority
- *Due diligence and organisational self-assessment of the capacity of the potential NIE applicants against FS*

**BENEFITS**

- Enhancing national commitment to adaptation
- Incentivizing strategic institutional reform;
- Strong signal of existence of strong institution
5. Project Development and Approval Process

**CHALLENGES**
- Early stage of adaptation planning
- Lack of clarity regarding the process
- Uncertainty about prospect of approval

**ENABLING FACTORS**
- Adequate institution and flexible governance structure
- Support by external consultants
- Meaningful consultative process
- Flexibility to look beyond NIE’s own modus operandi

**BENEFITS**
- Fostered collaboration of a variety of actors within the country
  - Enhance Transparency and accountability

PS: Two steps proposal submissions create a test-bed and richer learning experience for the NIE
6. Implementation

- Delay in project implementation
- Information management
- Compliance with the AF’s Environment and Social Policy
- Procurement processes

- Regular meetings of NIEs, technical committees and executing entities
- Establishment of standing steering committee
- Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)
7. Stakeholder Consultation and Integration

**Challenges**
- Expectation management
- Lack of guidance

**Enabling Factors**
- Adjusting the process according to local conditions
- Trust and authorization from local key authorities

**Benefits**
- Awareness raising
- Ensure local support
- Catalysing new partnerships
- Accountability and transparency
8. Country success stories

(1) Senegal: Early inclusion of civil society
(2) South Africa: Testing enhanced direct access – The Small Grants Facility
(3) Rwanda: Scaling up NIE adaptation efforts with a domestic fund

What to learn from Senegal? Early inclusion of civil society can contribute significantly to successful accreditation and an efficient project development and implementation process.

What to learn from South Africa? The applicability of enhanced direct access may be tested on a local scale that later can be scaled up on national level.

What to learn from Rwanda: Identifying and using existing in-country experiences and existing capacities regarding core NIE challenges, particularly accreditation and project development can contribute significantly to a successful project development process.

- **FONERWA** – Rwanda: catalyst for climate finance institutions
- **Fonds National pour l'Environnement - Benin**: mobilisation of domestic resources through an eco tax
- **CRGE Facility - Ethiopia**: mainstreaming climate change in development
- **Green Fund - South Africa**: blending abilities
Thank you!

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Kaloga Alpha: Kaloga@germanwatch.org