Why is Direct Access important?
Insights from South Africa’s National Implementing Entity (NIE) to the Adaptation Fund

Dr. Mandy Barnett, NIE Director, SANBI
November 2015
Taking Adaptation to the Ground: A Small Grants Facility for enabling local level responses to climate change (USD 2.5 million)

- Provide small grants
- At least 12
- Approx. USD100 000 each
Taking Adaptation to the Ground: A Small Grants Facility for enabling local level responses to climate change (USD 2.5 million)
- Provide small grants
- At least 12
- Approx. USD 100,000 each

Building resilience in the Greater uMngeni Catchment, South Africa (USD 7.5 million)
- Early warning systems
- Climate-proof settlements
- Ecosystem based adaptation
- Climate resilient agriculture
**South African NIE Timeline**

1. Sept 2011: Accreditation
2. Sept 2012: Operationalisation
3. August 2012: First NIE SC meeting
4. Oct 2012: Stakeholder Consultation
6. Nov 2012: Call for Proposals
7. Jan 2013: Proposal selection and development
8. Concept submission
9. July 2013: Concept approval
10. Detailed design – 12 months
11. July 2014: Submission for October 2014 board meeting
12. October 2014: Approval of both projects
14. October 2015: Inception Small Grants Facility
15. November 2015: Inception uMngeni Resilience

- Accreditation takes time
- Enabling environment takes time
- Project Development takes time
- Institutional readiness takes time
Taking Adaptation to the Ground: A Small Grants Facility for enabling local level responses to climate change
(USD 2.5 million)
• Provide small grants
• At least 12
• Approx. USD100 000 each
The participatory project development process took one year

Good process enables:
• Unlocking local and indigenous knowledge
Building resilience in the Greater uMngeni Catchment, South Africa (USD 7.5 million)

- Early warning systems
- Climate-proof settlements
- Ecosystem based adaptation
- Climate resilient agriculture
Building resilience in the Greater uMngeni Catchment, South Africa (USD 7.5 million)

- Early warning systems
- Climate-proof settlements
- Ecosystem based adaptation
- Climate resilient agriculture
Good process enables:

- The building of new partnerships for cross sectoral action (and sustainability)

Building resilience in the Greater uMngeni Catchment, South Africa (USD 7.5 million)

- Early warning systems
- Climate-proof settlements
- Ecosystem based adaptation
- Climate resilient agriculture
Multiple Institutional Strengthening co-benefits through Direct Access

At the National Level:
- Sound governance and national ownership
- Stronger profiling and mainstreaming of adaptation

The National Implementing Entity:
- Policy and regulatory environment strengthened
- Developed new standard operating procedures for projects

The Executing Entities:
- Improved capacity for Climate Change Adaptation, in local government and civil society
- New tools for receiving and spending climate finance

Local empowerment:
- Empowerment of local community members to participate in Adaptation Action.
Direct Access has enabled:

• An opportunity to develop AF-funded projects as part of **coherent, country driven programme**

• The **elevation of the Climate Change Adaptation agenda**, and associated unlocking of political will and domestic resources for adaptation

• An opportunity to **mainstream Climate Change Adaptation into development and service delivery interventions** at the local level

• Investments in the development of sustainable partnerships and the **unlocking of cross sectoral responses to Climate Change**

• The **gradual building of capacity in institutions and individuals** who are new to adaptation but crucial to its successful implementation
Merci
Thank you