



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.23-24/5
19 November 2018

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION GRANT PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT NIE ACCREDITATION FOR AFGHANISTAN

Background

1. At its twenty-second meeting, the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat (the secretariat) had prepared document AFB/B.22/6 which outlined the possible elements and options for a phased programme to support readiness for direct access to climate finance for national and regional implementing entities and presented a framework and budget for a first phase of the programme. Following a discussion of the document, the Board decided to:

- (a) *Approve Phase I of the Readiness Programme as detailed in document AFB/B.22/6, on the basis that it would follow performance-based funding principles;*
- (b) *Take note of the options provided by the secretariat on a programme to support readiness for direct access to climate finance for national and regional implementing entities;*
- (c) *Request the secretariat to submit to the Board intersessionally between the twenty-second and twenty-third meetings, execution arrangements, criteria/eligibility criteria to allocate the funds to the accredited implementing entities for specific activities, as well as a timeline of activities, with a view to start implementing the programme before the twenty-third Board meeting; and*
- (d) *Approve an increase in the Administrative Budget of the Board, secretariat and trustee for FY2014 of US\$ 467,000 for the programme described in AFB/B.22/6, and authorize the trustee to transfer such amount to the secretariat and request the trustee to set aside the balance amount of US\$ 503,000 from the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund resources for subsequent commitment and transfer at the instruction of the Board.*

(Decision B.22/24)

2. At the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 10), the Parties recognized the Readiness Programme of the Adaptation Fund and decided to:

Invite further support for the readiness programme of the Adaptation Fund Board for direct access to climate finance in accordance with decision 2/CMP.10, paragraph 5;

Decision 1/CMP.10

and also decided to:

Request the Adaptation Fund Board to consider, under its readiness programme, the following options for enhancing the access modalities of the Adaptation Fund:

- (a) *Targeted institutional strengthening strategies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to accredit more national or regional implementing entities to the Adaptation Fund;*
- (b) *Ensuring that accredited national implementing entities have increased and facilitated access to the Adaptation Fund, including for small-sized projects and programmes;*

Decision 2/CMP.10

3. Upon completion of Phase I of the Readiness Programme, the secretariat had prepared document AFB/B.25/5 which outlined the progress made in Phase I and proposed Phase II of the Readiness Programme, taking into account the results from Phase I of the programme and integrating decision 2/CMP10. Following a discussion of the document, the Board decided to:

Approve Phase II of the Readiness Programme, as outlined in document AFB/B.25/5, with a total funding of US\$ 965,000, including funding of US\$ 565,000 to be transferred to the secretariat's budget and funding of US\$ 400,000 to be set aside for small grants to National Implementing Entities from resources of the Adaptation Fund trust fund.

(Decision B.25/27)

4. At its twenty-seventh meeting, the Board decided to integrate the Readiness Programme into the Adaptation Fund (the Fund) work plan and budget and set aside funding for small grants to be directly transferred from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund. At this meeting, the Board decided to:

a) *Take note of the progress report for phase II of the Readiness Programme;*

b) *Integrate the Readiness Programme into the Adaptation Fund work plan and budget; and*

c) *Approve the proposal for the Readiness Programme for the fiscal year 2017 (FY17), comprising its work programme for FY17 with the funding of US\$ 616,500 to be transferred to the secretariat budget and US\$ 590,000 for direct transfers from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund for allocation as small grants.*

(Decision B.27/38)

5. At its twenty-third meeting, the Board had decided through decision B.23/26 to approve "the execution arrangements, criteria/eligibility criteria to allocate the funds to the accredited implementing entities for specific activities", contained in document AFB/B.23/5, which included grants for technical assistance and South-South (S-S) cooperation. Annex I to document AFB/B.23/5 presented an application form through which implementing entities could submit proposals for S-S cooperation grants.

6. Based on the Board Decision B.23/26, the first call for readiness project proposals was issued in May 2014 and eligible countries were given the opportunity to submit applications for a readiness grant.

7. According to the Board Decision B.28/30, a readiness project proposal can be submitted for consideration by the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and decision by the Board at the regular meetings of the Board and can also be submitted for review during an intersessional period of less than 24 weeks between two consecutive Board meetings.

8. Following Decision B.31/28 by the Board to approve the secretariat work schedule and work plan for fiscal year 2019 as contained in document AFB/EFC.22/7, the secretariat

launched a call for project proposals intersessionally between the thirty-first and thirty-second Board meetings and eligible countries were given the opportunity to submit applications for a S-S cooperation grant to receive support for accreditation through a selected number of eligible NIEs.

9. The size of the S-S cooperation grant could be up to a maximum of US\$ 50,000 per country as outlined in document AFB/B.27/7, and the eligible support could include but was not limited to (i) identifying potential NIE candidates and/or (ii) preparing an application for NIE candidates to be submitted to the Accreditation Panel and/or (iii) continuous support during the application process. It is expected that peer-peer support will effectively help build national capacity and sustainability.

10. Eligible NIEs to provide peer support were those entities that had tangible achievements with the Fund. The selection was based on the accredited entity's experience with the Adaptation Fund, including in project preparation and implementation, and in supporting other countries at different stages of their application processes. Eligible NIEs were the ones fulfilling all of the following criteria, as at the time of the 23-24 intersessional review cycle:

- Have been accredited by the Board,
- Have an Adaptation Fund project or programme under implementation, hence demonstrating effective compliance with the AF fiduciary standards, and
- Have experience advising, participating in, or organizing support to other NIE candidates.

11. The following readiness project proposal was submitted by an NIE eligible to receive South-South Cooperation Grants, i.e. the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

12. The present document introduces the South-South cooperation grant project proposal submitted by NABARD on behalf of the government of Afghanistan. It includes a request for funding of US\$ 50,000 outlining the activities to be undertaken by NABARD to support the accreditation process in Afghanistan.

13. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal and completed a review sheet.

14. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with NABARD, and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.

15. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25.15, the proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.

Project Summary

Project – Application for a grant to support NIE accreditation in Afghanistan

Implementing Entity: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

Project Execution Cost: 0

Total Project Cost: USD 50,000

Implementing Fee: 0

Financing Requested: USD 50,000

Project Background and Context:

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) of India, as an accredited national implementing entity (NIE) of the Adaptation Fund, proposes to provide peer support to the government of Afghanistan during the application process for accreditation of an NIE in Afghanistan. NABARD intends to provide support for identifying and nominating a suitable candidate NIE, training and capacity building for candidate NIE staff to prepare and submit an application for accreditation, and support for responding to queries raised by the Accreditation Panel (AP) after the initial submission of the application for accreditation.



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ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL UNDER THE READINESS PROGRAMME

PROJECT CATEGORY: South-South Cooperation Grant

South-South support recipient Country: **Afghanistan**Accredited Implementing Entity: **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development(NABARD)**Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): **50,000**Reviewer and contact person: **Farayi Madziwa**Co-reviewer(s): **Mourad Shalaby**IE Contact Person: **Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala**

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments 6 November 2018	Comments 19 November 2018
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country that does not yet have an accredited NIE a Party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes	
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project submitted through an Implementing Entity accredited by the Board?	Yes	
	2. Is the project submitted through an accredited NIE eligible to provide South-South support?	Yes	

<p>Project Eligibility</p>	<p>1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund in the country seeking accreditation endorsed the project?</p>	<p>No. The endorsement letter is signed by a different individual to the name of the Designated authority (DA) on record with the Adaptation Fund Board secretariat.</p> <p>CAR1: Please submit a letter of endorsement signed by the DA to the Adaptation Fund for Afghanistan. Please note that the DA the secretariat has on record is Mr. Ghulam Mohd Malikyar, Deputy Director – General (Technical Affairs) at the National Environment Protection Agency (NEPA). Should the DA have changed, please send the secretariat a formal notification from the government of Afghanistan appointing the new DA. The notification should be made in writing and signed by either a Minister, or by an authority at cabinet level, or by the Ambassador of Afghanistan.</p> <p>You can find more information on the process of nomination of a DA for the Adaptation Fund in paragraphs 20-22 of the Fund’s Operational Policies and Guidelines available on the following link: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/OPG-amended-in-March-2016.pdf</p>	<p>CAR1: Addressed.</p>
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	2. Are the proposed activities to support NIE accreditation adequate?	Yes. The activities follow a chronological and reasonable format.	
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project funding within the cap for South-South Cooperation grants set by the Board?	Yes	
	2. If the implementing entity has requested, is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	Not applicable. The NIE has not requested an IE management fee.	
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	Yes. The proposed timeframe of 15 months is reasonable considering that the candidate NIE has not yet been identified.	
	2. Is a summary breakdown of the budget for the proposed activities included?	Yes	

Secretariat's Overall Comment	<p>The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development(NABARD) of India, as an accredited national implementing entity (NIE) of the Adaptation Fund, proposes to provide peer support to the government of Afghanistan during the application process for accreditation of an NIE in Afghanistan. NABARD intends to provide support for identifying and nominating a suitable candidate NIE, training and capacity building for candidate NIE staff to prepare and submit an application for accreditation, and support for responding to queries raised by the Accreditation Panel (AP) after the initial submission of the application for accreditation.</p> <p>The initial technical review found that the proposal had not been endorsed by the Designated Authority to the Adaptation Fund for Afghanistan, and therefore corrective action was needed.</p> <p>The final review finds that the proponent has addressed the corrective action request made to the initial technical review.</p>
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Date:

19 November 2018



Application for a Grant to support NIE accreditation

Date: 1th November, 2018

Adaptation Fund Grant ID:

Country: Afghanistan
(Recipient country)

National Implementing Entity: National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD)

A. Timeframe of Activity

Expected start date of support	1 st January 2019
Completion date of support	31 st March 2020

B. Experience participating in, organizing support to, or advising other NIE candidates

Describe the type of support provided to other national institutions, relevant to the accreditation process

Year	Type of support provided	Outcome of the support	Country /institution supported
2016-17 (August 2016)	Organized Readiness Workshop of Adaptation Fund (23 -25 August 2016 in Mumbai)	Accreditation process, Project Management, Compliances, etc. were briefed for potential NIEs	Participation from around 29 Countries
2016-17	Training Program for Accreditation Process	Accreditation Process and its compliances were explained in detail through the training program to the neighboring countries.	Nepal & Bangladesh

C. Proposed activities to support NIE accreditation


Describe the activities to be undertaken to support the accreditation of NIE candidate(s) in the target country : The proposed activities for supporting Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) for Accreditation process are categorized into:

- I. Identifying Potential NIE Candidates in Afghanistan
- II. Shortlisting Potential NIE Candidates
- III. Supporting identified NIE through Training & Capacity Building for preparation & submission of accreditation application
- IV. Advising and handholding the potential NIE during the application process & revision based on feedback from the fund

There are various components under each of the activities. The detailed activities, along with timelines and budget have been included in **Annexure-I**.

D. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures

Head of National Implementing Entity (NIE)	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Implementing Entity Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala Chairman, National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Mumbai (India) 400051		1st November 2018	Shri Shankar A Pande Chief General Manager Farm Sector Policy Department (FSPD), NABARD Head Office, C-24, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai -400 051 (INDIA)	+91-022- 26530094	fspd@nabard.org climate.change@nabard.org

E. Record of request of support on behalf of the government

Provide the name and position of the government official, the Designated Authority of the Adaptation Fund, and indicate date of endorsement. If the proposed support targets more than one country, list the officials requesting support for all the participating countries. The request letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the application.

Schah Zaman Maiwandi <i>Director General National Environmental Protection Agency Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</i>	Date: 10-28-2018 (October 28, 2018)
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Annexure –I : Proposed Activities to Support NIE accreditation

South-South Cooperation Grant of Adaptation Fund																						
NABARD (NIE) Supporting the Govt. of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan for NIE Accreditation Process																						
S N o	Proposed Support Activities	Expected Output of the Activities	Country /Institution to be Supported	Reque sted budget (USD)	Tentative timeline (31 st March 2020)																	
					M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15			
I	Identifying Potential NIE Candidates in Afghanistan			1,806																		
a	Constituting a Consultative Group for the NIE accreditation process (From Host Country & Accredited NIE Country)	Guidance & Steering the entire process of accreditation	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan																			
b	Preparation of a Checklist for the accreditation – As per AF requirements & circulating the checklist to the potential NIEs	Ready reference of forms/ compliances required for accreditation and comparative analysis of various entities																				
c	Compiling list of potential NIE candidates in Afghanistan, along with their profile and required documentation	SWOT analysis and giving an opportunity to all the potential NIE candidates in Afghanistan																				
II	Shortlisting Potential NIE Candidates			11,597																		
a	Giving potential NIEs a timeframe for submission of the profile and required documentation	For preparing required proposal/ documentation for Shortlisting of the potential NIEs based on the profile and compliances	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan																			
b	Convening a Workshop with the potential NIEs for shortlisting	Presentation by potential NIEs pitching their suitability as the NIE for Afghanistan																				
c	Final Shortlisting based on the recommendation of the Consultative Group	Identifying the NIE in Afghanistan for recommendation																				
III	Supporting identified NIE through Training & Capacity Building for preparation of application to be submitted			34,791																		
a	Providing a timeframe to identified NIE for compliances and documentation	For internal processes and required documentation	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan																			
b	Convening Workshop with the Identified NIE in Afghanistan for the Accreditation process and the compliances	Discussing the compliances status and requirements for accreditation process																				

c	Training & Capacity Building of the Identified NIE for: Legal Status, Financial & Management Integrity, Institutional Capacity, Transparency, ESMF framework & Fiduciary standards																				
d	Exposure visit to ongoing AF projects in India and meeting with concerned officials in India																				
e	Presentation by identified NIE to the Consultative Group for the above compliances/ forms /documents																				
f	Review by the Consultative Group	Feedback, if any to the identified NIE & finalization																			
g	Submission of application to the fund	Submission of completed application to the AF																			

IV	Advising the NIE during the application process & revision based on feedback from the fund			1,806																		
a	Supporting the identified NIE during the application process	Compiling the feedback received from AF and discussions with the empowered committee	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan																			
b	Revisions to be done based on the feedback from the fund	Revisions and finalization of draft																				
c	Providing a timeframe to identified NIE for compliances and documentation	For internal processes and required documentation																				
d	Presentation to the Consultative Group	Finalization of the application																				
e	Final submission to the fund post the feedback	Final submission to AF board																				
Total Grant Requested (USD)				50,000																		



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Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
National Environmental Protection Agency



International Environmental Relations Division

Date: 14/11/2018

No: 93 58

To: The Adaptation Fund Board

c/o Global Environment Facility (GEF)
Mail Stop: N 7-700
1818 H Street NW
Washington DC 20433
United States of America (USA)

Subject: Introduction of the Designated Authority of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) to the Adaptation Fund (AF)

Dear Madam/Sir,

In my capacity as Director General of the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), Member of the Cabinet and Member of the Council of Ministers of the GIROA, I am writing this letter to introduce Mr. Ezatullah Sediqi, Deputy Director General - Technical Affairs of the NEPA as Designated Authority of the GIROA to the AF.

Hereby, the full details of Mr. Ezatullah Sediqi along with the sample of his signature have been communicated for your consideration and further action.

Full Name: Mr. Ezatullah Sediqi
Position: Deputy Director General - Technical Affairs
Institution: National Environmental Protection Agency
Tel: +093 (0) 799622517
Email: techddg.nepa@gmail.com / techddg@nepa.gov.af

At the end, the NEPA of the GIROA avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurance of its highest consideration to the Adaptation Fund Board.

Sincerely,

Shah Zaman Maiwandi
Director General
National Environmental Protection Agency
Member of the Cabinet
Member of the Council of Ministers
Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan



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