



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.27/28  
16 March 2021

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Adaptation Fund Board  
Project and Programme Review Committee  
Twenty-seventh Meeting  
Bonn, Germany (virtual), 22-23 March 2021

**PROGRAMME ON INNOVATION:  
OPERATIONALIZATION OF LARGE GRANTS FOR  
INNOVATION**

## Introduction

1. This document presents the Adaptation Fund Programme on Innovation: Request for Proposals for Large Grants for Innovation.

2. At the second session of the twenty-sixth meeting of the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC), the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat (the secretariat) presented a document AFB/PPRC.26.b/16 that describes the proposed objectives of the innovation large grants including the review criteria, expected grant sizes, implementation modalities, review process and other relevant features. Having considered the recommendations of the PPRC, the Board decided:

- (a) *To approve the process for providing funding for innovation through large grants to Implementing Entities (IEs) as described in document AFB/PPRC.26.b/16; including the proposed objectives, review criteria, expected grant sizes, implementation modalities, review process and other relevant features as described in the document;*
- (b) *That the large grants for innovation would fall outside the country cap approved by the Board in decision B.13/23 or, in the case of regional or multi-regional proposals, the regional provision, whereas they would count against the Multilateral Implementing Entity cap as per decision B.12/9;*
- (c) *To request the secretariat to prepare the first Request for Proposals to IEs for US \$30 million to be launched by the first quarter of calendar year of 2021; and*
- (d) *To request the secretariat to consider the need to develop specific objectives and indicators for the innovation aspects of the projects, beyond what is included in the regular project performance reporting process, and make relevant recommendations to the Board at its thirty-seventh meeting.*

*(Decision B.35.b/8)*

3. This document relates to implementation of the mandate under sub-paragraph (c) of the aforementioned decision.

## Operationalization of Innovation Large Grants

4. Pursuant to document AFB/PPRC.26.b/16, this document presents the materials necessary for issuing the Request for Proposals to the Implementing Entities, namely:

- (a) "Request for proposals for innovation large grant" presented in Annex I;
- (b) Project proposal templates (Annex II);
- (c) Review template (Annex III); and
- (d) "Instructions for Preparing Innovation Large Grants Proposals" (Annex IV).

5. Document AFB/PPRC.26.b/16 outlines that the recommended implementation modalities for innovation large grants will be similar to process for the project and programme submissions under the “Action Pillar” funding window, which includes a two-step process for single-country projects/programmes and a three-step process for regional proposal<sup>1</sup>, the secretariat has developed the project proposal templates for a pre-concept proposal, concept proposal and fully-developed proposal for innovation large grants, as presented in Annex II. It should be noted that, while the project proposal templates are by-and-large consistent with the corresponding templates for other funding windows of the Fund, they include in Part II of Project/Programme Justification, where Sections B and C in the project proposal template are specifically concerned with describing how the project/programme encourages or accelerates development of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies. The funding project proposal n template includes an additional question in Part II of Project/Programme Justification, Section K, related to how the project/programme draws on multiple perspectives on innovation from e.g., communities that are vulnerable to climate change, research organizations, or other partners.

6. The review template for proposals submitted under this window, as presented in Annex III, is the template that would be used to aid the review process and communicate the findings to the IEs.

7. Annex IV “Instructions for Preparing a Request for Innovation Large Grants Proposals” serves as a guide to IEs on how to prepare a complete submission for this funding window. The instructions to develop innovation large grant proposals are in line with those specified for regular projects and programmes in the Fund’s Operation Policies and Guidelines (OPG) Annex 5.

8. It should be noted that instructions to develop innovation large grants are intended to be complemented by the forthcoming<sup>2</sup> Document AFB/B.36/8 “Further Clarification of the Vision and Definition for Innovation under the Adaptation Fund: Analysis of Relevant Elements and Guidance on Review Criteria” mandated through Decision B35.b/9 that requested the secretariat to prepare a document that further clarifies the definition and elaborates on the vision for innovation under the Fund, including the guidance on review criteria for innovation grant proposals, to guide further programming on innovation more broadly. The review criteria in Document AFB/B.36/8 further elaborates on the eponymous section of Document AFB/PPRC.26.b/16.

## **Project Formulation Support for Innovation Large Grants**

### *Single country projects/ programmes*

9. National implementing entities (NIEs) that are at the concept development stage of the Fund’s project cycle process have the option to request a project formulation grant (PFG) up to a maximum of US\$ 30,000 per project together with their submission of the project concept to the Board. PFGs can support project formulation activities, including among others feasibility studies or consultations. A PFG could only be awarded when a project concept has been presented to and endorsed by the Board. The template for a Request for Project Formulation Grant (PFG) is available under [Project Proposal Materials](#). To complement the PFGs and

<sup>1</sup> Pre-concept (regional projects and programmes only) and concept stages are optional, but concept stage in particular is advised for large grants for innovation submissions.

<sup>2</sup> The document is expected to be presented at the thirty-sixth meeting of the Board.

support the undertaking of specialist technical assessments during project preparation and design, the Board has also made available [Project Formulation Assistance \(PFA\)](#) grants under the Readiness Programme, up to a maximum of US\$ 20,000 per project, which are also available to NIEs that apply for innovation large grants. PFGs would be funded from the provision dedicated to the Large Grants for Innovation whereas PFAs would be financed outside the provision. For a project for which PFG funding is sought, the total amount of funding inclusive of PFG (but not PFA) cannot exceed US\$ 5 million.

### *Regional projects/programmes*

10. Regional and multilateral implementing entities (RIEs and MIEs) that are at the concept development stage of the Fund's project cycle process have the option to request a PFG up to a maximum of US\$ 30,000 per project together with their submission of the regional project concept to the Board.

### **Timeline of Submission**

11. NIEs, RIEs and MIEs are invited to submit their small grant funding proposals following the same deadlines as regular projects and programmes. Therefore, the Board may consider the first proposals starting from its thirty-seventh meeting.

12. The proposals for innovation large grants will be presented for discussion at the PPRC regardless of whether they are technically recommended or not, pursuant to Decision B.34/50, which "[request[s] the PPRC to continue discussing innovation grants, project scale-up grants and learning grants, and other proposals from any new funding windows" whether they are technically recommended or not.

### **Recommendation**

13. The PPRC may want to consider document AFB/PPRC.27/28 and recommend that the Board decides to:

(a) Approve the Large Grant Project Proposal template, the Review Criteria template and the Instructions for Preparing a Proposal for Innovation Large Grants as described in Annex II, III and IV of document AFB/PPRC.27/28; and

(b) Launch the request for proposals so that submissions of Innovation Large Grants proposals are invited to be considered as early as the thirty-seventh meeting of the Board.

### **Annexes**

Annex I: Innovation Large Grants Request for Proposals

Annex II: Innovation Large Grant Project Proposal Templates

Annex III: Review Criteria Template

Annex IV: Instructions for Preparing Proposals for Innovation Large Grants

## Annex I

### Request for Innovation Large Grant Proposals

#### Request for Proposals

The Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) invites eligible Parties to submit proposals for large-grant projects, using the services of accredited national implementing entities (NIEs), Regional Implementing Entities (RIEs) and Multilateral Implementing Entities (MIEs). Proposals submitted will be considered under the Adaptation Fund (AF) Programme on Innovation: Large Grants Projects, under the Innovation Facility of the Adaptation Fund.

This funding opportunity makes available grants of up to US\$ 5 million to NIEs, RIEs and MIEs starting with the first request for proposals under an indicative set-aside of US\$ 30 million, approved at second session of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board in October 2020.

#### Objectives

The AF Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) was approved by the Adaptation Fund Board (AFB) in October 2017 and focuses on three main pillars: Action; Innovation; and Learning and Sharing. The MTS implementation plan outlines expected results, outputs, and activities that will be undertaken to put the MTS into action, indicators for measuring performance and a tentative budget and timeline.

The objective of the innovation pillar of the MTS is to support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies. This objective will be supported through the establishment of an Innovation Facility, which will include small and large grants. All accredited implementing agencies, whether national, regional or multilateral, will be eligible to receive large grants for innovation. The large grants for innovation may fund single-country, regional or multi-regional projects and programmes.

For the large grants specifically, two expected results have been identified by the MTS implementation plan:

- ***Successful innovations rolled out.*** *Innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies that have demonstrated success in one country spread to new countries/regions.*
- ***Viable innovations scaled up.*** *Innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies that have demonstrated viability at a small scale piloted at larger scales.*

The MTS implementation plan also states that the expected outcome of the innovation pillar will be that innovation for effective, long-term adaptation to climate change will be accelerated, encouraged, and enabled.

## Eligibility

Implementing Entities (IEs) applying for innovation grants must be a National Implementing Entity (NIE), Regional Implementing Entity (RIE) or Multilateral Implementing Entity (MIE) to the Adaptation Fund and have an accreditation status of “Accredited”.

## How It Works

The innovation facility will provide at least six large grants of up to US\$ 5 million to NIEs, RIEs and MIEs starting with the first request for proposals under a set-aside of US\$ 30million launched in 2021. A second request for proposals under a set-aside of US\$ 60 million is expected to be launched in 2022.

The implementation modalities will be similar to that which apply to the single-country and regional concrete adaptation projects and programmes under the Action pillar of the MTS. It is recommended that a two-step process will apply to single-country projects/programmes and a three-step process to regional proposals. Furthermore, the proposal submission timelines with respect to Board meetings or intersessional review cycles are similar to those of regular projects and programmes.

## Project Formulation Support

### *Single country projects/ programmes*

NIEs that are at the concept development stage of the Fund’s project cycle process have the option to request a project formulation grant (PFG) up to a maximum of US\$ 30,000 per project together with their submission of the project concept to the Board. PFGs can support project formulation activities, including among others feasibility studies or consultations. A PFG could only be awarded when a project concept has been presented to and endorsed by the Board. The template for a Request for PFG is available under [Project Proposal Materials](#). To complement the PFGs and support the undertaking of specialist technical assessments during project preparation and design, the Board has also made available [Project Formulation Assistance \(PFA\)](#) grants under the Readiness Programme, up to a maximum of US\$ 20,000 per project, which are also available to NIEs that apply for innovation large grants. PFGs would be funded from the provision dedicated to the Large Grants for Innovation whereas PFAs would be financed outside the provision. For a project for which PFG funding is sought, the total amount of funding inclusive of PFG (but not PFA) cannot exceed US\$ 5 million.

### *Regional projects/programmes*

RIEs and MIEs that are at the concept development stage of the Fund’s project cycle process have the option to request a PFG up to a maximum of US\$ 30,000 per project together with their submission of the regional project concept to the AFB.

## Themes

The innovation grants at the Innovation Facility can be used to address adaptation challenges in various thematic areas, including but not limited to:

- Advancement of gender equality (women and girls' empowerment);
- Agriculture;
- Coastal zone management
- Disaster risk reduction;
- Enhancement and protection of cultural heritage;
- Focus on communities;
- Food security;
- Forests;
- Human health
- Inclusion of youth;
- Innovative adaptation financing;
- Marine and fisheries
- Nature-based solutions;
- Rural development;
- Social innovation;
- Urban adaptation;
- Water resources management; and
- Wildfire management

## Apply for Innovation Grant Funding

To apply for an innovation grant, please find below the project proposal form, letter of endorsement template, and guidelines on how to apply for an innovation grant. The innovation grant project proposal form must be submitted together with a signed letter of endorsement by the Designated Authority (DA) to the Adaptation Fund.

The Adaptation Fund Board accepts and considers project proposals for Innovation Grants twice a year. The proposals are considered at the regular meetings of the Board. The next submission deadline can be found under [Apply for Funding](#) and on the [calendar](#) on this website.

Submissions should be sent to [afbsec@adaptation-fund.org](mailto:afbsec@adaptation-fund.org) with copy to [sdobardzic@adaptation-fund.org](mailto:sdobardzic@adaptation-fund.org) and [agomes3@adaptation-fund.org](mailto:agomes3@adaptation-fund.org).

**Annex II**  
Funding Proposal Template

Application Template for Fully-Developed Proposal and Project Concept Proposal<sup>3</sup>



ADAPTATION FUND

**PROGRAMME ON INNOVATION:  
LARGE GRANTS PROJECTS**

**REQUEST FOR PROJECT FUNDING FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND**

The annexed form should be completed and transmitted to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat by email.

Please type in the responses using the template provided. The instructions attached to the form provide guidance to filling out the template.

Please note that a project must be fully prepared when the request is submitted.

Complete documentation should be sent to:

The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
1818 H Street NW  
MSN N7-700  
Washington, D.C., 20433  
U.S.A  
Fax: +1 (202) 522-3240/5  
Email: [afbsec@adaptation-fund.org](mailto:afbsec@adaptation-fund.org)

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<sup>3</sup> Single Country and Regional Concept proposals should complete Part I and Part II of the Project Proposal Template.





## ADAPTATION FUND

## SINGLE COUNTRY/ REGIONAL INNOVATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

### PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme:

Country/ Countries:

Thematic Focal Area<sup>4</sup>: Choose an item.

Type of Implementing Entity:

Implementing Entity:

Executing Entities:

Amount of Financing Requested: (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

### Project / Programme Background and Context:

*Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate in those countries.*

*Describe the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve. Write this as a concise problem statement: The current situation, the desired future, and the gap between the two. Provide brief further information on the current situation including both the regional and the country perspective. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate in those countries. Describe the climate change vulnerabilities*

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<sup>4</sup> Thematic areas are: Agriculture, Coastal Zone Management, Disaster risk reduction, Food security, Forests, Human health, Innovative climate finance, Marine and Fisheries, Nature-based solutions and ecosystem based adaptation, Protection and enhancement of cultural heritage, Social innovation, Rural development, Urban adaptation, Water management, Wildfire Management.

*impacting the country/region as well clearly explain the problem area that would be the focus of the innovation.*

### **Project / Programme Objectives:**

*List the main objectives of the project/programme.*

### **Project / Programme Components and Financing:**

*Fill in the table presenting the relationships among project components, outcomes, outputs, and countries in which activities would be executed, and the corresponding budgets.*

*For the case of a programme, individual components are likely to refer to specific sub-sets of stakeholders, regions and/or sectors that can be addressed through a set of well-defined interventions / projects.*

Project/Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6. Project/Programme Execution cost				
7. Total Project/Programme Cost				
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				
<b>Amount of Financing Requested</b>				

## Projected Calendar:

*Indicate the dates of the following milestones for the proposed project/programme*

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	
Mid-term Review (if planned)	
Project/Programme Closing	
Terminal Evaluation	

## PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

- A. Describe the project / programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities, how these activities would contribute to climate resilience. For regional projects describe also how they would build added value through the regional approach, compared to implementing similar activities in each country individually. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects would contribute to the overall increase in resilience.
- B. Describe how the project /programme would promote new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation, such as new approaches, technologies, and mechanisms.
- C. Describe how the project/programme aims to roll out successful innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies and/or describe how the project aims to scale up viable innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies.
- D. Describe how the project / programme would provide economic, social, and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project / programme would avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.
- E. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project / programme and explain how the regional approach would support cost-effectiveness.
- F. Describe how the project / programme is consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist. If applicable, please refer to relevant regional plans and strategies where they exist.
- G. Describe how the project / programme meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.
- H. Describe if there is duplication of project / programme with other funding sources, if any.
- I. Describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.

- J.** Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project / programme preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.
- K.** Describe how the project/programme draws on multiple perspectives on innovation from e.g., communities that are vulnerable to climate change, research organizations, or other partners in the innovation space, in the context in which the project/programme would take place.
- L.** Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.
- M.** Describe how the sustainability of the project / programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project / programme.
- N.** Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project / programme.

<b>Checklist of environmental and social principles</b>	<b>No further assessment required for compliance</b>	<b>Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance</b>
<i>Compliance with the Law</i>		
<i>Access and Equity</i>		
<i>Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups</i>		
<i>Human Rights</i>		
<i>Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment</i>		
<i>Core Labour Rights</i>		
<i>Indigenous Peoples</i>		
<i>Involuntary Resettlement</i>		
<i>Protection of Natural Habitats</i>		
<i>Conservation of Biological Diversity</i>		

<i>Climate Change</i>		
<i>Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</i>		
<i>Public Health</i>		
<i>Physical and Cultural Heritage</i>		
<i>Lands and Soil Conservation</i>		

### PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

- A.** Describe the arrangements for project / programme management at the regional and national level, including coordination arrangements within countries and among them. Describe how the potential to partner with national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs), has been considered, and included in the management arrangements.
- B.** Describe the measures for financial and project / programme risk management.
- C.** Describe the measures for environmental and social risk management, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.
- D.** Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan.
- E.** Include a results framework for the project / programme proposal, including milestones, targets, and indicators.
- F.** Demonstrate how the project / programme aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund

<b>Project Objective(s)<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>Project Objective Indicator(s)</b>	<b>Fund Outcome</b>	<b>Fund Outcome Indicator</b>	<b>Grant Amount (USD)</b>
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<sup>5</sup> The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

<b>Project Outcome(s)</b>	<b>Project Outcome Indicator(s)</b>	<b>Fund Output</b>	<b>Fund Output Indicator</b>	<b>Grant Amount (USD)</b>

**G.** Include a detailed budget with budget notes, broken down by country as applicable, a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs.

**H.** Include a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones.

## PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

**A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government<sup>6</sup>** *Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement for each country participating in the proposed project / programme. Add more lines as necessary. The endorsement letters should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letters with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:*

<i>(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)</i>	<i>Date: (Month, day, year)</i>
<i>(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)</i>	<i>Date: (Month, day, year)</i>
<i>(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)</i>	<i>Date: (Month, day, year)</i>

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<sup>6</sup> Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.



**B. Implementing Entity certification** *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person’s name, telephone number and email address*

<p>I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (.....list here.....) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.</p>	
<p><i>Name &amp; Signature</i> Implementing Entity Coordinator</p>	
<p>Date: <i>(Month, Day, Year)</i></p>	<p>Tel. and email:</p>
<p>Project Contact Person:</p>	
<p>Tel. And Email:</p>	



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**PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL INNOVATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME**

**PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION**

Title of Project/Programme:

Countries:

Thematic Focal Area: Choose an item.

Type of Implementing Entity:

Implementing Entity:

Executing Entities:

Amount of Financing Requested: (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

**Project / Programme Background and Context:**

*(Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective.)*

**Project / Programme Objectives:**

*(List the main objectives of the project/programme.)*

**Project / Programme Components and Financing:**

*(Fill in the table presenting the relationships among project components, outcomes, outputs and countries in which activities would be executed, and the corresponding budgets.)*

Project/Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	
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				Amount (US\$)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6. Project/Programme Execution cost				
7. Total Project/Programme Cost				
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)				
<b>Amount of Financing Requested</b>				

**Project Duration:** *(In years and months)*

## PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

*(Provide a brief description of the proposed regional project/programme including, as a minimum<sup>7</sup>, the following aspects:*

- *The project / programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities, how these activities would contribute to climate resilience, and how they would build added value through the regional approach, compared to implementing similar activities in each country individually.*
- *How the project would promote new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation, such as new approaches, technologies and mechanisms.*
- *How does the project/programme aim to roll out successful innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies and/or how the project aims to scale up viable innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies.*
- *The cost-effectiveness of the proposed project / programme, explaining how the regional approach would support cost-effectiveness.*
- *How the project / programme would be consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national, or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist. If you wish and if applicable, you can also refer to regional plans and strategies where they exist.*
- *The learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.*

<sup>7</sup> Please note that subsequent proposal stages (concept and fully-developed proposal) would require further information on these criteria, as well as additional criteria.

- *The consultative process, planned to be undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.*
- *How the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes would be taken into account when designing the project / programme.)*

*(You may also want to provide brief information on the following aspects:*

- *How the project / programme would provide economic, social and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations, and how it would avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.*
- *How the project / programme would meet relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and comply with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.*
- *Duplication of project / programme with other funding sources.*
- *Justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.*
- *The environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project / programme.)*

**PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

*(At the pre-concept stage, this section should only briefly explain which organizations would be involved in the proposed regional project/programme at the regional and national/sub-national level, and how coordination would be arranged. The involvement of national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs), partnering in the project should be explained.)*

**PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY**

**B. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government<sup>8</sup>** *Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement for each country participating in the proposed project/programme. Add more lines as necessary. The endorsement letters should be attached as annexes to the project/programme proposal.*

<i>(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)</i>	<i>Date: (Month, day, year)</i>
<i>(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)</i>	<i>Date: (Month, day, year)</i>
<i>(Enter Name, Position, Ministry)</i>	<i>Date: (Month, day, year)</i>

**B. Implementing Entity certification** *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address*

<p>I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (.....list here.....) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.</p>	
<p><i>Name &amp; Signature</i> Implementing Entity Coordinator</p>	
<i>Date: (Month, Day, Year)</i>	<i>Tel. and email:</i>
<i>Project Contact Person:</i>	
<i>Tel. And Email:</i>	

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Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

## Annex III

### Innovation Large Grants: Review Criteria for IEs<sup>9</sup>

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments
Country Eligibility	1. Is/are the beneficiary country/countries a developing country/countries Party/Parties to the Kyoto Protocol?	
	2. Is the participating country / are all participating countries developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	
Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund / Have the governments' designated authorities for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project?	
	2. Does the project/programme support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country or countries in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience? In case of regional project/programme, is there added value using the regional approach, compared to implementing similar activities in each country individually?	
	3. Does the project/programme help spread innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies that have demonstrated success in one country to another country, countries or regions; and/or Does the project/programme pilot at larger scale innovative adaptation practices, tools or technologies generated that have demonstrated viability at a small scale?	
	4. Does the project/programme provide economic, social, and environmental benefits, particularly to vulnerable communities, including gender considerations, while avoiding or mitigating negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund?	
	5. Does the project engage, empower and/or benefit the most vulnerable communities and social groups?	
	6. Does the project advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls?	

<sup>9</sup> For project concept proposals, implementation arrangements will not be evaluated.

	7. Is the project/programme cost-effective? In the case of regional project/programme, does the regional approach support cost effectiveness? Does the project engage, empower and/or benefit the most vulnerable communities and social groups?	
	8. Is there duplication of project/programme with other funding sources?	
	9. Does the project/programme have a learning and knowledge management component to capture and feedback lessons?	
	10. Has the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes been taken into account when designing the project?	
	11. Is there duplication of project/programme with other funding sources?	
	12. Does the project /programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund? Does the project advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls?	
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project funding within the parameters for large grants set by the Board?	
	2. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project budget before the fee? For regional projects/programmes, are the administrative costs (Implementing Entity Management Fee and Project/ Programme Execution Costs) at or below 20 per cent of the total project/programme budget?	
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is the project submitted through an Implementing Entity accredited by the Board?	
	2. Are there measures in place for the management of for environmental and social risks, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Fund? Proponents are encouraged to refer to the Guidance document for Implementing Entities on compliance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy, for details.	
	3. Are arrangements for monitoring and evaluation clearly defined, including budgeted M&E plans and sex-disaggregated data, targets, and indicators, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund?	



	4. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	
	5. Is a summary breakdown of the budget for the proposed activities included?	

Innovation Large Grants: Pre-concept proposal Review Criteria for IEs

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments
Country Eligibility	1. Are all of the participating countries party to the Kyoto Protocol?	
	2. Are all of the participating countries developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	
Project Eligibility	1. Have the designated government authorities for the Adaptation Fund from each of the participating countries endorsed the project/programme?	
	2. Has the pre-concept provided necessary information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective?	
	3. Have the project/programme objectives, components and financing been clearly explained?	
	4. Has the project/programme been justified in terms of how: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- it supports concrete adaptation actions?</li> <li>- it builds added value through the regional approach?</li> <li>- it promotes new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation?</li> <li>- it helps spread successful innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies; and/or it pilots at larger scale innovative adaptation practices, tools or technologies generated that have demonstrated viability at a small scale?</li> <li>- it is cost-effective?</li> <li>- it is consistent with applicable strategies and plans?</li> <li>- it incorporates learning and knowledge management?</li> <li>- it will be developed through a consultative process with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund?</li> <li>- it will take into account sustainability?</li> </ul>	
	5. Does the pre-concept briefly explain which organizations would be involved in the	

	proposed regional project/programme at the regional and national/sub-national level, and how coordination would be arranged? Does it explain how national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs) would be involved as partners in the project?	
Resource Availability	6. Is the requested project / programme funding within the funding windows of the programme for regional projects/programmes?	
	7. Are the administrative costs (Implementing Entity Management Fee and Project/ Programme Execution Costs) at or below 20 per cent of the total project/programme budget?	
Eligibility of IE	8. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	

## Annex IV

Instructions for Preparing a Request for an Innovation Large Grant

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING A REQUEST FOR PROJECT OR PROGRAMME FUNDING FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND

Project and programme proposals must be clear on the adaptation challenge to be addressed, the objective(s), what the project/programme will deliver when, how and by whom. Clear baselines, milestones, targets, and indicators should be included to ensure progress and results can be measured<sup>10</sup>. Programmes will generally be more complex and will require greater oversight and management which should be properly explained under Implementation Arrangements for programmes.

**DATE OF RECEIPT.** Please leave this space on the top right of the page blank. The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat will fill in the date on which the proposal is received at the Secretariat.

**ADAPTATION FUND PROJECT ID.** Please leave this space on the top right of the page blank. The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat will assign a number to your project/programme internally.

## PART I: PROJECT / PROGRAMME INFORMATION

**CATEGORY:** Please specify which type of project you are proposing. The two options are:

- A) SMALL-SIZED PROJECT/PROGRAMME.** Proposals requesting grants up to \$1 million.
- B) REGULAR PROJECT/PROGRAMME.** Proposals requesting grants of more than \$1 million.

A programme will generally fulfil the following criteria: A series of projects which could include small-size projects or regular projects aimed at achieving an outcome that is otherwise not achievable by a single project. Projects under a programme would have synergies in their objectives and implementation. A programme may also cover more than one sector and geographic location. Programmes usually engage multiple partners / stakeholders and are able to achieve a greater degree of cost-efficiency through coordination and feedback of the programme's components.

**COUNTRY/IES:** Please insert the name of the country requesting the grant.

**TITLE OF PROJECT / PROGRAMME:** Please enter the title of the proposed project / programme.

**TYPE OF REQUESTING ENTITY:** Please specify which type of Implementing Entity the project/programme will be managed by. The three options are:

- A) NATIONAL IMPLEMENTING ENTITY**
- B) MULTILATERAL IMPLEMENTING ENTITY**

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<sup>10</sup> For detailed guidance on project indicators, targets and baselines, please consult the "[AF Results Framework and Baseline Guidance – Project level](#)" document.

## C) REGIONAL IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

**NAME OF IMPLEMENTING ENTITY:** Please specify the name of the Implementing Entity

**EXECUTING ENTITY(IES).** Please specify the name of the organisation(s) that will execute the project/programme funded by the Adaptation Fund under the oversight of the Implementing Entity.

**AMOUNT OF FINANCING REQUESTED.** Please fill the grant amount (in US Dollars equivalent) requested from the Adaptation Fund for this proposal.

**PROJECT / PROGRAMME BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT.** Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve. Outline relevant climate change scenarios according to best available scientific information. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project/programme would operate.

*Describe the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve. Write this as a concise problem statement: The current situation, the desired future, and the gap between the two. Provide brief further information on the current situation including both the regional and the country perspective. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate in those countries. Describe the climate change vulnerabilities impacting the country/region as well clearly explain the problem area that would be the focus of the innovation.*

**PROJECT / PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES.** List the main objectives of the project/programme. The objectives have to be aligned with the Adaptation Fund Results Framework and, in the case of fully-developed project/programme documents, specify this alignment at outcome level. For the case of a programme, this is likely to involve multiple objectives by stakeholder / sector / region, based on an overall strategic plan at the regional, national or local level.

**PROJECT / PROGRAMMES COMPONENTS AND FINANCING.** Please fill out the table presenting the project components, activities, expected concrete outputs, and their corresponding budgets to accomplish them. For fully-developed project/programme documents, the budget is required at the output level. Please also indicate the budget for execution costs and project cycle management fee. For the case of a programme, individual components are likely to refer to specific sub-sets of stakeholders, regions, and/or sectors that can be addressed through a set of well-defined interventions / projects.

The aforementioned terms are defined below to facilitate the process of completing the table:

**PROJECT / PROGRAMME COMPONENTS.** The division of the project/programme into its major parts; an aggregation of set of activities.

**ACTIVITIES.** Actions taken or work performed through which inputs, such as funds, technical assistance and other types of resources are mobilized to produce specific outputs. For the case of programmes, list the types and number of projects that the programme will support.

**MILESTONES / TARGETS.** Milestones help with regular monitoring of progress towards the target. Targets indicate the desired result at the end of the project.<sup>11</sup>

**INDICATORS –** What is going to be measured to assess if targets are met?<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Please see document "[AF Results Framework and Baseline Guidance – Project level](#)"

<sup>12</sup> Ibid

**EXPECTED CONCRETE OUTPUTS.** The product, capital goods and services which result from a development intervention relevant to the achievement of outcomes.

**EXPECTED OUTCOMES.** The change in conditions, or intended effects of an intervention, usually brought about by the collective efforts of partners. Outcomes are achieved in the short to medium term.

**AMOUNT (\$).** Indicate grant amounts in US dollars by project/programme components.

**PROJECT / PROGRAMME EXECUTION COST**<sup>13</sup>. The main items supported by the Adaptation Fund for project management including consultant services, travel and office facilities, etc.

**TOTAL PROJECT / PROGRAMME COST.** This is the sum of all project/programme components requesting Adaptation Fund Board approval.

**IMPLEMENTING ENTITY PROJECT CYCLE MANAGEMENT FEE**<sup>14</sup>. This is the fee that is requested by an Implementing Entity for project cycle management services.

**AMOUNT OF FINANCING REQUESTED.** This amount includes the total project cost plus the project cycle management fee.

**PROJECTED CALENDAR.** Please indicate the dates of the following milestones for the proposed project.

**START OF PROJECT / PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION** The date on which project becomes effective. For AF projects/programmes, the date of the inception workshop or similar is considered the start date of the project.

**MID-TERM REVIEW.** The date on which the Implementing Entity completes its mid-term review of the project/programme. Mid-Term Review is required for projects with duration of over three years.<sup>15</sup>

**PROJECT / PROGRAMME CLOSING.** Project/programme closing is set as six months after Project/Programme Completion. This is the date on which Implementing Entity completes disbursement from the grant and may cancel any undisbursed balance in the grant account.

**FINAL EVALUATION.** The date on which the Implementing Entity completes the final evaluation report, normally two months after project/programme completion but in any case, no later than nine months after project/programme completion.

## **PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION**

**A. Describe the project / programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities, how these activities would contribute to climate resilience.**

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<sup>13</sup> Please note that project/programme execution costs should not be more than 9.5% of the total budget requested, before the implementing entity fees. In the case of an implementing entity acting as the executing entity for a project/programme, execution costs are capped at 1.5% of the total budget requested, before the implementing entity fees.

<sup>14</sup> The project cycle management fees should not be more than 8.5% of the total budget requested. For more information on these fees, see document "[Administrative and execution costs: Analysis of current rules and comparison of practices with other funds](#)"

<sup>15</sup> Please see document "[AF Results Framework and Baseline Guidance – Project level](#)"

**For regional projects describe also how they would build added value through the regional approach, compared to implementing similar activities in each country individually. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects would contribute to the overall increase in resilience.**

*Please refer to the guidance in document AFB/B.36/8 “Further Clarification of Vision and Definition of Innovation under the Adaptation Fund: Analysis of Relevant Elements and Guidance on Review Criteria”, Annex I – Proposed Innovation Review Criteria and Guidance to Project and Programme Proponents.*

Describe how the activities will help with adaptation to climate change and improve climate resilience. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects will contribute to the overall increase in resilience. Decision 10/CP.7 establishing the Adaptation Fund stipulates that it shall finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes. In the [AF Operational Policies and Guidelines](#), a concrete adaptation project is defined as “a set of activities aimed at addressing the adverse impacts of and risks posed by climate change. The activities shall aim at producing visible and tangible results on the ground by reducing vulnerability and increasing the adaptive capacity of human and natural systems to respond to the impacts of climate change, including climate variability. Adaptation projects/programmes can be implemented at the community, national, regional and transboundary level. Projects/programmes concern activities with a specific objective(s) and concrete outcome(s) and output(s) that are measurable, monitorable, and verifiable.”

The project objective has to be aligned with the Adaptation Fund Results Framework. The project/programme activities should align with its overall goal and objectives hence ensuring the cohesion of the components among themselves. It should be distinguished from a “business-as-usual” development or environmental protection project by clearly demonstrating that the proposed adaptation measures are suited or adequate for the identified climate threats. The project/programme proposal should therefore explain the project rationale in relation to the climate scenario(s) outlined in the background and context section. Finally, the non-climatic barriers to achieving the project objective, whenever relevant, should be taken into account when designing the project/programme.

*For a fully developed proposal, the activities will have to be detailed to a sufficient level and their appropriateness in responding to the threats posed by the likely climate scenarios should be outlined in detail in the background and context section and quantified in terms of magnitude and uncertainty. The description should include information on project location and scope, and should have clearly defined activities including technical specifications, where appropriate. For a fully developed proposal, the alignment with Adaptation Fund fund-level objectives has to be specified at the project/programme outcome level as described in the document “AF Results Framework and Baseline Guidance – Project level”. In accordance with the Gender Policy of the Fund, the proposal could include, as appropriate, specific gender elements in the design of its adaptation activities and expected outputs.*

**B. Describe how the project /programme would promote new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation, such as new approaches, technologies, and mechanisms.**

*Please refer to the guidance in document AFB/B.36/8 “Further Clarification of Vision and Definition of Innovation under the Adaptation Fund: Analysis of Relevant Elements and Guidance on Review Criteria”, Annex I – Proposed Innovation Review Criteria and Guidance to Project and Programme Proponents.*

**C. Describe how the project/programme aims to roll out successful innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies and/or describe how the project aims to scale up viable innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies.**

The proposal should include information on the specific process that will help roll out successful innovations or will help spread innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies that have demonstrated success in one country to new countries/regions. The proposal should include information on how viable innovations will be scaled up, and how innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies that have demonstrated viability at a small scale will be piloted at larger scales.

*Please refer to the guidance in document AFB/B.36/8 "Further Clarification of Vision and Definition of Innovation under the Adaptation Fund: Analysis of Relevant Elements and Guidance on Review Criteria", Annex I – Proposed Innovation Review Criteria and Guidance to Project and Programme Proponents.*

**D. Describe how the project / programme provides economic, social, and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project / programme will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund (the Environmental and Social Policy) and its Gender Policy.**

The proposal should include information on the expected beneficiaries of the project/programme, with particular reference to the equitable distribution of benefits to vulnerable communities, households, and individuals. In target areas where minority groups and indigenous communities have been identified, particular benefits provided by the project/programme to those groups should be outlined.

*For a fully developed proposal, the estimated benefits will have to be quantified, whenever possible. In addition, if there is any concern of negative development or maladaptation in any of these areas, relevant evidence would need to be referenced, with specific studies if necessary. Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall not increase the vulnerability of beneficiaries or non-beneficiaries, nor reduce their capacity to adapt to climate change. Any risk of marginalization of minority groups or indigenous people should be ruled out. All proposed projects/programmes shall demonstrate compliance with the environmental and social principles as outlined in the Environmental and Social Policy. Compliance with the Gender Policy requirements may be demonstrated through inter alia information resulting from an initial gender analysis, and/or assessment at the earliest stage of project/programme preparation to determine the different needs, capabilities, roles and knowledge resources of women and men, and/or identify how changing gender dynamics might drive lasting change. This could establish a baseline against which results of gender responsive approaches and actions can be measured. Where Project Formulation Grant (PFG) is accessible, a part of that grant could be used to conduct such a gender analysis.*

**E. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project / programme.**



*The proposal should provide a logical explanation of the selected scope and approach. The cost effectiveness should also be demonstrated from a sustainability point of view.*

*For a fully developed proposal, a clear description of alternative options to the proposed measures should be provided, to allow for a good assessment of the project/programme cost effectiveness. The proposal should compare to other possible interventions that could have taken place to help adapt and build resilience in the same sector, geographic region, and/or community. Quantitative estimates of cost-effectiveness are required only where feasible and useful.*

**F. Describe how the project / programme is consistent with national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, sector strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist.**

The relevant plans and strategies have to be identified. This includes as a minimum the most important adaptation-related plans and strategies and the most important relevant sectoral plans and strategies in the country.

*For a fully developed proposal, the compliance of the project/programme with the relevant plans and strategies has to be explained in detail.*

**G. Describe how the project / programme meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy**

The relevant national technical standards need to be identified, and compliance stated in a logical manner. These standards include Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), building codes, water quality regulations, and sector-specific regulations. Regarding EIAs, all proposed projects/programmes shall undertake a screening of environmental and social risks and demonstrate compliance with the environmental and social principles as outlined in the Environmental and Social Policy.

*For a fully developed proposal, compliance with relevant technical standards needs to be explained in detail, addressing environmental assessments, building codes, and land use or tenure regulations, as required by national legislation. If one specific activity of the project/programme requires compliance with technical standards, the legal source of the requirement, the steps taken to comply with it and the nature of the authorization/clearance granted for the project to be implemented will have to be explained. Overall, the designed project/programme shall comply with the environmental and social principles as outlined in the Environmental and Social Policy. For projects/programmes that have the potential to cause environmental or social harm, an environmental and social assessment shall be prepared, that identifies any environmental or social risks. The assessment shall consider (i) all potential direct, indirect, transboundary, and cumulative impacts and risks that could result from the proposed project/programme; (ii) assess alternatives to the project/programme; and (iii) assess possible measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental and social risks of the proposed project/programme. If feasible, the environmental and social assessment shall be included in the project/programme proposal submitted to the AF. Where this is not feasible, a timeline for completing the environmental and social assessment before substantial construction begins shall be*

*incorporated in the agreement between the Board and the IE following the project/programme's approval. A copy of the environmental and social assessment shall be provided to the secretariat as soon as the assessment is completed. Prior to submitting the environmental and social assessment to the Board, the AF secretariat may require further information from the IE on the environmental and social assessment, mitigation, and management of risks, if deemed necessary. Finally, in considering compliance with national technical standards, the time required to get clearance using national procedures may be as important a factor as compliance itself, as lengthy procedures may significantly hinder implementation of overly ambitious plans.*

**H. Describe if there is duplication of project / programme with other funding sources, if any.**

All relevant potentially overlapping projects / programmes need to be identified, and lack of overlap / complementarity stated in a logical manner.

*For a fully developed proposal, the linkages and synergies with all relevant potentially overlapping projects / programmes need to be clearly outlined, avoiding evasive wording, including areas of overlap and complementarity, drawing lessons from the earlier initiatives during the project design, learning from their problems/mistakes, and establishing a framework for coordination during implementation.*

**I. Describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned.**

*Please refer to the guidance in document AFB/B.36/8 "Further Clarification of Vision and Definition of Innovation under the Adaptation Fund: Analysis of Relevant Elements and Guidance on Review Criteria", Annex I – Proposed Innovation Review Criteria and Guidance to Project and Programme Proponents.*

Activities related to knowledge management (KM) and dissemination of lessons learned have to be included. They can be grouped in a single component or part of a larger component.

The Adaptation Fund has included knowledge management as part of its Results-Based Management Framework at the Fund level. Project/programme proponents must therefore systematically keep track of experiences gained from their project and analyze them periodically both to enrich the global, national, and local knowledge on climate change adaptation and to accelerate understanding about what kinds of interventions work. Key factors of success of a project KM strategy include adaptive management and the development of learning objectives and indicators.

Knowledge sharing tools include websites, regular weekly or daily blog posts, or social media streams (twitter, Facebook, etc.) reflecting on progress, lessons, plans, milestone events and other aspects of the project or programme that enable implementers to simultaneously engage in knowledge sharing and publicity/communications. Complementary products that can be integrated into knowledge streams include videos, photos, voice recordings, and PowerPoint presentations. In addition to KM tools, complementary communications activities such as the development and implementation of a media outreach strategy can be included.

The target for such KM and media outreach strategies should be identified at the full proposal stage and examples of tools to be applied (sponsored radio and TV shows, media interviews, development of community radio, newsletter, mailing lists etc) should be provided.

*For a fully developed proposal, the KM and dissemination of lessons learned component has to be explained in detail. For additional guidance on the type of KM activities and indicators, please refer to Section 3 (p.27) of the [“AF Results Framework and Baseline Guidance – Project level”](#) document.*

**J. Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund.**

*The project should describe the existing and ongoing consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project / programme preparation, and those that will be involved throughout the project, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund. innovation projects/programmes should be designed to ensure that all relevant actors’ knowledge and experience genuinely are as valued as those of ‘experts.*

*The element of representative participation calls for new, improved, and adaptive approaches, products, voices, and perspectives, from women, girls, the disabled, indigenous groups, and marginalized minorities for innovation that successfully addresses inequality and exclusion. Therefore, applying an inclusive lens to innovation requires intentionally bringing gender, accessibility, and inclusion considerations into processes used to source, design, implement and evaluate innovations, and recognizing the additional influencing factors that may be operating within the larger innovation ecosystem.*

At the concept stage, an initial consultative process has to take place, with key stakeholders of the project/programme. Depending on the level of involvement of local communities or governments, private sector, CSOs or universities/research centres in the execution of the project/programme, those stakeholders may or may not be consulted at the concept stage. In project/programme target areas where minority groups and indigenous peoples have been identified, they should be consulted at the concept stage and their interests or concerns taken into account when designing the proposal. Where PFGs are accessed, these should also be used to facilitate a gender-responsive and comprehensive stakeholder consultation process in the project preparation phase.

*For a fully developed proposal, a comprehensive, gender-responsive consultative process has to take place, and shall involve all direct and indirect stakeholders of the project/programme, including vulnerable groups and taking into account gender considerations. All the stakeholders involved in the consultation process shall be identified in the project/programme proposal. A particular attention should be given to minority groups, marginalized and vulnerable groups, and indigenous people in the project/programme target areas, where relevant. The results of the consultative process must be reflected in the project design. Under extraordinary circumstances, the consultation of a specific stakeholder can be deferred to the implementation stage, if it enables a more effective consultation (e.g. if beneficiaries for specific activities have not been identified yet). However, if the project specifically targets the most vulnerable groups, they will have to be identified and consulted by the time of submission.*

*To comply with the Environmental and Social Policy, stakeholders shall be identified and involved as early as possible in planning any project/programme that may be supported by the Fund. If as a result of the screening process of the project/programme proponent identifies any potential environmental and social impacts and risks, an environmental and social assessment, and eventually an environmental and social management plan shall be required, in compliance with the environmental and social policy. The results of the environmental and social screening and a draft environmental and social assessment, including any proposed management plan, shall be made available for public consultations that are timely, effective, inclusive, and held free of coercion and in an appropriate way for communities that are directly affected by the proposed project/programme.*

*The implementation arrangement should include a framework allowing for stakeholders' views to be heard during project implementation. Whenever possible, a strategy and timetable for sharing information and consulting with each of the stakeholder groups during project implementation should be provided. Adequate facilitation measures (e.g. travel costs) should be budgeted to minimise barriers for involvement of key stakeholders where these impede their participation.*

*The documentation of the consultative process should at least contain a) the list of stakeholders already consulted (principles of choice, role ascription, date of consultation), b) a description of the consultation techniques (tailored specifically per target group), c) the key consultation findings (in particular suggestions and concerns raised).*

**K. Describe how the project/programme draws on multiple perspectives on innovation from e.g., communities that are vulnerable to climate change, research organizations, or other partners in the innovation space, in the context in which the project/programme would take place.**

*Please refer to the guidance in document AFB/B.36/8 "Further Clarification of Vision and Definition of Innovation under the Adaptation Fund: Analysis of Relevant Elements and Guidance on Review Criteria", Annex I – Proposed Innovation Review Criteria and Guidance to Project and Programme Proponents.*

**L. Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.**

The Adaptation Fund does not require co-financing for the projects/programmes it funds. The principal and explicit aim of the project/programme should be to adapt and to increase resilience of a specific system or communities, to the adverse effects of climate change and variability. Therefore, the proposal should demonstrate that the project/programme activities are relevant in addressing its adaptation objectives and that, taken solely, without additional funding from other donors, they will help achieve these objectives. Although co-financing is not required, it is possible and often cost-effective to implement Adaptation Fund projects in parallel with projects funded from other sources. In such a situation, the Adaptation Fund project should be able to deliver its outcomes and outputs regardless of the success of the other project(s). It is possible to include activities which, taken out of context, could be considered "business-as-usual" development but these should be justified in the context of achieving the adaptation goals of the project.

*For a fully developed proposal, the full cost of adaptation reasoning should be more detailed and demonstrated for each component of the project/programme. If necessary, a comparison of a*

*baseline situation and a with-project scenario for each component of the project/programme can be undertaken (e.g. in the case of a proposal aiming at “climate-proofing” a specific sector).*

**M. Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project / programme.**

The adaptation benefits achieved with the help of the project/programme should be sustained after its end and should enable replication and scaling up with other funds after its end. The proposal should explain the arrangements through which this would be achieved, taking into account sustainability and maintenance of any infrastructure or installations to be developed, policies and governance arrangements to be developed and implemented, knowledge to be generated, management and other capacity to be improved, etc. All key areas of sustainability should be addressed, including but not limited to economic, social, environmental, institutional, and financial.

**N. Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project / programme.**

In accordance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund, all proposed projects/programmes shall identify potential environmental and social impacts and risks. As appropriate, the proposal should elaborate on the gender-specific cultural and/or legal context in which the project/programme will operate. The screening process shall consider all potential direct, indirect, transboundary, and cumulative impacts and risks that could result from the proposed project/programme.

The proposal should state the category in which the screening process has classified the project/programme. Projects/programmes likely to have significant adverse environmental or social impacts that are for example diverse, widespread, or irreversible should be categorized as Category A projects/programmes. Projects/programmes with potential adverse impacts that are less adverse than Category A projects/programmes, because for example they are fewer in number, smaller in scale, less widespread, reversible, or easily mitigated should be categorized as Category B. Those projects/programmes with no adverse environmental or social impacts should be categorized as Category C.

The screening will determine whether the project/programme requires further environmental and social assessment, mitigation, and management. The checklist provided in the Request for Project/Programme Funding document template shall be completed, indicating which environmental and social impacts and risks are triggered by the project/programme as requiring more detailed environmental and social assessment, and which impacts and risks do not require any further assessment, to achieve full compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy.

**PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS<sup>16</sup>.** Describe the various elements of project implementation as enumerated below:

**A. Adequacy of project / programme management arrangements, in compliance with the Gender Policy.**

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<sup>16</sup> Note: This section is not required for a project/programme concept document

The implementation arrangements should include a clear description of the roles and responsibilities of the implementing entity as well as any executing entity or organizations/stakeholders that are involved in the project. If necessary, provide a full organization chart showing how they report to each other.

Implementing entities should generally not provide execution services. On an exceptional basis, and at the written request by the recipient country, involving designated authorities in the process, and providing rationale for such a request, they may be authorized to do so. In such case, the responsibility for these services have to be stipulated, their budget estimated in the fully developed project/programme document and covered by the execution costs budget of the project/programme.

When an entity intends to serve both as the implementing entity and the executing entity for a project/programme, the same rules as above apply, and the execution costs are capped at 1.5% of the total budget requested, before the implementing entity fees.

In the case of a programme, explain how the programme strategy will be managed and evaluated, and how individual projects have been identified, designed, appraised, approved, implemented, and evaluated against programme's strategic objectives. The implementation arrangements should be cost-effective and efficient, and country ownership should always be privileged. In compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund, the implementation arrangements should incorporate gender-responsive elements as appropriate.

## **B. Measures for financial and project / programme risk management.**

The proposal shall identify all major risks, consider their significance, and include a plan of monitoring and mitigating them. It should provide a table with detailed information on the different categories of risks (i.e. financial, environmental, social, institutional...), their level and how they will be managed.

*Please refer to the guidance in document AFB/B.36/8 "Further Clarification of Vision and Definition of Innovation under the Adaptation Fund: Analysis of Relevant Elements and Guidance on Review Criteria", Annex I – Proposed Innovation Review Criteria and Guidance to Project and Programme Proponents.*

## **C. Describe the measures for environmental and social risk management, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund.**

The proposal shall identify all major environmental and social risks, consider their significance, and include a plan of monitoring and mitigating them. This includes assessing gender impacts and risks, in compliance with the Gender Policy of the Fund.

For all projects/programmes that have the potential to cause environmental or social harm (i.e. all Category A and B projects/programmes), the implementing entity shall prepare an environmental and social assessment that identifies any environmental or social risks, including any potential risks associated with the Fund's environmental and social principles set forth in the Environmental and Social Policy. The assessment shall (i) consider all potential direct, indirect, transboundary, and cumulative impacts and risks that could result from the proposed project/programme; (ii) assess

alternatives to the project/programme; and (iii) assess possible measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental and social risks of the proposed project/programme.

As a general rule, the environmental and social assessment shall be completed before the project/programme proposal submission to the Adaptation Fund, and its findings included in the proposal document. In some Category B projects/programmes where the proposed activities requiring such assessment represent a minor part of the project, and when inclusion in the proposal is not feasible, a timeline for completing the environmental and social assessment before construction begins shall be incorporated in the agreement between the Board and the implementing entity following the project/programme approval, and reported through the annual project/programme performance report. A copy of the environmental and social assessment shall be provided to the secretariat as soon as the assessment is completed. Prior to submitting the environmental and social assessment to the Board, the secretariat may require further information from the implementing entity on the environmental and social assessment, mitigation, and management of risks, if deemed necessary.

Where the environmental and social assessment undertaken during project/programme preparation identifies environmental or social risks, the proposal should include an environmental and social management plan that identifies those measures necessary to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the potential environmental and social risks.

#### **D. Monitoring and evaluation arrangements including budgeted M&E plan.**

The proposal should include a budgeted M&E plan, which should be in compliance with the AF M&E guidelines<sup>17</sup> and compliance with its Gender Policy.

In accordance with the Environmental and Social Policy, Monitoring and Evaluation of projects/programmes shall address all environmental and social risks identified during project/programme assessment, design, and implementation. The annual project/programme performance reports (PPRs) shall include a section on the status of implementation of any environmental and social management plan, including those measures required to avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental and social risks. The reports shall also include, if necessary, a description of any corrective actions that are deemed necessary. The mid-term and terminal evaluation reports shall also include an evaluation of the project/programme's performance with respect to environmental and social risks.

#### **E. Provide a results framework for the project proposal, including milestones, targets and indicators.**

The proposal should include a results framework with realistic, quantified expected results. Whenever possible, the indicators and targets should be gender responsive and disaggregated by sex as appropriate. More guidelines on preparing the project/programme results framework, including a list

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<sup>17</sup> See section on reporting process requirements in the AFB/EFC.7/4.Rev.2 document "[Annual Performance Report](#)". See also the "[AF Evaluation Framework](#)", the "[AF Results Framework and Baseline Guidance – Project level](#)" and the "[Guidelines for Project and Programme Final Evaluation](#)" documents.

of standard AF indicators, can be found in the [“AF Results Framework and Baseline Guidance – Project level”](#) document.

**F. Demonstrate how the project / programme aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund**

Any project or programme funded through the AF must align with the Fund’s results framework and directly contribute to the Fund’s overall objective and outcomes outlined. Not every project/programme outcome will align directly with the Fund’s framework but at least one outcome and output indicator from the Adaptation Fund’s Strategic Results Framework must be included at the project design stage. The recent updates to the Adaptation Fund’s Strategic Results Framework, also includes a strategic outcome (Outcome 8) that is focused on supporting the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies.

*Specifically, for innovation projects and programmes, project outcomes should be aligned with the Fund level outcome for innovation (Outcome 8) of the Strategic Results Framework and all others that may apply in the context of the project /programme.*

Project proponents shall fill out the table provided in the “Request for Project/Programme Funding” document to directly link, where relevant, project objectives and outcomes to the Fund level outcome and outputs. The AF Results Framework is attached as an Annex to this document.

**Example:** *The following table is an example of how a project’s objectives and outcomes could align with the AF’s outcome and output indicators*



<b>Project Objective(s)</b>	<b>Project Objective Indicator(s)</b>	<b>Fund Outcome</b>	<b>Fund Outcome Indicator</b>	<b>Grant Amount (USD)</b>
Strengthened ability of coastal communities to undertake concrete actions to adapt to climate change-driven hazards	Number of risk-exposed coastal communities protected through adaptation measures	Outcome 2: Strengthened institutional capacity to reduce risks associated with climate-induced socioeconomic & environmental losses	2.2 No. of people with reduced risk to extreme weather events	500,000
Strengthened ability of coastal communities to make informed decisions about climate change-driven hazards affecting their specific locations	Number of communities with improved climate-related planning and policy frameworks in place	Outcome 3: Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.1 Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses	250,000
<b>Project Outcome(s)</b>	<b>Project Outcome Indicator(s)</b>	<b>Fund Output</b>	<b>Fund Output Indicator</b>	
Reduced exposure and increased adaptive capacity of coastal communities to flood-related risks and hazards	Number of communities covered by improved warning system and weather information	Output 2.2: Targeted population groups covered by adequate risk reduction systems	2.21. Percentage of population covered by adequate risk-reduction systems	
Improved awareness of adaptation and climate change-related hazards affecting coastal communities	Percentage of population involved in developing improved climate-related planning and policy frameworks	Output 3: Targeted population groups participating in adaptation and risk reduction awareness activities	3.1.1 No. and type of risk reduction actions or strategies introduced at local level	

**G. Include a detailed budget with budget notes, a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs.**

The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. In accordance with the Gender Policy of the Fund, the proposal should ensure that adequate resources are allocated in the project/programme budget for gender-responsive implementation. Examples of gender responsive budgets include provision for the involvement and capacity-building of women stakeholders as important actors in implementation.

**H. Include a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones.**

The proposal should include a disbursement schedule that includes time-bound milestones relative to project inception and the annual reporting requirement.

**PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY THE DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY FOR ADAPTATION FUND AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY**

**A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT BY DESIGNATED GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY.**

Provide the name, position, and government office of the designated government authority and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the designated government authorities of all participating countries endorsing the project. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal.

**B. IMPLEMENTING ENTITY CERTIFICATION.**

Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number.



**ADAPTATION FUND**

**Letter of Endorsement by Government**

[Government Letter Head]

[Date of Endorsement Letter]

To: The Adaptation Fund Board  
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org  
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for [Title of Project/Programme]

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in [country], I confirm that the above (select national or regional) project/programme proposal is in accordance with the government's (select national or regional) priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the (select country or region).

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project/programme proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project/programme will be implemented by [implementing entity] and executed by [national or local executing entity].

Sincerely,

[Name of Designated Government Official]  
[Position/Title in Government]