

A person wearing a dark jacket and blue jeans is bent over, working in a field. The field is filled with rows of plants, each covered with black plastic mulch. The person appears to be adjusting or planting a small plant in one of the rows. The background shows more rows of similar plants stretching into the distance.

Key elements of Enhanced Direct Access and Innovation Projects

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ADAPTATION FUND



Overview of Funding:

- Origin from Midterm Strategy (2018 – 2022)
- EDA and Innovation Grants (Small and Large) outside country cap of USD 20 Million
- EDA projects – 1 project up to USD 5 Million per country
- Innovation projects – Any number of projects per country for USD 250,000 per project (Small Innovation Grant) and USD 5 Million per project (Large Innovation Project)
- Project Formulation Support up to USD 50,000 available to NIEs for EDA and Large Innovation Proposals at Concept Note stage.



Funding Type	Accredited Entity Type	Funding per project/programme
Action Grants support eligible countries to undertake high quality adaptation projects/programmes consistent with their priority needs, goals and strategies		
Enhanced Direct Access: Supports bottom-up approaches through local knowledge and locally-led adaptation. Project selection occurs at national and sub-national level	NIE	USD 5 million per project/programme PFG – USD 50,000 per project
Innovation Grants support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies		
Small (single country): To accelerate development of innovative practices tools and technologies, and demonstrate best practices for scale-up	NIE	USD 250,000 per project/ programme
Large (single country or regional): To roll out or scale-up successful innovative practices, tools and technologies to a new country or at a regional scale involving 2+ countries/regions	NIE (single country) RIE (single or regional) MIE (single or regional)	USD 5 million per project/programme PFG – USD 50,000 for NIEs PFG – USD 30,000 for RIEs and MIE (regional projects)



Key Elements EDA project design

- **Clear adaptation challenge** to be addressed - the objective(s), **what** the project will deliver **when**, **how** and by **whom**.
- **Coherent Rationale:** the suitability of activities in responding to the threats posed by future CC and on the use of EDA as a modality to address the adaptation issues.
- **Distinguished from a “business-as-usual” development or environmental protection project** – demonstrate how the project **enables organizations at the sub-national level, including small, local organizations to identify their adaptation needs by themselves and implement the adequate measures** to address those needs, thereby **facilitating the streamlining of decision-making across multiple levels**.
- **Arrangements for technical assistance to local project stakeholders or organizations** including monitoring and oversight of project activities and fund flows.
- **Describe how funding requests and proposals made by local beneficiaries at the subnational level would be made** including the review and decision-making process for those requests.
- **Describe the capacity-building and support that will be availed to support communities and structures at sub-national level** to effectively manage and report on funds.
- **Articulate partnerships with local organizations** as part of the multilevel decision-making process **including the decision-making process** and clear description of financial flows to vulnerable groups.



EDA Implementation Arrangements

- Description of the funding model and institutional levels involved and decision-making structure at the local level.
- Roles and responsibilities of IE and EE(s) or other organizations/stakeholders involved in the project.
- Describe how continued capacity-building + multi-stakeholder engagement approach would be carried out during implementation
- Describe process to identify, screen and address environmental and social risks.
- The **Project Execution Cost is at or below 12%** of the total budget (including fee)
- The **Implementing Entity fee is at or below 10%** of the total budget before fee.
- In case of Implementing Entity serving as the Executing Entity, the limit for execution is 1.5%. The justifications must be provided, as this arrangement can be approved only on an exceptional basis. **Figures should be rounded to a whole number (i.e., no decimals).**





Key Elements Innovation project design

Innovation Rationale

- Define the **climate adaptation problem that is to be overcome through innovation.**
- **How the innovation process** (i.e., through the testing of new, adapted or improved methods, technologies and/or approaches to adaptation, or trialing innovation on the path to scale for adaptation solutions) **contribute towards overcoming that problem**

Learning and Knowledge Management

- How does the project/programme incorporate **approaches that not only assess how well adaptation activities are being implemented, but also which questions the appropriateness of those activities** in the first place
- **Keep track of experiences gained from their project and analyze them periodically** to enrich the global, national and local knowledge to accelerate understanding about what kinds of interventions work.

Multiple Perspectives

- **How the project/programme was, and will continue to be, co-developed together with the communities most vulnerable to climate change.**
- Facilitate a **co-design process that ensures inclusive participation** and continuous engagement of all partners, including buy-in and commitment.





Key Elements Innovation project design

Financial and project risk management

- **How is data (arising from the project) used to inform the innovation's design, especially during its early stages, that point innovators in the direction of better design choices.**
- While it is important to estimate and measure risk accurately, in designing interventions, **projects/programmes should consider how people (beneficiaries) estimate and perceive risk.**

Potential for Scaling

- **Learning from the project must be captured and disseminated** so others can use it as an evidence base for scaling.
- **Scaling** can be implemented **where appropriate**, and otherwise be considered as part of learning and knowledge capture.
- **Scaling should include long-term partnership** and support **beyond existing institutional funding cycles** and strategies.
- **Vision of scale of impact** - focus is on impact of the innovation, rather than solely on the innovation per se.





Indicators for innovation

Strategic Results Framework



Strategic Results Framework amended in March 2019. Consists of impact level results, with associated core indicators, outcomes and outputs, and indicators associated with the outcomes and outputs.



Outcome 8 is focused specifically on innovation, which aligns with the MTS Innovation Strategic Focus.



It is foreseeable that the objectives and indicators for innovation will need to be **periodically revisited and potentially refined**.



Suggested Reading: Specific Objectives and Indicators for the Innovation Aspects of Projects and Programmes [AFB/B.37/6](#)





Where EDA and Innovation having similarities and how they are different

- Both types of project may include a funding model that has an on-granting facility. However, while EDA focuses on the model for devolving decision making to local actions, innovation grants focus on innovation in the process/ modality, tool, technology or approach.
- This does not mean that EDA cannot include innovation – they can and are welcome to include innovate elements. However, for innovation projects the rationale of the project is based on how the project will address the climate change challenge through innovation.
- There is no prescribed model for EDA. What is important is adequate description of the proposed model and the proposed decision-making structure.
- By its nature, EDA projects usually include unidentified subprojects. Innovation projects may also include USPs. USPs are acceptable for both windows and the proposal should include a rationale for the USP approach.
- For both window, local actors' role in the co-design of intervention is essential and both types of grants encourage partnerships.



APPLICATION TO BOTH WINDOWS – ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS, IN COMPLIANCE WITH ESP AND GP

- ✓ Information on the expected beneficiaries of the project, with particular reference to the equitable distribution of benefits to vulnerable communities, households, and individuals
- ✓ In areas where marginalized and vulnerable groups and indigenous communities have been identified, outline particular benefits provided by the project to those groups
- ✓ Outline benefits in all three areas: economic, social and environmental
- ✓ Quantify the estimated benefits whenever possible
- ✓ Highlight how you have integrated information resulting from the initial gender analysis to respond to the different needs, capabilities, roles and knowledge resources of women and men.



APPLICATION TO BOTH WINDOWS - STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS IN COMPLIANCE WITH ESP AND GP

- ✓ The consultative process is comprehensive and gender-responsive and involved all direct and indirect stakeholders of the project, including vulnerable groups
- ✓ Outline all the stakeholders involved in the consultation process in the proposal with attention to minority groups, marginalized and vulnerable groups, and indigenous people in the target areas, where relevant
- ✓ Include a report documenting the consultative process and contains
 - ✓ 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)
- ✓ Specify how the results of the consultative process are reflected in the project design, including consultation on safeguards process and outcomes



GENDER POLICY - REQUIREMENTS

2. PROJECT PROPSAL REQUIREMENTS	CONCEPT STAGE	FULL PROPOSAL STAGE
Initial Gender Assessment	✓	
Full Gender Assessment		✓
Gender-Responsive Indicators		✓
Gender-Responsive Implementation & Monitoring Programs		✓
Preliminary gender equal consultation	✓	
Comprehensive gender equal consultation		✓
Implement a fair and transparent Grievance Mechanism		✓



CONCEPT AND FULL PROPOSAL ESP REQUIREMENTS

Project Proposal (OPG Annex 5) IE will demonstrate and document the following:	Concept Proposal	Full Proposal
II. JUSTIFICATION		
II.B. Economic, social and environmental benefits; Avoidance/mitigation of adverse impacts.	✓	✓
II.E. Compliance with relevant national technical standards	✓	✓
II.H. Consultative process	✓	✓
II.K. Environmental and social impacts and risks	✓	✓
III. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS		
III.C. Environmental & Social risk management measures		✓
III. D. Monitoring and evaluation program, budget		✓
III.E. Results framework including milestones, targets, & indicators		✓



KEY DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES

- **OPG-Annex 5** (review sheets/criteria , details of what needs to go in each section – the basis for how we undertake the review)
- **Instructions for preparing a request for project funding for EDA (to complement OPG Annex 5)**
- **Environmental and Social Policy**
- **Guidance document for Implementing Entities on compliance with the Adaptation Fund Environmental and Social Policy**
- **Gender Policy and Action Plan of the Adaptation Fund (amended in March 2021)**
- **Guidance document for Implementing Entities on compliance with the Adaptation Fund Gender Policy**

<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/documents-publications/operational-policies-guidelines/>

<https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/enhanced-direct-access-eda-grants/>

SUGGESTED READING (Innovation)

PROGRAMME ON INNOVATION: OPERATIONALIZATION OF LARGE GRANTS FOR INNOVATION describes the process for the creation of Large Innovation Projects and in Annex IV (pages 28 to 43) provides a set of instructions on what type of questions proponents should think when writing their proposals

FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF VISION AND DEFINITION OF INNOVATION UNDER THE ADAPTATION FUND: ANALYSIS OF RELEVANT ELEMENTS AND GUIDANCE ON REVIEW CRITERIA states the Fund's approach to innovation, and in Annex I (pages 13 to 19) presents guidance on how to approach innovation in adaptation within proposals

Self-paced E-Learning Course Innovation Small Grants (English / French/ Spanish) - <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/adaptation-fund-innovation-small-grants-training/>





Thank You





ADAPTATION FUND


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