



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.31/39/Add.1
13 March 2023

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty-first Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 22-23 March 2022

Agenda Item 6 f.

**PROJECT FORMULATION GRANT FOR
EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, GUATEMALA**

I. Background

1. The Board at its eleventh meeting discussed the document “Funding for Project Formulation Costs” (AFB/11/6) and agreed, in its Decision B.11/18, that:
 - i. project formulation grants (PFG) should be given once a project concept has been approved;
 - ii. consideration should be given in terms of differentiating between NIEs and MIEs, since some NIEs might have financial difficulties in trying to formulate project or programme proposals;
 - iii. a flat rate should be given for project formulation costs;
 - iv. a list of eligible activities and items still needed to be prepared; v. the grant should be additional to the project cost; and
 - v. the fate of funds if the final project document was rejected should be determined.
2. There was consensus that a three-tiered system should be considered for project formulation grants: endorse a project concept with a PFG amount, endorse a project concept without a PFG amount, or reject the project concept.
3. Following the discussion, the Board decided:

“To request the secretariat to reformulate the document, to include a comparison of eligible activities provided by other funds for project formulation grants, to take into account guidance provided by the Board at the present meeting, and to submit the document to the Board at its twelfth meeting, through the EFC. The EFC should review and finalize the process and policy of the project formulation grant focusing, in particular, on: the issue of unspent project funds; the procedures followed by other funds in that regard; and the determination of a flat-rate.”
4. A document was prepared by the secretariat in response to the above mandate and presented at the third EFC meeting, which made specific recommendations to the Board at its twelfth meeting. Having considered the recommendation of the Ethics and Finance Committee, the Board, in its Decision B.12/28, decided that:
 - (a) *Project Formulation Grants (PFGs) will only be made available for projects submitted through NIEs. The Board would continue reviewing the question of PFGs for projects submitted through MIEs and would solicit comments from members and alternate members by February 14, 2011; the views would be compiled by the secretariat for presentation to the Board at its March 2011 meeting;*
 - (b) *If a country required a project formulation grant, a request should be made at the same time as the submission of a project concept to the secretariat. The secretariat will review and forward it to the PPRC for a final recommendation to the Board. A PFG could only be awarded when a project concept was presented and endorsed;*
 - (c) *A PFG form, reproduced in Annex V, should be submitted;*

- (d) Only activities related to country costs would be eligible for PFG funding;*
- (e) A flat rate of up to US\$30,000 shall be provided, inclusive of the management fee, which cannot exceed 8.5 per cent of the grant amount. The flat fee would be reviewed by the Board at its thirteenth and all subsequent meetings;*
- (f) If the final project document is rejected, any unused funds shall be returned to the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund;*
- (g) Once a project/programme formulation grant is disbursed, a fully developed project document should come to the Board for approval within 12 months. No additional grants for project preparation can be received by a country until the fully developed project/programme document has been submitted to the Board; and*
- (h) The Trustee was instructed to remove the set-aside of US\$100,000 for project preparation that had been decided at the June 2010 meeting, as project preparation would be approved on a project-by-project basis.*

5. In its twenty-fourth meeting, the Board had initiated steps to launch a pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, not to exceed US\$ 30 million and had requested the secretariat to prepare for the consideration of the Board a proposal for such a pilot programme (Decision B.24/30). In its twenty-fifth meeting, the secretariat submitted such document and the Board decided to:

- (a) Approve the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, as contained in document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2;*
- (b) Set a cap of US\$ 30 million for the programme;*
- (c) Request the secretariat to issue a call for regional project and programme proposals for consideration by the Board in its twenty-sixth meeting; and*
- (d) Request the secretariat to continue discussions with the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN) towards operationalizing, during the implementation of the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, the Synergy Option 2 on knowledge management proposed by CTCN and included in Annex III of the document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2.*

(Decision B.25/28)

6. The approved document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2 contained provisions for the approval of project formulated grants for regional project and programme proposals, at different development stages, as follows:

“It is proposed that the Board open a structured call for MIEs and RIEs to submit pre-concepts for regional projects and programmes. The optional pre-concepts would be very brief proposals of maximum 5 pages that would explain the proposed regional adaptation project/programme. The pre-concepts would be screened and technically reviewed by the secretariat, and subsequently reviewed by the PPRC.

Together with the pre-concept, the proponent could submit a Phase I PFG request, up to the maximum level of US\$ 20,000. While endorsing the pre-concept, the Board could also approve the Phase I PFG request. The endorsement of the pre-concept would not create an obligation for the Board for later funding. As the next step, the proponent would submit a concept, and with it the proponent could submit a Phase II PFG request. The maximum AFB/PPRC.18/25/Add.1 level of the Phase II PFG would be US\$ 80,000 for proposals that had been previously granted Phase I PFG, and US\$ 100,000 for proposals that bypassed the optional pre-concept stage. While endorsing the concept, the Board could also approve the Phase II PFG request. The endorsement of the concept would not create an obligation for the Board for later funding, as it is the case for the national projects. The final stage of the proposal process would be the submission of the fully-developed regional project document”.

7. The Board in its thirty-seventh meeting, having considered the recommendation of the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC), the Adaptation Fund Board decided:

- (a) To request the secretariat to analyse the issues related to the use of unidentified sub- projects and present the findings to the PPRC at its twenty-ninth meeting;*
- (b) To further request the secretariat to clarify regional implementation and execution costs, including where implementing entities provide part or all of the execution services, and present the findings to the PPRC at its twenty-ninth meeting;*
- (c) To limit, for all projects where the implementing entity provides a portion of the execution services, the execution costs of the implementing entity proportionally to the cost of the part of the project or programme executed by the implementing entity;*
- (d) To raise the maximum amount of individual project formulation grants available to national implementing entities to US\$ 50,000;*
- (e) To discontinue project formulation assistance grants for future review cycles.*

(Decision B.37/1)

II. The Project Formulation Grant Request

8. This addendum to the document AFB/PPRC.31/39 “Proposal for El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala” includes a request for a Project Formulation Grant, requesting a budget of US\$ 20,000, which was received by the secretariat along with the pre-concept for the programme AF00000338 “*Building resilience of urban communities in Central America by leveraging Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for adaptation*”. This proposal was submitted by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), which is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund, in time for consideration by the Adaptation Fund Board at its fortieth Board meeting.

9. In accordance with Decision B.12/28, paragraph (b), the secretariat carried out an initial review of the PFG request and found that the document provided detailed information on the use of the requested funds. The proposed activities were aligned with the goal of the project and would conduct baseline assessment, climate vulnerability and risks analysis and gender sensitive needs assessments in the selected cities in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras; Maintain structured dialogues and consultations with stakeholders at national, provincial, and urban level for concept formulation, review and feedback and; Preparation of the concept note based on the conducted assessments and stakeholder consultations.

10. Therefore, the PPRC may want to consider and recommend to the Board to approve the PFG Request, provided that the related pre-concept proposal is endorsed.



Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: January 9th 2023

Adaptation Fund Project ID:
 Country/ies: Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador
 Title of Project/Programme: Building resilience of urban communities in Central America by leveraging Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for adaptation
 Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity
 Implementing Entity: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
 Executing Entities:

- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, El Salvador
- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Guatemala
- Secretariat of Natural Resources and Environment, Honduras

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	1 February 2023
Completion date of PFG	1 August 2023

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

Describe the PFG activities and justifications:

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	USD Amount
Conduct baseline assessment, climate vulnerability and risks analysis and gender-sensitive needs assessments in the selected cities in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. This activity will be performed by national experts and supported by the technical teams from the projects Nature4Cities and CityAdapt.	Comprehensive assessments to confirm the selection of the cities and their climate vulnerability and risk profile, which inform the project design, the intervention strategy, and activities.	7,500
Maintain structured dialogues and consultations with stakeholders at national, provincial, and urban level for concept formulation, review and feedback. The stakeholder consultation will be led by the national experts and supported by an international expert.	Stakeholder consultation report including feedback and validation of the project design by the relevant stakeholders at a national, provincial, and urban level.	4,500
Preparation of the concept note based on the conducted assessments and stakeholder consultations. This activity will be performed by an international expert.	Concept note and annexes prepared	8,000
Total Project Formulation Grant		20,000

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
María Elena Zúñiga Barrientos Implementing Entity Regional Dev. Coordinator, UNEP		January 9 th , 2023	Marta Moneo Lain	+507 6038 8570	marta.moneo@un.org

Oficio No.-DMA-0343-2022

Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., August 1st, 2022

Ref.: Endorsement for "Building resilience of urban communities in Northern Central America through Nature-base Solutions (NbS)"

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD
Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

Dear Sir/Madam

I am pleased to confirm the commitment of the State Secretariat of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mines of Honduras to endorse the "Building Resilience of Urban Communities in Northern Central America through Nature-base Solutions.

In my capacity as Official Designated National Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Honduras, I confirm that the above-mentioned regional project proposal is in accordance with the government's priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts and risks posed by climate change in the region.

If approved, the project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and executed by the State Secretariat of Energy, Natural Resources, Environment and Mines of Honduras.

Kind regards,



LUCKY HALACH MEDINA ESTRADA
Secretary of Energy, Natural Resources,
Environment and Mines
Honduras

Cc: Archivo





Ministro

MINISTERIO DE AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES
GUATEMALA, C.A.

Oficio MI-1339-2022/MRRE-gpvg

August 8, 2022

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

Subject: Endorsement for "Building resilience of urban communities in Central America by leveraging Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for adaptation in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala"

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Guatemala, I confirm that the above regional project proposal is in accordance with the government's priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in urban areas in the country and the region.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by UN Environment Programme.

Sincerely,



Mr. Mario Roberto Rojas Espino
Minister of Environment and Natural Resources



MINISTERIO DE
MEDIO AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS
NATURALES

MARN-DCC-UCC-043-2022

San Salvador, July 26th, 2022

Subject: Endorsement to regional project
"Building resilience of urban communities in
Central America by leveraging Naturebased
Solutions (NbS) for adaptation."

Mister
Mikko Ollikainen
Head of the Secretariat
Adaptation Fund Board
Washington DC.

Dear mister Ollikainen:

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in El Salvador, I confirm that the regional project proposal "Building resilience of urban communities in Central America by leveraging Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for adaptation", agrees with the government's priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce the adverse effects and risks posed by climate change, in El Salvador

I am therefore pleased to support the project proposal with the support of the Adaptation Fund.

If approved, the project will be implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The undersigned is the duly authorized representative of the National Designated Authority of El Salvador.

Yours sincerely

Miguel Alberto Gallardo Meléndez
General Director of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)
National Designated Authority to the Adaptation Fund