

**Adaptation Futures 2023 Side Event**

**Empowering the most vulnerable, women, youth, elderly, indigenous populations, and incorporating local and traditional knowledge**

**Friday, October 6, 2023 | Montreal, Canada**

**8:30-10:00AM EDT (UTC-4)**

During this session Adaptation Fund (AF), National Implementing Entities (NIEs), NGO representatives and AFCIA (Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator) grantees will discuss lessons learned from projects and programs that benefit and empower the most vulnerable communities such as women, youth, the elderly, and indigenous populations, and incorporate local and traditional knowledge.

**Overview:**

The session will be moderated by the AF secretariat who will set the stage from a knowledge and learning perspective and link it to climate adaptation. This will be followed by 3 NIE representatives, an NGO representative and an AFCIA grantee who will have the opportunity to speak about the importance of incorporating the knowledge of local actors in climate adaptation interventions from their own country perspectives and from their experiences of implementing AF-funded projects.



The session will conclude with a broader discussion in the end, reaching back to the key questions and shared experiences from the start of the session, with the aim to reflect on the presentations and get thoughts and questions from the audience.

**Target audiences:** Climate adaptation and development practitioners, academia, knowledge institutions, governments, CSOs and others

**Opening remarks:** Mikko Ollikainen, Head, Adaptation Fund

**Speakers:**

- Tamara Greenstone Alefaio, Deputy Director, Micronesia Conservation Trust, Federated States of Micronesia
- Laode M. Syarif, Executive Director, KEMITRAAN, Indonesia
- Marianella Feoli, Executive Director, Fundecooperacion for Sustainable Development, Costa Rica
- Zeenat Niazi, Sr Vice President and Chief Knowledge Officer, Development Alternatives, India
- Andre Luis, UNDP-AFCIA Grantee

## Agenda

8:30-8:35AM | Opening and introductions

**Cristina Dengel, Knowledge Management Officer, Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat**

8:35-8:40AM | Opening Remarks

**Mikko Ollikainen, Head, Adaptation Fund**

## PRESENTATIONS

- **8:40-8:55AM - Tamara Greenstone Alefaio, Deputy Director, Micronesia Conservation Trust, Micronesia**  
Lessons from the project *“Practical Solutions for Reducing Community Vulnerability to Climate Change in the Federated States of Micronesia”*
- **8:55-9:10AM - Laode M. Syarif, Executive Director, KEMITRAAN, Indonesia**  
Lessons from the involvement of indigenous communities in the project *“Adapting to Climate Change through Sustainable Integrated Watershed Governance in Indigenous People of Ammatoa Kajang Customary Area in Bulukumba Regency, South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia”*
- **9:10 – 9:25AM - Marianella Feoli, Executive Director, Fundecooperacion for Sustainable Development, Costa Rica**  
Lessons from the incorporation of traditional knowledge in the project *“Increasing the Resilience of Vulnerable Populations in Costa Rica by Scaling up Adapta2+”*
- **9:25-9:35AM - Zeenat Niazi, Senior Vice President and Chief Knowledge Officer, Development Alternatives**  
Importance of empowering vulnerable communities and incorporating local and traditional knowledge in adaptation interventions – insights from the ground
- **9:35-9:45AM – Andre Luis, UNDP- AFCIA Grantee**  
Lessons from the Mbya Guarani in Southern Brazil – valorizing indigenous knowledge to promote food security, land reclamation and adaptation

9:55-9:58AM | Q&A session

9:58-10:00AM | Closing remarks and Wrap-up