



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/EFC.32/Inf.2  
4 October 2023

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Adaptation Fund Board  
Ethics and Finance Committee  
Thirty-second Meeting  
Bonn, Germany, 10-11 October 2023

Agenda Item: 5 a)

**WORK PROGRAMME UPDATE REPORT OF THE  
TECHNICAL EVALUATION REFERENCE GROUP  
OF THE ADAPTATION FUND (AF-TERG)**

**PROGRESS AND FORWARD PRIORITIES  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 - 2024 (FY24)**

## Background

1. The Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) is an independent evaluation advisory group, accountable to the Fund's Board (hereafter, 'the Board'), and functionally independent of the Adaptation Fund Board secretariat (hereafter, 'the secretariat'). It was established to ensure the independent implementation of the Adaptation Fund's (hereafter, 'the Fund') Evaluation Framework, which is replaced by the Evaluation Policy since October 2023.
2. The AF-TERG has a multi-year work programme and budget that runs up to June 2024. In determining its work priorities, the AF-TERG takes direction from the Board's steer; is informed by evaluative needs of the Fund's key stakeholders and relevant guidance from the various bodies of the UNFCCC; and is guided by the Fund's Evaluation Policy.
3. On 4 June 2020, the Board approved, through inter-sessional decision B.35.a-35.b/29, the strategy and three-year work programme of the AF-TERG for 2021-2023 (AFB/EFC.26.a-26.b/3)<sup>1</sup>. Through intersessional decision B.35.a-35.b/27 the Board approved the first proposed two-year budget to cover the costs of the operations of the AF-TERG and its secretariat for fiscal years 2021 (FY21) and 2022 (FY22). Adjustments for FY22 and a new requested budget for FY23 were approved by the Board as part of decision B.36/31. At the thirty-eight meeting of the Board, the Chair of the AF-TERG presented an update of the work programme for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 (AFB/EFC.29/7). Adjustments for FY23 and a new budget for FY24 were approved by the Board as part of decision B.38/47. A revised budget for FY23 was approved by the Board in October 2022 as part of decision B.39/58.<sup>2</sup>
4. The AF-TERG's current work programme delivers against its three functions of evaluation, advisory and oversight. Under the Evaluation Policy, the roles and responsibilities will expand to include evaluation utilization and evaluation capacity development. The work of the AF-TERG under these responsibilities will be further elaborated in the new multi-year work programme which is planned to be presented to the Board in March 2024.
5. The AF-TERG has been operational since 1 July 2019 and is comprised of an independent group of four experts, with strategic leadership provided by a Chair.<sup>3</sup> The AF-TERG is supported in the implementation of its work programme by a secretariat, comprising a full-time secretariat Coordinator/Senior Evaluation Officer and a full-time Programme Assistant (under recruitment). Technical expert consultants and corporate vendors are hired on short-term basis to implement specific work elements.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/AF-TERG-Strategy-and-Work-Programme-final.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/revision-of-the-administrative-budget-of-the-af-terg-and-its-secretariat-for-fiscal-year-2023/>

<sup>3</sup> Short profiles of all AF-TERG personnel are available on the Adaptation Fund website <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/about/evaluation/af-terg-who-we-are/>.

## Introduction

6. The purpose of this work programme update report is two-fold: to present an overview of annual progress for FY23 on the multi-year work programme (2020-2024) of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG); and to provide information on specific work elements to be completed in the remainder of the current work programme period. Three accompanying annexes serve as background information and include the following: a summary of progress on the AF-TERG's overall current work programme (Annex 1); summary of AF-TERG external outreach activities (Annex 2); and a complete list of reports delivered by the AF-TERG to the Board since the start of its multi-year work programme in FY20 (Annex 3).

7. The AF-TERG is separately submitting to the EFC's thirty-second meeting in October 2023 the following documents:

- (i) Cover note submission as an accompaniment to the findings and recommendations from the Rapid Evaluation study, conducted in FY23-24 and submitted to the EFC in August 2023<sup>4</sup>.
- (ii) Discussion paper to seek EFC guidance on the approach to the AF-TERG's next work programme and budget from July 2024 (FY25) onwards.

## Information update to EFC on key elements of the work programme

(a) Evaluation Policy: Guidance notes and introduction to fund stakeholders

8. In April 2022, the Board requested the AF-TERG to develop, in consultation with the secretariat, evaluation guidance documents for the implementation of the Fund's Evaluation Policy, including budget implications (Decision B.38/48).

9. Ten guidance notes (GN) were presented to the EFC at its 31<sup>st</sup> meeting in March 2023, and are available on the Adaptation Fund website<sup>5</sup>. The GNs are immediately relevant for those involved in commissioning, managing, undertaking and using evaluations in line with the new Evaluation Policy, and include: three cross-cutting general GNs; four evaluation phase-specific GNs; and three evaluation-type GNs. Since the 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the EFC, the AF-TERG has also produced a GN on real-time evaluation, and an overall GN that explains the role of the GNs throughout the Fund project cycle. Both guidance notes will be made available on the Fund website in October 2023. Further guidance notes may be developed in due course, based on emerging needs of Fund stakeholders to meet the requirements of the Evaluation Policy.

10. Working closely with the AFB secretariat, the AF-TERG and its secretariat are supporting the roll-out of the guidance for Adaptation Fund stakeholders. The AF-TERG developed a project review checklist and held a session with AFB secretariat reviewers in August 2023 to familiarize them with elements of proposals that should be monitored for compliance with the policy. The AF-

<sup>4</sup> The AF-TERG follows the World Bank Group's fiscal year of July to June.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/meeting/40th-afb-meeting/>

TERG identified the design phase as a key point in the project cycle for integrating the Evaluation Policy. For this reason, it is also working with the Secretariat to ensure that all funding proposals submitted to the Adaptation Fund are compliant with the Evaluation Policy.

11. On 13 September 2023, the AF-TERG Chair and the AF-TERG Secretariat Coordinator presented the Evaluation Policy guidance at the annual NIE workshop in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and answered questions from representatives of the participating NIEs. In the following weeks, webinars and other events will also be held for implementing entities in cooperation with the AFB secretariat.

(b) Rapid evaluation of the Fund

12. The AF-TERG's multi-year strategy and work programme provisioned for an overall evaluation of the Adaptation Fund. The AF-TERG presented options to the EFC at its 31<sup>st</sup> meeting (AFB/EFC.31/Inf.2, paras. 16-20) on the framing of the approach at the macro, *meso* and micro levels, and the methodology and sources of evidence and knowledge that would inform the study.

13. The Board reviewed the proposed approach presented by the AF-TERG and decided to adopt a phased approach (AFB/B.39/14, Decision B39/57)<sup>6</sup>, proceeding urgently with a rapid evaluation and undertaking a comprehensive evaluation at a later stage, with a view to contributing to the development of the Fund's medium-term strategy for 2028-2032. The Board also requested the AF-TERG to submit the rapid evaluation for the consideration of the Board, no later than 60 days before the 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Board; and requested the secretariat to prepare a draft management response to the rapid evaluation for consideration by the Board at its 41<sup>st</sup> meeting.

14. In line with Decision B.39/57, the AF-TERG shared a Terms of Reference (ToR) intersessionally with the EFC in December 2022, and incorporated comments received in the final ToR. The main objectives of the ToR were to: (i) Develop a framework to organize existing evidence around the Fund's mandate, priorities, core indicators and the Fund's Evaluation Policy; (ii) Synthesize evidence, lessons and experiences to identify trends and identify potential knowledge gaps, in relation to the results (including impact), operations and comparative advantage of the Fund; and (iii) Provide inputs to the Overall Evaluation of the Fund which, as per Decision B.29/57, will conclude in 2026.

15. The Rapid Evaluation study began in February 2023, and the findings and evidence gaps were submitted to the EFC in August 2023<sup>7</sup>. Findings from this evaluation are expected to inform the direction and approach of the overall evaluation of the Fund.

(c) Three Thematic Evaluations and new proposed thematic evaluations

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<sup>6</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/decision-document-for-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-adaptation-fund-board/>

<sup>7</sup> AFB/EFC.32/6

16. A suite of three thematic evaluations were identified following initial consultations with Board members, implementing entities, and secretariat staff as relevant to the evolving context of the Fund. The findings from all three thematic studies have informed work being undertaken through the rapid evaluation. The first study on the Fund's experience with innovation was presented to the EFC for consideration and recommendation for Board approval (AFB/EFC.30/10, October 2022)<sup>8</sup>.

17. The second thematic evaluation on accreditation is in the process of finalization and is planned to be submitted to the EFC as an intersessional document prior to its 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting. The study evaluates the accreditation function of the Adaptation Fund (AF) and examines how it can be strengthened and scaled up to better meet the anticipated increase in demand for access to funding and support its second Medium-term strategy (2023-2027).

18. The third thematic study on scalability is also at an advanced stage following slight delays due to external factors outside the control of the AF-TERG. The draft report is under finalization and the findings will be presented to the EFC as an intersessional document together with the evaluation on accreditation. The objective of this thematic evaluation is to derive lessons about the Fund's efforts and progress in the design and delivery of projects that are scalable and to look at the performance of the investments made by the Board for this purpose. The study includes an assessment of the strengths and potential of the Fund as a supporter of scaling and a portfolio analysis of scaling in projects in the Action Pillar of the Fund's work. The evaluation will make recommendations for the Fund to manage scaling support going forward, leveraging existing activities and indicators in the implementation plan of the medium-term strategy.

19. Once the work on the three thematic evaluations is completed, the AF-TERG plans to commence the preparation for the work on a new thematic evaluation on readiness in line with the MTS2 implementation plan. The ToR for this evaluation will be developed through a consultative process and presented to the EFC and the Board in March 2023 for comments and finalization, prior to recruiting a vendor to support this work.

(d) Information Update on Phase 2 of the *Ex Post* Project Sustainability Evaluation

20. The AF-TERG is finalizing summary reports for the third and fourth *ex post* evaluations which were conducted in Argentina for the projects "Increasing Climate Resilience and Enhancing Sustainable Land Management in the Southwest of the Buenos Aires Province" (ARG/MIE/Rural/2011/1), which was implemented by the IBRD from 2015 to 2019, and "Enhancing the Adaptive Capacity and Increasing Resilience of Small-Size Agriculture Producers of the Northeast of Argentina" (ARG/NIE/Agri/2011/1), which was implemented from 2013 to 2018 by Unidad para Cambio Rural Argentina. The AF-TERG shifted from single consultants during the pilot *ex post* evaluations to the procurement of a firm for the third and fourth *ex post* evaluation without additional costs, and this mode of contracting is expected to continue for all *ex post* evaluations in the future.

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<sup>8</sup> The document follows the work already presented to the Board on Phase 1 of the thematic evaluation of the Fund's work on Innovation (AFB/EFC.29/Inf.3).

21. The findings from the third and fourth *ex post* evaluations will be discussed with the implementing entities prior to being submitted to the EFC. The AF-TERG has updated its *ex post* training materials, and has recorded training sessions, which are available on the Adaptation Fund website<sup>9</sup>. The Evaluation Policy GNs on *ex post* evaluation and on final evaluation reports have been updated to reflect the emerging lessons.

### **Forward Priorities**

22. Over the remainder of the current work programme (i.e., up to the end of FY24 (June 2024)), the AF-TERG will prioritise the delivery of the following milestones in its current work programme and proposes to initiate some preparatory work towards the next work programme, as follows:

#### (e) Continuation of current work programme priorities

23. **Continued support to guide implementation of the Evaluation Policy.** The AF-TERG will continue to work closely with the AFB secretariat to disseminate the Evaluation Policy and its guidelines, and to provide technical advice on its implementation. This may involve online or other training resources to help guide Fund stakeholders, development of additional guidance notes and organization of webinars and other events.

24. **Next set of thematic studies:** Through a process of consultation with the EFC, and as part of developing its forward work programming, the AF-TERG will identify the next set of thematic studies. These will also become an input into the overall evaluation of the Fund. A shortlist of potential thematic study candidates has been prepared from suggestions received from Fund stakeholders via a survey conducted in June-July 2023, and from evidence gaps identified by the rapid evaluation study. This will be presented to the EFC at its thirty-second meeting in October 2023. One of the candidates for the next set of thematic evaluations is the evaluation on readiness as already described in the implementation plan for MTS2, and as outlined in para 19 above.

25. **Ex post evaluations:** Execution of *ex post* evaluations will continue in FY24, with the aim of completing two studies in each calendar year bring the total to 6 studies to be completed by the end of the current work programme. The AF-TERG is currently shortlisting eligible completed projects for the upcoming *ex post* evaluations from a pool of 18 Fund projects that fall within the 3-5-year post-completion window. The AF-TERG has used a two-step process that focuses on evaluability of the projects and has identified four shortlisted projects: three are in Africa, and one is in Latin America. The final shortlist will be discussed with the Secretariat and the IEs involved.

26. In preparation for the next set of *ex post* evaluations, the AF-TERG has drawn on lessons from the four *ex post* studies conducted so far, and feedback from the EFC and Secretariat. As a result, the *ex post* evaluation process, approach, and scope have been refined in three ways.

<sup>9</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/training-material-for-ex-post-pilots/>

27. First, the upcoming full *ex post* evaluations will cover all project outcomes in order to provide a more complete picture of sustained impacts.

28. Second, the AF-TERG is currently devising a “light touch” approach for remote *ex post* reviews that will allow for broader coverage of the portfolio and may be suitable for Fund projects in fragile and conflict-affected areas. The most recent *ex post* evaluations in Argentina introduced the use of GIS analysis to complement desk reviews and field work, which has informed the thinking on remote reviews. Preliminary research has shown that a mix of secondary data from a wide range of sources, supplemented by select primary research - e.g., telephone interviews, possibly meetings by national evaluators - could be used with minimal risk to the evaluator. The approach would also broaden the ability to evaluate a larger portion of the overall AF portfolio at less cost, albeit at less technical depth.

29. Third, the AF-TERG is developing proposed ratings for the achievement of sustainability and adaptation, which will promote comparability across a diverse portfolio. A supporting assessment of confidence in findings will factor in data availability and quality, which will put findings in context and identify areas for further study. The AF-TERG will submit an information note to the EFC summarizing these lessons and refinements.

30. **Synthesis of final evaluations:** The AF-TERG will submit to the EFC at its 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting in March 2024 the second synthesis that assesses the quality of final evaluations using an updated comprehensive methodology. Over time, this is intended to help in tracking improvements in the quality of the Fund’s project-level final evaluations in line with the new Evaluation Policy, and with emerging lessons intended to inform future project design and management.

31. **Preparatory work for the Overall Evaluation of the Fund:** As requested by the Board, the AF-TERG will develop terms of reference for the comprehensive evaluation and detailed financial implications for the consideration of the EFC at its 34<sup>th</sup> meeting.

(f) Preparatory work towards the next work programme:

32. **Development of the next AF-TERG work programme:** The AF-TERG’s current work programme and budget run up to June 2024. The next multi-year work programme and budget (FY25-27) will be submitted for EFC and Board approval in March 2024. The work programme and selection of evaluation priorities will be guided by the EFC direction. It will be closely aligned with the Fund’s medium-term strategy and its implementation plan and will seek to fulfil the roles and responsibilities of the AF-TERG as outlined in the evaluation policy. A consultative process has also been initiated to identify options on evaluation themes and priorities, and findings from the rapid evaluation and stakeholder feedback will also inform the identification of evaluation topics. The AF-TERG will also undertake an in-house reflective exercise to review its performance and identify key lessons.

(g) Update to the AF-TERG Terms of Reference

33. In discussion with the AFB Secretariat, the AF-TERG is currently doing an internal review of its Terms of Reference to ensure that this is brought in alignment with the roles and responsibilities set out in the Fund's Evaluation Policy, that updates the staffing complement of the AF-TERG secretariat as already agreed by the EFC, that draws on key lessons learned from four years of operation, and that assesses its resourcing requirements arising from the new work programme. The AF-TERG will submit to the EFC any proposed changes arising from this internal review exercise.

(h) External engagement:

34. As part of its strategic communications and external outreach, which are oriented towards demonstrating the Fund's niche value, results, and facilitate learning, the AF-TERG hosted (virtually) the second meeting of evaluation units from all four climate funds, namely the Adaptation Fund, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), and the Climate Investment Funds (CIFs) in July 2023. The AF-TERG will continue to engage with evaluation units in GCF, the GEF, and CIFs, as well as UN organisations and multilateral development banks, and with other climate change adaptation and climate finance experts to ensure coherence and to reflect relevant thinking on adaptation monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) in its approach and advice to the Board. The AF-TERG is also in discussion with the AFB secretariat to explore collaborative opportunities to present evaluation findings in external fora, including in the upcoming COP-28 and at other related UNFCCC processes and events.

35. The AF-TERG submitted an application to the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) for 'Observer Status' and has received confirmation that the application is on a positive track for acceptance by the UNEG leadership. Securing observer status to the UNEG – an interagency professional network that brings together the evaluation units of the UN system – will provide an opportunity to access wider evaluation networks and resources and to contribute to evaluation practice more broadly. Evaluation units from the GCF and the GEF have secured full membership.

(i) Budget update.

36. As reported in document AFB/EFC.32.5, the overall expenditure level of the evaluation function for FY23 was 68 per cent, with the execution rate on the management component of the budget standing at 65 per cent, and of the evaluation component – at 73 per cent. The main reasons are due to early departure of AF-TERG secretariat personnel and AF-TERG members during the fiscal year, and long timeframes in recruitment processes. These personnel gaps required existing AF-TERG members to focus on priority areas of the work programme and reduced the overall expenditure levels.

37. As of the beginning of FY24, the AF-TERG is fully staffed and the AF-TERG secretariat is in the process of recruiting a programme assistant, while the Senior Evaluation Officer/Secretariat Coordinator entered duty on July 5, 2023. The almost full staffing and the use of more rigorous



budget and contract management tools by the AF-TERG secretariat, are expected to improve expenditure management and allow for efficient delivery of the final year of the current multi-year work programme.

## Annex 1: Overall work programme summary update

A summary of progress on the AF-TERG's work programme is presented in Table 1 below.

**Table 1:** Current work elements and their status

Work Element	Status	Comment
i. Annual Implementation Plan	In progress, on-track	Activities continue to be implemented in line with the annual work plan and budgets for FY24, as approved by the Board and guided by Fund priorities.
ii. Development of AF-TERG Operational Guidance	Completed, no further action	An organizational development consultant supported the AF-TERG between April and August 2021 to strengthen its operational modalities and ways of working for increased impact and effectiveness. Further work in September 2022 focused on strengthening operational efficiency.
iii. Review / revision of the Evaluation Framework (AFB/EFC.27/7)	Completed	(i) Inception phase (completed, February 2021): Review of the Fund's current Evaluation Framework, which recommended the development of an Evaluation Policy instrument and was approved by the Board in March 2021. (ii) Phase 1 (completed): Development of the draft Evaluation Policy, approved by the Board in April 2022. (iii) Phase 2 (completed): Detailed operational-level Guidance Notes developed, and EFC / Board notified.
iv. Co-learning and Capacity Building	In progress	The AF-TERG has continued to engage with Fund stakeholders as follows: (i) consultative process in developing the Evaluation Policy and its operational guidelines; (ii) engagement with IEs at external events such as NIE and readiness seminars to better understand their evaluation approaches and needs; (iii) piloting training of evaluators on ex post methodologies in Samoa and Ecuador (concluded) and in Argentina; (iv) Further engagements with Fund stakeholders are planned over the next few months, including through on-going thematic and ex post work, and in collaboration with the Secretariat, to support the operationalization of the Evaluation Policy.
v. Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) mid-term review (AFB/EFC.27/Inf.2)	Completed (2021)	The Mid-Term Review (MTR) of the first medium-term strategy (MTS) is available on the Fund's website, following presentation of its findings and recommendations to the EFC and Board in October 2021. A management response and action plan were subsequently developed by the secretariat, in consultation with the AF-TERG.
vi. Overall evaluation of the Fund	Progress in phases	The AF-TERG presented options to the EFC at its 31st meeting (AFB/EFC.31/Inf.2, paras. 16–20) on the framing of the approach at the macro, meso and micro levels, and the methodology and sources of evidence and knowledge that would inform the study.  To guide the preparation for the Overall Evaluation of the Fund, the Rapid Evaluation study was conducted, and the findings will be presented to the EFC at its 32 <sup>nd</sup> meeting in October 2023.

<b>Work Element</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Comment</b>
vii. Studies and thematic evaluations	In progress, nearing completion	<p>(i) A suite of three thematic evaluations were initiated and taken forward in consultation with the secretariat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovation in Climate Change Adaptation was presented at the Board's thirty-ninth meeting (October 2022) and is considered completed. (see Decision B.39/56)<sup>10</sup></li> <li>• Accreditation and related readiness in the Fund - Final evaluation to be completed and presented to the EFC intersessionally by December 2023.</li> <li>• Scalability – Final evaluation to be completed and presented to the EFC intersessionally by December 2023.</li> </ul>
viii. Ex post evaluations	Advanced progress	<p>(i) Phase 1 (completed in August 2021) developed innovative guidance aimed at evaluating project sustainability and the ultimate aim of resilience.</p> <p>(ii) Phase 2: Two pilot studies in Samoa and Ecuador completed in 2022. Findings were shared with country stakeholders and presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> Board meeting in October 2022.</p> <p>(iii) Two ex-posts in Argentina completed, to be presented to the EFC.</p> <p>(iv) Identification of next two ex-post candidates underway.</p>
ix. Evaluation Synthesis (AFB/EFC.27/8)	<p>Completed (January 2021)</p> <p>A second batch in progress</p>	<p>This study looked at the quality of 17 final evaluations of the Fund. A management response was developed by the secretariat in consultation with the AF-TERG.</p> <p>A second synthesis of the quality of final evaluations is planned for FY24 (by March 2024).</p>
x. Sharing Outreach and Communication on evaluation results	On-going, continuous	The AF-TERG was represented at various internal and external events. Details are in Annex 2.

<sup>10</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/decision-document-for-the-thirty-ninth-meeting-of-the-adaptation-fund-board/>

## **Annex 2: Summary of external outreach activities by the AF-TERG in 2023**

1. Mr. Claudio Volonte, AF-TERG member, joined a project monitoring mission (PMM) to Indonesia in June 2023. This was the first time that the AF-TERG participated in a PMM and, in keeping with the MTS-2 Implementation Plan, the AF-TERG will join two PMMs every year.
2. The AF-TERG held its fourth in-person meeting in July 2023 in Malaga, Spain to critically assess emerging findings from the rapid evaluation, discuss forward work planning including emerging findings from the recent survey to AF stakeholders, and to discuss and refine on-going work on ex-post evaluations, thematic studies and the introduction of the Evaluation Policy guidance notes to key stakeholders. The AF-TERG also used this opportunity to induct three new personnel, including two new AF-TERG members and the new AF-TERG secretariat coordinator, who came on board in July. The meeting spanned three and a half working days.
3. The AF-TERG hosted and moderated the second virtual meeting with evaluation units from all four climate funds, namely the Adaptation Fund, GEF, GCF, and CIF in July 2023. The meeting discussed 'hot topics' that each of the evaluation units was working on and facilitated knowledge and lesson sharing. The AF-TERG also hosted a discussion on 'Just Transitions' with the CIF's Evaluation and Learning team in June 2023.
4. Mr. Vladislav Arnaoudov, AF-TERG Secretariat Coordinator/Senior Evaluation Officer participated virtually in the 8<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) Forum in August 2023 in Songdo.
5. Mr. Vladislav Arnaoudov, AF-TERG Secretariat Coordinator/Senior Evaluation Officer participated in sessions of the Accreditation Panel meeting on 6 September 2023 in Washington DC.
6. Ms. Debbie Menezes, AF-TERG Chair, and Mr. Vladislav Arnaoudov, AF-TERG Secretariat Coordinator/Senior Evaluation Officer participated in the annual NIE seminar in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic in the period 12-15 September 2023. The event was attended by over 20 NIEs and provided an opportunity for the AF-TERG to have in-depth interactions with NIEs particularly on the evaluation policy and their forward evaluation priorities.
6. Ms Susan Legro, AF-TERG member will participate in the Adaptation Futures Conference in Montreal in October 2023. She will hold a masterclass on the ex-post evaluation methodology that has been developed by the AF-TERG and piloted in four countries so far.
7. Looking ahead, the AF-TERG will have representation at the upcoming COP28 (November - December 2023) in a collaborative partnership with the AFB Secretariat. It also plans to participate in the upcoming GEF Independent Evaluation Office's annual climate and environment conference (March 2024), and other UNFCCC technical evaluation discussions as opportunities emerge.
8. The AF-TERG secretariat keeps an active web presence on social media platforms, such as Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter, covering updates on on-going and completed work.

### Annex 3: AF-TERG Documents Delivered to the Ethics and Finance Committee

To date the AF-TERG has delivered the following documents to the EFC / Board:

#### FY20:

- (a) Draft Strategy and Work Programme of the Adaptation Fund Technical Evaluation Reference Group (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.26.a-26.b/3) (May 2020);<sup>11</sup>

#### FY21:

- (b) Work Update Report of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.26.b/Inf.1) (October 2020);<sup>12</sup>
- (c) Evaluating Adaptation: Common Challenges Identified Across Three Studies Commissioned by the Adaptation Fund Technical Evaluation Reference Group (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.26.b/Inf.2) (October 2020);<sup>13</sup>
- (d) Progress Update on the Review and Revision of the Evaluation Framework (AFB/EFC.27/7) (March 2021);<sup>14</sup>
- (e) Synthesis of Adaptation Fund Final Evaluations – Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.27/.8) (March 2021);<sup>15</sup>
- (f) Board's Participation in Advisory Groups, Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.27/9/Rev.2) (March 2021);<sup>16</sup>
- (g) Work Update Report of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.27/Inf.1) (March 2021);<sup>17</sup>
- (h) Mid-Term Review of the Medium-Term Strategy Emerging Findings and Areas for Discussion, Technical Evaluation Reference Group of The Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.27/Inf.2) (March 2021);<sup>18</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/draft-strategy-and-work-programme-of-the-adaptation-fund-technical-evaluation-reference-group-af-terg/>

<sup>12</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg-work-update-report/>

<sup>13</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/evaluating-adaptation-common-challenges-identified-across-three-studies-commissioned-by-the-adaptation-fund-technical-evaluation-reference-group-af-terg/>

<sup>14</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/progress-update-on-the-review-and-revision-of-the-evaluation-framework-technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg/>

<sup>15</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/synthesis-of-adaptation-fund-final-evaluations-technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg/>

<sup>16</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/boards-participation-in-advisory-groups-technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg/>

<sup>17</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/work-update-report-of-the-technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg/>

<sup>18</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/mid-term-review-of-the-medium-term-strategy-emerging-findings-and-areas-for-discussion-technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg/>

FY22:

- (i) Mid-term Review of the Medium-term Strategy of the Adaptation Fund (AFB/EFC.28/7) (October 2021);<sup>19</sup>
- (j) Work Update Report of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.28/Inf.2) (October 2021);<sup>20</sup>
- (k) Progress on Development of the Adaptation Fund Evaluation Policy – Information Update (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.28/Inf.3) (October 2021);<sup>21</sup>
- (l) Progress Update on Ex Post Evaluations (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.28/Inf.4) (October 2021);<sup>22</sup>
- (m) Draft Evaluation Policy of the Adaptation Fund (AFB/EFC.29/6/Rev.1) (April 2022);<sup>23</sup>
- (n) Fiscal Years 2023 – 2024 Update to the Work Programme of the Adaptation Fund Technical Evaluation Reference Group (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.29/7) (April 2022);<sup>24</sup>
- (o) Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) Work Update Report for Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) and Forward Priorities (FY23) (AFB/EFC.29/Inf.2) (April 2022);<sup>25</sup>
- (p) AF-TERG Information Update on Phase One of the Thematic Evaluation of Innovation (AFB/EFC.29/Inf.3) (April 2022);<sup>26</sup>
- (q) Progress Update on Ex Post Evaluations and Emerging Lessons from Phase 2 (On-Going) Technical Evaluation Reference Group of The Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.29/Inf.4) (April 2022);<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>19</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/mid-term-review-of-the-medium-term-strategy-of-the-adaptation-fund/>

<sup>20</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/44842/>

<sup>21</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/progress-on-development-of-the-adaptation-fund-evaluation-policy-information-update/>

<sup>22</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/progress-update-on-ex-post-evaluations-af-terg/>

<sup>23</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/draft-evaluation-policy-of-the-adaptation-fund/> and as graphically edited version: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/evaluation-policy-of-the-adaptation-fund-graphically-edited/>

<sup>24</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/fiscal-years-2023-2024-update-to-the-work-programme-of-the-adaptation-fund-technical-evaluation-reference-group-af-terg/>

<sup>25</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg-work-update-report-for-fiscal-year-2022-fy22-and-forward-priorities-fy23/>

<sup>26</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/af-terg-information-update-on-phase-one-of-the-thematic-evaluation-of-innovation/>

<sup>27</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/progress-update-on-ex-post-evaluations-and-emerging-lessons-from-phase-2-on-going-technical-evaluation-reference-group-of-the-adaptation-fund-af-terg/>

FY23:

- (r) Draft framework for the development of evaluation policy guidance documents (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.30/.8/Rev.1) (October 2022);<sup>28</sup>
- (s) Revision of the administrative budget of the AF-TERG and its secretariat for fiscal year 2023 (AFB/EFC.30/.9) (October 2022);<sup>29</sup>
- (t) Thematic Evaluation of the Adaptation Fund's experience with innovation (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.30/10) (October 2022);<sup>30</sup>
- (u) Options for the overall evaluation of the Fund (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.30/11) (October 2022);<sup>31</sup>
- (v) Information update on phase 2 of the ex post project sustainability evaluations (AF-TERG) (AFB/EFC.30/Inf.3) (October 2022);<sup>32</sup>
- (w) Draft Terms of Reference – Rapid Evaluation – A Synthesis of Evaluations and Knowledge Products on Climate Change Adaptation (AFB/EFC.30-31/Inf.1) (November 2022).

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<sup>28</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/draft-framework-for-the-development-of-evaluation-policy-guidance-documents-af-terg/>

<sup>29</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/revision-of-the-administrative-budget-of-the-af-terg-and-its-secretariat-for-fiscal-year-2023/>

<sup>30</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/thematic-evaluation-of-the-adaptation-funds-experience-with-innovation-af-terg/>

<sup>31</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/options-for-the-overall-evaluation-of-the-fund-af-terg/>

<sup>32</sup> Available at: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/information-update-on-phase-2-of-the-ex-post-project-sustainability-evaluations-af-terg/>