



## ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.33/35  
26 March 2024

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Adaptation Fund Board  
Project and Programme Review Committee  
thirty-third Meeting  
Bonn, Germany, 16-17 April 2024

Agenda item 15a)

### **PROPOSAL FOR LEARNING GRANT FOR ARMENIA**

## Background

1. At its twenty-second meeting, the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) considered document AFB/B.22/6 prepared by the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat (the secretariat), which outlined the possible elements and options for a phased programme to support readiness for direct access to climate finance for National and Regional Implementing Entities and presented a framework and budget for a first phase of the Programme. Following a discussion of the document, the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) decided to:

*(a) Approve Phase I of the Readiness Programme as detailed in document AFB/B.22/6, on the basis that it would follow performance-based funding principles;*

*(b) Take note of the options provided by the secretariat on a programme to support readiness for direct access to climate finance for national and regional implementing entities;*

*(c) Request the secretariat to submit to the Board intersessionally between the twenty-second and twenty-third meetings, execution arrangements, criteria/eligibility criteria to allocate the funds to the accredited implementing entities for specific activities, as well as a timeline of activities, with a view to start implementing the programme before the twenty-third Board meeting; and*

*(d) Approve an increase in the Administrative Budget of the Board, secretariat and trustee for FY2014 of US\$ 467,000 for the programme described in AFB/B.22/6, and authorize the trustee to transfer such amount to the secretariat and request the trustee to set aside the balance amount of US\$ 503,000 from the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund resources for subsequent commitment and transfer at the instruction of the Board.*

*(Decision B.22/24)*

2. At the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 10), the Parties recognized the Readiness Programme of the Adaptation Fund and decided to:

*Invite further support for the readiness programme of the Adaptation Fund Board for direct access to climate finance in accordance with decision 2/CMP.10, paragraph 5;*

*Decision 1/CMP.10*

and also decided to:

*Request the Adaptation Fund Board to consider, under its readiness programme, the following options for enhancing the access modalities of the Adaptation Fund:*

*(a) Targeted institutional strengthening strategies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to accredit more national or regional implementing entities to the Adaptation Fund;*

*(b) Ensuring that accredited national implementing entities have increased and facilitated access to the Adaptation Fund, including for small-sized projects and programmes;*

*Decision 2/CMP.10*

3. At its twenty-seventh meeting, the Board decided through decision B.27/38 to make the Readiness Programme a more permanent feature of the Adaptation Fund (the Fund) by integrating it into the Fund's work plan and budget and setting aside funding for small grants to be directly transferred from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund.

4. At its thirtieth meeting, the Board adopted the medium-term strategy (MTS) for the Fund through decision B.30/42, and subsequently approved the implementation plan for the strategy at its thirty-first meeting. At this meeting, the Board decided:

*(a) To approve the implementation plan for the medium-term strategy for the Fund for 2018–2022 contained in the Annex I to document AFB/B.31/5/Rev.1 (the plan);*

*(b) To request the secretariat:*

*(i) To facilitate the implementation of the plan during the period 2018–2022;*

*[...]*

*(iii) To prepare, for each proposed new type of grant and funding window, a specific document containing objectives, review criteria, expected grant sizes, implementation modalities, review process and other relevant features and submit it to the Board for its consideration in accordance with the tentative timeline contained in Annex I to document AFB/B.31/5/Rev.1, with input from the Board's committees;*

*[...]*

*(Decision B.31/32)*

5. At the thirtieth-second meeting of the Board, the secretariat had presented document AFB/B.32/10 which outlines the objectives, review criteria, expected grant sizes, implementation modalities, review process and eligibility criteria for learning grants. Having considered the proposed approach, application process, review criteria and features of the learning grants as set out in document AFB/B.32/9, the Board decided:

*(a) To make learning grants available for national implementing entities between fiscal year 2019 and 2023 up to a maximum of US\$ 400,000 per year as direct transfers from the resources of the Adaptation Fund Trust Fund;*

*(b) That the learning grants would not count against the country cap approved by the Board in decision B.13/23;*

- (c) *To approve:*
- (i) *The features and implementation arrangements of the learning grants as set out in document AFB/B.32/9; and*
  - (ii) *The application form, review criteria and review template for the learning grants as set out in annexes II, III and IV of document AFB/B.32/9;*
- (d) *To request the secretariat to issue a call for proposals in accordance with the tentative timeline set out in Annex I to document AFB/B.31/5/Rev.1 and the budget pursuant to (a) above;*
- (e) *To request the secretariat to develop and present to the Board at its thirty-third meeting:*
- (i) *A standard legal agreement for learning grants;*
  - (ii) *Notification templates for project start and project completion for learning grants;*
  - (iii) *Monitoring and evaluation templates for learning grants; and*
  - (iv) *A results framework for learning grants;*
- (f) *To request the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) of the Board to review learning grant proposals and make recommendations to the Board in line with other grant approval procedures approved by the Board; and*
- (g) *To request the secretariat to report to the Board annually on the implementation progress for learning grants through the annual performance report; and*
- (h) *To request the secretariat to present to the PPRC at its twenty-fifth meeting an analysis of the project review cycle for learning grants, with potential options, for its consideration.*

*(Decision B.32/38)*

6. Based on the Board Decision B.32/38, the call for learning grant proposals was issued in November 2018 and eligible national implementing entities (NIEs) were given the opportunity to submit proposals. In addition, the learning grants were launched at a side-event at the margins of the twenty-fourth conference of the Parties (COP24) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

7. According to the criteria outlined in document AFB/B.32/9 eligible NIEs to receive learning grants were those that have at a minimum an Adaptation Fund funded project that has reached

the mid-point in implementation or where a mid-term review or evaluation (MTR/MTE) has been submitted. All the criteria had to be met, which stipulates that the NIE:

- (i) Must be an accredited national implementing entity of the Adaptation Fund and have an accreditation status of “Accredited”.
- (ii) Must have, at minimum, an Adaptation Fund funded project that has reached the mid-point in implementation or where a Mid-Term Review or Evaluation (MTR/MTE) has been submitted. For projects that have a duration of less than 4 years, at least one Project Performance Report (PPR) should have been submitted.
- (iii) Must submit together with the application form, a letter of endorsement by the Designated Authority to the Adaptation fund in support of the learning grant application.

8. It is expected that learning grants help encourage a culture of learning across institutions and help build NIE capacities. They present an opportunity to capture, study and disseminate practical lessons from adaptation interventions that are additional to Knowledge Management activities already financed under Adaptation Fund approved projects/programmes. They may be utilized to complement collaborative knowledge and sharing efforts with respect to partnerships with diverse stakeholders on the ground

9. The present document introduces the learning grant proposal for Armenia submitted by the Environmental Project Implementation Unit State Agency (EPIU), which is the national implementing entity (NIE) of the Adaptation Fund in Armenia. It includes a request for funding of US\$ 125,100 that proposes to collect, structure, and disseminate knowledge, transfer practical solutions to local communities through strengthened capacity of EPIU related to innovative land, water, and forest management strategies in the view of adaptation to climate change in Armenia.

10. This is the first submission of the proposal.

11. The proposal was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the forty-second Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal, assigned it the Project ID number **AFRDG00074**, and completed a review sheet.

11. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal and completed a review sheet. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with EPIU , and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.

12. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary and, pursuant to decision B.17/15, the final technical review of the project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. In accordance with decision B.25.15, the proposal is submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.



ADAPTATION FUND

## ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR LEARNING GRANTS

PROJECT CATEGORY: **LEARNING GRANTS**

Country: **Armenia**

Implementing Entity: **Environmental Project Implementation Unit (EPIU)**

Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): **USD 125,100**

Reviewer and contact person: **Cristina Dengel**

Co-reviewer(s): **Kalterine Vrenezi**

Implementing Entity Contact Person: **Armen Yesoyan and Margarita Gasparyan**

### Secretariat's Overall Comment

The proposed learning grant for Armenia aims to collect, consolidate, disseminate knowledge, and transfer practical solutions to local communities through strengthened capacity of EPIU related to innovative land, water, and forest management strategies in the view of adaptation to climate change in Armenia. Furthermore, to incorporate knowledge from two AF-funded projects implemented by EPIU.

**Component 1:** Identify, collect, and integrate scientific knowledge and lessons learned related to adaptation measures from the two EPIU projects, along with local knowledge, good practices, and farmers' adaptation strategies from selected Armenian provinces. (USD 29,750)

**Component 2:** A platform for exchanging knowledge, good practices, and lessons learned will be established (USD 18,250)

**Component 3:** Develop an Atlas for adaptation to climate change in Armenian agriculture, which will include overviews of innovative solutions in water, soil, forest management, and crop production, enriched by insights from the EPIU projects. (USD 24,000)

	<p><b>Component 4:</b> Organize dissemination events and field days to showcase best practices and success stories from these AF-funded projects, alongside workshops to exchange experiences and present information about adaptation to climate change for decision-making actors. (USD \$43.300)</p> <p><b><u>Requested financing overview:</u></b>  Total Project/Programme Cost: USD <b>115,300</b>  Implementing Fee: USD <b>9,800</b>  Financing Requested: USD <b>125,100</b></p> <p>The final technical review raises questions about engagement with local and vulnerable communities in proposed activities, the target audience of the knowledge platform, justification of the allocated budget under components 3&amp;4, and the outreach of the lessons learned to broader audiences including other NIEs, and global climate adaptation audience.</p>
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Review Criteria	Questions	Comments	
Country Eligibility	1. Is the country that has an accredited entity Party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes.	
Eligibility of IE	1. Is the project submitted through an Implementing Entity accredited by the Board?	Yes.	
	2. Is the Implementing Entity already implementing a project/programme funded by the Adaptation Fund? If so, has this project/programme reached the mid-point in implementation and has a Mid-term Review or Evaluation (MTR/MTE) been submitted?	Yes.	

Project Eligibility	1. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project?	Yes. Letter dated October 16, 2023	
	<p>2. Are the proposed activities to support learning adequate?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do they reflect knowledge gaps and learning needs identified by the users?</li> <li>● Do they build on established “best practices” for project/programme learning? Are they based on shared resources and knowledge?</li> <li>● Do they address gender considerations and include concerns of the most vulnerable groups and communities?</li> <li>● Are they generated in an inclusive way?</li> <li>● Do they emphasize innovative, effective solutions and practices to adaptation that are viable on the ground?</li> <li>● Do they include expertise and knowledge of local stakeholders, whenever possible?</li> </ul>	<p><b>CR1:</b> It is stated that this project will support local and vulnerable communities: how the information gathered and produced will be made accessible and practical for audiences with “limited” access to internet? Please kindly elaborate.</p> <p><b>CR2:</b> Please elaborate how you will engage with local communities, women and youth while consolidating lessons learned from beneficiaries from AF funded projects under activities 1&amp;2.</p> <p>One of the purposes of Learning Grants is to share knowledge with other NIEs and global adaptation audience:</p> <p><b>CR3:</b> Kindly expand on this regard if there is a potential to incorporate a product/activity that can be utilized by other NIEs in the region and globally (i.e. learning course, etc.).</p> <p><b>CR4:</b> Kindly indicate what the hosting institution will be of this platform?</p>	<p><b>CR1: Sufficiently addressed</b> The revised proposal provides more details about how the proposed activities will ensure inclusion of local and vulnerable communities. (pg. 5-6).</p> <p><b>CR2: Addressed</b> The revised proposal has an additional sub-section on community engagement describing in details activities proposed. (pg. 5-6)</p> <p><b>CR3: Sufficiently Addressed</b> The revised proposal provides more details on how the information will be shared with other NIEs.</p> <p><b>CR4: Addressed</b> The Armenian National Agrarian University will host the platform.</p>



		<b>CR5:</b> Kindly explain how the knowledge platform under component 2 is different from the AgriElevate platform proposed under the newly submitted innovation grant? What is the target audience for both?	<b>CR5: Sufficiently addressed.</b> The revised proposal includes information about the knowledge platform including its approach, objective, target audience, etc. (pg. 4-5)
Resource Availability	1. Is the requested project funding within the cap for Learning Grants set by the Board?	<b>Yes.</b>	
	2. If the implementing entity has requested, is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	<b>Yes.</b>	
Duplication with AF project(s)/programme(s)'s learning activities	1. Do the proposed activities duplicate with the project/programme's learning activities as approved by the Board or do they duplicate activities financed from other sources of funding?	<b>CR6:</b> Provide information if there are similar knowledge activities with other funding sources in the target areas and explain how proposed activities will complement and/or add value, if any.(see CR4)	<b>CR6: Addressed.</b> Responded and clarified under the CR5.
Implementation Arrangements	2. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	<b>Yes – 2 years.</b>	
	3. Is a summary breakdown of the budget for the proposed activities included? Is the proposed budget adequate and reasonable?	<b>CR7:</b> Please clarify the expenses for <b>Task A4.1:</b> The budgeted proposed for this task is USD 40,000 and there are listed 4 dissemination events, what does that entail? Please provide more details.  <b>CR8:</b> Kindly clarify the proposed budget under task A2.3, including the need for 15 meetings. Who do these meetings	<b>CR7: Addressed</b> The revised proposal includes detailed explanation for the requested budget under Task A4.1. (pg. 9-10).  <b>CR8: Sufficiently Addressed</b> The revised proposal clarifies the objective and target audience under

	<p>target and what do you expect to achieve as part of the 15 meetings?</p> <p><b>CR9:</b> Kindly clarify the difference in cost between the experts needed under components 2 and 3 and the one under component 3 (task A3.1 and 3.2).</p>	<p>task A2.3. (pg. 8). Meetings will be carried out in 15 municipalities beneficiaries of 2 AF-funded projects. These will be awareness raising/learning meetings that will ensure proper engagement of the beneficiaries and utilisation of the platform.</p> <p><b>CR9: Sufficiently addressed.</b> The team clarifies the difference in cost under components 2 and 3. The difference of the daily charge out rates (250 vs 400 USD) is in required level of qualification/expertise of the experts for implementation of specific tasks.</p>
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Date:	March 19, 2024



ADAPTATION FUND

## ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR LEARNING GRANTS

PROJECT CATEGORY: **LEARNING GRANTS**


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Country: **Armenia**  
 Implementing Entity: **Environmental Project Implementation Unit (EPIU)**  
 Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): **USD 125,100**  
 Reviewer and contact person: **Cristina Dengel** Co-reviewer(s): **Kalterine Vrenezi**  
 Implementing Entity Contact Person: **Armen Yesoyan and Margarita Gasparyan**

### Secretariat's Overall Comment

The proposed learning grant for Armenia aims to collect, consolidate, disseminate knowledge, and transfer practical solutions to local communities through strengthened capacity of EPIU related to innovative land, water, and forest management strategies in the view of adaptation to climate change in Armenia. Furthermore, to incorporate knowledge from two AF-funded projects implemented by EPIU.

**Component 1:** Identify, collect, and integrate scientific knowledge and lessons learned related to adaptation measures from the two EPIU projects, along with local knowledge, good practices, and farmers' adaptation strategies from selected Armenian provinces. (USD 29,750)

**Component 2:** A platform for exchanging knowledge, good practices, and lessons learned will be established (USD 18,250)

	<p><b>Component 3:</b> Develop an Atlas for adaptation to climate change in Armenian agriculture, which will include overviews of innovative solutions in water, soil, forest management, and crop production, enriched by insights from the EPIU projects. (USD 24,000)</p> <p><b>Component 4:</b> Organize dissemination events and field days to showcase best practices and success stories from these AF-funded projects, alongside workshops to exchange experiences and present information about adaptation to climate change for decision-making actors. (USD \$43.300)</p> <p><b><u>Requested financing overview:</u></b>  Total Project/Programme Cost: USD <b>115,300</b>  Implementing Fee: USD <b>9,800</b>  Financing Requested: USD <b>125,100</b></p> <p>The first technical review raises questions about engagement with local and vulnerable communities in proposed activities, the target audience of the knowledge platform, justification of the allocated budget under components 3&amp;4, and the outreach of the lessons learned to broader audiences including other NIEs, and global climate adaptation audience.</p>
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Review Criteria	Questions	Comments	NIE Response
Country Eligibility	2. Is the country that has an accredited entity Party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes.	
Eligibility of IE	3. Is the project submitted through an Implementing Entity accredited by the Board?	Yes.	
	4. Is the Implementing Entity already implementing a project/programme funded by	Yes.	

	the Adaptation Fund? If so, has this project/programme reached the mid-point in implementation and has a Mid-term Review or Evaluation (MTR/MTE) been submitted?		
Project Eligibility	3. Has the designated government authority for the Adaptation Fund endorsed the project?	Yes. Letter dated October 16, 2023	
	<p>4. Are the proposed activities to support learning adequate?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Do they reflect knowledge gaps and learning needs identified by the users?</li> <li>● Do they build on established “best practices” for project/programme learning? Are they based on shared resources and knowledge?</li> <li>● Do they address gender considerations and include concerns of the most vulnerable groups and communities?</li> <li>● Are they generated in an inclusive way?</li> <li>● Do they emphasize innovative, effective solutions and practices to adaptation that are viable on the ground?</li> <li>● Do they include expertise and knowledge of local stakeholders, whenever possible?</li> </ul>	It is stated that this project will support local and vulnerable communities: how the information gathered and produced will be made accessible and practical for audiences with “limited” access to internet? Please kindly elaborate.	Recent data from the World Bank indicates that as of 2020, approximately 76.5% of Armenia's population had access to the internet. Projections for 2023 suggest that this figure will increase to around 80%. It is important to note that internet usage in Armenia is fairly evenly distributed across various regions. However, there is a notable trend in the demographic breakdown of internet users: the primary group not utilizing the internet is the elderly population. This consistent increase in internet access and its widespread availability across regions underscores the potential for digital platforms to play a significant role in the Project. Nonetheless, we are mindful of the demographic differences in internet use, particularly among older citizens, and our strategies will be tailored to ensure inclusivity and accessibility for all community members.

		<p><b>CR1:</b> Please elaborate how you will engage with local communities, women and youth while consolidating lessons learned from beneficiaries from AF funded projects under activities 1&amp;2.</p> <p>One of the purposes of Learning Grants is to share knowledge with other NIEs and global adaptation audience:</p> <p><b>CR2:</b> Kindly expand on this regard if there is a potential to incorporate a product/activity that can be utilized by other NIEs in the region and globally (i.e. learning course, etc.).</p> <p><b>CR3:</b> Kindly indicate what the hosting institution will be of this platform?</p> <p><b>CR4:</b> Kindly explain how the knowledge platform under component 2 is different from the AgriElevate platform proposed under the newly submitted innovation grant? What is the target audience for both?</p>	<p>New sub-section on community engagement has been added in the Proposal.</p> <p>EPIU is active member of CPDA platform that unifies NIEs to AF and accredited entities to GCF from many countries. This platform will be used for sharing the experience with peers.</p> <p>Armenian National Agrarian University.</p> <p>The knowledge platform under component 2 is distinct from the AgriElevate platform in its core focus and target audience. While the former is dedicated to aggregating a wide range of adaptation knowledge, including traditional practices and scientific research for a diverse audience involved in climate resilience, the latter is specifically oriented towards introducing and promoting innovative agricultural technologies and practices to progressive farmers and agri-businesses. Both platforms,</p>
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			although different in their approach and audience, complement each other in the broader objective of enhancing climate resilience and sustainable agriculture.
Resource Availability	3. Is the requested project funding within the cap for Learning Grants set by the Board?	<b>Yes.</b>	
	4. If the implementing entity has requested, is the Implementing Entity Management Fee at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget before the fee?	<b>Yes.</b>	
Duplication with AF project(s)/programme(s)'s learning activities	4. Do the proposed activities duplicate with the project/programme's learning activities as approved by the Board or do they duplicate activities financed from other sources of funding?	<b>CR5:</b> Provide information if there are similar knowledge activities with other funding sources in the target areas and explain how proposed activities will complement and/or add value, if any.(see CR4)	Responded under the CR4.
Implementation Arrangements	5. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	<b>Yes – 2 years.</b>	
	6. Is a summary breakdown of the budget for the proposed activities included? Is the proposed budget adequate and reasonable?	<b>CR6:</b> Please clarify the expenses for <b>Task A4.1:</b> The budgeted proposed for this task is USD 40,000 and there are listed 4 dissemination events, what does that entail? Please provide more details.  <b>CR7:</b> Kindly clarify the proposed budget under task A2.3, including the need for 15 meetings. Who do these meetings target and what do you expect to achieve as part of the 15 meetings?	Explanation is provided in the C2.1. "Learning Activities and Expected Outputs" and C2.3 "Requested Budget" tables.  Meetings will be carried out in 15 municipalities beneficiaries of 2 AF-funded projects. These will be awareness raising/learning meetings that will ensure proper

		<p><b>CR8:</b> Kindly clarify the difference in cost between the experts needed under components 2 and 3 and the one under component 3 (task A3.1 and 3.2).</p>	<p>engagement of the beneficiaries and utilisation of the platform.</p> <p>The difference of the daily charge out rates (250 vs 400 USD) is in required level of qualification/expertise of the experts for implementation of specific tasks.</p>
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Date:	December 20, 2023





## ADAPTATION FUND

### **APPLICATION FOR A GRANT TO FACILITATE LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

The application template should be completed and transmitted to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat by email or fax.

The overall goal of learning grants is to help encourage a culture of learning across institutions and help build the capacities of national implementing entities (NIEs).

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

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)

**A. PROJECT INFORMATION****Date of receipt: 16.10.2023****Adaptation Fund Grant ID: AFRDG00074****Country:** Republic of Armenia**National Implementing Entity:** “Environmental Project Implementation Unit” State Agency**Amount of Financing Requested:** 125,100.50 USD**B. Timeframe of Activity**

<b>Expected start date:</b>	01 April 2024
<b>Completion date:</b>	01 January 2026

**C. Proposed learning activities****C1. Purpose of the learning grant**

COLLAGE aims to collect, structure, and disseminate knowledge, transfer practical solutions to **local communities** through strengthened capacity of **EPIU** related to innovative land, water, and forest management strategies in the view of adaptation to climate change in Armenia. Integral to this mission is the assimilation of insights from two pivotal EPIU-implemented projects funded by the Adaptation Fund:

- **Artik city closed stone pit waste and flood management pilot project** that exemplifies innovative urban environmental management approaches with the main focus on enhancing the resilience of natural and agricultural landscapes in Artik city against climate change and anthropogenic impacts. Its key objectives include increasing landscape adaptation, preventing and managing floods, restoring degraded natural landscapes, and improving the climate adaptation potential of community producers and stakeholders.
- **Strengthening land-based adaptation capacity in communities adjacent to protected areas in Armenia.** This project focused on reducing the climate risk vulnerability of communities near “Khosrov Forest” and “Dilijan” National Park enhances the adaptive capacity of agriculture and strengthens institutional planning for climate change adaptation. It aims to implement climate-smart agricultural practices in degraded areas, strengthen value chains for climate-smart agriculture, and increase awareness and decision-making capacity in climate-smart agriculture methods among target communities.

The knowledge and good practices derived from these projects will significantly contribute to enhancing the adaptive capacity of Armenian agriculture by reducing vulnerabilities of farmers, helping to respond promptly in the aftermath of hazards, and promoting sustainable development. This initiative will build upon existing collaborations between three leading universities and foster new interactions between

researchers, experts, and farmers, bringing climate adaptation knowledge closer to decision-makers.

Following activities will be implemented:

- Systematically identifying, collecting, and integrating scientific knowledge of selected universities and lessons learned from these two EPIU projects, along with local knowledge, good practices, and farmers' adaptation strategies from selected Armenian provinces.
- Initiating a collaborative learning process to integrate and validate the latest research results and experience-based information. A platform for exchanging knowledge, good practices, and lessons learned will be established.
- Developing an **Atlas for adaptation to climate change in Armenian agriculture**, which will include overviews of innovative solutions in water, soil, forest management, and crop production, enriched by insights from the EPIU projects.
- Organizing dissemination events and field days to showcase best practices and success stories from these AF-funded projects, alongside workshops to exchange experiences and present information about adaptation to climate change for decision-making actors.

These actions will encourage a culture of learning across Armenian universities and enhance the capacity of EPIU to transfer knowledge generated during implementation of two AF-funded projects to the wider climate adaptation community by developing an **Atlas for adaptation to climate change in Armenian agriculture**. The project will have a special emphasis on supporting most vulnerable communities to adapt to climate change especially in drought affected areas in Armenia. Such areas exist in lowland and foothill zones of the Ararat Valley, where about 15% of arable land is prone to drought under current climate conditions<sup>1</sup>. Armavir and Ararat provinces in Ararat Valley are known for their agricultural practices and have faced significant climate challenges.

The actions will be implemented in collaboration with following “state-owned universities” which are providing education and conducting research relevant to climate adaptation related topics:

- Armenian National Agrarian University - ANAU (leading partner)
- Armenian State University of Economics - ASUE
- National Polytechnic University of Armenia - NPUA.

EPIU will showcase the adaptation measure implementation related knowledge accumulated, lessons learned and successful pilots requiring further replication and scaleup in the frameworks of 2 AF-funded projects successfully implemented by EPIU.

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.droughtmanagement.info/portal/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Armenia-IDMP-Final-Report-June-2022.pdf>

ANAU's mission is to prepare agro-technologically oriented professionals capable of developing the country's agro-food system with their professional skills and cooperation with the beneficiaries of that sphere. The university is promoting its scientific potential by offering innovative solutions for progress, investing in modern technologies in agriculture, using and demonstrating results in order to contribute to the knowledge-based economy in Armenia.

ASUE is the only economic university in Armenia, currently offering a wide range of Undergraduate, Graduate, and Postgraduate courses in Management, Finance, Marketing, Accounting, Business Administration, International Economic Relations, IT, Statistics and Data Science.

NPUA is a leading institution in national higher technical education where research is carried out in the spheres of mathematical modelling of complex technical systems, nanotechnology, information technology and informatics, machine learning and material science, power and electrical engineering, radio engineering and microelectronics, chemical technologies and mechanical engineering, automation and management systems as well as in the sphere of applied mathematics.

### Sustainability

The COLLAGE project is designed to foster long-lasting impacts in Armenia's approach to climate change adaptation, with a specific focus on sustainable and scalable solutions in line with the Adaptation Fund's guidelines. While each activity within the project contributes to this enduring legacy, Activity 2 - the establishment of a collaborative learning platform - is particularly pivotal.

#### *Overall project sustainability*

- **Integration with national policies and plans:** The COLLAGE project will align its objectives and outcomes with national climate change adaptation strategies and policies. This alignment ensures that the project's impacts are sustained through policy implementation and national prioritization.
- **Building local capacities:** A major focus is on building the capacities of local stakeholders, including farmers and local authorities. By empowering these groups with knowledge and skills, the project ensures that climate change adaptation measures are locally owned and sustained.
- **Knowledge dissemination and accessibility:** The development of the Atlas (Activity 3) and the organization of dissemination events (Activity 4) are key to ensuring that knowledge generated by the project is widely accessible and utilized by various stakeholders, thus extending the project's impact.
- **Long-term environmental and social benefits:** The project is designed to deliver long-term environmental benefits by enhancing landscape resilience and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. The social benefits include improved livelihoods and reduced vulnerability of communities to climate change impacts.

### *Sustainability of the collaborative learning platform (Activity 2)*

- **Institutional ownership and integration:** The platform will be ingrained within the operational structures of partner universities and EPIU, ensuring its longevity and continuous relevance. This institutionalization guarantees that the platform remains a central hub for climate change adaptation knowledge and practices, even after the project concludes.
- **Self-sustaining community of practice:** A core component is the development of a self-driven community of practice. This community will consist of diverse stakeholders, including researchers, practitioners, and policymakers, who are committed to ongoing collaboration and knowledge exchange on climate adaptation.
- **Capacity building and continuous learning:** The platform will focus on enhancing skills and competencies, ensuring that stakeholders are well-equipped to sustain and evolve the platform's activities. Continuous learning and development initiatives will be embedded to adapt to emerging challenges and opportunities in climate change adaptation.
- **Strategic financial planning:** The platform's financial sustainability will be secured through a detailed plan, identifying diverse funding sources and partnerships. This will include exploring options like government funding, private sector collaborations, and international grants.

In summary, the COLLAGE project, particularly through its collaborative learning platform, is built on a foundation of sustainability. It aims to create lasting change in Armenia's adaptation strategies, with a focus on institutional resilience, community empowerment, policy integration, and strategic financial and operational planning. This approach ensures that the project's impact endures well beyond its formal completion, contributing significantly to Armenia's climate adaptation efforts.

### Community engagement

In engaging with local communities and more specifically with women and youth the following targeted approach that aligns with the unique aspects of learning grant has been developed:

- **Local community workshops:** will be conducted specifically in the communities directly impacted by our AF-funded projects. These workshops will focus on practical aspects of climate adaptation relevant to their daily lives, such as sustainable agriculture practices and water conservation techniques.
- **Youth engagement through educational partnerships:** recognizing the vital role of youth in climate action, we will collaborate with local schools and universities. This includes integrating project themes into educational curriculums and organizing student-led climate action projects, which directly relate to the insights gathered from our AF-funded initiatives.
- **Women's leadership in climate resilience:** a women's advisory group will be established, drawing members from within the project communities. This group will play a key role in guiding our project activities, ensuring that women's perspectives

and needs in climate adaptation are directly addressed. Training for women in leadership and project management, tailored to the environmental challenges identified in our AF-funded projects will also be provided.

- **Documenting traditional knowledge:** proposed approach involves detailed documentation of local and indigenous knowledge through digital storytelling and local language publications. Focus will be made on traditional practices that have contributed to climate resilience, directly involving community elders and leaders in this process.
- **Interactive feedback platforms:** interactive platforms, such as community-led forums and digital suggestion boxes will be set up, allowing continuous input from community members, particularly targeting feedback from women and youth. These platforms will be monitored regularly to ensure that the community's voice shapes the project's progression.
- **Focused capacity building initiatives:** specific training sessions will be organized for skill development in areas identified as crucial by the community. For instance, if water management is a key concern, we will focus on training in water conservation techniques, rainwater harvesting, and sustainable water use.
- **Regular impact assessments:** regular impact assessments with a focus on community engagement will be carried out within the framework of the Project. These assessments will help to understand the effectiveness of engagement strategies and adapt them based on real-time feedback, particularly focusing on the inclusivity of women and youth.

Alignment of the proposed pillars of the engagement strategies with the activities of the Project is presented in the table below:

<b>A. Engagement Strategy</b>	<b>B. Activity 1</b>	<b>C. Activity 2</b>	<b>D. Activity 3</b>	<b>E. Activity 4</b>
F. Local community workshops	<b>G. v</b>	H.	I.	J.
K. Women's leadership and youth engagement	<b>L. v</b>	M.	N.	O.
P. Interactive feedback platforms	Q.	<b>R. v</b>	S.	T.
U. Regular impact assessments	V.	<b>W. v</b>	X.	Y.
Z. Focused capacity building initiatives	AA.	BB.	CC. <b>v</b>	DD.

EE. Documenting traditional knowledge	FF.v	GG.	HH. v	II.
JJ. Dissemination events and field days	KK.	LL.	MM.	NN. v
OO. Youth engagement through educational partnerships	PP.	QQ.	RR.	SS. v

This tailored approach ensures that our engagement with local communities, women, and youth is deeply integrated into the fabric of the project, making it more effective and impactful.

## C2. Description of Learning Activities, Beneficiaries, Budget, and Timeline

### C2.1. Learning Activities and Expected Outputs

Proposed Learning Activities	Description of activities	Expected output of the activities
<p><b>A1.</b> Identify, collect and systemize scientific knowledge and lessons learned related to adaptation measures implemented within the framework of 2 implemented AF-funded projects, as well as local knowledge, good practices and farmers adaptation strategies form selected Armenian provinces.</p>	<p><b>Task A1.1.</b> Develop comprehensive matrix to include specific sections for knowledge and innovative solutions derived from the Artik City project and the project focusing on communities adjacent to “Khosrov Forest” and “Dilijan” National Park. This matrix will continue to cover climate change adaptation in water, soil, forest management, and crop production in a systematic manner.</p> <p><b>Task A1.2.</b> Extend the identification process to include units within the selected universities and other relevant institutions that have directly or indirectly contributed to or learned from the two AF-funded projects, alongside their ongoing climate change adaptation measures.</p>	<p><b>A1. D1.</b> A comprehensive matrix incorporating specific learnings from the Artik City project and the project focused on communities near “Khosrov Forest” and “Dilijan” National Park.</p> <p><b>A1.D2.</b> A comprehensive list of identified university units and other stakeholders with direct involvement or influence from the AF-funded projects.</p> <p><b>A1.D3.</b> Expanded contact information and communication</p>

	<p><b>Task A1.3.</b> Establish communication channels between the identified universities units in order to collect scientific studies, reports, publications, or any relevant documentation.</p> <p><b>Task A1.4.</b> Design the guideline for gathering information to specifically focus on insights, practices, and strategies inspired by the learnings from the AF-funded projects, while also maintaining the collection of local knowledge from selected provinces.</p> <p><b>Task A1.5.</b> Conduct interviews and field visits, with a particular emphasis on extracting insights and practical knowledge from stakeholders, practitioners, and beneficiaries who have been part of or influenced by the two AF-funded projects.</p> <p><b>Task A1.6.</b> Populate the matrix with all gathered knowledge, ensuring that insights from the AF-funded projects are distinctly highlighted alongside other best practices</p>	<p>channels encompassing stakeholders from the AF-funded projects.</p> <p><b>A1.D4.</b> A guideline and the list of identified actors in the selected provinces.</p> <p><b>A1.D5.</b> Well-rounded compilation of documentation, case studies, reports, and research results, emphasizing learnings from the Artik City project and the project near “Khosrov Forest” and “Dilijan” National Park, alongside other relevant materials.</p>
<p><b>A2.</b> Initiate a collaborative learning process to specifically include steps and timelines for integrating key insights from the AF-funded 2 projects. Establish a platform for the exchange of knowledge, good practices and lessons learned.</p>	<p><b>Task A2.1.</b> Develop a collaborative learning plan and outline the steps and timeline for integrating and validating lessons learned from the implementation of 2 AF-funded projects and experience-based information into a synergic content package.</p> <p><b>Task A2.2.</b> Mapping of actors by having gender consideration and concerns of the most vulnerable groups and communities to design the knowledge/content atlas.</p> <p><b>Task A2.3.</b> Engage identified actors and establish a multidisciplinary facilitated platform for the systematic exchange and collaborative learning between the actors representing project beneficiaries, universities and experts.</p>	<p><b>A2.D1.</b> A detailed learning plan, incorporating integration strategies for lessons from the AF-funded projects.</p> <p><b>A2. D2.</b> An extended actors’ map, now including participants and stakeholders from the AF-funded projects.</p>



	<p><b>Task A2.4.</b> Collaboratively analyse the gathered research results and experience-based information to identify suitable solutions as well as key findings and trends. Identify knowledge gaps and determine areas where additional research or information is needed to enhance the collective understanding.</p>	
<p><b>A3.</b> Develop an <b>Atlas for adaptation to climate change in Armenia agriculture</b> which provides an overview of innovative solutions, successfully piloted within the framework of 2 AF-funded projects, related to the climate change adaptation in the fields of water, soil, forest management and crop production.</p>	<p><b>Task A3.1.</b> While developing the Atlas, incorporate tailored-made factsheets that not only address farmers, researchers, and decision-makers but also specifically highlight the innovative solutions and best practices derived from the 2 AF-funded projects. These factsheets aim to boost the impact and implementation of the gathered knowledge, with a strong emphasis on applicability in rural areas.</p> <p><b>Task A3.2.</b> In strengthening the capacity of EPIU, develop a specific Communication Strategy as part of the Atlas. This strategy should not only deliver knowledge and innovative solutions to farmers in selected rural areas but also emphasize how the learnings from the AF-funded projects can be applied to enhance climate adaptation in Armenia. The strategy should facilitate EPIU's endorsement and dissemination of these insights to key stakeholders.</p>	<p><b>A3.D1.</b> The Atlas, which now includes a comprehensive Communication Strategy for EPIU, enriched with dedicated sections on the learnings and best practices from the 2 AF-funded projects.</p>
<p><b>A4.</b> Organize dissemination events and field days to showcase 2 AF-funded projects' best practices and success stories to practitioners and workshops to exchange experiences and present the information about adaptation to climate</p>	<p><b>Task A4.1.</b> Utilize the enriched Atlas, which includes dedicated sections on learnings and best practices from the 2 AF-funded projects, to organize four dissemination events in each province (eight in total). These 8 2-day events are aimed at farmers, women, youth, experts, municipal decision-makers and other practitioners, focusing on practical applications of the knowledge and solutions highlighted in the Atlas. Each event will target one</p>	<p><b>A4.D1.</b> Detailed lists of participants and comprehensive event agendas for each dissemination event, workshop, and round-table discussion, ensuring that each session is tailored to effectively convey the integrated knowledge from the Atlas,</p>

<p>change for researchers and decision-making actors.</p>	<p>of the mentioned groups (farmers and practitioners, with specific focus on women inclusion; youth; researchers and experts; decision makers and policy influencers) and will include in its agenda a day for round table discussions, exchange of experience on best practices, and a field day, which will involve a visit to AF-funded project sites to illustrate the results of best practices' implementation on the ground. The first day of each event will be built on the basis of a target group-specific approach considering the group's knowledge and experience with the discussed topics.</p> <p>It is envisaged to provide the inclusiveness of the dissemination events via inviting the representatives of the targeted groups from the neighbouring regions, which together with the targeted regions often complain about poor engagement in climate change related projects. For this purpose among others it is planned to exploit diverse methods of participant engagement – official municipal channels, connections of the partnering universities, public call, etc.</p> <p>Among deliverables of the activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a report will be developed summarizing the outcomes of the implementation of dissemination events, which will be further circulated via respective platforms, university pipelines, etc.</li> <li>• 2 videos (one per region) will be developed showcasing the messages, outcomes of both the project and dissemination events, that will be further broadcast on television.</li> </ul>	<p>including the insights from the 2 AF-funded projects.</p>
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	<p><b>Task A4.2.</b> Organize a scientific interdisciplinary workshop for researchers and experts from partner universities, as well as the broader academic community. This workshop will specifically emphasize the integration of insights from the 2 AF-funded projects into current academic and research endeavours.</p> <p><b>Task A4.3.</b> Conduct a round-table discussion for relevant decision-makers. This session will present and discuss the information from the Atlas, with a special focus on the policy implications of the adaptation strategies and lessons learned from the 2 AF-funded projects in the context of climate change in Armenia.</p>	
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In the ambit of this Learning Grant, a carefully curated selection of key topics has been identified for our awareness-raising initiatives. These topics are intricately chosen to reflect the profound insights and successful outcomes derived from the two projects funded by the Adaptation Fund. Each theme is a testament to the impactful strategies and transformative practices realized in these projects, serving as a cornerstone for our educational and outreach efforts.

**1. Climate-smart agricultural practices:**

- Implementing and benefits of climate-smart agriculture.
- Water-efficient irrigation systems and their impact.

**2. Sustainable land and water management:**

- Restoration and protection of soil cover in affected areas.
- Techniques for reducing rangeland degradation and increasing crop yield and quality.

**3. Flood management and prevention:**

- Strategies for flood risk reduction and management.
- Importance of maintaining storm canals and preventing clogging.

**4. Environmental health and safety:**

- Mitigating adverse health effects from environmental degradation.
- Reducing epidemic risks through improved environmental conditions.

**5. Community engagement and knowledge sharing:**

- Enhancing community knowledge on landscape recovery and flood prevention.
- Importance of sustainable thinking and adaptation strategies in community development.

**6. Technology and innovation in agriculture:**

- Use of solar dryers and non-heated greenhouses in climate-smart agriculture.
- Smart agricultural practices and their role in sustainable farming.

**7. Natural landscape restoration:**

- Techniques for restoring degraded landscapes and increasing forested areas.
- Benefits of perennial plant sowing in environmental restoration.

**8. Awareness and capacity building:**

- Raising awareness on climate change adaptation and landscape recovery.
- Role of local media and NGOs in mitigating climate change effects.

**9. Community and economic development:**

- Creating favorable conditions for community recreation and economic growth.
- Strengthening value chains for climate-smart agriculture.

C2.2. Project Beneficiaries

Proposed Learning Activities	Country/Institution to share/transfer knowledge with/to or to develop guidelines for, including NIE(s)
<p><b>A1.</b> Identify, collect and systemize scientific knowledge and lessons learned related to adaptation measures implemented within the framework of 2 implemented AF-funded projects, as well as local knowledge, good practices and farmers adaptation strategies from selected Armenian provinces.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Researchers and academics from partner universities.</li> <li>➤ Local authorities and agricultural experts in selected Armenian provinces.</li> <li>➤ Farmers, particularly those implementing or affected by adaptation strategies, as well as women, youth and representatives of other vulnerable strata.</li> <li>➤ Practitioners and stakeholders involved in the 2 AF-funded projects.</li> </ul>
<p><b>A2.</b> Initiate a collaborative learning process to specifically include steps and timelines for integrating key insights from the AF-funded 2 projects. Establish a platform for the exchange of knowledge, good practices and lessons learned.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Multi-disciplinary experts and academics from various fields.</li> <li>➤ Representatives and decision-makers from local authorities.</li> <li>➤ Farmers and community leaders, especially from regions impacted by climate change, as well as women, youth and</li> </ul>

	<p>representatives of other vulnerable strata.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Stakeholders and implementers from the AF-funded projects.</li> </ul>
<p><b>A3.</b> Develop an <b>Atlas for adaptation to climate change in Armenia agriculture</b> which provides an overview of innovative solutions, successfully piloted within the framework of 2 AF-funded projects, related to the climate change adaptation in the fields of water, soil, forest management and crop production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ EPIU, for enhancing their capacity and knowledge dissemination.</li> <li>➤ Farmers across Armenia, with a focus on rural and vulnerable areas, as well as women, youth and representatives of other vulnerable strata.</li> <li>➤ Decision-makers and policy developers in the agricultural and environmental sectors.</li> <li>➤ General public, with free access to the Atlas for educational and practical purposes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>A4.</b> Organize dissemination events and field days to showcase 2 AF-funded projects' best practices and success stories to practitioners and workshops to exchange experiences and present the information about adaptation to climate change for researchers and decision-making actors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Farmers and practitioners attending the dissemination events/field days, with specific focus on women, youth and representatives of other vulnerable strata.</li> <li>➤ Researchers and experts participating in the interdisciplinary workshop.</li> <li>➤ Decision-makers and policy influencers, involved in the round-table discussions.</li> <li>➤ Broader communities and stakeholders who will benefit from the shared knowledge and strategies presented at these events.</li> </ul>

### C2.3. Requested Budget

Proposed Learning Activities and Tasks		Requested budget (USD)*
A1. Identify, collect and systemize scientific knowledge and lessons learned related to adaptation	<b>Task A1.1.</b>	<b>5.000,00 USD</b> <i>(20 Expert/day, 10 x 250,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A1.2.</b>	<b>2.500,00 USD</b>

measures implemented within the framework of 2 implemented AF-funded projects, as well as local knowledge, good practices and farmers adaptation strategies form selected Armenian provinces.		<i>(10 Expert/day, 10 x 250,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A1.3.</b>	<b>6.250,00 USD</b> <i>(25 Expert/day, 25 x 250,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A1.4.</b>	<b>6.250,00 USD</b> <i>(25 Expert/day, 25 x 250,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A1.5.</b>	<b>6.250,00 USD</b> <i>(25 Expert/day, 25 x 250,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A1.6.</b>	<b>3.500,00 USD</b> <i>(14 Expert/day, 14 x 250,00 USD)</i>
<b>A2.</b> Initiate a collaborative learning process to specifically include steps and timelines for integrating key insights from the AF-funded 2 projects. Establish a platform for the exchange of knowledge, good practices and lessons learned.	<b>Task A2.1.</b>	<b>2.500,00 USD</b> <i>(10 Expert/day, 10 x 250,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A2.2.</b>	<b>2.000,00 USD</b> <i>(8 Expert/day, 8 x 250,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A2.3.</b>	<b>7.500,00 USD</b> <i>(15 exchange meetings/ app. 25 participants, 15 x 25x 20,00 USD)</i>
	<b>Task A2.4.</b>	<b>6.250,00 USD</b> <i>(25 Expert/day, 25 x 250,00 USD)</i>
<b>A3.</b> Develop an <b>Atlas for adaptation to climate change in Armenia agriculture</b> which provides an overview of innovative solutions, successfully piloted within the framework of 2 AF-funded projects, related to the climate change adaptation in the fields of water, soil, forest management and crop production.	<b>Task A3.1.</b>	
	<b>Task A3.2.</b>	<b>24.000,00 USD</b> <i>(60 Expert/day, 60 x 400,00 USD)</i>
<b>A4.</b> Organize dissemination events and field days to showcase 2 AF-funded projects' best practices and success stories to practitioners and workshops to exchange experiences and present the information about adaptation to climate change for researchers and decision-making actors.	<b>Task A4.1.</b>	<b>32.000,00 USD</b> <i>8 dissemination events/ app. 40 participants during each, 40 x 8x 100,00 USD (20 USD organization fee that includes printing of materials, other logistical expenses and attribution to organizational costs and 80 USD<sup>2</sup> per participant to cover an overnight stay (40 USD) and</i>

(i) <sup>2</sup> For this event participant from neighboring regions will be financed to attend the event

		<p><i>transportation costs equivalent to 40 USD per participant), incl. printing and layout of dissemination materials</i></p> <p><b>2.000,00 USD</b></p> <p><i>A report summarizing the outcomes of the implementation of dissemination events</i></p> <p><b>6.000,00 USD</b></p> <p><i>2 videos (one per region) showcasing the messages, outcomes of both the project and dissemination events</i></p>
	<b>Task A4.2.</b>	<p><b>2.400,00 USD</b></p> <p><i>(1-day workshop with facilitation, app. 30 participants, 30 x 60 USD + 1-day facilitation 2 pers. 2x 300,00 USD)</i></p>
	<b>Task A4.3.</b>	<p><b>900,00 USD</b></p> <p><i>(Round-table/ app. 30 participants, 30 x 20,00 USD + facilitation 1 x 300,00 USD)</i></p>
<b>Total project costs</b>		<b>115.300,00</b>
Implementing entity management fee requested <i>(8.5 per cent of the total project/programme budget)</i>		<b>9.800,50</b>
<b>Total Grant Requested (USD)</b>		<b>125.100,50</b>

C2.4. Tentative timeline\*

Proposed Learning Activities and Tasks		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7
<b>A1.</b> Identify, collect and systemize scientific knowledge and lessons learned related to adaptation measures implemented by selected universities as well as local knowledge, good practices and farmers adaptation strategies form selected Armenian provinces.	Task A1.1.							
	Task A1.2.							
	Task A1.3.							
	Task A1.4.							
	Task A1.5.							
	Task A1.6.							
<b>A2.</b> Initiate a collaborative learning process for integrating and validating the latest research results and experience-based information. Establish a platform for the exchange of knowledge, good practices and lessons learned.	Task A2.1.							
	Task A2.2.							
	Task A2.3.							
	Task A2.4.							
<b>A3.</b> Develop an Atlas for Adaptation to Climate Change in Armenia Agriculture which provides an overview of innovative solutions to climate change adaptation in the fields of water, soil, forest management and crop production.	Task A3.1.							
	Task A3.2.							
<b>A4.</b> Organize dissemination events and field days to showcase project best practices and success stories to practitioners and workshops to exchange experiences and present the information about adaptation to climate change for researchers and decision-making actors.	Task A4.1.							
	Task A4.2.							
	Task A4.3.							

\*The timeline is presented per quarter. Desired starting date is April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Project duration is 21 months.

\*\*The project team will submit two Project Performance Reports. First report to be submitted in month 10 and second final report - in month 21.



**E. Implementing Entity**

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures

Head of Implementing Entity	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Implementing Entity Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Armen Khojoyan, Acting Director a.i. of "EPIU" SA of MoE RA		18 October 2023	Armen Yesoyan, Acting Director of "EPIU" SA of MoE RA,  Margarita Gasparyan, Acting Head of Cooperation with Donors Department of "EPIU" SA of MoE RA	+37410651631	<a href="mailto:info@cep.am">info@cep.am</a> , <a href="mailto:margarita.gasparyan@epiu.am">margarita.gasparyan@epiu.am</a>

**F. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government**

Provide the name and position of the government official, Designated Authority (DA) of the Adaptation Fund, and indicate date of endorsement. The DA endorsement letter must be attached as an annex to the request.

<i>Hakob Simidyan</i> <i>Minister of Environment</i>	Date: 16.10.2023
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REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA  
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT  
РЕСПУБЛИКА АРМЕНИЯ  
МИНИСТР ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЫ

Nº 1/27.1/13353  
« 16 » « 10 » 202 3

To: The Adaptation Fund Board  
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat  
Email: [afbsec@adaptation-fund.org](mailto:afbsec@adaptation-fund.org)  
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for Learning Grant

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

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above Learning Grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the "Environmental Project Implementation Unit" State Agency of the Ministry of Environment of the RA.

Sincerely,  
  
Hakob Simidyan

"Environmental Project Implementation Unit" State Agency  
Armen Yesoyan, +37410 651 631