ADAPTATION FUND

REQUEST FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME FUNDING FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND

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

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

Please note that a project/programme must be fully prepared (i.e., fully appraised for feasibility) when the request is submitted. The final project/programme document resulting from the appraisal process should be attached to this request for funding.

Complete documentation should be sent to the email: submissions@adaptation-fund.org

ADAPTATION FUND

LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE COUNTRY

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Grass-roots of Adaptation – Strengthening community climate resilience through locally led adaptation in Costa Rica

Country: Costa Rica

Thematic Focal Area: Multi-Sector

Type of Implementing Entity: National Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible

Executing Entities: municipalities, local NGO and CSOs.

Amount of Financing Requested: 5 000 000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letter of Endorsement (LOE) signed: Yes ☐ No ☐

NOTE: The LOE should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities

Stage of Submission:

☐ This proposal has been submitted before including at a different stage (pre-concept, concept, fully- developed proposal)

■ This is the first submission ever of the proposal at any stage

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: Click or tap to enter a date.

Please note that fully-developed proposal documents should not exceed 100 pages for the main document, and 100 pages for the annexes.

Project / Programme Background and Context:

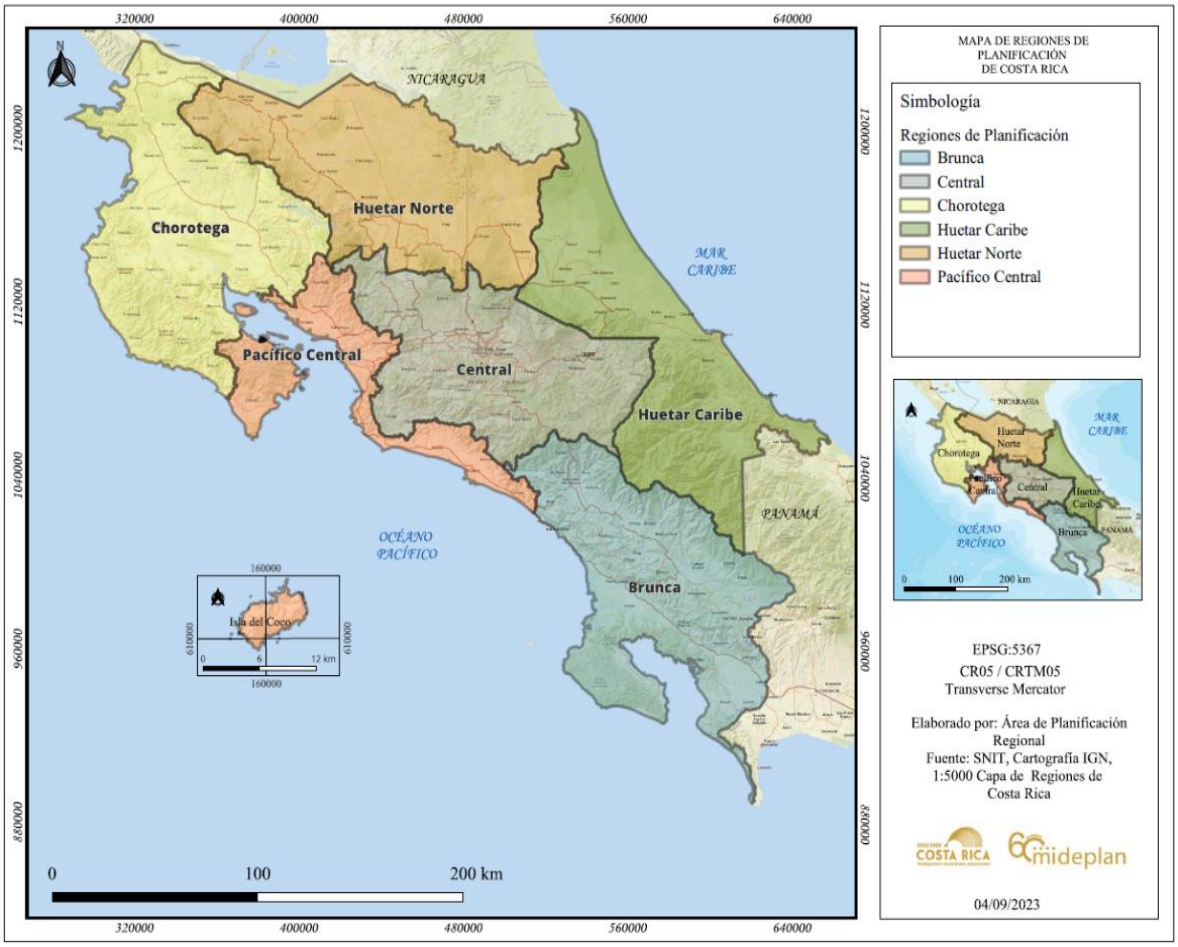
Provide brief information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve. Outline the economic social, development and environmental context in which the project would operate.

Country Summary

Costa Rica has a privileged geographic position; it is a country located between two coasts—the Pacific and Caribbean slopes. The country has a land area of 51,179.93 km² and a territorial sea of 550,000 km². Despite its relatively small size, the country harbors 6.5% of the known global biodiversity, with 26.51% designated as protected terrestrial areas and 2.75% as protected marine areas (MINAE, SINAC, CONAGEBIO, 2018). Costa Rica's population exceeds 5,105,525 inhabitants, and the country has a GDP of 86.5 billion dollars (World Bank Group, 2025). The largest population concentration is in San José province, its capital, where approximately 31.7% of the population resides (INEC, 2023).

Costa Rica is divided into seven provinces and subdivided into 84 cantons, which are further divided into districts. For planning and development purposes, the country is divided into six regions: Central, Central Pacific, Chorotega, Huetar Norte, Huetar Caribe, and Brunca, as illustrated in the following figure.

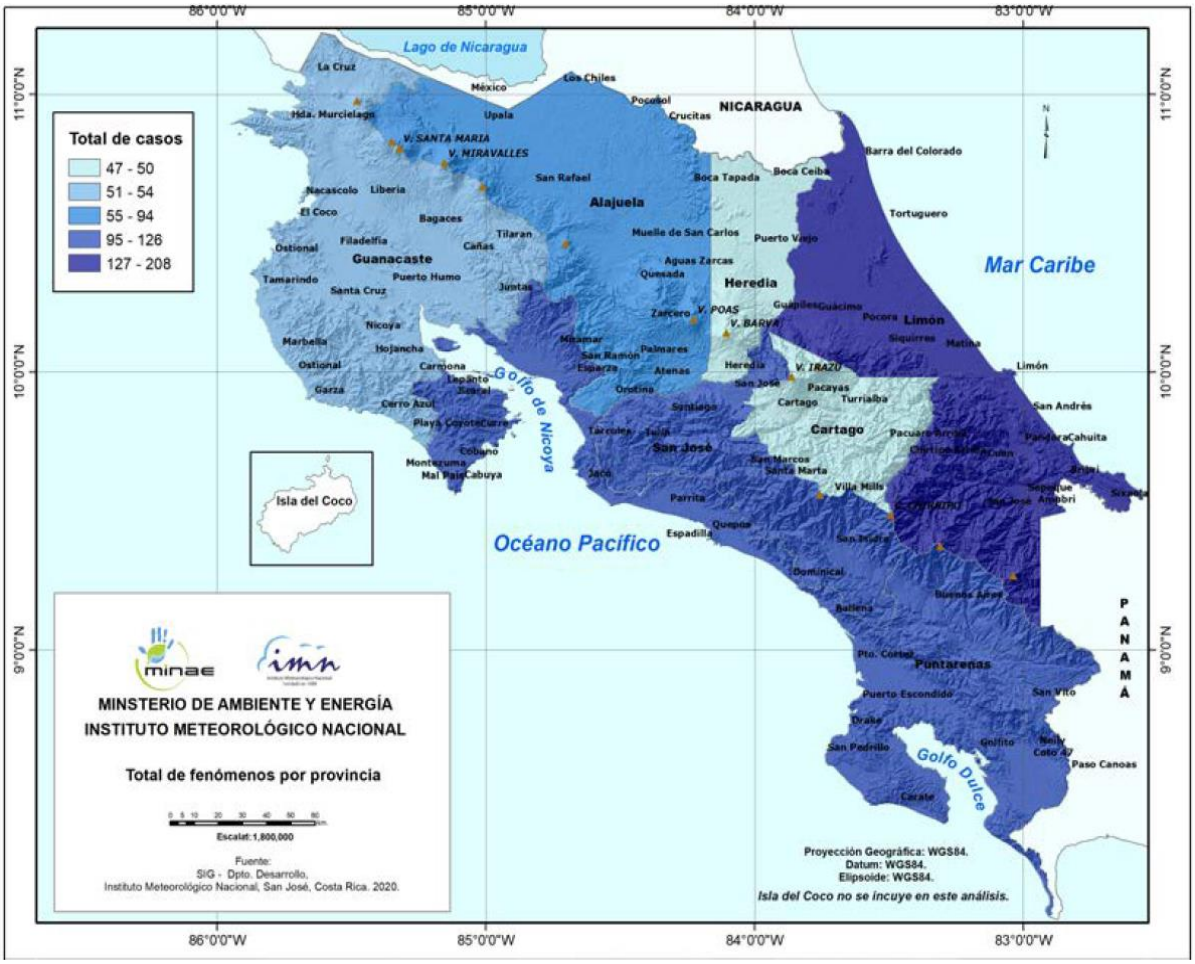
Figure 1. Map of Costa Rica's Planning Regions. Source: Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy, 2023.



Meteorological Phenomena and Events

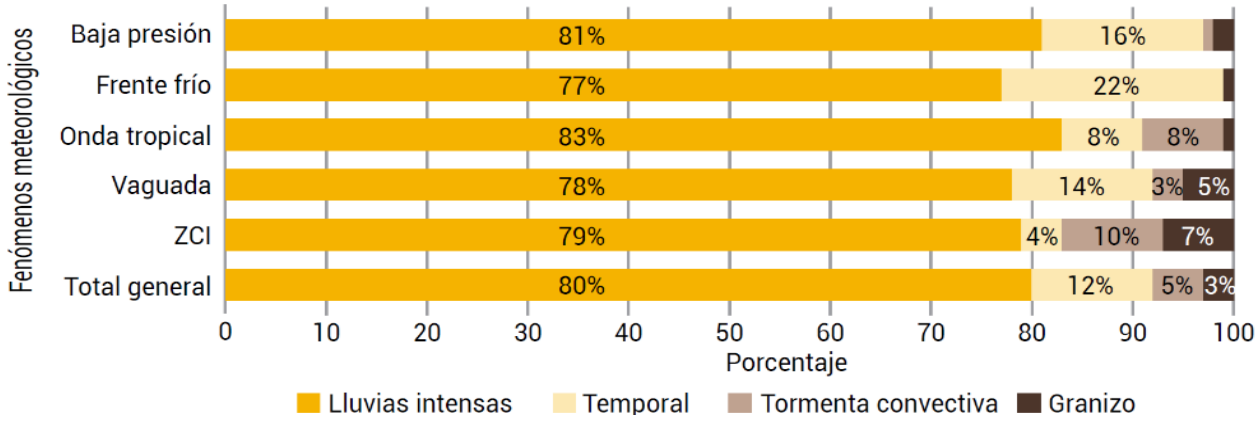
Between the years 1980 and 2017, records identified 14 types of phenomena occurring in the country. These include: cold front, cold surge, polar air mass, frontal shear line, tropical depression, tropical storm, hurricane, high pressure, low pressure, El Niño, La Niña, tropical wave, trough, and the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). The most common phenomena in Costa Rica's historical data are: tropical waves, low-pressure systems, cold fronts, the ITCZ, and troughs (MINAE, 2021). Historically, meteorological events have occurred most frequently in the provinces of Limón, Puntarenas, and Alajuela, as illustrated in the following figure (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Distribution of Meteorological Phenomena Recorded in Costa Rica (1980–2017). Source: IMN, 2021a.



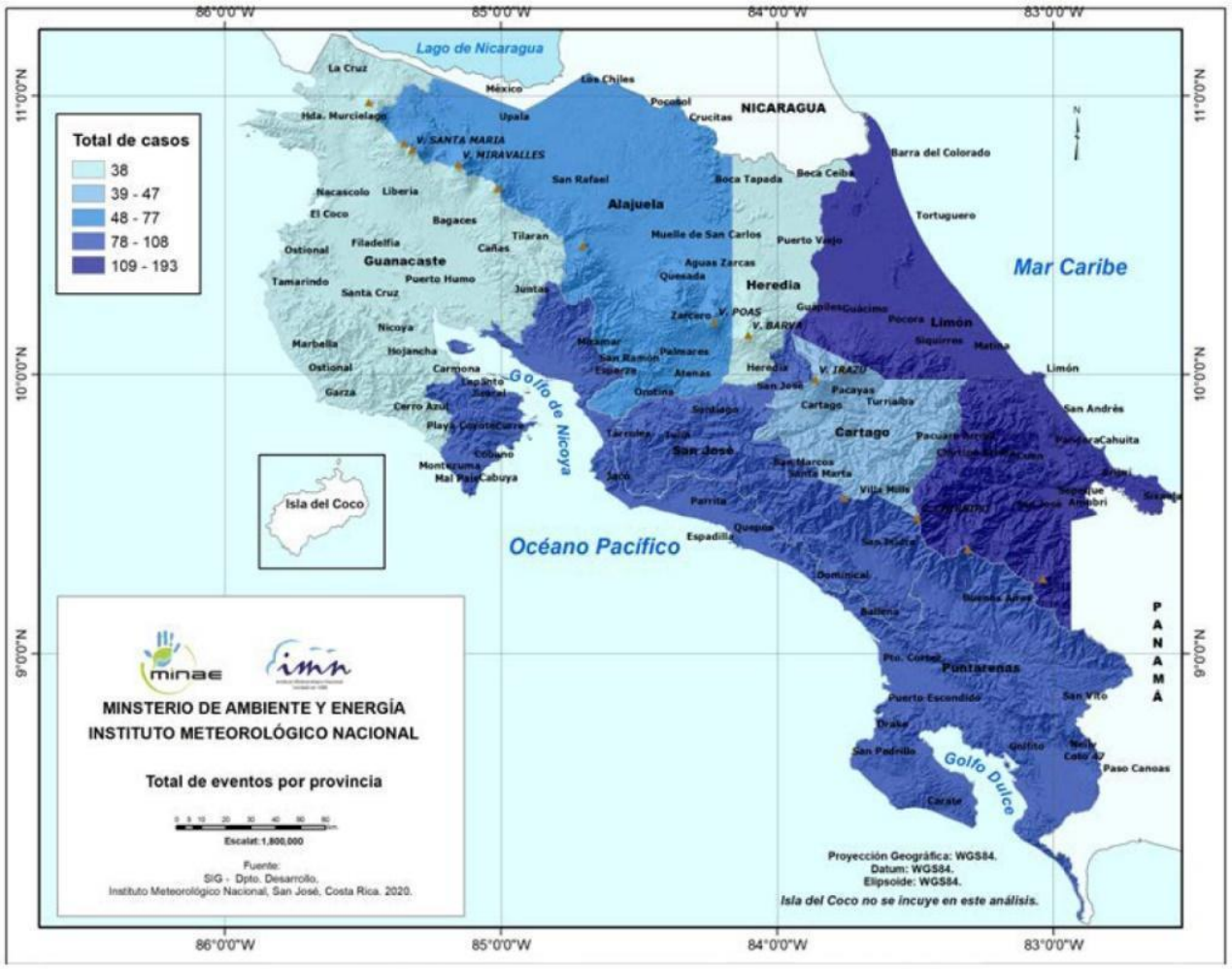
Between 1980 and 2017, a total of 1,264 meteorological events were recorded, 72% of which corresponded to heavy rains, storms, convective storms, and hail, making these four the most frequent in the country and closely associated with the presence of meteorological phenomena, as shown in Figure 3. The impacts of these events are diverse and depend on their intensity; they may cause displacement, loss of human life, crop damage, and disruption to communication routes. In particular, heavy rains are the leading event with the potential to generate losses or disasters across the country and during any month of the year (MINAE, 2021). Each meteorological phenomenon may involve one or several meteorological events; however, heavy rain remains the most predominant, as illustrated in the following figure (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Percentage Distribution of Event Types by Meteorological Phenomenon in Costa Rica. Source: IMN, 2021a.IMN, 2021a.



Historically, meteorological events have occurred most frequently in the provinces of Limón, Puntarenas, and Alajuela, as illustrated in the following figure.

Figure 4. Distribution of Meteorological Events Recorded in Costa Rica (1980–2017). Source: IMN, 2021a.



In the context of Costa Rica, meteorological events are analyzed by considering their increasing frequency and intensity, as well as their short-term effects, such as floods, droughts, extreme temperatures, hurricanes, tropical storms, and heavy rains. External meteorological events are regarded as part of the natural variability of the climate; however, it is recognized that due to the effects of climate change, their frequency and intensity may increase. An event becomes extreme depending on its magnitude, strength, or the impacts it causes on social, productive, and natural sectors. These events can lead to disasters when their effects are severe on vulnerable systems, resulting in significant damage (MINAE, 2021).

Costa Rica's Vulnerability to Climate Change

Costa Rica is among the countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, particularly extreme hydrometeorological events. This is due to a combination of its geographic location, economic factors, and topographic conditions, which result in the unequal distribution of climate effects across the territory. The country faces short-term phenomena such as droughts, extreme temperatures, hurricanes, tropical storms, and heavy rains, as well as slow-onset events like gradual temperature rise, biodiversity loss, land and forest degradation, ocean acidification, saltwater intrusion, and sea level rise. Historical records from the IMN and climate variability-related events, such as the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO), show that the country's coasts experience opposite impacts: while droughts are predominant on the Pacific side, floods are more frequent on the Caribbean side. Future climate conditions are expected to resemble those observed during El Niño episodes (IMN, 2019).

From an economic standpoint, MINAE estimated in 2010 that the costs of repairing and reconstructing infrastructure damaged by extreme events amounted to 1.01% of the GDP. Under current trends, these costs are projected to rise, ranging between 0.68% and 1.05% in conservative scenarios, and between 1.64% and 2.5% in alternative scenarios. Beyond economic losses, these phenomena pose serious risks to people and have led to a growing number of human fatalities (MINAE, 2021).

Vulnerability by región

The National Climate Change Adaptation Policy explicitly acknowledges the need to create conditions that foster resilience in both human and natural systems, particularly through territorial planning processes. This approach is especially relevant when considering that various factors that hinder socioeconomic development—such as poverty, unemployment, limited access to education, inadequate housing, and gender inequality—directly influence the vulnerability of human systems. It is therefore essential to manage these factors while taking into account the specific limitations and opportunities of each region (DCC, 2022a).

Below is information characterizing the context and climate change-related risks faced by each region:

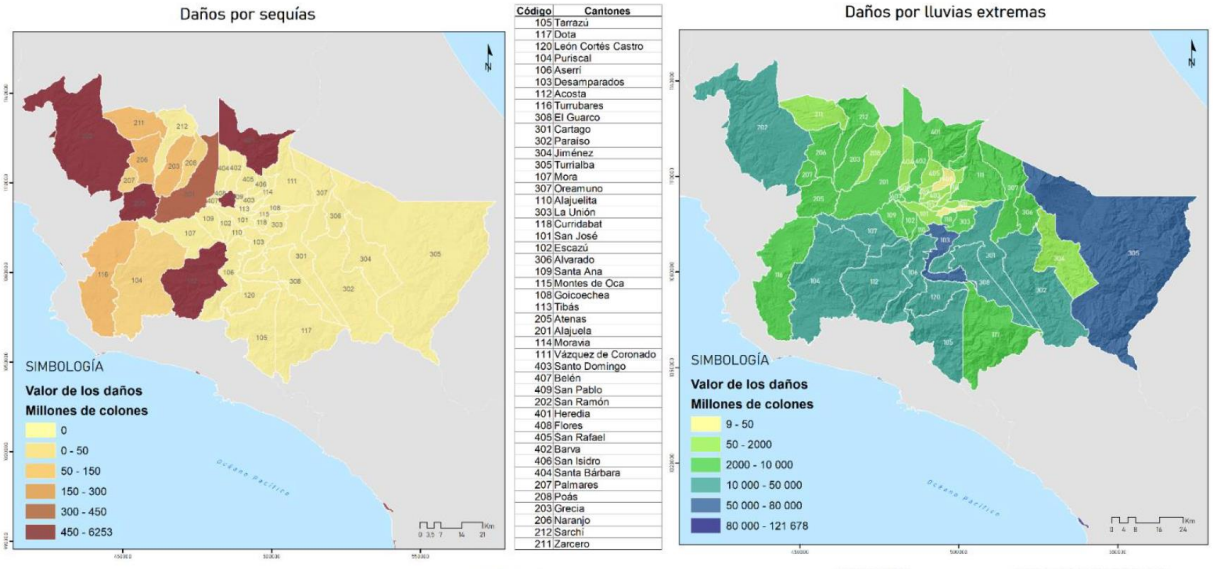
Central Region. The region covers an area of 8,525 km², representing 16% of Costa Rica's territory and is home to approximately 70% of the population. It is predominantly urban, although it also includes surrounding areas considered rural. Agricultural and industrial activities are developed here, focused on coffee, sugarcane, vegetables, legumes, tubers, and dairy cattle farming. The region also contains aquifer recharge zones where several of the country's most important rivers originate (DCC, 2022a; MINAE, 2021).

The Central Region may experience the following climate-related risks that affect its environmental, social, and economic context:

- Loss of competitiveness due to declining quality and availability of public services and infrastructure resulting from the adverse effects of climate variability and climate change.
- Decreased quality of experience, reduced tourist demand, and loss of tourism-related livelihoods due to impacts caused by rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns, including biodiversity loss.
- Decline in productivity and loss of competitiveness in the industrialization of raw materials and the marketing of agricultural and agro-industrial goods and services due to impacts resulting from rising temperatures and fluctuations in precipitation.

There is available information regarding the economic valuation of damages caused by hydrometeorological events in the region:

Figure 5. Economic Value of Damages from Hydrometeorological Events Declared National Emergencies in the Central Region (1988–2018). Source: MINAE, MIDEPLAN & UNEP, 2020.



In this region, droughts have primarily affected the agricultural sector, while extreme rainfall has mostly impacted road infrastructure, housing, and agriculture (DCC, 2022a).

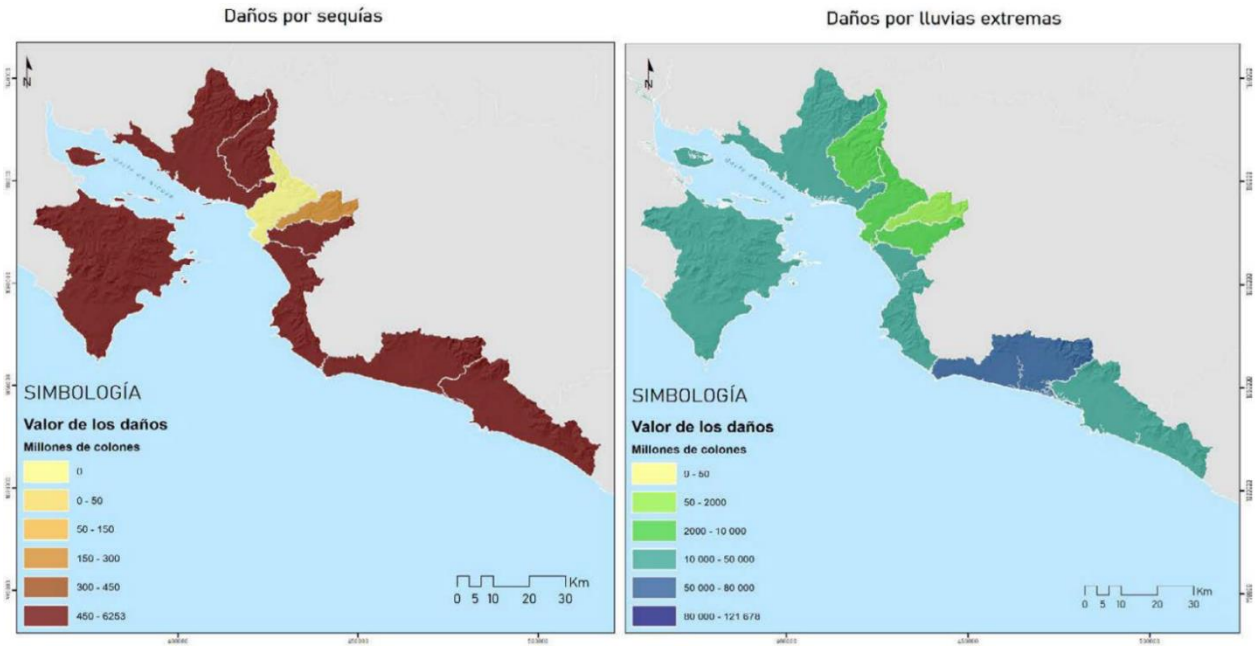
Central Pacific Region. The region spans 3,910 km², representing 7.6% of Costa Rica's territory and is home to approximately 6% of the population. It encompasses lowland areas, ranging from sea level up to 200 meters above sea level, and features three distinct climates: dry, rainy, and cool in the higher elevations. Economic activities are centered around tourism, maritime and land freight transport—thanks to its proximity to ports such as Caldera and Puntarenas—as well as agriculture (rice, watermelon, oil palm), livestock, and fishing (DCC, 2022b; MINAE, 2021).

The Central Pacific Region may face the following climate-related risks, impacting its environmental, social, and economic contexts:

- Risk of declining tourist demand due to changes in sea level, temperature, and precipitation patterns.
- Risk of reduced agricultural yields and food security due to changes in temperature, precipitation patterns, and rising sea levels.
- Risk of decreased business competitiveness due to changes in temperature, precipitation patterns, and sea level.

Economic data is available on damages caused by hydrometeorological events in the region:

Figure 6. Economic Value of Damages from Hydrometeorological Events Declared National Emergencies in the Central Pacific Region (1988–2018). Source: MINAE, MIDEPLAN & UNEP, 2020.



In this region, droughts have primarily impacted the agricultural sector, while extreme rainfall has mostly affected road infrastructure, aqueducts and sewer systems, rivers and streams, as well as the agricultural sector (DCC, 2022b).

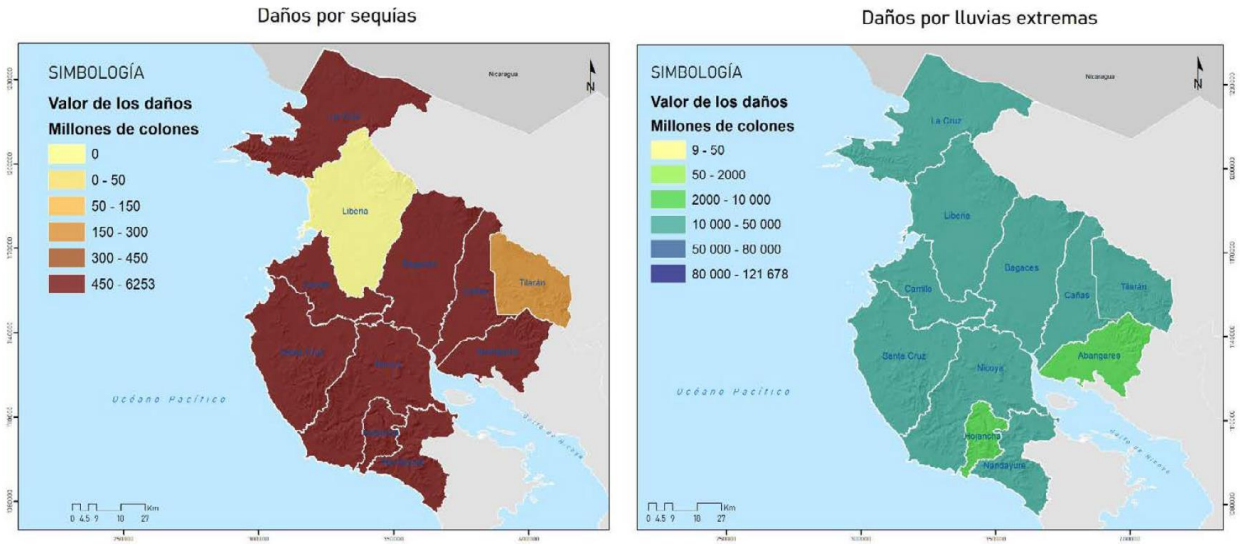
Chorotega Region. The region spans 10,141 km², representing 19.8% of Costa Rica's territory and is home to over 393,788 inhabitants. Approximately 15% of the region consists of protected wilderness areas, mainly designated as national parks. It has a dry climate influenced by the Guanacaste and Tilarán mountain ranges, which border it to the east, and features two distinct seasons: dry and rainy. Economic activities include agriculture—producing sugarcane, melon, watermelon, rice, and beef—and tourism, which benefits from the presence of the Daniel Oduber International Airport. This region generates 40% of the country's clean energy (DCC, 2022c; MINAE, 2021).

The Chorotega Region may face the following climate-related risks, impacting its environmental, social, and economic context:

- Risk of declining tourism competitiveness and associated livelihoods.
- Risk of reduced agricultural yields and food security.
- Risk of discouraging business and technological development in the region.

Information is available regarding the economic value of damages caused by hydrometeorological events in the region:

Figure 7. Economic Value of Damages from Hydrometeorological Events Declared National Emergencies in the Chorotega Region (1988–2018). Source: MINAE, MIDEPLAN & UNEP, 2020.



In this region, droughts have primarily impacted the agricultural sector, while extreme rainfall has mostly affected road infrastructure, the agricultural sector, and housing (DCC, 2022c).

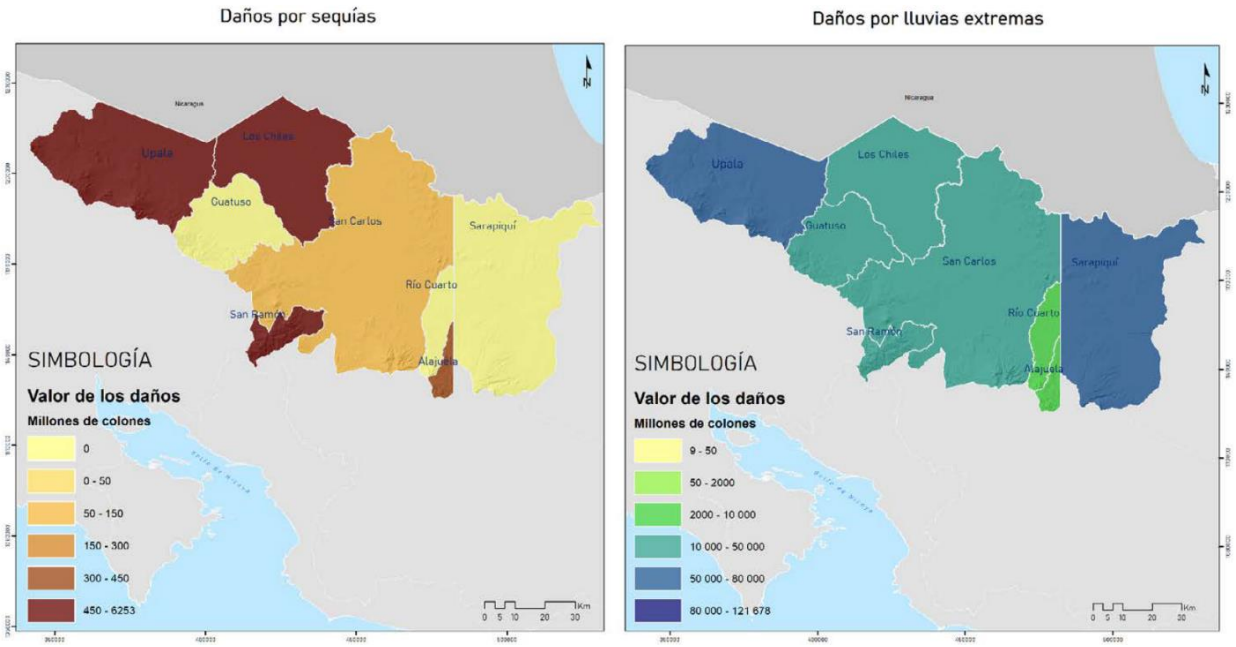
Huetar Norte Region. The region covers 9,803 km², representing 19% of Costa Rica's territory and is home to 8% of the population. It features a very humid, highly rainy climate, with a complex hydrological network and ecologically significant protected areas. Economic activities include agriculture, livestock, forestry, and fishing, as well as commerce and manufacturing (DCC, 2022d; MINAE, 2021).

The Huetar Norte Region may face the following climate-related risks, impacting its environmental, social, and economic context:

- Risk of declining tourism experience quality, reduced tourist demand, and loss of tourism-related livelihoods due to rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns.
- Risk of reduced quality and productivity in agricultural activities due to variations in temperature and precipitation.
- Risk of decreased productivity and loss of business competitiveness in the region due to rising temperatures and precipitation variability.

Information is available regarding the economic value of damages caused by hydrometeorological events in the region:

Figure 8. Economic Value of Damages from Hydrometeorological Events Declared National Emergencies in the Huetar Norte Region (1988–2018). Source: MINAE, MIDEPLAN & UNEP, 2020.



In this region, droughts have primarily impacted the agricultural sector, while extreme rainfall has mostly affected road infrastructure, the agricultural sector, and rivers and streams (DCC, 2022d).

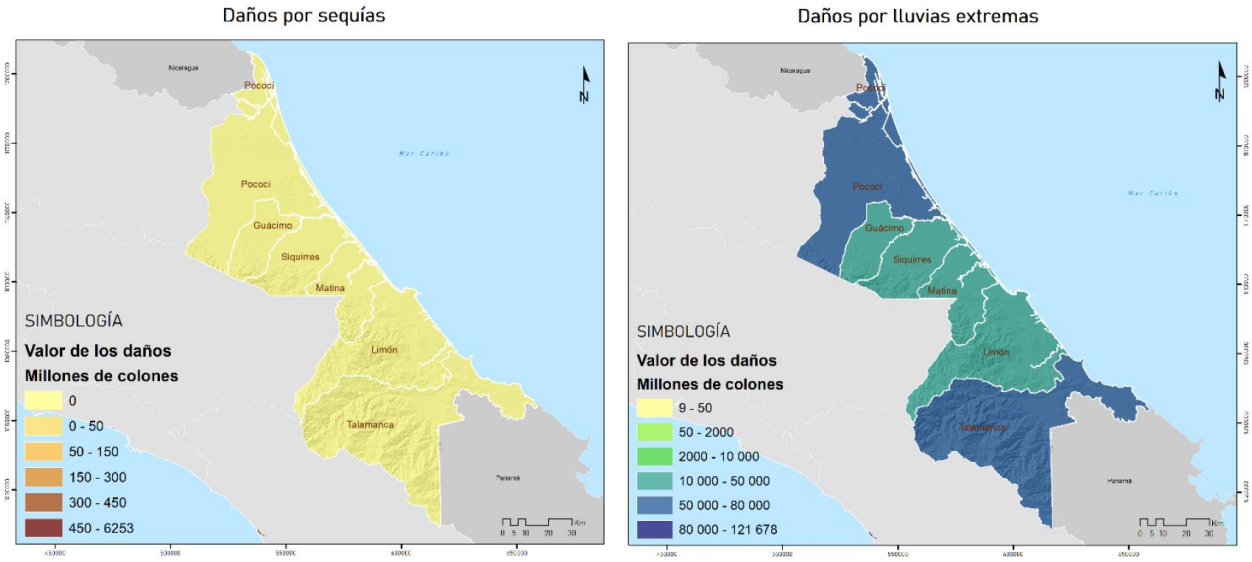
Huetar Caribe Region. The region spans 9,188 km², representing 18% of Costa Rica's territory and is home to over 460,168 inhabitants. Approximately 38% of the region is under protection by the National System of Conservation Areas (SINAC). It has a very humid climate, with high temperatures ranging between 27°C and 30°C. Its terrain includes alluvial plains, is traversed by numerous rivers, and contains highly important aquifers that supply potable water to the region. Economic activities include agriculture—primarily the production of bananas, pineapples, and ornamental plants—as well as port and transportation services. Tourism is concentrated in specific beach areas of the region (DCC, 2022e; MINAE, 2021).

The Huetar Caribe Region may face the following climate-related risks, impacting its environmental, social, and economic context:

- Risk of reduced productivity and loss of competitiveness in the marketing of agricultural and agro-industrial goods and services due to impacts caused by rising temperatures and changes in precipitation.
- Risk of declining tourism experience quality, reduced tourist demand, and loss of tourism-related livelihoods due to impacts caused by rising temperatures and changes in precipitation.
- Risk of reduced quality and yields in agricultural and fishing activities, as well as loss of food and nutritional security, due to variations in temperature and precipitation.

Information is available regarding the economic value of damages caused by hydrometeorological events in the region:

Figure 9. Economic Value of Damages from Hydrometeorological Events Declared National Emergencies in the Huetar Caribe Region (1988–2018). Source: MINAE, MIDEPLAN & UNEP, 2020.



In this region, extreme rainfall has primarily affected road infrastructure, the agricultural sector, and rivers and streams (DCC, 2022e).

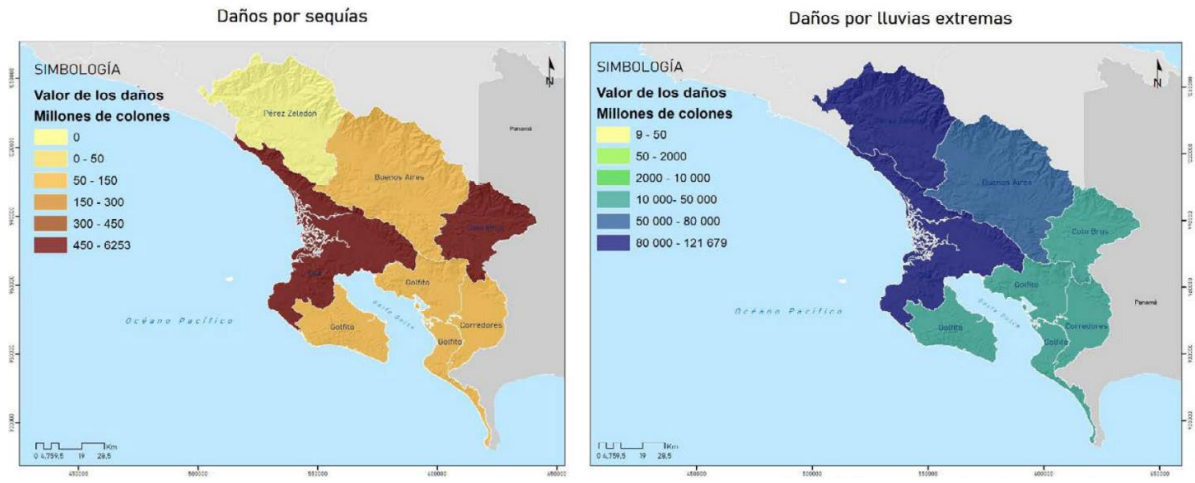
Brunca Region. The region spans 9,528 km², representing 19% of Costa Rica's territory and is home to 8% of the population. It has a very rainy tropical humid climate and features a mountainous system with significant hydrological potential and aquifer recharge areas. The region contains 12 Indigenous territories, making it the area with the highest Indigenous population in the country. It is also distinguished by having the most biodiverse ecosystems in Costa Rica, protecting conservation areas such as La Amistad Pacific (ACLAP) and Osa (ACOSA). Economic activities include agriculture, with crops such as coffee, grains, tubers, vegetables, fruits, pineapple, oil palm, sugarcane, and livestock. Agroindustry focuses on coffee, sugarcane, pineapple, rice, corn, beans, and forest products. Tourism is practiced mainly due to the presence of the Corvocado National Park, Marino Ballena National Park, Chirripó National Park, La Amistad National Park, and the Golfito Duty-Free Zone (DCC, 2022f; MINAE, 2021).

The Brunca Region may experience the following climate-related risks, impacting its environmental, social, and economic context:

- Risk of declining tourism experience quality, reduced tourist demand, and loss of tourism-related livelihoods due to impacts caused by rising temperatures and changes in precipitation, including biodiversity loss.
- Risk of disruption to critical services and productive activities in the region due to damage to tourism, road, and port infrastructure caused by variations in temperature and precipitation.
- Risk of reduced productivity and loss of competitiveness in the marketing of agricultural and agro-industrial goods and services in the region due to impacts caused by rising temperatures and changes in precipitation.

Information is available regarding the economic value of damages caused by hydrometeorological events in the region:

Figure 10. Economic Value of Damages from Hydrometeorological Events Declared National Emergencies in the Brunca Region (1988–2018). Source: MINAE, MIDEPLAN & UNEP, 2020.



In this region, droughts have primarily impacted the agricultural sector, while extreme rainfall has mostly affected road infrastructure, the agricultural sector, and housing (DCC, 2022f).

Climate Adaptation in Costa Rica

Communities and Vulnerable Groups in Adaptation

Costa Rica's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) states that the most vulnerable groups are not only the poorest. Vulnerable populations also include persons with disabilities, older adults, transgender individuals, indigenous peoples, afro-descendant communities, and women. These groups are considered vulnerable because they lack the economic resources needed to adapt, as well as the knowledge required to confront risks stemming from extreme hydrometeorological events exacerbated by climate change (MINAE, 2021). Regarding indigenous peoples, it is considered that their historical memory should be recovered, interpreted, and analyzed as a valuable input for developing community adaptation strategies in response to climate variability and change (IMN, 2021a).

The National Adaptation Plan identifies several factors that contribute to the vulnerability of these groups in the face of climate change:

- High levels of informal employment among women, especially in rural and coastal areas
- Greater difficulty for women and Indigenous peoples in accessing opportunities
- Domestic violence against women
- Limited access for women to housing, potable water, and healthcare
- Indigenous communities with scarce resources and opportunities
- Indigenous communities with deficient services (potable water, electricity, internet)

Some of the needs for implementing adaptation actions related to Indigenous peoples and communities, as identified in the Fourth National Communication, include:

- Coordination of community efforts in both urban and rural areas
- Development of an integration agenda for vulnerable or historically excluded community and population groups
- Creation of a climate-smart mindset and culture among new generations
- Strengthening coordination between institutions and other sectors during the design and financing phases of adaptation actions
- Reinforcement of local and Indigenous community knowledge in the fight against climate change
- Recovery of the historical memory of Indigenous peoples and older adults

In Costa Rica, a key strength is the growing interest of communities, local stakeholders, NGOs, the private productive sector, SMEs, and others in the formulation and implementation of climate change adaptation initiatives.

Capacity Building for Adaptation

Capacity building is a key element in adaptation processes in Costa Rica, as it serves as a mechanism to modify attitudes and behaviors, impart knowledge, and develop new skills in the field. Education and training are considered essential components of capacity building, and this can be achieved through various means such as education, training, networking, targeted workshops, technical assistance, and support for at-risk groups. In the national context, the most vulnerable groups do not always have the necessary knowledge to adequately adapt to climate change (MINAE, 2021).

In Costa Rica, it is necessary to work on identifying needs and priorities for capacity building through a participatory approach that ensures the enhancement of social capital and facilitates community ownership, thereby guaranteeing local acceptance and long-term sustainability of the actions to be implemented. Additionally, intergenerational knowledge transfer is a fundamental factor in climate change adaptation, as success is only achieved when knowledge is effectively passed on (IMN, 2021a).

In the area of capacity building, the following national-level weaknesses have been identified:

- Capacity building alone is insufficient and is sometimes not adequately linked to other adaptation processes.
- Capacity strengthening efforts are often short-term, limiting their impact on cultural change.
- The historical memory of communities is underutilized in understanding the implications of climate change.
- Climate-related capacity building and information within the formal education system still need to be strengthened.

Regarding capacity building, the following support needs have been identified:

- Integrate climate adaptation into capacity development processes across different productive sectors.
- Strengthen institutional capacities to offer services and products that support climate adaptation from the public sector.
- Include climate change topics in formal education spaces.
- Recover the historical memory of older adults to better understand climate change through their experiences.
- Strengthen institutional capacities to develop climate-smart projects and initiatives that can be eligible for funding.

Project / Programme Objectives:

List the main objectives of the project/programme.

This proposal is based on the recognition that local communities face significant challenges due to the impacts of climate change, while also possessing valuable knowledge (ancestral, traditional, and territorial) that must be considered in adaptive responses. It proposes a decentralized and inclusive approach that promotes community leadership as a central axis, aligning actions with existing planning instruments at the cantonal, regional, and national levels—especially the National Adaptation Plan.

To translate this approach into concrete actions, three strategic lines are established: Strengthening technical capacities and local governance for more effective decision-making; Implementing adaptation measures that leverage territory-specific knowledge to increase resilience; and Developing exchange spaces that promote the visibility of successful initiatives, facilitating their scalability and replicability in other communities.

The **main objective** of the project is to implement local adaptation actions led by community organizations, in alignment with cantonal and regional adaptation plans and the National Adaptation Plan, through inclusive and decentralized processes that respond to local vulnerability, promote the use of local and Indigenous knowledge, and foster the dissemination and exchange of learnings.

The specific objectives are:

a. Strengthen the technical capacities of local organizations and institutions through training and participation spaces that promote community leadership and facilitate strategic decision-making in climate change adaptation.

b. Promote the implementation of adaptation actions based on local, traditional, and Indigenous knowledge as a key tool to enhance community resilience to climate change impacts.

c. Facilitate spaces for the exchange of experiences and learnings, fostering the visibility, replicability, and scalability of successful climate change adaptation initiatives.

Project / Programme Components and Financing[1]:

Fill in the table presenting the relationships among project components, activities, expected concrete outputs, and the corresponding budgets. If necessary, please refer to the attached instructions for a detailed description of each term.

For the case of a programme, individual components are likely to refer to specific sub- sets of stakeholders, regions and/or sectors that can be addressed through a set of well-defined interventions / projects.

This project is grounded in a transformative approach that drives climate adaptation from the local level, recognizing communities as key actors in decision-making, action implementation, and knowledge generation. The proposal is structured around three interrelated components that, through a logic of inclusion, shared responsibility, and sustainability, promote context-specific solutions to current climate challenges.

Component 1 focuses on active participation and the strengthening of community capacities through training processes and dialogue spaces that integrate traditional knowledge, gender perspectives, and local leadership. This component emphasizes that adaptation should be built from territorial realities, enhancing resilience through the co-creation of projects led by communities and their diverse stakeholder groups. These proposals directly feed into **Component 2**, which enables their implementation through transparent mechanisms for calls and financing, framed within the Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAAC) of at least 20 cantons across the country.

Finally, **Component 3** ensures the sustainability of learnings and their scalability through knowledge exchange, systematization of successful experiences, and the formation of territorial collaboration networks. Through dissemination mechanisms, open-access repositories, interactive fairs, and technical tours, the project fosters strong knowledge sharing that enhances the replicability of adaptation actions and the integration of ancestral knowledge as a tool for adaptation. The project not only carries out specific actions, it promotes a shift in how Costa Rica builds climate resilience from its territories.

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US$)
1. Community Participation and Capacity Strengthening	1.1 Community participation spaces are established, ensuring inclusion (of women, youth, Indigenous peoples, and marginalized groups) in decision-making, fostering transparent and equitable processes. 1.2 Training and co-creation sessions are developed for communities, local actors, the private sector, and municipal sector to promote leadership and skills in structuring climate adaptation projects. 1.3 Accessible financing mechanisms are identified for community-led adaptation actions.	1. Community organizations are engaged and equipped with knowledge for decision-making and implementation of local adaptation actions.	1 000 000

[1] IE and EE fees calculator: https://www.adaptation-fund.org/document/ie-and-ee-fees-calculator/

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US$)
2. Implementation of Adaptation Projects	2.1 Locally led adaptation actions are implemented, prioritized in the Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAAC) of cantons that have these instruments.	2. Local knowledge has been integrated into the implemented actions, and the planned actions in cantonal adaptation plans have been executed. At least 20 communities are more resilient.	2 800 000
3. Knowledge Exchange, Systematization, and Replicability	3.1 Inter-community knowledge exchange spaces are established, and a network of communities for adaptation is created. 3.2 Dissemination mechanisms are created for implemented actions and for the local and ancestral knowledge applied to adaptation.	3. Learning and collaboration networks between localities are consolidated, promoting the dissemination and scalability of successful adaptation initiatives.	410 000
6. Project/Programme Execution cost			400 000
7. Total Project/Programme Cost			4 610 000
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			390 000
Amount of Financing Requested			5 000 000

Projected Calendar:

Indicate the dates of the following milestones for the proposed project/programme

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	01/07/2026
Mid-term Review (if planned)	01/02/2029
Project/Programme Closing	30/06/2031
Terminal Evaluation	30/01/2032

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

A. Describe the project / programme components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to climate resilience. For the case of a programme, show how the combination of individual projects will contribute to the overall increase in resilience. Specify how the project/programme enables devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level and gives local institutions and communities more direct access to finance and decision-making power over how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, implemented; how progress is monitored and how success is evaluated.

This project proposal is aligned with Costa Rica's National Adaptation Plan to Climate Change (PNACC) (2022–2026). It aims to promote the participation of local communities in decision-making processes for the implementation of adaptation measures; additionally, it seeks to execute actions that enhance the resilience of various localities and facilitate knowledge dissemination and exchange. Due to its geographic location and socioeconomic conditions, Costa Rica faces high risks from the adverse effects of climate change and climate variability. The country's cantons and regions face significant challenges in light of these effects, which notably impact economic systems, infrastructure, and healthcare in different localities, thereby increasing their vulnerability.

Currently, 20 cantons in Costa Rica have Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAACs), which are aligned with the PNACC. It is important to note that the PAACs were developed within the framework of the project "Plan A – Resilient Territories to Climate Change," which was financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and implemented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), with support from Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible. The strategic oversight was provided by the Climate Change Directorate and the National Meteorological Institute of Costa Rica. The development of the PAACs involved public consultation and validation processes, which have served as a foundation for the design of this proposal.

The guiding approaches within the PAACs, which structure the definition of proposed adaptation measures, include the following components:

- **Gender Equity and Social Inclusion:** This approach seeks to build equitable and just gender relations. It influences the formulation and management of public policies by integrating the specific needs of women and men into each phase of the public policy cycle. This results in effective and efficient governance aimed at achieving social and gender equality.
- **Citizen Participation:** This approach underscores every individual's right and responsibility to engage in decision-making processes related to territorial management and climate change adaptation. Participation spaces allow for the identification of community opinions, needs, experiences, and solutions, thereby supporting the development of robust and comprehensive climate strategies. These dialogues also facilitate the identification of social vulnerabilities and guide the development of solutions that empower women and promote the inclusion of populations in vulnerable conditions.
- **Community-Based Adaptation:** This approach acknowledges and incorporates traditional knowledge from Indigenous peoples and local communities in the design of climate adaptation measures. It ensures that the benefits derived from these actions are fairly and equitably distributed. It recognizes, promotes, supports, and incentivizes Indigenous and local knowledge, as well as traditional techniques that enhance territorial adaptation.

This project addresses these guiding approaches by deepening the focus on locally-led adaptation, structured into the following three components:

Component 1: Community Participation and Capacity Strengthening

This component outlines actions to strengthen participatory spaces, which are essential for identifying and prioritizing local-level climate adaptation measures. Building participatory processes that involve various community actors ensures that the adaptation actions to be implemented respond to the specific needs of each locality, enabling an effective and sustainable process.

In addition to citizen participation spaces, training in climate change adaptation for diverse community stakeholders is a key aspect in Costa Rica, where both opportunities and needs for capacity-building have been identified. This component will design education and awareness programs that approach adaptation from a comprehensive perspective, ensuring that local actors are equipped with the necessary tools to face climate challenges and seize opportunities for resilient development. These spaces will promote collaboration and the exchange of knowledge and experiences among communities.

Integrating climate adaptation into development processes is crucial for various sectors and communities throughout the country. The active involvement and training of local stakeholders—particularly those who possess ancestral knowledge and historical memory, strengthens adaptation strategies. These traditional insights provide valuable perspectives on ecosystem management, water governance, and community resilience, enriching responses to climate change impacts.

The participation of vulnerable groups such as women, Indigenous populations, and rural communities must be guaranteed throughout planning and implementation processes for adaptation measures. Effective adaptation requires collaborative approaches and decentralized governance systems that promote community leadership in decision-making and the execution of concrete actions.

As part of the training processes under this component, the co-creation of locally led adaptation projects will be encouraged to enable implementation by community-based organizations. These projects may be considered for financing under Component 2. However, those not selected in that component may seek additional funding sources. To strengthen the pathway from training to action, it is essential to develop skills and knowledge related to funding opportunities for launching local adaptation initiatives. Therefore, this component includes activities to facilitate access to such funding through targeted information and training.

As part of this component, the following activities will be carried out:

Product 1.1. Community participation spaces are established, ensuring inclusion (of women, youth, Indigenous peoples, and marginalized groups) in decision-making, fostering transparent and equitable processes.

- Activity 1.1.1. Identification, mapping, and engagement of inclusive community leaders and groups (women, youth, Indigenous peoples, etc.) interested in climate change adaptation topics.
- Activity 1.1.2. Development of mechanisms and spaces for active and inclusive participation.
- Activity 1.1.3. Implementation of training workshops and promotion of community leadership for adaptation.

- Activity 1.1.4. Establishment of local climate adaptation committees.

Product 1.2. Training and co-creation sessions are developed for communities, local actors, the private sector, and municipal sector to promote leadership and skills in structuring climate adaptation projects.

- Activity 1.2.1. Participatory diagnosis of local training needs in climate adaptation, including technical aspects such as cost estimation of adaptation measures.
- Activity 1.2.2. Implementation of climate leadership and adaptation training processes tailored to the realities of local communities and private sector actors. These processes will include mentoring and support for local initiatives.
- Activity 1.2.3. Facilitation of co-creation processes for adaptation actions at the community, cantonal, and sectoral levels, incorporating local knowledge and insights gained from training activities.
- Activity 1.2.4. Execution of a training process on the formulation and structuring of adaptation projects aligned with the PAACs.
- Activity 1.2.5. Technical advisory support for the development of project proposals aligned with the PAACs.
- Activity 1.2.6. Systematization of training and co-creation experiences.

Producto 1.3. Accessible financing mechanisms are identified for community-led adaptation actions.

- Activity 1.3.1. Mapping of available funding sources for the implementation of adaptation actions.
- Activity 1.3.2. Training to raise awareness of financing sources, eligibility requirements, and strategic approaches.

Result 1. Community organizations are engaged and equipped with knowledge for decision-making and implementation of local adaptation actions.

Component 2. Implementation of Adaptation Projects

The project serves as a driving force for the implementation of Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAACs). Led by local governments in each canton, the PAACs articulate climate adaptation at the local level by detailing prioritized adaptation measures for each territory and establishing local planning and management mechanisms for implementation. These plans support local responses to the challenges posed by climate change and are aligned with regional and national adaptation frameworks. Municipal governments are key actors in the execution and operationalization of the PAACs.

Locally led adaptation actions will be framed within the established Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAACs), which currently include 20 cantons across the country: Acosta, Alajuelita, Belén, Buenos Aires, Cañas, Corredores, La Cruz, Los Chiles, Matina, Montes de Oro, Naranjo, Nicoya, Osa, Parrita, Pococí, Puntarenas, Siquirres, Talamanca, Turrialba, and Upala. In addition, actions outlined in the PAACs of other municipalities that formalize such instruments during the implementation period of this project may also be carried out.

Based on these PAACs, and as an outcome of the training processes under Component 1, various community organizations and stakeholders have designed locally led adaptation projects, which will be eligible to compete for funding under Component 2.

The following activities within this component are aimed at supporting the implementation of adaptation projects led by these community-based organizations.

Product 2.1. Locally led adaptation actions are implemented, prioritized in the Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAAC) of cantons that have these instruments.

- Activity 2.1.1. Establishment of a mechanism for soliciting proposals for adaptation actions aligned with the PAACs, through the development of technical and operational guidelines for implementing locally defined adaptation projects under Component 1.
- Activity 2.1.2. Implementation of adaptation projects in at least 20 cantons, aligned with the prioritized measures outlined in the PAACs.
- Activity 2.1.3. Creation of a local monitoring mechanism that enables communities to track progress, verify the outcomes of implemented actions, and propose improvements based on lessons learned.

Result 2. Local knowledge has been integrated into the implemented actions, and the planned actions in the cantonal adaptation plans have been executed. At least 20 communities are more resilient.

Componente 3. Knowledge Exchange, Systematization, and Replicability

Knowledge exchange, systematization, and replicability are fundamental to ensuring the long-term sustainability and impact of adaptation actions. The creation of inter-community and territorial exchange spaces allows communities to learn from one another, strengthen their capacities, and optimize their adaptation strategies based on real-world experiences. The formation of networks fosters collaboration across territories, ensuring that the knowledge generated is not only preserved but also evolves and expands. Documenting success stories provides concrete and replicable examples, enabling other communities to adopt effective strategies and secure the continuity of adaptation processes.

It is expected that a wide range of organizations and local actors will participate throughout the three components of the project. Each will bring relevant learnings and experiences to share, while also benefiting from the insights of other communities that have led adaptation efforts. This component supports such exchange between actors from diverse communities, contributing to the strengthening of the country's climate resilience and promoting inclusive and continuous learning.

Product 3.1. Inter-community knowledge exchange spaces are established, and a network of communities for adaptation is created.

- Activity 3.1.1. Identification and characterization of local committees formed under Component 1, serving as a basis for the formation of a territorial network for adaptation.
- Activity 3.1.2. Organization of technical field visits to localities that have implemented adaptation measures, fostering peer-to-peer learning.
- Activity 3.1.3. Facilitation of community dialogue sessions to share experiences in climate

adaptation.

- Activity 3.1.4. Formation and institutionalization of a climate adaptation community network, including mechanisms for coordination, communication, and sustainability**.**

Product 3.2. Dissemination mechanisms are created for implemented actions and for the local and ancestral knowledge applied to adaptation.

- Activity 3.2.1. Mapping and systematization of adaptation actions implemented at the cantonal level in Costa Rica, as well as the ancestral and local knowledge unique to each locality that contributes to climate adaptation.
- Activity 3.2.2. Design and implementation of mechanisms for managing local knowledge, along with the development of an open-access web repository that integrates systematized local adaptation actions and ancestral knowledge.
- Activity 3.2.3. Identification and audiovisual documentation of successful adaptation cases implemented through the project.
- Activity 3.2.4. Organization of a fair showcasing the adaptation actions carried out across different cantons, through interactive and experiential presentations.

Result 3. Learning and collaboration networks between localities are consolidated, promoting the dissemination and scalability of successful adaptation initiatives.

B. Describe how the project / programme provides economic, social and environmental benefits, with particular reference to the most vulnerable communities, and vulnerable groups within communities, including gender considerations. Describe how the project / programme will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. In particular, specify how the project/programme is addressing structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, people with disabilities, people who are displaced, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized ethnic groups.

Costa Rica's National Adaptation Plan highlights that the impacts of climate change exert pressure on economic, educational, environmental, social, and health systems, resulting in financial strain, reduced public service capacity, and increased risk to communities and infrastructure. The PAACs clearly identify the indirect impacts faced by populations in vulnerable conditions in the face of climate change. For instance, women often encounter limited access to engage in productive activities outside the home; children and adolescents are affected when schooling is interrupted or when forced into subsistence labor; older adults face heightened health risks; Indigenous peoples experience loss of income and food security due to reduced agricultural productivity, damage to infrastructure, and loss of ancestral knowledge; and farming communities see their food security jeopardized by crop failure, along with job loss and temporary migration pressures.

For these reasons, adaptation processes and actions seek to improve the well-being and quality of life of the country's inhabitants. As previously mentioned, the project is oriented toward supporting the implementation of Costa Rica's National Adaptation Plan through community-driven leadership, while promoting the principles of Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) and sustainable development.

Economic Benefits

- **Implementation of adaptation measures.** Canton-level adaptation actions strengthen territorial resilience to climate change impacts, reducing potential damages and enabling the continuity of economic activities.
- **Identification of funding sources.** Providing information about financing options ensures sustained implementation of adaptation actions and serves as a catalyst for community development.

Environmental Benefits

- **Sustainable resource management.** Implementation is based on the prioritized actions outlined in the PAACs, which are aligned with Costa Rica's National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The national vision emphasizes conservation, promoting adaptation that reduces vulnerability through sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services. Notably, ecosystem-based adaptation is one of the guiding approaches within the PAAC framework.

Social Benefits

- **Community empowerment.** The project aims to foster inclusive community participation, actively involving women, youth, Indigenous representatives, and other groups in the formulation of adaptation actions.
- **Improved quality of life.** Climate resilience reduces community vulnerability, promoting safer and more sustainable living conditions.

Environmental, Social, and Gender Policy

- **Risk assessment and mitigation.** As an integral part of the project, compliance with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy will be reviewed, and mitigation measures will be established to support implementation. For USP will be required to comply with this policy before and during implementation, through appropriate evaluation mechanisms designed to identify potential adverse impacts on communities and ecosystems on time.
- **Community-Based Adaptation actions.** The PAACs incorporate the Community-Based Adaptation approach, which actively encourages the participation of vulnerable groups and local communities. This approach ensures that the benefits of adaptation are distributed equitably and contribute to strengthening community resilience.
- **Gender and social inclusion approach.** The PAACs explicitly adopt a gender equity framework, supporting alignment with the Adaptation Fund's Gender Policy. This perspective promotes fair and equitable inclusion of men and women by addressing differentiated needs and advancing social equality. The planned actions promote active participation of women, youth, Indigenous peoples, older adults, and other vulnerable groups.

C. Describe or provide an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the proposed project / programme., focusing on the implementation and execution arrangements, in particular the mechanism which will provide more direct access to finance.

The project is structured into three components, each of which organizes related activities in a way that ensures coherence and sequencing for future implementation, enabling cost-effective and efficient resource management.

Component 1: Community Participation and Capacity Strengthening. This component ensures the effective integration of diverse local groups—including women, youth, children, persons with disabilities, displaced populations, Indigenous peoples, and marginalized ethnic communities—into climate change adaptation processes. Its approach not only broadens representativeness and inclusion but also optimizes investment in local capacities, reducing long-term dependence on external technical assistance.

Through specialized training programs, practical methodologies and tools will be transferred to communities, enabling them to design and implement adaptation projects aligned with their local realities. Participants will not only acquire knowledge but also strengthen community leadership, enhancing decision-making efficiency and the execution of viable adaptation actions that respond to local needs. The project will leave installed capacity within territories and communities.

Additionally, this component facilitates the identification and access to funding sources by providing tools that help participants formulate viable proposals tailored to the requirements of various financing mechanisms. This streamlines resource use by reducing the need for intermediaries, allowing funding to flow more directly to communities and ensuring efficient implementation of adaptation initiatives with sustained impact.

Component 2: Implementation of Adaptation Actions. This component is dedicated exclusively to the execution of adaptation actions planned under the project framework and aligned with the Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAACs) of 20 cantons across the country. These plans identify and prioritize key adaptation measures for each territory, ensuring that interventions strategically address local needs and effectively reduce vulnerabilities. The PAACs incorporate a participatory validation process involving local stakeholders and actors from each canton, guaranteeing that financial resources are allocated exclusively to initiatives that have been previously agreed upon. This approach not only reinforces the relevance of the actions but also prevents the allocation of funds to interventions that are not aligned with established territorial strategies.

The project envisions financing at least one adaptation action per canton, with an estimated budget of USD 70,000 for each, allowing for the implementation of measures categorized as low- and medium-cost in the PAACs, specifically those with cost ranges below CRC 7,000,000 and between CRC 7,000,000 and CRC 35,000,000. This strategy ensures that interventions can be fully executed with the allocated funds, maximizing investment efficiency and sustainability.

Component 3: Knowledge Exchange, Systematization, and Replicability. Knowledge exchange helps reduce operational costs and increase benefits by enabling the replication of best practices, actions, and lessons learned among communities. This approach strengthens climate resilience by facilitating feedback among territorial actors. By systematizing knowledge generated through inter-community learning spaces, collaborative networks, and structured documentation, the scalability of implemented solutions is promoted.

Furthermore, the creation of accessible dissemination mechanisms, such as digital repositories and audiovisual materials, will foster greater ownership of knowledge at both local and national levels.

This will support the adoption of adaptation measures in new territories, enhance capacity development, and promote the integration of ancestral knowledge into climate resilience strategies. This component not only consolidates knowledge management but also fosters a continuous learning ecosystem, ensuring that adaptive solutions evolve and integrate dynamically into territorial planning frameworks.

D. Describe how the project / programme is consistent with national, sub-national and local sustainable development strategies, including, where appropriate, national adaptation plan (NAP), national, sub-national or local development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications, or national adaptation programs of action, or other relevant instruments, where they exist.

- **Component 1** contributes to Axis 1: "Knowledge management on the effects of climate change, climate services, and development of local and institutional capacities" of **Costa Rica's National Adaptation Policy to Climate Change (2018–2030).** It specifically supports Guideline 1.4: "Community management and participation in adaptation," through the creation of inclusive community participation spaces and the delivery of training sessions for local communities and stakeholders. Additionally, Component 3 contributes to Axis 1 by implementing training sessions that build capacities at the local level. The proposal is further aligned with the principles of participation and inclusion, incorporating gender perspectives and engagement of vulnerable groups, while supporting resilience and social equity goals outlined in the **National Adaptation Plan (2022–2026).**
  Component 2 supports Axis 2: "Promoting conditions for the resilience of human and natural systems through territorial, marine, and coastal planning" of Costa Rica's PNACC. It specifically aligns with: Guideline 2.2: "Incorporation of adaptation criteria into municipal management," by leveraging the adaptation action plans developed at the cantonal level, it also supports the Indigenous Peoples approach, by highlighting the contributions of ancestral knowledge and traditional practices as creative and locally grounded solutions to climate change adaptation; Guideline 2.3: "Promotion of resilience conditions at the community level," through localized adaptation actions that empower communities and reduce vulnerabilities.
  Additionally, **Component 2** supports Guideline 3.1: "Promotion of ecosystem-based adaptation beyond the boundaries of state-owned natural heritage," within Axis 3: "Management of biodiversity, ecosystems, watersheds, and marine and coastal areas for adaptation." This is achieved by implementing adaptation actions rooted in local knowledge and aligned with existing regional and cantonal plans.

- **Costa Rica's 2020 Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** establishes adaptation communication priorities and reaffirms the country's commitment to strengthening social, economic, and environmental resilience in the face of climate change impacts. This strengthening is to be achieved through the capacity-building efforts outlined in **Component 1.** Specifically, Guideline 3 states that by 2030, capacities in climate change mitigation and adaptation will have been strengthened among decision-makers at all levels of government, as well as among community leaders and young people, in ways that are appropriate to the realities and worldviews of diverse communities. These communication priorities are aligned with the goals and guidelines of Costa Rica's National Adaptation Policy to Climate Change (PNACC).

- **Costa Rica's National Urban Development Policy (2018–2030)** establishes Axis 1: "Effective and Efficient Urban Planning", within this axis, a strategic action is defined as the gradual adaptation of infrastructure to mitigate risks and natural threats, particularly those triggered by climate change. Therefore, the infrastructure-related actions implemented under **Component 2** of this project directly contribute to achieving this strategic objective of the policy.

- **The National Development and Public Investment Plan (2023–2026)** highlights the need to incorporate training courses on climate change-related topics, with a particular emphasis on adaptation to new conditions; through **Component 1**, the project supports the development of training and specialized capacity-building in this area.
  The Plan also emphasizes the importance of implementing public interventions aimed at climate change adaptation and resilience in response to current and future threats facing the country. It introduces a sectoral organization structure that includes the public finance sector and specifies that through the Financial Resilience Program, the social, environmental, and economic impacts of climate change on public finances will be reduced via targeted adaptation and resilience initiatives; therefore, **Component 2** of the project directly supports this sector by contributing to those interventions.

- **Component 2** aligns with Axis 5 Territorial Ecosystems of **Costa Rica's State Policy for Territorial Rural Development (2015–2030),** as it promotes actions focused on the sustainable and integrated use of natural resources that contribute to environmentally friendly production, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and risk management within territories. It also supports the **National Plan for Territorial Rural Development (2024–2030),** which identifies environmental sustainability—and specifically climate change adaptation—as one of the key needs expressed by rural communities.

- **Costa Rica's National Biodiversity Policy (2015–2030),** under Axis 3, establishes strategic guidelines related to education, awareness-raising, and citizen participation with a gender and multicultural approach, aimed at capacity-building and informed decision-making. Specifically, guidelines 3.1 "Educate, raise awareness and generate citizen awareness and commitment on the value of biodiversity and the services it offers, with a multicultural, gender and inclusive approach, incorporating actions that allow the understanding, appreciation and commitment of society, to act in favor of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity" and 3.2 "Promote citizen participation of all social sectors in planning, for decision-making on conservation, sustainable use, fair and equitable distribution of biodiversity and its respective implementation, based on the improvement of the functioning and social representation in existing multisectoral spaces, knowledge management, and capacity building, for inclusive and equitable participation, based on the balance between social, cultural, political, economic and environmental aspects." As well as guidelines 3.3 "Recognizes the contributions to conservation by local communities and indigenous peoples, and accepts different forms of governance, favoring those groups with greater social, economic and cultural vulnerability", 3.6 "Promotes respect, collection and protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous, urban, rural and local communities associated with biodiversity resources" and 3.8 "Improve the resilience capacity of sectors vulnerable to climate change through adaptation actions at the level of landscapes, watersheds, ecosystems and productive landscapes in biological corridors, and marine-coastal zones".

E. Describe how the project / programme meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and complies with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.
Also describe, as needed, how the project/programme will provide support to local actors and build their capacities to comply with the standards.

From its inception, the project has aimed to align with national legislation and binding international treaties, including labor codes and regulations related to climate change adaptation. Among the considerations during the initial concept development phase was the general regulatory framework applicable to the activities under each component, particularly concerning the **Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Adaptation Fund.**

As part of compliance with the Environmental, Social, and Gender Policy, a legal review will be conducted for the USP implemented under Component 2, with special emphasis on the principle of legal compliance. During the USP project proposal phase, applicants will be required to identify applicable legislation for implementation and propose mitigation actions in case of non-compliance. A legal firm will be contracted to review and complement the identified legislation and recommend mitigation measures. During USP implementation, the same legal firm will be responsible for conducting legal audits to ensure proper compliance. **All USP proposals will undergo a detailed risk assessment under the principles of the ESP,** as outlined in Section K of this proposal.

The project must ensure compliance with the following relevant regulations:

- **Environmental Assessment.** The Regulation for Environmental Evaluation, Control, and Monitoring will be applied by Executive Decree No. 43898-MINAE-S-MOPT-MAG-MEIC, ensuring that all activities, works, or projects obtain the corresponding environmental viability.
- **Land Use Planning and Zoning.** Actions will be aligned with Municipal Regulatory Plans and Land Use Plans, by the Urban Planning Law (Law No. 4240) and the Law on the Use, Management, and Conservation of Soils (Law No. 7779).
- **Construction Standards.** All proposed infrastructure must comply with the Costa Rican Seismic Code (CSCR 2010), the General Regulation on Safety in Construction (Executive Decree No. 40790-S-MTSS), and applicable INTECO Technical Standards related to construction, occupational health, and accessibility.
- **Technical and Sanitary Permits.** Construction Permits will be processed by the corresponding municipalities, and the Sanitary Operating Permit will be obtained in accordance with Executive Decree No. 43432-S.
- **Labor and Inclusion Regulations.** The Costa Rican Labor Code, the Law Against Sexual Harassment in Employment and Education (Law No. 7472), and the Law for the Promotion of Social Equality for Women (Law No. 7142) will be respected, guaranteeing fair working conditions and safe, inclusive spaces.

F. Describe if there is duplication of project / programme with other funding sources, if any. Decribe how the project/programme will ensure coordination of different initiatives, sub-projects and small grants towards a common goal, enhances collaboration across sectors and outlines how activities avoid duplication and enhance efficiencies and good practice.

Relevant Project/program	Project/Program Description	Results relevant to this program	Complementary and non-duplicative potential	Timeline
Scaling up of Adapta2+	Funded by the Adaptation Fund to increase the resilience of vulnerable populations in Costa Rica, particularly women, by scaling up adaptation actions and strengthening climate finance, value chains, and communities organized around food systems.	Food systems and Communities adapt to climate impacts with nature-based solutions that contribute to resilience, sustainable development and business continuity in the territory, with a gender perspective. Gender-sensitive knowledge is created, strengthened and disseminated along the value chain to strengthen decision making on adaptation, improving resilience to climate change in the territories.	Scaling Adapta2+ focuses on building bridges between the different elements of the food system value chain by implementing adaptation actions, further linking the three project components along the food system value chain, including climate finance, making the program results sustainable. Scaling Adapta2+ builds on what has already been achieved at the farm level by extending its support to the food system, working at the community and private sector level, to facilitate their access to climate finance and sustainable markets. The key difference between the program and the project lies in their focus, Adapta2+ Scaling up is focused on food systems and the value chain, while the proposed LLA project is fully focused on community engagement and inclusion of vulnerable groups, as well as their empowerment through capacity building, and the implementation of the PAACs and their different actions at the local level.	**2023-2029**
Costa Rica ICAT Phase III	Funded by UNOPS through the Climate Action Transparency Initiative. The project seeks to improve the data management and climate action module of the National Climate Change Metrics System (SINAMECC).	The data management module and the climate action module (mitigation and adaptation) of the SINAMECC platform are improved.	This proposal is complementary to the ICAT results, since the implementation of adaptation actions derived from the PAACs has a high potential to be registered in the updated module for the registration of adaptation actions, which also facilitates transparency and accountability processes at the country level.	**2024-2025**

Relevant Project/program	Project/Program Description	Results relevant to this program	Complementary and non-duplicative potential	Timeline
Scaling up adaptation measures based on ecosystems (AbE) in rural Latin America / EBA-LAC	The project increases the resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems in rural areas of partner countries. It does so by developing and implementing proven, innovative and cost-effective EbA approaches in different ecosystems. It also strengthens the capacity of a wide range of actors, such as national and local governments, civil society organizations, the private sector, service providers and rural communities. It also integrates EbA practices into revised NDCs, sectoral plans and national adaptation plans to better achieve national adaptation goals. The project ensures long-term impact in partner countries through, among other things, the development of innovative financial instruments and products, improved governance and knowledge sharing.	The project seeks to contribute to the safeguarding and restoration of areas of high conservation value, the enhancement of biodiversity in agricultural production systems and the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services, such as water and soil fertility. It seeks to generate significant and sustainable results at the landscape, subnational and national levels in each country, as well as to generate relevant experience and knowledge at the regional level. This is especially important as these actions can generate partnerships with the project.	EBA-LAC's work strengthens the resilience of vulnerable communities and ecosystems. However, the EBA-LAC project is implemented in a specific area of the country and its work is limited to the farm level. Therefore, there is no duplication of the present proposal with EBA-LAC.	**2020-2025**
Local Finance for Climate Adaptation (FILACC)	Initiative driven by EUROCLIMA, MINAE and Expertise France supporting five local projects with naturebased adaptation solutions and community management.	The funded initiatives have contributed significantly to climate change adaptation in different regions of the country. These actions included measures for better water resource management, the restoration of terrestrial ecosystems and marine corals, and the resilience of ecosystems and local communities.	The project strengthens local capacities, promotes EbA solutions and community financing. However, there is no duplication with any component of the proposal. However, collaboration will be sought with the actions that have been developed and related stakeholders.	**2024-2025**

Relevant Project/program	Project/Program Description	Results relevant to this program	Complementary and non-duplicative potential	Timeline
TRANSFORMA-INNOVA: Low carbon and climate resilient transformational pathways in Costa Rica. Climate-smart agriculture and value chains.	The main goal of the TRANSFORMA-INNOVA program is to get stakeholders from relevant sectors to shift their agricultural and blue production systems towards sustainable, biodiverse, low-carbon and climate-resilient value chains, in a way that contributes to Costa Rica's NDCs and its National Decarbonization Plan. This goal will be achieved through 5 components: Governance, Agricultural, Coastal Marine, Climate Finance and Capacity-Building. Transforma Innova is a multidonor program co-financed by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Climate Protection (BMWK), the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) through its International Climate Initiative IKI and the European Union.	One of the components of the program is capacity building, in which the knowledge and experiences generated by the program are expected to be widely disseminated. From the technical and methodological information generated from the implementation of sustainable agricultural and marine practices, content will be created to broaden and improve knowledge and awareness of actions to reduce carbon emissions. Upon completion, three equitable communities of practice are expected to be in place: one with active participation of women and/or vulnerable minorities, in which actors related to the agricultural and blue value chain exchange information and learn together.	Transforma Innova: Low-carbon and climate-resilient transformational pathways in Costa Rica focuses on the agricultural sector, while the project proposal focuses on communities, so there is no risk of duplication. Complementarity is possible by taking advantage of the identification of vulnerable groups and taking those same groups into consideration for the proposed project activities.	**2022-2026**
Gender equity and youth program	The Program focuses its actions on contributing to the reduction of structural gaps through technical capacity building, technical and political forums, support in the generation of public policies, joint work with strategic alliances, digital platforms, aimed at working with an intersectional gender approach and the empowerment of youth and rural women, strengthening and generating	The Gender Equity and Youth Program seeks to improve the conditions for sustainable agriculture and the quality of life of communities through an intersectional gender and intergenerational approach that recognizes gaps and promotes substantive equality.	The Gender Equity and Youth Program is oriented towards the agricultural sector; its focus is not on adaptation to climate change, although it recognizes that women and youth play a fundamental role in the management of natural resources, as well as in other productive activities and in the community. This positions them as strategic agents in climate adaptation and mitigation measures. There is no risk of duplication.	**2023-2025**

Relevant Project/program	Project/Program Description	Results relevant to this program	Complementary and non-duplicative potential	Timeline
	networks and promoting their participation in decision making spaces in agrifood systems.			
Impact of climate change on the country's hydroelectric production and adaptation measures.	Promoted by the IDB, the objective of this technical cooperation is to strengthen Costa Rica's capacity to address the vulnerability of hydroelectric generation to climate change, identifying its impact on the country's main hydrological basins through state-of-the-art technologies for the development of hydrological and climate models to estimate changes in hydroelectric generation and develop adaptation proposals.	The project is expected to provide a study with future scenarios of water resource availability, its impact on electricity generation in the country's main hydrographic basins (San Carlos, Sarapiquí, Reventazón, Pirrís, Grande de Tárcoles, Térraba), and the respective design of a package of adaptation measures to manage the vulnerability of the electricity infrastructure to the effects of climate change.	There is no risk of duplication; on the contrary, the studies generated can function as an input for any adaptation action to be carried out in the territories located in those same basins.	**2024-2027**
Cantonal Road Network II Program	Promoted by the IDB, the general objective of the program is to contribute to the improvement of productivity and poverty reduction in Costa Rica (CR), facilitating the integration of productive zones to consumption areas and the connection of the population to public and social services.	It is expected to improve the quality of the cantonal road network through: (i) rehabilitation and maintenance interventions incorporating adaptations to Climate Change (CC), resulting in reduced travel time and operating costs; and (ii) strengthening the institutions responsible for managing the road network.	The Cantonal Road Network Program focuses on infrastructure for mobility, integrating the vision of climate change adaptation. There is no risk of duplication because the focus is neither ecosystem-based adaptation nor community-based adaptation	**2018 onwards**

G. If applicable, describe the learning and knowledge management component to capture and disseminate lessons learned and how this contributes to building and institutionalizing local capabilities. Provide details on managing traditional and/or indigenous knowledge, where relevant.

The project places strong emphasis on building and strengthening capacities among community actors, civil society, the private sector, local governments, and others. Component 1 focuses on supporting local actors in acquiring the knowledge needed to make their locally led adaptation projects more effective and impactful. Component 3, in turn, centers on learning and exchange among diverse actors and communities, with the aim of creating an active and expanding knowledge community.

Lessons learned and knowledge management within the project will be addressed through Component 3: Knowledge Exchange, Systematization, and Replicability. This component plays a fundamental role in ensuring that the knowledge and insights gained are disseminated and can be replicated in other contexts and future adaptation initiatives. Component 3 presents the following key features related to information and learning management:

- **Community Exchange:** Component 3 includes the organization of technical tours and field visits to sites where adaptation actions under Component 2 have been implemented, as well as dialogue sessions between communities. These spaces foster horizontal exchange, grounded in real-world experiences and challenges. They also enable recognition of the environmental, social, and economic particularities of each site, enriching future adaptation ideas and actions, promoting scalability, and providing valuable feedback to ensure the sustainability of previously implemented measures.

- **Open Dissemination Mechanisms:** Component 3 includes the creation of open-access mechanisms for sharing adaptation experiences. Among these, the development of a web-based repository stands out, designed to compile information on implemented actions and ancestral knowledge related to climate change adaptation, along with the production of audiovisual materials. These mechanisms ensure equitable access to information and knowledge, removing technical and geographic barriers, and strengthening the role of communities in generating and disseminating knowledge.
  The proposal also includes the organization of a dissemination fair featuring recreated adaptation actions, which facilitates the transfer of knowledge and experiences to various stakeholders (local governments, NGOs, private sector, community groups, etc.), and encourages the implementation of similar initiatives.
  These mechanisms also serve as seeds for dissemination, promoting the replicability of successful experiences in other territorial contexts, while functioning as tools for accountability.

- **Institutionalization and Sustainability of Knowledge:** Component 3 includes the creation of a territorial adaptation network, which consolidates an organizational structure that extends beyond the lifespan of the project. This network strengthens connections among diverse social and community actors, while facilitating participation and influence in the development and revision of public policies on adaptation and territorial planning, bringing decision-making to the lowest appropriate level.

H. Describe the consultative process, including the list of stakeholders consulted, undertaken during project preparation, with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund. Provide details on how the consultative process considered and addressed gender-based, economic and other inequalities and encouraged vulnerable and marginalized individuals to meaningfully participate in and lead adaptation decisions.

For the development of this project concept, Fundecooperación, the Directorate of Climate Change, and the National Designated Authority (MINAE) have worked in close collaboration—through both in-person and virtual sessions—with participation from the Directorate of Climate Change and the National Meteorological Institute**.** These sessions gathered key information on the support that can be provided through the projects and generated essential inputs for their formulation. Additionally, a validation of previous objectives and deliverables was conducted. A thorough review of government policies and plans, as well as institutional responsibilities supporting the implementation of the proposed actions, confirmed that the initiative genuinely contributes to the country's climate adaptation and ambition.

The project proposal is primarily focused on implementing adaptation actions outlined in the PAACs, which already incorporate consultation processes and integrate gender equity and social inclusion approaches. Nevertheless, Component 1 includes the creation of participatory community spaces that ensure the active representation of vulnerable groups and strengthen informed, transparent, and equitable decision-making. Mechanisms for monitoring the implemented actions will also be incorporated, ensuring that decisions are made at the lowest appropriate level, in accordance with the principle of decentralization.

Costa Rica has a Guide for Climate Change Adaptation Planning at the Cantonal Level, which provides direction to local governments for reducing climate vulnerability through the identification, prioritization, and integration of adaptation measures. As part of Stage 4 of the methodology, the Guide recommends the participatory and transparent validation and socialization of the Local Climate Adaptation Action Plan. The PAACs of the 20 cantons that have adopted this instrument include, in Annex 3, a summary of the participatory process carried out to validate the plan, further supporting the proposal's intention to implement the actions outlined in these plans.

To develop the full proposal, a participatory consultation process will be conducted with key stakeholders, gathering information on their interests and concerns to inform the proposal's design. This consultation will be carried out by the principles of the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy. Stakeholders expected to be consulted include: Local Governments with a PAAC, non-governmental organizations, the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG), Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MOPT), Ministry of Health (MINSA), Institute for Rural Development (INDER), National Commission for Risk Prevention and Emergency Response (CNE), National Meteorological Institute (IMN), and the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy (MIDEPLAN), among other institutions deemed relevant based on the territorial approach.

I. Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.

This proposal is centered on the implementation of adaptation actions by community actors, as outlined in the Climate Adaptation Action Plans (PAACs) of the cantons that have adopted these instruments (Component 2). It is important to note that the actions included in these plans are strategic for each territory and have been developed through collaboration between state and non-state actors. The adaptation measures to be implemented through the PAACs consist of actions, practices,

technologies, and services deemed necessary to prevent or reduce the damages and losses caused by climate change impacts on populations, livelihoods, ecosystems, watersheds, territories, productive systems, infrastructure, goods, and services. These actions also aim to seize existing opportunities in adaptation and risk management, following an inclusive approach that incorporates gender and cultural diversity.

The actions proposed by community actors for each canton are based on the local vision and the impact chains identified for each site, and are aligned with the strategic axes and objectives of each PAAC. These actions address threats such as floods, droughts, and heatwaves, which affect various areas of intervention, including population, urban habitat, primary sector, infrastructure, public facilities, and protected areas.

Component 1 will focus on strengthening capacities for the design and development of locally led adaptation projects to be implemented under Component 2. These activities will ensure that the projects consider the full cost of adaptation required to be effective, successful, and sustainable over time.

The project envisions financing at least one adaptation action per canton (across the 20 cantons with PAACs), covering actions categorized across low to high-cost ranges. It is important to highlight that Components 1 and 3 are also supported by the PAACs, which emphasize access to information and environmental education, particularly related to climate change adaptation, as key priorities.

In this way, the proposed financing not only supports the implementation of concrete adaptation measures but also ensures their sustainability, scalability, and replicability, in alignment with existing cantonal planning and Costa Rica's national commitments to climate resilience.

J. Describe how the sustainability of the project/programme outcomes has been taken into account when designing the project / programme. In particular, describe how the project/programme supports long-term development of local governance processes, and improves the capacity of local institutions (including through simpler access modalities), and how it can ensure that communities can effectively implement adaptation actions, facilitate and manage adaptation initiatives over the long term without being dependent on project-based donor funding.

Since 2018, Costa Rica has had a National Climate Change Adaptation Policy (2018–2030) and its first Action Plan—the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for Climate Change (2022–2026). The NAP serves as a key instrument for fulfilling the country's adaptation-related goals and priorities. This project has therefore been developed in close alignment with the NAP to ensure its sustainability, and it also functions as a mechanism to facilitate the implementation of adaptation actions identified in both the NAP and the various PAACs (Cantonal Climate Adaptation Action Plans). Its effectiveness is further strengthened by being locally led by diverse community actors.

Component 1: Community Participation and Capacity Strengthening helps consolidate the social and organizational foundation necessary for long-term climate adaptation. The project strengthens local governance and empowers community actors to lead their own adaptation initiatives, without relying on external technical assistance, while ensuring they possess sound technical knowledge on adaptation. This guarantees that adaptation solutions are context-specific, culturally appropriate, and socially accepted. By establishing local adaptation committees, the project creates a platform that can support local governments in planning processes and the development of adaptation instruments, particularly as PAACs (Cantonal Climate Adaptation Action Plans) approach the end of their validity period and require updating. Mapping of funding sources is conducted to enable communities and groups to access resources for implementing adaptation actions independently of the project's

existence. This approach enhances community resilience and lays the groundwork for decentralized and sustainable climate governance.

Component 2: Implementation of Adaptation Projects is fully focused on executing the adaptation measures outlined in the PAACs, offering a direct financing modality and providing support for municipalities to achieve their goals and effectively implement the actions planned for the 2022–2030 period. Since these measures are approved within a formal governance framework, their implementation does not rely solely on the duration of the project; rather, they are established as institutional commitments, ensuring long-term continuity.

Component 3: Knowledge Exchange, Systematization, and Replicability play a central role in the project by making the implemented adaptation actions visible. The creation of a platform with maps that display adaptation actions and their specific characteristics by locality enables these actions to be replicated beyond the project's lifespan. It also ensures that any interested party, whether directly involved in the project or not, has open access to the information. This consolidates a permanent consultation tool for future planning, reinforcing continuous learning and the scalability of the adaptation measures implemented through the project.

K. Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project / programme.

The proposed project is designed to comply with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy, incorporating the evaluation and monitoring of potential risks to ensure full compliance. In Costa Rica, national social and environmental legislation already addresses environmental protection, human rights, gender equality, and equitable access to resources. Nevertheless, potential risks will be monitored to guarantee alignment with these policies.

During the full proposal development phase, a deeper analysis will be conducted to ensure that no significant risks exist—or that, if they do, they are properly mitigated. As a first step, a methodology developed by Fundecooperación will be applied to verify the presence of risks. This methodology will provide a preliminary assessment of environmental and social impacts and help identify any potential effects of project activities on people and the environment.

As part of project implementation, USP will be established under Component 2, which includes a competitive process to receive project proposals from local organizations or groups. These groups will first participate in a preparatory training process (Component 1) to support the formulation of locally led adaptation projects. As a requirement for participation, proposals must include a risk analysis aligned with the ESP. Monitoring will also be conducted throughout the implementation of these actions.

The project is classified as Category B, as it involves small-scale USPs that will undergo the described risk analysis methodology under the ESP+Gender framework. These subprojects will include preventive and mitigation measures in their planning and are expected to have minor, reversible, and easily mitigated impacts. The following table outlines the areas that will require deeper evaluation during the full proposal development.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Compliance with the Law		It is not expected that the proposed project will violate current national or international laws and regulations; on the contrary, it is expected to promote its compliance. **Identified Risk:** The project will include USP, which may lead to the proposed projects being subject to legislation not previously identified as applicable to this initiative. **Mitigation Action:** During the USP project proposal phase, the applicable legislation for implementation will be identified, and mitigation actions will be established in case of non-compliance. A legal firm will be hired to review and supplement the identified applicable legislation, as well as to recommend mitigation actions. During the implementation phase of the USPs, the same legal firm will be asked to conduct legal audits to ensure proper legal compliance.
Access and Equity		The project proposal has been designed to promote gender equity by encouraging community participation and the inclusion of vulnerable groups. It also supports the implementation of the PAACs, which incorporate gender equity and citizen participation as core principles. **Identified Risk:** The specific individuals and community groups who will participate in the training processes have not been identified yet, presenting a potential risk of not meeting this principle. **Mitigation Measures:** Opportunities will be identified and implemented to enhance the participation of women and disadvantaged individuals in program activities and decision-making processes. Selection criteria will be established to prioritize individuals who will benefit from these activities. Dedicated spaces will be created to promote active and inclusive participation.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups		The project proposal has been designed to promote the inclusion and participation of vulnerable groups. Furthermore, the implementation of the PAACs seeks to carry out actions that help mitigate the risks faced by these populations. **Identified Risk:** Vulnerable groups in each locality who could participate in project-related processes have not yet been identified, which poses a potential risk to upholding this principle. **Mitigation Measures:** As part of the full proposal development, a mapping of vulnerable groups across the target localities will be carried out. Based on this identification, a strategy will be implemented to foster their participation. Additionally, the involvement of vulnerable groups will be assessed during the USP (Unsolicited Proposals) process.
Human Rights		**Identified Risk:** The project will include USP, which poses a risk that proposed initiatives may not fully incorporate human rights considerations. **Mitigation Measures:** During the USP proposal phase, an assessment of human rights-related risks will be required, along with corresponding mitigation actions. Throughout the implementation of these proposals, monitoring mechanisms will be established to ensure compliance and address emerging risks

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		The project addresses the participation of vulnerable groups. In Costa Rica, women have been identified as part of these groups due to the potential impacts of climate change on their daily responsibilities. The proposal seeks to ensure the inclusion and participation of all vulnerable groups. **Potential Risk:** Challenges in achieving effective involvement of women in various components of the project. In addition, there is a risk that activities may not be scheduled in ways that accommodate their needs and daily responsibilities. **Mitigation Measures:** Gender experts will be engaged to ensure the needs of this group are adequately considered and to enhance actions that support their empowerment.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Core Labour Rights		The project will uphold national and international labor laws as stipulated by the International Labour Organization (ILO), along with relevant policies and Costa Rica's Labor Law. In this regard, the project will respect freedom of association and will not involve forced or compulsory labor. Costa Rica has a strong Labor Law framework, modernized through a reform in December 2015.Furthermore, children will not be employed in forced, economically exploitative, or hazardous work without prior training; nor in ways that interfere with their education or harm their physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development. **Potential Risk:** The project may require procurement from suppliers who are not in compliance with labor rights legislation. **Mitigation Measures:** For contractual service providers, compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy will be mandatory, as well as adherence to current labor laws. For non-contractual engagements, measures will be implemented to ensure labor law compliance, including registration with the CCSS (Costa Rica's Social Security Fund), possession of an occupational risk insurance policy, among other requirements. Fundecooperación's grievance mechanism will be used to report and address any violations.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Indigenous Peoples		Costa Rica recognizes 24 Indigenous territories and has an Indigenous Law that the project must respect. The proposal has been designed to promote the participation and inclusion of Indigenous groups. Additionally, the PAACs focus on community-based adaptation, emphasizing the importance of recognizing and incorporating the traditional knowledge of Indigenous peoples. **Potential Risk:** Difficulty in achieving meaningful involvement of the various Indigenous groups across the different project components. There is also a risk that the planned adaptation actions may not align with the specific realities or needs of Indigenous communities. **Mitigation Measures:** Implementation will involve cultural intermediaries and consultation processes to ensure ownership and validation of the actions by Indigenous populations. If needed, Indigenous language interpreters will be hired to facilitate communication and inclusion.
Involuntary Resettlement		No risks are anticipated in relation to this principle. However, due to the inclusion of USP, there is a risk that one of these projects may lead to involuntary resettlement. **Mitigation Measures:** During the development phase of USP projects, an assessment will be conducted to identify risks related to involuntary resettlement, followed by corresponding mitigation actions. Throughout implementation, continuous monitoring will be undertaken to ensure compliance and address any emerging concerns.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Protection of Natural Habitats		The adaptation actions implemented through the PAACs prioritize sustainability criteria and the application of nature-based solutions. By applicable Costa Rican legislation, the project must respect and ensure the conservation of protected areas. **Potential Risk:** The project includes USP that may originate from various sectors, increasing the likelihood that some proponents may lack knowledge of applicable legislation and the principles of the Environmental and Social Policy, such as the principle of Natural Habitat Protection. **Mitigation Measures:** As part of the admissibility requirements for USP projects, a review will ensure that no proposed activities are located within or near protected areas. Training processes will emphasize the importance and potential of Nature-Based Solutions as effective strategies for climate change adaptation.
Conservation of Biological Diversity		

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Climate Change		The project proposal is based on capacity building and the implementation of actions to support climate change adaptation. **Potential Risk:** The actions implemented may not effectively contribute to carbon emissions mitigation, potentially compromising the coherence with integrated climate resilience approaches. **Mitigation Measures:** From the project formulation stage, the proposed USP must be strictly aligned with the relevant Climate Change Adaptation Plans (PAAC), ensuring consistency with national and international targets. A multidisciplinary committee of experts in climate adaptation and mitigation will be established to review and validate each proposal. This committee will be responsible for verifying technical compliance with adaptation criteria and identifying co-benefits in mitigation. It will also suggest complementary measures or adjustments if proposals demonstrate weaknesses in emissions reduction or show excessive increases in emissions. The committee will ensure that USP initiatives do not result in maladaptation.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		The project aims to support climate change adaptation, and all actions carried out under its framework must be consistent with environmental conservation and pollution prevention. **Potential Risk:** There is a risk that the activities implemented under the project may generate waste and result in inefficient use of resources, including energy. **Mitigation Measures:** For on-site workshops and related events, waste reduction and proper management will be prioritized. A set of guidelines will be developed to prevent any form of pollution that could arise from these activities. For the USP to be implemented, the selection process will include the identification of environmental aspects and the proposal of mitigation measures. In addition, legal evaluations will be conducted to detect any unintended impacts that could lead to violations of environmental legislation.
Public Health		The proposal involves the implementation of on-site activities for capacity building, and no major health risks have been identified. **Potential Risk:** During in-person activities, there is a possibility of viral or other infectious outbreaks, which could temporarily affect technical staff or participating local stakeholders. **Mitigation Measures:** Hygiene protocols will be established for all in-person activities, tailored to the local context. These may include the use of face masks, availability of hand sanitizer, handwashing practices, and physical distancing where necessary.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment req. for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Physical and Cultural Heritage		No impacts have been identified on physical and cultural heritage in the project proposal. Many heritage areas in Costa Rica are protected under various international conventions ratified by the country, such as the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. In light of this, the project aims to avoid implementing actions in such territories, particularly in areas already protected by law. The project should also pay special attention to proposals involving Indigenous territories. **Potential Risk:** Since USP will be included and the territories are not fully defined yet, there is a risk that project activities could affect cultural heritage during implementation. **Mitigation Measures:** Prior to selecting the winning USP proposals, the project will carry out a mapping exercise to identify areas with cultural heritage presence. Exclusion criteria will be applied to prevent interventions in zones with high patrimonial value or significant cultural presence.
Lands and Soil Conservation		No risks have been identified in relation to land and soil conservation. The proposed project prioritizes the implementation of adaptation measures outlined in the PAACs, which are focused on applying nature-based solutions. **Potential Risks:** The inclusion of USP means that some proposed actions could potentially lead to deforestation or soil degradation. **Mitigation Measures:** Before the implementation of selected USP projects, a legal evaluation will be conducted to identify any non-compliance with the Land Use and Soil Conservation Law. Additionally, ongoing monitoring will be carried out to prevent any adverse impacts.

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government[2]

Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:

Carlos Isaac Perez Mejía *ViceMinister of Strategic Management* *Ministry of Environment and Energy, MINAE*	Date*: (Month, day, year)* July 11th, 2025

B. Implementing Entity certification

Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address.

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Marianella Feoli Peña *Name & Signature* Implementing Entity Coordinator	
Date: July 10th, 2025	Tel. and email: +506 2225 4507
Project Contact Person: Marianella Feoli Peña	
Tel. And Email: +506 2225 4507, mfeoli@fundecooperacion.org	

[2] Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

MINISTERIO DE AMBIENTE Y ENERGÍA | GOBIERNO DE COSTA RICA | VICEMINISTERIO DE GESTIÓN ESTRATÉGICA

July 11th, 2025
DVGE-075-2025

Letter of Endorsement by Government
Ministry of Environment and Energy

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

Subject: Endorsement for the project "Grass-roots of Adaptation – Strengthening community climate resilience through locally led adaptation in Costa Rica"

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Costa Rica, I confirm that the above national grant 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 local communities in Costa Rica.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund and its Project Formulation Grant. If approved, the project will be implemented by Fundecooperacion para el Desarrollo Sostenible and executed by several executing entities.

Sincerely,

Carlos Isaac Pérez Mejía
Viceministro de Gestión Estratégica

cc: Archivo / Consecutivo

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