AFB/PPRC.36/38
7 October 2025

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty sixth Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 9-12 October 2025

Agenda Item 9

PROPOSAL FOR COSTA RICA

Background

1. The Operational Policies and Guidelines (OPG) for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), adopted by the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), state in paragraph 45 that regular adaptation project and programme proposals, i.e. those that request funding exceeding US$ 1 million, would undergo either a one-step, or a two-step approval process. In case of the one-step process, the proponent would directly submit a fully-developed project proposal. In the two-step process, the proponent would first submit a brief project concept, which would be reviewed by the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and would have to receive the endorsement of the Board. In the second step, the fully-developed project/programme document would be reviewed by the PPRC, and would ultimately require the Board's approval.

2. The Templates approved by the Board (Annex 5 of the OPG, as amended in March 2016) do not include a separate template for project and programme concepts but provide that these are to be submitted using the project and programme proposal template. The section on Adaptation Fund Project Review Criteria states:

> *For regular projects using the two-step approval process, only the first four criteria will be applied when reviewing the 1st step for regular project concept. In addition, the information provided in the 1st step approval process with respect to the review criteria for the regular project concept could be less detailed than the information in the request for approval template submitted at the 2nd step approval process. Furthermore, a final project document is required for regular projects for the 2nd step approval, in addition to the approval template.*

3. The first four criteria mentioned above are:
   (i) Country Eligibility,
   (ii) Project Eligibility,
   (iii) Resource Availability, and
   (iv) Eligibility of NIE/MIE.

4. The fifth criterion, applied when reviewing a fully-developed project document, is:
   (v) Implementation Arrangements.

5. It is worth noting that at the twenty-second Board meeting, the Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) of the Fund was approved and at the twenty-seventh Board meeting, the Gender Policy (GP) of the Fund was also approved. Consequently, compliance with both the ESP and the GP has been included in the review criteria both for concept documents and fully-developed project documents. The proposal template was revised as well, to include sections requesting demonstration of compliance of the project/programme with the ESP and the GP.

6. At its seventeenth meeting, the Board decided (Decision B.17/7) to approve "Instructions for preparing a request for project or programme funding from the Adaptation Fund", contained in the Annex to document AFB/PPRC.8/4, which further outlines applicable review criteria for both

concepts and fully-developed proposals. The latest version of this document was launched in conjunction with the revision of the Operational Policies and Guidelines in November 2013.

7. Based on the Board Decision B.9/2, the first call for project and programme proposals was issued and an invitation letter to eligible Parties to submit project and programme proposals to the Fund was sent out on April 8, 2010.

8. The following fully-developed project document titled “Rise Up Climate: Empowering Communities Through Learning and Innovation in Costa Rica” was submitted for Costa Rica by the Fundecooperacion para el Desarrollo Sostenible (Fundecooperacion), which is a National Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.

9. This is the first submission of the fully-developed project proposal using the one-step submission process.

10. The submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the forty-fifth Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal, assigned it the diary number AFRDG00082, and completed a review sheet.

11. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with Fundecooperacion and offered it the opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the PPRC.

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

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT PROPOSAL REVIEW: BUNDLED SMALL INNOVATION AND LEARNING GRANTS

Country/Region: Costa Rica
Project Title: Rise Up Climate: Empowering Communities Through Learning and Innovation in Costa Rica
Thematic Focal Area: Agriculture
Implementing Entity: Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible
Executing Entity/ies Dirección de Cambio Climático, MINAE
AF Project ID: AFRDG00082
Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): 750,000
Reviewer and contact person: Cristina Dengel, cdengel@adaptation-fund.org; Alessandra De Leo, alessandradeleo@adaptation-fund.org
Co-reviewer(s): Alyssa Maria Gomes, agomes3@adaptation-fund.org
IE Contact Person: Marianella Feoli, mfeoli@fundecooperacion.org

Secretariat's Overall Comment	The proposed learning and innovation grant for Costa Rica aims to strengthen adaptive capacity in Costa Rica by promoting accessible and inclusive learning spaces and developing innovative mechanisms for climate knowledge dissemination, with a focus on food systems, agricultural production and water management. The project proposal includes two main components: **Component 1**. Promote accessible and inclusive learning spaces through the establishment of Community Innovation and Climate Empowerment Promoter Networks and the development of national mechanisms for climate data and knowledge dissemination. (US$ 296,000). **Component 2**. Foster innovation in climate knowledge dissemination through Climate Innovation Labs to co-create and prototype solutions and Knowledge Exchange Fairs to showcase and scale promising mechanisms. (US$ 347,000). **Requested financing overview** Component 1. Learning US$ 296,000 Component 2. Innovation US$ 347,000

	Project Execution Cost US$ 48,350 Implementing Fee US$ 58,650 Financing Requested : US$ 750,000 **The first technical review** raises questions about long-term sustainability of proposed activities and their long-term impact. It also includes concerns about the lack of a monitoring and evaluation framework for proposed knowledge activities and about ensuring meaningful participation of vulnerable communities in planned activities. Furthermore, proposal needs to include a clear and budgeted process for the proposed Unspecified Small Projects (USPs) to prove these comply with the AF ESP and to further elaborate on the pathways for scaling up proposed activities. The **second technical review** finds that most clarification requests (CRs) and correction action requests (CARs) have been properly addressed in the updated proposal, including concerns related to sustainability of proposed tangible products and the monitoring and evaluation of proposed USPs and budget related to them.
Date:	12 September 2025

Review Criteria	**Questions**	**Comments First Round [August 2025]**	**1st Technical Review (Aug 25, 2025)**	**2nd Technical Review (Sep 9, 2025)**
Country Eligibility	Is the beneficiary country a developing country Party to the Paris Agreement and/or Kyoto Protocol?	**Yes.**		
Project Eligibility	1. Has the government Designated Authority for the	**Yes.**		

	Adaptation Fund endorsed the project?	The DA letter signed is attached in the Annex. The letter was signed on July 11th, 2025.		
	2. Does the project support concrete adaptation actions to assist the country in addressing adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?[1]	**Yes**, partially. The project's contribution to concrete adaptation action is indirect and may be more accurately described as enabling conditions for resilience rather than the delivery of resilience outcomes themselves. **However**, while the project contributes to adaptive capacity by strengthening knowledge systems, training local promoters, and piloting innovative dissemination mechanisms, the proposed actions remain largely process-oriented rather than direct, field-level adaptation interventions. **CR1** Please articulate better how knowledge-sharing activities will lead to tangible, on-the-ground	**R/CR1:** Explanation added at the end of part 1, page 4 **please note that since "Project Components and Financing" table in page 6 was (by mistake) in Spanish, it was translated into English. No changes in contents.	**CR1 Cleared** As per further information provided on pg. 4 of revised proposal Noted on "Project components and financing"

[1] A concrete adaptation project is defined as a set of activities aimed at addressing the adverse impacts of and risks posed by climate change. The activities shall aim at producing visible and tangible results on the ground by reducing vulnerability and increasing the adaptive capacity of human and natural systems to respond to the impacts of climate change, including climate variability. Adaptation projects/programmes can be implemented at the community, national, regional and transboundary level. Projects/programmes concern activities with a specific objective(s) and concrete outcome(s) and output(s) that are measurable, monitorable, and verifiable. (Source: Operational Policies and Guidelines, amended October 2017).

		changes in food systems, water management and community While the innovation component leads to concrete actions (the pilots), the "knowledge part" (Component 1) of the proposal also needs to be assessed for its own level of concreteness and long-term viability. **The proposal describes several tangible outputs for the knowledge component, but some aspects of their long-term sustainability are not fully clear.** The knowledge part of the proposal (Component 1) is designed to produce tangible outputs that build adaptive capacity. These include: • The project plans to train a specific number of "Climate Promoters," which is a concrete, measurable output. These are trained individuals who become		

		tangible assets for their communities. • The development of an "online platform with updated, high-quality… data" is a very concrete output. This platform will serve as a physical asset (a digital infrastructure) for the project. • The creation of "Community Innovation and Climate Empowerment Promoter Networks" is a measurable output (e.g., number of networks, number of members). These networks represent a concrete organizational structure for knowledge exchange. **What's Missing is the planning around long-term sustainability** While the project clearly defines the outputs of its knowledge component, it is less explicit on how the knowledge products and networks will be sustained and	**R/CAR1:** -Platform host indicated in part 2.A, page 11 -sustainability plan for promotors included in 2A, page 9 and 10 - monitoring improved in part 3C, with 2 additional indicators that monitor adaptation adoption and/or behavioural change: "% of promoters who report applying and training others on at least one specific adaptation practice (e.g., soil conservation, water harvesting) within 6 months of training. # of local action plans developed or modified by communities that integrate climate risk and proposed solutions from the networks."	**CAR2 Cleared** The revised text indicated the host for the online platform to be MINAE who will commit budget after 3 yrs The revised text also includes a detailed sustainability plan for promoter networks The revised proposal also includes additional measurable indicators of knowledge adoption at community level, such as % of promoters who apply training and number of actions plans developed or modified at community level

		their long-term impact on behavior will be measured after the grant ends. - The proposal mentions the "platform maintenance and sustainability" budget, but it doesn't specify who will take over the hosting and content management of the platform after the project's completion in July 2029. Without a clear institutional owner, this concrete output risks becoming obsolete. - The results framework for Component 1 focuses on outputs (number of networks, number of platform users). It doesn't explicitly detail how it will measure the outcome of knowledge transfer, that is, whether the knowledge is actually being applied on the ground to change practices. For instance, are farmers using the		

		platform's information to select new crops? Are promoters successfully influencing community decisions? A stronger monitoring plan would track the adoption of practices as a result of the knowledge transfer. **CAR1:** The proposal should provide a clear and detailed plan for the long-term sustainability of the knowledge products and networks, including a more robust monitoring and evaluation framework to measure the adoption and impact of knowledge on the ground. To address this, please consider the following: - Identify a long-term host institution for the online platform to ensure its maintenance and accessibility beyond the project's life. - Define a sustainability plan for the promoter networks, outlining how		

		they will continue to function without direct project funding. - Refine the monitoring plan to include specific, measurable indicators of knowledge adoption and behavioral change at the community level, not just the creation of knowledge products.		
	3. Does the project engage, empower and/or benefit the most vulnerable communities and social groups?	**Yes,** partially. The project proposal explicitly targets vulnerable groups, including rural women, youth, indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities, through preferential selection criteria, tailored training, and inclusive participation mechanisms. **However**, while the intention is clear, the mechanisms for ensuring meaningful and sustained participation are not fully elaborated. **CR2** Please elaborate further how the 50% target of women leadership will be enforced.	**R/CR2:** Additions are included in part 2.B.	**CR2 Cleared** The revised text further elaborated on the strategy to ensure meaningful participation of women and indigenous participation in proposed activities and how this will enforced.

		Similarly, how indigenous participation will be guaranteed.		
	4. Does the project advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls?	**Yes**. The proposal integrates gender equality as a cross-cutting principle. It commits to at least 50% women's participation and leadership in Climate Promoter Networks, childcare-supported training schedules, and the integration of gender considerations into all stages of project design and implementation.		
	5. Does the project / programme provide an overview of environmental and social impacts / risks identified, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy of the Fund?	**Needs corrective action** The inclusion of Unspecified Small Projects (USPs)—the piloting of community-led initiatives—requires the proposal to adhere to specific provisions within the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP). While the proposal's initial risk assessment classifies the project as Category C, this classification applies to the overall project design, which is largely process-	**R/CAR2:** Improvements made to part 2F. Also budget was included in 3E.	**CAR2 Cleared** The revised proposal includes more details on USPs and risk screening process applied to them in section 3F on pg. 18. It also provides a "negative list" of ineligible activities which will be explained in the call for small grants (pg. 19) and will be ineligible for funding. Explicit budget related to M&E included in the table in part 3E, as required.

		oriented (workshops, labs, and knowledge-sharing). However, the small, on-the-ground pilot projects, as their exact nature is not yet known, are considered USPs and must undergo their own environmental and social review during project implementation. **ESP Screening and Management Process** Even though the specific pilots are not known at the time of submission, the proposal must include a clear, budgeted process to ensure each pilot is screened for risks before it can receive funding. This process should include: **Risk Identification:** For each proposed pilot, the National Implementing Entity (NIE), Fundecooperación, must identify and assess potential environmental and social risks, following all 15 ESP principles. Impact Assessment: If any risks are identified, the NIE must		

		conduct a proportionate impact assessment and develop a clear plan to prevent, mitigate, or manage any potential negative impacts. **Eligibility Restrictions**: To simplify the process and reduce risk, the project should establish clear eligibility criteria for the pilots. For example, a "negative list" of activities that would be automatically ineligible for funding (e.g., those involving involuntary resettlement, significant habitat destruction, or the use of harmful substances). This is a best practice to ensure compliance and streamline the process. **Budgetary and Institutional Provisions** The proposal's current budget allocates $30,000 for seed funding. While this is a good start, it's crucial that the project also allocates resources for the ESP compliance process itself. This would include:		

		Technical Expertise: The project should explicitly mention that it will have a qualified person or team responsible for conducting the environmental and social screening and management for each pilot. **Grievance Mechanism:** The proposal should confirm that a transparent and accessible grievance mechanism is in place for affected communities to raise concerns about the pilots. **Monitoring and Reporting:** The project's monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework must include specific indicators to track ESP compliance for each pilot. This would be reported in the annual Project Performance Reports (PPRs) to the Adaptation Fund. While the "Rise Up Climate" proposal currently provides a general commitment to ESP compliance, the next step would be to explicitly detail the ESP		

		management system for the USPs to ensure full compliance with the Adaptation Fund's policy. **CAR2:** The project must provide a clear and budgeted process for ensuring that the Unspecified Small Projects (USPs) comply with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy (GP) during implementation. The project's current ESP assessment is based on its primary activities (workshops, labs, and knowledge-sharing), which are classified as low risk. However, the proposal acknowledges that it will include small, community-led pilot projects for which the specific activities and locations are not yet known. As these pilots represent tangible, on-the-ground interventions, they must be rigorously screened for environmental and social risks as per the Adaptation Fund's policies on USPs.		

		To address this, the proposal must be revised to include: • A dedicated ESP/GP screening process for each of the 10 pilots. This process should detail how potential risks will be identified, assessed, and managed before any funding is disbursed for a pilot. • A "negative list" of activities that would be ineligible for funding (e.g., those requiring land acquisition, causing significant habitat destruction, or involving harmful materials). • An explicit budget allocation within the Project Execution Cost for the personnel and resources required to conduct these screenings, impact assessments, and monitoring.		

		• A clear description of the monitoring and reporting mechanism for these pilots, ensuring that their ESP/GP compliance is tracked and reported annually to the Adaptation Fund.		
Implementation Arrangements	1. Is the project submitted through a National Implementing Entity accredited by the Board?	**Yes**. The proposal is submitted through *Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible*, which is an accredited NIE of AF.		
	2. Does the requested project funding fall within the US$ 750,000 ceiling established by the Board?	**Yes**.		
	3. Is the Implementing Entity Management Fee[2] at or below 8.5 per cent of the total project budget before the fee?	**Yes**. The Implementing Entity fee is US$ 58,650. Relative to the total project cost before the fee (US$ 691,350), this represents		

[2] The implementing entity fee is the fee requested by implementing entities for project cycle management services including project supervision. The fee covers: Corporate activities fees related to engagement with donor (policy support, portfolio management, reporting, outreach and knowledge sharing) and Project cycle management fees (Project preparation and management oversight including financial management and quality insurance, Implementation reports supervision, and Project completion and evaluation oversight).

		approximately 8.48%, which is below the 8.5% ceiling.		
	4. Is the Execution Costs[3] at or below 9.5 per cent of the of the total project costs[4]?	**Yes**. Execution costs are US$ 48,350. Relative to the total project costs (US$ 691,350), this represents approximately 7%, which is within the 9.5% ceiling.		
	5. Is the timeframe for the proposed activities adequate?	**Yes**. Three years is a reasonable timeline.		
	6. Is a summary breakdown of the budget for the proposed activities included? Is the proposed budget adequate and reasonable?	The budget is broadly reasonable but would benefit from clearer justification of cost allocations and a clearer breakdown.		
INNOVATION				
Encouraging and accelerating innovation	Does the project/programme encourage or accelerate development of	**Yes. However, the document does not include page number. Please number the pages.**	**R/** page numbers included	**Cleared,** page numbers included

[3] The project execution cost or project management costs, includes the main items supported by the Adaptation Fund for project management including consultant services, travel and office facilities, etc. covering the direct costs for administration of the day-to day activities of projects. Specific costs include: Staffing costs, and project related activity expenditures (Monitoring and evaluation costs; Costs related to drafting progress reports and financial reports; Consultation with project stakeholders (meetings, workshops); Communication, Travel).

[4] The total project/programme cost is the cost of all project activities/components and the project execution costs.

	innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies?	**The innovation rationale is clear:** the existing knowledge gap can only be overcome through new and improved methods of knowledge co-creation and dissemination. The project's core hypothesis is that if learning spaces are inclusive and knowledge mechanisms are innovative, communities will be better equipped for climate action. **Describes Innovation Process:** The proposal describes how its innovation process will generate an evidence base. The Climate Innovation Labs and subsequent piloting will serve as the testing ground for new approaches. The project will then use the National Data Platform and Knowledge Exchange Fairs to document the results, showcase successful interventions, and gather feedback on their effectiveness. This process transforms community-level practices into a measurable evidence base for wider replication.		

		The proposal encourages and accelerates innovative adaptation by focusing on the creation, testing, and diffusion of new, contextually developed solutions. It presents a logical explanation of its approach, which fundamentally alters the dynamics of innovation by empowering local communities to become the drivers of change. The proposal explicitly addresses this in Section C, stating that it will "foster a culture of innovation at the grassroots level by providing resources and support for local communities to develop and implement their own climate solutions." The Climate Innovation Labs (Component 2) are the central hub for co-creation, where communities' needs are translated into tangible prototypes. A clear path to piloting these ideas is presented through a budget of $30,000 for		

		seed funding, turning ideas into concrete, tested interventions.		
Generating evidence base	Does the project/programme help generate evidence base of effective, efficient adaptation practices, products or technologies generated, as a basis for potential scaling up?	**Yes.** The project effectively outlines how it will generate a robust evidence base. The proposal begins with a clear problem statement in Project Background and Context, identifying a significant "knowledge gap" that prevents effective climate action. The innovation process is designed to overcome this by generating and documenting evidence. The National Data Platform (Output 1.2) will serve as a central repository for collecting and sharing "successful adaptation projects that can be replicated." The Knowledge Exchange Fairs (Output 2.2) will provide a platform for showcasing and gathering feedback on the tangible outputs, ensuring that qualitative		

		and quantitative data on their effectiveness is collected.		
Enhance learning and encourage scalability	Does the project have a potential for maximizing impact through scaling up of AF funded projects and serve as a knowledge broker that supports early interventions based on lessons learned?	**Yes.** The project has a strong potential for maximizing its impact through scaling and serves as an effective knowledge broker. The proposal explicitly mentions building on the lessons learned from prior Adaptation Fund projects, such as Adapta2+ (Section A). The Community Promoter Networks (Output 1.1) act as local knowledge brokers, transferring expertise between communities. This is complemented by the National Data Platform, which serves as a vertical knowledge broker, making community-level innovations accessible to national policymakers. The project's "continuous innovation cycle" (Section E2) provides a clear pathway for others to replicate its successful		

		processes, further encouraging scalability.		
LEARNING				
Adequacy of learning support	Are the proposed activities to support learning adequate? Do they reflect knowledge gaps and learning needs identified by users?	**Yes**. The activities directly address knowledge gaps identified in the recent study *Brechas de Conocimiento en Adaptación al Cambio Climático* such as the lack of accessible, user-friendly, and locally relevant climate information. The design of peer-to-peer learning activities through Community Climate Promoter Networks, Innovation Labs, and a National Data Platform ensures that learning is demand-driven and reflects users' needs at community, institutional, and national levels.		
Alignment with best practices	Do they build on established "best practices" for project/programme learning? Are they based on shared resources and knowledge?	**Yes**. The proposed activities incorporate best practices such as farmer-to-farmer learning, participatory train-the- trainer models, co-creation workshops, and digital platforms for knowledge sharing. It builds on lessons from prior Adaptation	**R/CR3** The hosting of the platform is DCC/Minae. Clarified in part 2.A.	**CR3 Cleared** The hosting of the platform clarified as per the above

		Fund projects in Costa Rica (Adapta2+ and its scaling-up phase) and aligns with global best practices in community-based adaptation, citizen science, and inclusive learning platforms. **CR3** Kindly indicate hat the hosting institution of the digital platform will be.		
Integration of lessons learned	Does the project harness lessons learned and knowledge that enable integrating them in scaling up approaches?	**Yes**, partially. The proposal explicitly seeks to consolidate and scale lessons from previous initiatives by institutionalizing community-driven knowledge transfer mechanisms, embedding outputs in the Directorate of Climate Change (MINAE), and aligning with Costa Rica's NDC and NAP. **However**, the scaling pathway, beyond training and dissemination, is not clearly articulated and relies on short-term activities like fairs and seed grants. **CR4** Please further elaborate on the pathways to scale-up of proposed learning activities	**R/CR4** This is clarified in: - Sustainability pathway for Local Networks (related to answer to CAR1) - Additions to part 2.E	**CR4 Cleared** As per clarification offered on pg. 11 (part (2E)

Local stakeholder expertise	Do they include expertise and knowledge of local stakeholders, whenever possible?	**Yes**. The project places local stakeholders, especially women, youth, indigenous peoples, and smallholder farmers, at the center of its learning approach. By prioritizing community promoters and participatory design processes, the proposal integrates local expertise and traditional knowledge into adaptation strategies. **However**, while the intention is clear, the operationalization is weak. In the absence of structured mechanisms to capture and embed local knowledge, there is a risk that the participation of vulnerable groups will be encouraged but not guaranteed, limiting the depth and sustainability of community-led knowledge integration. **CR5** As per above, kindly elaborate further on the plans to operationalize local stakeholder knowledge.	**R/CR5** Additions to part 2.E	**CR5 Cleared** Further explained in part 2.E

Duplication with AF project/programme learning activities	Do the proposed activities duplicate with the project/programme's learning activities as approved by the Board or do they duplicate activities financed from other sources of funding?	No mentions of duplication in the proposal. Please clarify if there are duplications.		

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ADAPTATION FUND

PROGRAMME ON INNOVATION:

SMALL GRANTS PROJECTS THROUGH DIRECT ACCESS MODALITY

REQUEST FOR PROJECT 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 must be fully prepared when the request is submitted.

Complete documentation should be sent to:

The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN P4-400
Washington, D.C., 20433
U.S.A
Fax: +1 (202) 522-3240/5
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org

ADAPTATION FUND

PROGRAMME ON INNOVATION/LEARNING: SMALL GRANTS PROJECT PROPOSAL

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Country: Costa Rica

Title of Project: ***Rise Up Climate: Empowering Communities Through Learning and Innovation in Costa Rica***

National Implementing Entity: Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible

Executing Entity/ies: Dirección de Cambio Climático, MINAE

Amount of Financing Requested: 750,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project Background and Context:

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

Costa Rica is increasingly vulnerable to climate change, experiencing shifts in weather patterns that manifest as prolonged droughts in Guanacaste, severely impacting agricultural production and access to drinking water, and torrential rains along the Caribbean coast that trigger devastating floods and landslides and significant soil loss in mountainous regions, further diminishing agricultural productivity and increasing community vulnerability. These escalating impacts directly threaten the livelihoods of vulnerable populations, particularly rural women, who are often responsible for water and food security. In fact, the 2021 unemployment rate was 18.5% for women in the agricultural sector compared to 9.2% for men (SEPSA, 2021), highlighting their heightened economic vulnerability amidst these climate stresses. The annual economic toll of these climate-related events costs Costa Rica an estimated 2.1% of its GDP, affecting the agricultural sector with 48% and biodiversity and protected areas with the other 18%. Climate risks per agroecological zone vary, as shown in the table below.

Agroecological Zone	Key Regions	Climate Risks	Adaptation Challenges and knowledge needs
Tropical Lowlands	Guanacaste, Puntarenas, Limon	Droughts (Pacific), flooding (Caribbean) coastal degradation, Coastal salinity intrusion	Drought-resistant crops, agroforestry, rainwater harvesting, water management, efficient irrigation, soil sensors, precision agriculture, silvopastoral systems, community innovation schemes, circular bioeconomy
Central Valley	Cartago, Heredia	Erratic rainfall, soil degradation, rivers overflow, temperature rises, biodiversity loss	Climate-smart crops, urban agriculture, biochar, water management, soil sensors, precision agriculture, circular bioeconomy
Northern Plains	Upala, San Carlos, Sarapiquí	Flooding, pests, changes in rain patterns	Flood-tolerant crops, silvopastoral systems, drainage solutions, pest management, drainage systems, Early warning systems, circular bioeconomy
High-Altitude Zones	Los Santos, Puriscal, Northern Cartago cantons	soil degradation, landslides, water scarcity, frost risks, biodiversity loss	Terrace farming, cold-resistant crops, seeds and soil conservation, water management, soil sensors, precision agriculture, circular bioeconomy
Humid Tropics (incl. Coasts)	Osa Peninsula, Caribbean zone	Flooding, coastal and soil degradation, Coastal salinity intrusion	Flood-tolerant crops, silvopastoral systems, seeds and soil conservation, pest management, drainage systems, Early warning systems, community innovation schemes, circular bioeconomy

The diverse climate risks across Costa Rica's agroecological zones - from prolonged droughts in Guanacaste's dry tropics to excessive rainfall in the Caribbean lowlands - demonstrate that effective adaptation requires context-specific knowledge delivery systems. Standardized approaches fail because coffee farmers in Tarrazú's highlands face fundamentally different challenges than coffee producers in Guanacaste region. This requires either deep local expertise (community members who intuitively understand microclimates and cultural practices) or innovative knowledge-transfer systems that translate climate science into actionable, location-appropriate measures. Successful models might include mobile apps with zone-specific advisories, peer-to-peer "farmer field schools" adapting techniques to local soils, or interactive radio programs addressing hyper-local concerns - all while respecting indigenous knowledge systems. The key insight: adaptation knowledge must be as geographically and culturally tailored as the solutions themselves to drive informed decision-making.

While Costa Rica has demonstrated strong environmental leadership, these impacts reveal a fragmented approach to climate action that must be enhanced to reach and benefit local communities. A recent study entitled "Brechas de Conocimiento en Adaptación al Cambio Climático" (Knowledge Gap in Climate Adaptation) revealed that 77% of surveyed officials believe a lack of information significantly hinders adaptation efforts. The study pointed to a lack of access to the local level information needed to act for adaptation among key actors within communities, the research sector, and government, and more in general, not being easy to digest for a high number of audiences and sectors within the country. Key findings include:

- **Knowledge Generation Gaps:** Lack of relevant, user-friendly, and accessible climate change information at the local level.
- **Modes of Production, Transfer, and Integration:** Unsustainable knowledge co-creation processes that don't incorporate local needs. Limited coordination and multidisciplinary input for effective dissemination.
- **Appropriation and Use of Knowledge:** Scientific information is not easily accessible to local governments or communities. Technical language and lack of perceived practical value hinder knowledge adoption.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Lack of clear indicators, baseline data, and institutional capacity for effective monitoring of climate actions.

This study also pointed to an underlying lack of gender specific information, as only 6% of those surveyed believed it was an important factor in adaptation efforts. This reveals a significant knowledge gap and a lack of attention to the gender perspective in the climate change adaptation sector in Costa Rica, and underlines the need to implement actions that promote awareness, training, and the integration of a gender perspective in all stages of the adaptation process, to ensure actions are fair, equitable, and effective.

The study recommended:

- Strengthening User-Researcher Collaboration
- Enhancing Knowledge Transfer Mechanisms
- Building Institutional Capacity
- Promoting Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
- Integration between local stakeholders and the national level

The project will act on this with its innovative approach to community based learning and climate action. This is supported by Costa Rica’s NDC (2020, Commitment 11.5) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2022–2026 in its Strategic Pillar 1: Knowledge management, climate services, and local and institutional capacity building.The urgency of addressing the knowledge gap and scaling the right knowledge has been re-iterated in both 2023 and 2024 "Estado de la Nación" reports, where they reveal limited data on adaptation projects, climate financing, and key sectors like agriculture and energy;it also reports that climate plans and government structure continue to show a lack of support of communities where the action actually has to happen.

This project stands apart in its effort to go beyond theory by developing a critical structural focus on information with the user at its heart, through human-centered design, bootcamps in rural areas that will empower communities to drive their own innovation and knowledge sharing and action. Aligned with the NDC 2025 and NAP 2022–2026 pillars, and building on key research, it will empower community leaders, territorial organizations, and citizens with the tools to identify vulnerabilities, co-create tailored solutions, and actively participate in climate policy implementation, enabling their livelihoods to be safeguarded in a future impacted by climate change This strategic investment in local climate literacy and community engagement will build resilience, promote innovation, and foster a collective, just, and effective response to climate change, ensuring sustainable economic and social development across Costa Rica.

However, generating and transferring knowledge is not an end in itself. The critical challenge—and the core innovation of this project—is to ensure that this context-specific information directly catalyzes tangible, on-the-ground adaptation actions. This project is designed to transform abstract climate data into practical solutions that change how communities manage their land, water, and food systems. For instance, a mobile advisory on drought forecasts must lead a farmer in Guanacaste to install drip irrigation or rainwater harvesting. A community-level flood early warning system, co-designed in the Caribbean lowlands, must result in the timely relocation of livestock and harvests before waters rise. Therefore, the ultimate measure of this project's success will not be the number of workshops held or platforms built, but the measurable adoption of specific practices: the hectares brought under agroforestry systems to conserve soil moisture, the number of rainwater harvesting systems installed to secure water for livestock or crops, the implementation of contour planting on hillsides to reduce landslide risk, and the diversification of crops to ensure food security amidst climate shocks. By tightly coupling knowledge dissemination with actionable tools, seed funding for implementation, and community-led innovation, this project ensures that learning translates directly into enhanced resilience of Costa Rica's vital food systems and water resources.

Project Objectives:

List the main objectives of the project.

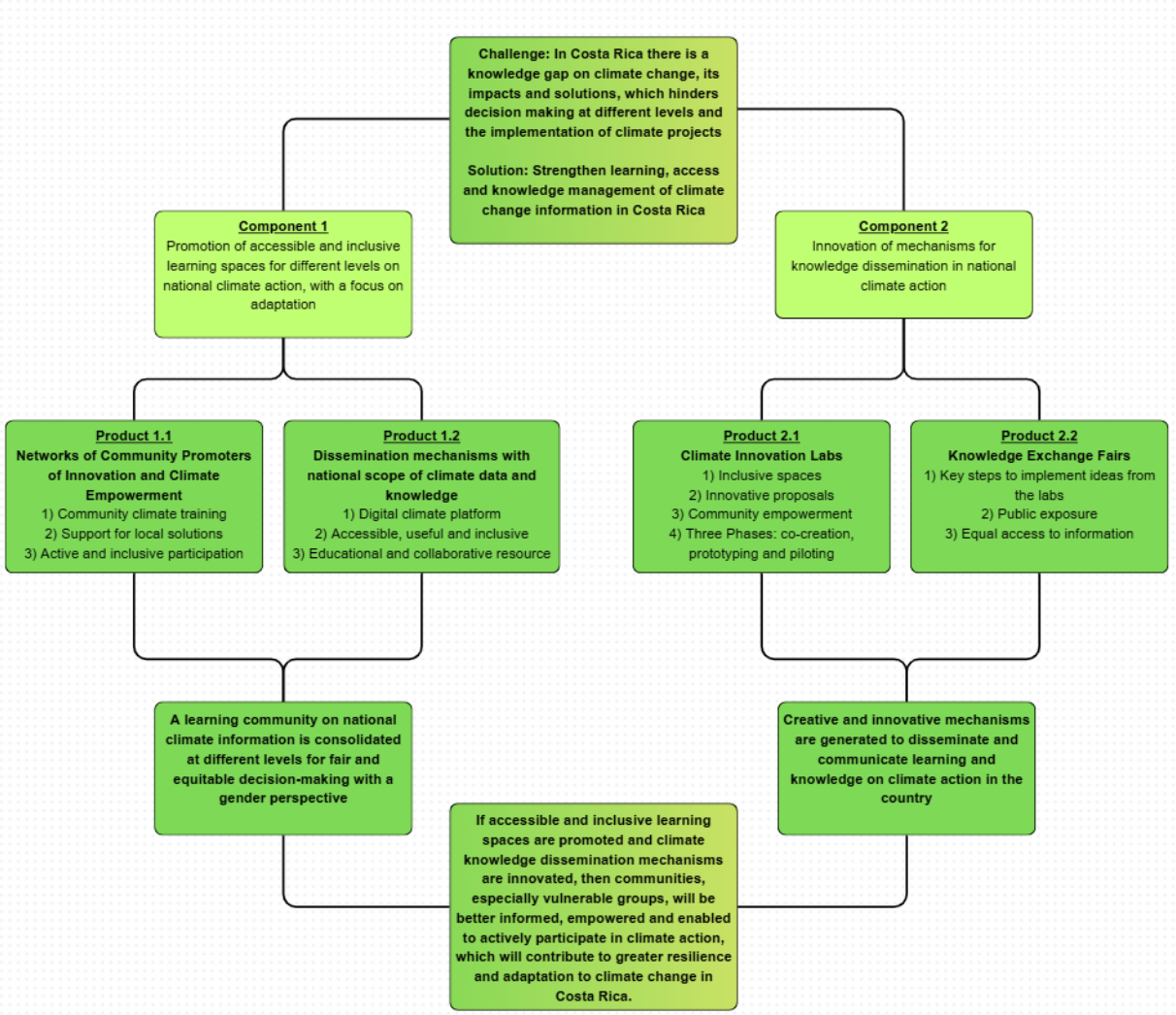
The main objective of this project is to strengthen learning, access to, and management of knowledge and information related to climate change in Costa Rica, especially in the area of adaptation.

The project is based on the central hypothesis that: if accessible and inclusive learning spaces are promoted and innovative mechanisms for disseminating climate knowledge are developed, then communities, especially vulnerable groups, will be better informed, empowered, and equipped to actively participate in climate action, which will contribute to greater resilience and adaptation to climate change in Costa Rica.

This project has two components: the first focused on promoting accessible and inclusive learning mechanisms to strengthen climate empowerment, and the second focused on promoting and developing innovative mechanisms to expand the impact, reach, and effectiveness of communication and climate knowledge management. Both components are complementary and mutually reinforce each other in a continuous cycle of learning, innovation, and climate action.

The specific objectives are:

- a. Promote accessible and inclusive learning spaces for different levels – institutions, communities, organizations – to strengthen their capacities in national climate action, with a focus on adaptation.
- b. Develop and innovate mechanisms for disseminating knowledge on national climate action through participatory processes.



Project Components and Financing:

Fill in the table presenting the relationships among project components, activities, expected concrete outputs, and the corresponding budgets. If necessary, please refer to the INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING A REQUEST FOR

Project Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US$)	Sources of funding (specify if innovation or learning)
1. Promotion of Accessible and Inclusive Learning Spaces at Different	~~o~~1.1 Community Innovation and Climate Empowerment Promoter Networks Established ~~Se establecen Redes de~~	A learning community on national climate information is consolidated at different	296 000	Learning

Levels ~~Promoción de espacios de aprendizaje accesibles e inclusivos para diferentes niveles~~	~~Promotores Comunitarios de Innovación y Empoderamiento Climático~~. ~~o~~ Mechanisms for Dissemination of Data and Climate Knowledge with National Reach are Implemented ~~Se implementan mecanismos de difusión con alcance nacional de datos y conocimiento climático~~.	levels for fair, equitable, and gender-responsive decision-making~~Se consolida una comunidad de aprendizaje sobre información climática nacional a diferentes niveles para la toma de decisión justa, equitativa, con perspectiva de género.~~		
2. ~~Innovación de mecanismos de difusión del conocimiento en acción climática nacional~~Innovation of Knowledge Dissemination Mechanisms in National Climate Action ~~•~~	2.1 Climate Innovation Labs with People from Different Sectors of the Country, from Different Levels Focused on Creating Mechanisms for Disseminating Climate Information ~~o~~ Knowledge Exchange Fairs of Mechanisms Developed in the Climate Innovation Labs~~Se elaboran Laboratorios de Innovación Climática con personas de diferentes sectores del país, de distintos niveles enfocados en la creación de mecanismos de divulgación de la información sobre cambio climático.~~ ~~o Ferias de Intercambio de Conocimiento de mecanismos de difusión de información climática desarrollados en los Laboratorios de Innovación.~~	~~Se generan mecanismos, creativos e innovadores, para difundir y comunicar el aprendizaje y el conocimiento sobre acción climática en el país.~~Creative and innovative mechanisms are generated to disseminate and communicate learning and knowledge about climate action in the country.	347 000	Innovation
6. Project Execution cost			48 350	
7. Total Project Cost			691 350	
8. Project Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			58 650	
Amount of Financing Requested			750,000	

Projected Calendar:

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

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project Implementation	15/01/2026
Project Closing	14/07/2029
Terminal Evaluation	30/09/2029

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION [5]

A. Describe the project components, particularly focusing on the concrete adaptation activities of the project, and how these activities contribute to climate resilience.

The project is based on the central hypothesis that: if accessible and inclusive learning spaces are promoted, innovative mechanisms are implemented to manage climate knowledge, and rural communities are empowered, especially women and youth, they will be better informed, trained, and equipped to actively participate in climate action and promote the adoption of adaptive practices in their food systems. This will contribute to greater resilience and adaptation to climate change in Costa Rica, with a focus on their relationship with water resources, given its relevance to the sector.

This project has two components: the first focused on promoting accessible and inclusive learning mechanisms to strengthen climate empowerment in the agricultural sector, with special attention to women, youth, and rural communities; and the second focused on developing and promoting innovative mechanisms to strengthen the impact and reach of communication and climate knowledge management regarding resilient food systems. Both components are complementary and mutually reinforce each other in a continuous cycle of learning, innovation, and climate action.

With these two components, the project integrates two interdependent pillars:

~~A.~~a. Generation and empowerment (Component 1).

~~B.~~b. Communication and replicability (Component 2).

Together, they form a climate action ecosystem where communities not only learn but also innovate and lead solutions tailored to their realities, contributing to a more resilient and just agri-food sector in the face of climate change.

In summary, the project seeks to transform how communities access, interpret, and act on climate change, generating a virtuous cycle of learning, innovation, and empowerment that strengthens climate resilience in the agri-food sector in Costa Rica.

Component 1: Promotion of Accessible and Inclusive Learning Spaces at Different Levels
Product 1.1: Community Innovation and Climate Empowerment Promoter Networks Established

Climate Promoter Networks are spaces where people from the same community (with a cantonal or district scope) come together. They share an affinity for the agricultural sector, whether as producers or as individuals with academic training in this area. Their objective is to promote learning spaces on climate change and food systems, where solutions are discussed, presented, and innovated, and alliances are formed between neighbors to obtain food systems adapted to climate change.

A call is opened for people who want to become “Climate Promoters,” encouraging women, youth, indigenous peoples, and other vulnerable groups to participate in this process, obtaining extra points in the selection process.

These “Climate Promoters” must have a relationship with food systems, whether they work on farms, own farms, engage in domestic and subsistence production, or have participated in adaptation projects such as Programa Adapta2+ or Escalar Adapta2+ (Scaling up Adapta2+).

Once these people are chosen, a theoretical and practical training process is scheduled so they are immersed in topics of climate change, its impact on agriculture, water resources, the use of available information for decision-making in adaptation, and adaptation solutions. In addition, these trainings will include concrete actions such as sustainable soil management, agroecological techniques to conserve biodiversity, efficient water management practices, diversification of drought- or flood-resistant crops, the use of technologies for local climate monitoring, and strategies to strengthen community food security. Climate Promoters will also participate in communication and leadership workshops to facilitate the transfer of knowledge in their communities and collaborate in the creation of local action plans that integrate innovative and adaptive practices. Once the training process for the "Climate Promoters" is completed, the idea is that these people now lead their respective Network and transmit this knowledge to the people belonging to this Network. In this way, knowledge reaches their communities, and they are trained among the same people, with the aim also that these can become the "Climate Promoters," ensuring a continuous cycle of the networks, and therefore of learning. Of course, in order to put into practice what they have learned.

Exchanges can be made between Networks from different communities, where cases are presented according to the context of their localities.

With the objective of reducing the existing knowledge gap in Costa Rica regarding climate change, its specific impacts at the local level and the available solutions, the aim is to create local "community climate innovation promoter networks" that bring together trained local leaders ("Climate Promoters") who act as multipliers of knowledge and facilitators of climate action in their communities, with a focus on resilient food systems. The project would train these promoters to train trainers. These networks would catalyze alliances to facilitate practical workshops, seminars and training on agroecological practices, adaptation of the agricultural sector to climate change, increased resilience, access and use of hydrometeorological information for decision-making to their own contexts, technology in climate action, mitigation, losses and damages, climate finance and climate

empowerment, prioritizing access to these spaces for women, youth and rural populations. Once these networks of promoters are consolidated, with leaders trained to be mentors in climate issues, the process of continuous learning and the transfer of knowledge within the communities is ensured, contributing to the sustainability of the project. Interactive digital platforms and toolboxes with resources adapted to different levels of knowledge and technological access will be provided.

In addition, these spaces aim to foster a culture of innovation at the grassroots level by providing resources and support for local communities to develop and implement their own climate solutions, based on their needs and problems, in this way promoting the use of citizen science to collect local climate data. A support toolbox will be designed for the networks, with which the project will provide support according to their particular needs, which would include support for the effective functioning of the networks from the point of view of facilitating institutional support, training, support in establishing local alliances, in promoting a network of support mentors, as well as actions for exchange and learning between networks. For the most active networks, initial funding may be included for community-led projects (max. 10 initiatives total, US$1 000 each), co-creation days or "boot camps" focused on local climate challenges and platforms to share successful initiatives.

Under this product, local participation is strengthened by empowering local residents, including women, people with disabilities, indigenous communities and other groups vulnerable to climate change, to become active participants in the identification of climate risks, in decision-making and exposure and the co-creation of impact solutions in their food systems.

~~*Output 1.1: Community Innovation and Climate Empowerment Promoter Networks Established*~~

~~Climate Promoter Networks are spaces where people from the same community (which may have cantonal or district scope) come together. They share an affinity for the agricultural sector, whether as producers or as individuals with academic training in this area. Their objective is to promote learning spaces on climate change and food systems, where solutions are discussed, presented, and innovated, and alliances are formed between neighbors to obtain food systems adapted to climate change.~~
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~~Once these people are chosen, a theoretical and practical training process is scheduled so they are immersed in topics of climate change, its impact on agriculture, water resources, the use of available information for decision-making in adaptation, and adaptation solutions. In addition, these trainings will include concrete actions such as sustainable soil management, agroecological techniques to conserve biodiversity, efficient water management practices, diversification of drought- or flood-resistant crops, the use of technologies for local climate monitoring, and strategies to strengthen community food security. Climate Promoters will also participate in communication and leadership workshops to facilitate the transfer of knowledge in their communities and collaborate in the creation of local action plans that integrate innovative and adaptive practices. Once the training process for the "Climate Promoters" is completed, the idea is that these people now lead their respective~~

~~Network and transmit this knowledge to the people belonging to this Network. In this way, knowledge reaches their communities, and they are trained among the same people, with the aim also that these can become the "Climate Promoters," ensuring a continuous cycle of the networks, and therefore of learning. Of course, in order to put into practice what they have learned.~~
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~~Under this product, local participation is strengthened by empowering local residents, including women, people with disabilities, indigenous communities and other groups vulnerable to climate change, to become active participants in the identification of climate risks, in decision-making and exposure and the co-creation of impact solutions in their food systems.~~

Sustainability Plan for Promoter Networks

~~-~~This plan details a targeted strategy to transition the Community Promoter Networks into self-sustaining entities by directly leveraging the project's innovation cycle. The Innovation Component (2) is designed to generate the tangible tools, marketable products, and partnership opportunities that will provide the Networks (Component 1) with the necessary resources and business models to ensure their financial and operational viability long after the project's conclusion.

Sustainability Goal	Specific Project Activities to Achieve It	Expected Outcome by Project End

1. Institutional Integration (Embed networks into local government or other local institution structure for official support & resources)	• Facilitate the signing of 10 formal collaboration agreements between Networks and their respective Municipalities, Local Agricultural Centers (CACs), ASADAS and or other local institution with built-in capacity to facilitate logistic support. • Provide templates and legal support for Networks to get formally recognized as community-based organizations. • Advocate for the inclusion of Network activities in 3 institutional Annual Operational Plans (POA) or similar planning mechanism.	Networks have official status, meeting spaces, and a formal channel to access local resources and influence policy.
2. Financial Viability (Equip Networks to generate their own income)	• Train 100+ promoters in "green entrepreneurship," including service pricing, basic accounting, and contract development. • The Climate Innovation Labs (Output 2.1) could serve as the research and development (R&D) engine for the Networks, creating the products and services they can sell. • Promote "Partner Matchmaking " to connect Networks with 5+ private sector allies (cooperatives, agribusiness) for sponsored projects. The Knowledge Exchange Fairs (Output 2.2) will act as their primary marketing and sales platform. Networks will have booths to showcase their projects and services.	Networks have multiple tested revenue streams and are no longer dependent on donor funding for core activities.
3. Leadership & Knowledge Renewal (Create a system for continuous training without project staff)	• Certify 20 "Promoters of Promoters" through advanced training in facilitation and pedagogy. • Mandate that each certified trainer recruits and trains 2 new members before project closure. • Document all training materials and best practices in a "Network Management Toolkit" (digital and physical).	The network has a built-in, low-cost training pipeline to grow and replace members indefinitely.
4. Fundraising Capacity (Enable Networks to secure their own grants)	• Conduct practical workshops on "Proposal Writing" using real examples from adaptation projects • Support the development and submission of at least 5 grant proposals by Networks to local private or municipal funds or micro-grant programs.	Networks have the skills and experience to compete for small grants independently.
5. Low-Cost Operations (Minimize ongoing expenses for communication and knowledge sharing)	• Establish a dedicated, easy-to-moderate online hub for each Network on the national platform. • Train Network administrators on using free tools (e.g., WhatsApp Broadcast lists, Google Drive) for daily operations. • Facilitate access to digital platform (Output 1.2) and repository of all project-generated knowledge (guides, designs, videos) for free access and use.	Networks can maintain communication and access resources with near-zero operational costs.

Output 1.2: Mechanisms for Dissemination of Data and Climate Knowledge with National Reach are Implemented

Develop an online platform with updated, high-quality, accessible, and easy-to-use data that

consolidates national climate data and realities, research findings, best practices related to climate change, successful adaptation projects that can be replicated, among other resources, all in line with the theme of achieving climate change-adapted food systems and water resources.

This platform would serve as:

~~A.~~ 1. A resource for people involved in the agricultural sector and educational systems to have access to quality and updated information for decision-making in the face of uncertain climate scenarios and to be able to innovate in terms of adaptation.

~~B.~~ 2. An educational resource for students, researchers, the private sector, civil society organizations, policymakers, and the community in general, functioning as a window for collaboration between different levels.

The website plans to integrate data visualization tools, interactive maps, accessible audiovisual material for all types of users, as well as predictive modeling capabilities on the platform to allow users to explore climate trends, project future scenarios, and understand the potential impacts of different climate actions.

Likewise, alignment with NDC 2025 is sought by showing progress towards the objectives of NDC 3.0 and providing transparent information on national climate action. This platform would support the Climate Change Directorate (DCC) of the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) in communicating with the general public interested in contributing and learning about progress in climate adaptation and in using this information for decision-making in their different contexts. Therefore, to ensure the sustainability of the project, and specifically of this product, the DCC will facilitate access to the information so that the website has updated and accessible data and information. This platform will be hosted and managed by MINAE (Directorate of Climate Change), whom, after consultation with its IT department, has committed to secure a budget for this purpose after year 3, beyond project´s life.

This platform is included in the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in Climate Action[5] (derived from the NDC) as actions 2.6 Promote the Climate Classroom (Aula Climática) of the Directorate of Climate Change (DCC) for training on the climate crisis, aimed at the young population, especially women in their diversity, and 2.7 Develop the module on gender and the climate crisis in the Climate Classroom (Aula Climática) of the Directorate of Climate Change, where there is a collaboration established between MINAE and INAMU (the National Institute of Women).

INAMU will be involved

Component 2: Innovation of Knowledge Dissemination Mechanisms in National Climate Action

Output 2.1: Climate Innovation Labs with People from Different Sectors of the Country, from Different Levels Focused on Creating Mechanisms for Disseminating Climate Information

Participants in the laboratories: different networks formed throughout the country in product 1.1; external civil society the networks with affinity to the topic, students in topics related to the agricultural and rural sector, in communication, people from the public and private sector could be included. Including representation from different vulnerable groups to generate an intersectional approach to gender and human rights.

First, the participants will present and discuss the difficulties and gaps they face when seeking

[5] https://www.undp.org/es/costa-rica/publicaciones/plan-de-accion-nacional-sobre-igualdad-de-genero-en-la-accion-por-el-clima

information (especially national, without neglecting international information) on climate change, food systems, from impacts to adaptation solutions, that they need to meet their needs (labor, academic, subsistence). Once the gaps are identified from their contexts in access to climate/agri-food information, the participating people will be responsible for seeking, proposing and developing innovative and creative mechanisms responding to their needs so that national information on climate change (public policies, research, projects, metrics and relevant and updated data, learnings, experiences, successful projects, among others related to the theme) is available in an accessible way for communities and people in the sector. In this way, it is projected to have informed and empowered communities, capable of leading climate change adaptation actions from their realities in the food systems, adding to the climate resilience of the country.

The Laboratories would operate on a practical and scalable methodology to different areas of the country, considering 3 phases: 1) co-creation, in order to identify real needs for climate information for vulnerable populations, facilitate accessible tools and generate adapted solutions; 2) rapid prototyping with mentors, in order to transform ideas into viable prototypes; 3) piloting and linking with allies, in order to ensure that solutions are implemented. Among the allies, it will be promoted to attract local media and other types of organizations related to communication and climate information.

Likewise, to ensure the sustainability of this product, key factors are taken into account, such as the approach with allies to ensure the implementation of the prototypes; promoting the dissemination of knowledge once the innovations developed begin to work, the inclusion of different vulnerable groups, among others.

Output 2.2: Knowledge Exchange Fairs of Mechanisms Developed in the Climate Innovation Labs

Knowledge Exchange Fairs are key links in turning the ideas generated in the Climate Innovation Labs into real, implemented solutions. These are exhibition spaces open to the public and local organizations (NGOs, municipalities, universities, schools, and colleges, among others) where prototypes of climate information dissemination mechanisms developed as results of the Climate Innovation Labs are exhibited, with an emphasis on solutions for resilient food systems. By showing the dissemination mechanisms to the public, it can help several of the ideas presented to be executed, generating an adequate flow of climate information to the communities, allowing them to make informed, fair, and equitable decisions. In addition, these knowledge exchange fairs, along with the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, facilitate the process being replicated in any part of the national territory, thus contributing to the sustainability of the project.

In summary, this project significantly complements other Adaptation Fund-supported initiatives implemented in Costa Rica. By building on lessons learned and knowledge generated from previous projects, particularly the Adapta2+ Program and its scaling-up program, the project aims to leverage existing foundations and avoid duplicating efforts. Synergies will be established with ongoing projects to maximize collective impact and promote a more cohesive national adaptation strategy. This collaboration will facilitate resource sharing, scale successful solutions, and contribute to enhanced climate resilience in communities and food systems across the country.

~~1.~~**B.** Describe how the project 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 will avoid or mitigate negative impacts, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

This project delivers triple-benefit impacts by transforming climate knowledge into actionable adaptation for vulnerable agricultural communities:

Economic:

2. Creates livelihood opportunities by training women/youth as certified Climate Promoters (200+ paid positions) and funding 10 community-led enterprises ($1,000 seed grants each)

Social:

3. Targets 50% participation by vulnerable groups (women, indigenous, disabled) in leadership roles through preferential selection criteria
4. Access to climate information facilitates decision making in adaptation measures in community, local individuals and farms.
5. Strengthens food security via diversified, climate-resilient crops co-developed with local networks

Environmental:

6. Promotes nature-based solutions (agroforestry, soil conservation) across 5,000+ hectares
7. Reduces climate vulnerability through hyper-local early warning systems co-designed with farmers
8. Safeguard: Environmental screening excludes harmful interventions (e.g., invasive species)

Gender & Inclusion:

9. Women lead 50% of Climate Promoter Networks with childcare-supported training schedules
- Indigenous knowledge integrated into all adaptation tools via participatory design

The strategy for ensuring meaningful and sustained participation is structurally integrated into the project's operational framework—spanning selection processes, governance mechanisms, and access to funding—to actively transform involvement into authentic leadership.

To enforce the 50% women's leadership target, we will implement:

1. Preferential Selection & Quotas: Extra points for female applicants in the Climate Promoter call. Mandatory shortlists ensuring at least 50% of selected promoters are women.
2. Formal Leadership Mandate: A requirement that leadership positions within each Community Network must be 50% held by women.
3. INAMU Partnership: Formal collaboration with the National Institute for Women (INAMU) to co-design training, provide mentorship, and monitor progress towards this target.

To guarantee indigenous participation, we will implement:

1. Formal Inclusion: Inviting representatives from the Mesa Nacional Indígena (National Indigenous Board) to the project's advisory committee for strategic decision-making.
2. Co-Design & Cultural Relevance: Working directly with indigenous authorities to adapt activities to their territories, integrate Traditional Knowledge into training, and ensure cultural appropriateness.
3. Dedicated Support: Hosting Climate Innovation Labs in territories to create culturally relevant communication tools and prioritizing indigenous-led projects for seed funding.

~~10.~~

~~2.~~C. Describe how the project encourages or accelerates development of innovative adaptation practices, tools or technologies and/or describe how the project helps generate evidence base of effective, efficient adaptation practices, products or technologies, as a basis for potential scaling up.

The project promotes and fosters the development of innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies through three concrete results:

- **Networks of Community Promoters of Innovation and Climate Empowerment:** Foster a culture of innovation at the grassroots level by providing resources and support for local communities to develop and implement their own climate solutions. These spaces aim to foster a culture of innovation at the grassroots level by providing resources and support for local communities to develop and implement their own climate solutions, based on their needs and problems, in this way promoting the use of citizen science to collect local climate data.
- **The development of dissemination mechanisms with national reach for data and climate knowledge:** Integrate data visualization tools, interactive maps, educational material, and predictive modeling capabilities into the platform to allow users to explore climate trends, project future scenarios, and understand the potential impacts of different climate actions. In addition, innovate in creating a platform accessible to people with disabilities, including for example audiovisual material.
- **Climate Innovation Labs to create mechanisms for disseminating climate information for decision making on adaptation actions:** Promote the development of innovative initiatives that respond to the existing need to bring information on climate change to communities. The Laboratories would operate on a practical and scalable methodology to different areas of the country, considering 3 phases: 1) co-creation, in order to identify real needs for climate information for vulnerable populations, facilitate accessible tools and generate adapted solutions; 2) rapid prototyping with mentors, in order to transform ideas into viable prototypes; 3) piloting and linking with allies, in order to ensure that solutions are implemented.

~~B.~~D. Please confirm whether the project meets relevant national technical standards, where applicable, such as standards for environmental assessment, building codes, etc., and is in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

The project complies with relevant national technical standards and the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy. Based in its design, the project presents low risk regarding ESP risks and legal provisions have been taken into account, ensuring responsible implementation across all its components.

In the case of both components, Component 1—which focuses on promoting learning spaces on climate change—and Component 2—which focuses on the innovation of knowledge dissemination measures—activities will be carried out through workshops, laboratories, or training spaces, which do not involve the construction or intervention of permanent physical spaces. In this sense, no structural permits are required; however, basic biosafety measures will be followed, and it will be ensured that the space has adequate conditions for the execution of the activities, for example; compliance with Law N°7600 on Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities.

The project integrates potential risks and impacts, proposes mitigation measures, and includes a monitoring and evaluation process, ensuring that all actions are carried out in accordance with

national legislation and the standards established by the Adaptation Fund.

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~~C.~~ E. If applying for innovation-learning bundled funding modality, please describe the rationale and how the proposal meets the criteria set for this type of funding.

E1: LEARNING ACTIVITIES: Briefly describe how the proposed innovation activities contribute to learning, and ultimately to increasing climate resilience of beneficiaries.

The proposed innovation activities foster experiential, community-driven learning that directly strengthens the climate resilience of vulnerable groups in Costa Rica through three key mechanisms:

1. **Learning by Doing (Hands-on Capacity Building)**

The project's practical approach transforms community members into active climate resilience practitioners. Through the Community Promoters Networks, local leaders receive intensive training to become knowledge multipliers, particularly focusing on vulnerable groups like indigenous communities and women farmers. These promoters don't just share theoretical concepts - they facilitate hands-on activities like installing rain gauges to monitor precipitation patterns or conducting field trials of drought-resistant crops. The Climate Innovation Labs take this further by employing creative problem-solving techniques; for instance, coastal communities might develop interactive flood warning games while indigenous groups create native-language radio programs explaining climate forecasts. This experiential learning model ensures knowledge isn't just absorbed but immediately applied to real-world challenges, with mentorship from scientists and technicians helping bridge traditional wisdom with modern climate science.

2. **Learning Through Sharing (Collaborative Platforms)**

The National Data Platform serves as a dynamic hub where climate knowledge becomes universally accessible and actionable. Farmers can view personalized dashboards showing how changing rainfall patterns affect their specific crops, while community leaders track how local adaptation projects contribute to national climate goals. The Knowledge Exchange Fairs create physical spaces for this shared learning, where successful initiatives like women-led forest restoration projects demonstrate tangible results. These fairs aren't just exhibition spaces - they feature structured feedback sessions where communities collectively analyze what communication methods (like illustrated guides versus community theater) most effectively drive behavioral change. This continuous sharing and evaluation process creates a living repository of best practices that evolves based on real community experiences.

3. **Learning Through Empowerment (Institutionalizing Knowledge)**

The project embeds climate learning into social structures through deliberate inclusion strategies and policy connections. By reserving leadership positions for women and indigenous participants, it ensures adaptation strategies reflect diverse community needs. Accessibility features like audio-based training materials for non-literate farmers or sign-language interpretation at workshops remove traditional barriers to participation. Crucially, the project creates formal pathways for grassroots innovations to influence broader systems - whether through municipal governments adopting community-developed flood warning tools, or national policies incorporating traditional fire prevention techniques documented on the platform. This institutionalization transforms isolated local knowledge into scalable resilience strategies, while the alignment with Costa Rica's NDC ensures learning contributes to measurable national climate targets.

4. **Local knowledge**

The focus is on co-creation, making local knowledge a core input, methodology, and output of the project, through:

- Climate Innovation Labs (Output 2.1): These are structured workshops where local stakeholders first define the problem (identify gaps in climate information) and then prototype the solutions themselves (e.g., tools combining scientific data with traditional weather indicators).

- National Knowledge Platform (Output 1.2): This digital platform will formally host and showcase the successful practices, tools, and prototypes co-created by communities, elevating local knowledge to a national resource.

- Community Promoter Networks (Output 1.1): The "train-the-trainer" model ensures knowledge is shared by and within communities. Promoters blend technical training with local expertise, ensuring sustainability and context-relevance.

- Funding for Local Solutions:The US$1,000 seed grants are exclusively for implementing community-led projects that originate from this process, turning local knowledge into direct action.

5. **Pathways to Scale-Up and Ensure Sustainability**

The project ensures scalability and long-term impact through three integrated strategies:

- Sustainable Promoter Networks: The project's Sustainability Plan transitions Networks into self-sustaining entities. Networks generate their own income by offering climate services (e.g., consulting, workshops) developed during the Innovation Labs, and receive training to secure grants independently, ensuring financial viability beyond the project.

- Scalable Institutional Capacity: The Climate Innovation Labs create not just prototypes, but also a reproducible methodology for co-designing solutions. This builds lasting institutional capacity—within local governments, universities, and partner NGOs—to continuously develop and implement context-specific adaptation strategies without external support.

- Open-Access Knowledge Ecosystem: All knowledge products—training toolkits, solution prototypes, best practices—are hosted on the national digital platform. This creates a permanent, scalable repository. By partnering with local organizations (e.g., municipalities, cooperatives), the project empowers them to use these resources to launch and manage their own promoter networks, enabling organic, nationwide replication.

E2: CONTINOUS INNOVATION CYCLE: Describe how evidence based generated innovation will be shared and made available to NIEs and other partners, and ensure continuous cycle of innovation and knowledge sharing.

This project ensures climate solutions created by communities are shared, improved, and scaled up through 4 simple steps:

The project begins by testing and documenting real-world solutions. Local leaders called Promotores facilitate capacity building activities and promote use of climate information for decision making into practical climate adaptations i.e. drought-resistant farming techniques, then record their results on a National Climate Platform. Simultaneously, Innovation Labs transform these grassroots ideas into easy-to-follow instruction guides, such as step-by-step manuals for building community flood warning systems.

Knowledge sharing forms the project's second critical phase. Government agencies receive condensed briefings highlighting the most effective community innovations, while municipal leaders obtain ready-to-implement toolkits during interactive Knowledge Fairs. Researchers and NGOs can freely access all collected data through the project's digital platform, creating multiple pathways for solution dissemination.

The system then focuses on refinement and expansion. Communities themselves evaluate which innovations work best through participatory voting mechanisms, perhaps favoring radio alerts over printed materials for emergency communications. The platform's smart recommendation engine suggests similar successful solutions from different regions, while the most promising ideas get incorporated into official programs or attract private sector investment.

Finally, the project establishes mechanisms for long-term sustainability. Local Community Networks and Exchange Fairs continue to promote further innovations and scalability. A dedicated Innovation Fund provides seed money to scale up the most impactful solutions, while capacity-building initiatives train local governments to continue operating Innovation Labs independently. All methodologies get compiled into a freely accessible Climate Innovation Guide, ensuring anyone can replicate the process and maintain the innovation cycle indefinitely.

~~3.~~ F. Provide an overview of the environmental and social impacts and risks identified as being relevant to the project. Describe how the project will engage, empower and/or benefit the most vulnerable communities and social groups, including gender considerations, in line with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund.

In compliance with the Adaptation Fund's Environmental and Social Policy, this project is classified as Category C – Low/No Risk due to its minimal potential for adverse environmental and social impacts.

Although very small (US$1000 each), the project's implementation includes Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs), particularly under Component 1, which will support the most active Community Networks through community-led initiatives, co-creation workshops, boot camps focused on climate challenges, and platforms for sharing successful projects.

In accordance with the Adaptation Fund’s ESP Guidance Document, the project will implement a structured approach to ensure sound environmental and social management of all USPs. Each subproject will undergo a screening process using the official checklist of the 15 Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) principles. This process will enable the identification, assessment, and management of potential risks before any funds are disbursed.

Additionally, internal Fundecooperación tools—such as the Risk Management Matrix—will be applied. This tool not only helps categorize potential risks but also allows for continuous monitoring throughout the implementation of each USP.

For monitoring and reporting, Fundecooperación will use well-established instruments, including technical and financial reporting templates, as well as its Environmental, Social, and Gender Policy

monitoring and analysis tool. These instruments are ideal for tracking compliance with the Adaptation Fund's ESP and Gender Policy, ensuring that reports accurately document progress, results, and adherence to safeguards.

Together, these actions form an Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), through which risks will be systematically identified and managed using preventive and corrective measures—always in alignment with the ESP and Gender Policy.

Furthermore, to prevent negative impacts from the outset, a "negative list" of ineligible activities will be established and well explained on the call for the small grants. These include projects that:

- Require land acquisition
- Cause significant habitat damage or pose a threat to biodiversity
- Involve materials or substances harmful to the environment, particularly soils
- Fail to ensure equitable participation of vulnerable groups (such as women, Indigenous Peoples, youth, among others)
- Violate national legislation
- Deviate from the proposal's overarching objectives

Through these measures, the project ensures that all USPs are implemented within a robust, inclusive, and transparent environmental and social framework, maintaining full coherence with the Adaptation Fund's ESP principles and Fundecooperación's own principles.

~~Sin embargo, parte de la implementación de la propuesta contempla Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs), en particular dentro del Componente 1, al promover en las Community Networks más activas la ejecución de proyectos liderados por la comunidad, jornadas de co-creación o boot camps enfocados en retos climáticos, así como plataformas para compartir iniciativas exitosas.~~

~~De conformidad con el ESP Guidance Document del Fondo de Adaptación, el proyecto aplicará un enfoque estructurado para garantizar la adecuada gestión ambiental y social de los USPs. Cada subproyecto será sometido a un proceso de screening, utilizando el checklist oficial de los 15 principios ambientales y sociales de la ESP. Esto permitirá identificar, evaluar y gestionar los posibles riesgos antes de desembolsar cualquier financiamiento.~~

~~Adicionalmente, se aplicarán herramientas internas de Fundecooperación, como la Matriz de Gestión de Riesgos, que no solo permite diferenciar los riesgos potenciales, sino también darles seguimiento a lo largo de la implementación de cada USP.~~

~~En cuanto al monitoreo y reporte, Fundecooperación utilizará instrumentos ya consolidados, tales como los formatos de informes técnicos y financieros, así como la herramienta de monitoreo y análisis de la Política Ambiental, Social y de Género de la Fundación. Estos instrumentos resultan ideales para dar seguimiento al cumplimiento de la ESP y la GP del Fondo de Adaptación, asegurando reportes que documenten avances, resultados y cumplimiento.~~

~~Todas estas acciones estarían conformando el Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), mediante el cual se identificarán los riesgos y se establecerán medidas preventivas y correctivas para minimizarlos o evitarlos,~~

siempre en coherencia con la ESP y la GP.

Asimismo, para evitar impactos negativos desde el inicio, cabe establecer una "negative list" de las actividades que no podrán ser elegidas para financiar. Entre ellas se incluyen aquellas que:

Requieran adquirir terreno
Causen daños significativos al hábitat o sean una amenaza para la biodiversidad
Incluyan materiales o sustancias contaminantes para el ambiente, especialmente para los suelos
No aseguren una participación equitativa de grupos vulnerables (como mujeres, población indígena, jóvenes, entre otros)
Incumplan con la legislación nacional
Se desliguen del objetivo general de la propuesta

De esta manera, el proyecto garantiza que los USPs se desarrollen bajo un marco ambiental y social sólido, inclusivo y transparente, asegurando la coherencia con el Fondo de Adaptación y los propios principios de Fundecooperación.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Compliance with Law		***Very low risk:*** *Project design ensure all activities comply with Costa Rican laws; USP will be evaluated and technical assistance will be provided to meet all relevant national and international legislation*
Access and Equity		***Low risk****: The design of this proposal has been planned with a focus on gender equity and accessibility, seeking the participation and inclusion of vulnerable groups but there is a possibility of exclusion of vulnerable groups if the participation mechanisms are not inclusive; este riesgo aplica también para los USP.*
Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups		***Low risk:*** *The project is designed to encourage active and effective participation of different vulnerable groups through learning and innovation on communication mechanisms. But there is a risk (also for the USPs) in excluding people from indigenous communities, youth or other vulnerable populations in the construction of workspaces, as well as in decision making if no appropriate measures are taken and if selection criteria doesn't prevent it.*
Human Rights		***Very low risk:*** *Project aligns with national and international human rights frameworks.*
Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment		***Low risk:*** *The project is gender-sensitive, thus ensuring the active and effective participation of women and other vulnerable groups and gender equity is a cross-cutting theme in all components. However, there is a risk if activities are not well executed and involving mechanisms are not followed carefully. USP will be required to assess this risk.*
Core Labour Rights		***Very Low risk:*** *The project will ensure full compliance with current labor regulations*
Indigenous Peoples		***Low risk:*** *there is a risk that the proposed adaptation measures that may be related to indigenous communities may not adequately reflect their worldviews, traditional practices or community priorities, which could limit the effectiveness and inclusiveness of the project. Care will be taken to ensure that all knowledge transfer occurs through respectful, participatory processes that recognize and value the ownership of local communities.*
Involuntary Resettlement	*x*	***No Risk:*** *There is no risk of involuntary resettlement according to project activities.*
Protection of Natural Habitats		***Very low Risk:*** *Activities of learning and innovation in dissemination of knowledge do not create risk to natural habitats.*
Conservation of Biological Diversity		***Very low risk:*** *Activities of learning and innovation in dissemination of knowledge do not create risk of disturbing natural habitats.*
Climate Change		***Very low risk:****. No negative emission outcomes expected.*
Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		***Low Risk:*** *there is a risk of pollution from from training activities. Carefull selection of logistics will be conducted. USP will be required to assess this risk.*
Public Health	*x*	***Very low risk:*** *The project does not pose public health risks,*
Physical and Cultural Heritage		***low risk****: there is a risk of not transferring cultural knowledge appropriately. Follow up will be given. USP will be required to assess this risk.*

Lands and Soil Conservation		***Low Risk:*** *Soil and land conservation is a priority adaptation focus in this project. Trainings and technical assistance will be included. USP will be required to assess this risk.*

~~D.~~G. Provide justification for funding requested, focusing on the full cost of adaptation reasoning.

The requested funding is fully justified as it comprehensively addresses the full costs associated with promoting climate change adaptation in Costa Rica. This project transcends immediate needs by investing in long-term, sustainable solutions that empower communities, enhance their adaptive capacities, and transform systems for greater resilience. It is based on the central hypothesis that by promoting accessible, inclusive learning spaces and innovating climate knowledge dissemination, communities—especially vulnerable groups—will be better informed, empowered, and equipped to actively participate in climate action, thereby contributing to enhanced resilience.

The project addresses the full cost of adaptation through:

- Addressing Root Causes: By targeting underlying knowledge gaps, capacity constraints, and institutional barriers, the project tackles systemic challenges that exacerbate vulnerability and limit adaptive capacity.
- Promoting Holistic Solutions: Through its integrated approach combining awareness-raising, capacity-building, knowledge sharing, and innovation, the project creates synergistic effects that amplify individual interventions' impact, ensuring mutually reinforcing and sustainable benefits.
- Investing in Local Ownership: The project prioritizes active participation and leadership of local communities, women, and youth in all stages, ensuring solutions are contextually relevant, culturally appropriate, and aligned with community needs.

To achieve these goals, the project proposes two main components: (1) promoting accessible and inclusive learning spaces for climate action at different levels, focusing on adaptation, and (2) innovating knowledge dissemination mechanisms through participatory processes. These components mutually reinforce each other in a continuous cycle of learning, innovation, and climate action.

Therefore, the proposed funding supports not only concrete learning and knowledge management measures but also a comprehensive climate empowerment strategy, closing the knowledge gap through active citizen participation, local innovation, and informed decision-making. The project aligns with Costa Rica's national commitments to climate resilience, particularly the NDC 2020 and aspirations of NDC 3.0, ensuring its contribution to national climate goals.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

~~C.~~A. Describe the arrangements for project / programme implementation.

Project implementation will be overseen through a collaborative approach involving the Climate Change Directorate (DCC) of the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MINAE) and Fundecooperación para el Desarrollo Sostenible (NIE). While the DCC serves as the executing entity, Fundecooperación, as the National Implementing Entity (NIE), will manage the majority of on-the-ground implementation activities. This arrangement respects the priorities, decisions, and strategic vision of the DCC, ensuring alignment with national climate action policies, ~~.~~ including the coordination of actions with the National Action Plan on Gender Equality for Climate Action. To ensure this alignment and actively promote the inclusion of women in their diversity, a consultation

committee will be established with the participation of the National Institute for Women (INAMU). Furthermore, this advisory committee will invite relevant organizations representing vulnerable groups, such as the Mesa Nacional Indígena (National Indigenous Board), to identify and pursue opportunities for increasing the involvement of women and promoting greater participation of indigenous communities in project activities.

Fundecooperación will provide direct project services, including procurement and contracting, to streamline implementation. To ensure effective coordination, a joint Coordination Committee will be established, comprised of representatives from the DCC and Fundecooperación. This committee will be responsible for project planning, management decisions, monitoring and evaluation, and overall supervision.

A dedicated Project Director will be contracted to lead the day-to-day implementation activities in the field. Furthermore, the project will actively collaborate with NGOs, academic institutions, government agencies, and the private sector to leverage their expertise and resources.

In particular, the project will emphasize the critical role of local organizations in rural communities. This includes working closely with technical colleges, universities, community-based organizations, and local associations. By actively involving these actors, the project will leverage their existing networks, expertise, and community ties to ensure that project activities are culturally relevant, contextually appropriate, and effectively address the needs of local populations. This collaborative approach will build local capacity, empower communities, and enhance the sustainability of project outcomes.

~~D.~~**B.** Describe the monitoring and evaluation arrangements and provide a budgeted M&E plan.

Recognizing the emphasis on learning and innovation, the project's M&E system will utilize a blended approach, integrating qualitative and quantitative methods to capture progress effectively. This will focus on capturing meaningful insights from community participation and feedback. The M&E system will align with both the Adaptation Fund's M&E Framework and Fundecooperación's guidelines.

Key Elements:

1. Baseline and Participatory Assessment: Conduct a combined baseline assessment to establish initial conditions and engage key stakeholders in defining project goals.
2. Activity Monitoring and Feedback: Regularly track project activities and outputs, gather stakeholder feedback through targeted consultations, and adapt strategies as needed. This includes reporting to AF.
3. Learning and Adaptation Reviews**:** Conduct regular reviews to extract key learnings, best practices, and adaptation strategies from project implementation.
4. Knowledge Management: Maintain a robust KM to ensure learnings are captured and are useful for future programming.
5. Terminal Evaluation: Implement a comprehensive, independent evaluation at project closure, assessing overall impact, sustainability, and alignment with Adaptation Fund goals.

Deliverables	**Timeline**	Responsibility	Cost (USD)

Baseline and participatory Assessment	Month 1-4	Fundecooperación, DCC, external facilitators	8 000
Activity Monitoring and Feedback	Quarterly and annually (to AF)	Project Team (Fundecooperación, DCC), partners	10 000
Learning and Adaptation Reviews	annually	Project Team (Fundecooperación, DCC), Specialists	6,350
Knowledge management system	Ongoing	Project Team (Fundecooperación, DCC), partners	6 000
Terminal evaluation	Project closure	External evaluators	18 000
		total	**48350**

~~E.~~C. Include a simple results framework for the project proposal, including milestones, targets and indicators.

Component	Output	Milestone (year 1)	Milestone (year 3)	Indicator
1: Promotion of accessible, inclusive learning spaces	1.1: Community Innovation and Climate Empowerment Promoter Networks established	3 networks established; 30 promoters trained	10 networks established; 100 promoters trained	Number of community promoter networks established and functional. Number of trained promoters (disaggregated by gender and vulnerable group). % of promoters who report applying and training others on at least one specific adaptation practice (e.g., soil conservation, water harvesting) within 6 months of training. # of local action plans developed or modified by communities that integrate climate risk and proposed solutions from the networks.
	1.2: Mechanisms for national-level data and climate knowledge dissemination implemented	Online platform developed with basic data sets and resources	Fully functional platform with updated data, interactive tools, and success stories	Number of unique users of the online platform per year. Number of resources available on the platform. Number of downloads or views of resources.
2. Innovation of knowledge dissemination mechanisms for	2.1: Climate Innovation Labs (boot camps) conducted	2 labs conducted; 10 innovative dissemination mechanisms	5 labs conducted; 25 innovative dissemination mechanisms	Number of climate innovation labs conducted. Number of dissemination

climate action		prototyped	prototyped	mechanisms prototyped (disaggregated by type).
	2.2: Knowledge Exchange Fairs of mechanisms developed in the Climate Innovation Labs	1 Knowledge Exchange Fair held showcasing prototyped mechanisms	3 Knowledge Exchange Fairs held showcasing implemented mechanisms; replicated in at least 2 regions	Number of Knowledge Exchange Fairs held. Number of attendees at each fair. Number of mechanisms showcased and replicated. Number of implemented solutions that can be implemented in the communities

~~F.~~ **D.** Demonstrate how the project / programme aligns with the Results Framework of the Adaptation Fund

By promoting accessible learning and innovative solutions, this project directly supports the Adaptation Fund's Results Framework and its focus on empowered communities and enhanced adaptive capacity.

Project Objective(s)[6]	**Project Objective Indicator(s)**	**Fund Outcome**	**Fund Outcome Indicator**	**Grant Amount (USD)**
Objective 1. Promote accessible and inclusive learning spaces for different levels—institutions, communities, organizations—on national climate action, with a focus on adaptation.	Number of workshops, seminars, and training sessions on climate change provided.	3. Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.1. Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses	296 000
Objective 2. Innovate in mechanisms for disseminating knowledge on national climate action through participatory processes.	Number of creative and innovative mechanisms developed to disseminate and communicate learning and knowledge about climate action in the country.	8. Support the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies	8. Innovative adaptation practices are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated at regional, national and/or subnational level	347 000
Project Outcome(s)	**Project Outcome Indicator(s)**	**Fund Output**	**Fund Output Indicator**	Grant Amount (USD)
Outcome 1. A learning community on national climate information is consolidated at different levels for fair, equitable decision-making with a gender perspective.	Number of Networks of Community Promoters of Innovation and Climate Empowerment.(10) Number of dissemination mechanisms with national coverage of climate data and	3.2. Strengthened capacity of national and subnational stakeholders and entities to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning.	3.2.1 No. of technical committees/associations formed to ensure transfer of knowledge.	296 000

	knowledge implemented.(1)			
Outcome 2. Creative and innovative mechanisms are developed to disseminate and communicate learning and knowledge about climate action in the country.	Number of Climate Innovation Labs executed (5). Number of Knowledge Exchange Fairs carried. (3)	8. Viable innovations are rolled out, scaled up, encouraged and/or accelerated.	8.2. No. of key findings on effective, efficient adaptation practices, products and technologies generated.	347 000

~~G.~~**E.** Include a budget, including a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use, and an explanation and a breakdown of the execution costs.

Project Outcome	Output	Activity	Cost (USD)	Total
1: Promotion of accessible, inclusive learning spaces	1.1: Community Innovation and Climate Empowerment Promoter Networks established	Networks creation and technical support	58000	198 000
		Workshops	9100000	
		Tools and equipment	40000	
		USP support (personnel and resources for training,revision and support)	10000	
	1.2: Mechanisms for national-level data and climate knowledge dissemination implemented	platform creation	40000	98 000
		communication in community media and other media	40000	
		Platform maintenance and sustainability	18000	
2. Innovation of knowledge dissemination mechanisms for climate action	2.1: Climate Innovation Labs (boot camps) conducted	Co creation workshops	80000	142 000
		Seed support to selected solutions	30000	
		piloting, dissemination and scale up	32000	
	2.2: Knowledge Exchange Fairs of mechanisms developed in the Climate Innovation Labs	Fairs planning and networks participation	30000	205 000
		Fair execution	150000	
		Follow up to success stories and communication	25000	
Project execution		M+E		48 350
Project Implementing Entity Fee				58 650

Total	750 000

[6] The AF utilized OECD/DAC terminology for its results framework. Project proponents may use different terminology but the overall principle should still apply

~~H.~~F. Include a disbursement schedule with time-bound milestones.

	Upon signature of Agreement	One Year after Project Start a)	Year 2b)	Year 3	Total
Scheduled date	Enero 2026	Enero 2027	Enero 2028	Enero 2029	
Project Funds	256 450	266 450	168 450		691 350
Implementing Entity Fees	19 550	19 550	19 550		58 650
Total	**276 000**	**286 000**	**188 000**	**0**	**750 000**

[a)]Use projected start date to approximate first year disbursement

[b)]Subsequent dates will follow the year anniversary of project start

[c)]Add columns for years as needed

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

~~C.~~A. **Record of endorsement on behalf of the government**[7] *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: *July 30th, 2025*

~~D.~~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,  *Name & Signature* Implementing Entity Coordinator	
Date: Aug 10th 2025	Tel. and email: +506 2225 4507 mfeoli@fundecooperacion.org
Project Contact Person: Jorge Carranza	
Tel. And Email: gerencia@fundecooperacion.org, jcarranza@fundecooperacion.org	

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

July 11th, 2025
DVGE-074-2025

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 "Rise Up Climate: Empowering Communities Through Learning and Innovation 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 Costa Rica.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. 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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