



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.37/43
April 7-8, 2026

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Thirty-seventh meeting
Bonn, Germany

Agenda Item 8 c)

**LOCALLY-LED ADAPTATION REGIONAL
PROPOSAL FOR FIJI, MALAYSIA, MALDIVES,
MONGOLIA, PAKISTAN, SOLOMON ISLANDS,
SRI LANKA, VIET NAM**

1. The Board through Decision B.39/61, approved the Fund's new Medium-Term Strategy (MTS-II) for the 2023 – 2027 period. The strategy introduced a special emphasis on promoting locally led adaptation (LLA) in the Fund's work and included a new cross-cutting theme to "Promote locally based and locally led adaptation action including by devolving access and decision-making on adaptation finance to national, subnational, and local levels."

2. The Board also requested the secretariat to "prepare, for each proposed type of new or adjusted grant and funding window, a specific document containing objectives, review criteria, expected grant sizes, implementation modalities, review process and other relevant features, and present them for consideration by the Board, in accordance with the tentative timeline contained in the Annex I to document AFB/B.40/5/Rev.1." (Decision B.40/72, para (b) (iii)).

3. The implementation plan identified the following actions for the implementation of the cross-cutting theme "Promote locally-based or locally-led adaptation actions":

Under the action pillar

- (a) The Fund will continue to support concrete adaptation projects and programmes that meaningfully involve and deliver benefits to local actors and the Board will be invited to consider enhanced project review criteria, proposal templates and guidelines, as well as revised project reporting requirements.
- (b) To expand support to modalities that promote locally led action, and expand the reach of the Fund, it is proposed to enhance measures, including the existing Enhanced Direct Access window, a new Global MIE Aggregator programme for channeling grants for LLA to non-accredited entities, and opening the option for EDA-type national programmes for MIEs and RIEs.
- (c) The proposed new aggregator programme would resemble the model of the AF Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA) but would be focused on LLA. Accredited MIEs could be invited to express interest for administering such a programme, especially those MIEs that are active in LLA relevant themes, sectors and target groups.
- (d) Such a vehicle for LLA grants through global MIE aggregators would also be an opportunity, among others, for the Board to identify, on a pilot basis, sectors, themes or target groups with high impact potential or relevance for adaptation and/or that are currently being underrepresented in adaptation, such as related to health, biodiversity and nature-based solutions, fragile and conflict-affected settings, Indigenous Peoples etc.

4. As mandated by the Board's request in paragraph b (iii) of Decision B.40/72, the document AFB/PPRC.33/39 'Additional delivery modalities for expanding support to locally led adaptation' was developed, leading to Decision B.42/36.

5. Subsequently, as mandated by Decision B.42/36 in paragraph (m), the secretariat presented options for the new window on regional projects for LLA in document [AFB/PPRC.35/9/Rev.1](#) for consideration at the forty-fourth meeting of the Board.

6. Having considered the recommendation of the Project and Programme Review Committee, the Adaptation Fund Board (the Board) decided:

- (a) *The maximum size of regional LLA projects to follow the policy governing the maximum size of regional projects and programmes ;*
- (b) *The maximum size of project formulation grants policy as established under decision B.42/37, paragraphs (c) and (d) (i) and (ii).*

(Decision B.44/40)

7. Having considered the recommendation of the Project and Programme Review Committee, the Board decided to include in its work programme for fiscal year 2026 a provision for an amount of US\$ 30 million for LLA regional proposals (B.44/41).

8. The following pre-concept note proposal document titled “*Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific*” was submitted by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), which is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.

9. This is the second submission of the pre-concept proposal using the three-step process.

10. The current submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the forty-sixth Board meeting. The secretariat carried out two technical reviews of the project proposal, with the Project ID number AF00000522.

11. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with UNDP 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 or with track changes.



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: Regional LLA Project Pre-concept Note

Countries/Region: Fiji, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam
Project Title: Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific
Thematic Focal Area: Food security
Implementing Entity: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Executing Entities: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
AF Project ID: AF00000522
IE Project ID: **Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars):** USD 30,000,000
Reviewer and contact person: Linda Ogallo **Co-reviewer(s):** Alyssa Gomes
IE Contact Person:

<p>Technical Summary:</p>	<p>The project “Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific aims to finance the design and implementation of local Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs) comprised of LLA initiatives planned, developed, implemented and coordinated by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Local Communities (LCs). This will be done through the three components below:</p> <p><u>Component 1:</u> Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs) (USD 3,407,931);</p> <p><u>Component 2:</u> Demand-driven LLA grants and capacity building support to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for locally-led climate adaptation solutions (USD 19,159,458);</p> <p><u>Component 3:</u> Regional Learning and Knowledge Management System (USD 3,887,934).</p> <p><u>Requested financing overview:</u></p> <p>Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 817,404 Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 27,272,727 Implementing Fee: USD 2,727,273 Financing Requested: USD 30,000,000</p>
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	<p>The proposal includes a request for a project formulation grant of 70,000 USD.</p> <p>The initial technical review raised some, such as the number of target beneficiaries, and coordination arrangements at regional and national/sub-national level, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Requests (CARs) raised in the review.</p> <p>The second technical review finds the remaining CRs and CARs to be addressed.</p>
Date	4 th March 2026

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments 1 st Technical review 2 March 2026	Comments 2 nd Technical review 4 March 2026
Country Eligibility	1. Are all of the participating countries party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes	-
	2. Are all of the participating countries developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>All eight participating countries (Fiji, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam) are developing country Parties to the UNFCCC and are recognized as particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts, though the pre-concept addresses vulnerability primarily at the regional level rather than providing country-specific justifications.</p> <p>The pre-concept identifies intensified climate variability across Asia-Pacific including increased frequency of heatwaves, erratic precipitation, flash floods and droughts, as directly threatening agriculture, water availability, and food security, with Indigenous Peoples and smallholder</p>	-

		<p>farming communities bearing disproportionate impacts.</p> <p>While acceptable at pre-concept stage, <i>the concept note</i> should more clearly articulate the specific climate vulnerabilities and landscape typologies in each participating country and clarify how these commonalities justify a regional approach beyond a series of standalone national LLA projects.</p>	
Project Eligibility	<p>1. Have the designated government authorities for the Adaptation Fund from each of the participating countries endorsed the project/programme?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>As per the Endorsement letter dated Fiji – 06 February 2026 Malasia – 30 January 2026 Maldives – 14 January 2026 Mongolia – 26 January 2026 Pakistan – 6 February 2026 Solomon Island - 21 January 2026 Sri Lanka - 29 January 2026 Viet Nam – 6 February 2026</p>	-
	<p>2. Has the pre-concept provided necessary information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The pre-concept provides a reasonable regional climate context drawing on IPCC AR6 and FAO evidence, and articulates a clear LLA rationale, but remains largely regional in framing with insufficient country-specific problem articulation, defined target areas, or explicit beneficiary identification.</p> <p>The problem statement adequately establishes the regional climate</p>	

		<p>threat and the gap in direct IP/LC access to adaptation finance, but country-level perspectives are largely absent.</p> <p>CR1: In a sentence or two, please clarify the beneficiary communities/regions identified or will be selected within each country, and provide indicative beneficiary numbers if available/</p> <p><u>At concept stage</u>, please further articulate the comparative advantage of a regional programme over individual national LLA proposals. In particular, clarify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What shared ecological, socio-economic, or climate-risk typologies across the seven countries warrant a harmonized regional intervention; • How the proposed Regional Learning and Knowledge Management System will generate measurable cross-country value beyond information exchange; • Whether economies of scale, shared methodologies (e.g. LAP framework), or regional institutional platforms justify the regional design. 	<p>CR1: Cleared at preconcept stage (Page 6).</p> <p>The response clarifies that specific landscapes/seascapes and beneficiary communities will be identified through a participatory process led by Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs) and National Landscape Adaptation Committees (NLACs), following approaches previously applied under programmes such as COMDEKS and the GEF Small Grants Programme. Given the locally led and participatory design of the programme, the explanation is acceptable at the pre-concept stage. On endorsement of the Pre-Concept Note and related Project Formulation Grant, each of the eight countries will carry out an initial consultative process, during which beneficiaries and landscape/seascape selection criteria will be discussed. The outcomes of this initial consultative process will be reflected in the Concept Note.</p> <p><u>At the concept stage</u>, the proposal is expected to provide indicative information on the expected</p>

			landscapes/seascapes to be targeted in each country, as well as approximate beneficiary numbers, once the initial participatory scoping has been conducted.
	<p>3. Have the project/programme objectives, components and financing been clearly explained?</p>	<p>Yes. The three programme components are logically sequenced and broadly coherent, with financing allocations reflecting a reasonable prioritization toward direct grant implementation, though the pre-concept does not explicitly map activities to AF Strategic Objectives, and the articulation of how LLA principles are operationalized across the regional context.</p>	-
	<p>4. Has the project/programme been justified in terms of how:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it supports concrete adaptation actions. - it builds added value through the regional approach. - it aligns with the principles of LLA and seeks to operationalize the principles of LLA? - It describes indicatively how it will source locally-led small grant proposals, and screen them for the potential to support concrete adaptation actions to assist the 	<p>Yes. The pre-concept provides reasonable justification across most dimensions, with particular strength in its LLA rationale, cost-effectiveness argument, and sustainability logic, but falls short on the concrete articulation of how patient and accessible funding will be structured for local actors.</p> <p>CR2: Please clarify in 1-2 sentences as applicable for a preconcept note, how the programme will ensure that funding is structured to be patient and predictable for local actors.</p>	<p>CR2: Cleared (Page 8). The response clarifies that grant financing will enable local actors to test and implement adaptation innovations with reduced financial risk, which is consistent with the principles of locally led adaptation. The requested clarification has been incorporated on page 8 of the proposal.</p> <p><u>At the concept stage</u>, the proposal is expected to further clarify how the programme design will operationalize patient and predictable funding for local actors, including indicative information on the structure and duration of grant support, potential phased or multi-year financing arrangements, and</p>

	<p>participating countries in addressing the adverse effects of climate change and build in climate resilience?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it is cost-effective? - it is consistent with applicable strategies and plans? - it incorporates learning and knowledge management? - it will be developed through a consultative process with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund? - it will take into account sustainability. 	<p><u>At concept stage</u>, the proposal should indicate the approximate proportion of total resources expected to flow directly to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities through grants, as well as indicative grant sizes and allocation logic across countries.</p> <p><u>At concept stage</u>, further clarification will be required on how Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs) and NLAC structures will be institutionalized beyond the programme duration, including linkages to NAP/NDC processes and national planning systems.</p> <p><u>At concept stage</u>, please provide additional clarity on the overall operational framework of the programme, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The general approach that will be used to screen and manage environmental and social risks associated with grant-funded activities; • If USPs exist, these must be mentioned transparently and with an accompanying justification; • The indicative scale and nature of grant-supported initiatives under the Landscape Adaptation 	<p>mechanisms that may provide continuity of support within Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs).</p>
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		<p>Programmes (LAPs), given that specific sub-projects will be identified during implementation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The broad structure through which locally-led grant proposals will be solicited, reviewed, and approved to ensure transparency and accessibility for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities; • Initial Gender Analysis and Initial consultation reports are a requirement at the concept note stage. 	
	<p>5. Does the pre-concept briefly explain which organizations would be involved in the proposed regional project/programme at the regional and national/sub-national level, and how coordination would be arranged?</p> <p>Does it explain how national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs) would be involved as partners in the project?</p>	<p>Yes. The implementation arrangements are conceptually outlined but remain underdeveloped, with UNDP's dual role as both implementer and executor raising questions about the depth of devolution to local actors, and the involvement of national institutions and NIEs described only in general terms rather than through clearly defined roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>CR3: Please clarify what regional-level coordination mechanism or body will be established to oversee programme coherence across the seven participating countries, and whether a dedicated regional coordination unit distinct from</p>	<p>CR3: Cleared at pre-concept stage (Pages 8–9) The response clarifies that a regional coordination mechanism is envisaged to ensure programme coherence across the participating countries. Specifically, an AF LLA Regional Programme Board will provide high-level strategic oversight, while a dedicated Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) established by UNDP in its Executing Entity capacity will manage day-to-day programme coordination and serve as secretariat to the Programme Board. At the national level, National Coordinators and country-level structures will support operational delivery and stakeholder</p>

		<p>national-level structures is envisaged.</p> <p>CR4: Please clarify what national institutions, and where possible national implementation entities have been identified as potential executing partners at the country and landscape level, and how their selection will be managed to ensure genuine local ownership rather than UNDP-proximate execution.</p> <p><u>At concept stage</u>, further clarity will be required regarding decision-making authority at landscape level, representation safeguards within National Landscape Adaptation Committees (NLACs), and how conflicts of interest will be managed where UNDP provides both technical support and oversight functions.</p>	<p>engagement, reporting to the regional PCU.</p> <p>As noted in the proposal detailed implementation arrangements, including the separation of oversight and execution functions and the composition of the regional and national coordination structures, will be further elaborated at the Fully Developed Proposal stage.</p> <p>CR4: Cleared at pre-concept stage (Page 9)</p> <p>The response and revisions to proposal clarifies that the programme is designed around a bottom-up, participatory landscape/seascape management approach aimed at ensuring meaningful decision-making authority by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Local Communities (LCs) over adaptation priorities and allocation of grant resources. At the national level, National Landscape Adaptation Committees (NLACs) will serve as the main programme decision-making bodies, with membership including representatives from the Adaptation Fund Designated Authorities, National Implementing Entities (where available), and a majority representation from IPs and LCs, thereby supporting local ownership in programme governance.</p>

			<p>The response further indicates that potential national partners, including NIEs and other institutions, may be approached where they demonstrate willingness and capacity to support participatory planning and locally led implementation.</p> <p>As noted in the response, further consultations and identification of potential national partners will take place during the Concept Note and Fully Developed Proposal stages, where the programme is expected to provide additional clarity on the national and landscape-level implementation arrangements and partner selection process.</p>
Resource Availability	<p>6. Is the requested project / programme funding within the funding windows of the programme for regional projects/programmes?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>PFG: The PFG submission is modestly structured with three clearly titled activities, a signed IE certification, and a reasonable overall budget of \$70,000 for a 12-month preparation period, but several financial irregularities, gaps in activity justification, and ambiguity around implementation agents exist.</p> <p>CR5: Kindly ensure all figures are rounded off, including in the budget note. Kindly also clarify the figure in the budget note, that states '10% of</p>	<p>CR5: Cleared (PFG form)</p>

		\$63,626” as this is different from the total figure.	
	<p>7. Are the administrative costs (Implementing Entity Management Fee and Project/ Programme Execution Costs) at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme for implementing entity (IE) fees and at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme cost for the execution costs?</p>	<p>No. With UNDP serving as both Implementing and Executing Entity, the Project Execution Cost represents approximately 3% of total project cost, more than double the 1.5% cap and no justification for this excess has been provided in the pre-concept.</p> <p>CAR1: The full proposal should kindly ensure all financial figures are rounded to whole numbers with no decimal places, in compliance with AF budget formatting requirements.</p> <p>CR6: Please clarify and provide justification for why Project Execution Costs exceed the 1.5% cap applicable when the Implementing Entity also serves as Executing Entity, as required under AF guidelines.</p>	<p>CAR1: Cleared. Decimals are removed.</p> <p>CR6: Cleared at pre-concept stage (Execution cost justification and supporting letter provided)</p> <p>The response clarifies that the programme is requesting exceptional approval for Programme Execution Costs of 3%, exceeding the standard 1.5% cap applicable when the Implementing Entity also serves as the Executing Entity, in accordance with Decision B.38/42 (item b iii). A supporting justification letter has also been provided as part of the pre-concept submission.</p> <p>The justification provided indicates that the higher execution costs reflect the operational requirements of a multi-country programme involving a large number of small grants to Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Local Communities (LCs), including the need for sustained accompaniment of local actors across eight countries, administrative and transactional support for grant management, intensive capacity development and participatory processes, and the establishment of regional and</p>

			<p>national programme coordination mechanisms.</p> <p><u>At the full proposal stage (implementation arrangements) and to the extent possible for the concept note (through relevant narrative),</u> the proposal is expected to provide further detail on the composition of the proposed execution costs, including indicative allocation across regional and national coordination functions, operational support for grant administration, technical assistance, and field-level accompaniment, to enable a clearer assessment of the proportionality and necessity of the requested exception.</p>
Eligibility of IE	8. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	Yes. Accreditation Expiration Date: 11 October 2029	-



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific

Countries: Fiji, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam

Thematic Focal Area: Food security

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Executing Entities: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Amount of Financing Requested: USD 30,000,000 USD

Project Formulation Grant Request: Yes No

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: n/a (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all countries: Yes No

Stage of Submission:

This pre-concept has been submitted before

This is the first submission ever of the pre-concept

Programme Background and Context:

On the short term (2020–2040), Asia is projected to face intensified climate variability, as highlighted in the **IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6)**¹. The region is already witnessing more frequent and severe extreme weather events such as heatwaves, heavy rainfall, and cyclones. According to the **IPCC Working Group I** report (2021)², average temperatures in Asia Pacific have increased by approximately 0.7°C to 1.0°C over the past century, with projections indicating a further rise of 0.5°C to 1.5°C by 2040. These changes are contributing to shortened monsoon seasons, altered rainfall patterns, and increased risk of flash floods and droughts, directly threatening agriculture, water availability, and public health.

Over the longer term (2041–2100), the impact of unmitigated climate change becomes even more severe. Under high-emissions scenarios, average temperatures could rise by 4°C or more by century's end, with **IPCC AR6** warning of substantial increases in the frequency and duration of deadly heatwaves, particularly in low-lying areas like the Indo-Gangetic Plain. Agroecosystems across the region are especially vulnerable under both timeframes. **FAO**³ and **IPCC** reports agree that rising temperatures and erratic precipitation are already reducing crop productivity, particularly for rice and wheat. In the short term, this threatens food access and farmer incomes; over the long term, the combination of heat stress, water scarcity, and soil degradation could lead to widespread shifts in cropping zones and the collapse of traditional farming systems if adaptation efforts lag behind. According to the **World Bank**⁴, vulnerable communities, including Indigenous Peoples, women, smallholder farmers, and low-income urban populations, will bear the brunt of climate impacts unless inclusive and robust adaptation strategies are adopted.

Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) builds individual and collective agency over defining, prioritizing, designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating locally identified climate actions. These actions include ecosystem restoration, climate resilient agricultural production, water resource management, forest management and other practices and innovations. LLA empowers stakeholders to take a primary role in governance and management of critical land and resources. This governance and management role, embodied in multi-stakeholder platforms, provide structured venues for assessing climate risk and uncertainty and equitable adaptation measures as well as for partnership-building, participation, inclusion and sharing of traditional and other knowledge. Although much collective climate action is carried out using local level resources, including cash and voluntary in-kind labor, effective, long-lasting climate adaptation at scale almost certainly requires greater and more flexible volumes of finance, particularly in the context of increasing climate vulnerability in the region.

Programme Objectives:

The Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific will finance the design and implementation of local **Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs)** comprised of LLA initiatives planned, developed, implemented and coordinated by Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Local Communities (LCs). The Programme will provide local leaders with an adaptable landscape planning and management framework for climate change adaptation; a participatory methodology that will build their capacities for

¹ <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-cycle/>

² <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

³ <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/1bf2c873-41da-4f5d-879a-2b1adbe76384/content>

⁴ <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/262891632949399367/pdf/World-Bank-Group-Climate-Change-Action-Plan-2021-2025-South-Asia-Roadmap.pdf>

landscape planning, investment, management, and governance; and direct access to grant funding for investment in their landscape adaptation activities.

Programme Components and Financing:

Project/Programme Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1. Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs)	Landscape Adaptation Programmes, consisting of multiple complementary resilience-enhancing initiatives, identified and prepared by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities	<p><i>Output 1.1:</i> Multi-stakeholder National Landscape Adaptation Committees established</p> <p><i>Output 1.2:</i> Multi-stakeholder landscape management and governance platforms established</p> <p><i>Output 1.3:</i> Landscape Adaptation Programmes developed in each participating country</p> <p><i>Output 1.4:</i> Priority community and landscape level initiatives in the LAPs identified</p>	Fiji, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam	3,407,931
2. Demand-driven LLA grants and capacity building support to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for locally-led climate adaptation solutions	LLA initiatives designed, financed and implemented to meet LAP objectives of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in selected landscapes	<p><i>Output 2.1:</i> LLA initiatives financed and supported</p> <p><i>Output 2.2:</i> Local organization capacities strengthened for grant project design and implementation</p>		19,159,458
3. Regional Learning and Knowledge Management System	Knowledge from LAPs and landscape planning and management initiatives used to strengthen climate adaptation policies and strategies, as well as for improved adaptive management and stakeholder learning	<p><i>Output 3.1:</i> Development and implementation of a peer-to-peer learning and exchange programme at national and local levels for upscaling and adaptive management</p> <p><i>Output 3.2:</i> Development of knowledge products from landscape planning and implementation experience and national, regional and global dissemination</p> <p><i>Output 3.3:</i> Lessons learned and knowledge presented to influencers and policy makers in broader policy forums</p>		3,887,934

		<i>Output 3.4:</i> Operationalization of the Regional Learning and Knowledge Management System	
6. Project/Programme Execution cost			817,404
7. Total Project/Programme Cost			27,272,727
8. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)			2,727,273
Amount of Financing Requested			30,000,000

Project Duration: Five years (60 months)

PART II: PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

- Programme components

The Programme focuses on three components critical to the success of LLA efforts: capacity for collective action, funding to support implementation of stakeholder-identified adaptation priorities, and access to and generation of knowledge and information for adaptive management and policy advocacy. In the first component, Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs), consisting of multiple complementary resilience-enhancing initiatives, are identified and prepared by IPs and LCs. This participatory landscape-wide process of learning-by-doing will be assisted by thematic experts in technical dialogue with local stakeholders combining traditional knowledge and relevant modern approaches to define priorities and potential actions in a LAP to enhance their socio-ecological resilience. In the second component, local organizations design, finance and implement their initiatives to meet the LAP priorities they have selected. IPs and LCs will select the initiatives they feel comfortable assuming responsibility for. With technical assistance, these organizations will design initiatives for grant funding and proceed to implement them, building capacities through learning-by-doing. In the third component, local stakeholders and programme staff assess the performance of their initiatives (as well as the LAP overall), identify lessons and best practice for improved adaptive management and transmit this knowledge to peer organizations and to policy makers, through the National Landscape Adaptation Committee.

- How the programme will facilitate decision-making at the lowest appropriate level

The Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs) will be developed in the first year by local landscape actors organized in locally led multi-stakeholder landscape management and governance platforms. These groups will, through a process of participatory system inquiry and research, identify and analyze the social, economic and ecological vulnerability to climate change of their production systems and the ecosystem services that sustain them. Resilience-enhancing measures, which are expected to focus almost entirely on nature-based solutions, will be identified by the local groups in dialogue with national experts and institutions and prioritized for action. The identified actions or initiatives will be reviewed and approved for grant funding by multi-stakeholder **National Landscape Adaptation Committees (NLACs)** comprised of a majority of non-governmental representatives. The Programme will channel resources directly to IPs and LCs to enhance the resilience of the critical landscapes where they live and work, while contributing to the nationally determined adaptation targets of their NDCs and NAPs.

- Programme cost-effectiveness

The proposed programme is intrinsically more cost-effective than any conventional alternative since it provides financing directly to IPs and LCs to carry out their resilience-enhancing initiatives.

By providing funding directly, the programme reduces institutional, administrative and operational costs associated with established top-down programmes. The proposed programme will be executed building on lessons learned from the UNDP-implemented Small Grants Programme which, as confirmed in multiple independent evaluations⁵, is highly cost effective in comparison to similar on-granting programmes of international NGOs or multilateral institutions. Regional support to Landscape Adaptation Programmes will support cost-effectiveness primarily in disseminating technical guidance (methodologies, tools, innovations) to NLACs and NCs; transmitting knowledge and information to and between NLACs and NCs; and providing a knowledge generation system for peer-to-peer exchanges of experience, lessons, expertise, traditional knowledge, etc.

- Alignment with national and sub-national sustainable development strategies

At country and landscape level: grant proposal eligibility criteria for locally led initiatives reviewed by NLACs will demonstrate alignment with national, sub-national and/or local sustainable development strategies, plans and programmes. In their review of the grant proposals, NLACs will assess the alignment of grant proposals with national, sub-national and/or local development strategies and recommend adjustments to proposals to achieve consistency, where needed.

At regional level: the purpose, scope and objectives of this regional programme are broadly consistent with the goals and elements of a variety of Asian sub-regional frameworks for climate change programmes. These sub-regional frameworks focus on strengthening resilience, adapting to climate impacts, and exploring mitigation opportunities. They prioritize a harmonized approach, focusing on both adaptation and mitigation, and often incorporate goals aligned with Agenda 2030. They also emphasize the need for equity and fairness in climate action.

- Learning and knowledge management

All LAPs and their component initiatives will produce knowledge generated by participatory assessments of LAP and initiative performance against agreed targets and indicators. This knowledge will be codified in "lessons learned" reports, peer-to-peer technical information, and policy briefs. IPs and LCs will use and share the reports and technical information for adaptive management of their landscape and its resources. This knowledge will also be disseminated to other relevant partners that are members of NLACs, where coordination and collaboration will occur on M&E, KM and Learning through joint workshops, production of KM products, south-south exchange activities, etc. Policy inputs will also be produced from the knowledge generated and presented to policymakers, advocacy groups and others, as relevant.

- The consultative process, including gender considerations

Given the demand-driven nature of this regional programme, consultations occur at two different points in time, in general: 1) pre-submission of the concept and full proposal and 2) at the onset of programme implementation as part of LAP scoping and development in each country. *Prior to submission of the full proposal*, the UNDP Country Offices and SGP National Coordinators meet with government authorities, NGOs, the multi-stakeholder SGP National Steering Committee, and

⁵ Please see https://www.gefio.org/content/search?search_api_fulltext=SGP for Joint Evaluations (2008, 2015, 2021) of the Small Grants Programme (SGP).

other organizations and authorities to explain the regional programme proposal. All consultations are aligned with the AF ESP and UNDP SES, are gender-responsive and encourage meaningful participation and leadership from vulnerable and marginalized groups. Consultations *at the onset of Programme implementation* occur in each country in relation to the selected landscape as part of LAP scoping and development. These consultations are dialogues with local leaders and an invitation to participate in development of a LAP. At landscape level, with the landscape approach (LAP development and implementation) proposed by this programme, local landscape stakeholders identify the landscape they will manage at the onset of implementation. Dialogues with local stakeholders in the landscape therefore take place at the very beginning of project implementation, as part of landscape identification and confirmation.

The landscapes and beneficiary communities are yet to be fully identified at the Pre-Concept Note stage, given that the landscape/seascape management approach intended to be applied uses a highly participatory model, developed and refined over the past 20 years⁶ and implemented worldwide since then. This approach will involve the design, establishment and operationalization by local stakeholders of Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs) comprises of multiple complementary community and landscape/seascape level grant-funded initiatives identified and designed by local IPs and LCs organizations. Each LAP will be governed nationally by a multi-stakeholder National Landscape Adaptation Committee (NLAC) that will be co-chaired by IP and LC representatives (representing the majority of members). Once formed, each NLAC will guide IPs and LCs to identify priorities for funding with a participatory methodology used successfully in UNDP's locally-led landscape resilience programming with GEF (Small Grant Programme) and Japanese funding (COMDEKS). NLACs will select the landscape(s)/seascape(s) to be targeted and then support a participatory analysis and strategic planning process where local stakeholders identify landscape adaptation outcomes and agreed outputs.

Nevertheless, a number of local IPs and LCs leaders (through existing SGP National Steering Committee members, composed of a majority of non-governmental members) have been approached at this stage as to landscape and beneficiaries' selection and have begun to discuss potential selection criteria. These criteria include degree of climate change vulnerability, numbers of community and other organizations, CSO organizational capacities, kind, status, and value of ecosystem services in the potential programme area (e.g. hydrological services), type and productivity of production systems, economic status, and others. The aim of these criteria is to ensure that the most vulnerable are preferentially enabled to participate in all aspects of LAP planning and implementation.

- **Sustainability of programme outcomes**

The sustainability of programme outcomes is premised on the fact that socio-ecological resilience requires a landscape approach that encompasses ecosystem function at a manageable scale and is owned, driven and led by local community organizations in a process of collective planning, management and governance. The Programme engages local stakeholders in analysing climate impacts on ecosystem function and their production systems; supports them in identifying and crafting innovations and other solutions to climate vulnerabilities as part of a strategic approach to landscape investment and uses participatory evaluation to distil lessons for use in adaptive landscape management and policy dialogues. In developing LAPs, local community organizations experience and own a step-by-step, participatory framework for systematically defining and prioritizing investments in a landscape, including capacity building, partnership establishment,

⁶ <https://comdeksproject.com/knowledge-management-products/publications/>

and market analysis and access. As such, local community organizations practice non-formal landscape governance by prescribing peer-to-peer compliance with consensus-based land management rules. With this practice local community organizations are empowered to advocate relevant policy reforms and participate in formal, official governance at landscape and other levels, as well as to continue to develop landscape-wide organizations. This Programme will provide grant funding to local community organizations to build their capacities through learning-by-doing, thereby making them more capable of accessing credit or entering into partnerships with outside investors. As they build their capacities, knowledge and experience, they will become more adept at accessing markets and more effective business managers.

- *Economic, social and environmental benefits*

The LAP programming methodology is aimed directly at enhancing socio-ecological resilience from coordinated locally-led activities that improve or sustain ecosystem services and agricultural and other production, as well as governance, management and financing capacities and mechanisms. Grant project eligibility criteria will include references to the equitable distribution of benefits to vulnerable communities, households and individuals. The LAPs will be a product of the participation and leadership of IPs and LCs organizations, including marginalized/minority groups, and their empowerment through design and implementation of initiatives of their choosing. This will ensure that benefits specific to their needs and circumstances are considered and that risks of marginalization are negligible.

- *Relevant national technical standards*

UNDP will support identifying and aligning grants with all relevant technical standards during LAP development and implementation and help NCs to assist local Indigenous Peoples and Local Community organizations to address the specific requirements of national technical standards, whenever required.

- *Duplication of project/programme with other funding sources*

There are currently no regional programmes systematically or strategically providing IPs and LCs direct access to adaptation finance by local community organizations for LLA. At national level, NLACs will ensure that grants avoid duplication with any existing initiatives, but rather build complementarity, whenever relevant. At Global level, the Programme will seek synergies with the AF-funded, UNDP-implemented Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Global Programme for LLA, as well as any relevant initiatives in the pipeline.

- *Justification for funding requested*

The Programme will promote a participatory, locally led landscape planning and management approach to enhance the socio-ecological resilience of ecosystem function. An important objective of this landscape approach is to ensure that locally-led climate adaptation initiatives act collectively to achieve greater impact at scale from ecological and socio-economic synergies. The Programme will support local leadership in identifying, designing, implementing and evaluating their own resilience-enhancing initiatives, expediting technical assistance and capacity development, facilitating bottom-up/top-down innovation and the organic emergence of an innovation system, and supporting local IPs and LCs organizations to generate knowledge for dissemination to peers, policy makers and others. The Programme will provide critical seed funding for resilience-enhancing initiatives, supporting the full cost of adaptation of such initiatives.

Grant funding is a key foundational element of patient and predictable funding. Local stakeholders can be reluctant to invest in new adaptive practices, systems or technologies given their perception of risk, particularly financial. Initial grant finance allows local actors to develop, test and/or experience innovations with essentially little or no risk, particularly if their initiative has been developed in dialogue with technical experts and authorities. The experience and performance of the innovations are evaluated by local stakeholders, who can then pursue further finance from other sources, if needed, with a lower risk of failure given their increased capacities, experience and confidence.

- *Environmental and social impacts and risks*

The Programme will include a grants mechanism, through which applications for grant funding will be invited during implementation, guided by a programming and operational framework (the LAPs). Given that ESP-related risks associated with LLA grant activities can only be identified during the formulation of LAPs and review of grant proposals, this constitutes a case of Unidentified Sub-Projects (USPs). To manage these risks effectively, the Programme ESMP will include a system to screen grant proposals for ESP-related risks, and manage already identified ESP Risks, ensuring that appropriate mitigation measures are identified and implemented, in line with the ESP and UNDP SES, and the Guidance document for Project/Programme with Unidentified Sub-Projects.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

In the context of this programme, UNDP will serve both as the Implementing Entity and the Executing Entity. Oversight will be provided by the UNDP BPPS team, which will ensure that the programme is being carried out in accordance with AF and UNDP policies and procedures. Execution will be provided by a Programme Coordination Unit (the Executing Entity). In each country, landscape stakeholders will be supported by a National Coordinator (NC) in all analytical, planning and implementation actions. The NC will act as Secretary to a National Landscape Adaptation Committee (NLAC), the Programme's main decision-making body in each country. The NC will assist Indigenous Peoples and Local Community organizations to develop grant proposals for adaptation initiatives for submission to the NLAC. Wherever they exist, AF NIEs will be invited to join the NLACs.

Although detailed implementation arrangements will be further elaborated in the Fully Developed Proposal, UNDP envisages establishing dedicated regional-level oversight and implementation mechanisms to ensure strategic coherence across the eight participating countries.

At the regional level, high-level oversight will be provided through an AF LLA Regional Programme Board. Through UNDP's capacity of Implementing Entity, the Programme Board will serve as the most senior, dedicated decision-making body for the Programme. In its Executing Entity capacity, UNDP will establish a dedicated Programme Coordination Unit (PCU), distinct from national-level structures. The PCU will be responsible for day-to-day management of the Programme, including programme coherence, based on relevant AF and UNDP policies and procedures, and will at minimum comprise a Programme Manager acting as secretariat of the Regional Programme Board.

At the national level, implementation will be ensured through country-specific structures, including a National Coordinator (NC) responsible for the day-to-day execution of the Programme activities

in the country, supported where feasible by a Programme Assistant. These national structures will focus on operational delivery and stakeholder engagement within each country, reporting to the regional PCU.

The Fully Developed Proposal will further elaborate on the clear separation between implementation (Programme oversight) and execution (administration of the day-to-day activities).

The central objective of the programme is to enable IPs and LCs communities and their leaders to exercise meaningful decision-making authority over adaptation priorities and allocation of grant resources. It is therefore designed around a bottom-up, participatory landscape/seascape management approach that embeds local ownership.

National Landscape Adaptation Committees, acting as the main Programme decision-making body in each country, will determine the approval of LAP strategies and the eligibility of local initiatives for funding. The NLAC composition will include permanent memberships by the relevant government representative (Designated Authorities of the Adaptation Fund), by a representative from National Implementing Entities, wherever they exist, and a majority representation from by IPs and LCs. Where NIEs and other institutions demonstrate their willingness and capacities to support an organic, bottom-up process of participatory planning and management at local level, they will be approached to participate as potential partners at country and landscape/seascape level. Consultations will be carried out as part of the Concept Note and Fully Developed Proposal to allow fine-tuning this proposed approach.

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

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government⁷

<u>Mr. Munkhjargal Chuluunjav, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Mongolia</u> <u>Dr. BATJARGAL ZAMBA, Science Advisor, Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment, Mongolia</u>	<u>Date: February 16, 2026</u> Date: January 26, 2026
<u>Mr. Amjad Abdulla, Director General, Climate Change Department, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Republic of Maldives</u> <u>Mr. Ahmed Waheed, Director, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Republic of Maldives</u>	<u>Date: March 15, 2026</u> Date: January 14, 2026
<u>Mr. Datuk Nor Yahati Binti Awang, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of</u>	<u>Date: January 30, 2026</u>

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

<i>Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, Malaysia</i>	
<i>Mr. David Hiriasia Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM), Solomon Islands</i>	Date: January 21, 2026
<i>Mr. K.R. Uduwawala, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka</i>	Date: January 29, 2026
<i>Dr. Sivendra Michael, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Fiji</i>	Date: February 6, 2026
<i>Mr. Muhammad Ijaz Ghani, Senior Joint Secretary (climate change), Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Pakistan</i>	Date: February 6, 2026
<i>Dr. Nguyen Tuan Quang, Deputy Director General, Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment of Viet Nam</i>	Date: February 6, 2026

B. Implementing Entity certification

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, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Nancy Bennet Executive Coordinator Vertical Funds Programme Support Oversight and Compliance Hub Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS) Global Policy Network UNDP	
Date:	Tel. and email: +1 (212) 906-5000/ nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Contact Person: Ms. Diana Salvemini, Global Technical Advisor on Local Action Tel. And Email: +12129065094 - diana.salvemini@undp.org	



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Levels 1, 2 & 5 Bali Tower, 318 Toorak Road
P. O. Box 2109 Government Buildings, Suva, Fiji

6 February 2026

Mr. Mikko Ollikainen
Head of the Adaptation Fund
1899 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC, USA
By Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org

Dear Mr Ollikainen

Re: Endorsement for the Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and the Pacific

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change ('Ministry'), as the Designated Authority to the Adaptation Fund (AF) in Fiji, confirms that the above regional programme proposal is in accordance with the Government's regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Asia and Pacific.

The programme is broadly aligned with Fiji's national adaptation priorities and community-based resilience objectives by strengthening locally led climate adaptation and resilience-building efforts of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

Accordingly, Fiji is pleased to endorse the above programme proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the programme will be implemented and executed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Sincerely,


Dr. Sivendra Michael
Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change



KEMENTERIAN SUMBER ASLI DAN KELESTARIAN ALAM
(Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability)
Parcel F, Blok F11, Kompleks F
Lebuhraya Perdana Timur, Presint 1
Pusat Pentadbiran Kerajaan Persekutuan
62000 PUTRAJAYA
MALAYSIA

Tel : +603-8000 8000
Portal Rasmi : www.nres.gov.my

Our Reference : NRES.700-7/1/7 (12)(S)

Date : 30 January 2026

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

ENDORSEMENT FOR “LOCALLY LED ADAPTATION GRANTS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME IN ASIA AND PACIFIC”

With references to the above matter.

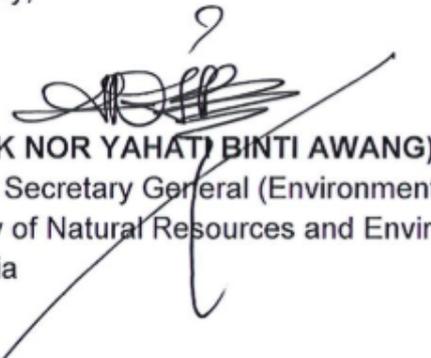
2. In my capacity as Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Malaysia, I confirm that the above project proposal is in accordance with my government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Malaysia and was discussed with relevant stakeholders.

3. Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the preparation of the proposal will be supported by and the project will be implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by the UNDP Country Office in Malaysia.

4. For the avoidance of doubt, this endorsement does not create any obligation on the part of the Government of Malaysia with respect to legal or financial actions.

Thank you

Sincerely,


(DATUK NOR YAHATI BINTI AWANG)
Deputy Secretary General (Environmental Sustainability)
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability
Malaysia

• Nilai Lestari • Responsif • Efisien • Sistematis



Official Use Only

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Ministry of Tourism and Environment
Male', Republic of Maldives



Date: 15 March 2026

No: 88-CCD/PRIV/2026/399

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

Sub: Endorsement letter for “Locally led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and the Pacific”

To whom it may concern,

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Maldives, I confirm that the above regional programme proposal is in accordance with the Government's regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks posed by, climate change in the Asia and Pacific region.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above programme proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the programme will be implemented and executed by the United Nations Development Programme.

Sincerely,

Amjad Abdulla
Director General
Climate Change Department



**MONGOLIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Government Building 12, Builder's Square,
Chingeltei District, Ulaanbaatar 15170, MONGOLIA
Tel: (976-51) 26 61 71, E-mail: contact@mecc.gov.mn,
Website: www.mecc.gov.mn

Date 16 Feb, 2026

Ref. 05a/971

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

Letter of Endorsement by Government

Subject: Endorsement for "Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific".

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

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be executed by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and implemented by UNDP.

Sincerely,

Munkhjargal Chuluunjav
National Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund,
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change of Mongolia

1526000877

Phone: +92-51-9204796



Sr. Joint Secretary (CC)

D.O No. 1(3)/UNDP LLA/2026/SO CC
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
Ministry of Climate Change
& Environmental Coordination
(LG&RD Complex, Sector G-5/2, Islamabad)

Islamabad, the 6th February, 2026

To:
Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MNS N7-700
Washington D.C, 20433
United States of America
Email:secretariat@adaptation-fund.org

SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT FOR THE PRE-CONCEPT NOTE OF "LOCALLY LED ADAPTATION FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC"

In my capacity as the Primary Focal Point for the Pakistan's Designated Entity to the Adaptation Fund, I confirm that the subject pre-concept note of the regional project is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce and manage adverse impacts of and risks posed by climate change in Pakistan.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above pre-concept note with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be executed and implemented by the UNDP.

Muhammad Ijaz Ghani
(Primary Focal Point for AF Pakistan)

Copy for information to:

- i. PS to Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
- ii. Additional Secretary-II, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
- iii. Deputy Secretary (CC), Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
- iv. Joint Secretary (CF), Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
- v. Ms. Van Nguyen Deputy Resident Representative UNDP Pakistan, Islamabad with reference to your letter No: 2139 dated 12 January 2026 (*copy attached*).



**Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management &
Meteorology (MECDM)
P O Box 21, Honiara
Phone: +677 24101/23031**

Date: 21 January 2026

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 “Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific”

In my capacity as Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Solomon Islands, I confirm that the above regional project/programme proposal is in accordance with the government’s national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the Solomon Islands.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project/programme proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project/programme will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed by the UNDP Country Office in the Solomon Islands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hiba'.

David Hiba Hiriasia
Permanent Secretary

**Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and
Meteorology (MECDM)**



පරිසර අමාත්‍යාංශය
சுற்றுடல் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Environment

"සොබාදාම පීයා", අංක 416/සී/1, රොබට් ගුනවර්ධන මාවත, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.
"சொபாடம் பியா", இல. 416/சி/1, ரொபர்ட் குணவர்தன மாவத்தை, பத்தரமுல்லை, இலங்கை.
"Sobadam Piyasa", No. 416/C/1, Robert Gunawardana Mawatha, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.
Gen. Tel. +94-11-2034100

ලේකම්
செயலாளர்
Secretary
+94-11-2034121

ෆැක්ස්
தொலை நகல்
Fax
+94-11-2879944

මගේ අංකය
எனது இல
My No

ENV/CC/04/04/01/02/01-LLA

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல
Your No

දිනය
திகதி
Date

29.01.2026

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

Letter of Endorsement by the Government of Sri Lanka
"Locally Led Adaptation Grants Programme for Indigenous People and Local Communities in Asia and Pacific"

In my capacity as the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Sri Lanka, I hereby confirm that the above-mentioned grant proposal is in accordance with the national priorities of the government of Sri Lanka in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above grant proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. Upon approval, the project will be implemented by UNDP and executed by the UNDP Country Office in Sri Lanka.

Sincerely,

K. R. Uduwawala
Secretary

"මේ ගෝලයට සහ ගනනොළ මිනිසාට මෙන්ම අනෙක් ජීවීන්ට ද මිනිසාට ද සියලු සතුන්ට ද එකම අයිතිය"
"இது முன்பு, பரந்த செய் செயற்களும் பனிதனுக்கும் போன்றே வானில் பறந்து தீயும் பறவைகளக்கும், பூமியில் வாழும் உயிர்வாழ்க்கைக்கும், அனைத்து விலங்குகளுக்கும் ஒன்றுதான் சொந்தமானது"
"This great earth and the flora on it equally belong to the man and the birds flying in the sky, the quadrupeds and all creatures living on earth"

Ha Noi, 6 February 2026

The Adaptation Fund Board

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

Endorsement for the project pre-concept proposal titled “Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific”

The project titled “Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific” has been developed by the Provincial People’s Committee of Quang Tri in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The objective of the project is to finance the design and implementation of local Landscape Adaptation Programmes implemented and coordinated by indigenous peoples and local communities and provide local leaders with an adaptable landscape planning and management framework for climate change adaptation; a participatory methodology that will build their capacities for landscape planning, investment, management, and governance; and direct access to grant funding for investment in their landscape adaptation activities.

On behalf of Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, as Viet Nam's designated authority for the Adaptation Fund, I hereby confirm that the project pre-concept proposal titled “Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous People and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific” aligns fully with the priorities of the Government of Viet Nam in strengthening the climate change adaptive capacity.

Therefore, I am pleased to endorse the above project pre-concept proposal and support its submission to the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the United Nations Development Programme and executed by the United Nations Development Programme.

Sincerely,



Nguyen Tuan Quang
Deputy Director General
Department of Climate Change
Ministry of Agriculture and Environment of Viet Nam

Cc:

- Provincial People’s Committee of Quang Tri;
- United Nations Development Programme in Viet Nam.





Revised PFG Submission Form¹ (additions in red)

Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: 03/04/2026

Adaptation Fund Project ID:

Country/ies: Fiji, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam

Title of Project/Programme: Locally-Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific

Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE): MIE

Implementing Entity: UNDP

Executing Entity/ies: UNDP

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	1 May 2026
Completion date of PFG	1 May 2027

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

Regular PFG

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note²
1. Consultant to remotely coordinate the development of the Concept Note	Draft Concept Note in compliance with AF policies, including a Theory of Change	18,800	Consultancy fees (USD 470*40 days)
2. Initial consultative process with key stakeholders of the programme at Regional, National and Local levels	Report documenting the initial consultative process carried out, as well as a description of expected beneficiaries, including marginalized and vulnerable groups	15,000	USD 4,125 for each of the 8 countries to organize National Steering Committee meetings to discuss and deliver the output described. The amount for this activity is not

¹ As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

² The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

	<p>as well as Indigenous Peoples communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - List of relevant regional, national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments - List of relevant national technical standards and description of the Programme compliance with each - List of all relevant initiatives and description of lack of overlap and complementarity, describing areas of overlap and complementarity, drawing lessons from the earlier initiatives during the project design, learning from their problems/mistakes 		<p>enough under the regular PFG and needs to be complemented by the additional PFG table below</p>
3. Consultant to undertake an initial gender analysis	An initial gender analysis determining the different needs, capabilities, roles and knowledge resources of women and men, and/or identify how changing gender dynamics might drive lasting change	9,400	(USD 470*20 days)
IE management fee (10%)	Oversight provided on the Concept Note development	4,800	10% of USD 48,000
Total Regular Project Formulation Grant		48,000	

Additional PFG

Additional amount is required due to the high number of countries covered. This extra allocation will allow for proper consultation process and stakeholder engagement for the design of project activities to enable devolving decision making at the local level in all participating countries.

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note³
1. Initial consultative process with key stakeholders of the programme at Regional, National and Local levels	Report documenting the initial consultative process carried out, as well as a description of expected beneficiaries, including marginalized and vulnerable groups as well as Indigenous Peoples communities - List of relevant regional, national or sub-national sustainable development strategies, national or sub-national development plans, poverty reduction strategies, national communications and adaptation programs of action and other relevant instruments - List of relevant national technical standards and description of the Programme compliance with each - List of all relevant initiatives and description of lack of overlap and complementarity, describing areas of overlap and complementarity, drawing lessons from	18,000	USD 4,125 for each of the 8 countries to organize National Steering Committee meetings to discuss and deliver the output described. This amount is the complement necessary to reach the minimum to cover the consultation process in all countries. In total (regular PFG + additional PFG), this consultation process will cost USD 33,000.00 for the 8 countries.

³ The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

	the earlier initiatives during the project design, learning from their problems/mistakes		
IE management fee (10%)	Oversight and coordination provided on the consultation process	2,000	10% of USD 20,000
Total Additional Project Formulation Grant		20,000	

Please describe below each of the PFG activities and provide justifications for their need and for the amount of funding required:

1. Consultant to remotely coordinate the development of the Concept Note:

A consultant will be engaged to draft the project Concept Note and coordinate with national and regional stakeholders. This will ensure that stakeholders’ needs and expectations are aligned with Adaptation Fund Operational Policies and Guidelines. The proposed budget allocates 40 working days at a daily rate of USD 470.

2. Initial consultative process with key stakeholders of the programme at Regional, National and Local levels:

In collaboration with the consultant and the oversight team and its Country Offices, UNDP will organize an initial gender-responsive consultative process with key stakeholders at regional, national, and local levels. This process will involve existing Small Grants Programme National Steering Committees in participating countries, which include a majority of non-governmental representatives and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. Consultations will also include governments, private sector actors, CSOs, and academic institutions. Given the emphasis on Indigenous Peoples, these consultations will ensure that IPs and LCs interests and concerns are fully integrated into the Concept Note design.

3. Consultant to undertake an initial gender analysis:

A consultant will be hired to carry out an initial gender analysis to identify the different needs, capacities, roles, and knowledge resources of women and men, and assess how evolving gender dynamics may drive lasting change. This analysis will comply with the Adaptation Fund Gender Policy. The proposed budget allocates 20 working days at a daily rate of USD 470.

For LLA Projects only:

If requesting additional funding for LLA projects to enable devolving decision making to the local level, please specify the activities that would directly serve to enable devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level and enable local actors to make informed decisions on how adaptation actions are defined, prioritized, designed, and implemented:

Please provide justifications for their need and for the amount of additional funding required:

Under PFG Activity 2, and in collaboration with the consultant, the oversight team, and UNDP Country Offices, UNDP will convene an initial, gender-responsive consultative process with stakeholders at regional, national, and local levels. This process will draw on the existing Small Grants Programme (SGP) National Steering Committees (NSCs) in participating countries, which comprise a majority of non-governmental representatives, including Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPs and LCs). Additional consultations will involve relevant government counterparts, private sector actors, civil society organizations, and academic institutions.

Given the Programme’s strong focus on Indigenous Peoples, the consultation process will ensure that IP and LC priorities, knowledge, and concerns directly inform the design of the Concept Note and the formulation of the Landscape Adaptation Programmes (LAPs). Based on SGP operational experience, an average allocation of USD 4,125 per country is proposed to support NSC meetings across the eight participating countries.

These consultations are critical to operationalizing the LLA Principles, particularly the devolvement of decision making to the lowest appropriate level. Through their structured participation in NSCs and targeted local consultations, IPs and LCs will be able to influence the definition, prioritization, and design of proposed adaptation interventions, as well as the modalities for direct access to grant financing for locally led initiatives. Early engagement at the Concept Note stage will support inclusive identification and co-design of LAPs in each targeted landscape and will ensure that LAP design incorporates monitoring indicators and targets defined by IPs and LCs themselves to track progress and assess success.

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board’s procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund’s criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Nancy Bennet, Executive Coordinator, Vertical Funds Programme Support, Oversight and Compliance Hub, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS), Global Policy Network, UNDP	DocuSigned by:  4EEADA5A5FE9433...	16-Mar-2026	Ms. Diana Salvemini, Global Technical Advisor on Local Action	+12129065094	diana.salvemini@undp.org

United Nations Development Programme



*Empowered lives
Resilient nations*

3 March 2026

Subject: Implementation and Management Arrangements for the Project “Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific”

Dear Mr. Ollikainen,

Reference is made to the funding proposal submitted by UNDP for consideration by the Adaptation Fund Board under the regional funding windows for the initiative “Locally Led Adaptation Grants for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Programme in Asia and Pacific”.

This global project will be implemented by UNDP through the Direct Implementation Modality. The UNDP Direct Implementation Modality is a regular practice applied for UNDP global and regional projects and programmes where more than one beneficiary country is engaged and where a strong global/regional coordination effort and leadership is required. The project implementation will be led by the UNDP Policy and Programme Support (BPPS) Planet Hub with on-the-ground support from UNDP Country Offices in beneficiary countries. A regional project coordination mechanism will be established within UNDP’s Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific. There is a full understanding among the beneficiary countries which have expressed an interest in joining the Programme regarding the proposed UNDP Direct Implementation Modality.

The regional programme proposal indicates project execution costs at the level of 3% of the total project budget. While this exceeds the 1.5% cap set by the Adaptation Fund Board for initiatives implemented and executed by the same Implementing Entity, the request is made on an exceptional basis in line with item (b) iii of Decision B.38/42. Please note that this additional 1.5 % is being driven by minimal costs for admin and programme management support personnel, while travel costs, site visits for safeguards and other monitoring, technical assistance are folded into the project component costs, as per AF policy.

Indeed, the higher execution costs of the Programme are justified by its intensive, hands-on design and the comprehensive support required at both local and national levels at the operational level. Key contributing factors include the need for continuous engagement with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities organizations across the beneficiary countries. This entails operational and administrative backstopping, and real-time, in-country problem-solving, all requiring a significant operational budget.

Operational demands are further intensified by the complex nature of financial and administrative transactions with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, such as grant disbursement and procurement processes. The establishment and maintenance of both global, regional and national management units, with a minimal portion of the operational costs charged to PEC are essential to ensure proper coordination, transparency and accountability, adding further to execution costs.

The proposed Programme Execution Costs are fully aligned with its operational needs. We would like to reconfirm that the estimated Programme Execution Costs cover the costs attributed solely to this project management. The proposed programme management resources are important to secure effective execution of this global project, knowledge management, and delivery of local adaptation benefits sought from this Programme.

03-Mar-2026

With kind regards,

DocuSigned by:
Nancy Bennet
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Nancy Bennet

Executive Coordinator

Vertical Funds Programme Support

Oversight and Compliance Hub

Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS)

Global Policy Network

UNDP

Mr. Mikko Ollikainen
Head, Adaptation Fund
Washington, D.C.