



ADAPTATION FUND

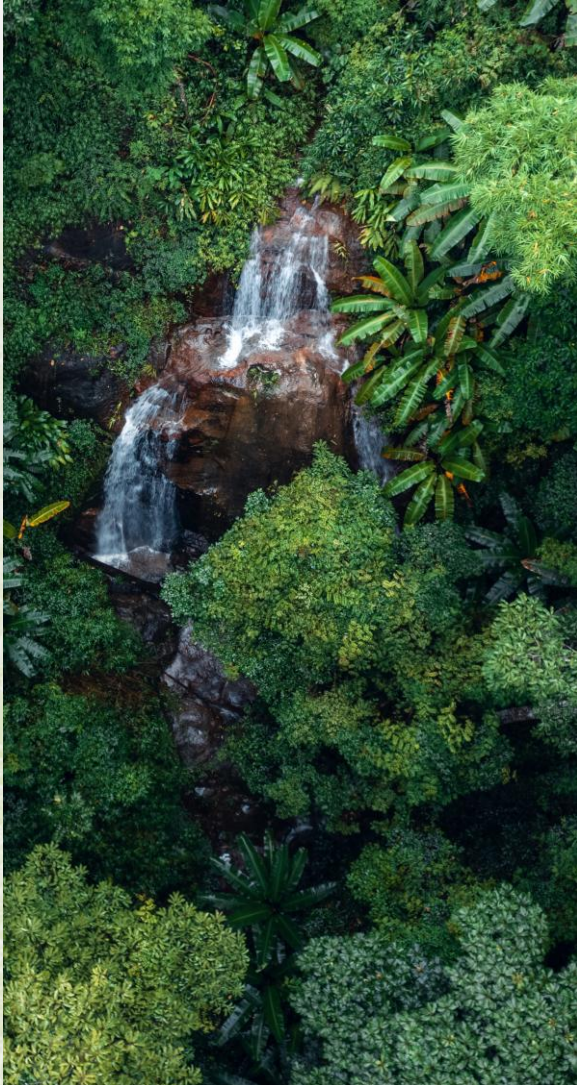
OVERVIEW & UPDATES: RE-ACCREDITATION PROCESS

Naysa Ahuja

Accreditation Officer, Adaptation Fund

15 September 2026

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Background



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- The Accreditation process ensures that applicant entities follow fiduciary and safeguard standards while accessing financial resources of the Adaptation Fund.
- An institutional assessment ensuring adherence to accreditation standards and implementation of effective social and environmental safeguards to identify any project risks in advance and improve the sustainability of results.
- Follows a transparent and systematic process through an Adaptation Fund Accreditation Panel (the Panel) supported by the Secretariat.

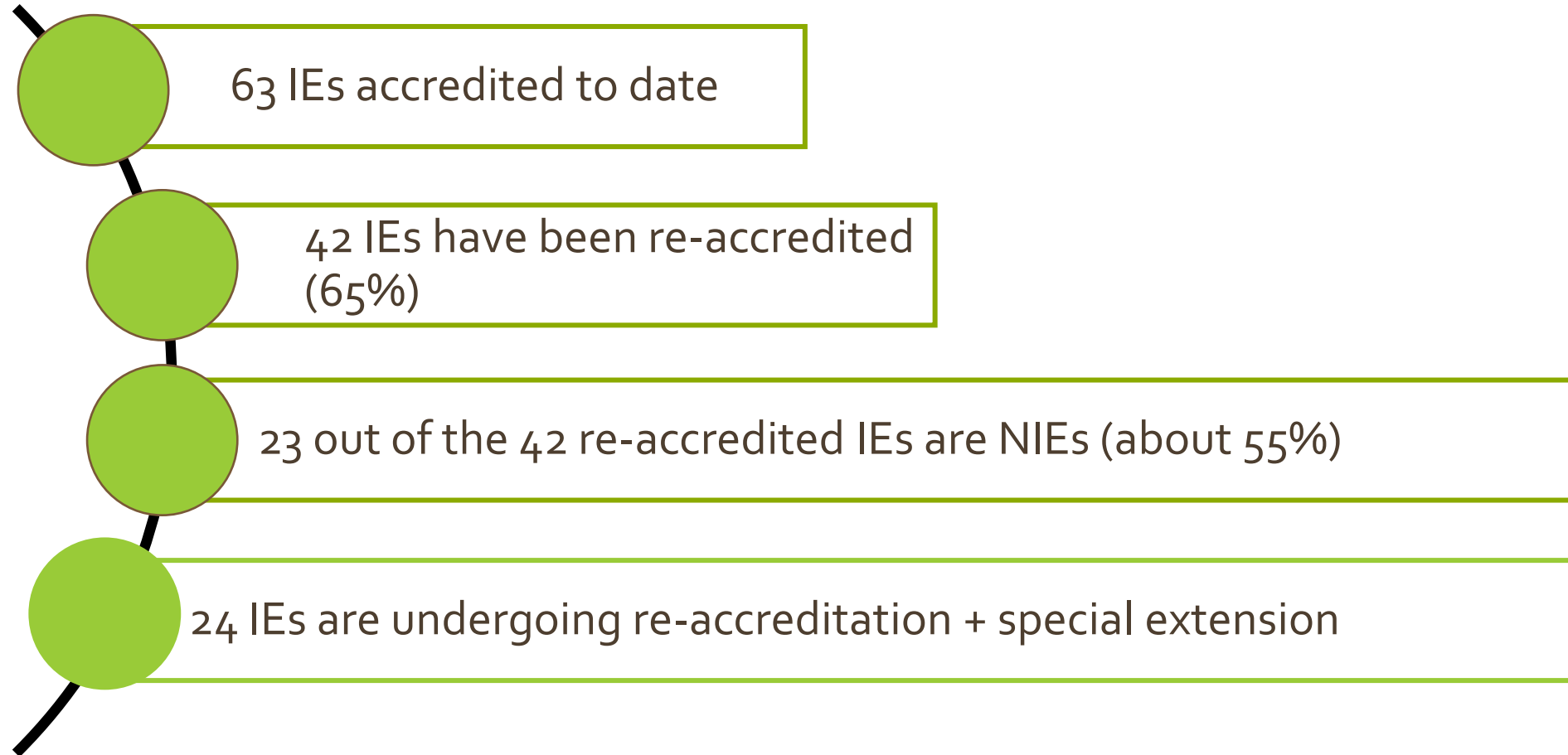


- ☐ Accreditation is valid for a period of **5 years with a possibility of renewal**
- ☐ **Re-accreditation process must be commensurate** with any potential changes to the organization
- ☐ Applicants **requested to describe any changes** that have occurred since its accreditation with AF and provide the **most up-to-date supporting documentation** in compliance with the re-accreditation criteria.
- ☐ **It is important to start the process early** to avoid a major gap between accreditation expiration and the granting of re-accreditation.
- ☐ Fast-track re-accreditation of IEs **accredited with the Green Climate Fund (GCF)** within a period of 4 years prior to the submission of the re-accreditation application with the AF

Re-accreditation Portfolio



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Current Re-accreditation Process



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NIE official
expression of interest
to pursue re-
accreditation from
the management
*(at least 18 months
prior)*

Submission of
re-accreditation
application +
supporting
documents
(12 months prior)

Screening stage by
AF Secretariat
*(3 weeks from
submission)*

Review stage by
Panel
*(3 weeks from each
response)*

Panel's
Recommendation to
the Board
(14 days no objection)

Important Timelines



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- ❑ **New notification system by the secretariat:** AF accreditation Workflow sends automatic notifications to IEs **18 months, 12 months, and 6 months prior** to the expiration of accreditation
- ❑ **Submission of re-accreditation application:** Submit a complete re-accreditation application with supporting documentation **12 months prior** to its accreditation expiry date
- ❑ **Grace Period for re-accreditation:** **3 years** from its accreditation expiry date
- ❑ **Special accreditation extension** by B.46/9 **until 31 October 2027**

Requesting Grace Period for Re-accreditation



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❑ How to request extension of grace period for achieving re-accreditation?

■ Who is eligible?

IE with ongoing project implementation with the project completion date past the date of accreditation expiration

■ Required documents?

An IE's official letter requesting an extension of grace period for achieving re-accreditation before the completion of the project

■ AFB will consider and make a decision on the request

Implications of an IE's Accreditation Status



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Status	Eligible to submit a new funding proposal	Eligible to participate in AF activities as IE	Eligible to be included in AF communications targeting the IE
Accredited	Yes	Yes	Yes
In Re-accreditation Process	No	Yes	Yes
Not-accredited	No	No	No

- Projects and Programming team will verify the accreditation status of an IE at the time of submission of the funding proposals (date indicated on the AFB decision)

With or without AF funded Project



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	Criteria 6 Project preparation and appraisal	Criteria 7 Project implementation Planning and Quality-at-entry Review	Criteria 8 Project Monitoring and Evaluation during implementation	Criteria 9 Project closure and final evaluation
With approved AF funded Project but no planning and QAE	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
With approved AF funded Project, completed planning and QAE but implementation not yet started	No	No	Yes	Yes
With approved AF funded Project, and implementing it	No	No	No	Yes
With approved AF funded Project, completed with a final report on completion	No	No	No	No
No approved AF funded Project	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Re-accreditation modalities

❑ Two main routes to re-accreditation with AF, determined by the secretariat:

- Regular re-accreditation vs fast-track re-accreditation
- With or without AF Funded project

❑ **Regular re-accreditation** (Default re-accreditation route)

• **Assessment Focuses:** (criteria 1-12)

- Continued compliance with **all of AF fiduciary standards**,
- Compliance with AF environmental and social policy (**ESP**) and the Gender Policy (**GP**)
- The results of the assessment of the implementing entity's performance regarding quality at entry (QAE) and project/ programme implementation.
- Policies and procedures related to anti-corruption and fraud, anti-money-laundering /countering the financing of terrorism (**AML/CFT**)

Re-accreditation modalities

- ❑ **Fast-track Re-accreditation:** Available to the IE that had been accredited by the GCF within four years prior to its submission of the reaccreditation application to AF.

- ❑ **Assessment Focus:**
 - **(Criterion 1)** The fiduciary standard related to the legal capacities
 - **(Criterion 10)** Policies and framework to deal with financial mismanagement and other forms of malpractice by the IE
 - **(Criterion 11)** Commitment by the implementing entity to apply the Fund's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP) and Gender Policy (GP); and
 - **(Criterion 12)** Mechanism to deal with complaints on environmental and social harms and gender harms caused by projects/programmes;
 - **(Criteria 3 (b); 5(a) ; and 10 (c)(ii))** Policies and procedures related to anti-corruption and fraud, anti-money laundering /countering the financing of terrorism (**AML/CFT**)

- ❑ **Some additional criteria can be applied to FTR**
 1. **Conditions attached by GCF** accreditation will be assessed (until GCF/B.42 in 2025).
 2. From the second-time fast-track reaccreditation with the Fund, criteria on **financial management and integrity** of the fiduciary standards will be assessed.

AF Accreditation standards – cont'd



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- ❑ **Anti Money Laundering (AML) and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT)**
:“examples of supporting documentation” related to the “internal control framework”, “procurement” and “policies and framework to deal with financial mismanagement” criteria in the accreditation application form **[Criteria 3 (b); 5(a); 10 (c)]**

- ❑ **The documentation needed to meet these requirements include:**

- (i) Policies and procedure related to anti-money-laundering/countering the financing of terrorism;
- (ii) Screening system which documents all individuals and/or organizations before the entity transfers money to them; and
- (iii) Decision-making process that the entity follows when it identifies risks related to any individuals and/or organizations.

Common Gaps and Challenges



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☐ Length of time for the re-accreditation process: factors affecting time

- ☐ FTR re-accreditation duration varies
- ☐ IE unprepared for the documentation requirements
- ☐ IE unable to demonstrate compliance with more recent developments in AF policies since its initial accreditation (e.g., ESP, GP, and SEAH policy)
- ☐ Lack of relevant information and GRM on the IE website
- ☐ Reorganization of the IE structure and legal status requires careful consideration
- ☐ No incident of any fraud or impropriety cases, or any E&S and gender harm complaints at the IE
- ☐ Exhaustion of the AF country cap for financing reduced the sense of urgency

Dormancy & Expiration of Accreditation



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☐ Dormant Applications

- ☐ Re-accreditation process can be delayed when IE is not committed
- ☐ Country-driven process
- ☐ Secretariat ensures regular reminders
- ☐ AF sends **4 notification letters** re: dormancy/inactivity
- ☐ Panel can recommend to change the status from **“Accredited”** to **“Not-accredited”**

☐ De-accreditation restarts a new accreditation process for a country

- ☐ DA can **nominate another entity** to pursue accreditation with the Fund
- ☐ DA may **renominate the previously accredited entity**, if it demonstrates compliance and commitment

Update: Proposed Continuous Accreditation Model



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- ❑ **AFB 44th meeting:** Secretariat presented preliminary assessment of the challenges and its implications on the re-accreditation of IEs
 - ❑ The Board requested the Secretariat to conduct an in-depth review of the current re-accreditation system, presenting options for revising the re-accreditation approach (B.44/5)
- ❑ **AFB 45th meeting:** Secretariat presented comprehensive analysis and three options to the Board, recommending continuous accreditation with trigger-based reviews (Option 3)
 - ❑ AFB requested the secretariat to prepare a detailed proposal for Option 3, including financial and operational implications, transitional arrangements, etc. (B.45/4)
- ❑ **AFB 46th meeting:** Secretariat presented the detailed proposal including Three-Year Self-Assessment Cycle, change-oriented criteria review, Risk-informed oversight through enhanced monitoring system
 - ❑ AFB requested the Secretariat to conduct a structured consultation process on the five thematic areas and present the revised operationalization proposal on continuous accreditation model (B.46/9)

Proposed Continuous Accreditation Model (B.46/9)



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The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), having considered document AFB/B.46/13/Rev.1, and recalling its decision B.45/4, decided:

...

(c) To request the Secretariat, in consultation with the Board, to prepare, for the Board's consideration at its forty-seventh meeting, a revised operationalization proposal that includes:

- (i) A **transparent trigger methodology** with defined criteria and thresholds proportionate to the Adaptation Fund's grant-only portfolio;*
- (ii) A **dedicated monitoring framework for accreditation maintenance**, developed as part of a package along with the proposed model, that does not impose additional burdens on implementing entities or expand on the re-accreditation requirements and standards under the current operational framework;*
- (iii) A **clear monitoring process for entities without active projects**, in different stages of accreditation and re-accreditation;*
- (iv) Clarity on the **separation between the Secretariat's portfolio management and risk-escalation functions**, including the associated resource implications;*
- (v) A clear indication of what would be considered under the **Fund's accreditation status and risk dashboard**;*

*(d) To **grant an extension of accreditation** to all implementing entities accredited by the Fund, and entities that are currently under Panel review for re-accreditation or due for re-accreditation, **until 31 October 2027**.*

Relevant Resources for reference



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- ❑ [Regular Reaccreditation Application Form](#) (English, French and Spanish)
- ❑ [Guidance on Accreditation Standards](#) (English, French and Spanish)
- ❑ [The Re-accreditation Process](#) (English & Spanish; *French under translation*)
- ❑ [AF e-Learning course on Direct Access](#) (English, French and Spanish)
- ❑ [AF Environmental and Social Policy](#) (English & Spanish; *French under translation*)
- ❑ [AF Gender Policy](#) (updated in March 2021) (English & Spanish; *French under translation*)
- ❑ [NIE Accreditation Toolkit](#) (English & French)
- ❑ [Information Note for Designated Authorities for IE nomination](#)
- ❑ [Streamlined Accreditation Process](#)
- ❑ [Bridging the Gaps in Accreditation](#) (Case studies)



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THANK YOU

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Program Officer, Countries and Partnership Team

AF Standards and required competencies



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❑ Consist of four broad categories:

- Legal status (Criterion 1);
- Financial management and integrity (Criteria 2-4);
- Institutional capacity (Criteria 5-9); and
- Transparency, Self-investigative Powers, Anti-corruption measures and mechanism to address E&S and gender complaints (Criteria 10-12).

❑ The description of how an entity meets the fiduciary standards should focus on any changes that have occurred within the organization since the original accreditation. **The most recent supporting documentation must be submitted.**

Top Level Management Statement (criterion 11)



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(Decision B.40/5)

To also take note of the *revised and alternative template for the top-level management statement (TLMS) to be submitted by implementing entities (IEs) for consideration by the Accreditation Panel for accreditation and reaccreditation with the Adaptation Fund, as contained in annex VI to document AFB/B.40/12/Add.1;*

To reinforce its previous position that *IEs shall implement projects and programmes supported by the Adaptation Fund in accordance with the Operational Policies and Guidelines for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund and the IE's standard practices and procedures, as set out in the Adaptation Fund's standard legal agreement;*



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Environment



NIE-RWANDA

By Diane BUCYANA

NIE_MoE Background

- 2011 – First accreditation which comes with 1st opportunity of 10M \$ under Direct access (2014-2018)
- 1st Reacred in 2019 , then come EDA 5M \$ (2022-23)
- Enabled Rwanda to gain practical experience in project devpt, fiduciary managt, safeguards & gender results mangt as well as stakeholders coorsdination
- Rwanda also became a provider of South-South support to countries seeking to establish or strengthen their own NIEs



Rwanda's Adaptation Finance Architecture

- Policy and coordination: NIE provides strategic direction to ensure adaptation investments respond to national priorities and climate commitments through NST2, GGCRS, and NDC3.0
- NIE_MoE works with other government institutions, districts, development partners and potential executing entities to identify and shape adaptation investments.
- Country ownership: MoE ensures projects are anchored in national systems and that responsible institutions can sustain results after project closure.
- Developed national adaptation planning and climate information capacity
- Rwanda launched **Intego, the NDC Facility**, to provide financial and technical support for public-sector climate action, including adaptation



From national priorities to projects and investment pipelines

- Step 1 – Identify priorities: national strategies, NDCs, climate-risk evidence, sector plans and local priorities.
- Step 2 – Screen ideas: adaptation relevance, additionality, beneficiary focus, safeguards, gender/social inclusion, institutional ownership and sustainability.
- Step 3 – Define implementation architecture: identify government lead/Executing Entity, technical partners, districts and financing modality.
- Step 4 – Develop concept/proposal: results framework, theory of change, budget, risk management, safeguards and monitoring arrangements.
- Step 5 – Mobilize finance: match the pipeline with Adaptation Fund, GCF and other bilateral/multilateral or domestic financing opportunities.

Adaptation finance beyond the Adaptation Fund

Other finance doors

Green Climate Fund (GCF): Rwanda develops and supports adaptation investment concepts/proposals through accredited entities and national institutions.

Development-partner finance: MoE works with bilateral and multilateral partners on climate resilience, institutional capacity, ecosystems and circular economy-related investments.

Domestic/public finance: adaptation priorities are increasingly integrated into national and sector planning and public investment processes (Created mechanisms to mobilize larger-scale adaptation investment)intego & NDC facility

Blended/co-financing opportunities: projects are structured to attract complementary contributions from government, development partners, private sector and other sources where appropriate.

Challenges

- Government ministries/agencies: align projects with mandates, national plans, budgets, technical standards and long-term ownership.
- Designated Authority: ensure strategic alignment, national endorsement and coherence with Rwanda's climate-finance priorities.
- Executing Entities: define clear responsibilities, implementation arrangements, reporting lines and safeguards obligations from project design.
- Districts and communities: strengthen local ownership and ensure investments respond to locally identified risks and priorities.
- Development partners: provide technical assistance, co-financing, knowledge and implementation support.
- Limited institutional bandwidth: developing high-quality proposals requires technical, fiduciary, safeguards, gender, M&E and financial expertise.
- Lengthy project-development cycles and accreditation/reaccreditation requirements can delay the pipeline.
- Limited availability of mature, investment-ready concepts with robust baselines, costing, economic rationale and measurable adaptation outcomes.
- Sustainability and co-financing: projects must demonstrate credible post-project financing, institutional ownership and maintenance arrangements.

NIE_ MoE in next 10 years

**MoE's role
evolve over the
next 5–10 years**

From project-by-project coordination → to strategic stewardship of a national adaptation investment pipeline.

From proposal development → to a stronger investment-readiness function, with standardized screening, prioritization and project-preparation support.

From grant management/oversight → to stronger portfolio learning, results aggregation and evidence-based resource mobilization.

From individual projects → to programmes and landscapes that integrate water, agriculture, land, ecosystems, settlements and livelihoods.

From dependence on external technical support → to sustained national capacity in climate finance, safeguards, M&E, economic appraisal and innovative finance.

Rwanda has a credible, prioritized pipeline that can rapidly respond to opportunities from Adaptation Fund, GCF and other climate-finance sources

Thank You

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Profonanpe
Committed by nature

The Role of National Implementing Entities (NIEs) in Adaptation Finance

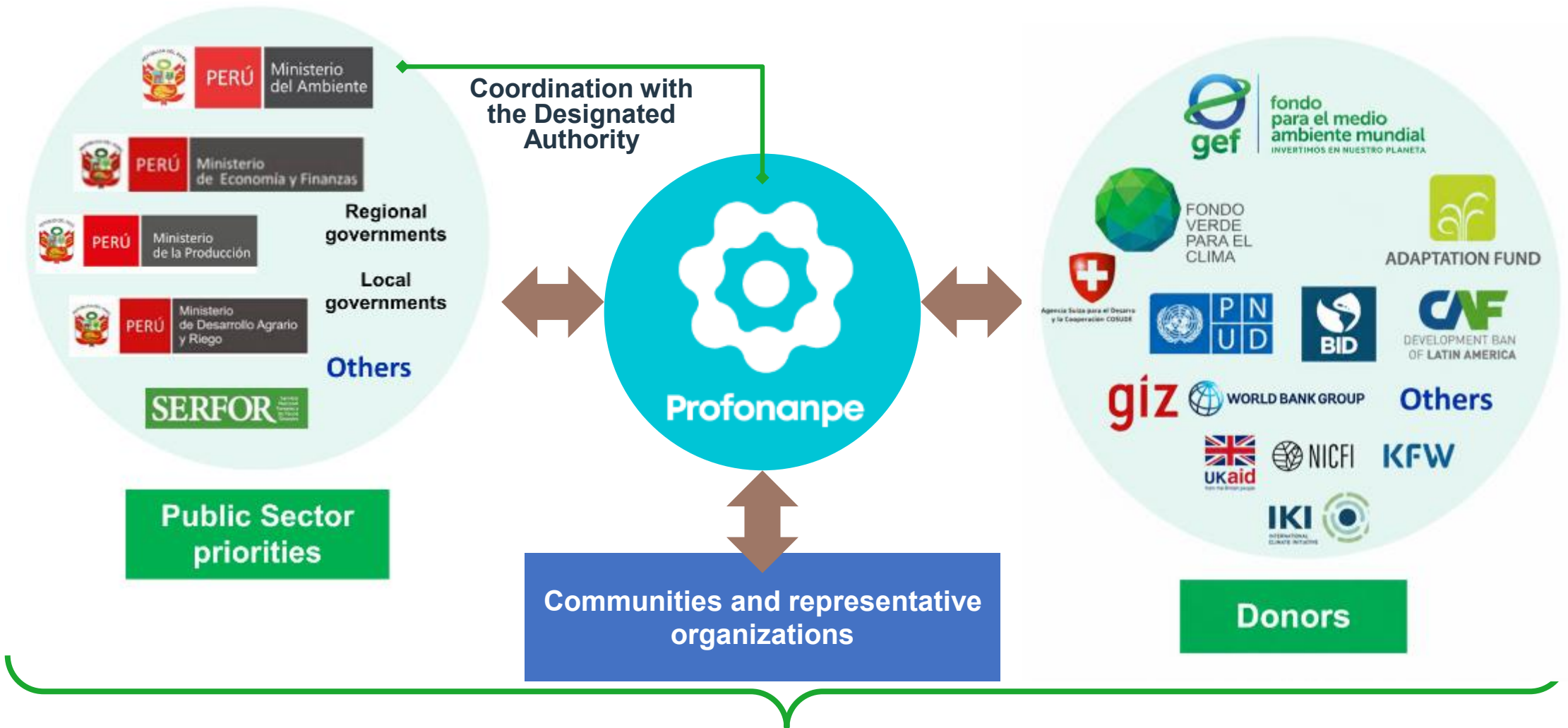
Perspectives, Lessons, and Strategic Vision of Profonanpe in Climate Finance for Adaptation

Claudia Godfrey

Director of Innovation and Strategic Management
Profonanpe

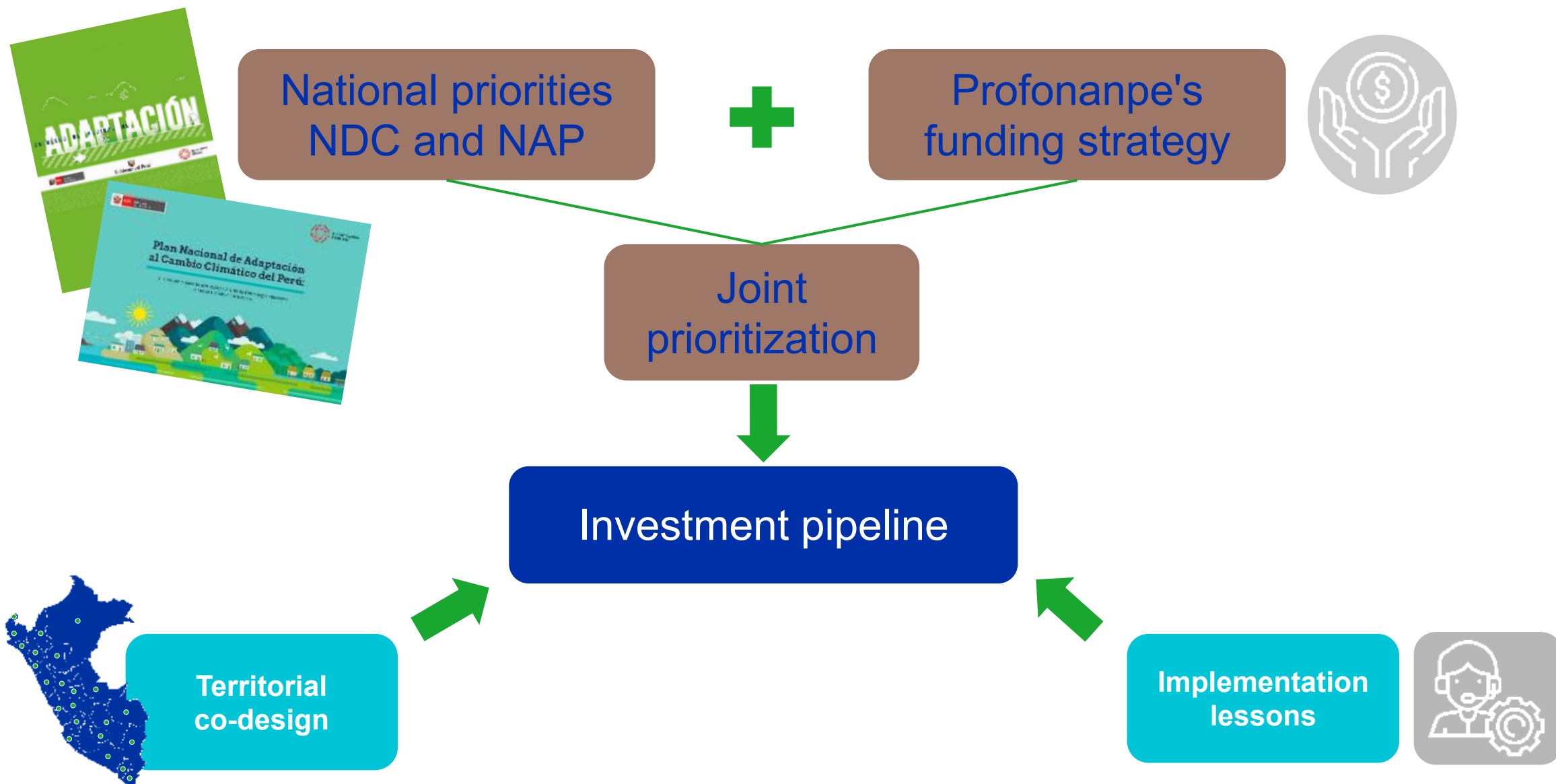


Profonanpe's role in Peru's adaptation finance architecture



Profonanpe turns Peru's NDC and NAP priorities into finance-ready projects and pipelines

Building the adaptation investment pipeline





Institutional systems

Fiduciary management, safeguards, gender, integrity and monitoring are embedded across the portfolio.



Program design and oversight

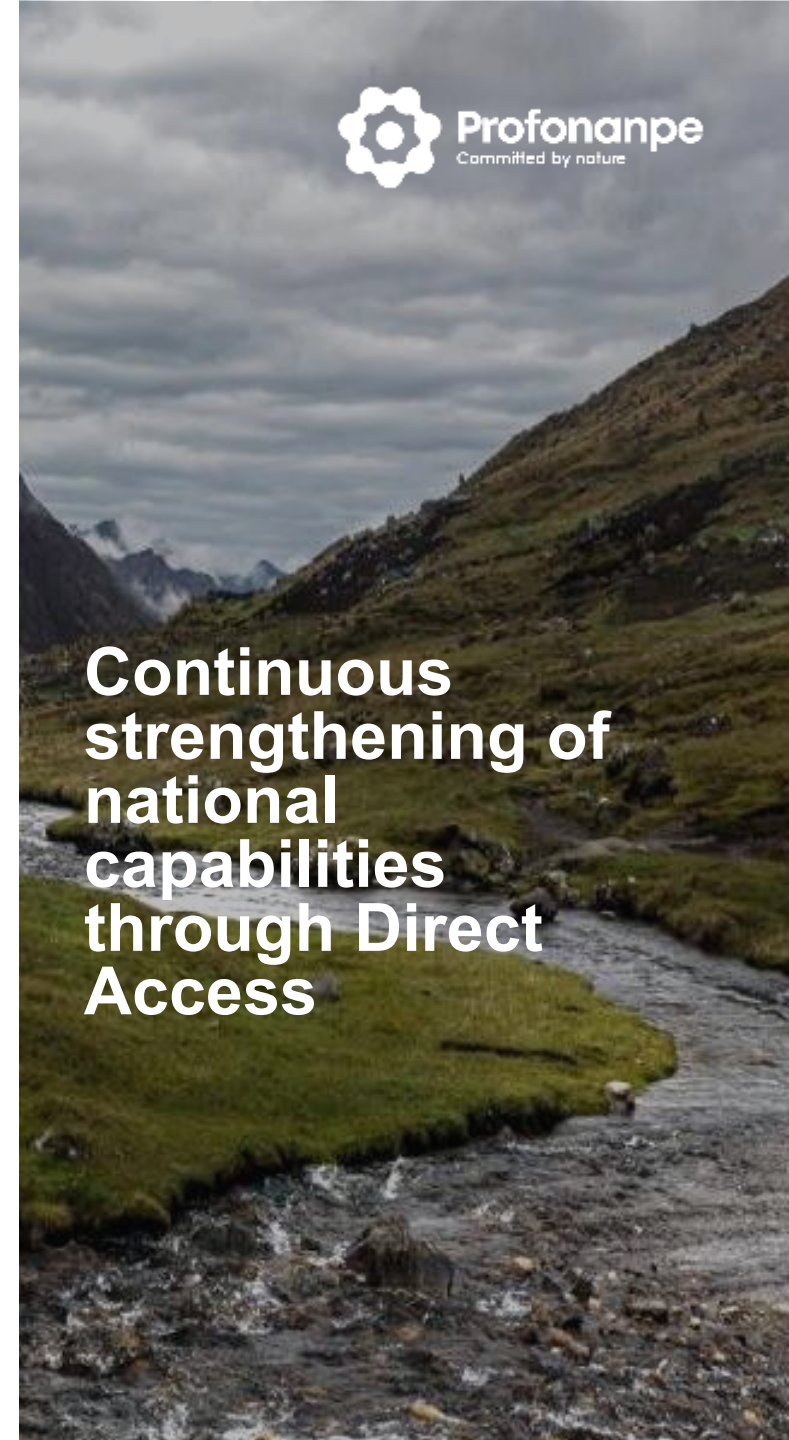
Profonanpe can structure programs, select executing entities and manage subgrants with national ownership.



National continuity

Specialized knowledge remains in Peru and informs new pipelines across political and project cycles.

**Continuous
strengthening of
national
capabilities
through Direct
Access**



Coordination across Peru's adaptation finance system



National level Designated Authority

- Align priorities, secure endorsement and report contributions to national climate goals.



Sectoral and subnational level

- Co-design with subnational governments, linked to public investment and long-term sustainability.



Local level Executing partners

- Channel subgrants, strengthen partner capacities and support community participation in project governance.

The Adaptation Fund within a wider climate finance portfolio

Direct Access strengthened the systems and track record needed to mobilize multiple sources

USD 16.5 million

Mobilized through three Adaptation Fund projects



USD 20.75 million

Mobilized through three Adaptation Fund proposals

USD 168.67 million

Additional climate finance in Profonanpe's wider portfolio

Additional sources

GCF, GEF, World Bank, bilateral cooperation, philanthropy and private partners

The wider portfolio includes adaptation, cross-cutting and mitigation projects.

What enables NIEs to scale adaptation finance?



Predictable preparation support

Flexible resources to develop pipelines and retain specialized teams throughout long approval cycles.



Local institutional capacity

Sustained support for executing entities to meet technical, fiduciary and safeguard standards and maintain results.



Programmatic pathways to scale

Connect pilots and locally led initiatives with larger programs and make strategic use of increased country caps.



Continuity and aligned systems

Stronger multisector coordination and interoperable public systems to reduce delays and duplicated reporting.

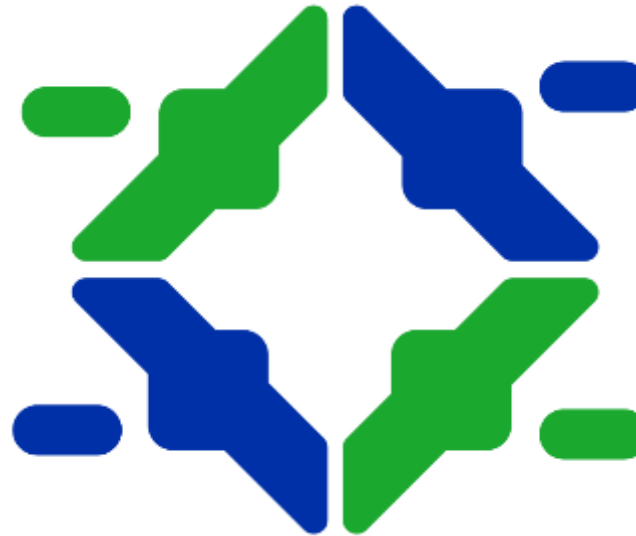
Profonanpe's role over the next 5 to 10 years

National adaptation finance platform

Use grants to prepare projects, reduce risk and attract complementary public and private finance where viable.

Regional learning and cooperation

Share systems and lessons through CPDAE and REDLAC, and support peer NIEs across Latin America.



Locally led adaptation

Expand direct grants and subgrants so communities and Indigenous Peoples help prioritize and manage resources.

Pathways from pilots to scale

Connect small innovations and successful pilots with larger programs and public investment.



Profonanpe
Committed by nature



Session 21: Scaling Successful Adaptation

Purpose of this session

From one successful project to sustained scale

Learn directly from three NIE leads who have scaled adaptation interventions — how they defined scaling, financed it, and changed their institutions to manage it — and identify which lessons participants can apply at home.

How the session is organised

3 tables, split by language

One English, one French and one Spanish table, each with an NIE lead and whispered interpretation.

15 minutes per rotation

Participants sit with each NIE lead for 15 minutes, then rotate: 6 minutes of presentation and 9 minutes of Q&A.

Plenary feedback

45 minutes of rotations, then 15 minutes of volunteers sharing their key takeaway lessons.



Rotating tables — 45 minutes

What each NIE lead covers in six minutes, before nine minutes of Q&A

i. Origins

Original project background

What was the original project or intervention, and what evidence showed it was worth scaling?

Set out the starting point: the intervention, the results it delivered and the evidence base that justified going further.

ii. Pathway and financing

Scaling pathway and financing

What did “scaling” mean for your institution, and how did you pay for it?

More beneficiaries, wider geography, larger financing, replication or policy uptake — financed through AF resources, another climate fund, government resources or co-financing.

iii. Institution and lessons

Institutional change and lessons

What new capabilities did your NIE need, and what was the biggest obstacle to scaling?

Changes to systems, staffing, partnerships and executing-entity arrangements — and what you would do differently next time.



Pathway and financing

- ☐ More beneficiaries,
- ☐ wider geography,
- ☐ larger financing,
- ☐ replication or policy uptake

- ❖ Financed through AF resources, another climate fund, government resources or co-financing.

