



ADAPTATION FUND

Study: Alignment of Adaptation Fund Portfolio with National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

17 SEPTEMBER 2026, NIE Seminar,
Rabat, Morocco

Objectives and Methodology

This study sought to address the following:

- Extent to which past and present Fund projects aligned with NDCs and NAPs
- Main trends in alignment with NDCs and NAPs
- Extent to which learnings from Fund projects inform future NDCs and NAPs
- How can contribution of adaptation projects to the implementation of NDCs and NAPs be enhanced?

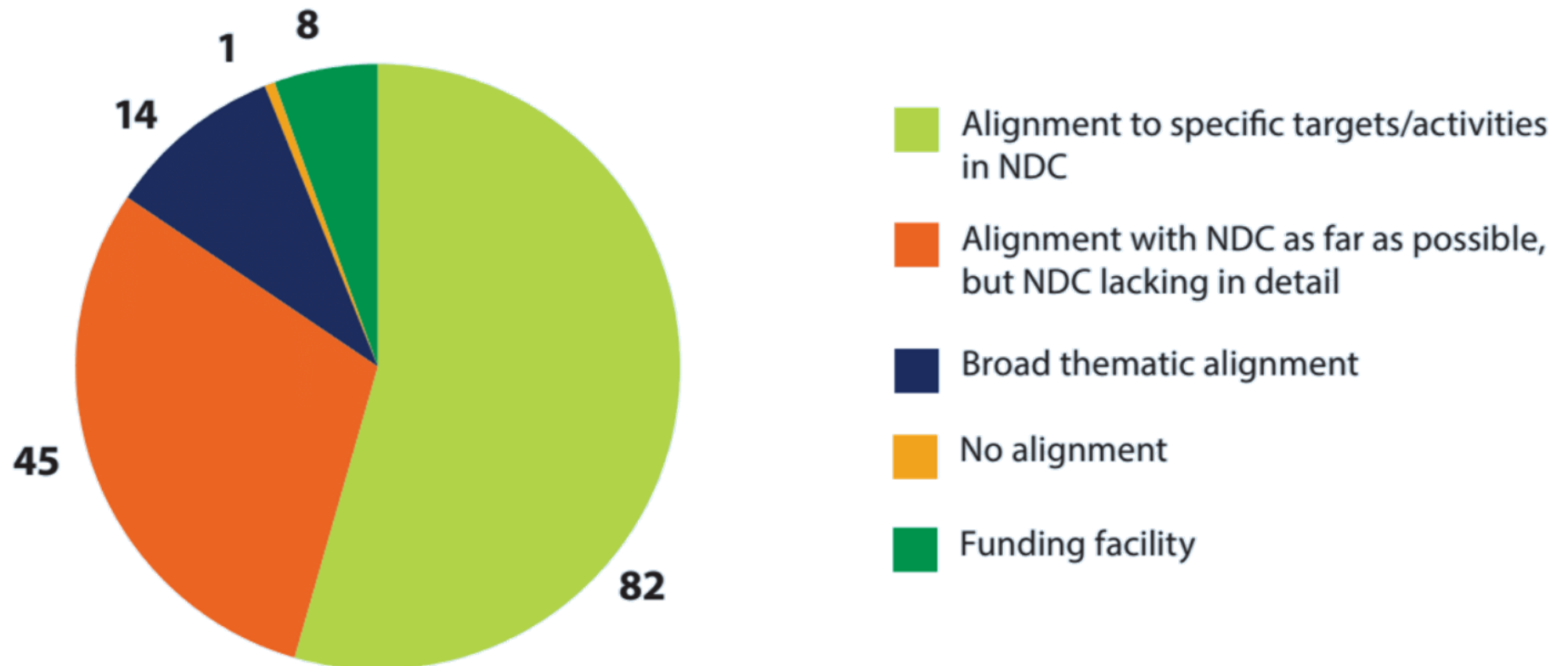
Methodology:

- Comparison of objectives/activities of 150 projects to priorities in 100+ NDCs and NAPs
- Online survey of Implementing Entities
- Interviews with select IEs



Alignment of AF Projects with NDCs

Figure 13: Alignment with NDCs, number of projects



NDC Alignment by Year and by Region

Figure 20: NDC alignment by year

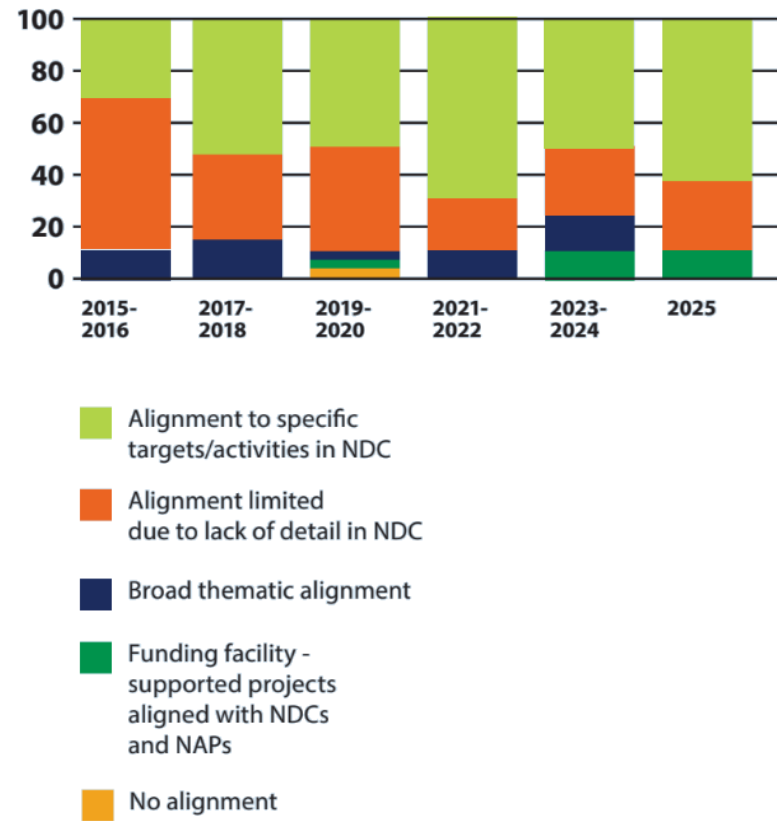
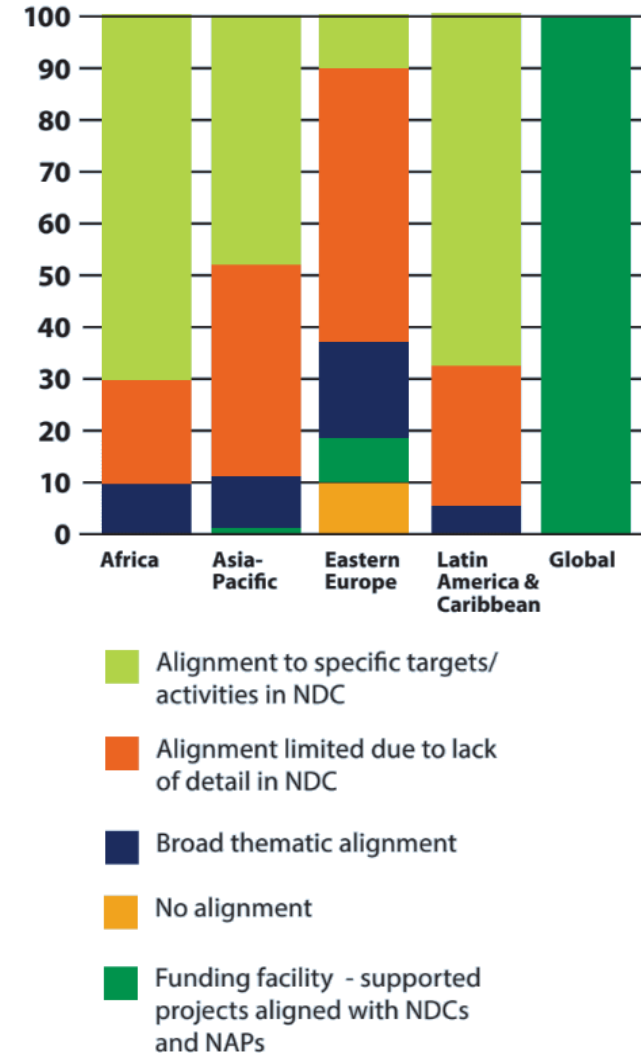


Figure 17: NDC alignment by region



NDC Alignment by IE type and Project Volume

Figure 15: NDC alignment by IE type

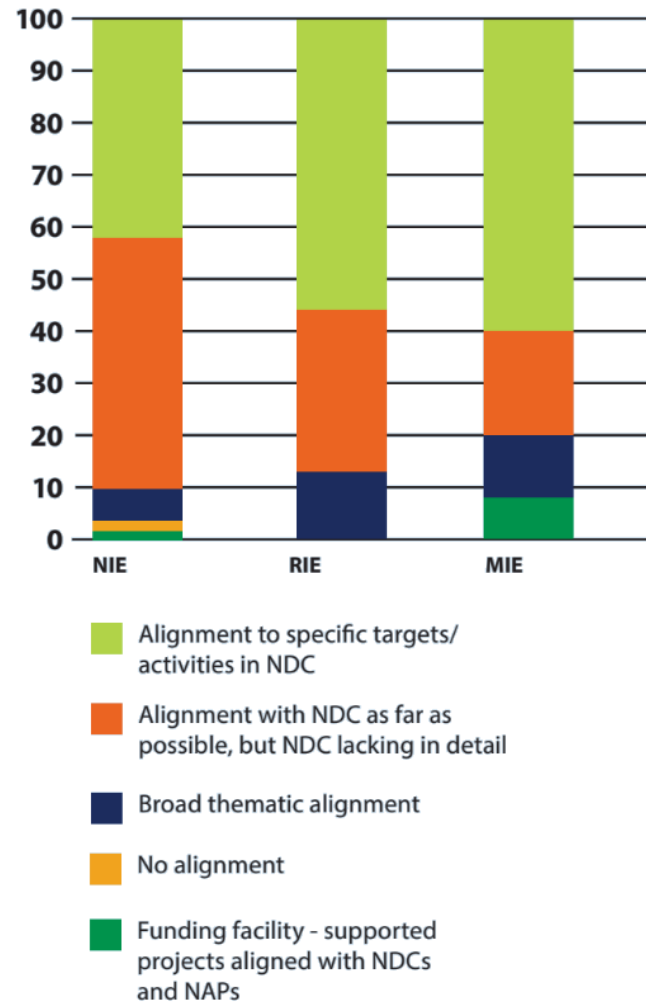
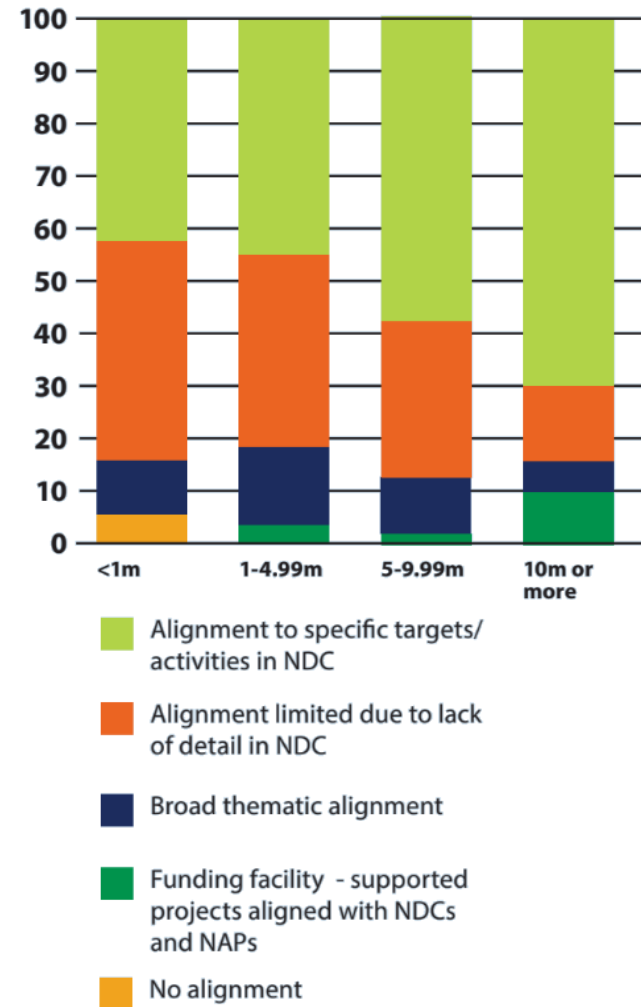
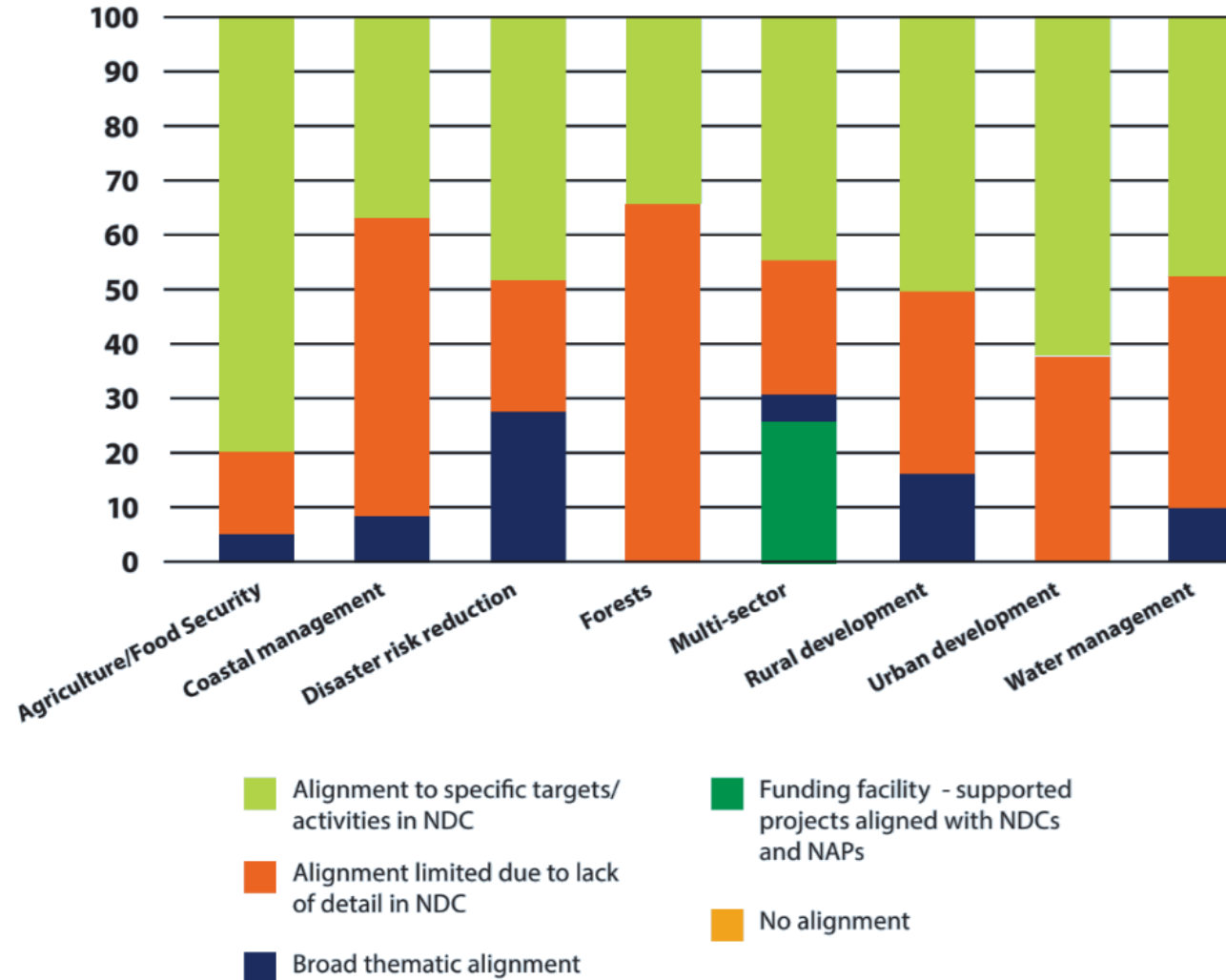


Figure 19: NDC alignment by project volume



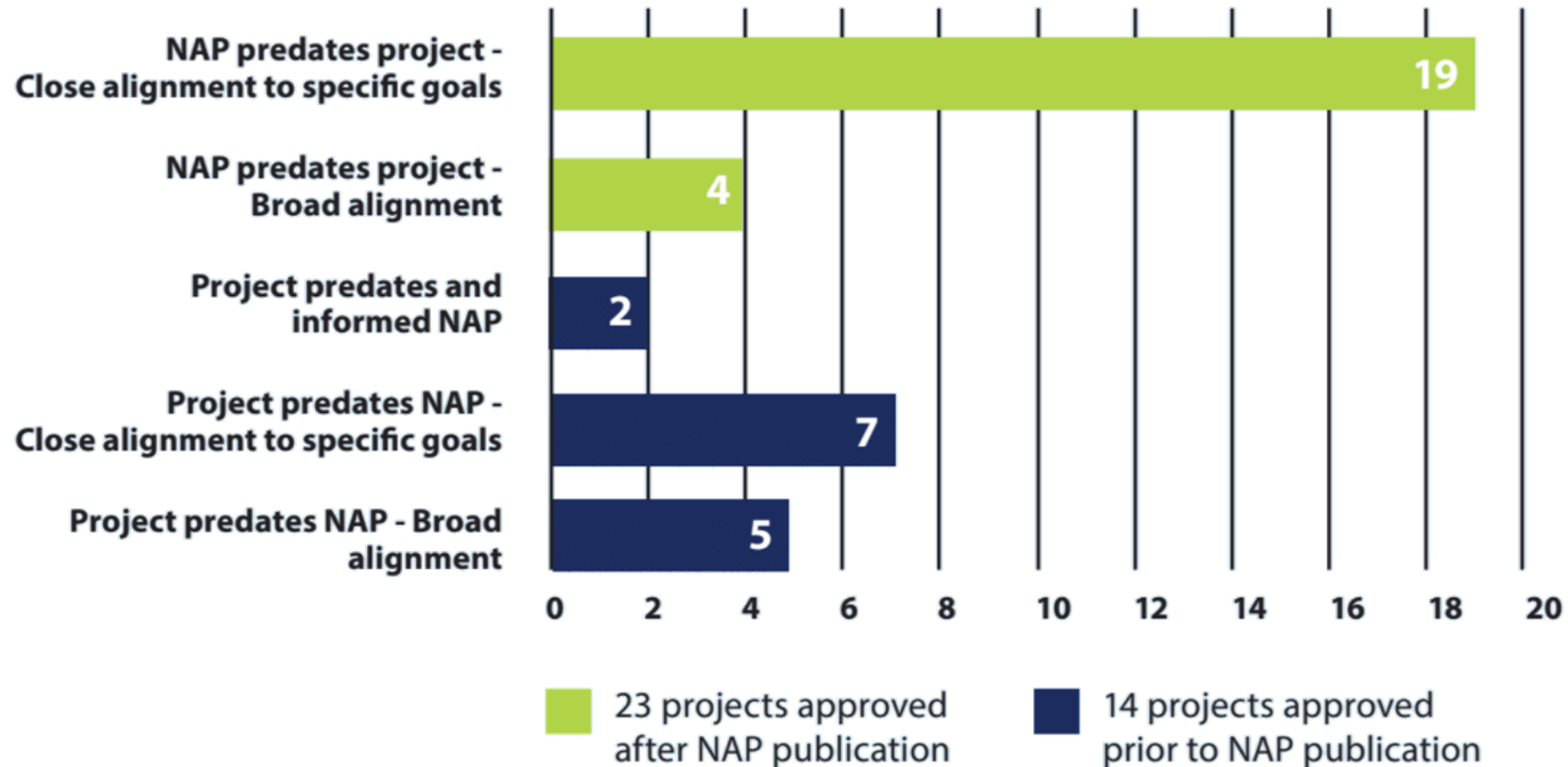
NDC Alignment by Sector

Figure 18: NDC alignment by sector



Alignment of AF Projects with NAPs

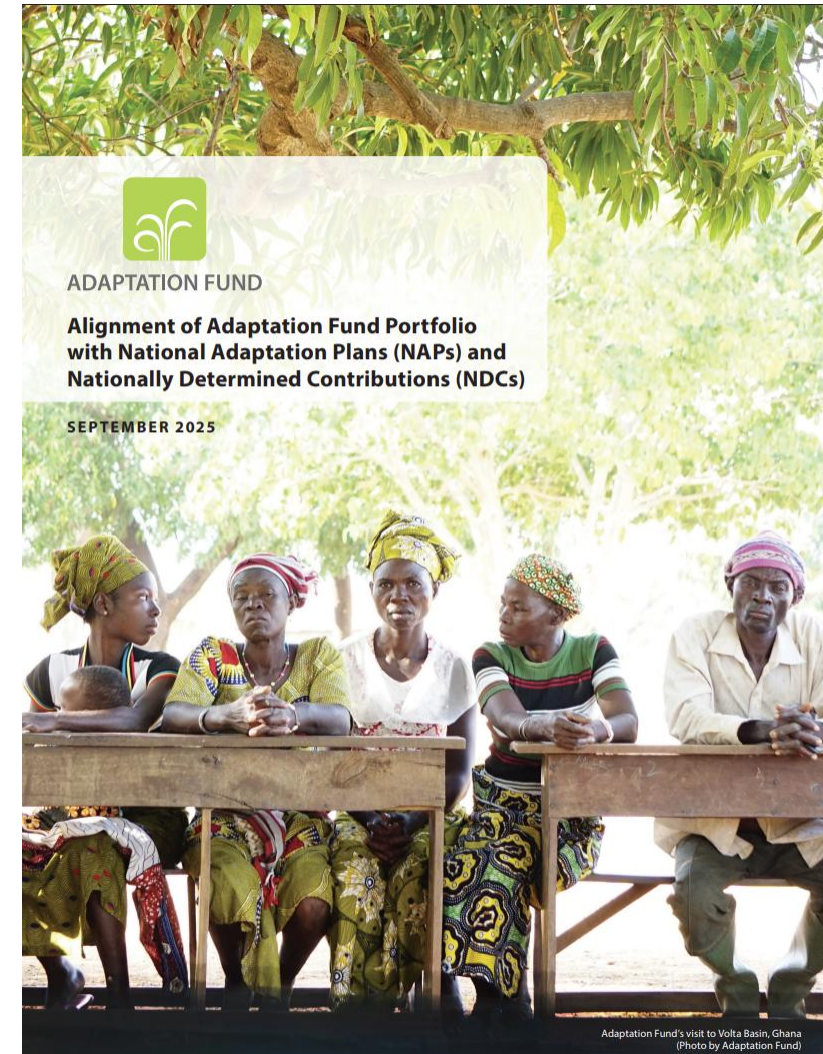
Figure 14: Alignment with NAPs, number of projects



Key Findings

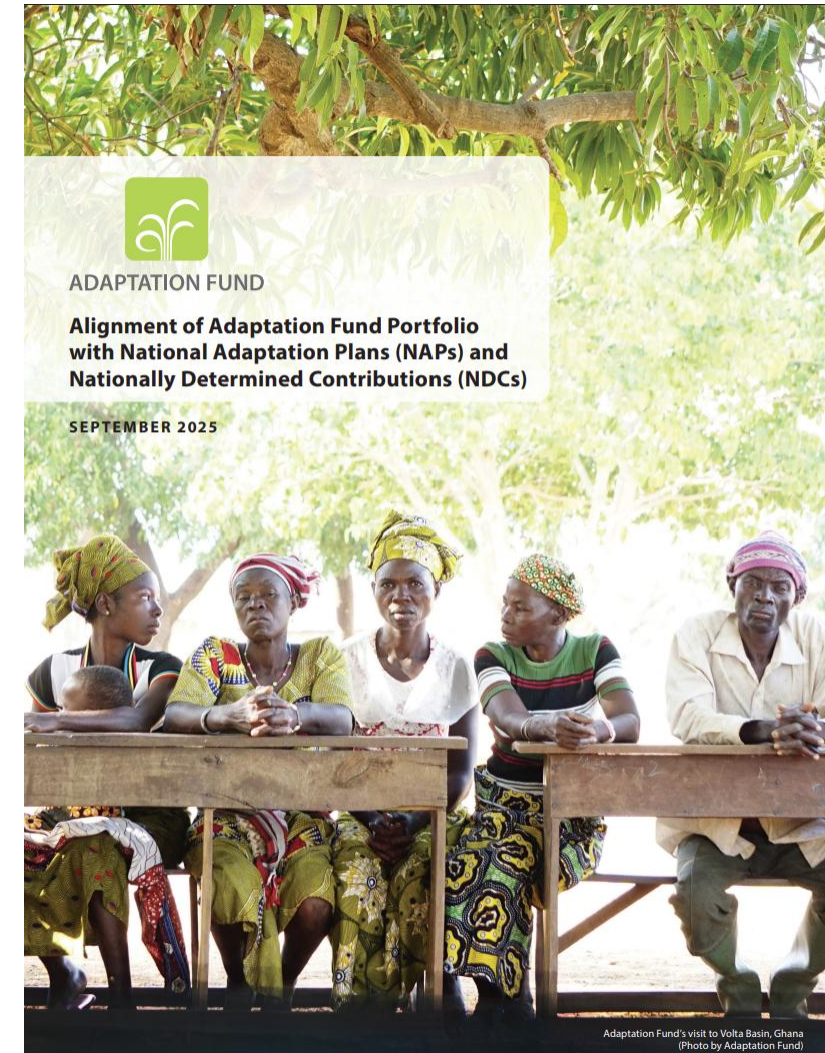
Adaptation Fund projects are informing NAPs

- Most Implementing Entities reported consulting NDCs & NAPs, or their authors, at project design phase
- **±80% of AF DAs** are responsible for NDC and/or NAP development in their country
- **41% of NIEs** are the same agencies/ministries responsible for NDC/NAP development
- Implementing Entities pursue alignment of project objectives with other policies, plans and strategies



Lessons for Future Projects

- Perfect alignment with NDCs and NAPs should not be pursued
- Adaptation projects can play a larger role in further strengthening NDCs and NAPs
- Implementing Entities and Designated Authorities could benefit from additional support for adaptation impact monitoring
- Adaptation funders could work together to address gaps in implementation of NAPs and NDCs





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THANK YOU

Website: www.adaptation-fund.org
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Innovation in programming adaptation finance

NIE Seminar
Rabat, Morocco
September 2026

Innovation at the Adaptation Fund

- Innovation is becoming increasingly important to meet the global adaptation challenge, given the **urgency of climate action** and **scarcity of public resources** for adaptation.
- Innovation projects are an opportunity to leverage the Fund's comparative advantage to **test and trial new practices, technologies, institutional models**, and contribute to an **evidence-base** of successful innovation in climate adaptation.
- While these projects inherently carry **higher risk** than projects under regular funding windows, they also hold the potential for **greater impact**.

INNOVATION

Modalities for funding the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies are expanded and risk-taking is encouraged

EXPECTED RESULTS

1. New innovations and risk-taking encouraged and accelerated

2. Successful innovations replicated and scaled up

3. Access and capacities enhanced for designing and implementing innovation

4. Evidence base generated and shared



What does the Adaptation Fund consider innovation?



**Transformative
solutions**



**Revival and
repurposing of
traditional or
indigenous
practices**



**Adapting a
technology to a
new location**



**Process,
system, or
social
innovation**

Adaptation Fund Funding Windows



PILLAR	FUNDING WINDOW	ACCREDITED ENTITY TYPE	MAXIMUM FUNDING AMOUNT
ACTION	Single Country	NIE, RIE, MIE	Up to USD 25 Million <i>per Project/Programme (within USD 40 million cap)</i>
	Regional/LLA Regional	RIE, MIE	Up to USD 30 Million <i>per Project/Programme</i>
	LLA Single Country	NIE, RIE, MIE	USD 5 Million <i>per Project/Programme</i>
	LLA Aggregator	Non-accredited	Up to USD 250,000 <i>per Grantee</i>
	Project Scale Up	NIE	USD 100,000 <i>per Grant</i>
INNOVATION	Small (single country)	NIE	USD 250,000 <i>per Project USD 750,000 with learning</i>
	Large (single country or regional)	NIE, MIE, RIE	USD 5 Million <i>per Project/Programme</i>
	Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA)	Non-accredited	Up to USD 250,000 <i>per Grantee/Innovator</i>
LEARNING & SHARING	Learning Grants	NIE	USD 500,000 <i>per Grant USD 750,000 with innovation</i>
READINESS	Readiness Support Package Grant	NIE	USD 150,000 <i>per NIE</i>
	Technical Assistance Grant for the ES & GP	NIE	USD 25,000 <i>per NIE</i>
	Technical Assistance Grant for the GP	NIE	USD 10,000 <i>per NIE</i>



INNOVATION Funding Window

*outside of
country
cap*

Types of Interventions

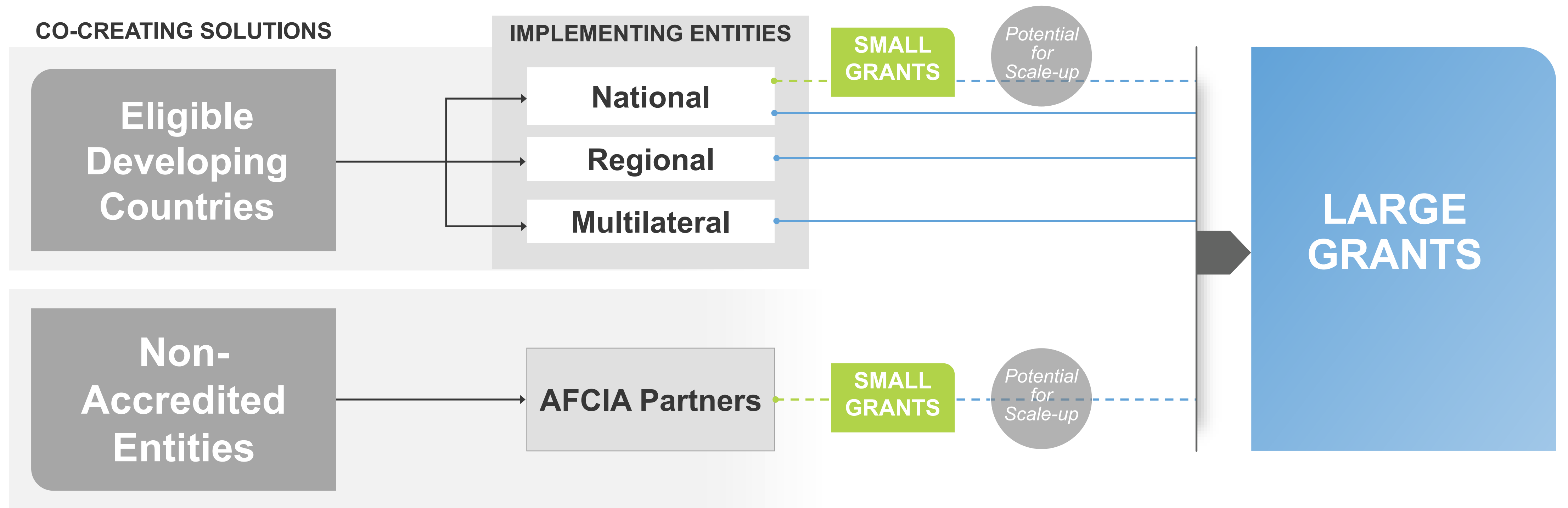
Pilot

Demonstrate

Improve

New

Adapted technology solutions or practices



AFCIA Partners

As of September 2026



PROGRAMME STATUS	IMPLEMENTING ENTITY	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Under Implementation	UNDP	\$5M	Tailored technical, business, incubation & acceleration support for competitively sourced innovations. 44 grantees (as of 2024), 2 calls
	UNEP-CTCN	\$5M	Phase I – Micro-grants for development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools, & technologies, 25 grantees (as of 2024), 3 calls
	UNEP-CTCN	\$10M	Phase II – Target: Non-Annex1 countries. The project includes 1) TA to 40 technologies, 2) Additional TA to scale up, and 3) Further assistance to strengthen NSIs
	WFP	\$10M	Support startups in developing countries with acceleration programs and grants
	UNIDO	\$10M	Support SMEs in developing countries with incubation/acceleration programs and grants
	SPC	\$5M	The Climate Innovation Co:Lab aims to incubate, catalyse, de-risk, and scale locally-led innovations across 14 Pacific SIDS
	UNEP-CTCN	\$2.7M	AFCIA Coordination Programme to develop synergies among partners



AFCIA Partners

As of September 2026

PROGRAMME STATUS	IMPLEMENTING ENTITY	AMOUNT	PROPOSAL STATUS
Invited to submit a proposal	SPREP	\$5M	Proposal submitted
	UNDP	\$15M	Proposal submitted
	CAF	\$8M	Proposal submitted
	IFAD	\$10M	Proposal submitted
	EBRD	\$15M	Invited to submit a proposal
	WB – IBRD	\$15M	Invited to submit a proposal
	UN-Habitat	\$5M Each	Invited to submit separate proposals for Asia-Pacific, Arab States, & Sub-Saharan Africa

Innovation small grants

Test, evaluate, roll out and scale up innovative adaptation practices, products and technologies.



New innovations encouraged and accelerated.

Development of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies encouraged and accelerated

Evidence base generated.

Evidence of effective, efficient adaptation practices, products and technologies generated as a basis for implementing entities and other funds to assess scaling up



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Large innovation projects

Test, evaluate, roll out and scale up innovative adaptation practices, products and technologies.

NIE, RIE,
MIE



5 Million



Successful innovations rolled out.

Innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies that have demonstrated success in one country spread to new countries/regions;

Viable innovations scaled up.

Innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies that have demonstrated viability at a small scale piloted at larger scales.



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Case Study

Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA) - Maldives

SMALL GRANTS TO NON-ACCREDITED ENTITIES
FOR INNOVATIVE ADAPTATION SOLUTIONS



Project: Sustainable Groundwater Management for Climate-Resilient Agriculture in the Maldives

Programme: The [UNEP-CTCN AFCIA Programme](#)

Grant Amount: USD 286,789



Solution

The project introduced an infiltration gallery system that extracts groundwater sustainably, protecting aquifers from overuse and saline intrusion. Alongside technology deployment, the project included capacity-building for farmers, robust monitoring systems, and training on climate-resilient agricultural practices.



Impact

- 1,822 beneficiaries reached (502 direct, 1,320 indirect), with 50% women and strong youth participation (50% of direct, 25% of indirect beneficiaries).
- Reliable irrigation system established, increasing agricultural productivity.
- 7 national stakeholders and 13 international experts engaged, with training-of-trainers delivered to 20 national participants.
- Improved collaboration between local farmers, government agencies, and the tourism sector on water management.

Picture Sources – UNEP CTCN



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THANK YOU

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