

# THE UNDP-ADAPTATION FUND CLIMATE INNOVATION ACCELERATOR (AFCIA)



## INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE



**Duration:**  
2020 - 2024

**Funded by:**  
The Adaptation Fund  
and the European Union

**Implemented by:**  
The United Nations  
Development Programme  
(UNDP)

**Budget:**  
US\$16 million

**Funded organizations:**  
44 from 33 countries

**Grants:**  
15 micro (\$60,000) and 29  
small grants (\$125,000)

**Beneficiaries:**  
Around 910,000 (48%  
women)

The UNDP-Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA) programme sits under the multi-partner platform, the Adaptation Innovation Marketplace (AIM). Launched by the UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner in 2021, this strategic initiative aims to promote scaled-up adaptation at the local level, focusing on civil society, non-government organizations, and women and youth innovators.

AFCIA is a \$16 million programme funded by the Adaptation Fund and the European Union. It is designed to support the development of locally-led, innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies in communities from developing countries.

Over the past two years, the programme witnessed remarkable changes taking root at the grassroots level, driven by the dedication of community leaders. These groundbreaking solutions have been tailored to the unique circumstances and requirements of each community.

The AFCIA programme is part of a longstanding approach at the UNDP to foster locally-led climate action. UNDP has assisted civil society organizations, indigenous peoples, and local communities for over three decades.

The UNDP-AFCIA is strongly focused on supporting local partners to accelerate their work.

This includes through specialized technical assistance, networking platforms, collaboration with top Master of Business (MBA) and Executive MBA university programmes, and engaging them with family investment offices, philanthropy and corporate foundations.

These methods of blended finance will empower organizations to expand their solutions reaching a larger audience and benefiting the entire community.

Notable **successes** encompass extensive **environmental** restoration, with the implementation of regenerative agricultural practices over **1,660 hectares of land** and the documentation of **50+** traditional knowledge-based **climate adaptation** measures.

**AFCIA programme grantees** have achieved remarkable outcomes, including raising over **\$1 million** through **crowdfunding** efforts.



“The Indigenous Peoples have their own centuries-old knowledge, systems, and practices and have kept them alive”.

Gemuel Perino, Chairman of the Council of Elders of the Bukidnon Umayamnon tribe, the Philippines



By setting up pilot projects and carefully monitoring their results, insights and best practices can be fed into policy processes, helping to scale up successful approaches.

Transformative adaptation action is only possible by ensuring that communities, enterprises, and local actors are at the heart of driving this change.



Footsteps Bangladesh Incorporated, Bangladesh

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