



ADAPTATION FUND



# Adaption Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator

UNDP Grant Funding Window – 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for Proposals

September 2022



# 1. About the Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AFCIA)

In 2019, at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Madrid, the Adaptation Fund launched a US\$10 million pilot small grants programme (Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator, or AFCIA) to foster innovation in adaptation in developing countries. The AFCIA targets a broad range of potential finance recipients, including governments, non-governmental organisations, community groups, young innovators and other vulnerable groups.

The AFCIA provides small grants to developing countries to support innovation for effective, long-term adaptation to climate change and is part of the Adaptation Fund's Innovation Facility (please click [here](#) for more information). Two of the Adaptation Fund's accredited [Multilateral Implementing Entities](#) (MIEs), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), receive \$5 million each to administrate and aggregate a project of small grants (up to \$250,000 each).

The Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), the operational arm of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Technology Mechanism, works in conjunction with UNEP as an executing entity in the AFCIA.

The AFCIA focuses on producing two of the expected results of the 'Strategic Focus 2 (Innovation)' in the Adaptation Fund Medium-Term Strategy 2018-2022 (please click [here](#) for more information), which are:

- (Expected Result 3) *New innovations encouraged and accelerated* – Development of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies encouraged and accelerated; and
- (Expected Result 4) *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.



## 2. Two different windows in the AFCIA

**UNDP and UNEP-CTCN provide different services to support innovation in adaptation to developing countries in the AFCIA. Please note that an applicant cannot submit the same application to both UNDP and UNEP-CTCN.**

(UNDP) Grant funding is provided to applicants on a competitive basis. Selected grantees will operate and manage their projects by themselves with support from UNDP. Grant funding is open to not-for-profit organizations, civil society organizations including NGOs, Business Member Associations, and other associations, cooperatives, and community-based organizations registered in a developing country.

(UNEP-CTCN) Technical assistance will be provided to developing countries on a competitive basis. A selected application will be further developed to design a customised solution tailored to the need of developing country, and the solution will be implemented in the country by a technology provider selected by the CTCN. Please note that the

application should be endorsed by the national focal points to the Adaptation Fund (Designated Authority) and the CTCN (National Designated Entity, NDE) prior to official submission via the programme webpage.

Eligible countries in this funding window include Non-Annex I Parties in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and Caribbean under the UNFCCC that do not have National Implementing Entities (NIEs) accredited with the Adaptation Fund (114 countries in total as of 26 June 2020).

**Please note this call for proposals is only for UNDP's grant funding window.**





### 3. Overview of the AF-EU-UNDP Innovation Small Grant Aggregator Platform (ISGAP) – UNDP Grant Window

Funding through the UNDP-administered AFCIA grant window aims to enhance local climate action and accelerate the delivery of targets outlined in the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals. It looks to empower local actors and contributes to the principles for locally-led adaptation action, which have been endorsed by UNDP and partners around the world. Hence, the AFCIA UNDP Grant Funding programme has been designed to develop and diffuse innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies that will result in improved climate resilience of the target beneficiaries over the baseline or business-as-usual scenario.

In early 2021, the European Union (EU) announced a contribution of €10 million for the AFCIA administrated by UNDP.

Since then, the programme started being referred to as the AF-EU-UNDP Innovation Small Grant Aggregator Platform (ISGAP). The first call for proposals from the AF-EU-UNDP Innovation Small Grant Aggregator Platform (ISGAP) ran through October-November 2021, and final grantees were selected in December 2021. Approximately \$2.2 million were allocated in climate action grants for 22 local innovators across 19 countries, which projects will be implemented for 1.5 years (from April 2022 to October 2023).

**The second call for proposals, September-October 2022, will issue approximately 20-25 new grants for another 1.5 year project cycle (2023-2024).**



## 4. Key information

All applicants can submit their application via the UNDP- ISGAP programme webpage: <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/smallgrantagggregator/>

To be eligible, organizations must be locally registered in a developing country. If you are in a consortium, the lead organization must be locally-registered.

Two type of grants are available:

- \$60,000 – for new, piloting projects, new solutions, new technology innovations, social innovations
- \$125,000 – for organizations with established customers/beneficiaries base to scale-up or replicate solutions in different regions/spaces

\* Please note, no applications will be received outside the webpage (via email or in physical format).

**[www.adaptation-undp.org/  
smallgrantagggregator](https://www.adaptation-undp.org/smallgrantagggregator/)**

**Application period:  
19 September to 31 October 2022**

**UNDP strongly encourages organizations in  
Least Developed Countries and Small Island  
Development States to apply!**





## 5. Process

### Step 1. Call for proposals

Applicants register and submit their basic information in the ISGAP's website: <https://www.adaptation-undp.org/smallgrantaggregator/>

### Step 2. Screening and shortlisting (minimum 4-6 weeks)

Depending on the amount of applications received, UNDP will conduct first round screening based on three key criteria: 1. effectiveness of initiative in adapting to climate change, 2. Innovation of the business model/ practice /solution, 3. Positive social and environmental impact. Shortlisted grantees will be invited to download a grant proposal template from the ISGAP's website. This grant proposal will need to be completed within a week timeframe and uploaded onto the ISGAP's website.

### Step 3. Final screening and grantee selection (4-6 weeks)

Depending on total amount of longlisted proposals. Successful grantees will be contacted to sign the grant agreement with UNDP.

### Step 4. Inception training

The programme will kick-off with a series of inception webinars, building connections and offering training on innovation, business strategy, climate risks, impact measurement and management, safeguards and gender mainstreaming among others like reporting and financial management.

### Step 5. Ongoing technical assistance and capacity building

Grantees identify technical assistance needs for their operation or scaling. In discussion with the UNDP team, some capacity building and technical assistance will be funded by grant budget, some will be provided by UNDP directly.

### Step 6. Implementation

Grantee will implement according to their workplan with the following activities:

- Project delivery against grant proposal workplan
- Check-ins with the ISGAP Project Management Unit
- Submission of impact/results quarterly in annual project report, a risk management plan
- Provision of specialized technical assistance and capacity building from UNDP and UNDP's partners
- Attendance at national and international events (invited by UNDP) related to innovation, climate change adaptation, business development, finance for adaptation.
- Participation in networking, matchmaking and fundraising opportunities and events. Support will be received from expert organizations with extensive global network of family investment offices, philanthropy and corporate foundations.
- Sharing of learnings, challenges, and stories with UNDP, strategic partners, and networks, globally. Contribution to building evidence on the potential of locally-led adaptation for sustainable development.
- Completion of annual grantee survey and feedback meeting to evaluate performance of ISGAP's PMU, vendors and partners.





## Contact Details

**Programme contact:** [afcia@undp.org](mailto:afcia@undp.org)

Ms. Monica Borrero  
ISGAP Programme Manager, UNDP  
Email: [Monica.borrero@undp.org](mailto:Monica.borrero@undp.org)

Mr. Oscar Mwangi  
ISGAP Finance and Reporting Analyst, UNDP  
Email: [Oscar.mwangi@undp.org](mailto:Oscar.mwangi@undp.org)

**For general partnership with UNDP on locally led action, adaptation innovation, SME development:**

Mr. Charles Yu  
Climate Finance and Investment Specialist, UNDP  
Email: [Chongguang.yu@undp.org](mailto:Chongguang.yu@undp.org)