

# LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR)

**Goal:** A historic shift towards a more effective and more ambitious global climate response, spearheaded by the LDCs with supporting development partners, behind a shared 2050 Vision, that ensures support reaches vulnerable communities and countries, with no one left behind.

**Initiative summary:** The LDC Group recognises business-as-usual approaches to climate change are not working. We need long term cross-sectoral and multi-level responses, yet current responses are short term, sectoral projects. We need support to reach those who need it most, yet globally only 18% of climate finance reaches LDCs, with only 10% reaching the local level. We need climate action driven by, and for, our countries, yet external actors lead and define most initiatives and these fail to build capacity and deliver sustainable change at the national and local level.

In response, we the LDCs, have taken decisive action to step up our climate ambition. Over the last 2 years, we have developed our 2050 Vision for a climate resilient future, informed by the deliberations of over 600 experts from LDCs across Anglophone and Francophone, Africa and Asia Pacific. Our deliberations identified what works to build our systems, capabilities and reach communities at the frontier. Our Vision is owned by LDC Ministers, and to deliver it, we are setting out our offer – what we will do, and our ask – the support we require. **We invite partners to endorse our Vision and Partnership Compact, in response to our ask.**

**LDC Vision:** to deliver climate-resilient development pathways by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050, to ensure our societies, economies and ecosystems thrive.

**Our offer of enhanced LDC commitment to climate action includes:**

1. **Whole of society, multi-level and cross-sectoral responses, bringing together government, private sector, civil society, academia and communities.**
2. **Strong climate finance architecture with at least 70% of flows supporting local action by 2030.**
3. **Integrated adaptation, mitigation and resilient development planning at national and local level.**
4. **Strengthened climate capabilities, institutions, knowledge, skills and learning.**
5. **Improved governance of climate decisions centred on gender transformation and social justice.**

**Our ask for a change in business as usual by our development partners through:**

1. **Developing their own 1.5°C strategies**
2. **Providing long term and high quality, predictable and accessible finance with mutual accountability, investing in our institutions and economies.**

**3. Contributing to the LDCs' goal that 70% of finance is used for local action through building our capabilities and inclusive mechanisms for planning and financing effective climate action across the whole of society.**

**4. Supporting our LDC 2050 Vision directly with \$450 million over 10 years, recognising needs will grow as more countries step forward and fall over time as countries graduate to accessing multilateral climate finance directly.**

**Roadmap for LIFE-AR:** To achieve our 2050 Vision, under the overarching guidance of the Chair of the LDC Group, LIFE-AR will engage with and benefit all LDCs, leaving no LDC behind. Countries will join the initiative in cohorts over time, with learning shared through regional clusters and peer support. We commit to achieve our Vision, drawing upon the resources, capabilities and institutions we have in country to deliver, and using LIFE-AR to drive this forward.

**At the UN Climate Action Summit launch, 6 front runner countries are stepping forward including Uganda, the Gambia, Bhutan, Malawi, Tanzania and Ethiopia, with several other countries also indicating initial interest.**

We are joined by the UK, Norway, Germany, Ireland and Austria who are endorsing the Partnership Compact. We will seek further support from other development partners, civil society, academia and the private sector, to stand alongside us in support of a shared Vision, one in which they too are part.

At COP25 in Santiago, the LDC group and frontrunner countries will formally invite supporting development partners to sign our Partnership Compact.

Meanwhile we will work with our development partners to design the governance framework. The LDC led LIFE-AR Platform will support delivery with the engagement of:

- LDC Ministers
- LDC Chair and LIFE-AR Advisory Group
- Development partner governments
- LDC expert institutions including LUCCC

In the next phase, front runner countries will develop their national long-term vision and LIFE-AR delivery mechanisms together with stakeholders, taking a whole of society approach that reaches the local level, promoting peer learning across LDCs.

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