



ADAPTATION FUND

**Lessons from Adaptation Fund South-South
cooperation to advance adaptation**

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Mikko Ollikainen, AFB secretariat

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SP 8.6 Monitoring, evaluating, and scaling up adaptation: evidence-based learning

The Adaptation Fund was established under the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC

- **Goal:**
 - ✓ Increase resilience through **concrete adaptation** projects & programmes
 - ✓ Focus on **most vulnerable countries and communities**

- **Innovative Features:**
 - ✓ Governed by **majority of developing countries**
 - ✓ **Levy on** Clean Development Mechanism **proceeds** & other sources of funding
 - ✓ **Direct access** alongside conventional access through international orgs



Direct Access is a groundbreaking modality that gives national entities full control over implementation

- Allows developing countries to **access adaptation finance directly** without intermediaries.
- Puts into practice principles of Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness :
 - **Ownership**
 - **Harmonization**
 - **Alignment**
 - **Mutual accountability**
 - **Results**
- Prepares countries for accessing other funds directly (including Green Climate Fund).



CMP set strict **fiduciary standards** that are internationally recognized:

- i. Financial integrity and management
- ii. Institutional capacity
- iii. Transparency and self-investigative powers

Updated policies:
Environmental and Social Policy (2013)
Gender Policy (2016)



NIEs span different regions and types of economies



Since 2010 the Fund has approved US\$ 338 million for 52 adaptation projects in vulnerable developing countries



- 18 implemented by NIEs, 34 by MIEs
- Pipeline of projects under development: single country projects ca. US\$ 100 M + pilot regional portfolio



Lesson 1: Direct access is proving that national entities can successfully implement projects/programmes

At the national level:

- Funds and projects directly managed by countries
- Elevates issues relating to climate change and adaptation to the national level
- Improves intragovernmental collaboration and amplifies stakeholder voices



At the institutional level:

Applicants

- Improve understanding of fiduciary standards
- Identify areas to bolster financial management and accountability
- Shift from following others' rules to having their own rules
- Improve governance by instituting policies against fraud and corruption



Lesson 2: South-South support can be a powerful tool

- Part of AF readiness programme since 2014
- Responds to common challenges:
 - Selection of an appropriate entity for accreditation (due diligence when reviewing existing institutional capacity)
 - Understanding of and competence in fiduciary standards
 - Human resource constraints
- Can increase momentum and instill confidence in the applicant
- At the initial stage, focuses on accreditation support
 - Growing interest in expanding to more comprehensive South-South cooperation, including regional collaboration platforms and technical cooperation on projects



9 South-South grants approved since 2014

- Small, catalytic investment (ca. US\$ 50,000)
- Requirement: earlier experience of collaboration
- First call:
 - CSE (Senegal): Cabo Verde, Chad, Niger
 - MINIRENA (Rwanda): Burundi
- Second call:
 - CSE (Senegal): Guinea, Mali, Sierra Leone
 - NEMA (Kenya): Malawi, Zimbabwe
- Until now: 2 accreditation applications received



Case: CSE (Senegal)

- South-south cooperation already before the programme
 - AF support has enabled scaling up
- Structured approach to identification of most appropriate applicant NIE, in collaboration with host government
 - Pre-identification of a short list of potential entities
 - Workshop for shortlisted entities to learn what being an NIE entails and to make their own “pitch”: mandate, mission, experience in projects, M&E, safeguards, transparency, gender etc.
 - Visits to each shortlisted entity: verification
 - Government selects the best candidate for applicant NIE
- Application development process



South-South cooperation is not only about grants



- **Community of practice** of 23 AF NIEs offers a platform for exchange of information and experience among peers
- Series of AF **webinars** that tackles common issues
 - stakeholder consultation, knowledge management, environmental and social risk management etc.
- NIE **workshops** with training and collaborative exercises



Early experiences from providers of S-S support

- Support to a national organization requires intimate understanding of its characteristics, operating environment but also of the requirements of the international funds
 - There is a plethora of programmes driven by international agencies but they often fall short in this respect
 - Need for harmonization and coordination among supporters
 - Being “at the same level” conducive for results
- Successful S-S cooperation requires strong ownership and commitment by the recipient organization
- Increased cooperation between governments, agencies helps to identify and utilize new opportunities: plan to develop more formal cooperation platform, including on projects



Thank you!



www.adaptation-fund.org
mollikainen@adaptation-fund.org



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