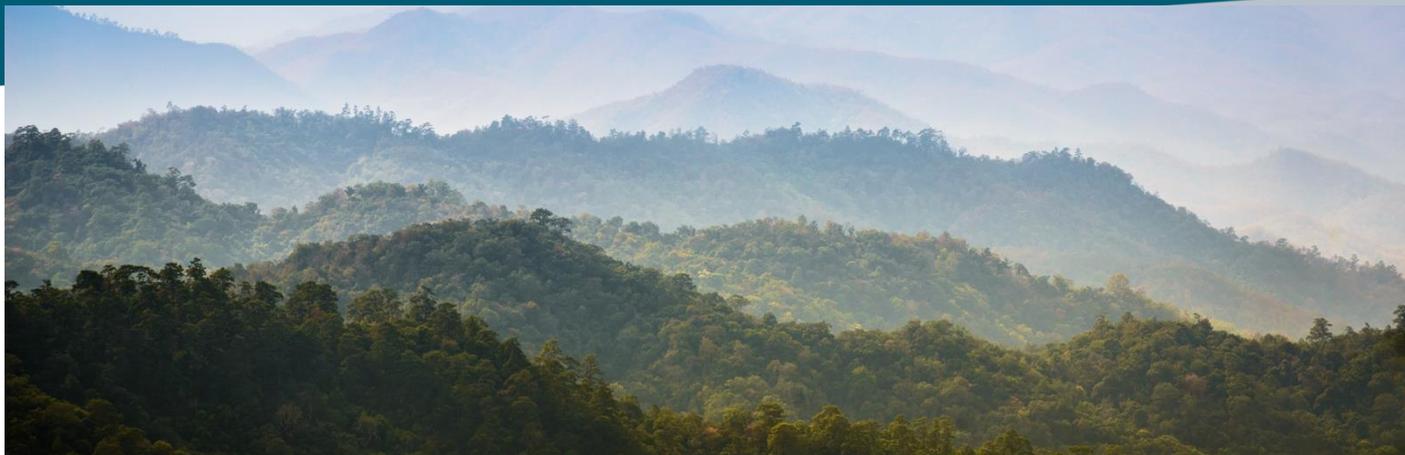


# GCF IN BRIEF: ADAPTATION PLANNING



The Green Climate Fund is committed to investing in developing countries' efforts to adapt to the effects of climate change. GCF aims to deliver a 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation allocations in its portfolio, and ensure that at least 50 percent of adaptation funding goes to particularly vulnerable countries, including LDCs, SIDS and African States.

To support effective, country-driven adaptation activities, the GCF Readiness Programme assists developing countries by providing a one-time allocation of up to USD 3 million for the formulation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and/or other adaptation planning processes. Requests can be submitted by a National Designated Authority/focal point ("NDAs") following the readiness application process.

This support provides a potentially catalytic opportunity for countries to strengthen their planning and investment strategies for integrating adaptation actions into new and existing policies, programmes and activities, with the aim of increasing resilience to climate change.

## Planning for implementation success

Effective adaptation planning can help countries design critical actions to address a country's specific climate impacts and vulnerabilities, as well as the financing strategies that focus and catalyse adaptation investment- including within the GCF project pipeline.

In considering funding proposals for adaptation, GCF is required to evaluate the specific and transformative climate impacts of the proposal on the country, alongside its development impact. Good practice adaptation planning is the starting point for articulating this climate rationale.

Indicative good practices have been identified to support countries in developing readiness proposals for adaptation planning support. These are based on learning gained from adaptation-related readiness proposals, in-country experience, and the UNFCCC NAP technical guidelines. GCF uses these guidelines to assess proposals for adaptation planning support. Examples of the good practices, which are further detailed in the [GCF Readiness Guidebook](#) (pages 17-19), include:

- **Ground the proposal within a national vision:** Advance and inform Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and national development plans, as well as GCF Country Programmes;
- **Address specific vulnerabilities and climate impacts:** Design activities to address specified climate vulnerabilities based on localized climate risk mapping and analysis;
- **Establish a financing strategy for adaptation investment:** Define a strategy that identifies high-potential funding sources for specified areas of adaptation action, including private and public, domestic and international sources;
- **Avoid duplication of efforts:** Start where other adaptation planning processes left off, focus new assessments on information gaps, and use existing information to inform decision making;
- **Engage stakeholders:** Specify mechanisms for active coordination throughout the adaptation planning process, including with the private sector, sub-national governments and civil society organizations;

## Quick Facts

- GCF has approved 37 adaptation projects amounting to USD 1.08 billion and 18 cross-cutting projects amounting to USD 1.05 billion
- GCF has received 47 proposals for the formulation of National Adaptation Plans and/or adaptation planning processes under the GCF readiness programme
- Of these, GCF has approved 12 proposals, with 8 more in the final stages of approval completion

## Contact

### GCF Country Programming Division

T: +82 32 458 6010 (KST/GMT+9)

E: [countries@gcfund.org](mailto:countries@gcfund.org)

W: <http://g.cf/2xRFYfX>



- **Considering gender:** Build social dimensions, including differences based on gender, into proposed activities, and articulate how they will be integrated into the proposed activities; and
- **Measuring and Evaluating:** Design a results-based framework supported by quantitative indicators to track and monitor progress and evaluate performance against specified adaptation targets over time, across sectors and scales.

**Frequently asked questions** (Visit [greencimate.fund/gcf101](https://greencimate.fund/gcf101) for more questions and answers)

*Can I apply for the full USD 3 million?*

Yes. However, GCF recommends careful consideration of how to use this one-off funding window for maximum impact over time. Countries may consider phasing use of GCF adaptation planning support with multiple proposals from this maximum cap, to catalyse increasingly sectoral and localised specificity and impact.

*Is the USD 3 million cap for adaptation planning activities per country renewable?*

No. The USD 3 million per country is a one-time funding opportunity available to all developing countries for the formulation of adaptation planning activities. NDAs have the flexibility to involve multiple delivery partners in different proposals to GCF, to thereby access the most relevant and targeted expertise for national planning.

*Who can be a delivery partner for adaptation planning activities and how does an NDA select one?*

NDAs select delivery partners to implement activities under the Readiness Programme, including adaptation-related readiness planning. Delivery partners can be any organization, whether they are a GCF accredited entity or not. When selecting a delivery partner, careful consideration should be given to their specific expertise

related to the country context, sectoral priorities and other elements that can be contributed to ongoing national, sectoral and local adaptation planning processes.

*Can adaptation planning funding be used for sector-specific activities?*

Yes. Countries may use the resources to design sector-specific adaptation action, within a national vision. Experience shows that deepening sectoral and local geographic focus often results in more precise and implementation-ready action plans.

*Can adaptation planning funds be used to develop a project concept?*

Yes. An outcome of adaptation planning can include a prioritized pipeline of adaptation programmes, project ideas and concept notes for submission to GCF. In a broader sense, investments in national adaptation should aim to produce a comprehensive financing strategy that defines high potential funding sources for specific areas of adaptation action, including private and public, as well as domestic and international sources that includes but is not limited to GCF.

*How long does it take for an adaptation planning proposal to be approved?*

Actions have been taken to improve the timeliness of feedback and communicating a decision to NDAs, entities and delivery partners. Since June 2017, the time it takes for GCF to conduct inter-divisional review and provide feedback on adaptation planning readiness proposals has reduced from six months to two months. Factors that determine this timeliness include completeness and quality of first submission by the NDA; thoroughness and speed of inter-divisional reviews by the Secretariat; quality and speed of responses by the NDA; financial assessment/accreditation status of the delivery partner; and conclusion of legal agreements.