



CAPACITY BUILDING

ONLINE COURSE

“How Civil Society Organizations can engage and access funding from the Adaptation Fund”

COURSE INFORMATION

ONLINE COURSE

- “How Civil Society Organizations can engage and access funding from the Adaptation Fund”

Introduction

Climate finance is essential to implement climate-resilient development actions leading to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in countries. Several financing mechanisms and instruments at the international, regional and national levels have been consolidated to facilitate access, allocation, management, and mobilization of resources for climate change actions that contribute to achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement, and in particular, the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Although climate finance increases every year – during 2019 and 2020 USD632 billion were allocated to address the climate emergency (CPI, 2021) – how the financial architecture works is still complex and unknown. This could mainly be because information on access to resources has been poorly sensitized and diagnosed – partly due to the diversity of sources and their respective conditions, templates or requirements, and the various financial instruments used. In addition, of the climate financing mobilized, only 7 percent goes to climate change adaptation (CPI, 2021).

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) often interact with communities where the impacts of climate change are greatly felt.

Their role in responding and addressing climate change impacts at the local level is fundamental, therefore they can create awareness on climate change in communities and act as advocates of communities’ interests during the formulation of climate-related policies and ensure that these policies address community issues impacted by climate change.

To effectively play these catalytic roles, CSOs need financial resources and sound investments to address climate change impacts. A recent survey conducted by the Adaptation Fund Civil Society Organisation Network (AF CSO Network), revealed that many CSOs have limited knowledge of the Adaptation Fund (AF) and lack of skills to engage with it and participate in its processes. Their understanding of climate finance structures and processes is also limited, particularly of how to develop proposals to access climate funding. In an effort to enhance transparent and participatory processes within the AF, the AF CSO Network designed and compiled the course “How Civil Society Organizations can engage and access funding from the Adaptation Fund”.

Objective

The objective is to provide CSOs with a better understanding of the AF, its related processes in their countries and the variety of opportunities for engagement at national and international levels. The course is based on the successful experiences in engaging with the AF of existing core members.

Course Content and Structure

The course is organized in two virtual modules. Each module will be developed over two weeks, where participants must read a mandatory document, participate in one live session, off-line forums, and perform quizzes. Module content is detailed below:

**Jun 2 - Jun 3
2022**

Module 0: Introduction to on-line platform

**Jun 6 - Jun 19
2022**

Module 1: The Adaptation Fund, AF CSO Network and how civil society organizations can engage

**Jun 20 - Jul 2
2022**

Module 2: Key aspects and tools for developing a climate finance proposal to the Adaptation Fund

**Jul 7
2022**

Certificates to participants

Modules Content

The first module aims to present in a synthesized way the characteristics and operation of the AF, as well as the main enabling conditions, barriers and opportunities to access its resources in order to execute climate change adaptation projects. In addition to building awareness and understanding of CSOs on the AF structures from the local project level up to the international policy level, the course guides on how CSOs can positively engage with these structures to support the most vulnerable to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

The second module focuses on the relevant aspects for the development of financing proposals to build the capacity of CSOs in the preparation of climate change proposals, to better access finance and thereby support climate action at the local level. This module covers key aspects and tools for developing a climate change proposal, with a specific focus on understanding the AF proposal review criteria and processes.

Learning Objectives

CSOs involved in climate change adaptation are expected to strengthen their capabilities on:

- The role of the AF; its importance; and why CSOs should make the effort to engage with this Fund.
- The AF's structure at local and international levels and how these structures work, and opportunities for CSOs engagement with these structures.
- The AF CSO Network and how CSOs can get involved in this network.
- The main ways how CSOs can apply to access AF financing.
- Key factors to meet AF requirements for writing a climate finance project proposal, as well as steps for developing climate adaptation proposals.
- Best practices and lessons learned on what feasible proposals look like.

Participant Profile

The course is open to a maximum of 100 participants from CSOs who desire to better understand the AF, its related processes in their countries and the variety of opportunities for engagement at national and international levels.

Required Dedication

For **each module**, participants are expected to:

- Perform required reading
- Participate in discussion forums
- Answer – at the end of each module – a set of multiple choice questions
- Participate in a “live” session to interact with other participants and the facilitators

Participants will also have access to other optional materials: recommended readings, videos, and web pages.

Participants must dedicate an average of 10 hours per module, this includes all activities described above. In total, the course is designed for a minimum of 20 hours.

Certification

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will receive a certificate approved by the AF CSO Network. A minimum compliance of 70% will be required to receive the certification of approval of the Course. Evaluation criteria for each module consists of:

- Complete required reading (30%)
- Participate in discussion forums (20%)
- Answer – at the end of each module – a set of multiple choice questions (20%)
- Participate in a “live” session to interact with other participants and the facilitators (30%)

Facilitators

The contents of the course are in charge of an interdisciplinary team of specialists of the AF CSO Network, with experience in climate change, climate finance and environmental management. Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano (FFLA) will act as course coordinator and provide technical support throughout the course.

The facilitators of the course will be: Elin Lorimer and Serge Nsengimana.



Elin Lorimer

Elin Lorimer is a Programme Manager for South African NGO Indigo development and change, managing the organisation's Climate Change Adaptation Programme, with a focus on climate adaptation policy and climate finance. Elin holds a Geography (Climate Change) Honours Degree from the University of the Witwatersrand and has extensive experience in working with civil society organisations in South Africa and Southern Africa, including co-ordinating several regional civil society climate change networks and acting as the NGO representative on the South African delegation to the UNFCCC negotiations in 2004 and 2005 in the area of climate change adaptation. Indigo hosts the Secretariat of the Southern African Adaptation Network, and acts as the regional hub of the Adaptation Fund CSO Network, and Elin serves on this network's governing body.



Serge Nsengimana

Serge Nsengimana is the Executive Director of "Conservation Action Practitioners (CAP)", an environmental conservation NGO based in Rwanda, since 2020. He is a practicing environmental conservationist with more than 20 years of experience working with government entities, international and local non-governmental organizations; specialised in biodiversity conservation, community-based natural resources management and sustainability, climate change adaptation and resilience building, multi-stakeholders facilitation and capacity building. Prior to his current position, Serge Nsengimana was the Executive Director of the "Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda (ACNR)", between 2007-2017, the Conservation Education and Biodiversity Program Manager at Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund's Karisoke Research Center (2002-2007) and the Head of Division of Environmental Inspection and Monitoring at the Ministry in charge of Environment in Rwanda (1998-2002).

Throughout his career, he has designed over 15 projects and led the implementation of over 20 projects, including government and NGO projects, with different donors and partners; acted as a resource person in national, regional and international conferences and networks such as the Adaptation Fund Civil Society Network that he joined in 2014. He also conducted different consultancies, trainings and mentoring on designing and managing environment and climate change related projects.

Content Developed by:

