

CALL FOR CONCEPT PAPERS

Community Based Adaption Programme – CBA Phase 3

1. Introduction

a. Background

Climate change continues to be one of the greatest challenges facing our planet and humanity today and could drive an additional 100 million people into poverty by 2030. Drought and rising temperatures, excessive precipitation and flooding, sea level rise and saltwater intrusion, coastal erosion, loss of agricultural crops, degradation of coral reefs due to bleaching, increased instances of pests and diseases, and unpredictable storms and weather events are just some of the challenges experienced by many countries. These variations in climate not only affect the environment and resilience of natural ecosystems, but also have ripple effects on every sector of the economy and society including economic stability, agriculture and food security, water access and sanitation, health and well-being, education, tourism and livelihoods.

Building the resilience of local communities to climate shocks and disasters is not only an ethical imperative but can also have positive impacts on the environment, the economy, and well-being, as well as reduce inequalities and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of Agenda 2030. Not only are climate resilient communities better able to cope with climate change impacts, but this improved resiliency is also applicable to other shocks and stressors, such as current and future pandemics, and economic and social crises. This enhanced resilience is particularly vital for vulnerable and marginalized local actors and communities in particular women, youth, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples.

b. Community-Based Adaptation (CBA)

CBA is a locally led process that empowers people and communities to plan for and cope with current and future climate change impacts. The CBA approach is inclusive and centered on the priorities and processes chosen by the community. It involves shifting the power to local stakeholders to lead or meaningfully participate in adaptation actions, and does not prioritize the interests of external parties over those of the community. While CBA projects are very similar to other community development projects, there are two main distinctions: i) projects address problems induced by climate change, often long-term in nature, as opposed to shorter-term climate or weather variability; and ii) projects demand a strong emphasis on the process and not just outcomes. They are not just projects implemented at the community level or projects that involve communities in a symbolic manner to achieve pre-determined objectives.

CBA is an important component of the larger picture of the management and avoidance of climate change impacts by local people. It provides information and concrete examples on potential impacts of climate change and mitigative measures which are context and location specific and

managed by the community. CBA also generates information and learnings that can be adapted, shared and replicated in appropriate formats to other communities and climate change adaptation (CCA) projects.

c. Community Based Adaption Programme – CBA Phase 3

Over 2009 to 2020, with financial support and partnership from the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), implemented the Mekong-Asia-Pacific (MAP CBA). The programmes supported 237 projects with 12 million Australian dollars in 41 countries.

Building on the success and learnings from these programmes, in 2022 SGP entered into a third phase of partnership with DFAT to fund the Community Based Adaptation Programme in Southeast Asia and the Pacific (**CBA Phase 3**). The main goal of this new phase of CBA funding is to further enhance the capacities of local communities across priority landscapes/seascapes by building their social and ecological resilience to climate change and contextualize these initiatives within COVID-19 recovery and resilience efforts. It is essential that Community-Based Adaption (CBA) is mainstreamed into overarching climate change adaptation strategies, programming and policies, and local actors must be given platforms to exercise their agency, voice their opinions and share their experiences, traditional and cultural knowledge, solutions, and learnings. The [Global Commission on Adaptation](#) has found that when decision making and finance are directed to local actors, adaptation actions are more successful and sustainable in the long term.

2. Calls for concept papers

The UNDP/GEF-SGP announces the Call for Concept Papers to award small grants of up to US\$ 50,000 to Vietnamese non-governmental organizations, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) to undertake a systems analysis approach to the development and implementation of solutions that address the following areas:

Water security and resource management: access to clean water and sanitation is and economic enabler and is vital to building climate resilience and recovery from COVID-19. However, many communities across the Pacific and Southeast Asia regions still lack basic water access. Climate change, which directly impacts the water cycle, acts as a multiplier of the risks of water scarcity by increasing the variability and unpredictability of water resources.

Thus, sustainably managing water resources is a critical aspect of the CBA programme. Rainwater harvesting, nature-based solutions (NBS) such as watershed rehabilitation and enhancements to water storage capacities will be employed by the CBA programme to improve both domestic and agricultural water supply and access.

Oceans and coastal zone management: NBS such as mangrove restoration and rehabilitation of coastal vegetation are commonly used to adapt to these challenges and will be employed in this new phase. Using a landscape approach, initiatives will also focus on managing saltwater intrusion, improving coastal freshwater supplies, sustainable fisheries and marine conservation, and participatory mapping exercises to identify coastal assets and resources.

The CBA programme will also focus on the blue economy and building resilience of coastal and marine ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. Special Management Areas (SMA), governed by local traditional institutions through civil society organizations, continue to be the most effective units of management for coastal areas and are increasingly being recognized and mainstreamed by national governments. This CBA programme will enhance effectiveness and sustainability of these local governance processes and will work towards strengthening the structures and institutions associated with marine protected areas and SMAs. The efforts of this programme will be aligned with the national and regional actions being implemented by governments and regional bodies.

Agriculture, fisheries and food security: Droughts, flooding, shifting seasons and increased variability in rainfall and temperature patterns continue to affect agricultural production across the globe. These impacts are even more severe for smallholder farmers. For rural farming communities this can lead to food insecurity, poverty, poor health, nutrition and wellbeing. To cope with these challenges CBA projects will invest in sustainable agro-ecological production techniques to boost productivity and income generation, improve ecosystem services, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, where possible.

Land degradation: CBA projects will focus on nature-based solutions (NBS), agro-ecology and sustainable land management practices to improve ecosystem services and address some of the drivers of land degradation and other environment challenges at the community level.

Disaster risk reduction (DRR): DRR takes a systematic approach to adapting to climate change-induced hazards with a focus on preventing these hazards from evolving into full-fledged disasters. It includes a wide range of adaptation activities, such as risk and vulnerability assessments, utilizing early warning systems, improving multi-sectoral communication and collaboration, and education and awareness. DRR, disaster management and preparedness will be a cross-cutting theme in this new CBA phase.

3. Eligible Grantee:

Vietnamese non-governmental organizations, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs)

4. Geographical priorities: Mekong delta and South Central Coast regions

5. Procedure of project selection

- The project proponent may request for a grant up to 50,000 USD in 24 months.
- The proponent develops project concept paper (in Vietnamese) in accordance with UNDP/GEF SGP format and submits this to the National Coordinator (NC).

- The NC screens and considers the concept paper according to GEF criteria and then submits it to the National Steering Committee (NSC) for further approval.
- The proposing organization whose concept paper cleared by UNDP/GEF SGP submit a grant application in case of need. UNDP/GEF SGP provides a small grant for project design, stakeholder consultation and surveys.
- The NC considers and approves the above-mentioned document.
- The proposing organization whose proposal cleared by UNDP/GEF SGP submit a Project proposal.
- The proposing organization submit the project proposal to the NC:
 - The project proposal is either cleared by the NC and submitted to the NSC
 - It can be returned to the proposing organization with the NC's comments for adjustment.
- Proposals cleared by the NC are submitted to the NSC:
 - It might be accepted or rejected by the NSC
 - The NSC might return the proposal with a request for further work or additional sponsor
- Proposals cleared by the NSC are submitted to UNDP Vietnam for final clearance.

6. Criteria for selecting concept paper/proposal

- Suitable with UNDP/GEF SGP's strategic focal areas (i) focal and geographic focus (ii) objectives (capacity development, demonstration or replication strategies/community technique and knowledge management (lessons learned documentation/dissemination)
- Reasonable, creative, science – based, feasible and community approach. Projects should include strong social inclusion (gender equality and women's empowerment, indigenous peoples, youth, and or persons with disabilities).
- Sustainability, mainstreaming, upscaling/replication
- Organization's capability (i) Human resource and management experience (ii) Capacity and technical experience of the organization/consulting experts (iii) The involvement of communities and local stakeholders (iv) Linkages/mainstreaming with related projects/programs.

- Budget (i) Compatible (ii) Reasonable. (iii) Cofinancing

Submission of concept paper to:

UNDP – GEF SGP Vietnam

Ms. Nguyen Thi Thu Huyen, National Coordinator

Address: Green One UN House, 304 Kim Ma, Ba Dinh, Ha Noi

Email: gef-sgp-vietnam@undp.org

Deadline: **10/05/2023 (17h00 Hanoi time)**