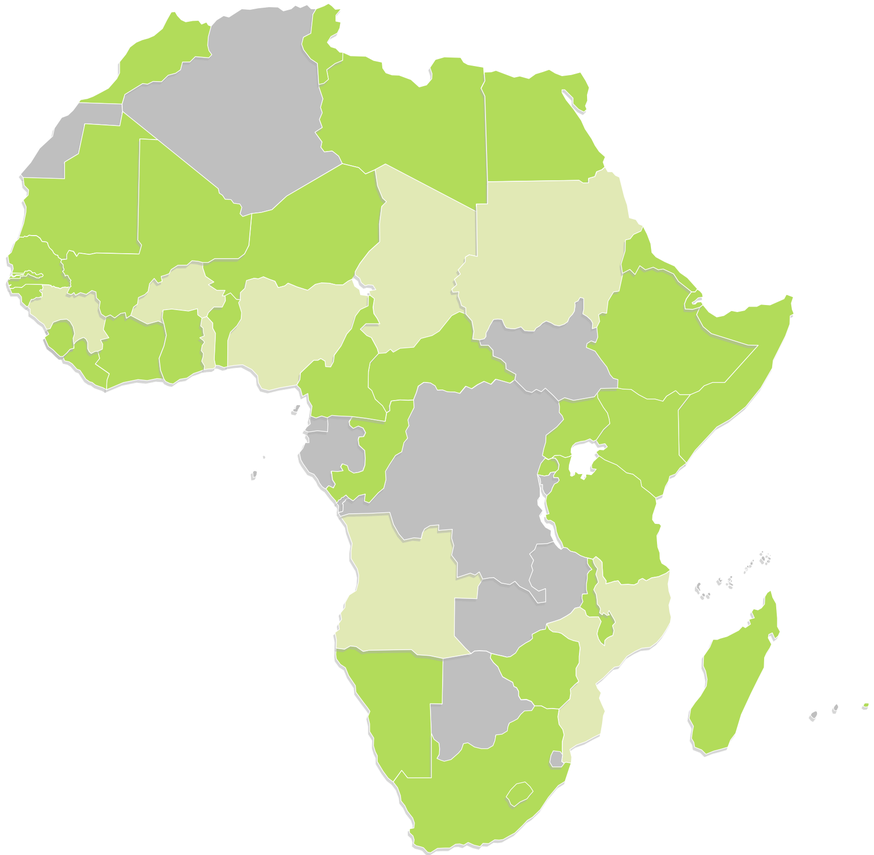
ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION REASONING

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
September 2025

AF Portfolio **AFRICA**

TOTAL **USD 501.5 Million**



PROJECT DISTRIBUTION

Total Projects:	**65**
Single Country:	**47**
Regional:	**14**
EDA/LLA:	**2**
Small Innovation:	**2**

BENEFICIARIES

Direct: **4.59 million**

Indirect: **13.97 million**

GEOGRAPHIC REACH

46 Countries with projects

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Coastline (meters)

27,035

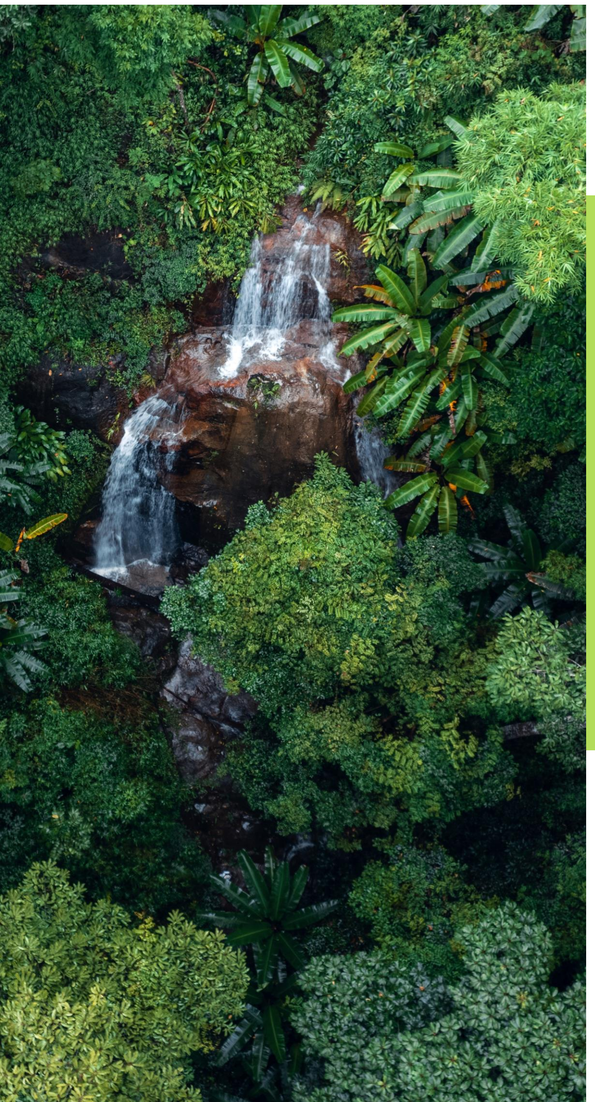
Natural habitats (ha)

183,832

EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS

360 Systems implemented

Key Criteria for Adaptation Fund Project/Programmes



COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY

- Country party to the Kyoto Protocol and/or PA
- Developing country vulnerable to climate change

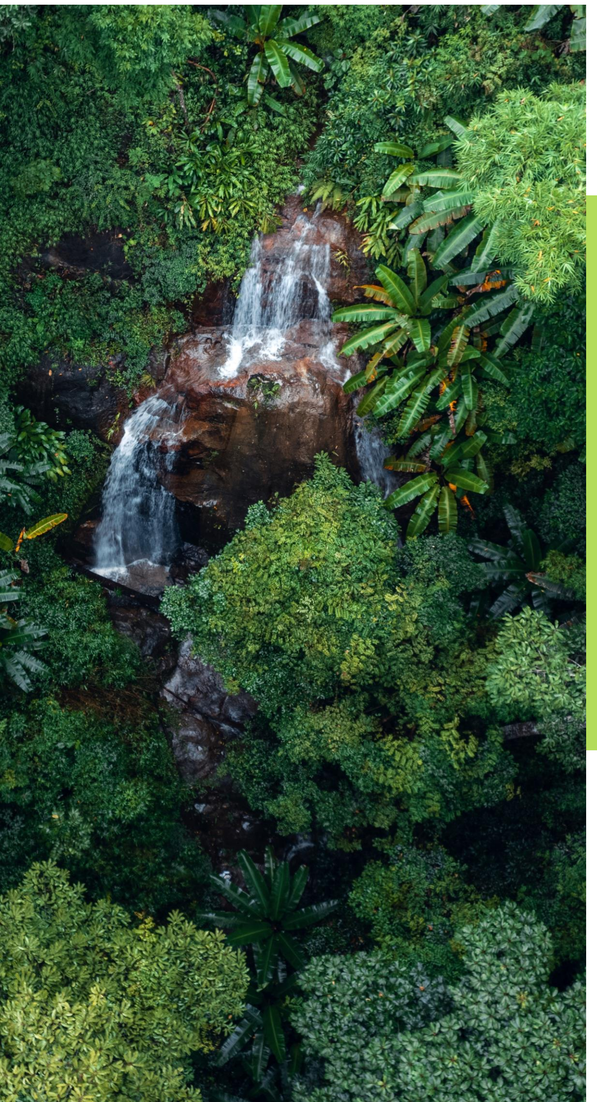
NATIONAL ALIGNMENT & COUNTRY DRIVEN

- Project endorsed by country's Designated Authority (LOE)
- Consistent with national policies, strategies and plans
- Meets national technical standards

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

- Adequate arrangement for project management
- Financial and project risk management
- M&E clearly defined
- Project results framework with targets and indicators disaggregated by sex

Key Criteria for Adaptation Fund Project/Programmes



RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

- Requested project funding within country cap
- IE management fee at or below 8.5% of total
- Project/programme execution costs at or below 9.5%

ELIGIBLITY OF ENTITY

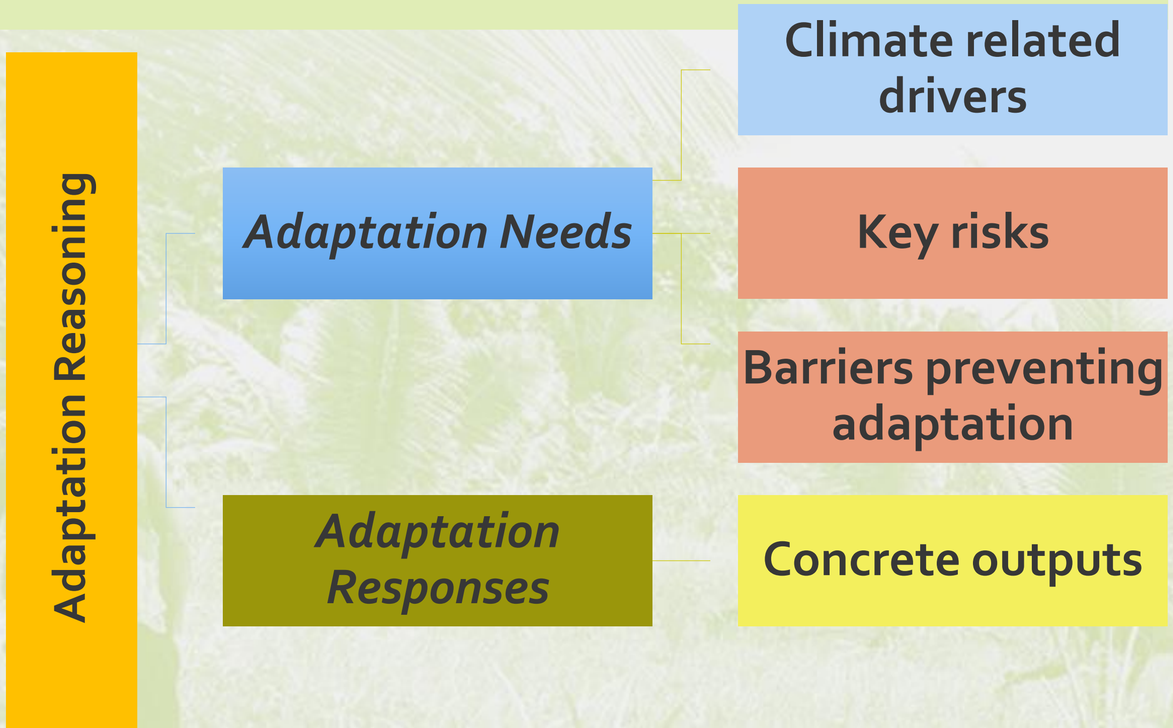
- Project submitted through eligible entity

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

- Climate adaptation reasoning
- ESP & GP compliant
- Cost effective and sustainable
- Avoids duplication
- Robust learning systems

Adaptation Reasoning - What is it?

Articulating the **climate adaptation response needed** in a community/country/area while considering the key climate drivers, risks faced by the community/country/area and barriers to overcome.



Adaptation Fund Côte d'Ivoire Project- Building Smallholder Resilience

Adaptation Reasoning: Elements to consider

- What are historical and projected **climate trends**?
- Has **vulnerability** been assessed?
- What are the **risks and impacts** faced by the community?
- Are these grounded in **scientific and technical evidence**?

What is the baseline context and the adaptation needs?

- Aligns with key **strategic documents** NAPs, NDCs etc.
- Addresses **climate drivers and barriers**,
- Improves the community's **ability to respond** to the impacts of climate change,
- Provides **opportunities** from the impacts of climate change.

How is this project responsive to the identified needs?

What is a Climate Adaptation Reasoning?

It's the ***underlying logic*** that explains why a proposed intervention qualifies as adaptation

E.g., "Rainfall has become erratic, leading to crop failure. The project introduces climate-smart agriculture and weather advisories."

It connects **stakeholder priorities** to **adaptation goals** and links those to actions and benefits

E.g., Community consultations + NAP priority on food security ➜ Project focuses on crop diversification and training.

Helps justify:

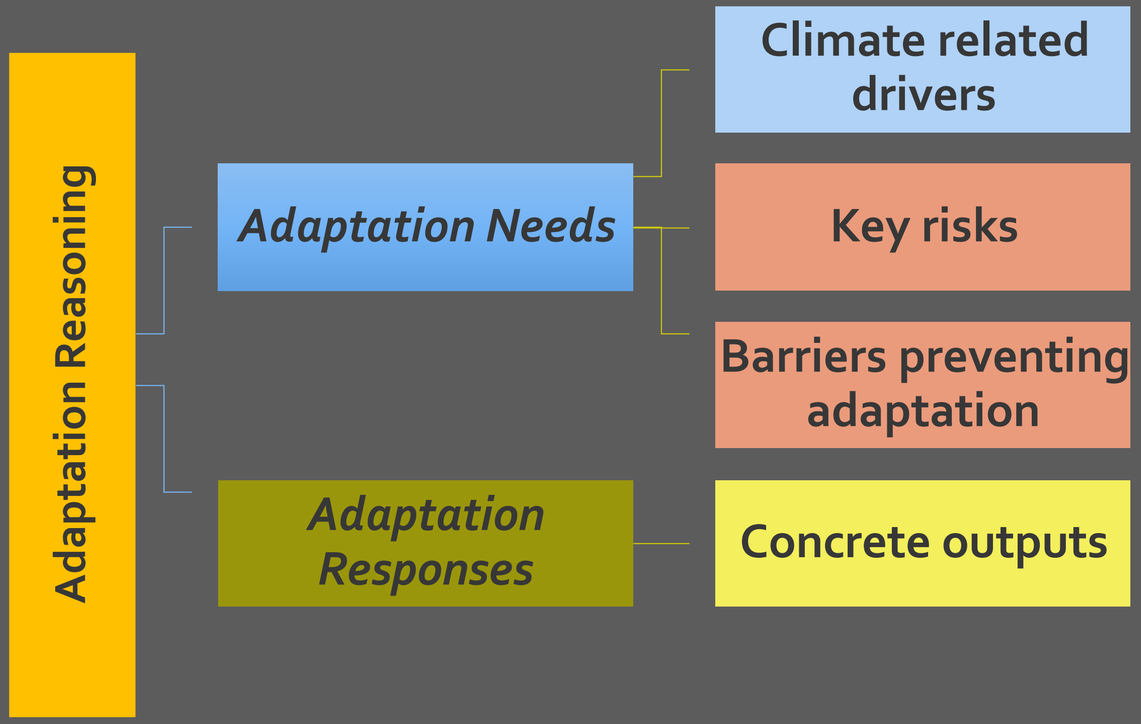
E.g. Why is community-based water management prioritized? Because local sources are drying due to prolonged dry seasons.

Why this intervention?	For whom will it work?	What climate risks will it address?

Case Study

Climate Smart Integrated Rural Development Project

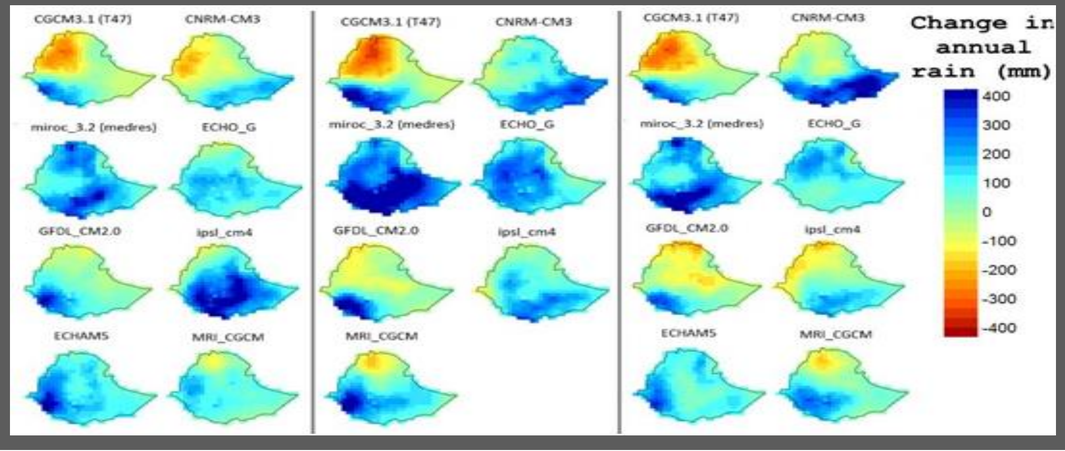
ETHIOPIA



Project Amount: USD 9,987,910

Implementing Entity: Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation

Type of Entity: National Implementing Entity



Case Study

Climate Smart Integrated Rural Development Project

CLIMATE RELATED DRIVERS

- Changes in rainfall patterns
- Increasing temperatures

KEY RISKS

- Drought conditions – crop damage and reduced yields of teff, wheat, and coffee
- Increased livestock mortality, reduced growth, and reduced milk production

Case Study

Climate Smart Integrated Rural Development Project

	Climate stresses, threats and opportunities	Key impacts
1	Mean temperature increases over 5-10 yrs	Shifts in agro-ecological zones;
2	More days with a max temperature above 35 °C	Heat stress for some crops
3	More days with a max temperature above 40 °C	Leads to heat stress on people & livestock
4	Mean rainfall over 5 yrs decreasing	Shifts in agro-ecological zones; plus drought regimes
5	Mean rainfall over 5 yrs increasing	Landslides, damage to crops and livestock
6	Mean rainfall over 5 yrs increasing plus large scale floods	Damage to crops, livestock, infrastructure and people
7	3-day rainfall intensity increasing leading to flash floods	Local damages to crops, livestock, infrastructure, people
8	1-hour rainfall intensity	Soil erosion and landslides, some local damages to crops
9	More heavy hail events	Crop damage at certain times in the growing season
10	Changes in rainfall distribution within the season	Significant impact on some crops
11	Number of 10-day dry spells increasing	Significant impact on some crops
12	Higher frequency of seasonal droughts	Significant impact on most crops
13	Higher frequency of consecutive seasonal droughts	Significant impact on livelihoods and economic growth
14	Later onset of rainfall season	Shortens growing period - impacts on crops, fodder
15	Earlier end date of the rainfall season	Shortens growing period - impacts on crops, fodder
16	Decreased predictability of the rainfall season	Less reliable forecasts affects some enterprises
17	Increased uncertainty in rainfall distributions	Increases risk, important for some enterprises
18	Increases in cloudiness & humidity	Reduces radiation, increases thermal stress for people

- Agriculture accounts for approx. 40% of GDP (2015)
- Agriculture accounts for 73% of all employment (2015)
- Ethiopian agriculture dominated by small holder farmers and predominantly rainfed
- Livestock are a source of income for many farmers in the target region
- Climate risks aggravate existing gender inequalities in current agriculture system

Case Study

Climate Smart Integrated Rural Development Project

BARRIERS PREVENTING ADAPTATION

- Low and undiversified income base
- Limited access to water for portable and productive needs
- Lack of access to technology and modern agricultural inputs
- Limited availability of information e.g. climate variability and forecasts
- Limited institutional capacity

Case Study

Climate Smart Integrated Rural Development Project

ETHIOPIA

Adaptation Reasoning

- ***Adaptation Needs***
  - **Climate related drivers**
  - **Key risks**
  - **Barriers preventing adaptation**
- ***Adaptation Responses***
  - **Concrete outputs**

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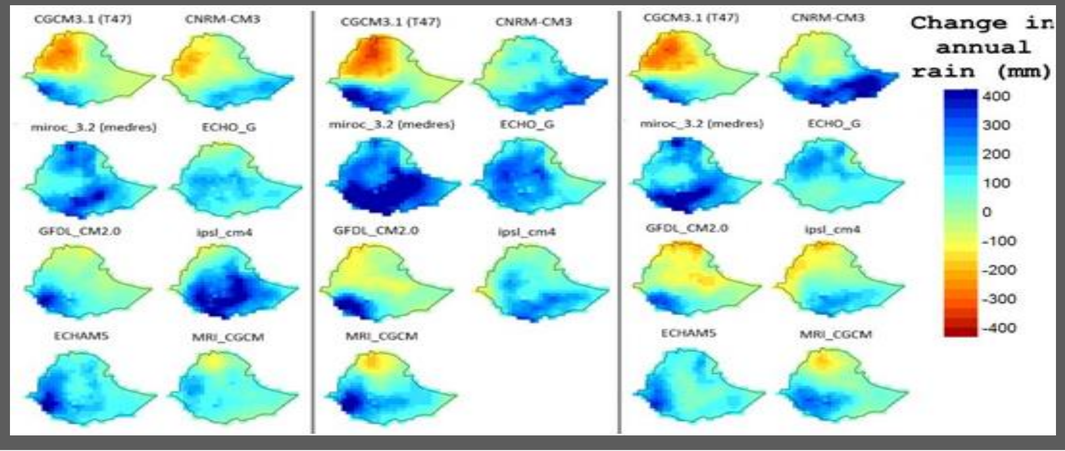

Case Study

Climate Smart Integrated Rural Development Project

Overall Project Objective:

- Increase resilience to recurrent droughts in 7 agro-ecological landscapes in Ethiopia

Two Outcomes:

1. Increased capacity to manage current and future drought risks through improved adaptation planning and sustainable management of agroecological-landscapes; and
2. Enhanced and secure access to potable water supply and small-scale irrigation in drought affected areas.

Case Study

Climate Smart Integrated Rural Development Project

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes
1. **Awareness and ownership of adaptation planning at the local level**	Output 1.1: Increased awareness, understanding and ownership of climate risk reduction processes and adaptation planning at all levels Output 1.2: Climate smart development plans developed Output 1.3: Climate resilient water plans developed Output 1.4: Climate smart agriculture and land – water - forest integration plans developed Output 1.5: Climate resilient livelihood plans developed	Outcome 1: Increased capacity to manage current and future drought risks through improved adaptation planning and sustainable management of agro-ecological landscapes
2. **Water security**	Output 2.1: Potable water supply increased in target areas Output 2.2: Irrigation infrastructure for agriculture and livestock watering designed and developed to withstand climate change	Outcome 2: Enhanced and secure access to potable water supply, and small-scale irrigation in drought affected areas
3. **Climate smart agriculture – land – water - forest integration**	Output 3.1: Climate smart agriculture implemented at the farm level Output 3.2. Integrated watershed management approach used to restore and protect degraded watersheds	Outcome 1: Increased capacity to manage current and future drought risks through improved adaptation planning and sustainable management of agro-ecological
4. **Climate resilient livelihood diversification**	Output 4.1: Improved knowledge, understanding and awareness of livelihood opportunities Output 4.2: Increased capacity of target households to participate in	Outcome 1: Increased capacity to manage current and future drought risks through improved adaptation planning and sustainable management
5. **Capacity building, knowledge transfer and outreach**	Output 5.1: Increased capacity and knowledge transfer Output 5.2: Results and lessons communicated to key stakeholders and mainstreamed in local planning processes	Outcome 1: Increased capacity to manage current and future drought risks through improved adaptation planning and sustainable management of

A few key takeaways

- Adaptation reasoning is how a project or programme can **demonstrate it is an adaptation project**. It is also fundamental criteria for any proposal that is seeking financing from the Adaptation Fund
- Need to ensure that the **climate adaptation response considers the adaptation needs**: key climate drivers, the risks faced by the community, and the barriers to overcome
- Comprehensive **scientific and technical evidence** should be used to support the causal links
- Align with **national and sub-national priorities**
- Project proposal templates and guidance documents can be found on the Adaptation Fund website


Thank You
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www.adaptation-fund.org