

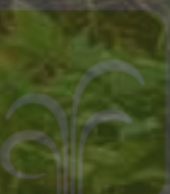


ADAPTATION FUND

Adaptation Fund Support for Technology Development and Transfer

Saliha Dobardzic
Programming and Innovation Unit Lead
Adaptation Fund
April 2026

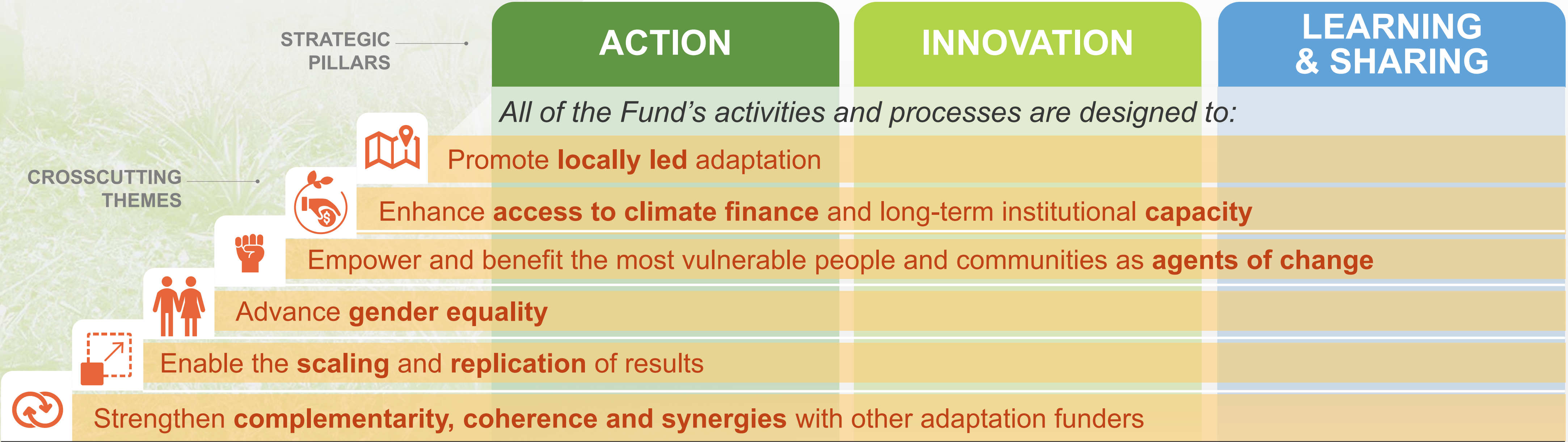
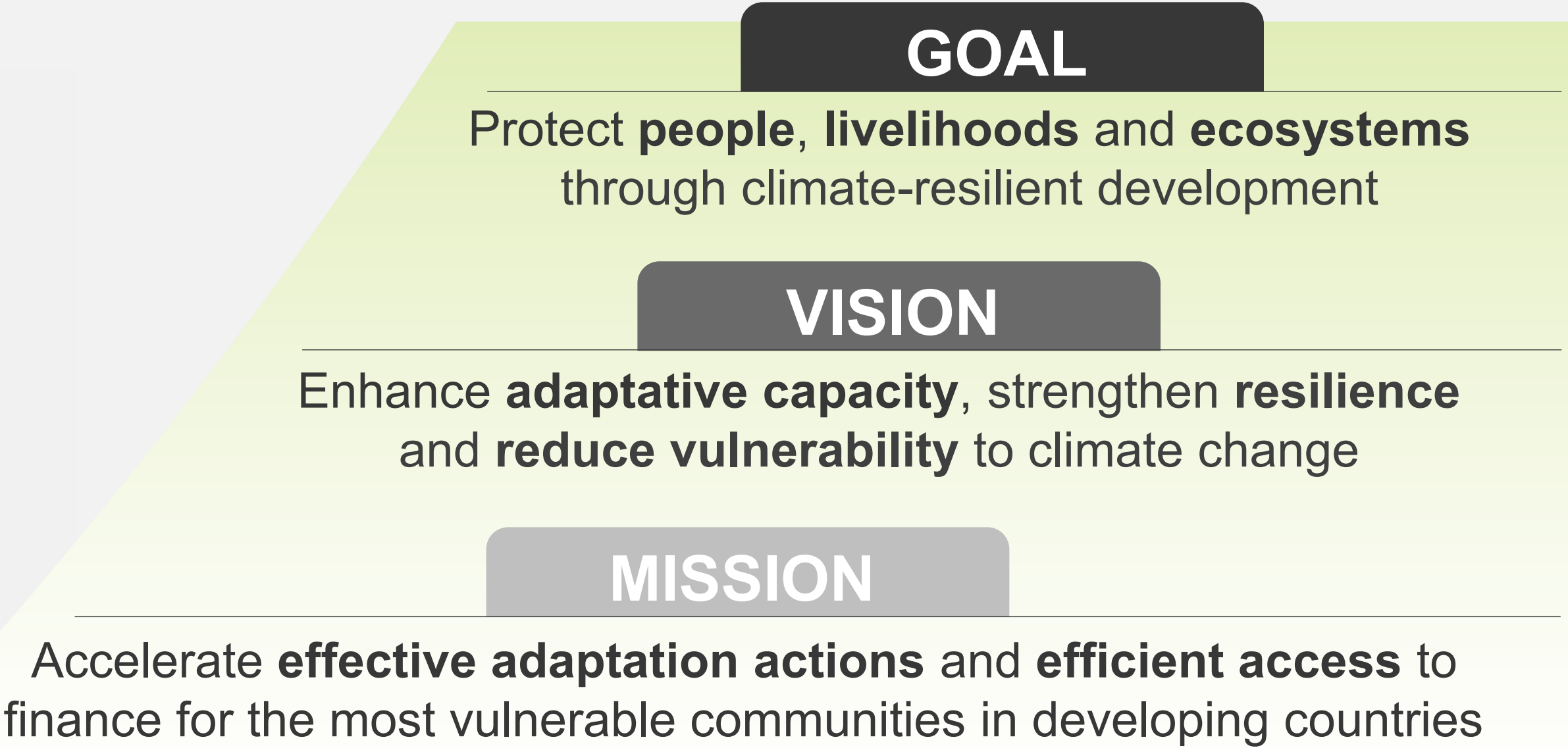
Mobile technology utilization to improve climate
information in Malawi (UNEP-CTCN AFCA)



Medium-Term Strategy (2023-2027)

Theory of change

Finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes that are country driven and based on the needs, views and priorities of developing countries that particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.



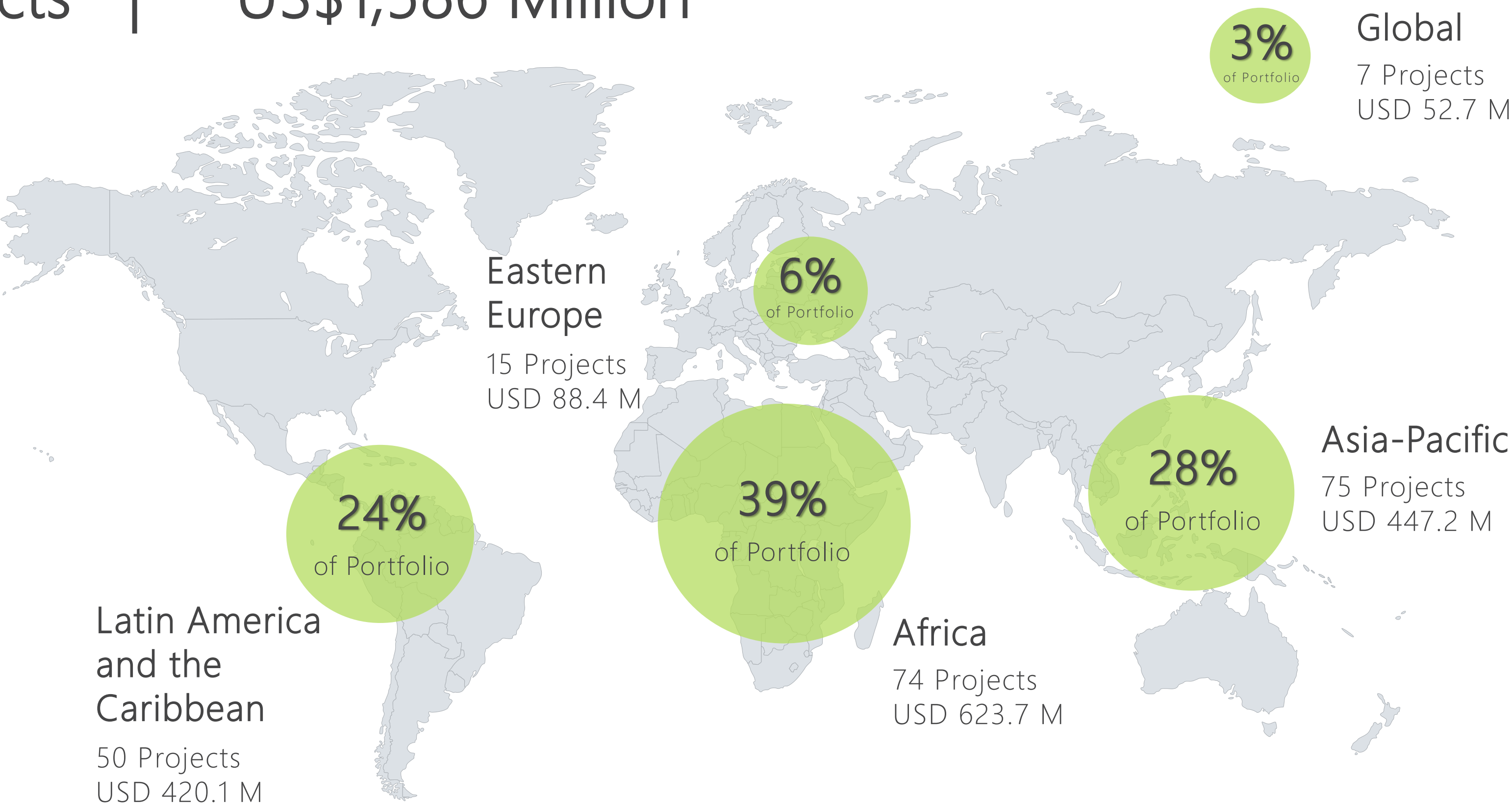


AF Portfolio: Regional distribution

TOTAL 221 projects | US\$1,586 Million

PROJECT & PROGRAMME DISTRIBUTION

Single Country:	158
Regional:	29
LLA Single-Country:	7
LLA Regional	1
LLA Aggregator:	1
Small Innovation:	9
Large Innovation:	8
AFCIA:	7
Bundled Innovation/Learning:	1



Growing demand for AF financing:
US\$1,640 Million of proposals in active pipeline



Innovation at the Adaptation Fund

- Innovation is becoming increasingly important to meet the global adaptation challenge, given the **urgency of climate action** and **scarcity of public resources** for adaptation.
- Innovation projects are an opportunity to leverage the Fund's comparative advantage to **test and trial new practices, technologies, institutional models**, and contribute to an **evidence-base** of successful innovation in climate adaptation.
- While these projects inherently carry **higher risk** than projects under regular funding windows, they also hold the potential for **greater impact**.

INNOVATION

Modalities for funding the development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools and technologies are expanded and risk-taking is encouraged

EXPECTED RESULTS

1. New innovations and risk-taking encouraged and accelerated

2. Successful innovations replicated and scaled up

3. Access and capacities enhanced for designing and implementing innovation

4. Evidence base generated and shared



INNOVATION Funding Window

*outside of
country
cap*

Types of Interventions

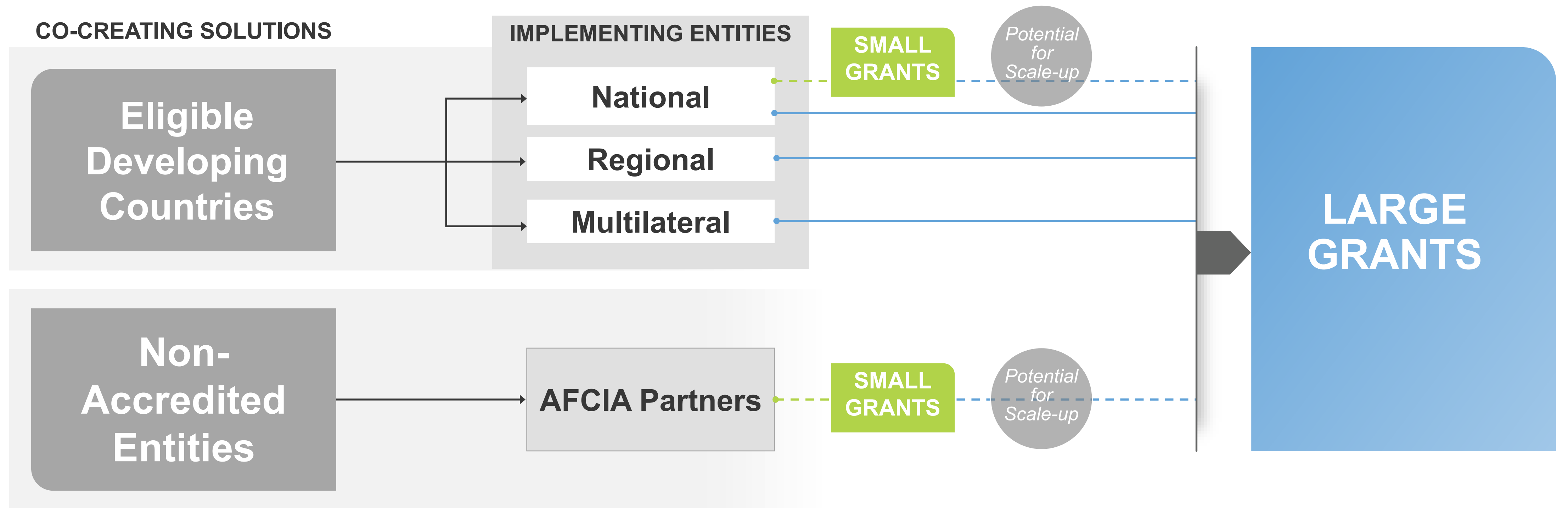
Pilot

Demonstrate

Improve

New

Adapted technology solutions or practices



What Does the AF Innovation Portfolio Look Like Today?

Distinct but complementary windows, targeting different stages and scales of adaptation solutions

Small Innovation Grants (NIE) up to USD 250,000

What do these projects look like?

- **Community-based/led solutions** (e.g., watershed resilience, agro-biodiversity, invasive species management, eco-tourism, climate-smart agro-sylvo-pastoral farms, farmer-led experimentation)
- **Local technology applications** (e.g., water barriers, desalination technology)
- **Capacity-building and knowledge innovation** (e.g., youth education modules, competitive selection of ideas from university students)

Geographic spread:

Armenia, Antigua & Barbuda, Bhutan, Chile, Dominican Republic, Indonesia (2), Senegal, Uganda

Early-stage, locally embedded innovation

Strong role for demonstration, learning and replication

Mix of technology, knowledge, ecosystem and livelihood solutions

Frequent emphasis on community systems, local capacity and practical field application



In Uganda, a portable barrier made out of rubber has the dual effect of protecting communities from floods, while also storing water to help farmers in times of drought.

Picture Source: Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda



In the Dominican Republic, a prototype using solar thermal desalination technology is being used to generate drinking water.

Picture Source: IDDI, Dominican Republic



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What Does the AF Innovation Portfolio Look Like Today?

Distinct but complementary windows, targeting different stages and scales of adaptation solutions

Large Innovation Grants (NIE, RIE, MIE) up to USD 5,000,000

What do these projects look like?

- **Innovative financing mechanisms** (e.g., SMEs, performance-based incentives)
- **Technology and systems innovation** (e.g., hydromet hubs)
- **Sectoral transformation** (e.g., water, agriculture, wetlands)

Geographic spread:

Balkans (regional project), West and East Africa (including Gambia, Tanzania, Somalia, Kenya and Uganda), Caribbean (Belize), South Asia (Bangladesh), and Southeast Asia (Viet Nam).

Scaling-oriented and systems-level innovation: Moving beyond pilots to wider application and impact

Strong role for institutional, financial and partnership models: Including innovative financing, platforms and service systems

Mix of technology, finance, governance and delivery innovations: Not just solutions, but how they are financed and implemented

Frequent emphasis on replication, scaling pathways and long-term sustainability: National and regional reach with potential for transformation



In the Western Balkans, the Adaptation Fund project is taking an enterprise development approach to support and scale innovative community-based solutions, provide tailored business and technical support, and strengthen regional collaboration.

Picture Source: UNDP, Serbia



In The Gambia and Tanzania, regional innovation hubs are being established to support improved monitoring and early warning.

Picture Source: WMO



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AFCIA Partners

As of April 2026

PROGRAMME STATUS	IMPLEMENTING ENTITY	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
Under Implementation	UNDP	\$5M	Tailored technical, business, incubation & acceleration support for competitively sourced innovations. 44 grantees (as of 2024), 2 calls
	UNEP-CTCN	\$5M	Phase I – Micro-grants for development and diffusion of innovative adaptation practices, tools, & technologies, 25 grantees (as of 2024), 3 calls
	UNEP-CTCN	\$10M	Phase II – Target: Non-Annex1 countries. The project includes 1) TA to 40 technologies, 2) Additional TA to scale up, and 3) Further assistance to strengthen NSIs
	WFP	\$10M	Support startups in developing countries with acceleration programs and grants
	UNIDO	\$10M	Support SMEs in developing countries with incubation/acceleration programs and grants
	SPC	\$5M	The Climate Innovation Co:Lab aims to incubate, catalyse, de-risk, and scale locally-led innovations across 14 Pacific SIDS
	UNEP-CTCN	\$2.6M	AFCIA Coordination Programme to develop synergies among partners

AFCIA Partners

As of April 2026

PROGRAMME STATUS	IMPLEMENTING ENTITY	AMOUNT	PROPOSAL STATUS
Invited to submit a proposal	SPREP	\$5M	Proposal submitted
	UNDP	\$15M	Proposal submitted
	CAF	\$8M	Proposal submitted
	EBRD	\$15M	Invited to submit a proposal
	IFAD	\$10M	Invited to submit a proposal
	WB – IBRD	\$15M	Invited to submit a proposal
	UN-Habitat	\$5M Each	Invited to submit separate proposals for Asia-Pacific, Arab States, & Sub-Saharan Africa



Recent and Ongoing Collaboration with Technology Mechanism

As of April 2026



- TEC and CTCN were invited to Innovation Days at Adaptation Future Conference (October 2025), joint showcase and photo-exhibition
- COP30 in Belem: HL Ministerial “Innovating for Resilience” (organized by CTCN), and events on AFCIA co-organized by AF
- Participation (virtual) in the CTCN 2025 SIDS Joint Programme: NDE Forum and Capacity Building on Co-creation for System Transformation (December 2025)
- First AFCIA Programme Steering Committee meeting, organized by UNEP-CTCN in its coordinating role, with all AFCIA implementing entities represented (February 2026, Vienna)
- AF Webinar on Unlocking Adaptation Innovation (March 2026); Experience shared by UNEP-CTCN, UNDP, and WFP
- Participation in TEC and CTCN meetings (April 2026); updates on AF’s innovation portfolio
- Willingness to support TEC’s work, including the development of a knowledge product on incubators and accelerators
- CTCN has invited the AF to join their LAC NDE capacity building forum, and to participate in a session on Caribbean SIDS





Recent and Ongoing Collaboration with Technology Mechanism

As of April 2026



ADAPTATION FUND



Meet Our Esteemed Speakers



Saliha Dobardzic
Unit Lead, Programming and Innovation
Adaptation Fund



Farayi Madziwa
Readiness Coordinator,
Adaptation Fund



Nadège Trocellier
CTCN Global Adaptation Lead,
UNEP-CTCN



Alyssa Gomes
Programming Coordinator,
Adaptation Fund



Monica Borrero
Global Programme Manager,
UNDP AFCA



Regina Schmidt
Head of SDG2 Acceleration,
WFP



WEBINAR

**Innovation for Climate Change Adaptation:
Discussing Challenges and Opportunities**

AGENDA:

adaptation, especially in
communities that have



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Upcoming Opportunities for Collaboration



- Facilitating knowledge exchange at upcoming fora, e.g. Innovation Days at Adaptation Future Conference in October 2027, Community of Innovation-for-Adaptation Funders (Q2 CY26), innovation webinars (on-going)
- Second AFCIA Programme Steering Committee meeting, to be organized by UNEP-CTCN in its coordinating role, with all AFCIA implementing entities represented (Q3, Virtual)
- Development of MTS-III:
 - Kick-off in last week of April, 2026
 - Includes innovation directions options commissioned consultants to support the development of the MTS-III
 - Consultative process with stakeholders upcoming
- Possibility to collaborate on AF readiness events, including readiness/capacity-building workshop on innovation
- Collaboration on efforts to strengthen national systems of innovation as well as enabling environment, para 8 (b)
- Collaboration on efforts to support development of project concept notes and the preparation of fundable adaptation projects, para 8 (d)
- Collaboration on fostering matchmaking and partnership-building and leveraging resources, para 8 (d)



Measuring support to Belem Technology Implementation Programme

The AF supports:

- Technology priorities identified by developing countries in their technology needs assessments and technology action plans, biennial transparency reports, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions;
- *Decides that the technology implementation programme shall: (a) Be implemented in a coherent, inclusive and **results-oriented manner** (para 6);*
 - AF Indicators: 1. Innovation-specific:
 - **Number of innovative solutions identified/piloted and number of innovation reaching scaleup** (explicitly assessing readiness beyond proof-of-concept)
 - **Institutions created and/or enabled that lead on innovation for adaptation to climate change** (number of institutions, disaggregated by scale)
 - Number of innovations identified that demonstrate **local participation and/or local innovation benefits**
 - AF Indicators: 2. Technology-relevant – multiple indicators, e.g.:
 - **People benefiting from climate-resilient technologies, systems or practices** (e.g. # of people, disaggregated by gender, covered by new or improved early warning systems, people adopting new/climate resilient livelihood practice, etc.)

Measuring support to Belem Technology Implementation Programme (cont.)

- AF Indicators: 3. **Locally Led Adaptation (LLA) indicators with strong technology relevance:** The revised SRF introduces **LLA-specific indicators**, many of which are highly relevant for **endogenous and Indigenous technologies**.
 - **Number and type of locally led adaptation solutions supported** (including locally developed or adapted technologies and practices)
 - **Type of entity leading adaptation solutions** (community organizations, SMEs, Indigenous organizations, local governments)
- AF Indicators: 4. **Enabling Environment, Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building** – multiple indicators, e.g.:
 - **Institutions created and/or enabled that lead on innovation for adaptation to climate change** (number of institutions, disaggregated by scale) → Innovation-specific
 - Innovation-focused knowledge products and learning events that **enable innovation capacity** at local-regional scales → Innovation-specific
 - Policies, strategies and/or plans developed, adopted, implemented

Thank You



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Saliha Dobardzic
Programming and Innovation Unit Lead
Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

Solar desalination unit installed at the experimental
platform of the Santo Domingo Institute of Technology
(INTEC)

AF Small Innovation Grant in Dominican Republic
(IDDI)