

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

What are the Bank's priorities?

The African Development Bank's Strategy for 2013–2022 sets out two key objectives which are supporting inclusive growth and a transition towards green growth for African countries. The **Bank's High 5 priorities** are to: **light up & power Africa; feed Africa; industrialize Africa; integrate Africa;** and **improve the quality of life for the people of Africa;** and **Gender Strategy for 2021-2025**. Concept notes should be aligned with one or more of these priorities.

What are NDCs, NAPs and Adaptation Communications?

At the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris in December 2015, countries put forward the post-2020 climate adaptation and mitigation actions they intend to take, called **the Nationally Determined Contributions** towards the implementation of the **Paris Agreement**. Please learn about the **NDC of the country** where your project will be developed.

Several countries have developed **National Adaptation Plans** or related adaptation strategies, which identify medium and long term adaptation needs and the interventions necessary to address those needs. The main objectives of NAPs are to reduce vulnerabilities to the impacts of climate change, by building adaptive capacity and resilience; and to facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities

Adaptation Communications are envisaged under Article 7.10 of the Paris Agreement. The first adaptation communications may be published at CoP 26 and will provide countries with an opportunity to highlight their adaptation needs.

ELIGIBLE BENEFICIARIES

Who are the eligible beneficiaries?

External beneficiaries:

- African governments: including sub-national, local and municipal governments.
- African regional organizations: intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations from the public sector. UN Agencies may be considered on a case-by case basis.
- African Funds: Funds must be legally registered in an African country. **Private sector (for-profit) funds are not eligible.**
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs): please refer to the question on the eligibility of NGOs
- African research institutions: institutes must be legally registered in an African country, and must have demonstrated credibility and track record.

Internal beneficiaries:

African Development Bank departments: bank departments may submit proposals directly, or may work with eligible external beneficiaries to support them in preparing high quality proposals

Can my consultancy firm/private company/social enterprise apply for funding?

The private sector is not eligible to apply to the Africa Climate Change Fund.

Can I submit a proposal in collaboration with others?

Grant requests may be submitted by consortia, in which two or more institutions partner on a proposal to draw on the respective strengths of each institution and promote collaboration towards a common goal. The roles and responsibilities of each consortium member must be clearly defined, including identification of the lead member. All members of the consortium must be eligible beneficiaries.

What if one of the partners in the consortium is not an eligible beneficiary of the ACCF?

All members of the consortium must be eligible beneficiaries. Any expertise required for the execution of the project that does not reside within the consortium members may be contracted through a competitive procurement process during the project execution.

NGO ELIGIBILITY

Can an NGO or research institution based outside of Africa apply?

Only NGOs and research institutions legally registered in Africa are eligible. If the headquarters of an NGO is registered outside of Africa but has a subsidiary legally registered in an African country, the subsidiary is eligible.

NGOs and research institutions will be asked to provide evidence of valid legal registration under the laws of the African country in which they operate, as well as evidence of a certificate to carry out development work in the African country in which they intend to carry out the activity (if different from the place of legal registration).

Furthermore, NGOs and research institutions must have demonstrated credibility and track record in order to be considered.

What does demonstrated credibility and track record mean for NGOs and research institutions?

The eligibility of NGOs and research institutions will depend on their credibility and track record in the area of climate change, among other criteria. Such organizations shall:

- be based in Africa
- provide evidence of valid legal registration under the laws of the RMCs in which they operate, as well as evidence of a certificate to carry out development work in the RMCs in which they intend to carry out the activity (if different from the place of legal registration)
- have proof of their existence at least two years prior to the onset of activity and have appropriate organizational and management capacity, including a governing board;
- demonstrate the existence of a sound financial system, including clear accounting and budgeting standards, financial statements, a transparent budgeting process, audited accounts and other indicators that confirm their capacity to assume fiduciary responsibility for ACCF resources;
- provide evidence of competence – based on past performance – to carry out the proposed activities;
- demonstrate credibility and the knowledge of local values, networks and structures required to carry out the indicated activities;
- be mission-driven institutions committed to advancing the continent's or national development priorities; and do not derive benefits purely attributable to the use of the grant proceeds above the administrative and prime costs associated with the execution of the proposal.

Does the ACCF fund individuals for scholarships/studies or participation in international conferences?

The ACCF does not fund individuals. Please refer to the eligibility question



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I have read through the eligibility criteria and I am still not sure if my institution is eligible; should I still apply?

The ACCF Secretariat is not in the position of answering to every individual request about an institution's eligibility. You may wish to take the chance of completing the eligibility requirements and if your institution is eligible you will be granted access to complete the 5-page concept note. If your project is shortlisted you will receive an email notification to complete the full proposal template.

FUNDED ACTIVITIES

What activities does the ACCF fund?

The activities to be funded under the ACCF may include (but are not limited to):

- Services of national and international consultants and experts;
- acquisition of office equipment;
- the provision of training and capacity building;
- translation services;
- transportation fees;
- the preparation of studies, strategies;
- knowledge management, communications, consultation workshops, regional and international meetings advocacy and outreach;
- certain administrative costs and fees; and
- certain technical assistance activities.

If our project is selected, should we follow a procurement procedure to recruit consultants or can we work with experts already identified?

Both options may be possible depending on the nature of the activities to be executed, but the Bank will usually recommend the recruitment of consultants through a competitive selection process. The selection and engagement of consultants and the procurement of any goods or works funded by the ACCF will follow the [African Development Bank's procurement rules](#).

GENERAL INQUIRIES

Are all African countries eligible?

The African countries that are eligible are the regional member countries of the African development Bank.

Regional member countries:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé & Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Can I submit a concept note in French or Portuguese?

The ACCF accepts concept notes in English and French only.

The ACCF is already funding a project in my country, can I still apply?

Yes, you can still apply following the requirements.

[I submitted a proposal in response to the first and second CFPs which was not successful – can I apply to this 3rd CFP?](#)

Yes, you can apply again following the requirements.

[What is the minimum and maximum duration of the project?](#)

There is no prescribed minimum or maximum duration. The majority of ACCF projects are between 18 months – 2 years in duration.

[Is the counterpart financing a requirement?](#)

Counterpart financing of at least 5% for external beneficiaries and 10% for Bank departments is strongly encouraged to demonstrate commitment and ownership by the project proponent. For external proponents, counterpart financing may be in the form of in-kind contributions.

[If I am invited to submit a full proposal, am I guaranteed to receive a grant?](#)

No. Your proposal needs to be evaluated, appraised and then considered for approval by the ACCF's decision-making structure.

[If my concept note is shortlisted, what is the timeline for appraisal and approval?](#)

Concept notes will be appraised approximately within 2-3 weeks after the deadline for the Call for Proposals.

For Concept Note and Project Proposal submission dates refer to the guidance note for the “**Estimated timeline for the Third ACCF Call for Proposals**”.

[If my proposal is approved by the technical or oversight committee, what is the timeline to begin execution?](#)

Once a project is approved for an external beneficiary, the Bank will enter into a grant agreement with the executing agency. There may be some conditions that need to be met before the first disbursement of funds can be made, such as the opening of a special bank account for the project, and the establishment of a project team. Furthermore, there will likely be a competitive procurement process to procure any services, goods or works required by the project. The timeline can vary considerably depending on the nature of the project, but proponents should consider an average of about 6 months before execution of the project activities can begin.

[Can an eligible institution submit more than one application on different thematic areas?](#)

More than one application from the same institution is not prohibited, however the ACCF is not likely to fund more than one project from the same external institution at the same time. Eligible beneficiaries are therefore encouraged to prioritize and identify one project for submission.

[Can I submit a project that will take place in several countries?](#)

Yes, multinational/regional projects are allowed as long as they are in African countries.