

ADAPTATION FUND

Climate 
Innovation
Accelerator

SMALL GRANTS. BIG IMPACT.

UN 
environment
programme

 **CTCN**
UN Climate Technology Centre & Network

Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator

INNOVATE. ADAPT. SCALE.

Nadège Trocellier
Global Adaptation Lead

19 May 2026





Call for Proposals: Latin America and the Caribbean



INNOVATE. ADAPT. SCALE.

- UNEP CTCN AFCIA I : Lessons learned and practical takeaways
- UNEP CTCN AFCIA II : 10M USD programme
- UNEP CTCN Coordination : broader opportunity

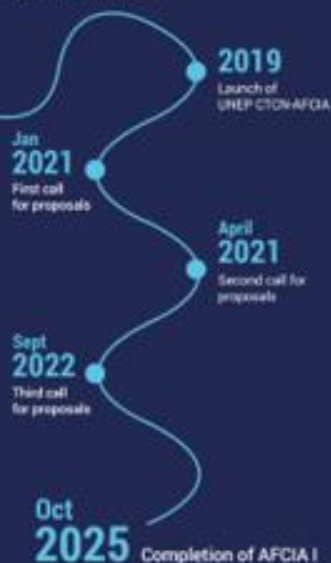


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AFCIA I Lessons learned & practical takeaways

Spotlight on AFCIA I

UNEP CTCN-AFCIA timeline



"Climate technology is crucial for accelerating the design and implementation of solutions for climate adaptation and enhancing resilience. For the past 10 years, CTCN has been empowering communities with technology and capacity fit for purpose and the ability to ignite system transformations."

Kazem Kashfi

UNEP CTCN - AFCIA Impact Report 2/30



Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator 2020-2025



UNEP CTCN - AFCIA Impact Report

Supporting resilience building of most vulnerable communities through adaptation technologies

Geographical presence

Number of initiatives per country



UNEP CTCN-AFCIA supports countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), with priority given to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).



IMPACT REPORT



Everyone gets the message now so no one's crops get spoiled anymore.

Portfolio by Sector – 25 pilots

Early Warning Sys. (9)

EWS for Flood

Mali

Sudan

EWS for Forest Fire

Georgia

Drought Modelling and
Forecasting Systems

Saint Kitts
and Nevis

Ecuador

Agrometeorological
Platform

Nepal

Nigeria

Multi-hazard Platform

Malaysia

Transboundary Water
Management

Vietnam

Water Management (6)

Aquifer mapping

Zambia

Flood mitigation barrier

Burundi

Flood sensor
technologies

Malawi

Rainwater harvesting
system

Pakistan

Water drainage system

Maldives

Roadmap for aquifer
recharge

Suriname

Food Security (10)

SPIS

Liberia

Mozambique

Drones for soil mapping

Sudan

Enabling environment
and SPIS

Ghana

Guatemala

Climate-smart farming

Mozambique

Blockchain for crop
insurance

Thailand

Climate-smart free
trade zones

Bahamas

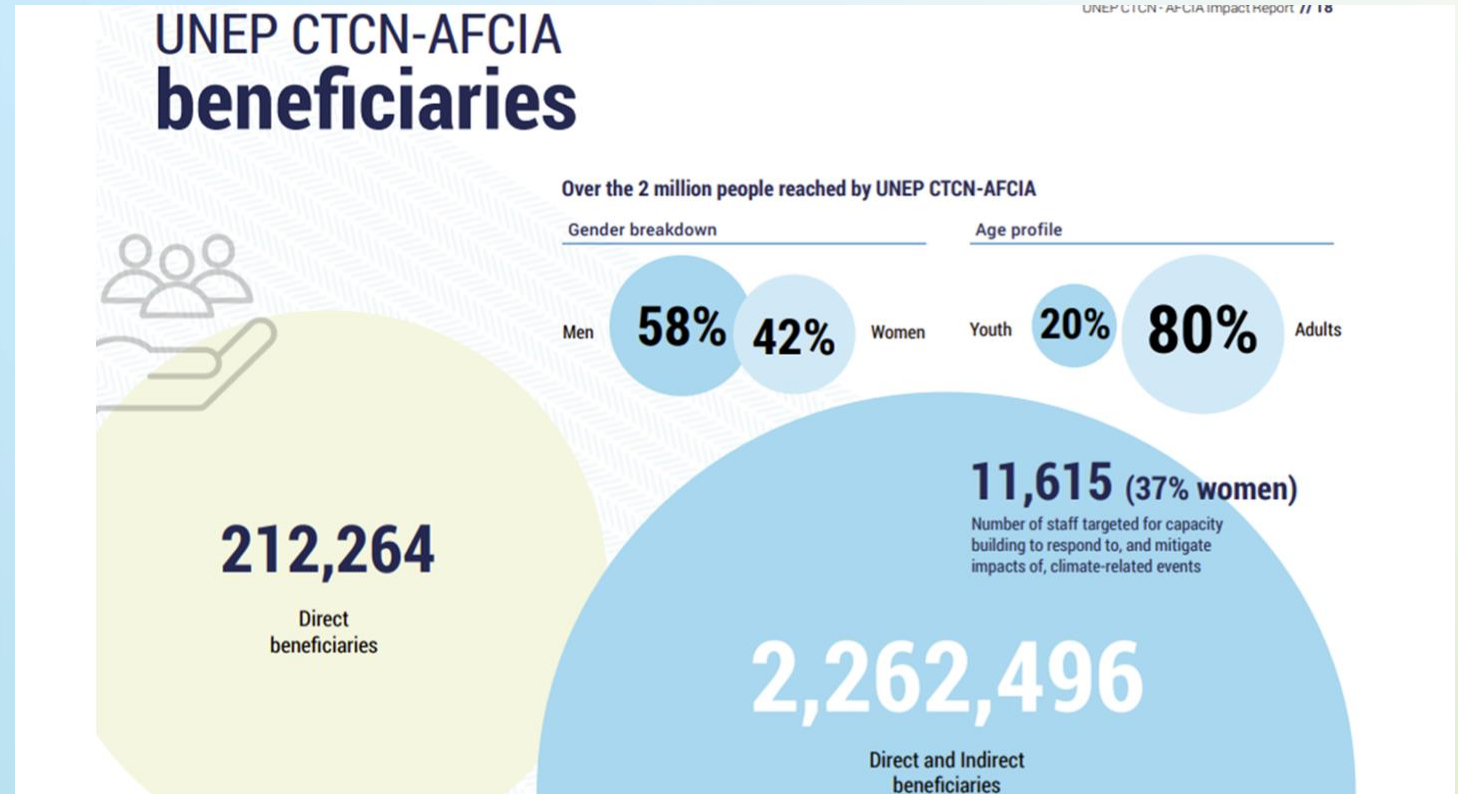
Pastureland
management

Mongolia

Biodiversity hot spots

Honduras

More than 2 million beneficiaries





947

municipalities are benefitting from a new, an improved or a strengthened early warning system, agrometeorological or multi-hazard platforms.



11,615

staff across 2,243 organizations with improved professional skills and increased capacity for adaptation



56

local technical tools, guidelines and training modules produced to support technology use

To date, 10 of the 25 initiatives (40%) have secured additional support and financing for scale-up.

Burundi, Georgia, Malawi, Ghana, Pakistan, Sudan EWS, Zambia, Maldives, Mongolia, Saint Kitts and Nevis – either from governments, private sectors, or through new grants.



Lessons learned on innovation

- Importance of **on the ground pilots with tangible impacts** to showcase benefits of the technology



Lessons learned on equality

- **Engagement of women and youth** is essential for the success and sustainability of climate adaptation efforts

Lessons learned on replicability / scalability

- **Multi-stage funding** is essential for scaling innovation and fostering long-term impact
- **Blended finance** and diverse revenue streams are vital
- **Private sector** needs to be brought in very early on, at ideation stage

1. Fragmented and siloed financing / implementation landscape

- **Multiple funders and programmes** operate without sufficient coordination, creating duplication, inefficiency, and limited visibility
- Innovation projects are pilots, often implemented in **silos**. Few successfully transition to large-scale projects contributing to **systemic change**

2. Limited scaling pathway

- Not embedded in **national systems of innovation**, policies, and budgets, reducing sustainability
- Limited success in attracting **private sector finance** through market-based business models

3. Knowledge & learning gaps

- Lack of structure for **post-implementation monitoring**; however key to assess long-term impact and success of innovation
- **Low data availability and quality** (especially in SIDS and LDCs) limits the capacity to measure baseline and demonstrate progress

1. Coordination with as many national Climate Change focal points can increase ownership

- The more people engaged at design stage, the higher the change to scale up
- From UNFCCC focal points, to AF/ GEF / GCF focal points, African negotiators, as well as UN agencies, EU delegations, GIZ, AFD, private actors with specific climate change windows, synergies can make a difference.

2. Sustainability and long-term perspective can be discussed from the very start (design stage)

- Building the programme bottom up might be more realistic than setting out a project which would need donor funding.
- Build on tangible impacts to create the enabling environments that will lead to technology maturity.

3. Monitoring the impact of the adaptation innovation can make a difference

- Global Goals for Adaptation have been created, are publicly available and recognized
- National private sectors can be part of the discussion to better understand what could transform a grant into a bankable project.

2

AFCIA II Status of implementation

AFCIA II – sourcing projects with strong adaptation & innovation rationale and sustainable pathways

Incubation phase:

40 Technical Assistances to test innovations with up to USD 150,000
(Outputs 1.2 and 1.3)

Acceleration phase:

- Additional USD 100,000 to scale up **10** successful technologies and innovations (Output 2.1)
- Additional USD 80,000 to anchor **10** selected technologies to the National System of Innovations (NSI) (Output 3.1)
- Additional finance leveraged by the formulation of up to **3 concept notes** (Output 3.2)

Transversal capacity building, and knowledge sharing phase:

- Outreach and capacity-building strategy developed and implemented to support applicants to develop high quality requests (Output 1.1)
- Knowledge and good practices collected and disseminated to promote broad uptake and adoption of successful adaptation technologies (Output 3.3)

The UNEP/CTCN AFCIA programme will be globally implemented in non-Annex I developing countries, contingent on the presence of a Nationally Designated Entity (NDE), the focal point of the CTCN. Emphasis will be on **ensuring regional equity** and meeting the needs of **Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**.

- Deliver **technical assistance** rather than grants
- All entities of **non-annex I developing countries** including governments, universities, NGOs, and the private sector, are eligible to apply
- Requests should be endorsed (signed) by both the CTCN National Designated Entities (NDE) and AF Designated Authorities (DA)

AFCIA II - Status of implementation

AFCIA II — Solutions by Sector & Post-Implementation Partners

Sector	No. of Solutions Tested / Scaled	Post-Implementation Partners Identified
Water, Energy & Food (WEF)	11 new solutions tested or scaled	Women's Bank AFD
Building & Infrastructure	8 new solutions tested or scaled	World Bank AfDB
Energy Systems	2 new solutions tested or scaled	EU Delegation
Business & Industry	2 new solutions tested or scaled	Government

23/60 Initiatives

65% in LDCs

22% LAC (5)

52% Africa (12)

26% Asia (6)

Overview of projects under implementation – under design for LAC

Under Implementation

SKN: Water loss reduction through a GIS-based monitoring

Under Bidding

Cuba: Observatorio agroambiental y gestion de ecosistemas

Chile : Non-revenue water management

Under Response Plan development

Bolivia: Utilisation of cocoa waste soil restoration using biochar in rural communities

Costa Rica : Reduce the use of chemicals, fertilisers and pesticides in agriculture and improve water efficiency

Launch for a call for projects for LAC LDC and SIDS

Launch of the Call for Proposals : 18 May 2026

Closure : 18 August 2026

Technical Assistance budget: USD 150,000 per project (maximum)

Project type: Piloting

Number of projects that will be selected : Up to 8 project ideas could be pre-selected for LAC SIDS and LDC.

<https://www.ctc-n.org/adaptation-fund-climate-innovation-accelerator>

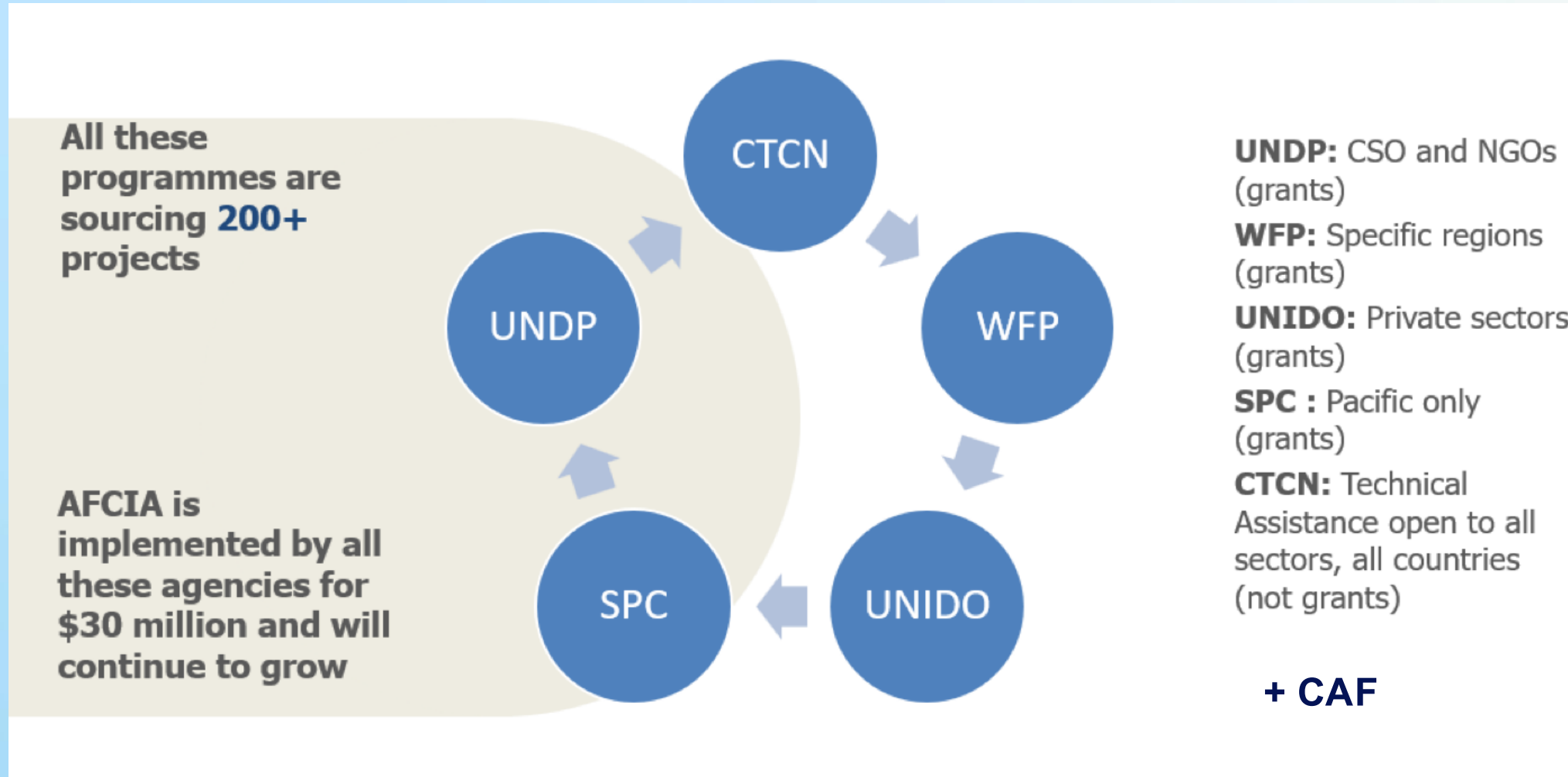
Project suggested will need to be :

- **Adaptation** projects : address climate hazards
- **Innovative** : software, hardware, practice
- **Transformative:** Incremental (mature in other contexts but not yet deployed in my country); Disruptive (never been tested anywhere), Radical (does better than the usual practice using new tools such as AI), Systemic: (will change the entire system)
- **Replicable:** can it be used to other contexts?
- **Financially sustainable:** How will it be sustained once the TA is finalized?
- **Anchorable into NSI**
- **Generate IMPACT** that can be monitored
- **Promote gender equality** and empowerment to the most vulnerable populations.

3

AFCIA Coordination Programme

AFCIA is becoming bigger





UNFCCC_CTCN



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Supported by:

