



INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF CSO ENGAGEMENT IN THE ADAPTATION FUND

As of: January 2022

The Adaptation Fund (AF) is an important instrument that assists especially vulnerable population groups in coping with the adverse effects of climate change. The project aims to strengthen the international adaptation finance landscape through enhanced and sustainable civil society engagement in climate finance generally and more specifically in the AF. The established AF NGO Network shall serve as a permanent legitimate and transparent mechanism through which civil society can have a voice and contribute to improving the AF and its policies, programs and projects. The activities in this project thus focus on raising Southern CSOs awareness on their opportunities to engage in the AF, creating a solid governance structure as well as a strategy to obtain financial sustainability. South-South learning effects are intensified through consolidated regional hubs which ensures effective communication with the broader CSO community, empowering their active engagement in the Network.

State of implementation/results

- It is the aim of the project to strengthen the international adaptation finance landscape with special focus on the AF so that those most vulnerable can adapt to the negative impacts of climate change. The project aims to reach this through enhanced and sustainable civil society engagement in climate finance generally and more specifically in the AF. The idea is to transform the AF NGO Network into a permanent legitimate and transparent mechanism through which civil society can have a voice and contribute to the strengthening of that international landscape, with a focus on the AF and its policies, programs and projects.
- The activities in this project thus focus on creating a solid governance structure, a strategy to obtain financial sustainability and consolidated regional hubs for the Network to ensure effective communication with the broader CSO community,

PROJECT DATA

Implementing organisation:

Germanwatch e.V.

BMU grant:

€ 1,288,745

Duration:

05/2017 till 04/2022

Website(s):

<http://af-network.org/>





empowering their active engagement in the Network. This will be complemented by capacity-building activities to ensure that a critical mass of Southern CSOs is well aware about the AF and the Network and knows about their opportunities to engage in AF projects and processes at national level as well as AF Board level.

- State of implementation/results:
 - The project contributes to the debate on sufficient, sustainable and predictable financing for the AF. A blog article outlining the expectations in this regard at COP26 has been contribute to the website www.germanclimatefinance.de
 - The AF Civil Society Network successfully promoted the lifting of the Fund's country cap from 10 to 20 million US dollar. The work of the AF Civil Society Network has been strengthened in the course of the project so far. The Network has further institutionalised itself during the project period and strengthened its governance structure. A small group of mainly Southern CSOs prepared a document with the Network's new governance arrangements. Those governance arrangements are currently consulted with a broader group of CSOs and other key stakeholders. Moreover, the Network changed its name from "AF NGO Network" to "AF Civil Society Network" to better reflect the new governance arrangements.-- With the support of this project, feedback and comments have been collected through the AF Civil Society Network on numerous projects submitted to the AF Board for consideration.
 - The AF Civil Society Network regularly publishes blog articles about local insights from civil society on AF processes and projects (Link to the blog [www.af-network.org/...](http://www.af-network.org/)). The network also sends out a regular newsletter with relevant updates on the AF (Newsletter registration: [www.af-network.org/...](http://www.af-network.org/)).

The AF Civil Society Network has published a study on "Further Strengthening Civil Society Engagement in the Work of the Adaptation Fund Board" (English: [www.af-network.org/...](http://www.af-network.org/) ; French: [www.af-network.org/...](http://www.af-network.org/)) and has successfully brought this topic on the meeting agenda of the AF Board.

In October 2018, Germanwatch published the study "The future role of the AF in the international





climate finance architecture"

([www.germanwatch.org/...](http://www.germanwatch.org/)).

- The AF Civil Society Network has organized the so-called "CSO Dialogue" for all the biannual AF Board meetings during the project period. During this dialogue, CSOs share experiences and recommendations on AF projects and processes with the Fund's Board.
- The AF Secretariat and much of the AF Board greatly appreciate the work and recommendations of the AF Civil Society Network developed with the support of this project. This is also reflected in the discussions and decisions of the AF Board.
- Further information on project activities can be found on the AF Civil Society Network's website (www.af-network.org) and on the Twitter channel of the @AF_NGO_Network

