



IKI Elements

IKI Medium Grants

**A small stimulus with a big impact: the IKI supports
climate action and biodiversity worldwide**

To best protect our natural living conditions and resources, we need to ensure that measures take place simultaneously with as many ideas and in as many places as possible. Considered as a whole, even smaller-scale local projects can make a major contribution to meeting large and global challenges. If we are serious about meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement or the Convention on Biological Diversity, the efforts of smaller-scale actors in developing and emerging countries must be strengthened in particular, and all social groups must be allowed to participate effectively. Since 2020, the International Climate Initiative (IKI) has used its Medium Grants for small-scale projects to address this specific issue.

The IKI is an important part of the German government's international climate finance commitment. Since 2022 the IKI is implemented by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) and the Federal Foreign Office (AA). The IKI uses its Medium Grants to promote solution approaches in developing and emerging countries that are helping to deliver long-term change.

Support for stronger civil societies

The Medium Grants programme is assigned a total annual funding volume of around EUR 6 million. The IKI uses these funds to support organisations based in Germany who are

working with a maximum of two local partners in a developing or emerging country to implement an innovative project while also ensuring the participation of local communities. The programme is aimed at non-profit civil society actors who are implementing a project with a two- to three-year duration that is adopting an ambitious approach to climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation. A further goal of this funding programme is to strengthen the implementing organisation itself as well as its international networks.

Nature Conservation and Agroforestry Production in Rural Communities

IKI funding: € 364,339.00, duration: 09/2021 to 08/2024

>> [IKI project page](#)

Electric Cargo Bikes “Made in Ghana” – Contributing to the Transformation of Ghana’s Transportation

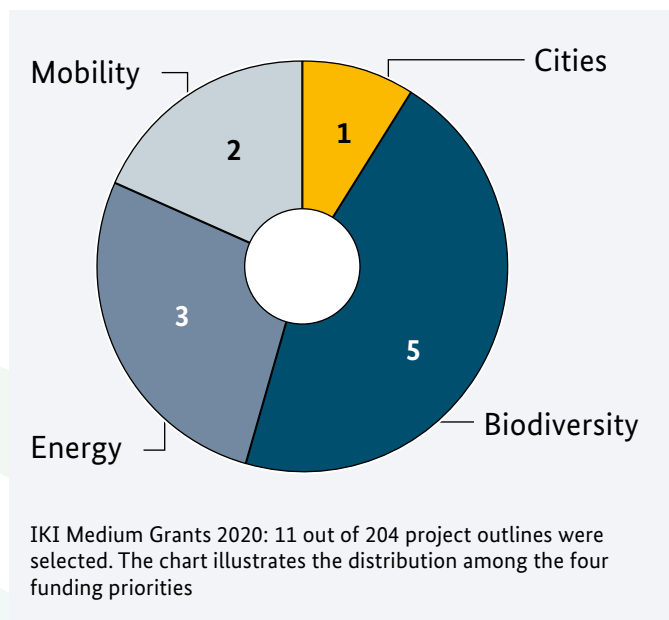
IKI funding: € 408,839.08, duration: 07/2021 to 06/2024

>> [IKI project page](#)

The Medium Grants programme allows the IKI to design the cooperative relationships between the involved partners on equal terms: in particular, priority is given to applying the consolidated know-how of local actors, so that the specific challenges associated with climate change in the individual countries and regions can be mastered on a long-term basis.

Leading by innovation

To qualify for an IKI Medium Grant, implementing organisations must have at least three years of technical expertise for the thematic field in the respective funding priority. The programme applies the principle of addressing the largest number of organisations possible from a wide variety of disciplines in order to receive innovative and optimal idea submissions.



Each project stands to receive funding of between EUR 300,000 and EUR 800,000 via the IKI Medium Grants programme. The programme uses a two-stage selection procedure. In the first stage, applicants are asked to submit project outlines. If these outlines are shortlisted, they are worked up into a project proposal in the second stage. The most promising ideas are then selected in close consultation with the respective ministries.

Partnerships and transparency

Once selection is complete, implementing organisations are quickly informed as to whether their project outline was successful. Thanks to the dedicated support given and regular project reporting, IKI Medium Grants is an effective funding instrument that applies lessons learned in a process of continuous improvement. Another reason for the programme's success is the strong mutual interest in promoting effective climate change mitigation that involves all groups in civil society. Another important characteristic of the IKI Medium Grants is that the projects aim to engage with those populations most affected by climate change.

The IKI Office provides advice and assistance to all participating organisations as a contact partner during the selection procedure and subsequent project support. Implementing organisations also receive help when working up their project outline, both in the form of one-to-one dialogue as well as workshops and online seminars.

Organisations are encouraged to contact the IKI Office at any time with their questions. To facilitate this communication, each project is assigned a designated contact person. This joint approach is used to tailor the project to the individual challenges in the implementation country and the selected funding priority. In particular, IKI project support staff are careful to ensure that social and environmental standards are complied with (IKI Safeguards).

If issues arise in relation to projects, guidelines or measures, these can be formally addressed by the IKI complaints mechanism.

The IKI Office also encourages knowledge sharing and networking among IKI projects and actors as well as managing the corresponding public relations work.

Contacting the IKI Office

The IKI strives to achieve long-term success for its projects. Accordingly, the IKI Office supports implementing organisations from the initial idea to project implementation on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK).

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