

# Frequently Asked Questions about GEF's Work on Adaptation



## **Does the Global Environment Facility (GEF) support adaptation?**

Yes, through the GEF Trust Fund (under the Strategic Pilot on Adaptation) and two new climate change funds: the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund.

## **What is the difference between the new funds—the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund—and the GEF Trust Fund?**

The new funds are focused on development. Therefore, the projects supported by these funds emphasize agriculture and food security, health, water resources, and disaster prevention. The GEF Trust Fund supports adaptation that also generates global benefits, such as adaptation of vulnerable ecosystems on which human life and livelihoods depend.

## **How much money is available through the GEF to support adaptation?**

Current resources for adaptation amount to \$215 million. The amount is increasing as donor countries continue to make voluntary contributions to the funds.

The following amounts are allocated to each program:

- An initial allocation of \$50 million for the Strategic Priority on Adaptation under the GEF Trust Fund

- About \$115 million for the Least Developed Countries Fund to implement the urgent and immediate adaptation actions identified by the National Adaptation Plans of Action
- \$50 million for the Adaptation Program of the Special Climate Change Fund

## **Do the new funds—Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund—apply the incremental cost to adaptation?**

No.

## **Does the GEF apply the Resource Allocation Framework to adaptation projects?**

No.

## **Is the GEF imposing the conditionality of co-financing of adaptation to poor countries?**

No. However, as adaptation measures are often integrated into larger development programs (e.g., in agriculture or health), existing development financing provides de facto cofinancing on the ground.

## **Does the GEF finance the full cost of adaptation?**

The Least Developed Countries Fund includes an option for full-cost funding, in response to Convention guidance. However, based on experience, examples of stand-alone adaptation rarely exist.

### Who is eligible for GEF adaptation funds?

- For the Trust Fund, all countries eligible for GEF support
- For the Least Developed Countries Fund, all Least Developed Countries
- For the Special Climate Change Fund, Non-Annex 1 countries as per Convention guidance

### I am from a Least Developed Country: does my country need to complete its National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) before accessing Least Developed Countries Fund resources for NAPA implementation?

Yes. After providing financial support for NAPA preparation, the Fund will finance urgent and immediate adaptation measures as identified and prioritized by each NAPA.

### I am not from a Least Developed Country: should my country complete a NAPA before accessing the resources of the Adaptation Program of the Special Climate Change Fund?

No. Countries should, however, base their project proposal on the results of national communications or other relevant vulnerability and adaptation assessments.

### Is the GEF planning to help countries that in the past have experienced serious difficulties in accessing GEF resources?

Yes. For the Least Developed Countries, in particular, the project cycle has been significantly streamlined, making it easier to access the resources of the Least Developed Countries Fund. The publication, *Linking Adaptation to Development*, explains in plain language the goals and the scope of GEF's support to adaptation. Additional steps to improve communication and access are under development.

### What is the first step to accessing GEF's adaptation funds?

Contact an Implementing or Executing Agency of the GEF. They will facilitate the process of submitting the project and accessing the funds.

### The GEF's Implementing Agencies:

the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), the U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP), and the World Bank.

### The GEF's Executing Agencies:

the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the U.N. Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

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