



## **Call for Concepts from NGOs/CBOs** **The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)**

The Small Grants Programme (SGP) is a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) since 1992. SGP grant making in over 125 countries promotes community-based innovation, capacity development, and empowerment through sustainable development projects of local civil society organizations with special consideration for indigenous peoples, women, and youth. SGP has supported over 24,000 community-based projects in biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, prevention of land degradation, protection of international waters, and reduction of the impact of chemicals, while generating sustainable livelihoods.

### **Community Based Adaptation Programme- Phase 3**

#### **Background**

In 2022, SGP entered into a third phase of partnership with the Government of Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to fund the Community Based Adaptation Programme (CBA) in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Building on the global momentum towards locally led adaptation (LLA), the main goal of this new phase of CBA funding is to further enhance the capacities of local communities across priority landscapes/seascapes by building their social and ecological resilience to climate change.

#### **CBA Phase 3 Goal:**

Climate resilience is built in the Asia and Pacific regions through inclusive community-based and locally-led adaptation.

#### **CBA Phase 3 Outcomes:**

The goal of the CBA programme will be supported by three programme-level outcomes:

1. Socio-economic and climate resilience is enhanced in select landscapes/seascapes through implementation of locally-driven CBA solutions.
2. Local communities and CSOs are capacitated for effective CBA and LLA implementation, knowledge sharing, and policy representation at national levels.
3. CBA solutions and innovations are replicated, scaled up and mainstreamed at the local and national levels.
4. CBA and LLA approaches integrate principles of 'leaving no one behind' with an emphasis of inclusion of women and girls, Indigenous Peoples, youth and persons with disabilities.

#### **CBA Thematic Areas**

1. Water security and resource management
2. Oceans and coastal zone management
3. Agriculture, fisheries and food security
4. Land degradation
5. Disaster risk reduction (DRR)

1. **Water security and resource management:** access to clean water and sanitation is and economic enabler and is vital to building climate resilience. However, many communities across the Pacific



and Southeast Asia regions still lack basic water access. Climate change, which directly impacts the water cycle, acts as a multiplier of the risks of water scarcity by increasing the variability and unpredictability of water resources. Thus, sustainably managing water resources is a critical aspect of the CBA programme.

Rainwater harvesting, nature-based solutions (NBS) such as watershed rehabilitation and enhancements to water storage capacities will be employed by the CBA programme to improve both domestic and agricultural water supply and access. Emphasis will also be placed on establishing strong coordination with WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) programmes in local communities and creating synergies with existing DFAT water focused programmes. The CBA programme will also utilize DFAT's expertise and networks across the Asia-Pacific region to facilitate knowledge transfer and replication of best practices as it relates to water security and resilience building.

- 2. Oceans and coastal zone management:** For SIDS and Southeast Asia LDCs the coastal zone is an area of high economic activity and high population density, but these areas are also harshly exposed to sea level rise, storm surges, coastal erosion, and extreme weather events such as hurricanes and cyclones. NBS such as mangrove restoration and rehabilitation of coastal vegetation are commonly used to adapt to these challenges and will be employed in this new phase. Using a landscape approach, initiatives will also focus on managing saltwater intrusion, improving coastal freshwater supplies, sustainable fisheries and marine conservation, and participatory mapping exercises to identify coastal assets and resources.

As 'Large Ocean States', the oceans are an integral part of the ecosystems and economies of SIDS and they depend on these resources to build forward better. The CBA Phase 3 will also focus on the blue economy and building resilience of coastal and marine ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. Community conserved areas, governed by local traditional institutions through civil society organizations, continue to be the most effective units of management for coastal areas and are increasingly being recognized and mainstreamed by national governments. This CBA programme will enhance effectiveness and sustainability of these local governance processes and will work towards strengthening the structures and institutions associated with marine protected areas and community conserved areas. The efforts of this programme will be aligned to national and regional initiatives being implemented by governments and regional bodies.

- 3. Agriculture, fisheries and food security:** Droughts, flooding, shifting seasons and increased variability in rainfall and temperature patterns continue to affect agricultural production across the globe. These impacts are even more severe for smallholder farmers. For rural farming communities this can lead to food insecurity, poverty, poor health, nutrition and wellbeing. To cope with these challenges CBA projects will invest in sustainable agro-ecological production techniques to boost productivity and income generation, improve ecosystem services, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, where possible.
- 4. Land degradation:** CBA projects will focus on nature-based solutions (NBS), agro-ecology and sustainable land management practices to improve ecosystem services and address some of the drivers of land degradation and other environment challenges at the community level.
- 5. Disaster risk reduction (DRR):** DRR takes a systematic approach to adapting to climate change-induced hazards with a focus on preventing these hazards from evolving into full-fledged disasters. It includes a wide range of adaptation activities, such as risk and vulnerability assessments, utilizing early warning systems, improving multi-sectoral communication and collaboration, and education and awareness. DRR, disaster management and preparedness will be a cross-cutting theme in this new CBA phase.



In addition to the core thematic areas, the following cross-cutting themes will also be integrated across the of CBA projects:

1. **Enhancing socio-ecological resilience and productivity** of landscape and seascapes.
2. Supporting **nature-based solutions** grounded in cultural and societal values around the protection, conservation and restoration of ecosystem goods and services.
3. Prioritizing **social inclusion and traditional knowledge**- the CBA programme will ensure that interventions are socially sensitive and inclusive and that women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities are actively brought into the CBA process as key agents of change.
4. **Building organizational, technical and management capacities and raising awareness.**
5. **Broader adoption of CBA approaches at local and national levels:** the programme will align projects to National Adaptation Plans and ongoing NDC implementation to ensure that they are relevant and complementary to national climate and development initiatives. By working with local authorities, national governments and other partners, the programme aims to strategically and systematically mainstream CBA lessons and best practices in local and national planning and development processes. This will facilitate mainstreaming, replication, policy influence, scale up and sustainability of successful locally led projects and approaches across landscapes. Projects previously funded under MAP and SIDS CBA or through regular SGP projects can be scaled up and replicated under CBA Phase 3.
6. Ensure that projects **contribute to livelihood development, income generation and livelihood diversification**, these activities will help to build resilience and promote project sustainability.
7. **CSO-government-private sector dialogues and platforms** will serve as a space to bridge the gap between local communities, local governments and the private sector and to provide opportunities for communities' voices to be heard, their needs to be understood, and their challenges to be recognized and addressed by various decision makers at local, regional and national levels. Dialogues will support establishment of **durable partnerships and networks** with key local, national and regional stakeholders to support broader adoption of CBA approaches. Each CBA project should establish linkages and build relationships with key stakeholders. Dialogues can also be used to **facilitate knowledge transfer**, sharing of best practices and key lessons among grantee networks via per-to per exchanges.

### Who can apply?

**Civil society organizations (CSOs)** with priority for national and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and scientific communities, advocating for the rights of persons with disability, women, and children.

### How much?

The maximum grant amount obtainable per project is US\$ 30,000

However, in exceptional cases US\$ 50,000 may be considered

### Project duration

Maximum duration is 24 months.

**Deadline: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023, Tuesday 00:00 Hrs**

Selection of grantees will follow a two-stage process: proponents whose concept notes are shortlisted will be first invited to submit full proposals. The full proposals will then be evaluated to select successful grantees.



For more information and submission of concept notes please refer to the details below;

**GEF SGP Hotline: (+960) 7678767**

Fathimath Saeedha  
National Coordinator  
GEF Small Grants Programme  
United Nations Development Programme  
Malé, Maldives  
Tel: +960 334-3217  
Fax: +960 332-4504  
Email: [fathimath.saeedha@undp.org](mailto:fathimath.saeedha@undp.org)

Hussain Jauson Lomo  
Programme Assistant – Small Grants Programme  
United Nations Development Programme  
Malé, Maldives  
Tel: +960 334-3205 / +9607463524  
Fax: +960 332-4504  
Email: [hussain.jauson@undp.org](mailto:hussain.jauson@undp.org)

**Please click the following link to get access to:**

1. Concept Paper Template
  - Dhivehi – [Link](#)
  - English - [Link](#)