To receive money directly from the Adaptation Fund, entities need to be accredited as an “implementing entity.” See section “Other eligibility criteria” for more details. Only one national entity can be accredited per developing country. Entities that prefer to not apply for accreditation have the option of partnering with an institution that is already accredited. For example, implementing entities often partner with smaller local organization to execute activities on the ground. Accreditation with the Adaptation Fund is valid for five years.

National and regional implementing entities fall under the Adaptation Fund’s Direct Access modality, which enables direct access to financing and management of all aspects of projects, from design through implementation, to monitoring and evaluation. Direct Access allows developing countries to strengthen capacity to adapt to climate change and build on local expertise. National entities with institutional capacity constraints have the option of obtaining
accreditation via the **Streamlined Accreditation Process**. If successful they can access a smaller amount of funding than the usual, while working on strengthening their capacities to meet the accreditation requirements through the usual documentation, as appropriate.

Project Formulation Grants (PFGs) are available to accredited national implementing entities (NIEs) to build the capacity of NIEs in project preparation and design. NIEs that are in the concept development stage of the Fund’s project cycle process can request a PFG up to USD 30,000 together with their submission of the project concept to the Board.

Additionally, Project Formulation Assistance (PFA) grants of up to USD 20,000 are available to help NIEs tap into external expertise in the form of short-term consultant assignments to undertake specific technical assessments such as an environmental impact assessment (EIA), vulnerability assessment (VA), risk assessment, gender study, and other environmental and social assessments. The PFA grant application form can be requested when NIEs submit their project concepts during the two-step approval process.

*Actions: Adaptation Fund support received for project implementation*

*Actors: Implementing Entity*
2 Access national readiness support

Implementing entities can access Readiness Programme resources to help build their capacity to access climate finance.

Find an overview of the Adaptation Fund Readiness Programme [here](#), and information on how to access readiness support [here](#).

Actions: Adaptation Fund readiness support received for capacity building activities

Aetors: National Implementing Entity

3 Become an accredited entity

Organisations that wish to implement Adaptation Fund projects must submit an [application for accreditation](#) providing documentation indicating that it meets the fiduciary standards adopted by the Board.

In order to become accredited, entities are required to meet the legal and fiduciary standards
4 Access small-grant innovation support

Eligible Kyoto Protocol Parties may submit proposals for small-grant projects, using the services of accredited national implementing entities (NIEs). Projects should accelerate innovative adaptation practices, tools, and technologies.

Check [here](#) for updates on requests for proposals and application guidelines.

**Actions:** Adaptation Fund Small Grant support received/point_action>Accredited national implementing entities

**Actors:**

5 Develop strong concept notes and project proposals
Accredited entities that need support in project preparation can access Project Formulation Assistance (PFA) grants to receive support in project identification, concept development, and project structuring. Find an overview of PFA grants here.

Actions: Strong concept notes and project proposals developed and approved
Aonctors: Implementing Entity; Adaptation Fund Board

6 Submit a Funding proposal

For those implementing entities that have their project defined, find an overview of how to bring a project proposal to the Adaptation Fund, from initial submission through to Board approval here.

Actions:
Aonctors: Implementing Entity; Adaptation Fund Board