



USAID | ASIA

ADAPT Asia-Pacific

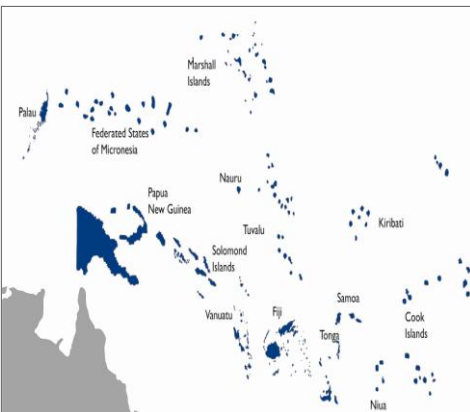
Accessing Climate Change and Resilience Funds for Asia and the Pacific



Scientists believe that Asian countries are particularly vulnerable to rising sea level and extreme weather events.



■ Eligible Asian nations



■ Eligible Pacific island nations

CHALLENGE

The people of Asia and the Pacific islands are highly vulnerable to climate change, sea level rise and extreme weather events, particularly the millions who live in low-lying coastal areas and river basins and depend on farming and fishing for their living. Much of the region has experienced floods, droughts, and weather-related events of increasing frequency and intensity in recent years. As a result, the viability of key economic sectors like fishing, farming, and timber harvesting are being threatened as never before.

As part of the 2009 Copenhagen Accord, Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change agreed to provide eligible developing countries worldwide \$30 billion in “fast-start” financing for 2010-2012, while setting a goal of mobilizing \$100 billion per year by 2020.

These funds represent a major opportunity for the countries in the Asia-Pacific region to adapt their people and their economies to the changing circumstances. Gaining access to them can pose difficulties, however, as many of the region’s developing countries lack the expertise and trained personnel to prepare the sophisticated technical proposals the donor community requires.

ADAPT Asia-Pacific

Helping nations in Asia and the Pacific obtain financing from these new international funds is the purpose of the U.S. Agency for International Development’s (USAID) ADAPT Asia-Pacific program. Funded through USAID’s Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) and implemented by AECOM, the program is designed to share information and best practices about climate fund requirements and help governments build capacity to access the existing pool of international climate change adaptation funds.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES

The following Asian countries are eligible to participate in ADAPT Asia-Pacific: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam. Eligible nations in the Pacific include: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.



Many countries in Asia and the Pacific may need assistance to access new funds to adapt their people and economies to climate change.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

ADAPT Asia-Pacific is an integrated knowledge transfer, capacity building and technical assistance program that links climate funding organizations with eligible Asia-Pacific countries and helps prepare projects that increase resilience to the negative impact of climate change.

Principal activities under ADAPT Asia-Pacific include:

- Identifying areas of technical weakness or lack of professional skills;
- Building nations' ability to prepare specialized adaptation projects through technical assistance, focused training, or peer-to-peer learning;
- Creating or strengthening regional knowledge sharing networks and tools; and
- Promoting regional networking and training through regional events, including an annual forum and development marketplace.

SUSTAINABLE IMPACTS

As with all its regional programs, RDMA seeks to demonstrate measurable impact on the ground and the creation of sustainable programs. ADAPT Asia-Pacific will measure program impact in terms of:

- Climate change projects that obtain financing;
- Climate adaptation policies that can be applied and replicated; and
- Individuals and institutions that received trained and expertise in preparing adaptation projects.

To build project sustainability, ADAPT Asia-Pacific will support partnerships that:

- Match one country's expertise with another's lack of it, a strategy that has demonstrated its effectiveness;
- Encourage close dialogue between Asian and Pacific countries and international climate change funds.

PARTNERS

RDMA works to address regional and transnational development and environment priorities in cooperation with a range of multi-lateral and bilateral partners.

For ADAPT Asia-Pacific, RDMA plans to cooperate with the Asia-Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), which is the premier network in Asia devoted to climate change adaptation. AECOM International Development (AECOM) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) are implementing partners for ADAPT Asia-Pacific.

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