



**ClimDev Africa
Special Fund (CDSF)
at a Glance**

**At the forefront for building resilience
to climate change impacts in Africa**

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Who are we?

ClimDev-Africa Special Fund (CDSF) became operational in August 2014 as a multi-donor trust fund established to support African countries, institutions and communities build resilience to the impacts of climate change. It has three main areas of focus:

- Generation, wide dissemination and use of reliable and high quality climate information for development in Africa;
- Capacity enhancement of policy makers and policy support institutions through the generation of quality analysis and evidence on climate change and its implications for Africa, for use in development planning and actions; and
- Implementation of pilot adaptation practices that demonstrate the value of mainstreaming climate information in development planning and practices, for subsequent awareness raising and advocacy to inform decision-making.

CDSF is the investment arm of the ClimDev-Africa program that is jointly implemented by the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Development Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). CDSF thus administers the program's resources to finance climate-resilient development programs that mainstream climate change information at all levels in Africa.

How do we do business?

We are a demand driven trust fund that provides direct access to government institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society groups and community based organizations that promote building climate resilient and inclusive economies.

Our interventions across the three result areas have a strong focus on the benefits that accrue to the end user households and communities that are most exposed to the impacts of climate change. CDSF projects are identified through either a competitive call for proposals or direct solicitations based on results of analytical work on climate change conducted by ClimDev-Africa partners.

CDSF governance

Policy and strategic guidance of CDSF is provided by the ClimDev-Africa Steering Committee which is chaired by the African Union Commission. The CDSF Coordination Unit is managed by the Coordinator supported by a team of professional and support staff. The Unit has a staff complement of eight and manages the day-to-day operations of the fund including, preparation, processing and supervision of projects. It liaises very closely with the ClimDev-Africa Secretariat.

How do we facilitate access to the funds?

Eligible institutions can access the CDSF funds directly to support resilient building activities. While adhering to the rigorous fiduciary standards of the African Development Bank on financial management and procurement oversight, the fund is also cognizant of the weak capacity of many of its potential beneficiaries. The fund enhances access in two ways:

- **Faster project approval process.** Unlike normal Bank operations that require discussion by the Bank's Board of Directors, the fund's operations are approved at different levels. Projects valued at euro 500,000 or less are approved by the Director; projects valued above 500,000 to euro 1 million are approved by the Vice President and projects valued between euro 1 million to euro 2 million are approved by the President. Only



projects above euro 2 million are approved by the Board of Directors.

- **Capacity building.** The Bank uses its staff based in country and regional offices to provide capacity support to the institutions that apply and receive funding from CDSF, especially on project implementation and fiduciary management. By this support, the fund assures resource utilization efficiency and effectiveness in delivering results on the ground.

Our existing portfolio

CDSF is currently capitalized to euro 33 million. Until December 2014, it had approved 1 million euro to support the Ethiopian meteorological agency enhance early warning service and advisories for climate change adaptation and resilience and effective monitoring and use of weather and climate information for development.

Projects under appraisal

Nine projects are currently under preparation:

- Improving the meteorological observations network to strengthen resilience to climate change in Mali;
- Satellite based water monitoring and flow forecasting system project in the Niger River in Niger;
- Climate and weather information to increase resiliency of Senegal communities to climate change and variability, Senegal;
- Flood Disaster Risk Reduction in Budalangi, Busia County, Kenya;
- Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards and Sub-Saharan African Regions, Countries and Communities – continental;

- Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards in West African Region, Countries and Communities;
- Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards in East African Countries and Communities;
- Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards in Central Region, African Countries and Communities; and
- Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards in Southern African Region, Countries and Communities.

The first four will each be supported to a maximum amount of euro 1 million. The remaining five projects will build the capacity of the African regional climate centers for disaster risk reduction and management in the continent and will receive amounts varying from euro 3 to 4 million.

First call for proposals

CDSF made its first call for proposals on October 18th, 2014 during the fourth Climate Change and Development in Africa conference held in Marrakech, Morocco. By the closing date of November 30th 2014, 99 Concept Notes were received from 28 African countries. The evaluation of the proposals is underway.

Resource Mobilization for CDSF

The investment needs identified through the call for proposals and ongoing operations clearly outstrip available resources. CDSF has therefore embarked on an active resource mobilization exercise to expand its resource base. The fund welcomes bilateral and multilateral partners to support building a robust resource base for sustainable climate resilient development in Africa.





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