



UN
CDF

LoCAL - UNCDF

GLOBAL CHALLENGES, LOCAL SOLUTIONS

NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2014

A LoCAL APPROACH TO CLIMATE FINANCING

We believe in building capacities for climate resilience and sustainable development at the grass-roots level. Our brand, LoCAL stands for **Local Climate Adaptive Living**.

For UNCDF, local development is about the improvement of the quality of life. In the LoCAL project, this translates into capacity building of local governments, with performance-based grants to ensure the climate proofing of local actions. UNCDF piloted this approach in two countries: Bhutan and Cambodia. In Cambodia, UNCDF was the first UN agency to use seed capital to leverage climate proofing in local planning processes. In both countries, LoCAL helped to reinforce the existing national and sub-national financial and fiscal delivery systems. A set of minimum conditions provides technical backstopping for the implementation of 'No regrets' projects building climate resilience at local level.

LoCAL focuses on the delivery of three outputs that will directly contribute to increasing local governments' access to climate finance and building resilience to climate change: **Output/Result 1:** CCA is mainstreamed in local government's planning and budgeting systems. **Output/Result 2:** Increased awareness and support for the role of local government in CCA. **Output/Result 3:** Increased amount of finance available to local governments for CCA and resilience.



UNDP Bénin: Climate resilient short cycle crops piloted in Benin - Photo by Giacomo Pirozzi.

IN FOCUS



'NO SECOND CHANCE'

VIDEO



A TYPICAL PROJECT

TIMELINE



GLOBAL COVERAGE

MAP



LoCAL INSIGHTS

BLOG

CONNECT



Nepal Photos above by Arnold Marseille

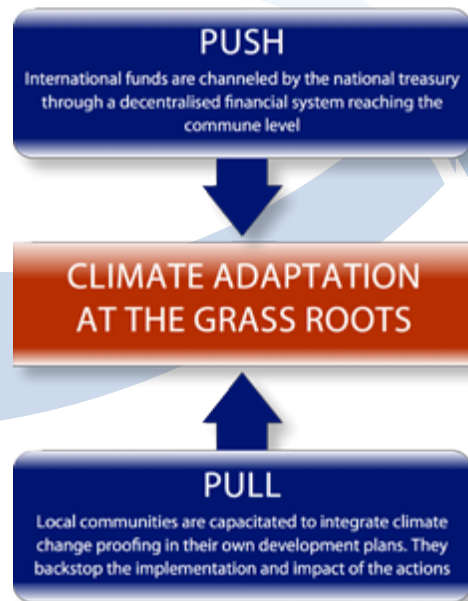
LoCAL GOING GLOBAL

Based on the success of the initiative, the LGCC modality is now being scaled up within piloted countries, but also in other countries in the Asian region (Nepal, Bangladesh, Laos), in the Pacific (Solomon Islands) and in Africa (Ghana, Benin and Mali). LoCAL will operate primarily in LDCs and the project will be introduced in phases:

Phase 1: The first phase involves an initial scoping mission followed by a testing in a very small number of local governments with a baseline defined by the scoping study. Phase 1 is usually financed directly with UNCDF seed capital and has a budget of less than USD 250,000. The criteria for choosing the initial local government are a) willingness and capacity to test out the method, b) type of ecosystems, c) existence of verified climate adaption challenges.

Phase 2: This is a national pilot of LoCAL and is designed on the basis of the lessons of the previous phase. It takes place in around 5% to 10% of local governments (of the appropriate tier) in a country. Phase 2 is usually financed by UNCDF together with financing partners and has a budget of up to \$5m.

Phase 3: This is a full rollout of the LoCAL PBCRG in the country based on the results and lessons of the previous phase. It is gradually extended to all local governments (of the appropriate tier). Phase 3 is usually financed by central government through a re-adjustment of the architecture of existing resources to enable financing of local adaptation. It can also be co-financed by international finance institutions such as the World Bank, regional development banks and climate trust funds.



STORIES FROM THE FIELD - CLICK PHOTOS TO READ MORE

BUSINESS NOT AS USUAL



In Bourei Chulsa Commune, Takeo province, the LGCC supported the building of an elevated road. The road has become a local symbol of how climate proofing can make a difference in local development. The road has brought a large number of collateral benefits. It has brought better profit margins for farmers, provides shelter to other villages when there are floods, allows children to go to school, helps women access health services and has attracted many people to establish businesses in the village. There is a new town in the making. This has inspired neighboring communities to follow their example. Click the photo or [here to read more](#).

MAKING LOCAL BRIDGES



In Bhutan's remote Phobjica valley, schoolchildren can now study without the fear of having to cross a dangerous river. The LoCAL program provided support to the local government to build a climate resilient bridge. In total over 175 children go to the school and over half of them need to use the bridge everyday. The bridge further serves farmers from a dozen of villages scattered on both sides of the river. The construction went through a competitive process. The construction took 7 months and was supervised by an engineer and an assistant engineer, appointed specifically to supervise this work. Click on the photo or [here to read more](#)

REGIME CHANGES



In the second Phase of the LGCC initiative in Cambodia, UNCDF and the NCDDS received funding from SIDA to pilot the initiative in the war-torn zones of Cambodia's North West. In these areas, people have witnessed many changes, not just in the climate. There were extreme changes in the political regime after the reconciliation of the Khmer Rouge with the royal Government of Cambodia. There were also many changes in land-use. Mr Bong Sem is administrating the commune funds in Sampov Loun, Battambang. He recounts these changes and explains how climate change is the latest challenge for the welfare of people in his area. Click on photo or [here to read more](#)

VIDEOS FROM THE FIELD - CLICK FRAMES TO WATCH VIDEOS



It's all about Gross National Happiness in Bhutan! Interview with Rinchen Wangdi, Chief Program Director, DCD, GNHC



'Climate change is an opportunity for reform in Cambodia,' says Ngan Chamroeun, Executive Deputy Head, NCCDS



Benin MOU Signing; In Benin, coastal erosion has damaged infrastructures for a value of 200 billion CFA.



Fakri Karim, LoCAL Global Project Manager explains the LoCAL approach, as the program goes global

LoCAL is kindly supported by the European Union, SIDA and the Government of Lichtenstein.





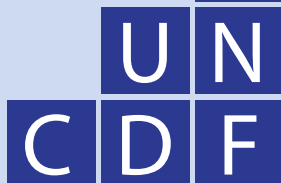
UNCDF - BUILDING CAPACITIES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

UNCDF is the UN's capital investment agency for the world's 48 least developed countries. It creates new opportunities for poor people and their small businesses by increasing access to micro-finance and investment capital. UNCDF focuses on Africa and the poorest countries of Asia, with a special commitment to countries emerging from conflict or crisis. It provides seed capital – grants and loans – and technical support to help micro-finance institutions reach more poor households and small businesses, and local governments finance the capital investments – water systems, feeder roads, schools, irrigation schemes – that will improve poor peoples' lives. UNCDF programmes help to empower women, and are designed to catalyze larger capital flows from the private sector, national governments and development partners, for maximum impact toward the Millennium Development Goals.



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Other links:

- 🏠 LoCAL site: www.local-uncdf.org
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- ▶ UNCDF Youtube: www.youtube.com/uncdf
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