



LoCAL & ISO 14093: a global standard for financing local adaptation to climate change

ISO 14093 was developed using the methodology and experiences of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and countries that are implementing the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL).

Climate change is a global challenge, but its effects are not experienced equally. Developing countries—especially least developed countries (LDCs)—are among the most exposed to environmental hazards and have a harder time addressing the impacts of climate change. Adaptation largely falls within the mandate of local authorities, which are uniquely positioned to identify adaptation responses that best meet local needs. Yet they frequently lack the financial resources to undertake the investment required for building climate resilience.

ISO 14093, Mechanism for financing local adaptation to climate change—performance-based climate resilience grants, supports countries in piloting and establishing performance-based grant systems to channel climate finance and improve local responses to climate change. Based on the LoCAL Facility, ISO 14093 offers an internationally recognized country-based mechanism to increase local government access to climate change adaptation finance. This contributes, through the subnational level, to the achievement of the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Who is the standard for?

ISO 14093 is aimed at organizations involved in implementing a country-based mechanism for channelling climate finance to local government. These may include national and subnational authorities, donors, companies, financial institutions and international organizations.

Why do we need a standard?

Local government authorities in LDCs and other developing countries:

- Are in a unique position to identify the responses that best meet their local needs
- Typically have the mandate to undertake small to medium-sized interventions and investments required for building climate resilience
- Experience a funding gap (regular transfers, additional costs, centralized climate financing, etc.)
- Face a capacity gap (data, risk-informed planning)

ISO 14093 helps subnational governments and their communities:

- Access and effectively use climate finance at the local level
- Promote the integration of climate change adaptation in local government planning and budgeting systems in a participatory and gender-sensitive manner
- Use innovative performance-based climate resilience grants (PBCRGs) to guarantee programming and verification of local adaptation expenditures

