



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: Integrated Drought Management for South Asia (IDM-SA)

Countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Thematic Focal Area¹: Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity

Implementing Entity: World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Executing Entities: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP SA), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) or related Ministries of beneficiary countries

Amount of Financing Requested: 29,766,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project Formulation Grant Request: Yes No

Amount of Requested financing for PFG: 39,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent) (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all countries: Yes No

Stage of Submission:

- This pre-concept has been submitted before
- This is the first submission ever of the pre-concept

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: [Click or tap to enter a date.](#)

Please note that pre-concept should not exceed 5 pages (in addition to this first cover page)

¹ Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

Project Background and Context

South Asia spans over 5 million km² and features diverse climates, from southern tropical monsoons to northern alpine zones. It includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, about 11.5% of Asia's land area. With 24.15% of the global population, the region relies heavily on agriculture: 57% of land is farmed, and nearly 60% of people work in the sector. Despite its key role in food security and the global economy, South Asia faces major drought challenges. Drought adversely impacts food security, water availability, ecosystems, health, energy, and the broader economy.² Research indicates that frequency and severity of droughts in South Asia are expected to rise due to climate change³ and thus strongly impact a region already characterized by the highest concentrations of at-risk populations, significant income disparities, and sociopolitical instability.⁴ The region's dependence on agriculture, combined with its diverse climates and topographies, create complex challenges requiring coordinated responses, embedded in integrated water resource management. Droughts disrupt agricultural production, energy production, water availability, tourism, public health, economy as well as ecosystems. These impacts often disproportionately affect women, due to their roles in water collection, food production, and caregiving responsibilities, along with other groups with specific vulnerabilities, particularly in rural areas.⁵ Moreover, droughts have indirect and cascading effects, such as heatwaves and wildfires that harm a country's development.⁶ These cascading impacts underline the critical need for robust and timely drought-related information services to address social needs, mitigate economic losses and enhance resilience to climate change and extreme events. However, under current institutional and technical arrangements, these increasing drought risks are not proactively managed, as monitoring remains fragmented, seasonal to sub-seasonal forecasting is not operationalized, and available information is not systematically linked to drought policies, plans, or preparedness measures.

Drought affects all South Asian countries— all Members of WMO's Regional Association II (Asia), but its impact varies by each nation's geography and socio-economic conditions, influencing sectors like agriculture, energy, public health, and the economy differently. In **Bangladesh**, recurrent droughts particularly affect the northwestern regions, where water scarcity and declining groundwater levels threaten rice and jute production— key livelihoods for millions.⁷ In **Bhutan**, shifting rainfall patterns and prolonged dry spells are impacting hydropower generation and water availability, threatening both domestic needs and export revenues.⁸ In the **Maldives**, freshwater scarcity during the dry season is exacerbated by rising sea levels and saltwater intrusion, affecting drinking water supplies and the tourism sector.⁹ **Nepal** is increasingly vulnerable to seasonal droughts, particularly in the Terai region, where delayed monsoons and dry spells are reducing agricultural productivity and straining water resources.¹⁰ **Pakistan** suffers from chronic droughts in arid regions, where agricultural losses and water shortages have serious implications for food security and rural livelihoods.¹¹ In **Sri Lanka**, droughts have intensified over recent decades, especially in the dry zone, leading to reduced reservoir levels, crop damage, and heightened energy insecurity due to hydropower dependency.¹²

The proposed project focuses on implementing key components of the "Regional Drought Risk Management and Mitigation Strategy for South Asia," developed under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) by ADPC and adopted in 2024, explicitly addressing the strategy's short-term actions (information and forecasting systems for rapid response; foundational capacity building), medium-term actions (reducing vulnerability and enhancing resilience, integrating drought into national development planning, undertaking priority resilience measures, and advancing investment planning including domestic and private-sector finance), while also laying the groundwork for long-term actions such as research and development and strengthened regional cooperation.¹³ Through this proposal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka are undertaking a joint effort to implement the strategy at national and regional levels. It recognizes the linkages between drought and land degradation, contributing to a framework for incorporating land restoration as well as sustainable land management practices to achieve drought resilience and contribute to national and regional Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets. While the strategy does not yet have a formal implementation plan in the respective countries, it was agreed during the preparation of the strategy that this project would be developed to support its implementation. As a contribution to the UN's Early Warnings for

² Kaffle, H., Khaitu, S., Gyawali, D., Shrestha, D., Koirala, D., Kamaruzzaman, M., Yamaguchi, Y., 2023. [Historical drought and its trend in South Asia: Spatial and temporal analysis 2000-2020](#). APN Science Bulletin, 12(1).

³ Naumann G, Alfieri L, Wyser K, Mentaschi L, Betts RA, Carrao H, Spinoni J, Vogt J, Feyen L., 2018. Global changes in drought conditions under different levels of warming. *Geophysical Research Letters*. 16;45(7):3285-96; IPCC, 2023. Sixth Assessment Report (AR6), Working Group II: Climate Change 2023 – Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability; FAO et UNEP, 2022. Global Assessment of Drought 2021–2022.

⁴ Kaffle et al. 2023; Naumann et al., 2018

⁵ Mwale, N.S., Sievers, L.M., Bokal, S., Salman, M., Stefanski, R., Aich, V. 2025. [Mainstreaming gender in national drought plans, national action plans and national policies](#). Rome, FAO.

⁶ Zaveri, E.D.; Damania, R.; Engle, N. L., 2023. [Droughts and Deficits - Summary Evidence of the Global Impact on Economic Growth \(English\)](#). *Water Global Practice Washington, D.C. World Bank Group*.

⁷ People's Republic of Bangladesh 2023. [National Adaptation Plan of Bangladesh \(2023-2050\)](#)

⁸ Kingdom of Bhutan, 2023. [First National Adaptation Plan](#).

⁹ Maldives, 2020. [Update of Nationally Determined Contribution of Maldives](#).

¹⁰ Nepal, 2021. [National Adaptation Plan \(NAP\) 2021-2050](#)

¹¹ Pakistan, 2023. [National Adaptation Plan Pakistan 2023](#).

¹² Sri Lanka, 2016. [National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change Impacts in Sri Lanka](#).

¹³ [ADPC, 2024: Regional Drought Risk Management and Mitigation Strategy for South Asia](#).

All (EW4All) initiative¹⁴, the project aims to strengthen/establish drought early warning systems (EWS) by integrating all four pillars of EWS (Disaster Risk Knowledge; Monitoring and Forecasting; Warning, Dissemination and Communication; Preparedness and Response Capabilities) and improving governance at regional and national levels. Current drought monitoring efforts exist across the region, but they are not formally linked to policy processes, lack clear institutional mandates, and therefore face challenges in accountability and long-term sustainability. Given these systemic gaps in addressing a transboundary hazard like drought, a regional approach is essential. Only a shared mechanism can provide harmonized indicators, interoperable data, and consistent early warnings that strengthen and complement national systems. This project addresses these gaps by supporting countries in agreeing on a coherent structure in which regional monitoring enhances and complements national systems. Clear mandates and institutional arrangements will ensure stronger ownership, coordination, and lasting impact. The project further seeks to boost regional coordination, collaboration and capacity for drought management in line with sustainable development and disaster risk reduction goals, with a strong emphasis on gender inclusion. Ultimately, it aims to enhance drought resilience, support livelihoods, and protect ecosystems across the region.

Project Objectives

The project focuses on implementing the Integrated Drought Management (IDM) approach, aligned with the "Regional Drought Risk Management and Mitigation Strategy for South Asia". Guided by the well-established approach of the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP), and strengthen and integrating all the four pillars of EWS, key goals are:

1. **Enhance Capabilities and Capacities for Monitoring, Forecasting, and Early Warning:** Improve regional and national capacities for drought monitoring and forecasting to support drought EWS, ensuring timely and actionable information for decision-makers and communities. While several tools and initiatives exist in South Asia—such as those from WMO Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) and Regional Climate Outlook Fora, South Asia Drought Monitoring System (SADMS), South Asia Hydromet Forum (SAHF), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), and the University of Tokyo,—they are not yet consistently linked to policy processes or supported by clear institutional mandates. This limits long-term sustainability, accountability, and comprehensive regional coverage. To address these gaps, the project will help establish a coherent regional–national structure with agreed mandates and improved interoperability, ensuring that drought information reliably informs planning and early action
2. **Enhance Regional Collaboration and Governance:** Strengthen regional cooperation, incl. data sharing, enhance regional and national governance frameworks to enable coordinated engagement and inclusive IDM, ensuring that drought EWS are anchored in policy to effectively connect drought monitoring and warnings with action. These efforts will built on existing initiatives, integrate a multitude of stakeholders on national and regional level, and integrate collaboration with WMO’s RA II, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), SAHF, and other such mechanisms.
3. **Enhance Community-Level Drought Resilience:** Strengthen the resilience of vulnerable communities (to be identified during project development) by promoting scalable, sustainable, and inclusive drought preparedness strategies with a strong focus on gender and diversity. Ensure communities are equipped to understand and act on early warnings to reduce drought impacts.

Project Components and Financing

Project Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Countries	Amount (US\$)
1. Drought monitoring, early warnings and drought risk and impact assessment (IDM Pillar 1&2)	1.1 Sustained mechanisms for drought risk assessments as well as drought impact monitoring established. 1.2 Harmonised approach on national and regional level for drought monitoring,	1.1.1 Baseline drought risk assessments at the national level, identifying vulnerable areas and sectors, including land degradation status 1.1.2 Climate change responsive drought risk assessment and mapping methodology developed and implemented for periodic national assessments 1.1.3 Nationally managed drought impact monitoring and assessment methodology established incl. innovative crowdsourcing integrated into national drought impact monitoring systems	All	9,000,000

¹⁴ See <https://earlywarningsforall.org>. Bangladesh, Nepal, and the Maldives were among the first 30 countries globally to receive targeted support and have developed comprehensive roadmaps to strengthen their multi-hazard early warning systems under the EW4All initiative.

	forecasting and early warnings established	1.2.1 Enhance and/or establish IDM and forecasting systems based on existing platforms incl. opportunistic data 1.2.2 Drought early warning methodology in all target countries and integrated in national drought policies incl. regular drought bulletins 1.2.3 End-to-end (E2E) dissemination channels for drought warnings established, tailored to key stakeholders' needs		
2. Integrated drought governance and regional cooperation <i>(IDM Pillar 3)</i>	2.1 National policies formulated /updated aligning with the regional strategy 2.2 Regional WMO drought management body/center established	2.1.1 Analysis of drought risk related institutional and policy gaps based on 1.1.1. 2.1.2. Socio-economic benefits studies (SEB) undertaken to inform policies 2.1.3 National drought committees established or strengthened in targeted countries, with defined mandates, membership structures, and operational procedures for drought coordination. 2.1.4 National drought policy frameworks introduced or updated. 2.2.1 Establishment/enhancement of regional institutional arrangements based on existing structures (e.g. South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and SAHF as well as basin organizations) 2.2.2 Establishment of WMO Regional Drought Management Centre in a selected host country	All	3,000,000
3. Community-level drought resilience <i>(IDM Pillar 3)</i>	3.1 Community-level, climate-resilient drought risk management and financing solutions for sustainable implementation implemented in pilot communities in each of the target countries and plans for scaling developed	3.1.1 Community-level climate-resilient drought risk management plans incl. contingency developed, based on gender sensitive risk assessments (pilot communities), methodology documented to ensure scalability 3.1.2 National and Sub-national drought risk investment plans and financing strategies 3.1.3 Nature-based solutions implemented to increase drought resilience in pilot communities 3.1.4 Guidelines for implementation and scaling for above outputs developed incl. financing strategies	All	6,600,000
4. Capacity development for Integrated Drought Management	4.1 Strengthened capacity for drought management on national, regional and community level	4.1.1 Capacity needs assessment for NMHSs, authorities, local pilot communities, and other key stakeholders conducted 4.1.2 Capacity development initiatives (incl. workshops/fellowships) for NMHSs, authorities, local pilot communities, and other key stakeholders conducted	All	3,600,000
5. Knowledge & awareness on climate-resilient and inclusive Integrated Drought Management	5.1 Partner engagement, communication and awareness increased on national & regional level	5.1.1 Gender action plans, incl. indicators and trainings developed and implemented 5.1.2 Strengthened UNCCD Climate Learning Platform (CLP) as the central space for cross-regional knowledge exchange 5.1.3 Dissemination of user-centric sectoral drought information enhanced through co-production of tailored products (e.g. crop advisories, irrigation schemes)	All	2,400,000
Programme Execution cost (10%)				2,460,000
Total Project/Programme Cost				27,060,000
Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (10%)				2,706,000
Amount of Financing Requested				29,766,000

Project Duration: 5 years

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Project Components

1. Baseline drought risk assessments will identify regional drought hazards, vulnerabilities, and impacts. Findings will inform a harmonized, methodology for assessment, monitoring, forecasting, and decision-making, guiding project other components and the enhancement/ establishment of monitoring networks for drought management and EWS. For drought monitoring, the project will strengthen regional observation networks, such as WMO's Regional Basic Observing Network, to improve real-time data access, exchange, and harmonization. Remote sensing data and products will be used to complement in-situ data. For drought forecasting, access to global and regional drought-relevant products from the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS) Centres will be ensured, incl. extended-range and sub-seasonal predictions as feasible.
This component will strengthen evidence-based decision-making in drought management at national and regional levels, ensuring improved preparedness, response, and resilience to drought events through an earth system approach. Existing global/regional drought products will be analyzed with the aim of defining standardized regional drought products that can be disseminated within the WIPPS, considering key user requirements. The project will support the adoption of the WMO Information System 2.0, enabling seamless exchange of hydrometeorological data to enhance regional monitoring and prediction capabilities, incl. the WMO Hydrological Observation System. The WMO Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System approach will be applied, integrating these monitoring, forecasting, and data-sharing components to provide comprehensive drought information. These efforts will be accompanied by capacity building efforts - component 4. A review of national and regional drought management institutions, policies, and strategies will be conducted using the IDMP Benefit of Action/Cost of Inaction Framework. To enhance long-term institutional capacity and sustainability, the project will support the establishment of a WMO Regional Drought Management Centre, leveraging and creating synergies with existing structures.
2. At the regional level, cooperation will be enhanced through the establishment or strengthening of institutional arrangements such as SAARC, and SAHF, complemented by the creation of a WMO Regional Drought Management Centre, similar to the Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe, in a selected host country, potentially as WIPPS Centre. The selection of the host institution will follow WMO's formal governance procedures and regulatory criteria, ensuring an open, transparent, and country-driven process. This procedure is planned to take place over the coming year and will be included in the Full Proposal preparation stage. A central selection criterion will be the host's long-term commitment to maintain and finance the Centre, which will support national and regional implementation of the drought strategy beyond the project times-scale and long-term regional coordination of drought resilience management. Transboundary aspects of drought risk including shared river basins and regional climate drivers will be addressed at a strategic level through coordinated early warning and policies. At the national level, policies will be formulated or updated in line with the regional strategy, informed by institutional and policy gap analyses as well as socio-economic benefit studies. In addition, Drought Committees (with names depending on country context) will be established or strengthened, bringing together experts from drought-impacted sectors such as agriculture, forestry/wildfires, irrigation, and other relevant institutions to foster integrated collaboration and ensure a coordinated, systematic approach to drought risk reduction and resilience-building. While India is not a participating country in this proposal, the regional institutional arrangements and technical systems will be aligned so that they remain compatible with, and complementary to, India's existing drought-management frameworks, thereby supporting coherent regional information flows and wider collaboration.
3. At the community level, climate-resilient drought risk management plans will be developed in pilot areas, based on gender-sensitive risk assessments, with methodologies documented to ensure scalability. These integrated plans will combine risk management, preparedness and contingency planning (response capacity) in line with EW4All Pillar 4. User-centred dissemination channels developed under Component 1 will be applied at community level to ensure that drought information and warnings are timely and actionable (Pillar 3). To strengthen resilience, nature-based solutions will be implemented, alongside localized drought risk financing strategies that will identify financing sources and match these with local finance needs, using approaches such as community-based microfinance groups, cooperative insurance schemes, and partnerships with local private actors. Finally, guidelines will be produced to support the implementation and scaling of these approaches, including the financing mechanisms, so that successful models can be replicated more widely
4. Capacity-development for academic and non-degree professionals will directly leverage support mobilized under the other components through strengthening national and regional capabilities in drought risk assessment, monitoring, and forecasting. Additionally, national capabilities in utilizing Remote Sensing data, seasonal-to-subseasonal forecasting and other relevant application products will be enhanced through tailored capacity development activities. This will ensure that monitoring, forecasting, and data-sharing improvements are effectively sustained and integrated into institutional frameworks, strengthening

evidence-based decision-making. Capacity building activities will be implemented on national and regional level.

5. Knowledge and awareness on climate-resilient and inclusive Integrated Drought Management will be strengthened through increased partner engagement, communication, and awareness at national and regional levels. This includes the development and implementation of stakeholder engagement and gender action plans (with indicators and trainings), the establishment of a cross-regional knowledge management approach and community of practice (COP) that will build on and strengthen the existing UNCCD Community of Learning and Practice (CLP) for Asia, and the co-production and dissemination of user-focused drought information products such as regular bulletins, crop advisories, and irrigation guidance. Given India's importance for regional drought monitoring, India will be included in the regional learning and knowledge-exchange activities; this may also include twinning arrangements to facilitate mutual learning and the sharing of India's advanced experience.

Other considerations

Consultative Process: Given the diversity of countries, the identification, engagement and commitment of key stakeholders at regional, national and community levels is essential for project development and implementation. Building on the stakeholders involved in the development of the Regional Strategy, the project will ensure an inclusive consultative process that also integrates gender-transformative and socially inclusive engagement. Key stakeholders include national ministries and technical agencies responsible for drought management, climate resilience, water resources, agriculture, and the environment; national gender machinery; subnational and local authorities; community-based organizations (including women's associations, youth groups, and farmer organizations); vulnerable and drought-affected communities (such as smallholder farmers, pastoralists, and Indigenous groups); technical partners, research institutions, civil society organizations; and relevant private sector actors involved in climate services, water management, and resilience solutions.

Cost Effectiveness: A cost-effective, holistic approach integrating technical, social, economic, and environmental factors of each country will prioritize regional resilience over a single-country focus. Strategic pilot investments and local expertise will complement this approach and enhance national drought resilience. Synergies and alignment with other initiatives, e.g. the CREWS South Asia, WISER Asia Pacific, and other projects currently ongoing/planned will be sought to maximize financial efficiency.

Learning & Knowledge Management: Project activities will be underpinned by capacity development, knowledge management and awareness raising. COPs will foster informal collaboration. This project further strengthens knowledge exchange between the more advanced and lesser advanced target countries in the region and will be aligned with SAHF as well as built on an/or leverage ongoing regional and national activities.

Innovation & Coherence: Many projects address drought management, but this one offers a cohesive approach by building on the Regional Drought Strategy, linking local and national efforts and aligning with ongoing regional initiatives, such as amongst others Regional Frameworks for Climate Services and national EW4All Roadmaps. It promotes a shared understanding to effectively address drought and water scarcity, contributing to greater resilience and healthier ecosystems across the region.

SEB and Gender: SEB analysis' and a gender action plan, will guide the implementation. The project will generate SEBs through reduced losses, strengthened sectoral security, and protected ecosystems. It will follow Adaptation Fund and WMO environmental, social, and gender policies, using a user-centric approach to engage vulnerable communities and address gender issues.

Sustainability: Sustainability will be ensured through establishing governance mechanisms with sustainable financing, institutionalizing the regional Drought Risk Management and Mitigation Strategy. Nature-based solutions will enhance ecosystem services and link them to livelihoods, while financing strategies will support scaling and sustainability. Institutional capacity on all levels will be enhanced through capacity development on decision-making for drought management and aligned with regional activities of e.g. SAHF, ensuring long-term results. The WMO Regional Drought Management Centre in collaboration with other regional institutions will coordinate ongoing, sustained implementation.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The initiative will be led by the WMO as the implementing entity, in close collaboration with executing partners to ensure effective implementation and inclusive stakeholder engagement. The Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO) Technical Support Unit of the IDMP, supported by its network of Support Base Partners,

will be responsible for designing technical solutions in cooperation with the executing entities. A dedicated project manager will oversee implementation, ensuring meaningful stakeholder participation, effective monitoring, and robust risk management. At the regional level, activities will be coordinated by ADPC and GWP South Asia, ensuring alignment with regional frameworks, institutions, and existing drought management initiatives. At the national level, implementation will be led by NMHSs and their respective ministries, in close coordination with local institutions and regional stakeholders. At local level, the Country Water Partnership Network of GWP will help to connect and include local organizations. Collaboration with national and regional stakeholders will be facilitated through workshops, formal agreements, and institutional arrangements. A project board composed of key stakeholders, including UNCCD who provides funding for project development, will provide strategic direction to the project. Implementation arrangements will be further developed/identified in the project development stage.

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government¹⁵ *Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement for each country participating in the proposed project/programme. Add more lines as necessary. The endorsement letters should be attached as annexes to the project/programme proposal.*

Dr Farhina Ahmed Secretary Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Bangladesh	Date: 05/ 26/ 2025
Tshering Dorji Director Ministry of Finance Bhutan	Date: 06/ 16/ 2025
Ahmed Waheed Director Ministry of Environment and Energy Maldives	Date: 05/ 26/2025
Suman Subedi Under Secretary (Technical), Head, Adaptation Section Ministry of Forests and Environment Nepal	Date:08/03/2025
Ms. Sameera Sheik Joint Secretary Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Pakistan	Date: 02/28/2025
K.R. Uduwawala Secretary Ministry of Environment Sri Lanaka	Date: 06/04/2025

B. Implementing Entity certification *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address*

Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (.....list here.....) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.

Moyenda Chaponda

Implementing Entity Coordinator

Date: 28/08/2025

Tel. and email: +41 22 730 8646/
mchaponda@wmo.int

Project Contact Person: Valentin Aich

Tel. And Email: +41 22 730 8494/



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh Meteorological Department
Meteorological Complex
E-24, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Phone : +88 02 41025705 / 41025730
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No. 23.09.0000.095.24.004.25.3612

Dated: 28 May 2025

From: Md. Nurul Karim (Mr.)
Deputy Director
Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD)

To: Ms. Stephanie Gallasch
Project Officer
Development Partnerships Office
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
7bis, avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland
Email: sgallasch@wmo.int

Sub: Signed Endorsement Letter of National Designated Authority (NDA), Bangladesh to the Adaptation Fund.

Dear Ms. Stephanie Gallasch,

Greetings from Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD).

With reference to your email dated 14 May 2025, please be informed that National Designated Authority (NDA), Bangladesh has signed in the endorsement letter for the pre-concept note of the 'Integrated Drought Management for South Asia (IDM-SA)' Project. The signed endorsement letter attached herewith for your kind information and further necessary action.

Assuring you, our highest cooperation at all times.

With best regards,


28-05-25
(Md. Nurul Karim)
Deputy Director
For Director

CC to:

1. Mr. Valentin Aich, Senior Water and Climate Expert, WMO
Email: vaich@wmo.int
2. Mr. Robert Stefanski, Chief, WMO Agricultural Meteorology Division, WMO
Email: RStefanski@wmo.int
3. Mr. Jochen Luther, Scientific. Officer, WMO
Email: JLuther@wmo.int
4. Mr. Md. Monowar Hossian
Meteorologist, BMD and Focal Point for Bangladesh, IDM-SA Project.
Email: monowar1577@gmail.com



Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

No: 22.00.0000.000.072.99.0004.25.191

Date: 26/05/2025

The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN N7-700
Washington, D.C., 20433
United States of America

Subject: Endorsement for the pre-concept note of the "Integrated Drought Management for South Asia" project.

In my capacity as the Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in Bangladesh, I confirm that the above regional project aligns with the government's national and regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts and risks posed by drought in South Asia.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and executed by the Global Water Partnership (GWP), Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) as well as other national and regional partners.

Sincerely,


Dr. Farhina Ahmed *26/05/2025*
Secretary



MoF/DMD/DCDMD/AF_DA/2024-25/3103

June 16, 2025

To: The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN N7-700
Washington, D.C., 20433
United States of America
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for the pre-concept note of the “Integrated Drought Management for South Asia (IDM-SA)” Project

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Bhutan, I confirm that the above regional project proposal is in accordance with the government’s national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by drought in Bhutan.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and executed by national and regional partners such as the National Center for Hydrology and Meteorology (NCHM) of the Royal Government of Bhutan, the Global Water Partnership (GWP) and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

Thanking you.

Yours Sincerely,

(Tshering Dorji)

Director/ Designated Authority to the Adaptation Fund

Copy to:

1. Director, National Center for Hydrology and Meteorology.
2. Director, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.
3. Director, Department of Water, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources.
4. Program Director, National Soil Services Centre, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.



Ministry of Tourism and Environment

Male', Republic of Maldives

Date: 26 May 2025

No: 88-CCD/PRIV/2025/709

The Adaptation Fund Board,
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat,
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240

Sub: Endorsement for “Integrated Drought Management for South Asia (IDM-SA)”

Your Excellency,

In my capacity as Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund in the Maldives, I confirm that the above regional project proposal is in accordance with our national priorities i.e Maldives NDC3, National Earlywarning Roadmap, and regional collaboration areas in implementing adaptation activities to reduce the adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the Maldives and South Asia.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project/programme will be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and executed by the Ministry of Tourism and Environment and Maldives Meteorological Service.

Sincerely,

Ahmed Waheed,
Designated Authority for the Adaptation Fund



Government of Nepal
Ministry of Forests and Environment



P.O. Box No. 3987
Singh Durbar, Kathmandu

Ref. No. 29

Letter of Endorsement

जल तथा मौसम विज्ञान विभाग
दर्ता नं.: ४३५
मिति: २०७२/४/१९

Date: August 3, 2025


To: The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement of the pre concept note for regional project "Integrated Drought Management for South Asia (IDM-SA)"

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Nepal, I confirm that the above pre concept note for regional project is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Nepal.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the pre concept note with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and executed by Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), Global Water Partnership South Asia (GWP SA), Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO) and relevant National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and related ministries of beneficiary countries in close co-ordination with the climate change focal ministry in these countries.

Sincerely,


Suman Subedi
Designated Authority, Adaptation Fund
Under Secretary, Adaptation Section
Ministry of Forests and Environment
Email: s_subedi2003@yahoo.com
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Tel: +92-51-9245589



No. F1(1)2024-Misc/PCCA/2863
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE
AND ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION
(LG&RD COMPLEX, G-5/2)

Islamabad, 17th October, 2025

**JOINT SECRETARY
(CC&ENV.)**

To:
The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MNS N7-700
Washington, D.C, 20433
United States of America
Email: secretariat@adaptation-fund.org

**Subject: - ENDORSEMENT FOR THE PRE-CONCEPT NOTE OF THE
"INTEGRATED DROUGHT MANAGEMENT FOR SOUTH ASIA"
PROJECT TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY WORLD METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION**

In my capacity as the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Pakistan, I confirm that the above regional project aligns with the government's national and regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts and risks posed by drought in South Asia.

2. Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and executed by the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), as well as national and regional partners.

Sameera Sheikh

(Sameera Sheikh)

NDA for Adaptation Fund Pakistan

Copy to:

- PS to the Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination, Islamabad.
- Member Coordination, Climate Change Authority, Islamabad.
- Stephanie Gallasch (SGallasch@wmo.int)



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சுற்றுநடல் அமைச்சு
Ministry of Environment

"සොබාදාම පියා", අංක 416/ඊ/1, රොබට් ගුණවර්ධන මාවත, බත්තරමුල්ල, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව.

"சொபாதம் பியா", இல. 416/ஈ/1, ரொபர்ட் குணவர்தன மாவத்தை, பத்தரமுல்லை, இலங்கை.

"Sobadam Piyasa", No. 416/C/1, Robert Gunawardana Mawatha, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

Gen. Tel. +94-11-2034100

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செயலாளர்

Secretary

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தொலை நகல்

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මගේ අංකය
எனது இல
My No

ENV/CC/04/04/03/02/232

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல
Your No

දිනය
திகதி
Date

04.06.2025

The Chairman
The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

Dear Sir,

Endorsement for the Pre Concept Note
"Integrated Drought Management for South Asia" Project

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Sri Lanka, I confirm that the above regional project aligns with the Government's national and regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts and risks posed by drought in South Asia.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and executed by the Ministry of Environment, Sri Lanka, Global Water Partnership (GWP), Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) as well as national and regional partners.

Sincerely,

K. R. Uduwawala
Secretary

Cc: Ms Stephanie Gallasch(World Meteorological Organization)- for your information please

"මේ මහපොළොව සහ ගහකොළ මිනිසාට මෙන්ම අනෙක් ජීවයාසන්න සියොතුන්ට ද මිනිමත සරන සිවුපාවුන්ට ද සියලු සතුන්ට ද එකසේ අයිතිය"
"இப் பூமியும், மரஞ் செடி கொடிகளும் மனிதனுக்குப் போன்றே வானில் பறந்து திரியும் பறவைகளுக்கும், பூமியில் வாழும் உயிரினங்களுக்கும், அனைத்து விலங்குகளுக்கும் ஒருமித்துச் சொந்தமானது"

"This great earth and the flora on it equally belong to the man and the birds flying in the sky, the quadrupeds and all creatures living on earth"



Revised PFG Submission Form¹
Project Formulation Grant (PFG)

Submission Date: 28 October 2025

Adaptation Fund Project ID: ?

Country/ies: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

Title of Project/Programme: Integrated Drought Management in South Asia

Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE): MIE

Implementing Entity: World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Executing Entity: World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	01 May 2026
Completion date of PFG	01 December 2026

B. Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note²
Support in writing of the project concept by external consultant	Project concept well-coordinated with country stakeholders and in line with AF rules and regulations	22,000	Contracting of a consultant to support the coordination and writing of the concept at a daily rate of 400 USD for 60 days
Support of different experts within the executing entity in formulating the concept	Project concept in line with latest standards and state of the art methodologies	6,800	Contracting of experts to provide matter expert advice for concept at a daily rate of 500 USD for 15 days
Stakeholder consultations	Concept based on stakeholder needs	6,885	Support stakeholder engagement processes e.g. potentially travel

¹ As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

² The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break-down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

Implementing Entity Fee ³ (Administration and management of concept preparation)	Project concept coordinate and submitted in time	2,315	This will support the proposal coordination officer
		500	This will support WMO Human Resources Support for hiring a consultant
		500	Administration for hiring a consultant
Total Project Formulation Grant		39,000	

Please describe below each of the PFG activities and provide justifications for their need and for the amount of funding required:

- Support in writing of the project concept by external consultant:** An external consultant will be hired to support the writing process and coordinate with all national and regional stakeholders as well as the executing entities. This will ensure that all needs and expectations are well coordinated with country stakeholders and in line with AF rules and regulations. The amount allows to hire a consultant for 50 days at a daily rate of USD 500.
- Support of different experts within the implementing and executing entity in formulating the concept:** Different experts of the implementing and executing entities will be engaged in the process of preparing the project concept, providing expert input on different fields like Early Warning Systems (EWS), Monitoring etc. This amount is to compensate the different departments internally.
- Stakeholder consultation:** Stakeholder consultations will be carried out at national and regional levels, either online or in person, primarily making use of the contacts and networks of partners and the GWP. These consultations will ensure broad input, alignment with country priorities, and stakeholder ownership of the project concept.
- Implementing Entity Fee:** The 10% share will be used to support the coordination and administration within WMO.

C. Implementing Entity

This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Mr. Moyenda Chaponda	<i>Moyenda Chaponda</i>	28 August 2025	Mr. Valentin Aich	+41 22 730 8494,	vaich@wmo.int

³ 8.5% Implementing Entity Management Fee of USD 3,315 in total.

