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Climate Finance Accelerator Uganda: Call for Proposals

Applications are open from 16 October 2023 until 17 November 2023

Click here to download a copy of the application form in word format

The Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA) is a global technical assistance programme funded by the UK government to support climate projects to access finance. The CFA operates in ten countries (Nigeria, Colombia, South Africa, Egypt, Uganda, Türkiye, Mexico, Peru, Pakistan and Viet Nam) with the aim of encouraging the flows of finance required, to deliver on countries' ambition to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

In Uganda, the CFA brings together the key actors in the climate finance investment chain: project proponents and developers, finance providers, and policymakers. Our aim is to facilitate a collaborative approach to unlocking finance for climate projects at scale and creating a pipeline of 'investment ready' low carbon projects. The CFA also seeks to deliver several co-benefits, such as supporting a just transition and green recovery efforts from COVID-19 through inclusive approaches to sustainable development, improved gender equality, and building resilience to climate impacts.

How the CFA Uganda can Support your project

The CFA is a practical and deal-oriented programme that supports climate projects to improve their bankability and appeal to financiers. Preparing projects that are attractive to investors is challenging. Low carbon projects are often perceived as higher risk as new technologies and business models are not widely understood. Regulatory and policy barriers can also create blockages in accessing capital at scale.

The Climate Finance Accelerator offers a range of capacity building support to assist climate mitigation projects in accessing finance. By engaging with the CFA programme, project developers can benefit from:

Access to investors: The CFA provides project developers greater opportunities to access finance by working with potential investors to understand their needs. Through the CFA's reach, project proponents have the opportunity to engage with commercial and concessional investors, operating both nationally and internationally.

Coaching and best practice insights: The CFA provides access to expert insight and coaching. Through knowledge sharing sessions on what matters to financiers when taking the decision to invest, project developers will gain valuable insights and develop capabilities in making projects attractive and investment ready. For example, the CFA will advise on the development of key materials such as pitch decks for investors and marketing presentations.

Networking opportunities: Project developers will have the opportunity to expand their network with investors and other key stakeholders in the climate finance landscape. These include government representatives at national and local level, national and international development banks & agencies, and a cohort of projects facing similar challenges. The network will provide project developers with long-lasting benefits to current and future low carbon opportunities.

Increased visibility: Participation in the CFA and CFA events can raise the profile of a project amongst a range of stakeholders from regional and national policy makers, through to local and international finance providers.

Achieving low ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) project objectives: The CFA supports projects to realise and communicate their positive impacts, which are important to investors alongside commercial objectives. The CFA has access to climate, sectoral and social impact specialists and can assist projects to support local and national climate ambitions, as well as helping to unlock co-benefits such as poverty reduction, improved gender equality and social inclusion, and tackling biodiversity loss.

The type of projects the CFA can support

The CFA supports low carbon projects that are seeking finance. Candidate projects should:

- Be designed to achieve measurable climate outcomes in terms of direct or facilitated greenhouse gas emission reductions.
- Have a minimum total financing need of US$1M.
- Be (at least) at the technical pre-feasibility stage of development.
- Have a business model that will generate commercially attractive returns in the long-term (although some element of concessional financing may be required initially).
- We strongly encourage projects that can demonstrate positive social impacts and how they contribute to furthering gender equality and social inclusion.

How to apply

The CFA is open for applications from climate projects seeking support in accessing finance until November 17.

The application and submission requirements can be accessed pressing ‘next’ at the bottom of this page, where further guidance is also provided. Please note that the application process is not designed to select the most developed or complete projects, but rather those that are aligned with our objective of facilitating climate projects in line with the host country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to access finance. Projects that meet the criteria above are strongly encouraged to apply.

On submission and during consideration of your proposal we will require some personal details such as name, email address, and phone number for a main contact or contacts submitting the proposal. These contact details will only be used for communication about the proposal. We expect to respond to project applications within three weeks of the application deadline and may request further project details at this stage.

Your application will be treated as confidential information and will not be reproduced in any form or by any means or disclosed to others or used for any purpose other than for consideration under the Climate Finance Accelerator.

To find out more information about how your organisation can benefit from engaging with the CFA programme email: uganda@climatefinanceaccelerator.co.uk

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Instruction and consent

The following form intends to gain relevant preliminary information about the project that could be part of CFA in Uganda. The form must only be answered with the information that is available and that reflects the characteristics of the project (If you do not have information regarding any section, please write N/A).

The proposal will be kept confidential and will not be reproduced in any form or by any means. Nor will it be used for any purpose except in consideration of the Uganda CFA Project.

Authorisation of handling personal and project data

Within the evaluation and selection process of the Climate Finance Accelerator, certain information of a technical and financial nature about your project may be shared with strategic allies of the CFA. I hereby authorise PricewaterhouseCoopers (hereinafter PwC), Bethel Advisors, and Ricardo Energy and Environment (hereinafter Ricardo) to collect, store, use and transfer this information to said strategic allies within the framework of the CFA. I acknowledge that I have read the PwC Information Security policy found on its website and that it is to my full knowledge that the Firm will preserve and protect the Confidential Information that I have provided, with the highest Protection standards.

Likewise, I authorise PwC, Bethel Advisors, and Ricardo to collect, use, store, consult, process and, in general, carry out the treatment of my Personal Information, in accordance with [Country]ian Law No. 151 of 2020 - Data Protection Law. I also acknowledge that I have read the CFA Privacy Notice here and that I am aware of my rights.

Select “Yes” if you authorise the treatment of your Personal Information as per the above statement.*
Mark only one.
Yes

What is the name of the proposing company or entity?*

What is the name of the project?*

Page 3 : Contact Information

Main Point of Contact

Name*

Title / position / role*

Contact Number*

Email Address*

Gender* *Mark only one.*
- *Female*
- *Male*
- *Other*
- *Prefer not to say*

Secondary Point of Contact

Name*

Title / position / role*

Contact Number*

Email Address*

Page 4: Project sponsor (proposing entity) information

1. What type of organisation is the proposing entity / project sponsor?*
Mark only one
- Sole trader
- Partnership

- Private limited company (company with unlisted / private shares)
- Public limited company (shares listed on stock exchange)
- Co-operative
- Not-for-profit / NGO
- Local government (eg. municipality)
- Regional government
- National government
- Other (Please specify)

2. How many people does the organisation employ?*
Where possible include the proportion of women in your organisation

3. How long has the organisation been in operation (years)?*

4. Please provide the following information where possible for the proposing entity / project sponsor:
- Revenue:
- EBITDA or operating profit:
- Leverage (e.g. Debt / EBITDA)
- Level of grants received:

General project information

5. Sector of the project*
Tick no more than two.
Energy
Waste
Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
Transport
Technology
Blue Economy
Water & Wastewater
Real Estate
Industry & Manufacturing
Other

6. Provide a brief description of the project and business model (max 200 words)*
***For example, please include details on the* value proposition, revenue streams, key activities, distribution channels, target market and any associated or partnered entities involved and their roles and contributions to the project (e.g. Partners, Suppliers or Offtakers)**
Optional: you may also attach a brief document that supports understanding of the project's business model. Please attach your file with the name as follows: ProjectName_FileName

7. Please describe what has been done to date and over what timescale? (max 100 words)*

8. What is the current technical stage of the project?*
Mark only one.
Conception / Project Inception
Pre-feasibility study
Feasibility study
Finance raising
Project execution

9. Please describe the relevant experience of the project team that will implement the project (max 100 words)*
For example, is this a new venture or an expansion of current technology / product / what skills, knowledge and experience do the team have. Do the team have any knowledge or skills in Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

10. What is the maturity of the technology used in the project (max 100 words)*
Describe the technolog(ies) the project uses, if this technology been used commercially in the market, if you hold any patents, if there are any licences, consents or permits this project has or may require.

11. What contracting model is to be implemented by the project*
Tick all that apply.
- Business-to-Administration (B2A)/Business-to-Government(B2G)
- Business-to-Business (B2B)
- Business-to-Customer (B2C)
- Independent Power Producer (IPP)
- Public Private Partnerships (PPP)

Use of proceeds

12. Please outline the target amount of funding to be raised for this phase of the project (please state in US Dollars) and likely further financing needs over 3 - 5 years?*
- Equity:
- Debt:
- Other (specify):
- Total:

13. Please provide details of any funding sources that have already been sought for this project from other donors, private institutions, public sources (max 100 words)*

14. Please specify the use of proceeds where known (US$ or %)* (Max 50 words)
- Capital expenditure

    - Operating expenditure (including Selling General & Administrative expenses)
    - Working capital
    - R&D
    - Obtaining licences, consents and permits
    - Other (please specify)

Financial model

15. Does the project currently have a financial model*

Please tick one

- Yes
- Work in Progress
- No

16. Please Attach a Financial Model for the project if you have one (optional)

Please attach your file with the name as follows: ProjectName_FileName

Climate and Other Benefits of the Project

17. Please describe what climate mitigation benefits the project will have (max 50 words)*

For example, how much carbon it is expected to reduce or abate, and through what process, how you have quantified or plan to quantify this, anticipated level of benefit.

18. Please describe any environmental, social or economic co-benefits of the project.

For example jobs created or alignment to national climate strategy. If possible, please describe how the impact will be assessed. **(max 50 words)***

19. Describe the planned actions and resulting contributions this project could make to:
A) reducing gender gaps between men and women (for example, job opportunities for women), and
B) promoting better living conditions for vulnerable groups (for example, people who are living with disabilities) and marginalised populations (for example, indigenous people). (max 50 words)*

20. Please provide the location(s) of the project's intended impacts*

Key risks

21. Please identify the key risks/challenges associated with the project alongside mitigating measures to address those risks (max 50 words).*

For example political, social, technological, currency and exchange rate, commercial, key people, security, refinancing, climate effects.

CFA Support

22. What support are you seeking from the CFA / why did you apply for the CFA?*
Tick all that apply.
- *Advice on access to investors*
- *Coaching to raise funds*
- *Technical assistance and perspectives on technical and technological best practices*
- *Opportunities for relationships with relevant actors*
- *Assistance to increase visibility in [Country] and internationally*
- *Support to demonstrate the environmental impacts of projects (reduction of carbon emissions)*
- *Support for financial structuring or improving the profitability of the project*
- *Support to design or analyse the business, contractual and financing model*

23. Please explain your answer (optional).
[Free text, 50 words max]

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Final questions

24. Please attach any additional documents that you consider pertinent to support your request (optional). *All documents will be treated confidentially and will not be used for any purpose other than the selection of projects for support of the CFA program. Please Attach your file with the name as follows: ProjectName_FileName*

25. How did you hear about the Climate Finance Accelerator? (Optional)
Tick all that apply.
LinkedIn
CFA Event
Professional networking group
Other:

Many thanks!

The CFA Uganda team will be in contact with you on the process of your application. In the meantime, if you have any questions or queries please contact uganda@climatefinanceaccelerator.co.uk