

**USAID Climate Finance for Development Accelerator (CFDA)
Climate Finance Annual Program Statement (APS) 0011**

Funding Opportunity Title	CFDA Climate Finance APS
Announcement Type	Annual Program Statement
Issuance Date	September 19, 2023
APS Closing Date	September 30, 2024
Submit Questions to the Following Link:	Solicitation Question Submission Form
Submit Concept Notes:	<u>See Addenda</u>

This Annual Program Statement is issued as public notice to ensure that all interested and qualified organizations have a fair opportunity to qualify for funding. This APS is a broad funding statement under which addenda will be issued with specific funding opportunities identified. To be considered for an award, applicants must respond to all the requirements and instructions in this APS. CFDA will review applications on the basis of the criteria and instructions set forth in this APS and the Addendum to which the applicant is responding. Concepts will be reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis commensurate with the issued addenda. Please note that the APS is subject to change and any changes will be posted in an APS Amendment.

Additional details will be provided in each posted addendum. Applicants should read each Addendum carefully to ensure their proposed concepts are aligned with the mission of that particular funding opportunity. **NOTE: CFDA will only review applications responding to a specific addendum to this APS.**

Issuance of this APS and any Addenda tied to it, and any co-creation efforts associated with application development do not constitute an award or commitment on the part of CFDA, nor does it commit CFDA to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. Further, CFDA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications received and reserves the right to ask further clarifications from the offerors. Applicants will be informed in writing of the decision made regarding their application.

***** ETHICAL AND BUSINESS CONDUCT REQUIREMENTS *****

Chemonics is committed to integrity in procurement, and only selects suppliers based on objective business criteria such as price and technical merit. Chemonics expects suppliers to comply with our Standards of Business Conduct, available at <https://www.chemonics.com/our-approach/standards-business-conduct/>.

Chemonics does not tolerate fraud, collusion among Parties, falsified proposals/bids, bribery, or kickbacks. Any firm or

individual violating these standards will be disqualified from this procurement, barred from future procurement opportunities, and may be reported to both USAID and the Office of the Inspector General.

Employees and agents of Chemonics are strictly prohibited from asking for or accepting any money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, object of value or compensation from current or potential vendors or suppliers in exchange for or as a reward for business. Employees and agents engaging in this conduct are subject to termination and will be reported to USAID and the Office of the Inspector General. In addition, Chemonics will inform USAID and the Office of the Inspector General of any supplier offers of money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, object of value or compensation to obtain business.

Parties responding to this APS must include the following as part of the proposal submission:

- Disclose any close, familial, or financial relationships with Chemonics or CFDA staff. For example, if a Party's cousin is employed by CFDA, the Party must state this.
- Disclose any family or financial relationship with other Parties submitting proposals. For example, if the Party's father owns a company that is submitting another proposal, the Party must state this.
- Certify that the prices in the offer have been arrived at independently, without any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other Party or competitor for the purpose of restricting competition. Certify that all information in the proposal and all supporting documentation are authentic and accurate. Certify understanding and agreement to Chemonics' prohibitions against fraud, bribery and kickbacks.

Please contact info@cfdaccelerator.com with any questions or concerns regarding the above information or to report any potential violations. Potential violations may also be reported directly to Chemonics at BusinessConduct@chemonics.com or by phone/Skype at 888.955.6881.

Section I – Funding Opportunity Description

Project Background: The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Climate Finance for Development Accelerator (CFDA), also known as “the Accelerator,” is a \$250 million initiative designed to mobilize \$2.5 billion in public and private climate investments by 2030. These investments will fund a range of climate change mitigation and adaptation activities focused on scaling up the transition to an equitable and resilient net-zero economy. Through this APS, CFDA will primarily address two main objectives:

- Objective 1: Develop and scale effective climate finance partnerships and new investment solutions to achieve transformational change in countries where USAID works.
- Objective 2: Improve the enabling environment and increase and broaden participation in climate finance including the range and diversity of stakeholders driving climate solutions.

Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) is a guiding principle for all CFDA interventions and applicants to this APS should ensure that their activities embrace an inclusive development approach that achieves both climate and equity goals. Preference will be given to concepts that are gender-responsive and recognize and address issues faced by indigenous and local communities, and other marginalized and underrepresented groups.

Funding Opportunity: Through this Annual Program Statement (APS), the USAID Climate Finance for Development Accelerator will issue Addenda that support CFDA in achieving one or more of the overarching objectives above.

Below is an illustrative list of areas that may be supported under Addenda issued through this APS. This list is non-exclusive.

- Deploying, testing, or scaling effective climate mitigation technologies and practices and business solutions, including electric vehicles (EVs) and charging infrastructure, solar photovoltaic (PV) technologies, mini-grids, energy storage, smart grids, etc.
- Deploying, testing, or scaling adaptation finance approaches or climate adaptation technologies and practices and business solutions
- De-risking and scaling investments into investment funds or companies developing nature-based climate solutions, such as green infrastructure approaches.
- Strengthening the climate finance enabling environment or ecosystem in order to help partner countries achieve their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and/or National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
- Piloting or scaling networks and platforms for multi-sector engagement in climate finance.

Please reference each posted addendum to learn more specific details.

Section II – Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

U.S. and non-U.S. non-governmental organizations, including for-profit or non-profit entities, may apply unless an addendum includes additional eligibility restrictions. Applicants may include many types of organizations, such as financial institutions, investors, businesses, business service organizations, industry/sector organizations, and trade or other private sector associations. CFDA strongly encourages applications from potential new partners to USAID.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Applicants must commit to a minimum 1:1 leverage (see definition below in Section III).
- Applicants must be a registered entity in their respective country and be formally constituted, recognized by and in good standing with appropriate relevant government authorities, and compliant with all applicable civil and fiscal regulations.
- Applicants may only submit one application per prime organization under each Addendum.
- Applicants must display sound management in the form of financial, administrative, and technical policies and procedures and present a system of internal controls that safeguard assets; protect against fraud, waste, and abuse; and support the achievement of program goals and objectives. CFDA will assess this capability prior to awarding a grant.
- Applicants operating as commercial companies or other organizations or enterprises (including nonprofit organizations) in which foreign governments or their agents or agencies have a controlling interest are not eligible as suppliers of commodities and services.

- Grant support may not be extended to non-U.S. government implementing entities including an office, organization, or body at any level of a public administration system (i.e., ministry, department, agency, service, district, or municipality). This extends to parastatals and quasi-governmental entities, including public universities.
- Faith-based and community groups will receive equal opportunity for funding in accordance with the mandated guidelines laid out in ADS 303.3.28 except for faith-based organizations whose objectives are for discriminatory and religious purposes, and whose main objective of the grant is of a religious nature.
- Grant support may not be extended to public international organizations (PIOs).

Other requirements:

- For any grant resulting from this solicitation, organizations will be required to be registered with SAM.gov and maintain an active SAM registration while they have an active award.
- For any grant resulting from this solicitation, organizations will be required to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) at the time of award. If the applicant already has a UEI number, it should be included in their application. Otherwise, applicants will be expected to get a UEI number before an award is made. CFDA will assist successful applicants with this process. More information on UEIs can be found [here](#).
- Applicants must sign certain required certifications prior to receiving a grant. The certifications are from ADS 303.3.8. [ADS Chapter 303 | Document | U.S. Agency for International Development \(usaid.gov\)](#)
- CFDA will work with the successful grantee to draft a marking and branding plan which will be annexed to the agreement.

Section III – Application Process

As stated above, CFDA will issue addenda to this APS with specific program descriptions. CFDA will only review applications responding to a specific Addendum to this APS.

For each Addendum, CFDA will manage a streamlined application process that begins with applicants submitting a grant application that includes a detailed concept note and a high-level budget (instructions below). CFDA will assemble a merit review committee to review applications against the evaluation criteria outlined below. CFDA may engage shortlisted applicants in a co-creation process to clarify elements of the grant application (see “Co-Creation” on page 8). After this process, applicants will be notified whether their grant application has been rejected or approved, pending a pre-award risk assessment and negotiations.

Concept Note Submission Instructions:

Concept notes must be completed using the template provided in Annex A (Climate Finance APS Concept and Budget Template). Concept notes and budgets must meet the following requirements or they will not be reviewed:

- Be written in English as a PDF or PowerPoint slide deck.
- Contain a maximum of 12 slides (slide decks).
- Be a minimum of 9-point font.
- Include the APS name and number, and the title of the specific Addendum.
- Include address of organization and point of contact (including contact name and email information).
- Content must include and/or describe:
 - Cover page that includes an activity title, name of the organization, legal representative, country of legal residence of the organization, and Tax ID (TIN) numbers (maximum one slide)
 - Executive summary
 - Description of activity context and definition of the problem this activity seeks to address in line with the CFDA objectives in Section I and the relevant Addendum
 - Proposed solution to the identified problem
 - Level and status of private sector commitment and co-investment
 - Engagement of stakeholders/partners in relevant [USAID presence countries](#)
 - Additionality and potential scale of impact
 - Gender and social inclusion considerations, including any social and environmental risks and risk mitigation plans, as applicable
 - Company/organization profile and proposed staffing
 - Grant funding requested (summary budget). Summary budgets must be presented in the local currency of the organization (e.g., applicants from Dominican Republic must present budgets in Dominican pesos) and include commitment to a **minimum 1:1 leverage** (see below) of USAID funding (maximum one slide).
 - Estimated timeline for implementation of activities (maximum one slide).

Each grant application must clearly distinguish between the funding/resources requested from CFDA, proposed funding to be committed by the applicant, and any third-party investment to be mobilized in the proposed activity. Please see the chart below for definitions of leverage and mobilization used by CFDA, as adapted from USAID’s Private Sector Engagement policy.

Definitions of Leverage and Mobilization

Leverage	Mobilization
Matching funding or in-kind contributions or services provided by the recipient or third parties that directly contribute to the objectives of the grant activity. It can be a variety of forms including anything of value that is measured, such as financial contributions, third party contributions, or donated services or property. Leveraged funds must be deployed during the period of the grant award.	Non-U.S. government capital that is being directed into an activity, business or entity, investment vehicle, or initiative that has positive climate impacts, as well as the potential of financial return. Financial mobilization can be achieved during or beyond the period of a grant award as a key outcome of a partnership. Mobilized funds and leveraged funds can overlap.

Concept notes must be submitted through the application link posted in each Addendum.

CFDA will communicate with and send notifications regarding this opportunity through CFDA's partnership portal, the [Climate Finance Investment Network \(CFIN\)](#). Potential applicants are encouraged to join the partnership portal to receive timely CFDA-related updates. The CFIN which is managed by CFDA brings together climate finance-related stakeholders across a diverse set of sectors that engage in emerging and frontier markets to partner with USAID. There is no cost to join the CFIN, and membership does not involve any commitment or obligation.

Late or unresponsive applications will only be considered at the discretion of CFDA. Please submit all questions concerning this solicitation via the [Solicitation Question Submission Form](#).

Concept Note Evaluation Criteria: All applicants will be assessed using the evaluation criteria below:

- 1) **Relevance:** Addresses the priorities and additional evaluation considerations included in the Addendum. Applicants are encouraged to read those considerations carefully to make sure concepts are aligned with the priorities of the Addendum.
- 2) **Scale of Impact:** Achieves significant climate mitigation and/or adaptation impact and contributes to CFDA's overall target of mobilizing \$2.5 billion in climate finance. Additional priority will be given to applications that strengthen local or regional climate finance ecosystems and/or have a strong possibility for replication.
- 3) **Additionality:** Incentivizes or de-risks private sector investments or commitments which are unlikely to occur (or unlikely to occur at the same scale) without USAID's involvement.
- 4) **Gender and Social Inclusion:** Benefits and demonstrates inclusion of social, economic, and environmental concerns from highly climate vulnerable populations, including women, Indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, or other marginalized and/or underrepresented groups.
- 5) **Private Sector and Local Engagement:** Demonstrates interest of private sector, as well as relevant local stakeholders in one or more [USAID presence countries](#). Priority will be given to concepts demonstrating higher levels of private sector commitment and co-investment.
- 6) **Activity and Approach:** Includes feasible, innovative, forward-thinking ideas that allow USAID and CFDA to work with the private sector more collaboratively, differently, and/or with greater agility. Approaches should have a viable business case or model.

Cost Evaluation Criteria: Proposed budgets will be reviewed based on the following criteria. Costs that do not meet these criteria will be deemed non-responsive.

- **Applicant Cost-Contribution:** Applicants are expected to adhere to CFDA's minimum 1:1 leverage requirement. See definition of leverage in Section III.
- **Effectiveness:** Will proposed costs provide a good value in achieving desired outcomes at a relatively low cost or becoming more cost-effective over time?

- Reasonableness: Are proposed costs generally recognized as ordinary and necessary, and would they be incurred by a prudent person in the conduct of normal business?
- Allocability: Do proposed costs have a legitimate justification for the funding amount requested, and are those costs clearly captured in the budget and concept paper?
- Allowability: Are proposed costs strictly for the achievement of the activity, and are they free of any restrictions or limitations (see below)?
- Ineligible cost items include:
 - Ceremonies, parties, celebrations, or “representation” expenses
 - Purchases of restricted goods, such as: restricted agricultural commodities; motor vehicles including motorcycles; pharmaceuticals; medical equipment; contraceptive products; used equipment, without the previous approval of CFDA; or prohibited goods under USAID regulations, including but not limited to the following: abortion equipment and services, luxury goods, etc.
 - Certain covered telecommunication and video surveillance equipment or services (CTES) – per the standard provision entitled “Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment,” on a case-by-case basis. This prohibition covers certain telecommunications equipment and services, including, but not limited to, phones, internet, video surveillance, and cloud servers, produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation, Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities) unless CFDA has determined that there is no available alternate eligible source for the CTES. For fixed amount awards, this restriction is only applicable if any of the milestones are for telecommunication or video surveillance services or equipment.
 - Alcoholic beverages
 - Any purchase or activity, which has already been made
 - Purchases or activities unnecessary to accomplish the purpose of the award as determined by CFDA
 - Prior obligations of and/or, debts, fines, and penalties imposed on the Awardee
 - Military equipment
 - Commodities and services for support of police and other law enforcement activities
 - Luxury goods and gambling equipment
 - Weather modification equipment
 - Creation of endowments
 - Grant award funding may not be utilized to directly finance construction or infrastructure activities of any kind (i.e., the recipient cannot use grant money received from CFDA to finance direct purchase of construction materials or services). CFDA funding may cover the costs of investment in construction of facilities, but the actual cost of construction can NOT be covered by CFDA funds.
 - Applicants may not offer or supply any products, commodities or related services that are manufactured or assembled in, shipped from, transported through, or

otherwise involving any of the following countries: Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Syria. Related services include incidental services pertaining to any/all aspects of this work to be performed under a resulting contract (including transportation, fuel, lodging, meals, and communications expenses).

Co-Creation (*case-by-case*): As appropriate, CFDA may engage shortlisted applicants in a co-creation process as part of the application process. Where co-creation is appropriate, CFDA will meet virtually with applicants to provide feedback and input to support applicants to further refine their concepts to identify appropriate concrete results (milestones), to further define and develop the specifics of the budget, and to define the respective roles of each partner that align with the shared objectives of the partner firm and USAID and identify and share risk and responsibility, if appropriate. Milestone reporting and verifiable metrics may be discussed and agreed upon during the co-creation phase. This process empowers the parties involved to design more transformational partnerships that maximize the value of CFDA grant funding while supporting organizations to reach their goals. It is not unusual for the ideas offered in the original concept note to evolve significantly as the applicant determines the best ways to achieve the greatest impact.

Financial and organizational due diligence: All organizations selected for award are subject to a pre-award risk assessment conducted by CFDA, to ascertain whether the organization has the minimum management capabilities required to handle US government funds, as well as environmental and social due diligence. All applicants must demonstrate that they have adequate financial and monitoring systems in place that ensure auditable systems and records. The review – which may be conducted remotely and on-site – will also ensure applicants have the ability to comply with the award conditions, including measuring and reporting on selected milestones, the ability to meet the leverage requirement, and a demonstrated good record of performance on the management and implementation of partnership activities and grants.

NOTE: USAID must approve all award recommendations.

Section IV – Award Information and Administrative Information

CFDA expects multiple U.S. government funding streams — each with its own requirements — to support funding rounds under this APS. As such, funding availability is outlined in each Addendum to specify where grant awards are to be made (e.g., a particular USAID Mission has \$10M strictly for renewable energy-related opportunities in a specific country). Please refer to each Addendum for details on specific technical priorities and requirements, funding ceilings, and deadlines for concept applications. Additional Addenda will be updated throughout the year as additional activities are programmed under CFDA.

The duration of any grant award under this solicitation is expected to be no more than three years.

CFDA may choose to extend this APS until all funding has been awarded. The number of awards and amount of available funding may be subject to change. CFDA may choose to fully fund or incrementally fund selected application(s).

Section V – CFDA Contact Information

For any questions related to this APS and any addendum during the APS process please submit questions to the [Solicitation Submission Form](#). For general inquiries please email info@cfdaaccelerator.com

Section VI – Other Information

CFDA reserves the right to modify by written notice the terms of this APS at any time or to withdraw this APS at any time—with or without a statement of cause—prior to any funding award.

CFDA grant awards are made under the authority of the U.S. Foreign Affairs Act and USAID’s Automated Directive System (ADS) 302.3.5.6, “Grants Under Contracts.” Awards will adhere to guidance provided under [ADS Chapter 303](#), “Grants and Cooperative Agreements to Non-Governmental Organizations” and will be within the terms of the USAID Standard Provisions as linked in the annexes, as well as the CFDA grants procedures.

ADS 303 references two additional regulatory documents issued by the U.S. Government’s Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the U.S. Agency for International Development:

- 2 CFR 200 [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Subpart E](#) (U.S. applicants are subject to 2 CFR 200 in its entirety)
- 2 CFR 700, USAID’s [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#)

Full text of 2 CFR 200 can be found at http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl and 2 CFR 700 at <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=531ffcc47b660d86ca8bbc5a64eed128&mc=true&node=pt2.1.700&rgn=div5>. CFDA is required to ensure that all organizations receiving USAID grant funds comply with the guidance found in these circulars, as applicable to the respective terms and conditions of their grant awards.

Mandatory References and Required as Applicable Standard Provisions

- Standard Provisions for U.S. and Non-U.S. Nongovernmental organizations receiving a fixed amount award can be accessed through the following URL: <https://www.usaid.gov/about-us/agency-policy/series-300/refgpreerences-chapter/303mat>
- Standard Provisions for U.S. Nongovernmental recipients receiving all other types of grants can be accessed through following URL: <https://www.usaid.gov/about-us/agency-policy/series-300/references-chapter/303maa>
- Standard Provisions for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental recipients receiving all other types of grants can be accessed through the following URL: <https://www.usaid.gov/about-us/agency-policy/series-300/references-chapter/303mab>