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Call for Partnership (CFP) for

Gender Responsive Masterclass on Climate Resilient Infrastructure PPPs

CFP Ref: CPF-00027

CLOSING DATE: 1 August 2025

CLOSING TIME: NOT LATER THAN 4pm, Central European Time (CET)

PPORPOSALS RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE AND TIME SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED.



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1. Background

1.1. Introduction to this Call for Partnership (CFP)

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) invites registered non-profit organizations (local and international non-government organizations, community-based organizations, universities, companies limited by guarantee) to submit proposals to develop a comprehensive user guide focused on infrastructure climate stress testing with integrated gender considerations. This guide will serve as a practical resource for stakeholders involved in infrastructure projects across various sectors. The selected partner will work with GCA to ensure the guide addresses key vulnerabilities, incorporates gender-specific impacts, and provides actionable recommendations for resilient infrastructure development. The final product should be accessible to both technical and non-technical audiences.

1.2. Introduction to the Global Center of Adaptation

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) is an international organization that works as a solutions broker to catalyze action and support for adaptation solutions, from the international to the local, in partnership with the public and private sector, to ensure we learn from each other and work together for a climate resilient future. Adapting to impacts of climate change provides a “win-win” for livelihoods, food security, water supply, health, security, and economic growth. The work of GCA elevates the visibility and political importance of climate adaptation and facilitates solutions, such as smarter investments, new technologies and better planning to become more resilient to climate related threats. GCA is a rapidly growing organization with offices in Abidjan, Beijing, Dhaka, Groningen, and Rotterdam.

GCA’s ambitious 2020-2025 business plan and strategy have three pillars:

- Programs: Food Security; Using Nature for more resilient infrastructure; Water for Urban Growth and Resilience; Climate Finance; Youth Leadership.
- Knowledge: Building adaptation knowledge globally through cutting edge products such as the State and Trends in Adaptation Report and the Adaptation Knowledge Portal.
- Advocacy and Awareness: Formulating policy messages to move the global, regional, and local adaptation agendas forward.

2. GCA Gender-responsive Masterclass on Climate Resilient Infrastructure PPPs

Poor infrastructure continues to hinder economic growth in Bangladesh. Increasing impacts of climate change means that already stressed infrastructure services will be greatly affected and that the existing financing gap in the country is likely to increase. Therefore, mobilizing public and private investments is as important as developing more infrastructure projects to ensure success of the infrastructure projects.



Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) are a key entry point to integrate climate adaptation and resilience into infrastructure projects. Government of Bangladesh, is increasingly turning to PPPs to attract private capital for infrastructure projects and bridge the existing investment gap.

To address these gaps, the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) has been working to build the capacity of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) practitioners in integrating climate adaptation and resilience in the infrastructure lifecycle and supporting investment in infrastructure resilience through the development of the [Knowledge Module on PPPs for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure](#). It aims to build the upstream capacity of practitioners to integrate climate resilience into infrastructure PPPs and build a community of Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Officers (CRIOS) to facilitate knowledge sharing.

The Knowledge Module includes the following elements:

- [Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Officer Handbook \(“Handbook”\)](#): This Handbook for CRIOS aims to provide the tools and knowledge on how to integrate climate resilience throughout the PPP project cycle.
- [Masterclass on Climate-Resilient Public-Private Partnerships \(“Masterclass”\)](#): The masterclass engages participants in discussions with key experts on the challenges and opportunities for climate-resilient PPPs and enables participants to join a network of CRIOS.
- [Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Officer \(CRIO\) Certification \(“Certification”\)](#): Developed with APMG, the module offers an exam that provides practitioners with an accredited certificate based on the knowledge of the Handbook.

In 2023-2024, GCA directly delivered two masterclasses in Bangladesh and worked on institutionalizing masterclasses deliveries with BRAC University.

2.1. Project Context & Overview

In the second half of 2025, GCA intends to professionalize and standardize the delivery of the Knowledge Module by building a training delivery capability. Specifically, the components of the Knowledge Module, i.e. the Online Course, Masterclass and Certification, will be delivered as an integrated training curriculum. That said, the Masterclass is the centerpiece of the Knowledge Module, and GCA endeavors to improve and structure the Masterclass training delivery capability. The roll out of the integrated training curriculum will follow a sectoral approach (energy, and social infrastructure), seeking to build on the earlier masterclasses delivered in port, road and rail sector.

Within this context, GCA is looking for partners to support the delivery of the Masterclass and the successful rollout in Q3 2025- Q1 2026. The activities under this Call for Partnership are expected to be implemented by February 2026.

Delivery Partner capabilities

- Local presence and networks with local PPP infrastructure public and private partners.
- Subject matter expertise in several aspects of PPPs and climate resilient infrastructure.
- Ability to mobilize candidates for delivering the content of the Masterclass.
- Ability to meet the Masterclass logistical requirements outlined in the Annexes 3 and 4.



2.2. Project Outcomes and Outputs

This project aims to achieve the following outcome:

Outcome 1: Gender-sensitive masterclass content is developed and up to 3 masterclass delivered in-person, focusing mostly on energy and social infrastructure sector.

The masterclass contents and delivery will be based on GCA's climate resilience infrastructure handbook and gender module (under development).

Output 1.1: Prepare and customize training materials, incl. use case development, where applicable. The Delivery Partner will be responsible for customizing the standardized Masterclass curriculum developed by GCA in 2024. Key activities will include:

- **Curriculum Customization:** Adapt the standardized GCA Masterclass curriculum (2024 edition) to the Bangladeshi context, ensuring all five modules are included and enriched with sector-specific case studies.
- **Localization:**
 - Translate materials into Bangla, as needed.
 - Tailor case studies and examples to reflect local policies, gender considerations, and sector challenges.
- **Use Case Development:** Identify and develop new use cases relevant to Bangladesh's energy and social infrastructure sectors.
- **Guest Engagement:** Invite and coordinate with guest speakers who bring local expertise and gender perspectives.
- **Interactive Learning:** Incorporate participatory methods such as group work, scenario exercises, and role plays to enhance engagement.
- **Supplementary Resources:** Provide templates, checklists, and practical tools to support learning.
- **Flexible Delivery:** Adapt materials for in-person, virtual, or hybrid formats to maximize accessibility and effectiveness.
- **Need-Based Handouts:** Prepare and distribute additional handouts if gaps are identified during the needs assessment phase.

The output will be slide decks for all five modules based on the climate resilient infrastructure officer handbook. Partner may also need to deliver supplementary handout(s) if the need is identified during the needs assessment phase.

Output 1.2: Organize and deliver up to 3 in-person (preferably residential) masterclasses. Masterclass duration can range from 3.5 to 5 days, depending on local needs and the availability of participants, for a range of 25 to 35 participants. The minimum expected number of instructors is three (3). Activities include:

- Before each Masterclass:
 - Promote the Masterclass.
 - Coordinate with relevant public and private sector organizations to provide necessary outreach to potential participants.
 - Identify suitable participants in consultation with GCA.
 - Invite participants following GCA's approval.



- Manage the participants list (25-35 participants per masterclass).
 - Select and prepare an appropriate venue, in accordance with the logistical requirements outlined in the Annexes 3 and 4.
 - Select and manage Masterclass trained experts.
 - Establish and maintain logistical and travel arrangements for participants.
- During each Masterclass:
 - Welcome participants
 - Coordinate with other events which may be occurring in the facility, as required.
 - Manage the Masterclass timeline and ensure delivery of high quality.
 - Problem solving
- After each Masterclass:
 - Overseeing centralized M&E, collecting feedback, preparing a short closing report

Partner will need to manage all the logistics and expenses related to the masterclass delivery, which includes per diem, venue, hotels etc. costs.

Output 1.3: Institutionalization Strategy. To ensure the sustainability and long-term impact of the masterclass program, partner will develop an institutionalization strategy. This strategy will outline pathways for embedding gender-sensitive, climate-resilient infrastructure training within local institution(s) (through partner's own or other institutions).

Key Components:

- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaborate with government agencies, academic institutions, and sector associations to integrate masterclass content into ongoing training programs.
- **Capacity Building:** Train local trainers and facilitators to deliver future sessions independently.
- **Resource Sharing:** Develop mechanisms for sharing training materials, case studies, and resources with partner organizations.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establish systems for ongoing assessment of training effectiveness and adaptation based on feedback.

This comprehensive approach ensures that the masterclass series not only delivers immediate learning outcomes but also builds lasting capacity for gender-responsive, climate-resilient infrastructure planning and implementation in Bangladesh.

Output 1.4: Maintain a platform for a Community of Practice, complemented by outreach events. The Partner is encouraged to propose appropriate platform types and formats, such as an online discussion forum, a knowledge hub, or periodic virtual and in-person networking sessions, to best support participant interaction and resource sharing. In addition, the Delivery Partner will organize three (3) outreach events (in-person and/or virtual)—such as roundtables, conferences, or webinars, which may include testimonials from participants highlighting how they have applied course learnings, case studies to disseminate key insights from the curriculum, and multimedia content with key PPP stakeholders. These initiatives will emphasize the importance of climate resilience and adaptation in PPP infrastructure projects.



The indicative duration to complete the project below is 6 months. GCA expects partner(s) to engage with local stakeholders during project implementation, ensuring government and community buy-in and long-term sustainability. This engagement should include consultation, awareness-raising, and capacity building activities as needed.

2.3. Alignment with GCA Values and Commitment & Experience in Partnership Engagement

- Demonstrated support of the core values of GCA and its commitment to climate action and adaptation;
- Active engagement in partnerships and initiatives with, inter alia, United Nations, intergovernmental, national, subnational, industry or sectoral, non-governmental and other related organizations in support of climate, environmental and/or social causes;
- Demonstrated support of the principles of sustainable development, including inclusion and social and environmental corporate responsibility;
- Compliance with recognized environmental and social standards.

3. Submission Guidelines

3.1. How to Apply

- Only **registered non-profit organizations (INGO, NGO, CBO, Universities, Company Limited by Guarantee)** are eligible to receive a sub-grant from GCA.
- The organizations responding to this call **must meet the minimum eligibility criteria** and demonstrate their capacity to **implement all the technical criteria**.
- Proposals and all supporting documents must be **submitted as a PDF**, no than **1 August 2025 4pm, Central European Time (CET)** to infrastructure@gca.org and cc'd to subgrants@gca.org, with subject line **"Proposal Submission for Gender Responsive Masterclass on Climate Resilient Infrastructure PPPs"**.
- Proposals **must include**:
 - **Annex 1**: Technical proposal outlining the approach to deliver the work described in this proposal (maximum 7 pages).
 - **Annex 2**: Completed Partner Organization Information Template & Minimum Required Documents.
 - **Annex 2a**: Budget and Financial Report Template.
- Interested organizations interested in applying can submit questions to GCA regarding this call for proposal before **24 July 2025 4pm, Central European Time (CET)** to infrastructure@gca.org and cc'd to subgrants@gca.org, with subject line **"Clarification Questions for Gender Responsive Masterclass on Climate Resilient Infrastructure PPPs"**.
 - If an interested organization has concerns about completing the template, please reach out.
- **Important to note**:
 - All registered non-profit organizations are encouraged to respond to this call and complete the templates in as much detail as possible.
 - Responses to **Annex 1** will be considered even if there is a lack of detail or if the form is incomplete.
 - Responses to **Annex 2** will be considered even if some details are lacking, if justified.



- The template serves as a tool for interested organizations to showcase their technical expertise and experience in response to the call.
- Organizations need only meet the minimum eligibility criteria to be considered.
- Proposals received **after the closing** date and time **will not be considered**. Organizations will be notified once a decision about the Sub-Grant is made.
- Proposals and all supporting documents must be drafted **in English**.
- GCA reserves the right to decline disclosure of the specificity of decision derived by GCA mission due to reasons related to confidentiality.
- GCA reserves the right to accept or reject any submissions, and to annul the selection process and reject all submissions at any time, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected implementing partners.

3.2. Process Overview

- After the deadline, all submissions will undergo an evaluation process.
- The most suitable partner will be selected based on the evaluation outcomes.
- The selected partner will be contacted to conduct a due diligence assessment through in-depth meetings.
- GCA reserves the right to cancel or modify this Call for Proposals at any stage, including in the event of changes to the program design, scope, or available funding.

4. Selection Criteria & Evaluation

The evaluation's purpose is to assess the organization's eligibility, and the technical expertise of respondents. The evaluation consists of two sets of selection criteria:

- (1) **Minimum Eligibility Criteria**
- (2) **Technical Expertise**

The first section specifies the minimum eligibility criteria that an organization must meet to qualify for the call. This set of criteria is evaluated on a pass/fail basis. Only organizations that pass this initial assessment will proceed to the next stage.

The technical expertise is evaluated based on the relevance and depth of experience and expertise in relation to the criteria outlined in the call, specifically how well these align with achieving the expected results.

4.1. Selection Criteria

Name	Description	Score
EC	Minimum Eligibility Criteria	Pass/Fail
EC1	Evidence of registered not-for-profit entity status with a legal presence and registration.	
EC2	5 years of experience in climate resilient infrastructure projects in an implementation or advisory role.	
EC3	Experience in climate change focused capacity building activities in South Asia, with strong presence in Bangladesh.	



EC4	5 years of experience in producing knowledge product, training etc. in climate resilient infrastructure sector.	
TC	Technical Expertise <i>Relevance of experience and expertise to achieve expected results</i>	Max Score: 100
TC1	Relevance of technical expertise of the organization and proposed team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience developing modules or toolkits on gender, climate resilience, and infrastructure. • Organizational capacity to deliver the gender module. • Portfolio of relevant publications. 	30
TC2	Relevance and level of experience in proposed approach and methodology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative techniques or strategies planned for gender module. • Examples from past projects to illustrate capabilities and success in using approach and methodology, preferably in Bangladesh. 	25
TC3	Relevance of the workplan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suitability of the proposed work-plan and delivery schedule in line with the expected period for execution of this project. • The proposal should include a clear description of the workdays allocated to the activities required for each component of work, the total workdays allocated for the project, clear milestones, and adequate effort per task. 	25
TC4	Clarity of the proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of presentation of the proposal to produce the most concise, clear, content driven, and accurate description of the methodology and outputs required to fulfil each project component. 	15
TC5	<i>Alignment with GCA values and commitments</i>	5
	Scoring for Criteria is based on maximum points. Grading for each criterion under technical expertise will be conducted using the following scale: 0 = not included, 20% = scarcely included, 40% insufficient, 60% meets minimum requirements, 80% good, 100% excellent to above expectations	

4.2. Exclusionary Criteria

GCA will not engage with any entity whose public image is severely compromised by past activity or advocacy in one of the categories below, or in other areas which may be deemed, at any given time, to reflect negatively on GCA.

Name	Description	Score
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EXC	Exclusionary Criteria	Pass/Fail
EXC1	Systematic failure to demonstrate support of the core values of GCA and its commitment to climate action and adaptation.	
EXC2	The organization is not involved in illicit behavior, including organized crime, trafficking, corruption, terrorism or violations of internationally agreed sanctions.	

4.3. Evaluation

After assessing whether organizations meet the minimum eligibility criteria, the organization with the highest score in the technical evaluation **will be considered** for the sub-grant. The scoring allows GCA to identify the most suitable partner.

A preliminary capacity assessment will be conducted based on the information provided in **Annex 2**. This assessment aims to identify organizational and programmatic risks and **will not impact** the evaluation scoring or partner selection.

The insights gained from this assessment **will inform the comprehensive due diligence assessment that the selected partner will undergo**.



Annexes

Annex 1: Sub-Grant Project Document

To be downloaded from website

Annex 2: Partner Information Document

To be downloaded from website

Annex 2a: Budget & Financial Reporting Template

To be downloaded from website

Annex 3: Masterclass delivery model

The Masterclass is an in-person, performance-level course. It follows the online, self-paced course and endeavours to equip participants with the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to assume full- or part-time responsibilities in planning and financing climate-resilient infrastructure PPPs, as well as tools and techniques to perform effectively.

Diverse participants bring a wealth of knowledge and perspectives to the learning process. Similarly, the value of the Knowledge Module lies in the comprehensive, end-to-end approach to PPPs, spanning the entire lifecycle of an infrastructure PPP project. Therefore, the Masterclass audience should ideally include a mix of participants from different professions and organizations. Although engineers and planners will likely be the primary audience for the Masterclass, finance, risk, legal, and policy professionals should also be included.

Masterclasses are delivered locally, as a partnership between GCA and the Delivery Partner. While GCA owns and manages the Knowledge Module, while the Delivery Partner plays a critical role in the delivery. The Delivery Partner bridges the gap between GCA and regional climate-resilient infrastructure PPP communities of practice.

Table 1. Masterclass program structure (indicative and simplified from climate resilient infrastructure handbook)

Sections	Module	Description
Section 1	Refresher on Climate Resilient Infrastructure	Motivation behind climate resilient infrastructure from an infrastructure practitioner angle (focused on financial value)
Section 2	Climate risk assessment	Walks the audience through the hazard, exposure and vulnerability analysis, to explain how to quantify the risks to infrastructure assets and services. The content will be primarily case-study driven, emphasizing real-world scenarios that enable



		participants to critically analyse and apply theoretical concepts.
Section 3	Identification and prioritization of climate adaptation and resilience options	<p>Approach for climate risk management in the investment. Prioritization covers how to ensure value for money when choosing the adaptation and resilience options.</p> <p>Practical examples will be integrated throughout to enhance the understanding of key principles, ensuring that abstract ideas are grounded in tangible, real-life applications.</p>
Section 4	Mobilizing climate finance	<p>Module will focus on how to mobilize climate finance for identified adaptation and resilience options, with practical examples.</p> <p>A range of relevant tools and methodologies will be introduced, equipping participants with the necessary skills to effectively address complex challenges in their respective fields.</p>
Section 5	Toolkit for incorporating climate resilience into PPP infrastructure project	This is usually heavily tailored to PPP because incorporating resilience in public sector projects has less complexities. For PPPs, even after securing climate finance, resilience needs to be embedded into tender and award phase, PPP agreement, contract management etc.



Annex 4: Masterclass logistics and coordination requirements

a. **Logistics and Coordination**

- Coordinate the selection of key trainers and speakers (manage their travel, accommodation, and other logistics), in consultation with GCA and relevant partners, and support the selection of participants for the Masterclass.
- Invite and engage with participants to provide updates and clarifications on the content, structure and other relevant questions on the Masterclass.
- Select, contract and prepare venue for in-person sessions of the Masterclass(es), including banners, name plates, tables/chairs, coffee-breaks, and other items required.
- Selection and organization of logistics for the development of the case studies or delivery of the Masterclass(es), and other items required.
- Provide an adequate online platform (e.g., Zoom), connection details and calendar invites, as well as other items required, for the virtual Masterclass sessions, when applicable.

b. **Materials and Reporting**

- Prepare briefing materials for speakers and participants of the Masterclass, including key information on the Masterclass structure, program, biographies, logistic details, among other relevant information.
- Design the reports, presentations, participant materials and any other Deliverables for Component 2, in accordance with GCA Brand Guidelines.

The activities above are not exhaustive and indicative only. Partners will be required to take care of all the logistics and other activities to ensure the successful implementation of masterclass.