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Call for Partnership (CFP)

Scaling-Up Locally Led Climate Action (SCALE) Program

Locally Led Adaptation

CFP Ref.: CFP-0030

CLOSING DATE: 3rd September 2025

CLOSING TIME: NOT LATER THAN 18:00, Central European Time (CET)

INFO SESSION: 25 August 2025; 14:00-15:00 CET, [online](#).

PROPOSALS 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 present proposals to support implementation of Locally Led Adaptation planning in the United Republic of Tanzania under the five year Scaling Up Locally Led Climate Action (SCALE) project supported by World Bank.

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, Locally Led Adaptation.
- **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.

1.3. GCA’s Global Hub on Locally Led Adaptation (LLA)

The impacts of climate change are most acutely felt by socially, economically, and politically disadvantaged and marginalized people and groups because of their higher vulnerability and lower adaptive capacity. Recognizing the highly localized nature of climate impacts; the importance of local adaptation action; the potential and creativity of communities to develop locally appropriate and innovative solutions; the ownership benefits of community-driven action; and the strong need for accountability to poor and marginalized communities affected by climate change, the GCA is strongly committed to addressing barriers to accelerating and scaling up LLA through the [Global Hub on Locally Led Adaptation](#). The Hub aims to promote LLA at scale, with speed, to reduce climate risks for populations and sections of society that are most vulnerable to climate change. The activities of the Hub are guided by the eight [Principles for Locally Led Adaptation](#).

In addition to knowledge sharing, peer-to-peer learning and capacity strengthening, the Global Hub on LLA supports the development of People's Adaptation Plans to inform project design and investments by International Financial Institutions (IFIs), as part of the GCA's Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAP). The Hub is currently supporting People's Adaptation Plans in multiple countries across Africa and cities in Bangladesh. These Plans are produced by vulnerable communities, with facilitation by GCA partners, to inform investments by projects by IFIs such as the World Bank, African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, and Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank.

GCA's efforts to scale up LLA are focused on integrating locally led adaptation planning with traditional development investments, particularly by IFIs. GCA works with local partners to facilitate adaptation planning based on LLA best practice (documented, for instance, in this [Guide](#)). **People's Adaptation Plans** are produced by vulnerable communities, based on community-led data collection and mapping efforts, and informed by scientific climate risk assessments, local knowledge and practices. The planning process supports communities in understanding climate risks as a community, negotiating priorities, and designing solutions. The Plans are shared with associated IFI project teams to inform investments and used by communities to leverage local development funds. In some countries in Africa, the planning process is informing national efforts to embed adaptation in local development planning.

2. Support Project

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) is seeking a partner to provide support to the World Bank and United Republic of Tanzania's five-year Scaling Up Locally Led Climate Action (SCALE) project to prepare the ground for developing and implementing Local Climate Action Plans.

GCA's support will focus on capacity and institutional strengthening for implementation of Tanzania's Opportunities and Obstacles to Development (O&OD) guidelines, which are currently being revised to integrate climate approaches; technical backstopping to pilot the training in select areas in Zanzibar, and to support scale up through the project; and knowledge management and peer learning.

2.1. About the SCALE project

The United Republic of Tanzania will implement a five-year Scaling Up Locally Led Climate Action (SCALE) project with support from the World Bank. The project aims to strengthen national and local government systems to implement national climate strategies and deliver locally led climate resilience actions in selected districts. It will be implemented using the Government's improved [Opportunities and Obstacles to Development](#) (O&OD) approach, which has guided community empowerment programs in Tanzania since 2001.

The SCALE program consists of two result areas:

- **Results Area 1: Strengthen local government systems.** This Result Area will be implemented at the district level in 65 selected Local Government Authorities (LGAs) to support:



- Designation of operational **District Climate Action Teams** (DCATs) with representatives from relevant district-level Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), and including the strengthened Opportunities and Obstacles to Development (O&OD) Council Task Force, to guide, facilitate, and implement climate action planning and implementation using climate-integrated O&OD guidelines based on locally identified priorities.
 - Collection, storage, analysis, and application of climate change data with linkages to national level climate data.
 - Awareness raising programs for councillors, LGA staff, and community leaders and members on local climate risks and adaptation options.
 - Participatory climate risk assessments (PCRAs) at the ward level using the climate-integrated O&OD guidelines.
 - Ward-level locally led Local Climate Adaption Plans (LCAPs) that address the identified climate vulnerabilities.
- **Results Area 2: Invest in locally led climate resilience actions.** RA2 will support the implementation of the LCAPs through investments selected by the communities. These investments will be supported by three cycles of performance-based Investment Grants to the 65 LGAs in years 2-4 (FY26/27-FY29/30) that will incentivize the implementation of the LCAPs, the mainstreaming of climate action into LGAs' operations, and an increase in LGAs' financing for climate action.

3. GCA Sub-Grant Project

The selected partner is expected to support the SCALE project in as outlined below:

1. **Capacity building and institutional strengthening** through the development of curriculum and modules on the revised O&OD guidelines for the Local Government Training Institute and its Center of Excellence (CoE). This support will aim to equip the Center to serve as a technical backbone for LGAs, ensuring quality assurance and ongoing mentorship in the application of the revised O&OD approach. It will include contextualization of GCA's LLA Masterclass materials and experience on implementing LLA to reflect Tanzanian realities and ensure alignment with the revised O&OD guidelines.
2. **Technical backstopping to pilot the training** on the revised guidelines in select areas in Zanzibar, through deployment of trained CoE facilitators to offer on-demand coaching to LGAs conducting PCRAs and LCAPs; quality assurance and inclusive facilitation approaches that ensure women, youth, and marginalized groups are meaningfully engaged in the planning processes; and support for quality assurance in the application of the O&OD guidelines during scale out across the project.
3. **Knowledge management and learning support** to position the CoE as a hub for capturing and synthesizing lessons from the field and contributing these insights to GCA's Global Hub on Locally Led Adaptation; and through facilitating structured peer exchange

programs between Tanzania and other countries, with the CoE acting as a national convenor.

3.1. Project Outcomes & Outputs

The following outcomes and outputs are anticipated from the project.

Outcome 1	Capacity building and institutional strengthening
Output 1.1	Design curriculum and training modules on the LLA elements of the revised O&OD guidelines for the Center of Excellence in the Local Government Training Institute, using a training of trainers approach.
Outcome 2	Pilot the training and support quality assurance
Output 2.1	Pilot the training approaches in selected LGAs in Zanzibar.
Output 2.2	Support quality assurance in the application of the O+OD guidelines during scale out of SCOPE.
Outcome 3	Support knowledge management and learning
Output 3.1	Document lessons and develop learning briefs.
Output 3.2	Facilitate structured peer exchange programs between Tanzania and other countries, with the CoE acting as a national convenor.

This project will be delivered in two phases. Phase I, for which a contract will be issued until the end of 2025, will focus on Outcome 1 as described in the table above. The implementation of Phase II (Outcomes 2 and 3) is planned for 2026 and will be subject to partner performance and the availability of funding. Respondents to this CFP are, however, requested to submit technical and financial proposals for all three Outcomes.

4. Alignment with GCA Values and Commitment

- 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.

5. Submission Guidelines

5.1. How to Apply

- Only **registered non-profit organizations** (e.g., 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 3rd September 2025; 18:00 CET., **Central European Time (CET)** to **subgrants@gca.org** and cc'd to **Victor.orindi@gca.org**
- Proposals **must include**:
 - **Annex 1**: Proposal template addressing the details outlined in this call.
 - **Annex 2**: Completed Partner Information Document & minimum required documents.
 - **Annex 2a**: Budget and Financial Report Template.
- An **information session** with all organizations interested in applying and learn more about the application process and project requirements will take place on 25th August 2025, 14:00 –1500 CET. The meeting can be accessed on that day and time at the following [link](#).
- **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.
- For all questions or requests for additional information contact victor.orindi@gca.org. The email subject heading should be clearly marked with the following information: **CFP-0030 Tanzania SCALE**.
 - If an interested organization has concerns about completing the templates, please reach out.
- 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.

5.2. 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.



6. 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.

6.1. 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	Expertise in community mobilization, devolved climate finance, Participatory Climate Risk Assessments; Climate Adaptation Planning; Capacity building using a ToT approach.		
EC3	Experience working on climate adaptation in East Africa, particularly Tanzania.		
EC4	An established leader in locally led approaches in Tanzania with a minimum of 5 years of experience.		
TC	Technical Expertise Relevance of experience and expertise to achieve expected outcomes and outputs.	Max Score: 100	Min Score: 60
TC1	TC1: Specific technical expertise	30	20
	TC1.1 Experience in implementing projects related to climate change and livelihoods; devolved climate finance.	8	
	TC1.2 Experience in facilitating locally led approaches, preferably locally led adaptation planning.	5	
	TC1.3 Experience in developing training curriculum and manuals for project implementation teams.	5	
	TC1.4 Experience in capacity building for government officials and community members especially in remote areas.	5	



	TC1.5 Familiarity with the O&OD guidelines and ToT approaches.	7	
TC2	Team strength to deliver quality outputs (qualification as per CFP)	30	20
	TC2.1 Clear distribution of responsibilities, team structure, gender balance and level of effort distribution.	5	
	TC2.2 Relevant expertise of key team members and supporting team.	10	
	TC2.3 Curriculum development Specialist with proven experience in producing knowledge material, including guidelines and case stories in Swahili and English.	5	
	TC2.4 Experience in Climate Risk Assessments and development of local adaptation plans	5	
	TC2.5 Examples of program management, familiarity with reporting and monitoring practices.	5	
TC3	TC3: Relevance of proposed approach and methodology for achieving expected results	30	15
	TC3.1 Clear and robust methodology to deliver quality outputs.	15	
	TC3.2 Clarity of description of key activities, and alignment with GCA's guidance in this CFP and in the Guide linked above.	10	
	TC3.3 Innovation in techniques or strategies to deliver project results.	5	
TC4	TC4: Alignment with GCA values and experience	10	5
	TC4.1 Alignment with GCA values & commitments.	5	
	TC4.2 Experience with partnerships engagement.	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, 2 = scarcely included, 4 insufficient, 6 good enough, 8 good, 10 excellent to above expectations		

6.2. 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
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.	
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6.3. 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