Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
April 2023
Climate Finance Investment Network (CFIN)

1) What is the Climate for Development Accelerator (referred to as “CFDA”)?

The Climate Finance for Development Accelerator (referred to as CFDA or “the Accelerator”) is a global USAID initiative that aims to catalyze private finance and private sector actions to support the transition to an equitable and resilient net-zero economy, helping countries meet their Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans under the Paris Agreement. CFDA will help USAID missions, bureaus, and independent offices foster strategic partnerships, strengthen enabling environments, and advance capacity to mobilize at least $2.5 billion of additional private and public finance for climate adaptation and mitigation by 2030.

2) How can my organization access CFDA funds?

CFDA has a $250 million ceiling. To reach that ceiling, CFDA works with USAID missions (country or regional) and Washington-based bureaus to design activities (called “buy-ins”) that seek to mobilize finance for climate outcomes. Once a buy-in is approved, the mission or bureau transfers funding to CFDA to begin implementation. The CFDA team will then design and release funding opportunities through the Climate Finance Investment Network (CFIN) to solicit partners to support implementation. CFDA expects a diverse portfolio of global, regional, and country-specific buy-ins and expects to engage a diverse and inclusive set of partners through a combination of grants and subcontracts.

3) What sectors does CFDA support?

CFDA supports diverse climate change mitigation and adaptation activities across a variety of economic and development sectors, including but not limited to clean energy; built environment and industry; e-mobility and transport; conservation and nature-based solutions; agriculture and food; water, wastewater, sanitation, and hygiene; and health.

4) Who implements CFDA?

CFDA is implemented by Chemonics International, an international development consulting firm and manager of large, complex projects globally. Buy-in implementation may be supported by the core CFDA consortium or new and diverse partners engaged through the CFIN.

5) What is the Climate Finance Investment Network (CFIN)?

Managed by CFDA, the Climate Finance Investment Network (CFIN) brings together a diverse set of finance seekers, finance providers, research institutions, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders from a variety of sectors and emerging/frontier markets to crowd in private sector climate finance through strategic partnerships, advocacy, learning, and catalytic capital.

6) Who can join the CFIN?

Organizations and platforms interested in supporting the development, testing, and scaling up of solutions to increase the availability and accessibility of private sector finance for climate mitigation and adaptation in emerging markets are welcome to join CFIN. CFIN welcomes new and underutilized as well as local partners in countries in which USAID works to co-create and design initiatives to close
adaptation, mitigation, and resilience financing gaps by accelerating climate investment and elevating the perspectives of underrepresented practitioners and communities.

7) Why should I join the Climate Finance Investment Network (CFIN)?

As a buy-in mechanism, CFDA funding and activities are driven primarily by USAID Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices. The CFIN is a key platform for identifying partners to support implementation of these buy-ins. CFIN members may receive funding opportunity notifications and opportunities to collaborate with each other and CFDA. The Network will serve as a platform for information sharing and partnership facilitation. Members may also be invited to participate in CFIN Affinity Groups, smaller groups of stakeholders that lead conversations and actions on relevant high priority topics. Organizations with expertise in clean energy, built environment and industry, e-mobility and transport, nature-based solutions, agriculture and food, waste, water, and climate resilience, etc. are encouraged to participate. See the figure below.

Figure 1. Relationship between the CFDA, CFIN, and Affinity Groups

8) How do I join the Accelerator’s CFIN?

Organizations may complete the partnership intake form to express interest in joining the CFIN and describe areas in which the organization would like to explore advancing a climate finance ecosystem collaborating with other CFIN members, and learning about emerging climate finance topics.

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Contact us: info@cfdaccelerator.com
Work with us: www.climatelinks.org/projects/cfda
Implemented by: Chemonics International, Climate Policy Initiative, CollaborateUp, CrossBoundary, Dalberg, Pollination Group

This material is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the terms of Contract No. 7200AA22CD00044 (2022-2030). The contents are the responsibility of Chemonics International and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.