



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/B.32/5
28 September 2018

Adaptation Fund Board
Thirty-Second Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 11-12 October 2018

Agenda item 5

REPORT OF THE TWENTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE ACCREDITATION PANEL

WORK OF THE ACCREDITATION PANEL

1. The Accreditation Panel (the Panel) continued its work reviewing both new and existing applications. On 23–24 August 2018 the Panel held its twenty-ninth meeting at the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat's (the secretariat) offices in Washington, D.C. The Chair of the Accreditation Panel Mr. Antonio Navarra (Italy, Western European and Others Group) and Vice-Chair Mr. Chebet Maikut (Uganda, Least Developed Countries) presided over the meeting.

2. For the twenty-ninth Panel meeting, the secretariat has received two new complete National Implementing Entity (NIE) accreditation application. The Panel has continued reviewing twelve re-accreditation applications–10 potential National Implementing Entities and two potential Regional Implementing Entity– and the applications of 11 potential National Implementing Entities (NIEs) and two potential Regional Implementing Entities (RIEs) that were previously reviewed but required additional information for the Panel to make its recommendations. Out of the 11 potential NIE applications, three applications have been dormant for over six months. Therefore, in accordance with Board decision B.31/26, the secretariat sent a letter to the respective Designated Authorities (DAs) of the countries who nominated the NIE applicants informing the inactivity of the applicant entity.

3. 13 applications (11 for potential NIEs and two for potential RIEs) are currently under review by the Panel as per the following list. For purposes of confidentiality, only the assigned code is used to report on the status of each nominated Implementing Entity's application.

- 1) National Implementing Entity NIE044
- 2) National Implementing Entity NIE046
- 3) National Implementing Entity NIE057
- 4) National Implementing Entity NIE064
- 5) National Implementing Entity NIE066
- 6) National Implementing Entity NIE107
- 7) National Implementing Entity NIE113
- 8) National Implementing Entity NIE133
- 9) National Implementing Entity NIE136
- 10) National Implementing Entity NIE139
- 11) National Implementing Entity NIE141
- 12) Regional Implementing Entity RIE008
- 13) Regional Implementing Entity RIE016

GENERAL TRENDS

4. As at the date of this report, the total number of accredited implementing entities amounts to 46: 28 NIEs, six RIEs, and 12 Multilateral Implementing Entities (MIEs) (Figure 1). Among 28 NIEs, there are seven accredited NIEs that are from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and six accredited NIEs that are from Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) (Figure 2). Out of 46 accredited implementing entities of the Fund, 15 entities (33%) have been re-accredited: four NIEs, one RIE and 10 MIEs. With respect to the geographic coverage of the 28 NIEs and six RIEs, 13 entities are from Latin American and the Caribbean region, 12 are from Africa region, eight are from Asia-Pacific region and one entity is from Eastern Europe region (Figure 3).

Figure 1. Accredited Implementing Entities by type

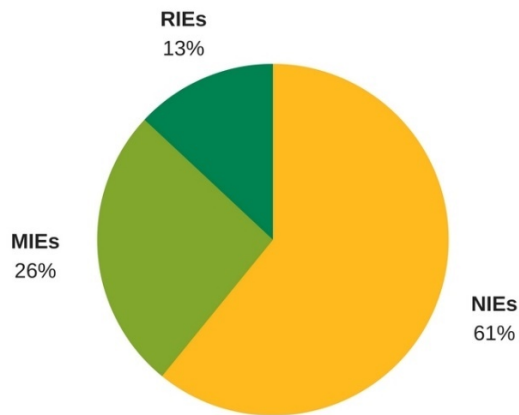


Figure 2. LDCs and SIDS among accredited NIEs

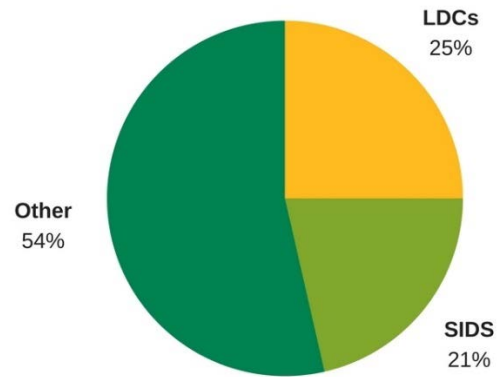
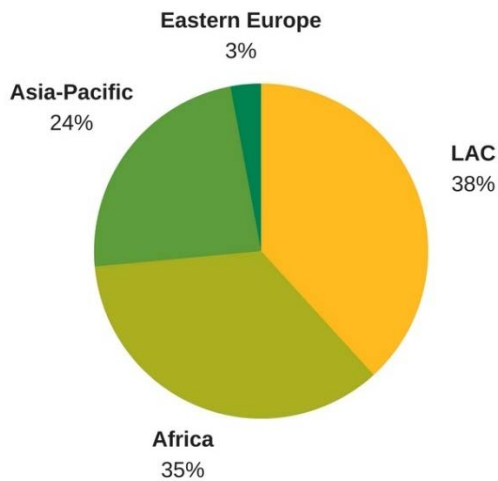


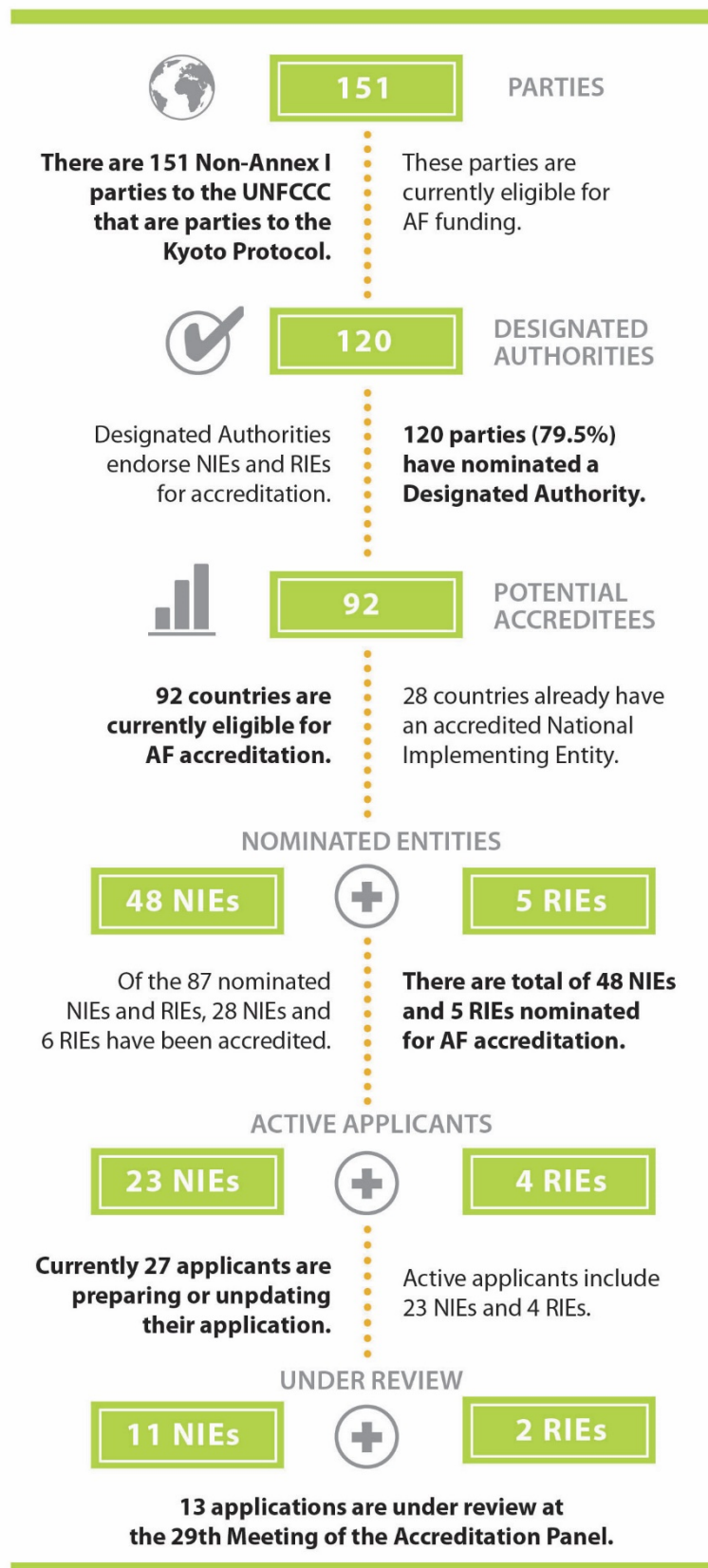
Figure 3. Accredited NIEs and RIEs by region



ACCREDITATION PIPELINE

5. The following infographic (Figure 4) provides an update on the current accreditation pipeline which does not include re-accreditation applications.

Figure 4. The accreditation pipeline of the Adaptation Fund as of 23 August 2018



STATUS OF APPLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW

	TIME OF FIRST APPLICATION	REFERENCE FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION	CURRENT STATUS
EXISTING APPLICATIONS			
NIE044 (Dormant Application)	Jan-13	AFB/B.31-32/11	Despite Secretariat's follow-up emails, there has been no progress since AP23 meeting in August 2016. In accordance with AFB Decision 31/26 this application is considered as 'dormant,' and the Secretariat sent a letter to the DA informing the inactivity of the applicant for the first time on 22 May 2018. The DA has yet to acknowledge the receipt of the letter.
NIE046	Dec-12	AFB/B.31-32/11	On 29 December 2016, the applicant submitted the requested documents/information to enable the Panel to resume the review process after a long dormant period. A conference call with the applicant was conducted on 29 January 2018 and 12 May 2018. The Panel recommended a field visit to facilitate the accreditation process. A field visit was conducted in June 2018. The Secretariat and Panel found that the field visit has facilitated the accreditation process. On 21 August 2018, Panel communicated a list of updated pending documents to be uploaded.
NIE057 (Dormant Application)	Apr-14	AFB/B.31-32/11	The challenge that the applicant is facing is its lack of experience of noncredit (grant) project funding and implementation. There has been no progress since 15 August 2017. The secretariat sent a follow-up email in November 2017 and received a response from the entity thanking the support. In accordance with AFB Decision 31/26 this application is considered as 'dormant,' and the Secretariat sent a letter to the DA informing the inactivity of the applicant for the first time on 22 May 2018. The DA acknowledged the receipt of the letter and reconfirmed the support to the applicant's accreditation process with the Adaptation Fund.
NIE064 (Dormant Application)	Apr-16	AFB/B.31-32/11	Upon the secretariat's follow-up email, the applicant replied on 12 January 2017 indicating that the government decided to put its NIE accreditation on hold to ensure that the NIE is equipped with its required institutional capacities and rules and procedures. The applicant deems that it will take some time to complete the process. The applicant will contact the secretariat to resume accreditation process again once the process is done. In accordance with AFB Decision 31/26 this application is considered as 'dormant,' and the Secretariat sent a letter to the DA informing the inactivity of the applicant for the first time on 22 May 2018. The DA has yet to acknowledge the receipt of the letter.

NIE066	Apr-15	AFB/B.31-32/11	The applicant is a small organization with limited capacity. The accreditation process is officially under the streamlined accreditation. In the context of the AF South-South Cooperation Grants programme (approved by the Board in March 2016), the applicant has completed its application, initially submitted in August 2015, with the help of an AF accredited NIE in 2017. The applicant submitted part of the requested information on 5 February 2018. The Panel was of the view that the applicant made improvement with regard to its financial management and has been working on required policies and procedures, but it may take some time for the applicant to demonstrate the track record of the implementation of the newly set-up system. The Panel prepared a summary report on the status of the applicant's application to be shared with the DA, and the Secretariat will prepare a letter including this technical report to be communicated to the DA. The Panel reemphasized the importance of the DA's role in selecting a suitable NIE applicant.
NIE107	Aug-15	AFB/B.31-32/11	The Panel provided feedback to the applicant in April 2018 on 90 documents that were additionally submitted by the applicant on 12 September 2017. A follow-up facilitative conference call was set up among the Secretariat, the Panel, and the applicant was scheduled on 21 May 2018. Applicant submitted additional documents in July and August 2018. A field visit to applicant was conducted in August 2018 by the Secretariat and the Panel, which helped the accreditation process by bridging most of the pending gaps. Applicant's submission of the additional requested documents is pending.
NIE113	Dec-15	AFB/B.31-32/11	The application has been under the streamlined accreditation process since an official letter signed by the Designated Authority on the agreement of pursuing streamlined accreditation process was submitted to the Secretariat on 31 October 2016. The applicant had received readiness support from the Fund's accredited NIE under the South-to-South Cooperation Grants Programme. The Panel completed the review of the additionally submitted documents on 18 January 2018 and shared the feedback with the applicant on 11 April 2018. A follow-up facilitative call was held among the Secretariat, the Panel, and the applicant on 15 May 2018. Applicant submitted some of the requested documents on 30 May, 20 July and 20 August 2018. Applicant's submission of other requested documents is pending.
NIE133	Feb-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	The applicant's submission of requested information is pending. The Secretariat sent a follow-up email to the applicant on 16 May 2018. Based on the information and documentations received so far, the Panel shared their concern over whether the applicant is suitable for accreditation due to its lack of track record of non-credit and development projects. The corporate mandate and strategies appear to be purely focused on financial and banking goals. The Secretariat will communicate this information and Panel's summary report on the application to the Designated Authority.

NIE136	Aug-16	AFB/B.31-32/11	The applicant has been receiving readiness support from the accredited NIE under the Fund's South-to-South Cooperation Grants Programme. A bilateral meeting between the applicant and the Secretariat was held on the margins of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB) meeting in Bonn, Germany in May 2018. The Panel completed the assessment of the additionally submitted document and communicated the feedback and an updated list of pending information to the applicant on 7 May 2018. Applicant submitted 39 additional documents in June and August 2018. The Panel is currently reviewing these documents and expressed that site visit to the applicant could facilitate the review process.
NIE139	May-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	The application was submitted on 30 May 2017 and following the screening by the secretariat sent back to the applicant with a request to update the pending information and supporting documents. The applicant re-submitted the application in July 2017. The applicant has maintained active communications with the secretariat and the Panel through emails, conference calls. The Secretariat was informed of the change of the NIE focal point in January 2018. A conference call among the secretariat, the Panel and the applicant was scheduled on 2 May 2018 but failed due to technical issues and poor internet connection. The applicant submitted additional documents partly addressing pending gaps on 7 May 2018. On 25 June 2018 the Panel completed review of the submitted documents and communicated the applicant with a list of updated pending information. Applicant submitted some of the requested documents on 23 August 2018.
NIE141	Dec-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	The applicant has been receiving readiness support from the accredited NIE under the Fund's South-to-South Cooperation Grants Programme. The Panel completed the initial assessment of the application on 25 February 2018 and the result was communicated to the Applicant on 26 February 2018. Applicant's communicated to the Secretariat on 7 July 2018 of the changes related to the DA, NIE applicant's institutional change, and the focal point of the NIE applicant. The Secretariat advised the applicant on necessary steps to be taken related to accreditation process and offered a conference call with the new focal point of NIE applicant to move forward.
RIE008	Jan-14	AFB/B.31-32/11	The application had been dormant for about two years. The Panel has completed the review of the submitted documents on 9 April 2018 and sent its feedback with a suggestion of additional supporting documents to be provided. The Secretariat's receipt of an official letter from the applicant that it intends to withdraw its application from the AF accreditation process. The Secretariat sent a letter to the entity providing further clarification, and the applicant acknowledged the receipt of the letter and has yet to ask further clarification. If withdrawal is a final decision, the Secretariat will inform the DAs of the applicant's member countries which endorsed the nomination of the entity as RIE applicant.

RIE016	Mar-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	<p>Applicant submitted supporting documents on 9 November 2017. Panel feedback on the submitted documents was provided to the Applicant on 10 January 2018. A second set of questions was sent to the applicant on 31 January 2018.</p> <p>A conference call between the Panel and the entity was held on 20 February 2018. Applicant submitted additional supporting documents on 19-24 March 2018. On 3 May 2018, a Bilateral meeting between the applicant and the Secretariat was held during the Subsidiary Bodies (SB) meeting in Bonn, Germany. Applicant submitted some supporting documents on 28 June 2018. Other requested documents are pending. The applicant has been in active communication with the Secretariat and the Panel.</p>
RE- ACCREDITATION			
NIE002	Jun-16	AFB/B.31-32/11	<p>Accreditation expired on 21 June 2016. On 19 March 2018 the Panel completed the review of the documents that the entity submitted on 19 January 2018, and the feedback was shared with the entity on 11 April 2018. A follow-up conference call was held on 20 August 2018. The Panel was of the view that the entity has been through some positive restructuring, but there are still capacities which have not been fully demonstrated.</p>
NIE014	Sep-16	AFB/B.31-32/11	<p>Accreditation expired on 15 September 2016. The Panel completed the review of the documents that entity submitted on 4 January 2018, and the result was shared with the entity on 23 April 2018. A follow-up facilitative call was held among the Panel, the Secretariat and the entity on 11 May 2018. The entity submitted additional documents on 28 May and 4-5 June 2018. The Panel is reviewing the submitted documents. The Panel was of the view that the entity made progress in bridging the gaps.</p>
NIE015	Sep-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	<p>Accreditation expired on 6 September 2016. After the Panel completed the review of the documents that entity submitted on 4 January 2018, a facilitative conference call was held between the Panel and the entity on 02 March 2018. The entity submitted additional documents on 22 May 2018, and the Panel prepared the assessment report on 20 June 2018. On 19 July 2018 the Panel requested the entity to provide further information on the follow-up questions.</p>
NIE016	Aug-16	AFB/B.31-32/11	<p>Accreditation expired on 13 December 2016. Many of the documents were not in English. The entity submitted some of the requested documents in English in late April 2017, and the remaining documentations are pending as of May 2, 2017. The focal point of the entity has changed, and the secretariat, Panel and the new focal point and their team had a conference call to facilitate a smooth handover of the re-accreditation work. Since then, the entity submitted some of the requested information in early and late August 2017, but other requested information is still pending. The secretariat sent follow-up emails in May and June 2018.</p>

NIE017	Nov-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	Accreditation expired on 15 April 2017 and the entity submitted the re-accreditation application on 21 November 2017. The Panel completed the initial review of the application on 19 February 2018, and the result as well as a list of pending information was shared with the entity on the same day. The entity submitted 49 supporting documents on 28-30 July 2018. The Panel is currently reviewing these documents.
NIE020	Jul-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	Accreditation expired on 13 December 2016. The entity has submitted its re-accreditation application on 26 July and, after the secretariat's initial screening and request to complete the application, it re-submitted on 31 August 2017. Since the ministerial reshuffle in September 2017, the Panel has assessed whether a 'claimed' succeeding entity has the capacities and procedures equivalent to those of the NIE at the accreditation. The entity submitted documents related to its legal capacity and the status of the successor to the previous NIE on 17 July 2018. The Panel requested the entity to submit documents/information related to anti-corruption, E&S safeguards and gender policy-related accreditation criteria.
NIE030	Dec-16	AFB/B.31-32/11	Accreditation expired on 15 March 2017. The applicant submitted and resubmitted application in December 2016 and February 2017 respectively. The Secretariat and the Panel conducted a field visit to the entity on 9-10 May 2018. The Designated Authority provided information that it may consider nominating a new NIE and asked related questions to the Secretariat and the Panel. The Secretariat explained that as only one NIE can be accredited per country, if the country decides to nominate a new NIE, the DA needs to send an official letter of new NIE nomination and the current NIE withdrawal. In that case, the new NIE needs to start 'accreditation process' anew. The Panel updated the assessment and shared a list of pending information/documents with the entity. The entity's submission of the requested documents is pending.
NIE031	Aug-16	AFB/B.31-32/11	Accreditation expired on 15 March 2017. On 15 March 2018, the Panel communicated to the entity their feedback on the additionally submitted documents. The entity submitted the requested additional information on 23 January 2018. The Panel is currently reviewing the submitted documents. In July 2018, the Secretariat was notified by email of a possible re-organization of the NIE. The Panel is currently reviewing this additional information.
NIE032	Apr-18	N/A	Accreditation expired on 30 December 2017. The Entity submitted re-accreditation application on 17 May 2018. The Panel completed the initial review on 23 July 2018. The Entity submitted requested documents on 23 August 2018. The Panel is currently reviewing the submitted documents and will share their feedback on these with the entity.
NIE042	Jun-18	N/A	Accreditation will expire on 20 March 2019. The applicant submitted application on 9 July 2018. The Panel is currently reviewing the application.

RIE004	Nov-17	AFB/B.31-32/11	Accreditation will expire on 10 October 2018. The applicant submitted application on 3 November 2017. The Panel completed the initial review of the application on 6 March 2018. The entity submitted additional documents on 3 May 2018. The Panel completed the review and sent a list of updated pending information/documents on 20 June 2018. The Entity submitted additional documents on 7 August 2018.
RIE012	Jun-18	N/A	Accreditation will expire on 31 October 2018. The Applicant submitted re-accreditation application on 22 June 2018. The Panel completed the initial review on 13 July 2018. The Panel communicated their feedback and a list of updated pending information/documents on 19 July 2018. The Entity's submission of additional documents is pending.

OTHER MATTERS

7. *Discussion on a draft update of the accreditation form related to Anti-money laundering (AML) and Countering the financing of terrorism (CFT):* This discussion is related to the Board decision B.31/26, subparagraph (a) (ii) ““To request the Accreditation Panel to consider whether there is a need to introduce accreditation standards related to anti-money-laundering / countering the financing of terrorism, and if it determines that there is, to identify which capacities should exist within the implementing entity applicant and which capacities of other institutions could be relied on, and to present a proposal on the matter to the EFC at its twenty-third meeting.” The Panel discussed on: (i) whether the AF needs to add AML-CFT related criteria to the current accreditation criteria; (ii) whether the current accreditation criteria cover this issue or need any update to cover this issue. Considering these two, the Panel considered the capacities of implementing entities and applicants. The Panel concluded that it is not necessary to add additional criteria related to AML-CFT to the existing accreditation, re-accreditation, and fast-track re-accreditation application forms, but it is recommendable to update the current accreditation application form by further specifying the supporting documents related to AML-CFT in the related sections of the application form. Consultations with the World Bank and United Nations Legal Office were reflected in the discussion. The secretariat prepared a report on this matter for the twenty-third meeting of the EFC.

8. *Discussion on a ‘fast-track’ accreditation process for entities accredited with the Green Climate Fund:* This discussion is related to the Board decision B.31/26, subparagraph (a) (i) “To request the secretariat to prepare a document on a “fast-track” accreditation process for entities accredited with the Green Climate Fund and to present it to the Board at its thirty-second meeting.” The Panel had extensive discussions and considered the gap analysis contained in document AFB/EFC.22/4 which was a basis of the Board decision on ‘fast-track’ re-accreditation. The Panel concluded that this analysis is still valid as a background document because the GCF accreditation criteria has not changed since this document was prepared. The Panel recommend that it revisits the fast-track accreditation process for entities accredited with the GCF in every two years. The secretariat prepared a report on this matter for the thirty-second meeting of the Board.

9. Date and venue for the thirtieth Meeting of the Accreditation Panel: *30–31 January 2019 in Washington D.C.*