

Concept Note on Establishing Southern-based Collaborations within and across Regions Towards Enhancing Locally-led Adaptation and Resilience

Work on climate change adaptation and resilience has generated a vibrant community of academics and non-academics in the global South. This community has an annual cycle of key touch points that include Community Based Adaptation (CBA) Conference, the Gobeshona Conference and the Development & Climate (D&C) Days. These events allow this community of practice to come together with tremendous energy at regular intervals, build new relationships, and work together on new ideas. For example, the annual Community Based Adaptation (CBA) Conference held in a different country each year has been very successful at bringing several hundred people from around the world. Similarly, the annual Gobeshona Conference, each year held in Bangladesh, creates a platform for researchers, practitioners and policy makers to share research, knowledge and experiences on climate change issues across Bangladesh. From 2019, Gobeshona has gone global and now it hosts a wide range of academics and practitioners around the world. The annual Development & Climate (D&C) Days are held each year in the middle weekend of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and bring together practitioners, negotiators, scientists and policymakers to explore key issues related to adaptation to climate change in developing countries. However, establishing continuity within projects, ideas or relationships established during such events has proven to be difficult.

We propose a way to address the above challenge. This programme will foster continuity between relevant conferences, and other regularly occurring convening events, and mobilise collaborative and trans-disciplinary teams of academics and non-academics from Least Global South to work towards a common goal between such events. The programme will provide a platform and vehicle for the teams to solicit ideas, pitch proposals and avail small grants to take the ideas forward over time.

Objective

- To create greater sustained collaboration among southern-based groups of academics and practitioners through targeted investments and grants to promote locally-led adaptation and resilience.

Outcome

- Strengthened global community of practice on locally-led adaptation and resilience
- Strengthened Southern leadership in the community of practice
- Strengthened south-south knowledge exchange and collaboration
- Improved transfer of knowledge from south to north.

Working Modalities

- The programme will be launched at the 7th Annual Gobeshona Conference to be held virtually from 18th to 24th January 2021. The Conference annually brings together a distinguished and multidisciplinary group of scholars and practitioners from around the world to share their knowledge, research and practical experience on climate change issues
- An announcement presenting the programme and the grant opportunities will be made on the conference website, and to participants when registering for the conference. Announcements will subsequently be made throughout the event itself.
- The community of practice, who have been attending the aforementioned events every year will be reached out via email to get them on board from the very beginning.
- From the beginning of the Gobeshona 7 conference, the participants will be given networking opportunities to meet, discuss and solicit potential collaboration opportunities using the Cimpatico platform and prepare a short abstract (not more than 1 page) of their idea.
- On the third day of the Gobeshona Conference, abstracts will be solicited from groups. An online voting will take place in a participatory manner through which 6 best ideas will be selected to go to the next round.
- In the closing session, the names of the winning teams will be announced. The winning teams will be further given a week time to detail out their proposal and submit the final proposal to ICCCAD.
- Upon receiving the final proposal and necessary financial details, grants will be disbursed immediately from ICCCAD's end.
- In 2021, total 6 grants worth USD 5000 will be provided to the winning groups to implement their ideas over the course of 12 months, report back in CBA15 and Development and Climate Day in COP26 (November 2021) and finally present their outputs in the 8th Annual Gobeshona Conference in January, 2022.
- Another round of grants of the same size and number will be provided after the 8th Annual Gobeshona Conference in 2022 and the implementation procedure will be the same.
- The grants will also cover the cost of the time for the individuals as well as travel costs to attend CBA and COP in each year.

Payment Modalities

- Grants will be transferred to each member of the winning team separately upon receiving necessary documents.
- The entire grant will be disbursed right after the selection of winning teams.
- UPTO 100,000 USD will be disbursed as small grants to 12 groups over 2 years starting from the 7th Annual Gobeshona Conference in January 2021.

Criteria for Selection of Proposals

In the first stage, during the course of Gobeshona global conference, the groups need to submit a short abstract of the idea consisting of the following

- Title
- Name of the countries
- Number of members in the group
- Name, affiliation and contact details of the team coordinator
- Names, affiliations and contact details of the team participants
- Summary of the idea

After winning the first round, the winning teams have to submit a detail proposal answering the following questions

- What is the expected output from the process?
- What are the key goals along the way?
- Explanation of the aims and objectives. Why is it a timely and compelling issue? How does it link into the programme focal areas?
- How is the team representing a plurality and diversity of skills, geographies and attributes?
- What is the context and issue that the team is working towards and how does this fit with the programme agenda?
- Important attributes for consideration while forming a team include:
 - Preferably a mix of academics, practitioners, and community-based organizations
 - Gender balance
 - Youth inclusion
 - Inclusion of LDC-based team members
 - National origin of applicants and geographic spread of activities
- The final proposal should also include a short group CV, including the key attributes (publications, processes involved, examples of impact, positions held etc.) of the whole team that demonstrate their expertise in relation to the proposed working group topic (max 1 page)

Partners

The entire programme will be managed and coordinated by ICCCAD with support from Global Resilience Partnership (GRP). The programme will be funded by Climate Justice Resilience Fund (CJRF).