

**SAP032: Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL) (Benin)  
(FNEC)**

Access the funding proposal: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/document/gcf-b37-02-add03>

We appreciate the introduction of the "Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL)" project, which focuses on enhancing the climate resilience of communities and local economies in four vulnerable departments of Benin (Atacora, Alibori, Donga, and Mono). The channeling of resources through this enhanced direct access project to local governments by financially topping up local government budgets with performance-based grants to cover the additional cost of adaptation is very welcome and could provide important learning for replication. As such it is important to get this project and its implementation right.

The prioritizing of the participation of vulnerable groups including CSOs, women, and Indigenous Peoples in all aspects of the project and the significance of ensuring that GCF resources reach these groups cannot be overstated. However, we express concern regarding the complex financial arrangements associated with the PBCRG Facility, as these arrangements may hinder the direct access of communities to the facility's resources. We would also like to see some assurance that local groups are considered priority parties for the implementation on the ground as executing entities.

To ensure greater transparency and accountability, we recommend the implementation of robust disclosure mechanisms that allow for effective tracking of the allocation of resources to local governments and community beneficiaries. By enhancing transparency, we can facilitate the proper devolvement of GCF resources and ensure they reach the intended recipients at the community level.

In this context, we look forward to seeing an improved gender action plan that will make concrete and significant commitments on the financial allocation of the performance-based grants to be dedicated to women during the implementation of LoCAL, which must be significantly higher than the just 5% that were initially proposed.

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