



Global EbA Fund

Grant Procedures Manual



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for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection



based on a decision of
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About this Manual

This Grant Procedures Manual details the requirements and procedures for each step of the grant-making process of the Global EbA Fund.

Section 1 introduces the Global EbA Fund;

Section 2 provides details on grant selection criteria and eligibility requirement;

Section 3 provides details on the application submission, selection of grantees and grant award process;

Section 4 details the administrative and legal requirements for applicant organisations;

Annex 1 provides the Project Proposal Application Packet

The Manual will be reviewed and amended to reflect any new requirements, criteria or practices of the Global EbA Fund. The most up to date version will be the one available on the Global EbA Fund website at www.GlobalEbAFund.org.

For any questions, please reach out to: Contact.EbAFund@iucn.org.

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DISCLAIMER: The document provides general information only and may not be completely accurate in every circumstance, does not purport to be legal advice, and is not intended to be legally binding on the Global EbA Fund in a particular case.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BMUV	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CfP	Call for Proposals
EbA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change impacts (aka Nature-based Solutions for Adaptation)
FEBA	Friends of EbA
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
Fund, The	Global EbA Fund
GAN	Global Adaptation Network
GCA	Global Commission on Adaptation
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
IKI	International Climate Initiative
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
NAPs	National Adaptation Plans
NbS	Nature-based Solutions
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
ODA	Official Development Assistance
SC	Steering Committee
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
ZUG	Zukunft - Umwelt - Gesellschaft GmbH

1. About the Global EbA Fund

1.1. Introduction and focus of the Fund

Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) to the impacts of climate change is a nature-based solution¹ that harnesses biodiversity and ecosystem services to reduce vulnerability and build resilience of human communities to climate change. EbA is defined as the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change (CBD, 2009 & 2010).

EbA encompasses a broad set of approaches that include the management of ecosystems and their services to **reduce the vulnerability of communities to the impacts of climate change** – such as the conservation, sustainable management and restoration of ecosystems, such as forests, grasslands, wetlands, mangroves or coral reefs to reduce the harmful impacts of climate hazards including shifting patterns or levels of rainfall, changes in maximum and minimum temperatures, stronger storms, and increasingly variable climatic conditions.

Globally, there is more appetite for scaling up the use of EbA than ever before. Not only is there increasing recognition of the importance of adaptation, as evidenced by the adoption of the Global Goal on Adaptation in the Paris Agreement and subsequent initiatives such as the Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA), but there is also unprecedented attention to the fundamental role of natural ecosystems in supporting climate change adaptation.

The role of nature-based solutions (NbS) for the world's pressing issues, including climate change, are increasingly gaining attention. NbS can be defined as actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefits. In 2019, the IPBES [Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services](#) demonstrated that nature is declining at unprecedented rates and species extinctions continue to accelerate, threatening the functioning of ecosystems as the foundations of human livelihoods, economies, food security and more. The report also highlighted the fundamental role of natural ecosystems in reducing vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters. In parallel, the findings of the IPCC Special Reports [Climate Change and Land](#) and [The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate](#) both addressed the need to ramp up climate action overall as well as the role of ecosystems and biodiversity in building climate resilience. The leaders of governments, communities, corporations and other coalitions increasingly acknowledge that healthy, resilient ecosystems lay the foundation for sustainable economic development, food and water security, disaster risk reduction and climate action. Identifying, implementing and scaling up these solutions and maximising their co-benefits will be key to solving the climate crisis.

¹ Nature-based Solutions (NbS) – defined as actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems to address societal challenges, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefit – are crucial for sustainable development (IUCN Global Standard for NbS, 2020).

Despite the powerful case for working with nature to reduce climate risks, few governments have adopted these approaches widely, and only 3 percent of nearly 2,000 companies reported using natural ecosystems as part of their climate adaptation strategies.

Current annual public and private finance flows to NbS are USD 154 billion. Hence the annual rate of growth of investments into NbS needs to grow by a factor of 5 in real terms. As highlighted in the recent Adaptation Gap Report 2022 published by UNEP, the adaptation finance gap in developing countries is likely five to 10 times greater than current international adaptation finance flows and continues to widen. International adaptation finance flows to developing countries are rising slowly. They reached USD 29 billion in 2020, as reported by donor countries, an increase of 4 per cent from 2019, representing 34 per cent of total climate finance. Combined adaptation and mitigation finance flows in 2020 fell at least USD 17 billion short of the USD 100 billion pledged to developing countries. Significant acceleration is needed if a doubling of 2019 finance flows by 2025 is to be met, as urged by the Glasgow Climate Pact, adopted at COP26 in 2021. Estimated annual adaptation needs are USD 160-340 billion by 2030 and USD 315- 565 billion by 2050.

In addition, a recent analysis found that only about 15% of the Adaptation Fund's² allocated funding since 2016 has gone to ecosystem-related activities. Only USD 15 million, or 4% of the total Adaptation Fund portfolio, is designed primarily for ecosystem resilience.³ The relatively low proportion of Adaptation Fund activities which focus on ecosystem resilience is emblematic of the wider gaps in understanding, planning and investment that hinder the wider uptake of nature-based solutions.

According to "[Harnessing Nature to Build Climate Resilience](#)" report issued by UNEP in 2022, barriers to the use of EbA can be summarised as follows:

- **Lack of awareness and understanding** of the role of ecosystem conservation, restoration and sustainable management in fostering climate resilience (especially among policymakers, private sector actors and the local authorities and technicians who are tasked with implementing EbA on the ground);
- **Lack of sufficient knowledge and information for scaling up EbA**. Despite a rapidly growing evidence base, many policymakers, donors and practitioners lack the necessary information to design and implement EbA;
- **Technical capacity constraints**. Policymakers and local authorities often lack staff with the necessary technical skills to effectively design, implement and mainstream EbA into relevant policies, plans and investments;
- **Insufficient political and public support**. Without strong political leadership and public support, it is difficult to raise the profile of EbA, secure funding, mainstream EbA into policies, regulations and budgets, and mobilize action and collaboration across diverse institutions, governance levels and stakeholders;
- **Governance challenges**. EbA implementation is often constrained by the lack of clear institutional arrangements and collaboration among the multiple government departments, institutions and sectors that are involved in ecosystem conservation,

² The Adaptation Fund was established under the Kyoto Protocol of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/>

³ <https://www.weadapt.org/knowledge-base/climate-finance/finance-for-the-adaptation-of-ecosystems-to-climate-change> Accessed 24/10/2019

restoration and sustainable management. In addition, building effective, cross-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships that address the diverse vulnerability and adaptation needs of different stakeholder groups (including Indigenous Peoples, local communities and women) is often challenging. The lack of supportive policies and regulations can also slow EbA implementation;

- **Finance challenges**. The main challenge is the lack of sufficient funding from both the public sector and the private sector to support EbA at scale;
- **Limited space for ecosystem-based adaptation**. most EbA interventions require that space be set aside for the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of ecosystems for climate adaptation. In places where land is already built upon or used for livelihood activities or where land is prohibitively expensive, finding space for EbA implementation can be difficult.

Implemented by IUCN and UNEP with funding from the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), the **Global EbA Fund is a catalytic funding mechanism for supporting innovative approaches to EbA to create enabling environment for its mainstreaming and scaling up.**

By supporting catalytic climate change adaptation initiatives, the Fund will help overcome barriers to upscaling EbA, address knowledge gaps, pilot innovative EbA approaches, engage in strategic EbA policy mainstreaming, and incentivise innovative finance mechanisms and private sector EbA investment.

1.2. Objectives and Action Pillars of the Fund

All proposed projects requesting funding must clearly contribute to one of the Global EbA Fund Strategic Objectives as well as fall under maximum two of the three Action Pillars described below.

Projects must not focus primarily on field implementation in the scope of the proposal. Field interventions are allowed if clearly justified.

Overall, while the Fund's **strategic objectives** define the overarching aim and direction for the projects – **the “What”** – the **action pillars** focus on **“How”** these can be reached within the scope of the Fund.

Strategic Objectives of the Fund have been defined as follows:

Strategic Objective 1: To build awareness and understanding of the critical role of natural assets in underpinning resilience, expand the knowledge and evidence base to help make the case for working with people and nature, and enhance institutional capacities for mainstreaming EbA into national plans and policy frameworks and vertical integration and alignment of EbA across sectors.

Strategic Objective 2: To address planning and other governance gaps in policy and regulatory environments to increase the attractiveness and feasibility of using and upscaling ecosystem-based approaches for climate change adaptation.

Strategic Objective 3: To expand access to sustainable short- and long-term finance mechanisms for applying and scaling up ecosystem-based approaches for climate change adaptation, including the incentivisation of private sector investment in EbA and reducing EbA's dependence on high management capacity and continuous financial input.

Action Pillars are:

Pillar 1: Levers for catalytic change:

Definitions:

- A **catalytic intervention** is defined as “a targeted intervention that leads to a transformative shift at a systemic level at either global, regional, national, or sub-national scale”.
- **Lever for change** is defined as “an area of work that has the potential to deliver wide-ranging positive change beyond its immediate focus”

Examples of levers for catalytic change that projects could focus on include but are not limited to:

- ***Policy and policy instruments:***
 - support the inclusion and/or mainstreaming of EbA into national, sub-national and sectoral policies, as well as NDCs, NAPs⁴ and related policy frameworks;
 - support the establishment of green public procurement practices to include EbA;
 - encourage the use of natural capital accounting;
 - inclusion of EbA considerations in Payment for Ecosystem Services schemes;
 - use building codes and zoning regulations to support EbA;
 - insurance and risk sharing, environmental markets and pricing, and public private partnerships, tax incentives, etc.
- ***Education, capacity building and skills development:***
 - inclusion of EbA into the curricula of formal, informal education, technical and vocational education and training, as well as lifelong-learning/capacity building activities targeting groups of practitioners that are directly involved in shaping policy and practice, such as architects, engineers, public servants, city planners, agriculturists, etc.
- ***Financing:***
 - de-risking lending for EbA approaches
 - innovative finance mechanisms for EbA (e.g. community incentive schemes, green, blue and resilience bonds for EbA);

⁴ Information on gaps and needs related to the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans is available [here](#) (UNFCCC)

- incentivising Public-Private Partnerships and investment in EbA;
 - leveraging COVID-19 stimulus and recovery funds for EbA action;
 - innovative insurance mechanisms;
 - integration of the values of ecosystem goods and services and their economic benefits into public and private financial planning, etc.
- **Working through the value chain⁵ perspective** of a sector or commodity to identify hotspots and entry points for change to ensure the adoption of EbA, diversify business models and incentivise private sector collaboration. Some examples of working through the value chain perspective and shifting business models:
- food processing company that changes its business model to collaborate with and/or support producers who adopt ecosystem-sensitive practices;
 - a tourism destination that adopts ecosystem-sensitive practices as a result of project activities;
 - an existing eco-label improved to include criteria on EbA considerations or new eco-label developed
 - trade or farmer association that promotes EbA considerations to its members.

Field implementation to support this work could be considered under this pillar when clearly justified.

Pillar 2: Functional Data and Science

This involves taking a data or science-driven approach to promote EbA action. It may involve extracting information and insights from data to make a case for mainstreaming EbA and to inform decision making.

Some examples of projects include, but are not limited to:

- climate risk and vulnerability assessments, including considerations on One Health;
- future scenario modelling;
- cost-benefit and multi-criteria analysis and making an economic case for EbA;
- job generation potential;
- improvements to monitoring, evaluation and learning frameworks;

⁵ The value chain is comprised of all the activities that provide or receive value from designing, making, distributing, retailing and consuming a product (or providing the service that a product renders), including the extraction and provision of raw materials, as well as the activities that are involved after its useful service life. In this sense, the value chain covers all stages in a product's life, from supply of raw materials through to disposal after use, and encompasses the activities linked to value creation such as business models, investments and regulation. At all stages in the value chain, and in the transport of intermediate and finished products between the value chain stages, raw materials and energy are required and emissions to the environment are produced. In addition, the value chain is also comprised of the actors undertaking the activities and the stakeholders that can influence the activities. **The value chain thus incorporates not only the physical processes, such as farms and factories, but also the business models and the way products are designed, promoted and offered to consumers.**" (UNEP, 2020a).

More on the Value-Chain approach [here](#) (developed by One Planet network and International Resource Panel (initiatives hosted by UNEP) in response to a request in the [UNEA 4 resolution](#))

- transboundary nature of adaptation and trade-offs;
- traditional knowledge and technologies; etc.

It is important to note that projects under this pillar are also requested to develop means/operational plans for the application, use and adoption of the information/knowledge generated in order to influence decision-making and prompt EbA action.

Field implementation to support this work could be considered under this pillar when clearly justified.

Pillar 3: Innovation for Adaptation

Innovative projects on EbA are the ones that are yet to be proven, are at the initial stages of development, or are yet to be tested in a different context and can take the shape of an approach, a process, a practical tool or an application. It is based on horizontal and collaborative working practices that consider a diverse range of views and the context in which the innovation is taking place.

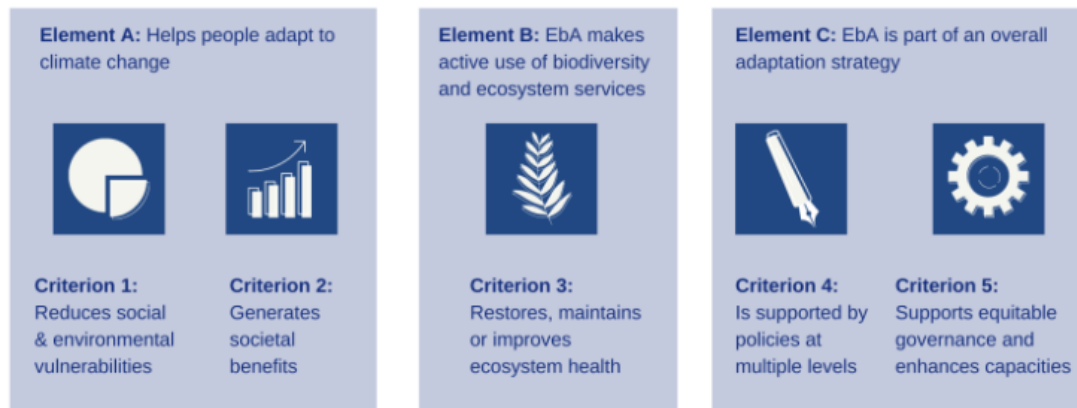
As an example, projects under this pillar could focus on developing unconventional partnerships; support the integration of EbA in novel sectors; develop an innovative tool for EbA implementation; Strategic pilot or demonstration actions, specifically where the Fund identifies high potential for up-scaling through multilateral funds (e.g. GCF) and other adaptation finance options; etc.

Field implementation to pilot an innovative approach could be considered under this pillar when clearly justified.

2. Global EbA Fund Grant Selection Criteria and Eligibility Requirements

2.1. What we fund

In summary, the Global EbA Fund **supports projects that:**



- **Contribute to an enabling environment for the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation** to climate change and ultimately aligns with the [Friends of EBA EbA Qualification Criteria & Quality Standards](#).
- **Result in catalytic impact and/or are innovative⁶**, such as by piloting innovative approaches for EbA, removing barriers from upscaling EbA interventions at the policy or landscape levels, strategic and focused EbA policy mainstreaming, supporting innovative finance mechanisms for EbA, incentivising private sector investment in EbA, and supporting unlikely matches between partners; shifting business models.
- **Add value to or upscale existing work.** Projects should fill a gap in existing work, address a knowledge gap, contribute to policy upscaling, enhance the impact of an investment in EbA, and/or serve to develop a larger proposal to another funding mechanism. Projects should leverage existing knowledge, standards, partnerships, experiences, and best practices or filling gaps therein to facilitate the creation of enabling environment for increased uptake and/or impact of EbA. Global EbA Fund projects should not be standalone interventions. As such, projects must not focus primarily on field implementation in the scope of the proposal, though field implementation may be a component if clearly justified.
- **Prioritise project sustainability and financial continuity.** The project should have a clear plan for how results will be maintained and developed past the end of the funding period. This should include environmental, infrastructural, institutional, social and financial sustainability considerations as applicable. If follow-up(s) to the proposed project will require a budget and/or time frame outside of that offered by the Fund - for instance, if the project will develop a larger project proposal to a different funding mechanism - the applicant should clearly articulate anticipated funding options, including any market-based, private sector, or public sector funding opportunities. Exit strategy for the project is a requirement.

⁶ Please refer to the definitions of catalytic and innovative under the description of Action Pillar 1.

- Catalyse impact with a Global EbA Fund contribution of USD 50,000 to USD 250,000 and are either global, thematic, or targeted to one or more countries which are [eligible for official development assistance \(ODA\)](#).

The Fund will accept applications year-round and review in accordance with announced cut-off dates. Proposals must align with the general grant selection criteria outlined below. Different timelines might apply to thematic calls. Please consults [the Fund Updates](#) page on the Global EbA Fund web-site.

2.2. Grant Selection Criteria

The following 9 criteria will be considered when the decision on the award of a grant is being made:

1. Does the project contribute to **creating an enabling environment for the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change** and ultimately aligns with the FEBA EbA Qualifications Criteria and Quality Standards ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#)). *The following 5 questions are considered to understand the alignment of the project with FEBA EbA Qualifications Criteria and Quality Standards:*

- 1.1 Does this intervention eventually contribute to the reduction of social and environmental vulnerabilities to climate change? Yes / No

EbA must explicitly address current and future climate change and climate variability. It is based on assessments of climatic vulnerability, hazards and risks to people, as well as the adaptation benefits derived from ecosystem services. A combination of climate information (based on the best available scientific data and models and local knowledge) and vulnerability assessments should form the basis for implementation. EbA measures need to reduce climate vulnerability for people at an appropriate scale (e.g. at least local scale but ideally ecosystem or landscape/seascape scale).

Projects should:

- *Make clear use of climate risk and vulnerability assessments.* Projects should draw on existing local, national and/or regional climate risk and vulnerability assessments including drawing from IPCC assessments. Projects should incorporate best available baseline information and studies, when available, covering the proposed project location(s).
- *Draw on the best available science and use of traditional and local knowledge.* Projects should draw on the best available science where applicable and financially feasible. Examples of tools to be used include: analytical models and related tools (e.g. vulnerability assessments, climate risk screening including projections of climate change impacts, natural capital assessments), inclusive community participation methodologies, gender analyses, and prioritisation techniques. In addition, projects should draw on and use relevant traditional knowledge, when applicable.

1.2 Does this intervention eventually contribute to generation of societal benefits in the context of climate change adaptation? Yes / No

EbA reduces vulnerabilities of people through the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services and by producing societal benefits in a fair and equitable manner. It addresses the needs of people, especially those who directly depend on or use natural resources and who are particularly vulnerable to climate change impacts. EbA delivers direct or indirect benefits that increase peoples' resilience to climate change, including enhanced food security, shelter, risk reduction, provision of fresh water and medicine, and local climate regulation. It also often generates additional benefits essential for sustainable development including carbon sequestration, habitat provision or medicinal resource provision. In order for EbA to support adaptive capacities it needs to distribute short-, medium- and long-term benefits. Comparative analyses on the extent and scale of adaptive capacity and resilience benefits should clarify whether EbA measures are economically feasible and can complement or substitute other adaptation options. Benefits should be distributed fairly among a representative percentage of the target group.

Projects should:

- *Clearly describe tangible climate adaptation benefits.*
- *Consider how the project affects stakeholders across scales, including outside of the targeted intervention area, communities, and/or organisations, and considering direct and indirect costs and benefits.*

1.3 Does this intervention eventually contribute to restoration, sustainable management and/or improvement of ecosystem health? Yes / No

EbA restores, maintains and improves ecosystems, land- and seascapes in line with the Ecosystem Approach. It is applied at a scale that addresses the challenge of, and integrates the trade-offs resulting from climate change, meaning it supports the stability, resilience, connectivity, and multiple roles of ecosystems as part of larger land- and seascapes. EbA encompasses measures such as ecosystem management, reinforcement and restoration of natural infrastructure, as well as the management of threats associated with the effects of climate change or anthropogenic activities. Because climate change can force changes in ecosystem composition and structure, it is important that the health and stability of ecosystem services are maintained, improved, and monitored. EbA fosters appropriate land and water management practices that support climate change adaptation, prioritise the management of key ecosystem services, and foster the sustainable use of land and coastal and marine resources (e.g. by conservation and climate-smart agriculture, soil conservation, use of water retention areas, low impact fishing). It supports the diversification of land and marine use and livelihood options such as multi-cropping, agroforestry, and the use of appropriate species and varieties. For example, this can include the introduction of species that are better adapted to

climate change, as long as they do not endanger the existence of native species or become invasive. Co-management approaches that involve stakeholders from communities, government and private sector should be supported.

1.4 Is this intervention supported by policies at multiple levels? Yes / No

As part of a larger adaptation strategy, EbA operates at one or more levels (i.e. local, national, regional, landscape, and sectoral levels), and can involve supporting sectoral adaptation and multi-sectoral approaches at multiple geographic scales. It is, or becomes, an integral part of key policies and implementation frameworks targeted towards sustainable development, agriculture, land use, poverty reduction, natural resource management, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk reduction. EbA should be integrated into existing policy frameworks so that interventions can be sustainable and scalable, rather than short-term and stand-alone.

Projects should:

- *Have clear policy linkages to national, sub-national, regional, and/or global policies and strategies.* Projects should be supportive of national policies and strategies to the extent possible (e.g., national adaptation plans (NAPs), nationally determined contributions (NDCs), National Communications under UNFCCC, national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), etc.) including actions planned in regional, national or local level documents with a climate change adaptation focus. In addition to these, projects should also include links to other global and national policy priorities including but not limited to Sendai Framework, Land Degradation Neutrality targets under UNCCD and social development targets (such as gender, poverty, health). Further, proposals should identify the potential to influence these policies or, where possible, include a plan to influence these policies.
- *Have clear replicability to other areas and communities;* upscaling potential of the model or practice to support ecosystem-based adaptation. Projects should consider the prospect of replicability in other communities, countries, ecosystems, and/or other sectors with context-specific adaptations/modifications as necessary, thereby enabling successful effects to be achieved beyond the framework of the individual project.

1.5 Does this intervention support equitable governance and enhance capacities? Yes / No

EbA enhances governance of natural resources with respect to the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, by following a community-centred, participatory and gender-sensitive approach; it embraces transparency, empowerment, accountability, non-discrimination and active, meaningful and free participation at the local level. It should support fair and equitable sharing of user access, rights and responsibilities. The ability to adapt to climate change hinges on the ability of local people (comprising different groups,

genders, customary bodies, etc.) to take on their rights and responsibilities and to be represented by officials who are accountable to them. Ownership by the people responsible for ecosystem management and by people who are using and benefiting from biodiversity can ensure that benefits emerge and are sustainable. Strong local governance needs to be embedded in higher level governance structures, which can facilitate and stimulate local action through the right policies and enabling environment.

Projects should:

- *Mainstream a gender responsive approach to project design and implementation.* The project should conduct gender analyses and apply key issues and recommendations identified to inform gender-responsive project design, budgeting, staffing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; and to analyse the risks that the project may experience or pose, put measures in place to ensure activities do not exacerbate existing gender-related inequalities, including gender-based violence; and seize opportunities to address gender gaps and support empowerment of women.
- *Be participatory and inclusive.* Diverse stakeholders should be effectively consulted and involved in decision-making processes, including marginalised/disadvantaged groups (especially women, youth, Indigenous Peoples) and people who may be adversely affected by the project, where applicable. Overall, projects should ensure that benefits are equitably distributed. Projects with direct and indirect impact on Indigenous Peoples must uphold the right of Indigenous Peoples to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)⁷.

2. Does the project align with one or more of the Global EbA Fund's Strategic Objectives? Yes / No **Please select only one.**

Strategic Objective 1: *To build awareness and understanding of the critical role of natural assets in underpinning resilience, expand the knowledge and evidence base to help make the case for working with nature, and enhance institutional capacities for mainstreaming EbA into national plans and policy frameworks and vertical integration and alignment of EbA across sectors.*

Strategic Objective 2: *To address planning and other governance gaps in policy and regulatory environments to increase the attractiveness and feasibility of using and upscaling ecosystem-based approaches for climate change adaptation.*

Strategic Objective 3: *To expand access to sustainable short- and long-term finance mechanisms for applying and scaling up ecosystem-based approaches for climate change adaptation, including the incentivisation of private sector investment in*

⁷ Learn more about Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) from FAO at this website, including a *Manual for Project Practitioners*, a toolkit and e-learning materials: <http://www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/our-pillars/fpic/en/>

EbA and reducing EbA's dependence on high management capacity and continuous financial input.

3. What action pillar does the project fall under? **Please select maximum two options.**

Please note that If you are selecting Pillar 2 or Pillar 3, then only one option under Pillar 1 can be selected in addition.

If you are selecting two options under Pillar 1, Pillar 2 or 3 cannot be selected in addition.

Pillar 1: Levers for catalytic change:

- Policy and policy instruments**
- Education, capacity building and skills development**
- Financing**
- Working through the value chain perspective** of a sector or commodity to identify hotspots and entry points for change to ensure the adoption of EbA and incentivise private sector collaboration.
- Other**, please indicate:

Pillar 2: Functional Data and Science

Pillar 3: Innovation for Adaptation

4. Is the requested funding amount between USD 50,000 and USD 250,000? Yes / No

In rare cases, with full justification projects over USD 250,000 but less than USD 500,000 could be considered.

5. Is the project duration 36 months or less? Yes / No

The Fund encourages project durations of 24 months but this duration could be extended up to 36 months in exceptional circumstances. If the proposed project is for longer than 24 months, clear justification needs to be provided.

6. If the intervention has a regional or country-specific focus, is it targeted to one or more countries eligible for [official development assistance \(ODA\)](#), as defined by the OECD? Yes / No

7. Will government partner(s), if any, receive any funding through the proposed project? Yes / No

The Fund will not grant directly to government partners. Sub-granting to governments at any level is also not permitted.

8. If a UNEP or IUCN global/regional/country office is involved in the project, will they receive any funding through the proposed project? Yes / No

The Fund will not grant directly to UNEP and IUCN global/regional/country offices. Sub-granting to such offices is also not permitted.

9. Is the applicant legally able to operate in the country/-ies of the project and provide supporting documentation (MoU or endorsement from a relevant government agency)? Yes / No

2.3. Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS)

The Global EbA Fund Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) is developed based on IUCN's Environmental and Social Management System. The most up to date version of the [Global EbA Fund ESMS](#) is available on the Global EbA Fund website.

The Fund has established the procedures for screening future grants on environmental and social risks and their respective risk categories (including the tool to be employed for screening) as well as additional procedures for managing and monitoring such risks. The Global EbA Fund ESMS follows this systematic procedure to screen projects for potential adverse environmental and social impacts to ensure that negative impacts are avoided or minimised while positive impacts are stimulated. The ESMS also ensures that the implementation and effectiveness of mitigation measures are monitored and that any impacts arising during execution of grantee projects are addressed.

The Fund Secretariat will be responsible for screening these risks based on technical knowledge and safeguard experience. Where necessary, targeted risk assessments for grant proposals will be required (social assessment, targeted environmental studies etc.). In certain cases, the Fund will provide capacity-building support to organisations and work to develop targeted plans of actions such as Environmental and Social Management Plan, Indigenous People Plan, Access Restrictions Mitigation Process Framework, specific stakeholder consultations, disclosure requirements and grievance mechanisms.

Overall, the procedures will be specific to the geographic context, objectives and proposed activities of the applicant and be designed proportional to the expected risks. The Fund will define an exclusion list to control the risk level of the grants.

2.4. Applicant Eligibility

The Global EbA Fund seeks to catalyse new partnerships and collaborations and ***unlikely matches*** between new and non-traditional partners. The Fund seeks to reach out beyond traditional conservation actors and constituencies to attract all actors and constituencies relevant to EbA and climate change adaptation.

The Fund seeks diverse applicants with relevant experience and local partnerships and presence, and who support addressing specific gaps in technical knowledge and understanding among government actors.

The Fund will consider private sector applicants under certain conditions. No funding can be provided for sector-specific obligations nor compensatory or replacement measures, for-profit activities, etc. Overall, common public interest will be a top priority.

While not required, co-financing from the applicant would demonstrate an institutional investment in the project.

Categories of eligible recipients are:

- A. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
- B. International non-governmental organisations (INGOs)
- C. Intergovernmental organisations (IGOs)
- D. Community-based organisations (CBOs)
- E. Indigenous People's Organisations
- F. Universities and other academic institutions
- G. Research institutes and think tanks
- H. Private sector companies
- I. Consortia of organisations that promote collaboration and greater impact around EbA. Government entities can be a part of the consortia as long as they do not receive funding from the Global EbA Fund.
However, there should be a clearly defined lead agency, the "Applicant Organisation", as detailed in the application template. This organisation, if successful, would be the responsible contract party.

Applications from and partnerships with local/community organisations are strongly encouraged.

UNEP and IUCN global, regional or country offices are not currently eligible to apply for funding from the Global EbA Fund, but are encouraged to collaborate with potential applicants in support of knowledge transfer on EbA.

In line with current IKI policies, the **Fund will not grant directly to government partners**. Sub-granting to governments at any level is also not permitted. However, collaboration with national, sub-national and local governments is encouraged with the aim to create an enabling environment for EbA and support the establishment of strategic partnerships.

Eligible recipients must have sufficient capacity to allow for professional and timely implementation of proposed projects. Applicants will be asked to complete IUCN's Due Diligence Questionnaire which covers some of the following topics.

- Basis for legal establishment or recognition and legal right to work in targeted country/countries, if any
- Governance structure, including names of governing body members, officers and key personnel
- Description of at least three recent relevant programs/projects/activities
- Relevant publications
- Annual budget (last completed year, current year)
- Sources of revenues
- Audited financial statements for most recently completed fiscal year
- Administration, accounting and control procedures
- Current auditing arrangements or equivalent (tax documents)
- Procurement practices for purchasing goods, works and services
- Environmental and social safeguard policies
- Years of experience with the proposed EbA intervention
- Presence or local partnerships in targeted geographic region, if any

2.5. Geographic Eligibility

Projects may have a global, thematic, regional and/or country-specific focus.

If the project has a country-specific focus, it must be targeted to one or more countries which are eligible for [official development assistance \(ODA\)](#) based on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) list at the time of application.

Regional/multi-country projects, particularly projects designed to foster regional exchange and achieve regional-scale impacts, are eligible. For multi-country projects, which are projects involving activities in more than one country, all of the countries must be ODA-eligible.

It is strongly advised that country-level projects include partners that are based in the country and in the area of project activities where possible.

Projects with a global or thematic focus, not targeted to a specific region or country, are also eligible.

3. Application Submission, Selection of Grantees and Award Process

3.1. Application Submission process

The Fund has two application cycles per year and accepts applications under General and Thematic funding tracks. The cut-off dates for consideration are published on the Global EbA Fund website under [How to Apply](#) and [Fund Updates](#) page.

Application process is the same for General and Thematic tracks. The focus of the thematic track is announced together with each application cycle.

Applications are submitted online through an online platform accessible [here](#) as well as on the Global EbA Fund Website: [How to Apply](#).

Online application process consists of three sections that need to be filled out online. Each form requires a set of supporting documents to be attached.

Applications can be saved and revised before being submitted.

We strongly advise to prepare your application offline first. All the templates to do so and necessary guidance is provided in the next section (3.2)

Please start your application well in advance and do not wait till the cut-off date to finalise your application.

3.2. Application documents

You will be asked to fill out three sections on the online application platform as well as attach supporting documents.

Section I: Eligibility Screening (Also available in Annex 1)

This is the template of [Eligibility screening questionnaire](#)

The questionnaire allows for the initial screening of the eligibility of your proposal. You will be asked to answer multiple choice questions and provide additional explanation where applicable.

No supporting documents are foreseen to be attached in this section.

Section II: Due Diligence and Financial Capacity Questionnaire

This is the template of [Due Diligence and Financial Capacity Questionnaire](#).

Please pay specific attention to the supporting documents requested. You will need to upload them when completing the form online. Such documents as legal registration of the main applicant as well as co-applicants, as well as Audited financial reports of the main applicant will be required together with other referred to in the form.

Section III: Application Form (Also available in Annex 2)

This is the template of the [Application form](#).

The application form is the main body of your proposal. Please pay specific attention to the supporting documents requested. You will need to upload them when completing the form online

Detailed budget is a component of the application form and needs to be developed offline and included as an attachment in the application form. This is the [template for the detailed budget](#). Please pay special attention to Guidance tab.

Environmental and Social Management Safeguards is also a component of the application form. You can find a template of the ESMS questionnaire [here](#).

It is compulsory to attach a signed [Applicant Declaration Form](#) in your application. If you are submitting a proposal on behalf of project consortia, [Co-Applicant mandate](#) form should also be signed and attached in your application.

In addition to any other supporting documents that you would like to attach to your application form, you will also be asked to provide the CVs of main personnel assigned to the project.

Documents in all three sections must be submitted in English. All supporting documents that are not in English must be accompanied by an English translation.

It is essential that at least the documents confirming legal status of the organisation and Auditor's opinion are in English.

Questions can be directed to Contact.EbAFund@iucn.org.

3.3. Guidance on the logical framework

This section provides guidance⁸ on structuring the intervention logic, which should guide the overall design of the project and is specifically needed to develop the project's theory of change, logical framework and detailed activity table.

The theory of change functions as a results chain of hypotheses or assumptions that link various levels, and forms the basis for the logical framework and the monitoring and evaluation plan. The project activities contribute to the outputs, which in turn contribute to the outcome, which result in the long-term impact. In order to demonstrate how the project will achieve results, the intervention logic must be sound and coherent throughout these various levels. Applicants should also consider and identify under what conditions and assumptions the results chain is correct.

The **impact** refers to the intended long-term contribution of the project.

The **outcome** describes the central overarching goal of the project, i.e. the positive changes in terms of new or improved policies, plans and practices implemented by target groups that the project contributes to against the backdrop of longer-term, higher level impacts. Outcomes generally are not changes that can be achieved by the project alone but changes that the project seeks to influence to a substantial extent. While the project cannot completely control the achievement of the outcome, it can steer toward it and demonstrate how the activities and outputs contribute to the attainment of the outcome. The Fund expects that proposed projects will have one outcome.

Activities encompass what will be done to deliver the outputs. The **outputs** are concrete products and services developed and delivered by the project that are in line with partners' and target groups' needs. Projects are responsible for delivering on outputs, which in turn are expected to make a verifiable contribution to the outcome. Typically, several activities correspond to each distinctive output. The activities and outputs are implemented and achieved directly by the project. Outputs are not limited to the creation of products, goods and services but rather encompass their use by partners, target groups and other beneficiaries as well. The Fund expects that proposed projects will have at maximum four outputs.

A **milestone** is a defined interim result on the basis of which it can be traced whether intended effects will occur on schedule and in adequate quality or whether additional intervention is needed in order to achieve the goals in due time. Milestone attainment should be strictly answerable with a "Yes" or "No".

Indicators must be developed for the project outcome/s and outputs and must fulfil the SMART criteria (see box below) so that they can be easily monitored throughout project implementation and provide meaningful information. Effective project monitoring is key to evaluate the project's progress and success and/or the need to possibly adapt the project implementation.

⁸ This guidance is adapted from [Guidelines on Project Planning and Monitoring in the International Climate Initiative \(updated version as of February 2022\)](#)

Furthermore, a baseline must be established for all indicators. A baseline describes an initial situation at the beginning of the project which would persist without project implementation, or the expected conditions that would prevail in the absence of the project (“business-as-usual”).

Criteria for SMART Indicators

Indicators for the outcome and outputs must be:

- **Specific** – defined unambiguously and precisely.
- **Measurable** – provide measurement constructs (quantitative measures or descriptions of qualitative conditions) and methods of data collection / sources of verification.
- **Achievable** – it should be possible to reach the target value of the indicator with the available resources and under the prevailing conditions.
- **Relevant** – the information provided by the indicator should be of relevance to describe the outcome and outputs.
- **Time-bound** – equipped with a timeframe and achieved no later than by the end of the project.

Note: *Changes to defined goals (outcome and outputs) and project-specific indicators after the grant agreement has been signed require prior approval by the Global EbA Fund Secretariat.*

Important: Projects must have **one overarching outcome and a maximum of four outputs**. However, **it is strongly advised to limit the number of outputs (one - two is encouraged)** to ensure a focused and strategic project within the amount of funding provided. Each **output** can have a **maximum of five activities**.

3.4. Indicator Framework

With the aim to support the tracking and communication of the joint achievements of the projects under the Fund and the delivery of its objectives, a [Core Indicator Framework](#) was developed.

This Framework enables the Fund as a whole to (i) report and demonstrate progress to show accountability and performance towards all actors and donors, communicate results to the wider public, and mobilise political and financial support; and (ii) help assess and improve performance to inform the planning of calls for proposals and subsequent allocation of funds.

When developing a project logical framework, applicants are required to identify at least three relevant indicators from the Core Indicator Framework of the Fund and incorporate them in the individual project's logical framework. Global EbA Fund Secretariat reserves the right to suggest additional indicators from the Framework for the applications considered for granting.

3.5. Grant Award Process

Duly submitted project proposals will be reviewed by the expert reviewers and the decision on the award of a grant will be communicated to all applicants once it has been made.

Applicants selected for funding will be asked to sign an IUCN [standard grantee agreement](#). Project start date is considered to be the date of the final signature of the grant agreement.

3.6. Funds disbursement and Grantee reporting

First disbursement following the signature of the agreement equals to 30% of the total project budget requested from the Global EbA Fund.

Subsequent disbursements are done twice a year following the submission of interim financial reports due by 15 January and 15 July and given that 80% of the previous disbursement has been spent. The amount of each disbursement is based on expenditure projections of each project for the following 6 months.

A final Instalment that equals to no less than ten percent (10%) of the budget shall be withheld until the Grantee's delivery and IUCN's written acceptance of the final financial report due within 30 days following the end of the project.

Grantees are required to report on the progress of their respective projects on a 6-months basis. Aligned with interim financial reporting, progress reports are due by 15 January and 15 July.

Final project progress report is due within 30 days following the end of the project.

Progress and financial reporting templates will be provided to the grantees by the Fund Secretariat.

In addition, reporting against identified Core Indicators (see 3.4) will be done on an annual basis by the 15th of February and will be done through a dedicated platform provided by the Fund's Secretariat.

3.7. Data protection

The Global EbA Fund Secretariat takes data protection and management seriously and is committed to safeguarding and protecting Personal Data of private individuals. The Fund Secretariat is aware of the risks involved, and of the importance of having appropriate data protection standards in place.

In the scope of the mission of the Global EbA Fund, the Fund Secretariat will need to gather and use certain information about individuals.

Safeguarding the personal data of all these persons is an essential aspect of protecting people's lives, integrity and dignity. The Processing of Personal Data touches all areas of the Fund's activity, whether operational or administrative.

As such, the Global EbA Fund process, which includes the application submission process, is governed by the [IUCN Data Protection Policy](#). You may read more about the Fund's privacy policy on the website: <https://globalebafund.org/resources/privacy-policy/>.

4. Administrative and Legal Requirements

Grant recipients are required to adhere to administrative and legal requirements, including completion of the [Due Diligence questionnaire](#), which encompasses many of the following topics, and adherence to the [Procurement Policy and Procedure for Grant Recipients](#).

4.1. Legal Entity / Judicial Person Status

The direct beneficiary of the grant must be a recognised legal entity. The recipient must have the legal capacity to conclude contracts in its own name. Individuals and partnerships or associations that do not have legal capacity cannot be taken into consideration as direct recipients of financing, even if they sometimes act as executing agencies for public-benefit projects. This requirement applies to both the lead applicant organisation and any consortium partners who will receive funding from the Global EbA Fund are subject to these requirements.

Register extracts, statutes, or articles of association, but also other proofs according to the respective requirements of the relevant legal regulations of the country of registration can serve as evidence of legal status. For example, laws, foundation deeds, registration information, decrees and tax numbers may be submitted. In these cases, which differ from country to country, it may be necessary for IUCN to obtain an extract from the relevant statutory regulation.

Applicants must also indicate in the relevant section of the Due Diligence Questionnaire if they are a non-profit organisation. The Fund classifies a non-profit organisation (NPO, generally also known as a not-for-profit organisation, charitable institution, or non-business entity), as

an organisation dedicated to the promotion of a particular social cause. Economically, it is an organisation which uses the surplus of its income to promote its objective, rather than distributing its income to the shareholders, managers or members of the organisation.

The Fund will consider private sector/ for-profit applicants only under certain conditions, and for-profit organisations must clearly demonstrate that the proposed project pursues strictly non-profit objectives and does not generate any income.

Finally, we ask applicants to specify through which law(s) their organisation has been registered. This information can be found in most cases in the founding/registration documents themselves.

4.2. Accounting

All recipients must keep accounting records. Their bookkeeping must enable a third-party expert to gain an overview of the company's business transactions and financial situation within a reasonable amount of time.

Organisations must use a software-based accounting system that meets their respective national standards. In addition, dedicated accounting staff should be employed by the organisation. Alternatively, the accounting tasks can be outsourced. In this case, the requirements for accounting would have to be met by the contracted company.

One requirement for organisations applying for a grant is the ability to clearly assign employee working hours to respective projects. Therefore, an electronic or manual time recording system is required. If no traceable time recording exists, the recipient must sign and submit a self-commitment to create one before the grant agreement can be signed.

4.3. Eligibility of expenditures

Expenditures must be indispensable for project performance and achievement of project results. All expenditures must be incurred with the eligibility period of the project, as defined in the grant agreement.

Expenditures must be identifiable and verifiable; grant recipients should be prepared to present documentation in the case of a financial audit. Expenditures must be detailed in accounting records, backed by supporting evidence (e.g. invoices, receipts, contracts, time sheets, etc.) and in accordance with the accounting standards of the country of registration of the recipient and its usual accounting practices. Expenditures must be reasonable, justified and in line with the principle of sound financial management.

The actual eligibility of expenditures will only be determined by the Global EbA Fund at the liquidation stage (winding down phase) of the project. All expenditures that do not meet the eligibility conditions will be declared ineligible and disallowed accordingly. The grant recipient will need to reimburse the overpaid amount.

The following are examples of expenditures are not eligible:

- Expenditures that cannot be supported by original supporting evidence,

- Expenses without proof of payment,
- Unused discounts and rebates,
- Expenditures incurred outside the period covered by the grant,
- Insurance not required by law,
- Expenditures that cannot be clearly attributed to the project,
- Expenses that result in later refunds (e.g. rent deposit),
- Expenses for business and first-class flights.

This list of ineligible expenditures is not exhaustive.

4.4. Internal and External Controls

Internal controls are processes that ensure the achievement of an organisation's objectives in terms of operational effectiveness and efficiency, reliable financial reporting, and compliance with laws, regulations, and policies. As a broad concept, internal control involves everything that minimises risks for an organisation. It serves to avert damage that might be caused by the organisation's own staff or malicious third parties. Measures may be undertaken independently of the internal control process in the form of retrospective controls, for example by an internal auditing unit. Alternatively, they may take the form of preventive rules as an integral part of the internal control process. More information on the specific requirements is included in Section 6 of the [Due Diligence Questionnaire](#).

External controls describe an auditing procedure in which external auditing firms examine the quality assurance systems of auditees. External control is not performed by an internal staff member, i.e., one who works at the organisation to be audited, but by an external third party. **It is required to undertake an external audit for the project funded by the Global EbA Fund. The costs for such audit should be included in the project budget.**

The overall objective of the audit is to provide independent and objective assurance that the project funds were used for the purposes intended and in accordance with the project objectives and the Funding Contract.

The specific objective of the audit is to audit the assigned Beneficiary's Project documents and express an opinion as to whether all project funds were legitimately spent on approved project activities and in accordance with the terms of the Funding Contract including reasonableness of expenses.

4.5. Compliance with the law and anti-corruption

Compliance with the law means that the potential recipient has not violated any laws (as far as is known) for example, by evading tax payments or encouraging undeclared work.

Corruption is the misuse of public or private sector positions of power or influence for private benefit. This may take the form of bribery, disbursement of money, embezzlement, nepotism, blackmail, fraud, kickbacks, the exertion of unlawful influence, secret arrangements, and insider dealing. Anti-corruption covers all activities designed to prevent and combat corruption wherever and whenever it occurs.

All grantees will adhere to [IUCN's Code of Conduct and Professional Ethics](#) and [IUCN's Anti-Fraud Policy](#) as part of their contractual obligation to the Fund.

Once the grant agreement has been concluded, IUCN reserves the right to audit or evaluate a project at any time (at IUCN's own expense). Regular financial and technical reporting during project implementation is mandatory. The Global EbA Fund promotes the transparent handling of funding-relevant project information, including financial information, will be published on the Global EbA Fund website.

The Global EbA Fund, operates an ESMS Grievance Mechanism which can be used to submit information on corruption and bribery along with any other concerns about the executing entity's failure to respect IUCN ESMS principles, standards or procedures: [Environmental and Social Management System | Global EbA Fund](#).

4.6. Contract Award Procedure for supplies and services

If the beneficiary of a grant agreement contracts external staff or purchases supplies and/or services financed in whole or in part by the grant agreement, the grantee must comply with the specific terms outlined in the grantee contract and with IUCN's [Policy and Procedure on Procurement of Goods and Services](#).

Annex 1: Eligibility Screening Questionnaire (Section I in online platform)

The Global EbA Fund is structured to support catalytic, innovative and urgent initiatives to help to overcome identified barriers to upscaling EbA. The screening criteria included below seek to identify projects which align with the Strategic Objectives and Action Pillars of the Fund. These criteria will be applied equally to all applications received regardless of project type, size or requested funding and they will determine basic eligibility.

Please only select Yes or No for the questions where applicable and provide explanation.

For #6 select one Strategic Objective which most closely aligns with your proposed project.

For #7 select maximum two Action Pillars that your proposed project activities fall under.

For Questions 1-5 please refer to FEBA EbA Qualification Criteria and Quality Standards ([EN](#) | [FR](#) | [ES](#)) or Section 2.2 of the Grants Procedures Manual for more information.

1. Does this intervention eventually contribute to the reduction of social and environmental vulnerabilities to climate change? Yes / No
 - a. *Please describe how (250 words):*
2. Does this intervention eventually contribute to generation of societal benefits in the context of climate change adaptation? Yes / No
 - a. *Please describe how (250 words):*
3. Does this intervention eventually contribute to restoration, sustainable management and/or improvement of ecosystem health? Yes / No
 - a. *Please describe how (250 words):*
4. Is this intervention supported by policies at multiple levels? Yes / No
 - a. *Please describe how⁹ (250 words):*
5. Does this intervention support equitable governance and enhance capacities? Yes / No

⁹ Describe how the project contributes to achievement of major international commitments and global policy targets (e.g. UNFCCC, CBD, SDGs) and how the project will support relevant existing or potential national or regional-level EbA strategies, policies and plans. Describe the specific contribution of the project to the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), specifically those of target countries if applicable.

a. Please describe how (250 words):

6. Does the project align with one of the Global EbA Fund's Strategic Objectives? Yes / No. **Please select only one.**

Strategic Objective 1: *To build awareness and understanding of the critical role of natural assets in underpinning resilience, expand the knowledge and evidence base to help make the case for working with nature, and enhance institutional capacities for mainstreaming EbA into national plans and policy frameworks and vertical integration and alignment of EbA across sectors.*

Strategic Objective 2: *To address planning and other governance gaps in policy and regulatory environments to increase the attractiveness and feasibility of using and upscaling ecosystem-based approaches for climate change adaptation.*

Strategic Objective 3: *To expand access to sustainable short- and long-term finance mechanisms for applying and scaling up ecosystem-based approaches for climate change adaptation, including the incentivisation of private sector investment in EbA and reducing EbA's dependence on high management capacity and continuous financial input.*

7. What action pillar does the project fall under? **Please select maximum two.**

Please note that If you are selecting Pillar 2 or Pillar 3, then only one option under Pillar 1 can be selected in addition.

If you are selecting two options under Pillar 1, Pillar 2 or 3 cannot be selected in addition.

Pillar 1: Levers for catalytic change:

Policy and policy instruments

Education, capacity building and skills development

Financing

Working through the value chain perspective of a sector or commodity to identify hotspots and entry points for change to ensure the adoption of EbA and incentivise private sector collaboration.

Other, please indicate:

Pillar 2: Functional Data and Science

Pillar 3: Innovation for Adaptation

8. Is the requested funding amount between USD 50,000 and USD 250,000? Yes / No

In rare cases, with full justification in the concept note, projects over USD 250,000 but less than USD 500,000 could be considered.

9. Is the project duration 36 months or less? Yes / No

The Fund encourages project durations of 24 months but this duration could be extended up to 36 months in exceptional circumstances. If the proposed project is for longer than 24 months, please provide justification in the concept note.

10. If the intervention has a regional or country-specific focus, is it targeted to one or more countries eligible for [official development assistance \(ODA\)](#), as defined by the OECD? Yes / No

11. Will government partner(s), if any, receive any funding through the proposed project? Yes / No

The Fund will not grant directly to government partners. Sub-granting to governments at any level is also not permitted. However, collaboration with national, sub-national and local governments is encouraged with the aim to create an enabling environment for EbA and support the establishment of strategic partnerships.

12. If a UNEP or IUCN programme/regional/country office is involved in the project, will they receive any funding through the proposed project? Yes / No

The Fund will not grant directly to UNEP and IUCN global/regional/country offices. Sub-granting to such offices is also not permitted.

13. Is the applicant legally able to operate in the country/-ies of the project and provide supporting documentation (MoU or endorsement from a relevant government agency)? Yes / No

Annex 2: Application form (Section III in online platform)

Detailed budget is a component of the application form and needs to be developed offline and included as an attachment in the application form. This is the [template for the detailed budget](#). Please pay special attention to Guidance tab.

It is compulsory to attach a signed [Applicant Declaration Form](#) in your application. If you are submitting a proposal on behalf of project consortia, [Co-Applicant mandate](#) form should also be signed and attached in your application.

In addition to any other supporting documents that you would like to attach to your application form, you will also be asked to provide the CVs of main personnel assigned to the project.

1. Applicant information

Project Title:	
Applicant Organisation Legal Name:	
Short Name/Acronym:	
Organisation Type: <i>Mark with an X one option only.</i>	Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
	International non-governmental organisation (INGO)
	Inter-governmental organisation (IO)
	Community-based organisation (CBO)
	Indigenous People's Organisation
	University or other academic institution
	Research institute or think tank
	Private sector company
Other, please explain:	
Year Organisation was established:	
Purpose/Mission of the Organisation:	
Organisation Yearly Budget:	
Organisation Address:	
Website Address: <i>(If available, please include relevant professional social media accounts)</i>	
Contact Person Name:	
Contact Person Position:	
Contact Person Email:	
Secondary Person Email: <i>Note: This individual will be copied on any email communication.</i>	
Telephone (with country code):	

2. Project description

Project Title:	
What Funding track are you applying under? <i>Please refer to Global EbA Fund website to see the focus of a thematic track for each cut-off. Application process for both tracks is the same.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General EbA Project Proposal Track • Thematic EbA Project Proposal Track
Region:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Africa • Meso and South America • Caribbean • South and East Asia • West Asia • Ocean • Eastern Europe, North and Central Asia
Country: <i>List the country/countries of implementation as applicable, and as listed in the DAC ODA recipient list</i>	
Is the Country/ies a part of LDCs (Least Developed Countries)? <i>List can be found here</i>	
Is the Country/ies a part of SIDS (Small Island Developing States) <i>List can be found here</i>	
Geographic Area: <i>Country(ies), state, district, sub-region, basin, protected areas, corridor, etc. If possible, give an estimated size in hectares.</i>	
Proposed duration (in months):	
If proposed project duration is longer than 24 months, please provide an explanation. [100 words]	
Total Project Budget (in USD):	
Total Amount Requested from the Global EbA Fund (in USD; it can be the same amount as the total amount):	
If the budget requested is more than USD250,000, please provide justification. Maximum amount of USD500,000 can be requested	
Ecosystem(s) of Focus <i>Check all that apply. This list is hardly exhaustive: indicate ecosystem of focus if "other" is selected. Max two options should be selected.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Landscapes • Coastal and Marine Areas • Drylands • Forests • Freshwater • Grasslands • Mountain Regions • River Basins • Urban • Wetlands <p>Other:</p>
Primary target sector of the project <i>Check all that apply. This list is hardly exhaustive: indicate thematic area if "other" is selected.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism • Agriculture • Fishery • Consumer Goods

<p>Max two options should be selected.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific research, development and innovation • Education • Waste incl. chemicals • Urbanisation/Built Environment • Energy • Industrial sector • Water • Transport • Financial sector • Forestry • Plastic • Culture & recreation • Textiles • Health • Information & Communication • Not applicable • Other:
<p>What climate impact/s does your project aim to address?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drought • Flooding • Water scarcity • Severe fires • Rising sea levels • Severe storms • Increased heat <p>Other:</p>
<p>What SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) does your project contribute to?</p> <p><i>Please select max 3 goals in addition to SDG 13 on Climate Action. It is assumed that all the projects contribute to Goal 13.</i></p>	<p>List of SDGs can be found here: THE 17 GOALS Sustainable Development (un.org)</p>
<p>Project objective:</p>	
<p>Project Summary:</p> <p><i>Provide a concise description of the entire project, including the aims and measures as well as multiplier effect. This must be the same project summary that will be added in the online submission form.</i></p> <p><i>[300 words]</i></p>	

Relevance to the Global EbA Fund Strategic Objectives and Action Pillars	
<p>How does the project contribute to the Global EbA Fund Strategic Objective that you have identified?</p> <p><i>Refer to the Strategic Objectives in the screening checklist in your answer</i></p>	

<p>How does the project reflect the Action Pillar/s of the Global EbA Fund that you have identified? <i>Refer to the Action Pillars in the screening checklist in your answer</i></p>	
<p>Which of the seven identified barriers to EbA does your project aim to address and how? <i>Please select max. 2 barriers.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lack of awareness and understanding of the role of ecosystem conservation, restoration and sustainable management in fostering climate resilience</i> • <i>Lack of sufficient knowledge and information for scaling up EbA.</i> • <i>Technical capacity constraints</i> • <i>Insufficient political and public support.</i> • <i>Governance challenges.</i> • <i>Finance challenges.;</i> • <i>Limited space for ecosystem-based adaptation.</i>
<p>Please elaborate how your projects aims to overcome the barriers identified</p>	
<p>Does the project involve a field component? If yes, please describe why it is necessary. <i>Projects must <u>not</u> focus primarily on field implementation unless clearly justified. Please refer to the Grant Procedure Manual for more information.</i></p>	

2.1. Background of the project and description of the problem

Describe the context relevant to the project, including the main climate risks that need to be reduced and the factors that can increase or perpetuate the problem. Include in the description detailed information on the ecosystems and affected communities targeted for the proposed intervention, including but not limited to target region size and demographics (population, gender, socioeconomic status, Indigenous Peoples, etc.) if available. If land use management is planned, please also provide information on the land tenure situation (land rights, formal procedures to acquire or manage land etc.).

(maximum 300 words)

2.2. Project location(s) and scope

Detail the project area(s) characteristics (e.g., global, national-level, specific site or sites to be targeted) and the criteria used to select geographic scope and the location(s), if any. Include the description of any climate risk assessments made for the area. List targeted ecosystems and the services they provide and describe how these ecosystems would support human welfare in the affected communities/populations. Maps and images can be used here or attached to the submission.

(maximum 250 words)

2.3. Target group and beneficiaries

Detail the intended target group and beneficiaries of the project. The target group is composed of individuals or institutional stakeholders that the project intends to work with and reach with its activities or outputs. They may be beneficiaries at the same time if they benefit from the intended project impacts. There may be also cases where the target group is not the beneficiary of the impacts.

(maximum 250 words)

2.4. Participation and inclusivity

Outline the stakeholders who will be consulted and involved in decision-making processes, including marginalised groups and people who may be indirectly and/or adversely affected by the project. If the project will have a direct or indirect impact on Indigenous Peoples, detail how the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be upheld.

(maximum 250 words)

2.5. Gender responsive approach

Explain how the project will conduct gender analyses and apply the key issues and recommendations identified to inform gender-responsive project design, budgeting, staffing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; ensure gender-related inequalities, including gender-based violence, are not exacerbated by project activities; seize opportunities to address gender gaps and support empowerment of women; and promote gender equality.

(maximum 250 words)

2.6. Enabling environment for the uptake of EbA

Explain how the project aims to contribute to creating an enabling environment for the uptake of EbA to climate change impacts in the project location.

(maximum 250 words)

2.7. Catalytic impact

Explain how the project will generate catalytic impact. Please refer to the definition of catalytic in the Grants Procedure Manual.

(maximum 250 words)

2.8. Innovative contribution

Explain how the project will offer new or partially new solution(s) for the challenge of climate change adaptation, thereby increasing uptake of and/or improvement in EbA impact while leveraging existing resources. Please refer to the definition of innovative in the Grants Procedure Manual

(maximum 250 words)

2.9. Added value and synergies with other initiatives

Explain if the project aims to fill a gap in an existing project, address a knowledge gap, contribute to policy upscaling, lead to systematic changes and/or behavioural changes of decision-makers or a significant number of individuals or institutions, enhance the impact of an investment in EbA, and/or serve to develop a larger proposal to another funding mechanism.

Indicate possible synergies and links to other recent or current projects (especially EbA projects) and key economic sectors in the geographic scope of the project, specifically in the target country(ies), if applicable

(maximum 300 words)

2.10. Sustainability and Exit Strategy

Outline how project results will be maintained and developed past the end of the funding period, including environmental, infrastructural, institutional, social, economic and financial considerations. If follow-up(s) to the proposed project will require a budget and/or time frame outside of that offered by the Fund, the applicant should clearly articulate anticipated funding options, including any market-based, private sector, or public sector funding opportunities.

Exit strategy of the project needs to be clearly identified when applicable.

(maximum 250 words)

2.11. Potential for replication

Describe the potential for the replication of the project; if the project has a regional or country-specific focus, describe how the project could be replicated either within or outside of the target country(ies).

(maximum 250 words)

2.12. Theory of Change

Please provide a summary narrative demonstrating how the interventions will generate the expected results. Also use this section to detail the expected long-term contribution of the project to climate change adaptation (impact); the main effects expected to happen with the project intervention (outcomes); and the main products or results expected to be delivered by the project activities (outputs). Clearly describe the tangible climate change adaptation benefits in a way that reviewers will obtain a clear understanding of what is being proposed. The logic described here should be reflected in the logical framework and detailed activity table below. In addition to the summary narrative, a diagram of the theory of change may be included but is not required.

(maximum 500 words)

2.13. Logical Framework and Detailed Activity table

Projects must have one overarching outcome and a maximum of four outputs. However, it is strongly advised to limit the number of outputs (one - two is encouraged) to ensure a focused and strategic project within the amount of funding provided.

A maximum of five activities can be developed under each of the outputs.

For the outcome and each output, define a reasonable and balanced number of performance indicators. Indicators should be “SMART,” that is, specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. Indicators should be appropriate for the project outcomes and outputs.

*When developing a project logical framework, **applicants are required to identify at least three relevant indicators from the [Core Indicator Framework of the Fund](#), incorporate them in the individual project’s planning and M&E activities, and report against them to the Fund Secretariat.** Global EbA Fund Secretariat reserves the right to suggest additional indicators from the Framework for the applications considered for granting.*

Logical Framework

Projects should have one outcome and maximum of four outputs. Outcome and each output can have a maximum of 6 milestones. Online application form will give an error message if the logical framework has a different structure.

1. Project Outcome	Indicators	Sources and Means of Verification
<i>Insert a project outcome</i>	<i>[All indicators should have a measurable Baseline (where available) and Target listed in brackets]</i>	<i>Insert both data source and method for measuring progress against indicator target</i>
Project milestones that show progress towards achieving the project outcome		Expected Milestone for each 6 month period
Milestone 1 <i>Insert</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
M2 <i>Insert</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
M3 <i>Insert</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
M4 <i>Insert</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year ...</i>
M5 <i>Insert</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year ...</i>
M6 <i>Insert</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year ...</i>
2. Project Outputs under Outcome	Indicators	Sources and Means of Verification
<i>A) Insert first project output 1.1</i>	<i>Insert indicator (plus measurable baseline and target in brackets)</i>	<i>Insert both data source and method for measuring progress against indicator target</i>
Project output Milestones:		Expected Milestone for each period
<i>M1 Insert one milestone for the first six month period for the first project output</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M2 Insert one milestone for the second six month period for the first project output</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M3 Insert one milestone for the third six month period for the first project output</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
<i>M4 etc</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
<i>M5</i>		<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>

M6			<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
<i>B) Insert second project output 1.2</i>	<i>Insert indicator (plus measurable baseline and target in brackets)</i>	<i>Insert both data source and method for measuring progress against indicator target</i>	
Project Output Milestones:			Expected Milestone for each period
<i>M1 Insert one milestone for the first six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M2 Insert one milestone for the second six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M3 Insert one milestone for the third six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M4 etc</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
M5			<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
M6			<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
<i>C) Insert second project output 1.3</i>	<i>Insert indicator (plus measurable baseline and target in brackets)</i>	<i>Insert both data source and method for measuring progress against indicator target</i>	
Project Output Milestones:			Expected Milestone for each period
<i>M1 Insert one milestone for the first six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M2 Insert one milestone for the second six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M3 Insert one milestone for the third six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M4 etc</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
<i>M5</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
<i>M6</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
<i>D) Insert second project output 1.4</i>	<i>Insert indicator (plus measurable baseline and target in brackets)</i>	<i>Insert both data source and method for measuring progress against indicator target</i>	
Project Output Milestones:			Expected Milestone for each period
<i>M1 Insert one milestone for the first six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
<i>M2 Insert one milestone for the second six month period for the second project output</i>			<i>Insert Month/Year</i>

M3 <i>Insert one milestone for the third six month period for the second project output</i>	<i>Insert Month/Year</i>
M4 <i>etc</i>	<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
M5	<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>
M6	<i>Insert Month/Year...</i>

Detailed Project Activities

Please apply the same numbering of outputs as in the logical framework above. Please note that projects should have a maximum of 4 outputs. Each output can have a maximum of 5 activities.

Online application form will give an error message if the logical framework and activity table have a different structure.

Output	Detailed description of activities	Deliverables	Delivery date
1.1	A.1 Description	A.1 expected deliverables	A.1 DATE
	A.2 Description	A.2 expected deliverables	A.2 DATE
	A.3 Description		
	A.4 Description		
	A.5. Description		
1.2	B.1 Description		
	B.2 Description		
	B.3 Description		
	B.4 Description		
	B.5 Description		
1.3	C.1 Description		
	C.2 Description		

	C.3 Description		
	C.4 Description		
	C.5 Description		
1.4	D.1 Description		
	D.2 Description		
	D.3 Description		
	D.4 Description		
	D.5 Description		

Risk and mitigation measures

Please elaborate on the risks (internal and external) that could jeopardise the success of the project and proposed mitigation measures.

(maximum 250 words)

3. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan

3.1. Application of lessons learned

Outline how the learning and data captured from monitoring and evaluation will be applied to improve this and similar projects.

(maximum 250 words)

3.2. Dissemination of project lessons

Outline a strategy and methods for documenting and sharing of best practices and lessons from the project to relevant audiences. Please also include a summary of the broader communications strategy (e.g. social media, website updates, media engagement).

(maximum 250 words)

4. Budget

Complete the [full proposal budget template](#) with a detailed budget, which must be coherent with the activities listed above.

In this section, provide a brief narrative description of your budget. Highlight if there is any other support to the project (in cash or in-kind). If consortium partners will receive funding, please indicate the activities and budget lines for each partner. Present your main budget categories explaining which represent the highest proportion from the total. The budget must be presented in United States Dollars (USD).

If your budget requested from the Global EbA Fund exceeds USD 250,000, please provide additional justification.

(maximum 250 words)

5. Institutional arrangement

5.1. Applicant organisation description

Describe the applicant organisation's purpose, history and current work.

(maximum 250 words)

5.2. Applicant organisation relevant experience

Describe the previous experience of the organisation in managing grants of the same amount as requested to the Global EbA Fund and in working on EbA, and nature-based solutions.

(maximum 250 words)

Please list below past projects that the lead applicant organisation has managed (limit to the past 5 years), prioritising projects that are most relevant to the theme and/or budget of this call:

Project Title	Relevant goals and activities	Start (mm/YY)	End (mm/YY)	Donor(s)	Project budget (in USD)

5.3. Applicant organisation current structure

Describe how many people are employed by the organisation (worldwide, regional, and in targeted countries).

(maximum 100 words)

Provide organogram with governance and operational structure.

5.4. Applicant organisation's financial capacity

Include number of people dedicated to the financial functions, internal control systems, amounts managed, etc.

(maximum 100 words)

5.5. Staff assigned to the project

Describe who will be involved in the project implementation, including name, full title, background and summarised role in the project.

(100 words per staff member)

CVs for lead personnel should also submitted.

5.6. Description of partners

If your organisation is partnering with other organisation(s) in the implementation of this project (consortium) please provide information for each partner. Copy the table below as many times you need depending on the number of partners involved. All partners must complete the co-applicant mandate. Provide organogram with governance and operational structure among the consortium partners.

Full Legal Name:	
Country of Registration:	
Legal Status: (NGO, CBO, academic institution, etc.)	
Address:	
Contact Person:	
Contact Person Telephone Number (with country code):	
Contact Person Email Address:	
Role and involvement in preparing the proposal:	
Role and involvement in implementing the proposed project:	
Experience with similar project in relation to role in implementing this proposed project:	
History of cooperation with the applicant:	
Funding recipient of the Global EbA Fund: Will this partner organisation receive funding from the Global EbA Fund? [Yes/No]	

6. Risk Management

As a part of the project proposal, applicants must complete the [ESMS Screening Questionnaire](#) to provide more robust Environmental and Social Risk-related information where applicable. These questions are specific to geographic context, grant applicant objectives and proposed activities and are designed proportional to the expected risks.

The Global EbA Fund Environmental and Social Management System conforms to the environmental and social safeguard requirements of IUCN. In general, IUCN's institutional ESMS consists of four safeguard standards (i.e. Biodiversity and Sustainable use of Natural resources; Cultural Heritage; Indigenous Peoples; Involuntary Resettlement and Access Restrictions). IUCN's ESMS is further guided by eight overarching principle, which are further outlined in the [Global EbA Fund Environmental and Social Management System](#) document.

Please review this document and complete the ESMS Screening Questionnaire below.

Grantee ESMS Screening Questionnaire

Project Activities			
<p>Does the project fall <u>exclusively</u> into one or more of the following? (If project does not exclusively fall into one or more of the below categories – i.e. it also includes field activities, please select <u>no</u>)</p> <p><i>Projects that fall into one or more of the below categories and do not include field work – and as such are not expected to result in any environmental or social risks – are exempt from screening.</i></p> <p><i>Note: If any component of the project involves field work, the project would be considered as field project and needs to be screened. See “excluded activities” below for projects which will not be considered.</i></p>	Yes	No	Comments <i>(elaborate briefly on your answers, where applicable)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and dissemination of knowledge products and communication materials? 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisation of an event, workshop, training? 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening capacities of partners to participate in international or national negotiations and conferences? 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership coordination and management of networks? 			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global/regional/national project with no field-level activities (e.g. activities such as knowledge management, inter-governmental processes)? 			
Field activities			
<p>Does your project include field activities?</p>	Yes	No	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field implementation activities (including planting, construction, restoration activities)? 			
Climate change projections			
	Yes	No	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the project consider future climate change projections specific to the targeted area in its activities? 			
Excluded Activities			
<p>Projects that include any of the activities listed below are excluded from funding through Global EbA Fund as they are considered as high risk.</p> <p>Do any of the activities involve any of the below:</p>			
	Yes	No	
<p>1. Contravene major international and regional conventions on environmental issues?</p>			
<p>2. Propose to create or facilitate significant degradation and/or conversion of natural habitats of any type (forests, wetlands, grasslands, coastal/marine ecosystems, etc.) including those that are legally protected, officially proposed for protection, identified by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, recognised as protected by traditional local communities, or have significant negative socioeconomic and cultural impacts that cannot be cost-effectively avoided, minimised, mitigated and/or offset?</p>			
<p>3. Involve adverse impacts on critical natural habitats, including forests that are critical natural habitats, including from the procurement of natural resource commodities, except for adverse impacts on a limited scale that result from conservation actions that achieve a net gain of the biodiversity values associated with the critical natural habitat?</p>			

<p>4. Propose to carry out unsustainable harvesting of natural resources -animals, plants, timber and/or non-timber forest products (NTFPs)- or the establishment of forest plantations in critical natural habitats?</p>			
<p>5. Propose the introduction of species outside their natural range (non-indigenous) that can potentially develop invasive characteristics and become harmful to the environment?</p>			
<p>6. Involve physical displacement of people (relocation or loss of shelter), either involuntary (where people may not be able to refuse) or forced (through coercion and/or undue influence)?</p>			
<p>7. Contravene major international and regional conventions on human rights, including rights specific to indigenous peoples?</p>			
<p>8. Propose activities that result in the exploitation of and access to outsiders to the lands and territories of indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and in initial contact?</p>			
<p>9. Propose the use and/or procurement of materials deemed illegal under host country laws or regulations or international conventions and agreements, or subject to international phase-outs or bans, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. ozone depleting substances, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other specific, hazardous pharmaceuticals, pesticides/herbicides or chemicals; b. wildlife or products regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species or Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)? 			
<p>10. Propose the use and/or procurement of pesticides and hazardous materials that are unlawful under national or international laws, the generation of wastes and effluents, and emissions of short- and long-lived climate pollutants?</p>			
<p>11. Involves the removal, alteration or disturbance of any non-replicable or critical cultural heritage, or the use of any intangible cultural heritage without the Free, Prior and Informed Consent of the communities who it belongs to?</p>			