

INSPIRED

By People in Need

5 | NOV 2019



Photo: Petr Štefan

CLIMATE FUNDING

CAMBODIA
Promoting
climate change
adaptation

ETHIOPIA
Natural
resource
management

MONGOLIA
Climate change
as the single
narrative

5 Ways to Use This Edition of INSPIRED

1.

Take it to your next donor or partner meeting

This edition of INSPIRED outlines and describes PIN's approach to climate funding and new opportunities. It is filled with varied examples of our programming, donors and partners can easily find material that is relevant and interesting. Encourage them to take a copy.

Display it at events and conferences with partners and stakeholders

With smart graphics and readable but informative content, INSPIRED is a great material to have to hand when discussing PIN's work and experience globally. Again, encourage people to take a copy for their office or organisation.

4.

Read it before your next programme meeting

Get INSPIRED! Learn more about how PIN country programmes are using market systems development approaches in other contexts. Questions? You can contact the country programmes directly, or get in touch with Knowledge and Learning department advisors to find out more.

5.

Keep copies on display

You never know when you, a visiting donor or partner, might have an extra few minutes while waiting for a meeting to start. Keep a copy on display in meeting rooms and an extra one in the kitchen too for a quick read while the kettle boils!

3.

Introduce and circulate it at your next all-staff meeting

The magazine's primary audience is PIN staff. Full of quotes and contributions by our colleagues. Take a minute at your next staff meeting to introduce it so that everyone knows what PIN is up to around the world.

2.





In the last decade, climate change has become one of the most prominent concerns for both public and private institutions. Feeling the need to address this critical issue, governments, private entities and various organizations have begun to make climate change part of their funding agenda. Not only are developed countries historically responsible for most of the greenhouse gases currently present in the atmosphere, they also continue to emit more greenhouse gases per capita than the world average. Recognizing their responsibility to address this global issue, developed countries are beginning to pool greater resources into climate change adaptation and mitigation activities, especially at the international level. This increased spending in both private and public sectors on climate change provides great funding opportunities for NGOs addressing climate change.

However, the climate funding environment can be very confusing for new actors. Many different funds are available, and it is easy to get lost in the priorities of each fund, their requirements, and how to decide which funds are relevant. Therefore, we decided to dedicate this fifth issue of INSPIRED magazine to climate funding and discuss these opportunities more in depth. We would like to provide you with a brief introduction to, and history of, climate finance, along with an overview of the environmental guidelines and requirements of the large institutional donors which People in Need works with. First, we will try to explain what climate funds are and how they may be useful for you. To learn about this, we conducted an interview with Mr. Peter Kalaš to learn more about the Green Climate Fund, the leading organization providing finances to address climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing countries. Then we will take you through examples of PIN's projects dealing with climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. You will learn how we're addressing the urgent air pollution crisis in the Mongolian capital Ulaanbaatar, and how Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies are being used in Cambodia to enhance communities' climate resilience. We have also started a two-year project in Bosnia and Herzegovina aiming to make "Green Homes" and "Green Mortgages" more widely available to people. In Ethiopia, on the other hand, we promote a holistic Natural Resource Management (NRM) approach to allow communities to contribute to the rehabilitation and protection of their land and to enable sustainable development of their livelihoods. Together, we will peek into one of the projects of our Alliance2015 partner Hivos and explore how they are supporting rural households in Africa and Asia to access carbon finance.

For further inspiration and guidance, this issue also introduces our fairly new Knowledge and Learning Centre website where you can find practical tools, and other resources from various sectors, to ensure high quality and impactful work.

Katerina Gabrielova
Head of Communication & Advocacy





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Practitioners perspectives

What should PIN/other Czech development actors do to access climate funds?



Julian Burgos
Grants Development
Manager

The climate funding environment can be confusing for new actors. Many different funds are available, and it is easy to get lost in the priorities of each fund, their requirements, and how to decide which funds are relevant. It is therefore of the utmost importance to invest time into understanding their differences and in prioritizing funds based on the capacities and strategies of each organisation.

Apart from allocating specific climate funds, all bilateral and multilateral donors (such as the European Union) are increasingly including climate change as a mainstream topic in their strategies. Therefore, each organisation will have to consider how to incorporate mainstream climate change in their approaches. For each project or programme, they will have to explain what its environmental impact is, or how they are contributing to climate change mitigation and/or adaptation.



Cedric Bussac
Head of Programmes
for Armenia

PIN should not only look at accessing climate funds from an economic perspective, but also because it is the responsibility of our organization and our individual responsibility towards future generations which are at stake. Back in 2016, many PIN Country Programmes were already concerned about the impact of our operations on the environment and climate; spontaneous initiatives, the so-called Green Missions, started in several countries: Georgia, Cambodia, Ukraine, Moldova, DRC, Armenia, etc. These actions, based on common sense (saving water and energy, reducing consumption of non-biodegradable goods, recycling...), demonstrate a strong environmental awareness among PIN staff.

This is a growing aspect of PIN culture and identity, and the recent release of the PIN Environmental Policy, backed by Green Missions initiatives, will help our organization to become eligible for climate funds. In return, these funds will allow PIN to develop projects related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and promote more sustainable development strategies.

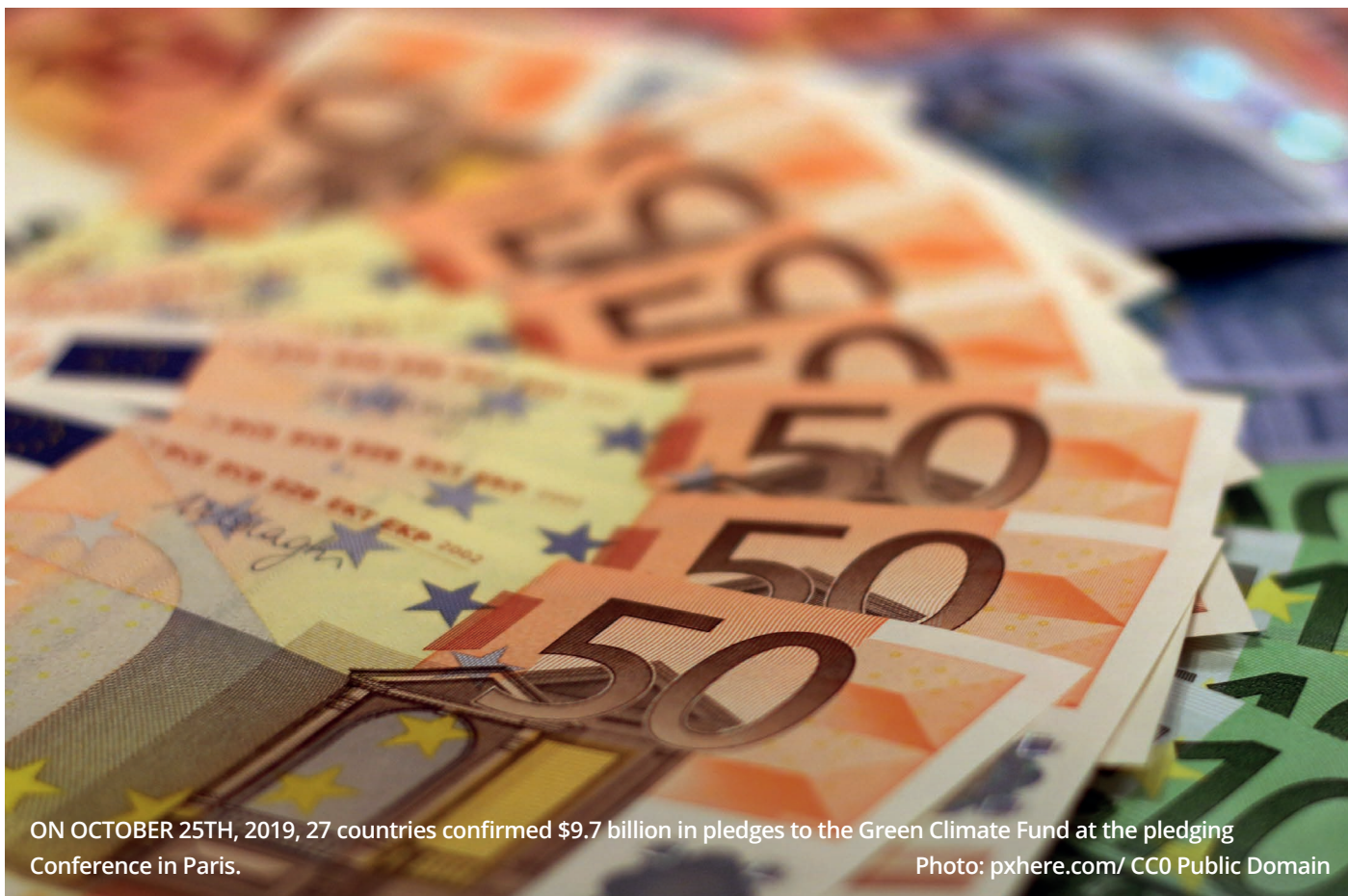


Jan Svitálek
Senior Advisor for NRM
and Agriculture

When designing „climate change projects“, I meet two scenarios. In the first one, teams search for innovation at all costs and perceive the design of climate projects as rocket science. In the second one, people like to repaint old well-known activities with the new „climate brush“, so that their donors like their ideas more.

Innovations indeed might be a great benefit to our projects, but we shouldn't forget that to many beneficiaries, the biggest innovation is a good hoe that makes them work their field better and burn less forest. On the other hand, this doesn't mean that everyone with a new hoe is involved in climate-smart farming.

As environmental and ecological disciplines are complex, we can hardly come up with silver-bullet designs for all. So when thinking of climate, hold your horses with innovations, do diligent environmental analyses of your projects and consider local actions in regional and global contexts. It'll do.



ON OCTOBER 25TH, 2019, 27 countries confirmed \$9.7 billion in pledges to the Green Climate Fund at the pledging Conference in Paris.

Photo: pxhere.com/ CC0 Public Domain

Will climate change also cause a funding change?



Michal Nekvasil
Climate Change
Advisor

Climate change is clearly one of the most serious problems of our times. There are two key issues which need to be addressed. The first one is how to mitigate climate change, i.e. how to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. The second one is how to adapt to the impacts of climate change and how this adaptation is going to be financed. The climate crisis we face has been caused primarily by developed countries, while those who suffer from it the most are the poorest people in developing countries. A moral imperative to deal with this climate injustice is being addressed in particular by so-called climate funds.

Changing perceptions of climate change

While only a few years ago, climate change was just one of many development-related issues, by now it has become a key topic. Not simply because of the current media attention, but above all because people all around the world feel the impacts of climate change in their everyday lives. One of the consequences of this changing perception is the fact that several countries announced their financial pledges at the UN Summit in September 2019. And on October 25th, 2019 27 countries confirmed \$9.7 billion in pledges to the Green Climate Fund's (GCF) at the pledging Conference in Paris.

What climate funds are

There is no official definition of

climate funds. According to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), it is '[f]inancing that aims at reducing emissions, and enhancing sinks of greenhouse gases (i.e. mitigation – note of the author) and aims at reducing vulnerability of, and maintaining and increasing the resilience of, human and ecological systems to negative climate change impacts (i.e. adaptation – note of the author)'. However, as Johann Wolfgang Goethe said, 'all theory is grey, my dear friend, and the golden tree of life is green' - in reality, it is a complex and rather chaotic system of funds, donors, tools and instruments.

A couple of examples of climate funds

The main climate funds are related to UNFCCC. The largest one, the



NEPAL, TIKULIYA VILLAGE IN GAUR, Rautahat district after a flood.

Photo: Sajana Shrestha

Green Climate Fund, was supposed to dispose of 100bn USD / year as of 2020. Other important climate funds are the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Least Developed Countries Fund, the Special Climate Change Fund, the Adaptation Fund, etc. Besides that, traditional donors (EU, USAID, World Bank, etc.) have created a number of specialized climate-related programmes. Furthermore, various climate-focused foundations have been established, mostly financed by private resources.

The funds may be further distinguished based on:

- whether a prior accreditation is needed to apply for the funds (Green Climate Fund, Adaptation Fund, etc.),
- whether an application may be presented at any time (e.g. Special Climate Change Fund, Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, etc.), or

→ whether an application may be presented only based on a published call for proposal (most of the others, including those of traditional donors).

What is the relationship between climate funds and traditional development assistance funds?

Developed countries have repeatedly committed themselves to provide 0.7% of their gross domestic income (GDI) for official development assistance (ODA). Nevertheless, in 2018 only seven countries reached this target worldwide. According to the Copenhagen and Paris Agreements (2009 and 2015, respectively) climate

funds should constitute fresh money, in addition to previous commitments for traditional development assistance. Will these countries provide additional money for climate funds while they are not able to fulfil their commitments for ODA? Will they further decrease traditional development funds to be able to honour their climate finance commitments? Will these countries 'double account' the same money to be used for traditional assistance and for climate funds? Please find out more about this in the section titled 'What the future holds for us' below.

What the future holds for us

Clear evidence is available showing

i Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

IPCC reports summarize both general and specific climate-related up-to-date knowledge. The fifth assessment report published in 2013 and 2014 (the last general one so far) contains for the first

time a section on climate investments and finance. It is expected that the sixth assessment report, to be published in 2022, will address this issue in much more detail.



SOIL EROSION in Ethiopia.

Photo: PIN Archive

that there is a need for both traditional development assistance and for climate funds. There are numerous sectors which are only indirectly related to climate change (health care, social services for disadvantaged groups of people, education, etc.), that will remain covered only by traditional development assistance, and in accordance with national and donors' strategies. In other words, a certain 'division of labour' on what thematic sectors, areas and regions are to be covered by traditional assistance funds on one hand, and what will be covered by climate funds on the other, may need to be brokered.

1 Goethe, J.W.: Faaust, 1st Part.

2 At the moment of writing (September 2019), only some USD 5bn have been allocated (out of USD 7bn received). The second replenishment has reached so far only USD 7.3bn in total.

3 Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates

4 The poverty line is the minimum level of income deemed adequate in a particular country/region. In October 2015, the World Bank updated the international poverty line, a global absolute minimum, to \$1.90 per day.

i Climate funds vs. traditional development assistance funds

| Issue | Traditional development assistance | Climate funds |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Target group | Mostly people living below the poverty line ⁴ | Broader (may also cover people living above the poverty line) |
| Principal objective | Poverty alleviation (mostly) | Climate change adaptation and/or mitigation and poverty alleviation |
| Financing mechanisms/ donors | Traditional donors (e.g. the EU, USAID, DFID, etc.) and traditional mechanisms (mostly grants) | Besides traditional donors and mechanisms also specialized climate funds and mechanisms |
| Involvement of businesses | Growing (in particular through the Market Systems Development) approach), but still limited | Significant (in particular in mitigation projects) |

i Key take away recommendations for development actors

In the coming years, development actors will need to adjust to the new reality. Civil society organizations may like to consider it as an opportunity rather than a threat, and put climate funds on their fund-raising radars. Using climate funds may allow them to scale-up their existing successful projects. Businesses may like to follow new tenders within GCF and other

climate-related funds / programmes. Countries' development agencies may like to support development actors in their efforts to access climate funds. All of these organizations will have to make their everyday functioning more climate-friendly (carbon off-setting, green policy, environmental policy, etc.), not only because donors start asking for it.



EWS MEETING with VDMG at Stoeung Samrong, Sihanoukville.

Photo: Choun Sotheavuth

Promoting climate change adaptation in Cambodia

People in Need (PIN) places climate change adaptation high on its agenda. In Cambodia, we're using Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies to enhance communities' climate resilience.



Choun Sotheavuth
Communication Officer
Cambodia

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing humanity, but even as efforts to curb rising temperatures continue apace, initiatives to help communities adapt are lagging. Recognizing this gap in humanitarian assistance, PIN has focused considerable energy on accelerating disaster risk reduction (DRR) programming. One of our most active efforts is in Cambodia.

In 2013, PIN Cambodia developed a user-centered alert tool, the Early Warning System (EWS) 1294, to deliver advance warnings in areas prone to natural disasters. Using sophisticated hazard-detection technology, data-storage tools and

warning-dissemination software, the system sends voice-based alerts and instructions to registered users when the threat of storm, flood, fire or disease outbreak is detected.

The goal of EWS 1294 is to give people enough time to get out of harm's way. It was developed with funding from the European

309 000
Cambodians have benefited from EWS 1294 warnings.

Commission (through the EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations organization) and in partnership with the Open Institute, Innovative Support to Emergencies

Diseases and Disasters (InSTEDD), the Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDM), and the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM).

Identifying the loopholes

In 2016, Cambodia was the ninth-most vulnerable country in the world to natural hazards¹. Every year, millions of Cambodians are affected by flooding, and in most cases, people have little or no warning before the floodwaters arrive. Flood information was non-existent in areas that are affected by flash floods. Knowledge of any medium of long term weather forecasts were not accessible for either local government units or villagers².

Then in 2013, approximately 1.8 million Cambodians in 24 provinces and the capital, Phnom Penh, were affected by flooding. Once again, many families were unprepared

and uninformed of the intensity and expected gravity of the floods. When the floodwaters receded, about 384, 846 hectares of rice paddies and 440 kilometers of roads were destroyed, at a cost of roughly \$1 billion³. These events illustrated that for many Cambodian communities, disaster preparedness and advance-warning systems were of paramount importance.

Closing the gaps

The key to adaptation and disaster preparedness is the ability to monitor, in real time, climate and environmental data, and then to detect trends to make reliable predictions⁴. With 21 sensors installed across the country, EWS 1294 is giving the government of Cambodia this ability. In 2013, PIN and its partners piloted the first voice-based, mobile phone early warning distribution system in three flood-prone villages in the western province of Pursat. Since then, the program has expanded and undergone gradual improvements and upgrades. It is currently operating in 21 of Cambodia's 24 provinces; in each one, the PCDM has access to a dashboard that highlights potential threats. Provincial authorities also have the ability to record and send messages directly to registered individuals and families in the affected areas.

PIN is establishing links at the grassroots and sub-national levels, working with a number of local and regional stakeholders in disaster-management preparedness (such as District Committee for Disaster Managements (DCDMs), Commune Committee for Disaster Managements (CCDMs) and Village Committee for Disaster Managements (VCDMs)) to further improve the system. To facilitate this work, PIN and partners conduct trainings and workshops to enhance capacities in disaster-risk reduction and management.



PIN STAFF overlooking an automated water gauge that they installed in the Battambang province.

Photo: Nickie Mariager

Moreover, PIN also helps identify vulnerable groups and geographies to strengthen contingency planning. Finally, awareness campaigns of EWS 1294 supplement all of these efforts. For instance, PIN Cambodia's staff actively visits schools in many provinces to raise awareness and help young people subscribe to alerts.

Measurements of success

To date, more than 309,000 Cambodians living in flood-prone communities have benefited from EWS 1294 warnings. EWS 1294 has reduced climate-change vulnerability and improved people's response times to floods. "Before, we never had any tools to alert people about disasters, but with EWS 1294, I can now inform other villages about disasters," says Soeu Moey, Village Chef of Doun Toak fishing village, in

Kampot Province. "When a flood is about to occur, I go to the mosque, and announce the news via the loudspeaker to alert my people to protect themselves."

Looking ahead to the next disaster

People in Need has already secured funding from donors including Swiss Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Czech Republic, United Nations Development Programme in Cambodia and United States Department of State to increase EWS 1294's geographical coverage. By December 2021, the system is expected to cover all of Cambodia's provinces. PIN is also developing plans to transfer control of the system to the NCDM, a move that will ensure the system's long-term sustainability.

1 Afolake Oyinloye (2016). AfricaNews.com. "Thirteen of the 15 countries most vulnerable to natural hazard are in Africa."

<https://www.africanews.com/2016/08/26/list-of-countries-vulnerable-to-natural-hazards/>

2 UNDP Cambodia. (2012). "Livelihood Recovery Needs Assessment – Cambodia 2011 Floods"

https://www.kh.undp.org/content/cambodia/en/home/library/environment_energy/livelihood-recovery-needs-assessment--cambodia-2011-floods.html

3 The Royal Government of Cambodia (2014). kh.undp.org. "Post-flood early recovery need assessment report".

<https://www.undp.org/content/dam/cambodia/docs/PovRed/Cambodia%20post-flood%20recovery%20need%20assessment%20report.pdf>

4 UNDP (2018). Adaptation-undp.org. "UNDP and People in Need Continue collaboration to realize a weather-ready climate-smart Cambodia."

<https://www.adaptation-undp.org/undp-and-people-in-need-continue-collaboration-realise-weather-ready-climate-smart-cambodia>



KENYA BIOGAS

Photo: Sven Torfinn

Hivos: Carbon finance

Carbon finance is a payment system to reward climate change mitigation. Hivos supports rural households in Africa and Asia to access carbon finance.



Harry Clemens
Programme Officer Carbon
Trading and Renewable
Energy, HIVOS

Domestic biogas

Most poor people live in rural areas and their basic livelihoods depend on the state of their natural environment, which is coming under increasing threat from climate change. Using renewable energy sources and climate-smart agricultural methods both improves their living conditions and helps mitigate climate change. Biogas is a renewable energy source of energy. It helps households with livestock to reduce their dependence on firewood and expensive fossil fuels. A biogas digester converts dung into biogas that can be used for cooking and lightning. Moreover, the left over 'slurry' is an organic fertilizer that considerably improves crop yields.

To make this technology more affordable, Hivos supports access of the poor rural population to carbon

i Carbon finance

Carbon finance is a payment system to reward climate change mitigation. It pays for the reduction of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and other greenhouse gases (GHG) by using clean technologies in production, transport, trade and consumption. Those who pay are polluting countries and industries, as well as any companies or individuals wanting to compensate for their GHG emissions caused mainly by transportation and fossil-fuel based energy use. These emission reductions are priced and traded as a commodity called carbon credits. One carbon credit equals the right to emit one ton of CO₂ equivalent.

finance by implementing domestic biogas programmes and by selling carbon credits.

Hivos approach to carbon finance

Hivos has registered biogas carbon finance projects in Indonesia, Cambodia, Kenya, Tanzania and

Uganda. We connect programmes to buyers willing to pay prices that include a contribution to pro-poor sustainable development. Hivos carbon programmes promote co-benefits regarding biodiversity, livelihoods, health impacts and employment. All our carbon credits are registered under the Gold Standard. Income from carbon credit sales is used for biodigester purchase subsidies, as well as for programme activities, such as after-sales services, quality management, staff capacity building and end-user training.

A brief history

The Hivos carbon finance programme started with the establishment of the Hivos Climate Fund in 2007. Hivos started to support three projects implemented by local organisations in Cambodia, Tanzania, and Guatemala. From 2007 to 2010, 5,750 rural families in Cambodia, Tanzania and Guatemala directly benefited from the 22,375 carbon credits sold in the Netherlands to individuals, small businesses and

organisations. Because of the high cost and bureaucratic procedures involved, the carbon credits were verified by independent local consultants, but it became increasingly difficult to sell carbon credits without certification by a respected standard. In 2011, we applied to the Gold Standard Registry - recognised for its compliance with sustainable development criteria - and established a strategic partnership with a respected carbon off-set company for marketing carbon credits in the Netherlands and Belgium. In 2011, Hivos and the Cambodia National Biodigester Program registered the first domestic biogas project in South East Asia. Since 2012, the programme has expanded further. In 2018, more than 100,000 carbon credits were issued and marked, and carbon finance has become the main source of funding of the program.

The Results

The Hivos Climate Fund evolved into a large-scale programme, the Hivos Carbon Finance Programme. Hivos registered carbon finance projects for domestic biogas in Indonesia (Indonesia Domestic Biogas Programme), East Africa (African Biogas Partnership Program) and Nicaragua (Programa Nacional de Biogas). In 10 years time more than 1 million carbon credits were generated and sold. More than € 6 million was raised in revenues and 83,000 biodigesters were installed.

Challenges

However, not everything went rosy. The certification of emission reductions is cumbersome and expensive. It only pays for large scale programmes. Furthermore, carbon credits can only be sold once it is proven that biodigesters are installed, and more importantly functioning and used for cooking. As such it is an efficient way to ensure that a development programme delivers. It requires pre-finance, which is why Hivos uses development finance to start a project. Over time, carbon finance comes in to sustain and expand the project, so that more people can benefit from it. This is also because of our choice to invest in biodigesters as a life-transforming technology. It has many benefits, but it is also expensive. A biodigester has a lifetime of more than 20 years.



CAMBODIA BIOGAS.

Photo: Charlotte Pert

i Encouragement

Development benefits of biogas exceeded expectations, finds new report by Gold Standard found

The benefits of improved cooking solutions, such as biogas, exceed earlier presumptions, new study commissioned by Gold Standard found. The study conducted by Vivid Economics calculates economic values of social and development benefits from Gold Standard certified cooking projects, among which are the Hivos' biogas programmes. The study finds that for every carbon credit issued from domestic biogas projects, the average value created is \$464. For biogas the highest value is created by health impact and improved livelihoods, including time savings of women.

Source: Gold Standard

Download the full report 'Valuating the benefits of improved cooking solutions'. <https://www.goldstandard.org/blog-item/report-valuating-benefits-improved-cooking-solutions> (with a link to project sheet Kenya biogas program)

i How to compensate carbon emissions?

Carbon credits are mainly sold to companies who want to become carbon neutral by reducing emissions and offset the emissions that could not (yet) be avoided. Hivos also invites individuals to offset their emission, e.g. from flights. You can go to the CO2 calculator on www.hivoscarboncredits.org or choose the Kenya Biogas Programme on the Gold Standard Marketplace <https://www.goldstandard.org/take-action/offset-your-emissions>

i Kenya Biogas Programme: the market approach

The overall objective of the Kenya Biogas Programme (KBP) is to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the dissemination of domestic biogas systems as a local, sustainable energy source and the development of a commercially viable, market-oriented biogas sector.

Facts & Figures (till December 2018)

- 15,140 smoke-free kitchens
- 90,840 direct beneficiaries
- 333,500 tCO2 reduced
- 202,000 ton of wood saved
- 14,200 productive slurry users
- 28 private enterprises
- 15 full time jobs plus part-time unskilled day labour



Natural Resource Management in Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, People in Need promotes a holistic Natural Resource Management (NRM) approach to allow communities of the target kebeles¹ to actively implement long-term measures for the rehabilitation and protection of communal and individually managed lands, and to enable sustainable development of the livelihoods of local households.



Veronika Jelínková
Head of Programmes
Ethiopia

The climate is changing; these days it is more visible than any time before. The reasons are many. But in Ethiopia, we can claim that one of the important ones was the deforestation which occurred from the 1960s to 1980s. During these years, Ethiopia basically lost 70% of its forests' coverage, mostly due to the needs of the growing population. This resulted in problems such as a disturbed landscape, massive erosion, a loss of productive soil, and famines. Trees which were used to help in reducing carbon dioxide and the effects of global warming and climate change were gone.

Back then, many initiatives were started to address how to afforest Ethiopia again to prevent climate change from impacting the largest segment of the Ethiopian economy—rainfed agriculture, on which most people depend.

NRM intervention

In July 2019, we witnessed how the world was amazed but also puzzled by a massive afforestation campaign in Ethiopia, which claimed that more than 350 million trees were planted within a day. Despite the fact that this number is hard to verify, the effort should be appreciated. It is however necessary to mention that this campaign wasn't anything new to Ethiopia. It was only the marketing product of long-term

NRM interventions which have been implemented in Ethiopia for decades.

PIN, as part of these initiatives, is implementing a project in the Dijo-Bilate watershed, Alaba. It is an area prone to recurring natural disasters, resource degradation and climate change. The root cause of problems in the area is flooding. Floods occur every year in multiple kebeles, affecting people's lives, damaging road access to schools and hospitals, and also worsening erosion and agricultural productivity.

PIN has applied a holistic NRM approach which has proved to be very appreciated after showing positive results in just a few years. The core of

the project was to create landscape management maps (LMPs) for particular kebeles, showing the whole watershed and the necessary intervention places. For Ethiopians and their agricultural offices, it is a great tool to be used for strategic planning, as in the past this was done largely by using estimates. Now, based on the LMPs, those responsible are able to see the degraded areas, slopes, and erosion gullies and to plan NRM interventions accordingly. To put it simply, the government is well aware of the problems and the NRM work being done yearly during “watershed campaigns”. But due to insufficient knowledge and the complex picture of the watersheds, these efforts very often failed.

PIN also provides trainings for DAs (development agents) who are the people responsible for the implementation and monitoring of NRM measures in villages. They are taught technical information about land degradation and anti-erosion structures, as well as about the importance of planning and cross-border cooperation across the watershed, as it is a natural structure and doesn't respect administrative borders. Through DAs, farmers are also educated and held responsible for maintaining the structures' functionality.

A new element introduced in 2018 in the Alaba project was soil classification. This has never been taken into account during the implementation of similar NRM projects, even though the soil type matters especially when implementing physical structures, which used to be the core of NRM projects. Vertisols, heavy black soils, were introduced. These soils have the tendency of moving and cracking during the season and thus they damage physical structures. As a side effect, lots of money has been saved, as the physical structures (gabion boxes) are among the most expensive items in NRM budgets.

The grass and seedlings production in district or village nurseries is also supported. Seedlings are prepared for the coming year to be planted on newly selected degraded land based on LMPs. The diversity of the species is stressed. Roots of seedlings and grasses also support the physical structures.



FOREST LOSS resulted in problems such as a disturbed landscape, massive erosion, a loss of productive soil, and famines. Photo: Jan Mrkvička



TREES which were used to help in reducing carbon dioxide and the effects of global warming and climate change must be replanted.

Photo: PIN Archive

Within the holistic approach, some parts of the degraded area are closed to prevent the entrance of livestock and subsequent overgrazing. Instead, people are educated and provided with grass seeds to prevent open grazing and feed animals with their own resources, practising the so-called “cut and carry” system. Within a short period of time (2-3 years) it is possible to see the first impacts of the work. Affected places are green, trees have grown to several metres, and areas are full of grass. As a result of that, there are springs and tree species re-occurring in these areas. Such places are also attractive for wild animals, which are returning. Areas are more humid, groundwater is recharged and the green mass is able to absorb more carbon dioxide.

Three principles behind the success

This project can be called successful. It stands on three main principles:

a) Holistic approach, b) technical support and c) education of people. Remembering the 2019 campaign and the 350 million trees planted, this is not unusual or anything new to Ethiopia, as many similar initiatives are happening all over the country. It is all possible

70 %
of Ethiopia forest coverage was lost between 1960s and 1980s.

thanks to the joined effort of people, the government and many NGOs.

There are, however, a few important things to be stressed. It is not only about planting trees. Trees must be planted in well pre-selected areas, and different species must be planted as they can better cope with diseases

and balance the soil nutrients. Other variables such as the soil quality, soil type, slopes, ridges, waterways and overall the geography of the whole watershed must be taken into account. Land must be protected not only by biological measures but also by physical ones which should support each other, especially if we talk about such extensive degradation as has happened in Ethiopia.

Farmers know their land more than anyone else, and we should listen to them when we are planning NRM interventions. However, they should be also educated in new technical principles as this can help them better understand the work and make them qualified to continue by themselves once the project is over. So Ethiopia, move ahead, be an inspiration for other countries. On your way to a green and resilient future, please bear in mind that quality is preferred to quantity.



GCF HAS APPROVED about 110 projects in nearly 100 developing countries.

Photo: Tereza Hronová

The Green Climate Fund

For this issue of INSPIRED, we have prepared an interview with Mr. Peter Kalaš so that we learn about his work with the Green Climate Fund, the leading organization providing finances to address climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing countries. Read our conversation below to learn about the structure and functioning of the Green Climate Fund as well as about the opportunities it provides for the Czech development actors.



Michal Nekvasil
Climate Change
Advisor

You have been working with the Green Climate Fund for several years. What has been your role?

My participation in the GCF started in 2011 during my advisory assignment for the deputy minister of finance. Same year, the GCF was formally established as the financial arm of the UNFCCC and the Czech Republic belongs – with several other countries - to its founding fathers. The Czech Republic, in the constituency with Norway, first occupied the seat of alternate Board member at the GCF-Board. In 2016, the initial Board



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

setting was rearranged to reflect the level of donors' contributions; the Czech Republic joined the constituency with Australia and New Zealand, with the former being a Board member. I periodically alternated with the New Zealand delegate as either an alternate Board member or as an advisor. This constituency arrangement proved

to be effective, providing us with opportunities to share and channel our positions and/or comments to the Board agenda prior to and during the Board's meetings through our Australian Board member. One of my major GCF-agenda priorities was the Readiness program. My former international experience with capacity-building programs in the climate change area with the World Bank proved useful when cooperating with the GCF-Secretariat in building up the GCF-Readiness program, and promoting Czech cooperation with the German GIZ in this area.

The Green Climate Fund is just one of several funds addressing climate

change mitigation and/or adaptation. How does it differ from other funds?

Compared to other funds focused on climate change, the GCF differs mainly in the following aspects:

- **Scale and impact**, as it is currently the largest and fastest growing financial instrument to address climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing countries.
- **Governance**, the Board is composed by an equal number of members from developing and developed countries, with observers from civil society and the private sector.
- **Access**, with direct access possibilities for developing countries and public and private spheres.
- **Allocation**, with equal focus on mitigation and adaptation, a 50% share by the least developed countries (LDCs) in adaptation allowance, and outcome-based financial support to projects and programs.

Unlike other Funds, the GCF is designed to accept a higher risk in the project design.

How does the Green Climate Fund function, in practical terms?

The GCF organisation consists of the Board that governs the Fund,

Petr Jan Kalaš

Ing. Petr Jan Kalaš is a Czech-Swiss expert in the field of environment, energy and industrial planning, and a former Czech Minister of the Environment. He studied Economics and Energy at the Czech Technical University in Prague. In 1968, he emigrated to Switzerland, where he worked for the Ministry of Foreign Trade between 1986 and 1994. He later worked for the World Bank, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).



adopts its operational policies and makes decisions regarding the submitted project proposals, as well as the Secretariat with a current staff of over 250 people in charge of the entire operation, including establishing communication and cooperation with all developing countries. The aim is to assist them through so-called Readiness programs (capacity-building activities) in formulating climate change related country programmes, and in developing project concept notes and financial proposals.

The GCF provides the necessary financing for establishing the national institutional framework (National Designated Authority - NDA). The network of associated international and national accredited entities then cooperates with individual countries on these issues, coordinating respective activities and channelling financial support. The GCF utilizes several financial mechanisms to provide project financing including soft credits, grants, guarantees, and considerations involving its own equity. To date, the GCF has approved about 110 projects in nearly 100 developing countries.

What is the yearly budget that the Green Climate Fund currently at its disposal and what are the prospects for the next replenishment period?

The initial donors' commitments to the GCF amounted to 10 billion USD. With nearly 6 billion USD already committed to approved projects, and between 600-800 million USD approved at each of the three annual GCF-Board meetings, the process of the 1st replenishment of the GCF is currently culminating. It is expected to reach the level of 15 billion USD, with several donors doubling their initial contribution. Also a number of new donors from developed countries, as well as from developing countries, are emerging.



IN THE ADAPTATION AREA, one of the focus is on projects related to water scarcity and methods for its more efficient use.

Photo: Petr Štefan



BIOGAS, renewable energy solution for many Cambodian families.

Photo: Tereza Hronová

How much does the Czech Republic contribute to the Green Climate Fund at the moment, and what are the prospects for the next replenishment period?

The Czech Republic has provided the GCF with 5 million USD, and in addition about 2 million USD to support the Readiness program cooperation with the German GIZ. Its participation in the 1st GCF-replenishment is under consideration.

How could Czech development actors (public institutions, civil society organizations, universities, businesses, etc.) profit from the Green Climate Fund?

Given the nature of GCF-endorsed projects with the prevailing mitigation focus on energy-related issues (cleaner energy generation, renewable energies, energy efficiency in the housing sector and industry), and cleaner (public)

transport and infrastructure, there is a significant opportunity to share our experiences, provide knowledge, and assist in GCF-project preparation – as well as provide technologies to mitigate GHG emissions. In the adaptation area, the focus is on the enhanced resilience of developing countries to climate change, and contains many projects related to water scarcity and methods for its more efficient use, including in agriculture; this provides more broad possibilities for collaboration of Czech development actors and the GCF. Whereas during the initial phase of the GCF existence, the role of our experts dominated our involvement, with a growing number of approved project opportunities there is a growing involvement of our industry in their implementation. Through Czech participation in the GCF-Board deliberations, advanced information is available about the endorsed projects.

There is no Accredited Entity for the Green Climate Fund from the Czech Republic. Which institutions would you consider the best placed to become an Accredited Entity?

To date, there are 79 accredited entities and several dozen others going through the application process to obtain this status. The recent independent Evaluation report recommended that the GCF-Board streamlines and strategizes the selection of new entity candidates for accreditation.

The profile of a Czech potential entity applying for accreditation should contain ample experience with developing countries, international references regarding financing of a diversity of projects, project safeguards, and experienced personnel, as well as possibly of maintaining a wide presence in developing countries.



PIN HAS CONNECTED herders in all 21 provinces to early-warning systems, such as weather and pasture forecasting.

Photo: Tatiana Gavyuk

PIN Mongolia: Addressing the Climate Crisis

In Mongolia, People in Need is working with vulnerable populations to mitigate the devastating effects of climate change.



Jaroslav Petřík
Former Desk Officer for
Mongolia and Afghanistan

For centuries, Mongolia's vast, pristine landscape has captivated people from around the world. But today's global climate crisis threatens the way of life for nearly every Mongolian, as reduced water availability in pastures combined with overgrazing and extreme weather are upsetting the natural balance. This, in turn, is having ecological knock-on effects far from the grasslands.

For example, as conditions for grazing worsen, herders are moving

from the steppe into the cities in search of work. Once they arrive, many continue living in their traditional "gers," or yurts, where they burn coal to keep warm in the harsh Mongolian winter, which chokes Ulaanbaatar and other cities with a dense smog. This complex web of interrelated issues – from ecological change to lost livelihoods – is culminating with heavy air pollution and the negative health impacts from pollutants in the air and soil.

By focusing on these specific problems, People in Need is working to develop targeted solutions.

Many projects implemented by PIN Mongolia are linked to the central issue of climate change, which has become a key topic of concern for Mongolia's leaders.

The world's coldest place

In Ulaanbaatar, the world's coldest capital city, the government has taken significant actions to address high rates of air pollution. This includes passage of a resolution in February 2018 mandating the introduction of improved coal by May 2019, which has led to some improvements in air quality. Additionally, the Ulaanbaatar city government has provided air

purifiers to improve the indoor air quality in schools and kindergartens. And development partners to the Mongolian government have also supported efforts to reduce and mitigate air-pollution risks.

And yet, despite all of these initiatives, air pollution continues to affect urban dwellers – particularly children, pregnant women, and the elderly. These sensitive groups suffer from higher incidences of bronchial infections and pneumonia.

To help Mongolia address these ongoing challenges, People in Need, through a series of European Union and Czech funded projects, has introduced interventions to reduce air pollution and lower its health impacts. For instance, PIN and its partners developed insulation made from sheep wool as a new material on the Mongolian construction market. Seven small- and medium-sized Mongolian businesses developed the capacity to produce the material, while complying with national and international standards and certificates. Universities and construction companies further supported the introduction of sheep wool-based insulation through technical trainings on its application. This project, which ended in 2016, helped companies produce over 52,000 m² of the insulation material, which was enough to insulate 174 homes and save some 574 tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

As a follow-up, People in Need is now focusing on raising awareness for the economic and ecological benefits of energy efficiency. Working with partner NGOs, the project supports independent energy advisors who can provide tailored recommendations on how to refurbish existing homes to minimize heat loss and save coal. The project also introduced a hi-tech approach to identify candidates for outreach: using a drone with infrared cameras, we're mapping ger districts at night to identify buildings that emit the most heat. Owners of these households can then be directly approached by the energy advisors.



EXTREMELY HARSH WINTERS (DZUD) kill millions of livestock bringing an uncertain future for vulnerable herders. Photo: PIN Archive

While both projects are coordinated with other actors and designed to complement broader air-quality efforts, they build on innovative ideas introduced by the PIN team. But it is another project, the Right to Breathe program that brings all of these initiatives together.

PIN works with local civil-society organizations to empower communities to compliment government efforts. For example, PIN built a network of air quality monitors, providing independent, highly reliable, real-time data on air quality across the capital and in three provincial centers. Today, anyone can check the current air pollution situation in these areas by visiting www.airvisual.com.

Supporting herders in rural areas

For the urban population, climate change is a much more distant concern than the imminent danger

of air pollution. In the countryside, the order of priorities is reverse: climate change is understood to be an important contributing factor threatening herding, the traditional source of Mongolians' income. The average temperature in Mongolia has increased by 2.1°C since 1940, more than double the rise of average global temperatures. This translates to less water in pastures, diminished carrying capacity of pastures due to lower grass yields, and increased frequency of extreme weather events, particularly the dzud (extremely harsh winters that kill millions of livestock). Mongolia currently has nearly 70 million heads of livestock, more than triple the average between 1950 and 1990. But with decreasing water availability, vulnerable herders (those with between 200-300 livestock) face an uncertain future.

For these people, PIN provides support in a number of ways.



EVEN IF MOVING INTO THE CITIES, many Mongolians continue living in the traditional “gers,” or yurts, where they burn coal to keep warm in the harsh winters. Photo: Regis Defurnaux

With funding from the EU and in partnership with Mercy Corps, PIN has connected herders in all 21 provinces to early-warning systems, such as weather and pasture forecasting. We have also provided training for local government officials in Livestock Emergency Response Guidelines and Standards (LEGS)¹, and helped nearly 700 local officials increase their dzud preparation and recovery strategies for herders and households.

PIN’s Empowered People – Improved Livelihoods (EP-IL)² project, also funded by the EU, introduced innovative business ideas and stimulated local CSOs, businesses

and authorities to coordinate their efforts toward regional development in two provinces (Arkhangai and Uvurkhangai). EP-IL focused on empowering small and medium-sized entrepreneurs, as well as supporting the development of targeted provinces and soum (district-level) cooperatives. Overall, the program increased citizen’s participation in local development policies and decision making, changed attitudes about local development policies, strengthened civil society organizations, and promoted multilateral cooperation and long-term planning. During its implementation, the project collaborated with 40 cooperatives and entrepreneurs, ten

civil society organizations, and ten soum governors.

Future is bright

Engaging diverse populations in multiple ways to address the climate change challenge allows us to frame our work in a coherent narrative, which helps focus our country strategy, engage donors, and motivate our team as well as our beneficiaries. PIN Mongolia has also implemented several smaller projects (such as university teacher exchanges) to complement and support our core programs. While these challenges loom large, Mongolia’s future is still bright. Innovative initiatives developed by the government, development partners, and citizens give us hope. People in Need will continue to bring new approaches to support and amplify these initiatives in the years to come.

1 www.fao.org/emergencies/resources/documents/resources-detail/en/c/177304/
 2 www.clovekvtisni.cz/en/cooperatives-in-mongolia-future-of-country-s-economic-development-4060gp

i A few priorities:

- Continue supporting the government, CSOs, and the Mongolian people in the fight against air pollution;
- Work with small- and medium-sized enterprises to create sustainable livelihoods in rural areas;
- Convene public and private sector entities to address the climate crisis;
- Continue to support capacity building in Mongolia’s disaster risk reduction ecosystem, particularly with an emphasis on supporting vulnerable populations.



Do you need... new ideas? great examples? useful guidance & tools?

Then explore PIN's Knowledge and Learning Centre. Across 18 thematic areas, you will find over 600 toolkits, training modules, webinars, evaluation reports, checklists, templates and other resources that will make your work easier. All of them were carefully selected by PIN's technical advisors, helping you save time and ensure that your work has even better impact.

resources.peopleinneed.cz

The best technical support for humanitarian and development programming, all at one place. Enjoy!





THE KEY ACTIVITY within the project was a three day-long seminar on climate change and climate funds. Photo: PIN Archive

Capacity building for Climate Funding

How People in Need is increasing the capacities of Czech development actors regarding climate change and climate funds.



Michal Nekvasil
Climate Change
Advisor

People in Need is continuously looking for ways to improve its approaches to development assistance and humanitarian aid. Since climate change impacts are becoming ever more serious in developing countries and affecting the needs of local populations, and concern with this situation has been reflected also by donors, the topic of this year's capacity building project has become clear – enhancing the capacities of Czech development actors regarding climate change and climate funds.

Many Czech development actors depend to a large extent on Czech funds, which is clearly unsustainable.

Furthermore, accessing traditional development assistance funds is becoming ever more difficult. Against this background, climate funds constitute an opportunity to address at the same time climate change mitigation and/or adaptation and related local needs.

Needs assessment

The project started by exploring the current experiences, interests and needs of Czech development actors regarding climate funds. It has become clear that while the participating organizations have limited experience with these funds, they are very much interested in learning more about them and how to access them.

Seminar

The key activity within the project was a three day-long seminar on

climate change and climate funds. It gathered more than 30 participants from the private sector, universities, non-governmental organizations and government institutions. Some 15 speakers shared their knowledge and experience on different aspects of climate change and climate funds in an interactive manner.

The first day of the seminar dealt with climate change and climate funds in general, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the climate-related funding of the EU and of the Czech Development Agency, the role of the Czech Ministry of the Environment in climate funding and the possible value to be added by Czech development actors in addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation. It has become clear

that there are numerous funding opportunities, which may be used for projects based on the strengths of Czech development actors.

Numerous inspirational case studies on climate-related projects were presented on the second day by a representative of GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit), as well as by our colleagues from Czech development organizations. While the presented projects of GIZ already did target climate change mitigation and adaptation as their principal concern, the projects presented by Czech development actors focused primarily on development issues and addressed climate change rather as a side effect.

The first part of the last day, led by an international trainer, consisted of a practical exercise on drafting a climate-related project proposal, regarding both mitigation and adaptation. In the afternoon, we further discussed climate funding opportunities, key donors' environmental requirements and the possibilities of incorporating climate change in the funding strategies of participating organizations.

Roundtable of decision makers

Decision makers from government institutions (Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Czech Development Agency), the privatemembers of academia and non-governmental organizations gathered around the table to discuss possible synergies among the development and climate agendas, and concrete ways of cooperation among Czech development actors in the development and implementation of climate-related projects.

INSPIRED magazine

Finally, this issue of INSPIRED magazine is also a product of this project. It summarizes key information about climate funds (examples of the best practices, requirements to be met, individual funds, etc.) and is thus a good starting point for anybody who may be interested in accessing climate funds or just in learning more about them.



THE SEMINAR was attended by more than 30 participants. Photo: PIN Archive

i Key take away points from the seminar

- try to observe climate impacts and related needs in “your” country
- identify your climate-related thematic niche
- try to shift the paradigm – climate change mitigation/adaptation could be the main objective of your project and thus your specific objectives, results, activities and indicators would differ from a traditional development project
- talk to climate-related actors in your country
- take climate funds as an additional opportunity
- consider scaling up an existing project so that it has a transformative effect



Environmental guidelines and requirements of large institutional donors

This article provides an overview of specific environmental guidelines and institutional capacity requirements of large institutional donors such as DFID, European Commission (EC), USAID, Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and the United Nations (UN).



Ana Gabrovec
Grants Development
Manager

Commitments to sustainable development and environmental protection, made through various multi-lateral agreements and frameworks, have led institutional donors to introduce environmental policies, guidelines and impact assessment tools. This has had an effect on organisations wanting to partner with or obtain funding from these donors, as they are increasingly required to demonstrate a level of environmental institutional capacity and expertise in order to be considered. It comes in light of the gradual shift in understanding the protection of the environment as not solely a sectoral concern but rather as

a cross-cutting issue to be integrated into all development cooperation and humanitarian assistance efforts. The process is often described as environmental mainstreaming and can be understood as a systematic approach to integrating the environment into all areas of development or humanitarian programming funded and implemented by a particular donor entity. The shift is embedded in the recognition of links between environmental sustainability and poverty reduction, most prominently championed by Agenda2030 for Sustainable Development.

DFID

DFID is one of the most rigorous and systematic donors when it comes to environmental mainstreaming.

Requirements from prospective grantees (Supply Partners as per DFID terminology) are set out in the **Supply Partner Handbook**¹ (revised in July 2019). It is DFID's policy that screening must be carried out for all DFID interventions with a value of £1million or more before funding is released.

This means that after submitting a project application for funding, a DFID project officer with support from an environmental advisor will carry out an environmental screening procedure, to determine environmental impacts. The screening is carried out in line with their **Environment Guide**², which is publicly available and can serve as a guide during the process of designing your DFID intervention.

Requirements:

- Have an environmental safeguarding policy in place, which sets out key aims and principles
- Identify environmental risks and maintain the Risks and Issues Register
- Report any environmental risks and proposed mitigation actions through the Risks and Issues Register
- Publish annual environmental reports regarding the organisation's performance on a regular basis

* suppliers might be required to comply with additional environmental provisions set out in individual contract agreements

EC

EC's commitment to environmental mainstreaming is elaborated in their guidelines on **Integrating the Environment and Climate Change into EU International Cooperation and Development**³. According to the Guidelines, environmental mainstreaming should be clearly reflected in every aspect of a program or an action and is thus not limited to the use of specific tools and techniques. This means that every proposed action should incorporate the following:

- environmental and climate change-related issues identified as part of the problem analysis and stakeholder analysis
- environmental and climate change concerns and opportunities reflected in action design (environment-sensitive results)
- relevant environmental and climate change indicators included in the action's monitoring and evaluation system

USAID

USAID uses an **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process**⁴ to evaluate the potential impact of proposed activities on the environment prior to

the implementation. Environmental compliance requirements are determined separately for each funding opportunity. Some of the common requirements are:

- Environmental assessment (EA) detailing significant effects, both beneficial and adverse
- A Scoping statement identifying which of the proposed actions may be significant in their effect (and thus must be redesigned or assessed in an Environmental Assessment) and those that are not significant and may be eliminated from further study
- Integrated Waste Management Plan
- Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan

Global Affairs Canada (GAC):

GAC has the **Environment Handbook for Community Development Initiatives**⁵ in place, which outlines the environmental requirements for development and humanitarian assistance projects implemented by NGOs.

All actions supported by GAC are subject to the same environmental requirements, and environmental screening is required for all. For this purpose, GAC has the **Environmental Integration process**⁶ in place, with a corresponding screening tool. For potential grantees, this tool is intended to serve as a guide.

Requirements:

- Environmental Policy;
- Environmental Impact Assessment Templates;
- WASH policy (if applicable) and Medical and Biomedical Waste policy (if applicable);
- Tools for environmental monitoring, environmental training or other environmental capacity-building within your organization (e.g. checklists, guidelines, field manuals, Logic Model)

- Procedures for monitoring and documenting appropriate environmental management of projects

UN system

Recognising the need for a common approach to integrating environmental considerations into the actions of different UN agencies, **The Framework for Advancing Environmental and Social Sustainability in the United Nations System**⁷ was developed. The Framework acknowledges that environmental issues are cross-sectoral by nature, and environmental considerations have to be introduced in a consistent and coordinated manner into all relevant sectoral activities.

UNHCR, WFP, UNDP and FAO all have their respective environmental policies in place, which need to be consulted when designing actions. Particular focus should be on mitigating potential environmental risks. Funding applications will be screened according to each agency's internal screening tools. INGOs and enterprises interested in competitive bidding and becoming a supplier via The UN Global Marketplace (UNGM) need to have an effective environmental policy in place and comply with the UN Supplier Code of Conduct.

Ultimately, environmental mainstreaming is about being held accountable to the populations in the areas where we work. This is true for donors as well as for implementing entities such as INGOs and private enterprises. The vast number of donor guidelines, frameworks and policies in place suggest that actions which integrate environmental considerations and optimize environmental benefits in their design, implementation, and monitoring are recognised as examples of good practice and a common shared objective.

1 https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/816646/Supplier-Partner-Handbook-12July2019.pdf
2 https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Pubs/files/environment_guide_2003.pdf
3 C:\Users\gabkat01\Downloads\mainstreaming_guidelines.pdf
4 <https://www.usaid.gov/environmental-procedures/environmental-compliance-esdm-program-cycle/principles-eia>
5 https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/funding-financement/environment_handbook-manuel_environmentement.aspx?lang=eng
6 https://www.international.gc.ca/world-monde/funding-financement/screening_tool-outil_examen_prealable.aspx?lang=eng
7 <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/2738sustainabilityfinalweb.pdf>



OPENING MEETING of the SMARTER Consortium, The Université libre de Bruxelles, May 20, 2019. Photo: Iva Svobodova

Making the Green Choice the “SMARTER” Choice for Families

People in Need (PIN) is supporting families in Central and Eastern Europe to make “green” choices for their houses and living.



Iva Svobodová
Project Manager
Bosnia and Herzegovina

In May 2019, PIN Bosnia and Herzegovina together with 16 expert partners launched a two-year European Union-supported project called SMARTER Finance for Families. Under the auspices of Horizon 2020, the EU’s research and innovation program, the project aims to make “Green Homes” and “Green Mortgages” more widely available to consumers in 12 European countries. PIN’s work will focus on extending the program to lower income beneficiaries in Bosnia and Herzegovina and beyond.

Why energy efficiency matters?

Throughout Europe, energy-efficient building standards remain elusive. This keeps energy bills and carbon emissions high and contributes to energy poverty, lower levels of comfort for residents, poor indoor air quality and associated health problems.

i Energy Efficient/Green Home

The project will focus on producing residential projects designed to provide a significant reduction of the energy need for heating and cooling that also include the non-energy components of “green” projects (e.g. low toxicity of building materials, low impact of building product manufacture or reduction of fossil fuel transportation needs, reduction of urban heat islands, etc.)

In the EU, buildings are responsible for some 40% of energy consumption and 36% of carbon-dioxide (CO2) emissions, making buildings the largest energy consumer in Europe.¹

The least-efficient buildings are often inhabited by people threatened by the energy poverty, which perpetuates the cycle of energy inefficiency: poorer families burn lower quality fuel and in turn, contribute more to air pollution. This is the case of many places in the

Balkans, which has some of the worst air quality in the world.²

Bringing key stakeholders closer

SMARTER Finance for Families program works with banks and developers to certify green homes and create a financial product that incentivizes green-building and home construction. Successful preparation of energy efficient development projects requires the involvement of numerous, often unassociated stakeholders. To bring these groups together, SMARTER links green-home certifiers, energy auditors, financial evaluation experts and institutional investors to better understand the existing tools available, and to help translate the complexities of high-energy home performance into financial terms.

To achieve these goals, the program uses knowledge and communication tools to improve the capacity of all relevant stakeholders. For instance, consultation and



AIR POLLUTION in Sarajevo.

Photo: Iva Svobodova

networking opportunities help foster greater cooperation among lenders and industry experts. Additionally, SMARTER utilizes research to inform banks' risk managers about the

Ukrainian Energy agency) to make energy-efficient solutions accessible to low-income families. The goal is to improve beneficiaries' health and financial stability.

of the market share of new homes in Romania. and replicates it in 11 new countries SMARTER's potential for replication was acknowledged by the European Commission, which introduced the project at several high level conferences and nominated it for the **EU Sustainable Energy Awards**.⁴ Eventually, SMARTER's tools, research and learning applications will be publicly available.

We advocate for inclusive financial products and mitigate the risks of energy poverty in the Western Balkans and beyond.

benefits of writing green mortgages – advantages that include lower energy and repair costs, and improved health for inhabitants – and how these benefits lower the risk of investment.

The ultimate goal is to encourage banks to offer consumers favorable green-mortgage loans, which would in turn allow home buyers to borrow more for energy efficient construction or renovation, and to pay off mortgages sooner. SMARTER also encourage certifications to prove the value of a building, which can be used as an investment guarantee. To that end, PIN leads a team of four project partners (Centre for Renewable Energy Sources and Saving, Center for Energy Efficiency EnEffect and European-

Our research is focused on finding solutions that combine government incentives with private bank financing for people in Central and Eastern Europe. Currently, our team is reviewing energy poverty reduction programs to help policymakers calculate support levels based on family income. In the next stage of the project, we will create a catalogue of best practices for potential stakeholders.

Building on recognized achievements

The project builds on a successful pilot program organized by the Romanian Green Building Council (RGBC),³ which represent around 6,500 housing units and about 10%

Finally, the project encourages organizations from non-implementing countries to become “listening partners” by soliciting support in their own country or by participating in SMARTER meetings. PIN Bosnia and Herzegovina is therefore keen to involve any PIN offices or individuals who wish to enhance their knowledge of energy efficiency, exchange experience with the consortium or to introduce the project to partners.

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/nearly-zero-energy-buildings-net-zero-energy-districts>

² <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/bih-north-macedonia-most-polluted-countries-in-europe-report/>

³ <http://rogbc.org/en/projects/green-homes>

⁴ <https://eusew.eu/about-awards-competition>

Our Social Media at a Glance



People in Need @people_in_need

November 18



People in Need @people_in_need · 18. 11.

"Before the trainings from People in Need, I did not use quality seed and my yield was poor, but this season my yield has exceeded my expectations." Fall is harvest time for many farmers 🍅🍆🌻. In #Zambia, we're working hard to ensure it's productive. ow.ly/S11E50x4IAh



People in Need - Official

November 16



People in Need

Published by Greg Bruno [?] · 16 November at 13:00 · 🌐

"I grow wheat ...flax, chickpea, clover and cover grasses. I turned a dry desert into a wonderful plot of agricultural land. My surroundings are now green and they provide me with a livelihood." – Fatima, PIN beneficiary

In Northern Afghanistan, rainfall is rare, which can make farming an agonizingly difficult profession. But thanks to a PIN intervention to help farmers manage watersheds, store rain and snow melt, irrigation has improved – and so have the crops.

See how we're helping farmers like Fatima turn parched fields into a more sustainable future. <https://www.clovekvtisni.cz/.../i-turned-a-dry-desert-into-a-...>

With support from:

Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ)

Welthungerhilfe

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People in Need - Official

January 10



People in Need

Published by Greg Bruno [?] · 10 November at 12:06 · 🌐

"For generations our family has been herding yaks, but since we joined the cooperative, we were able to benefit from the animals we take care of and realized that our animals have good quality wool."

Read how Galbadrakh Purevsuren and other entrepreneurs in Mongolia are securing business financing and opportunities as part of a PIN program to strengthen rural economic development.

<https://www.clovekvtisni.cz/.../we-have-better-products-and-m-...>

See more



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January 2



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peopleinneedcz For 30 years, Felipe Capones cultivated sweet potato, cassava, and banana 🍌 in the Philippines' Eastern Samar province. But with 11 people in his family – and six children in high school – he needed a way to make more money. Pineapples 🍍🍍🍍 were his answer. 🙌!

Together with @chainedubonheur and @helvetas_ch we organized a series of pineapple production and management training courses that helped shift the #fortunes of #farmers like Felipe in Eastern Samar. Swipe for more 🍍
#Philippines
#economicdevelopment
#peopleinneed



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INSPIRED

MARKET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

5 | DEC 2018

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PEOPLE IN NEED
peopleinneed.cz

People in Need is a Czech, non-governmental organisation (NGO) that has been providing aid in troubled regions and supporting respect for human rights since 1992. People in Need has since grown to become one of the largest NGOs in Central Europe. Today, its work focuses on relief and development aid, advocacy for human rights and democratic freedom, field social work, and education, awareness and information.



CZECH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
www.czechaid.cz/en

This issue of Inspired was financially supported by the Czech Development Agency. The Czech Development Agency is a state organisation under the authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and an implementing body of the development cooperation of the Czech Republic. The main aims of the Czech Development Agency include reducing poverty, improving quality of life and supporting sustainable development. The Czech Development Agency connects three groups of actors: state sector and local authorities, non-profit sector with universities and private sector.

Alliance 2015

towards the eradication of poverty

ALLIANCE 2015
alliance2015.org

Alliance2015 is a strategic partnership of eight European NGOs engaged in humanitarian and development activities. Besides People in Need (Czech Republic), Alliance2015 members are ACTED (France), Cesvi (Italy), Concern Worldwide (Ireland), HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation (Switzerland), Hivos (The Netherlands), Ayuda en Acción (Spain) and Welthungerhilfe (Germany).

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