



ENABLING ADAPTATION

How can businesses, governments, and individuals coordinate to ensure the implementation of effective domestic and international strategies to prepare for the effects of climate change? Even if we were able to limit global average temperature increase to 2 degrees Celsius this century, sea levels would likely rise between 18-38 cm (IPCC 2007), and most projections foresee even higher temperature changes. Climate change is a global problem whose challenges must be met at the local and regional level. Developing countries will bear a disproportionate risk, and their fate may largely be determined by decisions made in countries with the least incentive to act. This contest seeks to explore innovative institutional, educational, financial, and other means by which we can increase global preparedness for climate change on both domestic and international scales.



ADAPTATION & CIVIL SOCIETY GROUPS

Countries and communities around the world need to prepare for the impacts of climate change. Government action is central to climate adaptation, but achieving a goal of this magnitude requires the involvement of diverse actors. In particular, international, national, and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as communities and community-based groups, have the potential to advance adaptation. These actors can engage in a diverse range of activities from education and advocacy work, to directly leading the planning and implementation of concrete projects and programs. This contest seeks proposals that elaborate the ways in which civil society actors can either support the actions of government or take independent action to achieve climate adaptation.



URBAN ADAPTATION

Rapid urban growth and climate change are converging in ways that increase risk. Climate change may pose a significant challenge to cities, which are now home to over half of the global population. Many cities face sea-level rise, which threatens low-lying coastal areas, periods of prolonged heat or drought, which can threaten public health, and extreme weather conditions, such as wildfires, hurricanes, and flooding. This contest asks what cities can do to become more resilient to the challenges brought on by climate change. More specifically, it asks what city governments can do to help their cities adapt to the challenges brought on by climate change. Proposals that outline ways in which other actors can help cities adapt to climate change are also welcome.

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