

Private Sector and Adaptation at the Local Level

Pre-APAN Discussion Session

Tuesday, Sept 30, 1 – 4pm

Objective. The purpose of this structured discussion is to develop an initial framework for understanding how investments in local level adaptation result in private sector and markets creation, involvement, or mobilization, and inform further development of the Community Resilience Partnership Program, its activities, and portfolio.¹

This could include defining “private sector” in context of local level adaptation, defining scope of the framework, identifying follow-on evidence needs, methodological approaches, and timelines.

Background. Large-scale government programs (e.g., community-driven development, social protection, rural livelihood development) have been working at the local level to improve lives, livelihoods, and governance systems. Grassroots movements and community-based organizations have also been long engaged in such activities, including ensuring that communities have meaningful access to decision-making systems. Given the growing need to scale up adaptation at the local level, such government programs and active networks at the local level can be leveraged to improve climate resilience, mobilize public resources for adaptation, and foster meaningful engagement of poor and vulnerable people in adaptation-related decision making.

Likewise, mobilization of private sector investments for and engagement in local level adaptation has become of greater import– to address the growing adaptation finance gap, improve the climate resilience of existing private sector entities and harness new opportunities.

Key questions remain regarding if government programs and local actors’ investments are (i) resulting in market creation, private sector engagement, and financing, (and if yes, how?) (ii) if this is supporting climate resilience, and (iii) could these be further scaled to deliver local level adaptation?

This would be an invite-only discussion, with Huairou Commission, ADB, and other partners.

¹ The Community Resilience Partnership Program (CRPP) is a regional partnership program that focuses on scaling local level adaptation solutions at the nexus of climate, poverty reduction, and gender, particularly through government systems. Alongside ADB, the Huairou Commission and International Institute for Environment and Development, are two non-financing core partners to delivering this program.