

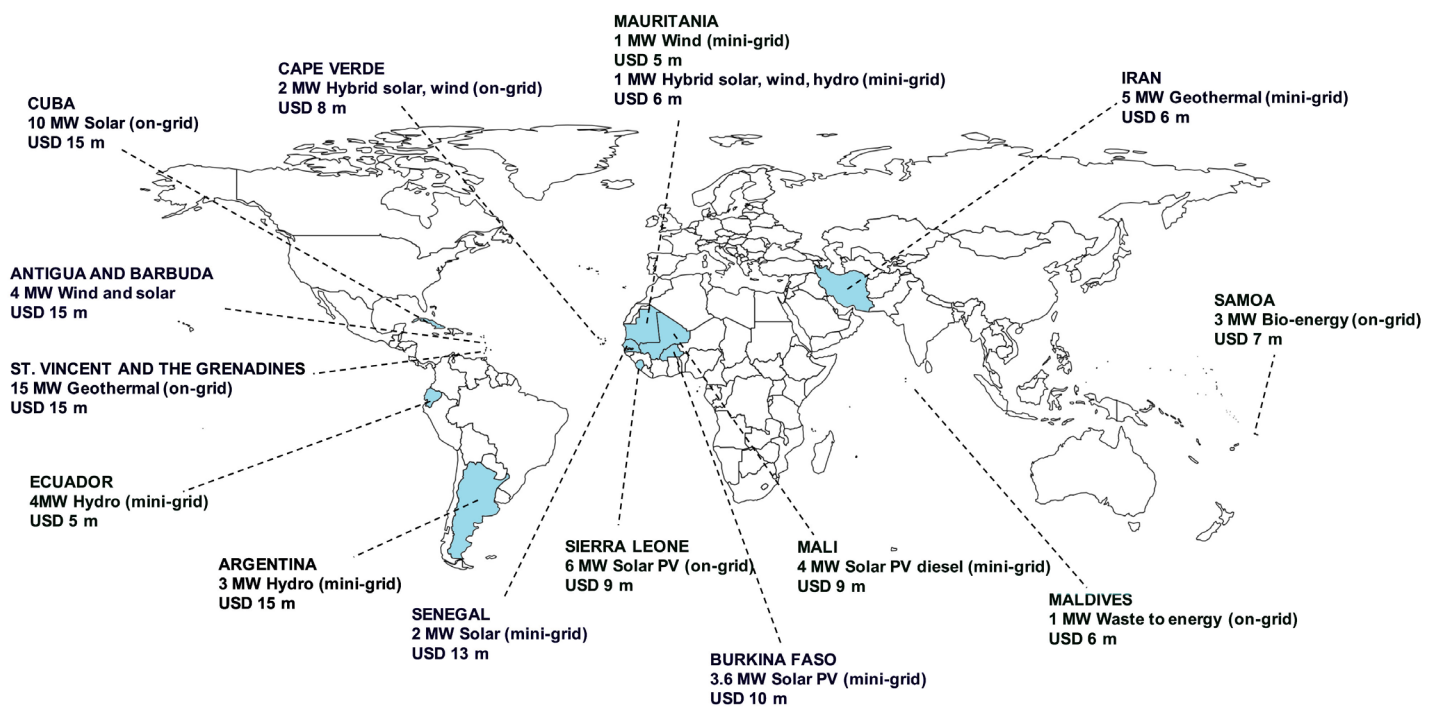
INFOCUS

IRENA/ADFD Project Facility

IRENA **ADFD** PROJECT FACILITY

The IRENA/ADFD Project Facility is a partnership between the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) to facilitate the allocation of concessional loans for renewable energy projects in developing countries. Since 2012, the facility has enabled loans for USD 333 million to 15 projects in 14 countries.

PROJECTS SELECTED FOR FUNDING



“The IRENA/ADFD Project Facility is a pioneering partnership to fund renewable energy projects in developing countries around the world. These projects have the potential to improve the lives of hundreds of thousands of people by facilitating sustainable economic growth, bolstering energy security and expanding energy access.” - Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General of IRENA

WHAT IS THE ABU DHABI FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT?

Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD), the development arm of the Government of the UAE, was established on 1971. The Fund, an autonomous national entity aims to alleviate living standards across developing nations. ADFD, a profound instrument of change, drives sustainable socio-economic growth by providing financial assistance in the forms of concessionary loans, managing government grants and equities. ADFD peruses investments within the private and public arenas to encourage beneficiary countries to partake in accelerating their economic development process. www.adfd.ae

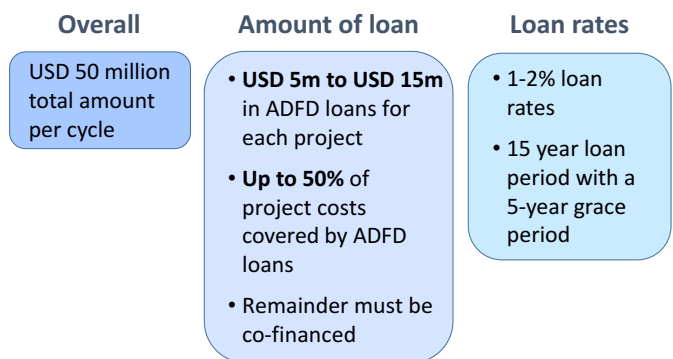
HOW DOES THE FACILITY WORK?

The IRENA/ADFD Project Facility works in cycles. Concessional loans of USD 350 million have been committed for seven cycles. Since 2012, three funding cycles have been implemented. The call for applications normally opens in November each year. Ministries, semi-governmental institutions and private sector companies are invited to submit applications.

Applicants must submit executive project summaries by February. The applications are evaluated by an independent international panel of experts who shortlist the projects based on technical feasibility, economic/commercial viability and socio-economic and environmental benefits, including improvement of energy access and energy security. The proponents of shortlisted projects are then invited to submit full project proposals in May. Requirements and templates to complete the application can be found at <http://adfd.irena.org>

The evaluation process includes a strategic review by the Advisory Committee, consisting of IRENA Members, which then recommends projects to ADFD for final selection. The final selection by ADFD is done by December and the public announcement usually takes place at the annual IRENA Assembly in January.

FUNDING



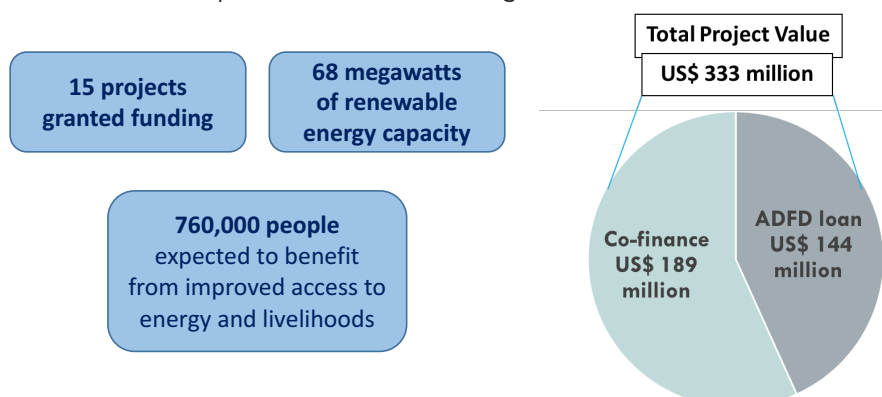
PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Projects selected and recommended must be:

- » Transformative, replicable, scalable and innovative.
- » Supported and guaranteed by the host government and aligned with national strategic development priorities.
- » Geographically spread.
- » Technologically diverse.

RESULTS

Three selection cycles have been completed with the following results:



HOW CAN MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN THE FACILITY?

AS APPLICANTS: Countries that are on the list of official development assistance recipients of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee can apply for funding. They need to be Members of IRENA by the time of selection. The full list of eligible countries can be seen [here](#).

Applicants can register at the [Project Facility](#) website. Upon registration, they will receive information about the opening of each cycle and webinars for applicants. All applications must include a government guarantee letter. Countries will be called upon to state whether the submitted projects are aligned with their national priorities.

AS MEMBERS (OR ALTERNATES) OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The Advisory Committee is composed of up to seven members and up to seven alternates and provides guidance to one full funding cycle. Prior to the start of each new funding cycle, IRENA Members are invited to express their interest in becoming a member of the Committee. The Assembly appoints the members and alternates for each funding cycle with a view to ensuring equitable geographic distribution.

The Committee reviews the projects from a strategic point of view and is tasked with proposing improvements to the Facility as well as co-funding sources.

BY RECOMMENDING MEMBERS OF THE PANEL OF EXPERTS: The Panel is open for technical specialists

with experience in various renewable energy technologies, developing countries, procedures and practices of development funds, economic and financial evaluation of projects, project development, implementation and management, project analysis, monitoring and evaluation, socio-economic and environmental impact assessments.

A call for nominations for the Panel of Experts is circulated to the IRENA membership and relevant stakeholders in advance of the opening of each cycle. The size of the Panel can vary depending on the technical capability of the nominations made in that year. The experts technically evaluate the projects and are also tasked with recommending improvements to the selection process and criteria and on co-funding.

AS FINANCIERS OR CO-FINANCIERS OF PROJECTS: Upon request, IRENA will share the shortlisted projects with government development agencies and donors as well as bilateral, multilateral and global funds that are interested in co-funding or funding projects processed through the Facility.

HOW DOES THE IRENA/ADFD PROJECT FACILITY LINK TO OTHER IRENA INITIATIVES?

Applicants to the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility are invited to use other IRENA platforms including the Global Atlas for Renewable Energy, the Project Navigator and the Sustainable Energy Marketplace to support their submissions.

CASE STUDY – TRANSFORMATION AND RESILIENCE BUILDING OF THE WATER SECTOR IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Currently, Antigua and Barbuda is dependent on fossil fuels for electricity generation. Using renewable energy will diversify its energy sources whilst actively moving towards more reliable and affordable electricity.

An innovative project recommended for funding through the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility will receive a USD 15 million concessional loan to help transform the water sector, reduce the cost of electricity and increase the climate resilience of the country.





The project, submitted by the Ministry of Health and the Environment, will use solar PV panels and wind turbines to power desalination plants, enabling increased provision of reliable water services and addressing the severe shortages that the country faces. The project is expected to help meet the national mitigation targets set out under the Paris Agreement and the national objective that energy for water production and essential services will be 100% renewable and generated in the island by 2020. In addition, the project is engaging persons with disabilities in a greenhouse-hydroponics climate smart garden incorporating water harvesting and solar energy.

“IRENA and the ADFD are helping Antigua and Barbuda to bring to life a transformative renewable energy project that will help us to improve our access to water and electricity, while improving our resilience to the effects of climate change.” - H.E. Mr. Conrod C. Hunte, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to IRENA, Government of Antigua and Barbuda, New York.

CASE STUDY – BRINGING AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ACCESS TO ENERGY IN RURAL AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT IN BURKINA FASO

The government of Burkina Faso has a strategy to improve access to energy and increase national electrification by at least 1% by 2020. This is a key component of the country’s development plans. In 2016, the IRENA/ADFD Project Facility recommended for funding a 3.6 megawatt rural electrification project involving solar PV systems, PV/diesel and power distribution mini-grids.



The project will benefit 42 rural villages, including 12,000 households, businesses, health and education facilities and community centres, with mini-grids, grid extensions and solar home system technologies. The project utilises a holistic approach by matching the most suitable and cost-effective technology with each end user.

The provision of electricity to villages in this project is expected to initiate a transformative change to beneficiaries by enabling communities to move up the socio-economic development ladder. There will be multiple benefits to local communities through improved living standards, access to education and health services. It will support income generating activities and allow the set-up of small enterprises, stimulating inclusive economic growth. The production of renewable electricity in this project is expected to contribute to reduce emissions as well as improving local air quality.

“Through electricity access, this project will improve living conditions in rural areas. It will contribute to create economic activities, to improve access to health, education and culture, and eventually alleviate poverty.” - Mr. Yacouba Camara, Director-General, Electrification Development Fund, Burkina Faso

CONTACT DETAILS

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www.irena.org/adfd