



FACTSHEET

WOMEN-LED COAL TRANSITIONS (WOLCOT)
GRANT MECHANISM UNDER ACCELERATED
COAL TRANSITIONS PROGRAM (ACT)



BACKGROUND

Coal transitions present significant social, economic, and political challenges, and will particularly impact women and sub-population groups who are traditionally excluded — Indigenous people; persons with disabilities, ethnic, linguistic, and religious minorities; migrant workers, etc. They are more likely to face barriers to effective participation in transition planning and decision-making, jobs and livelihoods, access to and control over assets, access to services, migration, increased gender-based violence (GBV), and social cohesion risks, among others. The intersectionality of gender and other social exclusion factors further amplifies these barriers.

However, with dedicated efforts to include vulnerable groups and direct funding resources to them, coal transitions could also present a unique window of opportunity to tackle deeply entrenched gender and social inequalities. To ensure gender-equal and socially inclusive coal transitions, investments and policies need to address the gendered impacts of transition at the community and household levels, recognize different vulnerabilities and capabilities of sub-groups of women who are more likely to be marginalized, and empower them to influence decisions on the directions of transition and benefit equally from economic opportunities.

CIF'S APPROACH

CIF's Accelerating Coal Transition (ACT) program is a one-of-a-kind mechanism presenting a unique opportunity amidst a once in-a-generation crisis to demonstrate innovative approaches to facilitate a transition away from coal.

It offers to both public and private sector entities, a holistic toolkit to tackle three critical challenges associated with coal phase-out:

- 1 | governance, including policy and institutional reforms;
- 2 | people, ensuring a just transition for those affected by the transition; and
- 3 | infrastructure, including the decommissioning and repurposing of existing coal assets.

Gender integration is already a critical element of ACT drawing on the commitment under CIF's Gender Policy and Gender Action Plan, as well as gender mainstreaming and social risk management mechanisms of the multilateral development banks' (MDBs).

Going beyond gender mainstreaming, the Women-Led Coal Transitions (WOLCOT) mechanism was set up under ACT to test bold and innovative "business unusual" models to directly support local communities and organizations working on the rights of women and other excluded groups.

GOAL

WOLCOT aims to foster women's climate leadership and effective participation in the design and implementation of coal-to-clean transition strategies and plans.

OBJECTIVES

It is envisioned that support through WOLCOT would help to:

- Amplify the voice of women and disadvantaged groups in communities affected by the transition to articulate their priorities related to transition and receive direct funding for activities addressing those priorities.
- Translate local needs and preferences into inputs to the design of investments and policy documents (transformation strategies, economic and social development plans) supported under ACT.

SCOPE

A broad range of activities directly linked to ACT investment projects and led by women and local communities could be supported through the WOLCOT Grant mechanism, including, but not limited to:

- Direct grants and capacity building support to local women's organizations and groups representing women to foster their effective participation and leadership in coal-transition planning and decision-making, as well as the design and implementation of ACT investment plans and underlying projects.
- Designing and piloting access to finance and training programs to increase the employment and entrepreneurship in the green economy of women and other socially excluded groups.
- Evidence generation and knowledge sharing to influence ACT project design, monitoring, and evaluation, as well as strengthen networks and partnerships among women's organizations.



COUNTRY FOCUS

First phase of WOLCOT Grants in FY23 prioritizes the countries that are preparing Investment Plans under ACT: Indonesia, India, South Africa and Philippines.

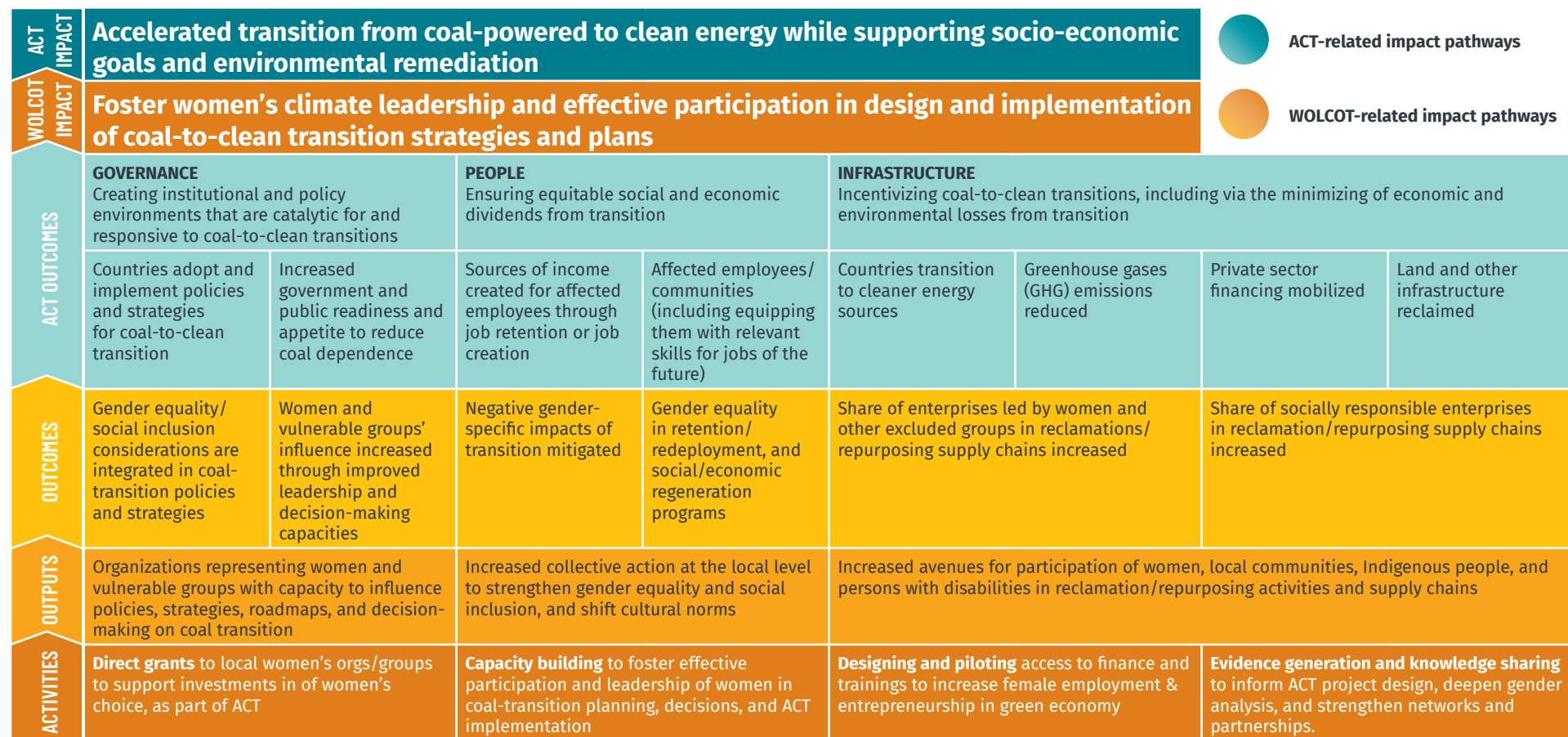


ELEGIBILITY

The following criteria will apply to all funding proposals:

- Undertaken and implemented by one of the six partner MDBs in ACT-eligible countries.
- Reflects country commitment and demand and aligned with national priorities.
- Aligned to WOLCOT's Theory of Change (ToC) and contributing to strengthening local capacity for gender-equal coal transitions, eliminating the barriers to women climate leadership.
- Outlines how implementation of proposed activities would contribute to the design and implementation of the main ACT project.
- Demonstrates active partnership approaches that create platforms for dialogue and collaboration between women-led organizations and national and international gender, energy, investment, and finance institutions, involving both public and private sectors.

FIGURE 1. WOMEN-LED COAL TRANSITIONS MECHANISM THEORY OF CHANGE



THE CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS

c/o The World Bank Group
1818 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20433 USA

Telephone: +1 (202) 458-1801
Internet: www.cif.org



@CIF_action



ClFaction



ClFaction



ClFaction



ClFaction



@CIF_action