



Call for Applications

Envisioning Resilience in Rwanda: Implementing Partner

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), in its role as the Secretariat of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network, is seeing applications for Rwanda-based civil society organizations to act as the implementing partner for the [Envisioning Resilience](#) initiative.

Background

Meaningful participation by women who are on the frontlines of climate change is essential for gender-responsive, locally led adaptation. NAP processes are a key opportunity to facilitate dialogue between adaptation decision makers and the people most affected by the impacts of a changing climate. In most countries, there is recognition by government actors that it is important for effective adaptation planning to be informed by a diversity of voices, particularly women, who are often underrepresented in decision making. The challenge is how to make these dialogues happen, and how to find a common language to talk about climate change, its impacts, and strategies for building resilience.

Envisioning Resilience aims to amplify underrepresented women's voices in adaptation planning processes. The approach, which was piloted in [Ghana and Kenya in 2021-2022](#), equips women with skills in photography and storytelling, enabling them to develop visual stories that capture their experiences with climate change and their visions of resilience. These stories provide a basis for dialogue with decision makers, towards a shared understanding of the effects of climate change on women's lives and the adaptation priorities for their communities.

Envisioning Resilience is a joint initiative of:

- The [NAP Global Network](#) supports developing countries to advance their NAP processes to help accelerate climate change adaptation efforts around the world. NAP-GN connects over 1,500 participants from more than 150 countries working on national adaptation planning and action, and has delivered direct support to more than 50 countries.
- [Lensational](#), a non-profit social enterprise that aims to elevate the voices of women from underrepresented groups and communities using visual storytelling. They do this through provision of photography and storytelling training. To date, training has been provided to more than 1000 women in 25 countries. They also provide a source of income for the trainees, selling the photos online, with 50% of the revenue going directly back to the photographer and the other 50% reinvested in the training programs.

It is implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, which leads Rwanda's NAP process. Envisioning Resilience is implemented with the financial support of Global Affairs Canada (GAC) through a larger initiative which aims to increase effectiveness and gender-responsiveness of NAP processes in selected Small Island Developing States and Sub-Saharan African countries. The initiative is being implemented by IISD, which hosts the secretariat of the NAP Global Network.

Approach

Envisioning Resilience follows a specific process. The key steps in the process are:

1. *Selection of trainer and trainees:* The training will be provided by a Rwanda-based professional photographer, who will be selected through a competitive process. The seven trainees will be selected from among the constituents of the Contractor. Transparent criteria will be established by the partners to guide the selection process.
2. *Training of trainers (ToT):* The Lensational team will provide training to the Contractor and the photographer, introducing them to the philosophy and approach for the photography and storytelling training. The ToT will be guided by a detailed training manual which has been developed on the basis of the Ghana and Kenya pilots.
3. *Photography and storytelling training workshops:* Over the course of four months, the trainees will participate in a series of training workshops facilitated by the photographer and the Contractor. The workshops will incorporate aspects of storytelling and photography, as well as learning about climate change to help focus the stories. Guest speakers working in the climate adaptation space in Rwanda will be invited to contribute to these workshops. In between the workshops, the trainees will complete assignments that help build their skills. At the end of the training, each trainee will have completed an individual visual story capturing their experiences with climate change and their visions of resilience. In addition, trainees will work together to develop a collective story that will be presented at the policy dialogue.
4. *Policy dialogue:* A half-day workshop will be held, bringing the trainees together with national decision makers working on climate change adaptation, along with other relevant stakeholders from civil society, the private sector, and the media. The trainees will present their collective story, followed by roundtable dialogues where participants will have the opportunity to ask questions, discuss, and learn from the women's experiences. The trainees' photos will be on display in an exhibit at the workshop venue, and participants will have the opportunity to mingle and view the images after the formal workshop program.
5. *Dissemination:* The individual visual stories will be available on the Lensational website, where the images can be purchased, providing an ongoing source of income to the newly trained photographers. If possible, the exhibit will be moved to a location where it is accessible to a broader range of climate stakeholders. The Contractors' social media will be used to amplify the stories and the results of the policy dialogue.

Role of the Implementing Partner

The implementing partner will work with IISD and Lensational to implement the *Envisioning Resilience* program in Rwanda. They will engage and supervise a well-established local photographer to provide digital photography, storytelling, and curation training to seven (7) women trainees. This will be combined with capacity development on climate change adaptation and the NAP process, using training materials developed by IISD and Lensational.

The implementing partner will also guide and mentor the trainees throughout the process, enabling each individual to develop a visual story that documents their experiences with climate change and their visions of resilience, as well as a collective story that weaves together the individual stories.

At the end of the training, the implementing partner will support the organization of a policy dialogue, providing logistical assistance to IISD and supporting the trainees to share their stories with adaptation decision makers.

Deliverables

The following are the deliverables for this assignment. The duration is 6 months.

#	Deliverables
1	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda participants: Identify 7 trainees in Rwanda.
2	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda photographer: Identify and subcontract a trusted photographer in-country who will run the training program.
3	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda equipment: Undertake purchase and distribution of photographic equipment.
4	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda ToT: Co-organize with Lensational and participate in the in-country Training of Trainers (ToT).
5	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda training: Organize and deliver the Envisioning Resilience training program.
6	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda training documentation: At least 20 high-quality 'making of' photos of the training workshops, showing a range of different trainees and elements of the training; one quote per trainee describing their experience and/or the impact of the training process; video footage of the training process and the environment where the training takes place.
7	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda workshop: Organize the final in-country policy workshop and share 10 photos of the event.
8	Envisioning Resilience visual stories: One individual visual story per trainee (7 in total), one collective visual story, including a PowerPoint presentation with photos and captions, as well as high-quality digital photo files.
9	Envisioning Resilience Rwanda reporting: Provide regular progress updates to the NAP Global Network and Lensational (as needed), as well as financial reporting.



Selection Criteria

The implementing partner will be selected based on its alignment with the following criteria:

- Being a Rwanda-based civil society organization.
- Actively working on gender equality and women's rights.
- Working directly with women.
- Ideally working with young women, women with disabilities, or other groups that may face particular barriers in having their voices heard in policy and planning processes.
- Experience working on climate change adaptation is desirable, but not mandatory.

In addition, shortlisted partners will be required to demonstrate administrative and financial capacities to manage the initiative.

How to Apply

Interested organizations are invited to submit applications that comprise the following:

1. A cover letter explaining why the organization is well-placed to partner with the NAP Global Network and Lensational on this initiative (maximum 1 page) (to be submitted by email to mkim@iisd.ca).
2. A financial proposal outlining the organization's fees for completion of the above deliverables (to be submitted by email to mkim@iisd.ca).
3. Completion of this application form: <https://forms.office.com/r/zf9EiwrLde>

Applications are due by end of day on Monday, August 7, 2023.

Only shortlisted organizations will be contacted.

Questions about the application process may be directed to mkim@iisd.ca.