The LDC Group recognises 'business as-usual' approaches to addressing climate change are ineffective. Long-term, cross-sectoral and multi-level responses are needed, yet much climate action is delivered through short-term, sectoral projects. Support should reach those who need it most, yet globally only 18% of climate finance reaches LDCs, with only 10% reaching the local level. Climate action should be driven by, and for, our countries, yet external actors are leading and defining most initiatives, failing to build capacity and deliver sustainable change at the national and local level.

The LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR) was launched at COP24 as a pathway to realising the LDC 2050 Vision for a climate-resilient future, in line with LDC needs and priorities, which requires a significant shift in the way LDCs and the international community respond to climate change.

LIFE-AR is closely linked to the achievement of the LDCs' Asks and Offers, based on Business Unusual principles. Relying on a partnership-based approach, LIFE-AR aims to:

- Improve adaptation, reduce vulnerability & improve resilience to climate change in LDCs;
- increase the level of high-quality, predictable and accessible finance provided, and
- improve the global climate finance architecture by demonstrating how funds can be more effectively disbursed to respond to the needs of LDCs

LIFE-AR seeks to strengthen country-owned systems, institutions & capabilities to promote the long term, sustainable delivery of adaptation finance, through three key components:

1. Refine and strengthen **climate finance delivery mechanisms** in country to channel at least 70% of climate finance to the local level, while strengthening gender and social inclusion and meaningful community participation for lasting adaptation outcomes
2. Establish a **LIFE-AR platform** for LDC led governance and learning, to influence the global climate finance architecture to increase the flow of funds to LDCs
3. Build an **LDC community of practice** to share learning and good practice of tested innovative climate finance delivery planning, coordination, and MEL

LIFE-AR is implemented in countries through three phases: **Establishment** (2 years), **Test and Evolve** (4 years), and **Scale Up** (up to 10 years). The duration of the phases serves only as a guideline and is dependent on the specific contexts of the countries.

This phased approach recognises that moving towards *business unusual* and delivering transformative change requires time, long-term funding and a process of testing and learning to understand what works and what doesn't, and how innovations can be institutionalised to strengthen government systems and processes.