

High-level Ministerial Dialogue on Climate Finance

Towards an articulated vision for climate finance – how can it support ongoing efforts to scale-up funding and investments?

The Conference of the Parties at its nineteenth session through decision 3/CP.19 decided to convene a biennial high-level ministerial dialogue on climate finance starting in 2014 and ending in 2020 and informed, inter alia, by the in-session workshops on long-term finance and the submissions on updated strategies and approaches for scaling-up climate finance from 2014 to 2020 referred to in the same decision.

Scaling up funding and investments towards climate action requires effectively articulating financial resources with the appropriate institutional arrangements and an information framework that supports the mobilization, deployment, and use of those funds. Transparency is central to this articulation, as it is essential to ensure predictability and effectiveness in the provision and use of climate finance.

As we progress in the negotiations, it is timely to reflect the extent to which the current institutional arrangements and the information tools for climate finance under the UNFCCC are providing countries with the necessary reassurance that international public finance is flowing and is achieving its intended purpose.

For finance recipients, predictability can help countries strengthen their national coordination mechanisms, better plan ahead of time, assess their needs, and align them with institutional capacities and policy arrangements. It can help ensure the ownership of climate change financing. For finance providers, transparency on the effective use of resources can help create the right enabling environment to scale-up and mobilize further funding and investment.

Major efforts to enhance transparency in the provision and use of climate finance are converging for the first time at COP20/CMP10 in Lima. The Standing Committee on Finance is presenting the first biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows, while developed country Parties are presenting the first biennial submissions on their updated strategies and approaches for scaling up climate finance from 2014 to 2020. Additionally, the Green Climate Fund and the Standing Committee on Finance are consolidating their role within the Convention. Together, these tools are building an information framework and an institutional arrangement that if suitably articulated could enhance efforts to scale-up climate finance towards 2020 and beyond.

Guiding questions for discussion:

1. To what extent are the Convention's information tools and institutional arrangements for climate finance working together to ensure the predictability and scaling-up of international climate funding?
2. How can these strengthen in-country decision-making processes and mobilize further funding and investments while encouraging the engagement of non-state actors?
3. How can Parties ensure that articulating the current arrangements into a robust institutional framework and an effective information system provide the necessary transparency and predictability in the provision and use of climate finance towards a post-2020 world?