



**Standing Committee on Finance**

05 June 2025

**Thirty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance  
11–13 June 2025  
Bonn, Germany**

**Background paper on the 2025 Forum of the Standing  
Committee on Finance on accelerating climate action and  
resilience through financing for sustainable food systems and  
agriculture**

*Expected actions by the Standing Committee on Finance*

The Standing Committee on Finance will be invited to consider the updated draft 2025 SCF Forum programme.

**I. Possible actions for consideration by the Standing Committee on Finance**

1. The SCF may wish to consider the updated draft programme of the 2025 Forum. Furthermore, the SCF may wish to consider the additional submissions received in response to the call for inputs on the 2025 SCF Forum.

**II. Background**

2. The COP mandated the SCF to organize a forum for the communication and continued exchange of information among bodies and entities dealing with climate finance to promote linkages and coherence.<sup>1</sup> The SCF agreed to hold its 2025 Forum at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, from 8 to 9 September 2025, subject to the availability of financial resources and confirmation of hosting arrangements.<sup>2</sup>

3. At SCF 36, SCF agreed to request the co-facilitators to develop a draft Forum programme for consideration at SCF 37, taking into account views expressed by SCF members and observers, including additional submissions received after the meeting, on the draft programme outline.

4. As of 04 June 2025, 30 submissions<sup>3</sup> were received from SCF members, Parties, private sector and non-governmental observers, including four new submissions and one revised submission received after SCF 36.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [Decision 2/CP.17](#), para. 121(a).

<sup>2</sup> [SCF/2024/35/10](#).

<sup>3</sup> All submissions can be accessed online at: <https://unfccc.int/event/2025-forum-of-the-standing-committee-on-finance>.

<sup>4</sup> Submissions received after SCF36 include Mali, United Nations Development Programme, United Republic of Tanzania on behalf of the African Group of Negotiators, United Nations Environment Programme and The Borders Institute (revised submission).

## Annex

## Draft programme of the 2025 SCF Forum on accelerating climate action and resilience through financing for sustainable food systems and agriculture

Day 1 – 8 September 2025

| Time        | Description   | Speakers and moderators   |
|-------------|---|---|
| 08:30–09:00 | Registration  |   |
| 09:00–09:20 | <b>Opening of the Forum</b><br>Welcoming remarks<br>Overview of the SCF Forum objectives and expected outcomes  | Welcoming remarks<br>SCF Co-Chairs  |
| 09:20–10:10 | <b>Session 1: Understanding Interlinkages and Regional Contexts – Climate, Agriculture, Food systems and Food security</b><br>This session will explore the critical interconnections between climate change, agriculture, food systems, and food security, highlighting the essential role of finance in driving sustainable development and climate action. It will underscore the importance of tailoring financing strategies to diverse regional contexts and elevate the voices of smallholder farmers—communities on the frontlines of climate change—by addressing the unique challenges they face. | Moderator: SCF co-facilitator<br><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scene-setting presentation by FAO on interlinkages of climate, agriculture, food systems and food security; and state of play on climate finance for agrifood systems.</li> </ul> Panellists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country representative on regional contexts and experiences in financing agrifood systems</li> <li>• Farmers community/cooperative representative on unique challenges faced by them in accessing finance and role of farmers and local communities in transforming agrifood systems</li> <li>• An MDB/IFI/UN agency on agricultural finance and development on empowering agrarian economies, enhancing food security and sustainable development.</li> </ul> Open discussions |
| 10:10–10:30 | <b>Coffee Break and Family Photo</b>  |   |
| 10:30–11:15 | <b>Session 2: Scaling-up Finance for Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture– Advancing Climate Action and Resilience and Global Food Security</b>   | Moderator<br>Panellists   |

|             |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|
|             | <p>This session will examine the critical role of finance in transforming food systems to be more sustainable, low-emission and climate resilient. The discussion will highlight key means of implementation—mobilizing adequate finance, promoting inclusive access to technology and innovation, and investing in capacity building at all levels—to enable effective and equitable transitions in food and agriculture systems.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country case study on financing sustainable food systems and agriculture in the context of climate action and highlighting key policy and governance aspects.</li> <li>• Sub-national representative on efforts most effective in strengthening ability of local governments, smallholder farmers, and food system actors to attract climate finance.</li> <li>• A global collaboration or partnership highlighting holistic approaches to align financing with regional needs and global priorities food systems and agriculture</li> <li>• Multilateral institution/development agency on supporting long-term food security.</li> </ul> <p>Open discussions</p> |
| 11:15–12:15 | <p><b>Breakout discussions</b></p>  |   |
|             | <p><b>Group #1: Tailoring Finance to Regional and Local Needs</b><br/> This group will discuss how climate finance can be adapted to different regional and local realities in agriculture and food systems. It will highlight successful models and lessons learned for financing climate-resilient and sustainable practices across diverse contexts.</p> <p>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur<br/> Discussion leader / Moderator</p>  | <p><b>Group #2: Unlocking Climate Finance for Transformative Investments</b><br/> This group will-discuss how public and private finance can support transformative shifts toward sustainable, resilient, and low-emission agriculture and food systems. It will examine institutional, technical, and policy barriers hindering finance flows and discuss strategies to strengthen investment, innovation, and inclusive access.</p> <p>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur<br/> Discussion leader /Moderator</p>   |
| 12:15–12:45 | <p>Discussion leaders of the breakout groups will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders.</p>  | <p>Moderator<br/> Breakout group discussion leaders</p>   |
| 12:45–14:00 | <p><b>Networking Lunch- &amp; Booth Visits</b></p>  |   |
| 14:00–14:45 | <p><b>Session 3: Strengthening Policy Coherence and Linkages</b></p> <p>This session will explore how to strengthen policy and institutional coordination to increase and better align climate finance with sustainable food systems, agriculture and food security. It will examine opportunities to integrate food systems into national climate strategies, reform financial incentives, and improve coherence between public policies, climate goals, and international frameworks.</p> | <p>Moderator<br/> Panellists</p> <p>Government representative, who can share national experiences in integrating sustainable agriculture into national planning NDCs/NAPs, and aligning and optimizing sectoral policies</p> <p>Representative from a climate fund or multilateral development bank who can discuss how their financing strategies align with and increase finance flows towards national plans and what support they provide for policy and institutional coherence.</p>   |

|             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
|             |   | <p>UN/IGO on policy alignment, who can provide analytical insights and data on aligning subsidies, fiscal policy, and climate planning with sustainability goals.</p> <p>Civil society or farmer network representative, who can highlight grassroots perspectives on how participatory policymaking can support coherence and inclusivity.</p> <p>Open discussions</p>  |
| 14:45–15:45 | <b>Breakout group discussions</b>   |  |
|             | <p><b>Group 1: Aligning Climate Finance with Agricultural Policies for Greater Impact</b></p> <p>This group will discuss how climate finance strategies can be aligned with agricultural and food security policies, including NDCs, NAPs, and national development plans. It will examine approaches to strengthen coherence across ministries, integrate ecosystem-based solutions and food security into climate planning, and ensure that policies work together to drive investment and impact on the ground.</p> <p>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur</p> <p>Discussion leader / Moderator</p> | <p><b>Group 2: Repurposing Public Support and Subsidies for Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture</b></p> <p>This group will discuss the challenges and opportunities involved in reforming agricultural subsidies and enhancing public incentives to better promote sustainability, resilience, and equity. It will examine country experiences, policy tools, and accountability mechanisms to ensure that both public and private finance support just transitions in food systems and agriculture, while moving away from unsustainable practices.</p> <p>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur</p> <p>Discussion leader / Moderator</p> |
| 15:45–16:00 | <b>Coffee break</b>   |  |
| 16:00–16:30 | Discussion leaders of the breakout groups will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders.   | <p>Moderator</p> <p>Breakout group discussion leaders</p>  |
| 16:30–16:45 | <b>Wrap-up of day 1</b>   |  |

## Day 2 – 9 September 2025

| Time          | Description  | Speakers and moderators  |
|---------------|--|--|
| 09:00 – 09:30 | <b>Key Take-aways from Day 1</b>   | Moderator  |
| 09:30–10:30   | <p><b>Session 4: Leveraging Financing Sources and Instruments for Long-term Investments in Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture</b></p> <p>This session will focus on how various financial sources and instruments—public, private, blended and innovative—can be mobilized to scale up climate finance for sustainable food systems and agriculture. It will explore how to enhance the effectiveness, sustainability, and inclusiveness of these sources and instruments and identify key actors and enabling conditions.</p> | <p>Moderator:</p> <p>Panellists</p> <p>Panelist 1: Representative from a developing country ministry of finance or agriculture – on challenges and opportunities in mobilizing and coordinating public and private finance at the national level, including public finance strategies and policy incentives.</p> <p>Panelist 2: Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) or climate fund representative – on how public and concessional finance can be used to catalyze private investment, including through blended finance approaches and de-risking mechanisms.</p> <p>Panelist 3: Private sector or impact investor representative – on insights into investor expectations, ESG criteria, and the enabling conditions needed to increase investment in sustainable agriculture and food systems.</p> <p>Panelist 4: Farmer organization or cooperative representative (preferably smallholder-focused) – on whether financing instruments are reaching local actors and meeting their needs, and suggest how to make instruments more inclusive and impactful.</p> <p>Open discussions</p> |
| 10:30–10:45   | <b>Coffee break</b>  |  |
| 10:45–12:00   | <b>Breakout groups</b>   |  |
|               | <p><b>Group 1: Leveraging Public and Private Sources for Mobilizing Scaled-Up Investments</b></p> <p>This group will discuss how public and private finance can be mobilized to scale up investment in sustainable food systems and agriculture. It will</p>   | <p><b>Group 2: Leveraging Partnerships and Innovation for Equitable and Scalable Solutions</b></p> <p>This group will discuss how partnerships—such as public-private initiatives, multilateral collaboration, and community finance models—and financial</p>  |

|             |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|
|             | consider how various sources and instruments can expand access for farmers and local actors, attract private investment, and promote long-term impact.<br><br>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur<br>Discussion leader / Moderator  | innovations can mobilize sustainable, long-term investments for food systems and agriculture. It will discuss how cross-sector collaboration and innovative financing approaches can drive scalable, inclusive, and climate-resilient solutions tailored to local needs.<br><br>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur<br>Discussion leader / Moderator  |
| 12:00–12:30 | Discussion leaders of the breakout groups will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders.  | Moderator<br>Breakout group discussion leaders   |
| 12:30–13:45 | <b>Networking lunch</b>  |  |
| 13:45–14:45 | <b>Session 5: Building Readiness and Capacity for Accessing Finance for Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture</b><br>This session will focus on strengthening readiness and capacity at national and local levels to facilitate access to finance. It will explore possible readiness areas – such as inclusive financial systems, community-based delivery models, and data and monitoring capacities – and ways to strengthen institutional and technical assistance to support them. | Moderator<br><br>Panellists<br><br>Panelist 1: National implementing entity or line ministry official from a developing country – who can share practical experiences in building institutional and technical readiness to access climate finance, including coordination across ministries and levels of government.<br><br>Panelist 2: Local financial institution or cooperative representative – who can discuss the role of local delivery models and inclusive financial systems in reaching underserved communities, especially smallholder farmers and women.<br><br>Panelist 3: Data/monitoring expert from a research institute or international organization – who can offer lessons on building data systems, finance tracking, and improving transparency and accountability in the use of climate finance.<br><br>Panelist 4: Capacity-building practitioner who can present approaches to strengthening technical capacities and supporting farmers and community actors in designing bankable projects and navigating access procedures.<br><br>Open discussions |
| 14:45–16:00 | <b>Breakout group discussions</b>  |  |
|             | <b>Group 1: Strengthening Institutional and Technical Capacities</b><br>This group will discuss how to strengthen institutional and technical capacities at all levels to improve access to financing for sustainable food systems and   | <b>Group 2: Inclusive Access and Community-Based Delivery Models</b><br>This group will discuss how inclusive financial systems and community-based approaches – such as cooperatives, rural banks, and local savings groups – can   |

|             |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|
|             | agriculture. It will highlight challenges and possible solutions for overcoming readiness and capacity gaps in project design, financial governance and stakeholder coordination.<br>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur<br>Discussion leader / Moderator | facilitate access to finance for smallholder farmers, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, youth and women. It will also consider how participatory financing models and decentralized mechanisms can be scaled and sustained.<br>Ice-breaker / Rapporteur<br>Discussion leader / Moderator |
| 16:00–16:15 | <b>Coffee break</b>  |  |
| 16:15–16:45 | Discussion leaders of the breakout groups will report back in plenary, followed by a short panel discussion among the discussion leaders.  | Moderator<br>Breakout group discussion leaders   |
| 16:45–17:00 | <b>Closing session</b>   | Closing remarks: SCF co-facilitators   |