Key takeaways from the day - messages from countries and from the floor

United Nations
Climate Change Secretariat

AUDA-NEPAD
AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Capacity building for accessing finance (Needs based Climate Finance)

Climate Week 2 (1- 2 September 2025)
Room 3 - Addis Ababa International Convention Centre

Jerry Velasquez

Key takeaways from the day - messages from countries and from the floor

- Importance of project sustainability and scalability, ensuring continuity after public sector financing, and the need to explore the role of private sector in this context,
- The importance of the all of government engagement to ensure country ownership,
- interest to scale up ongoing or past projects, and interest to explore opportunities to do so,
- need to further understand what makes good and successful projects, based on past experience,
- opportunity to bring the four climate funds to engage with national and regional direct entities accredited to these funds, to explore capacity building and alignment with national and regional needs of countries in climate programming.

Key takeaways from the day - messages from countries and from the floor

- Following the AF Board meeting in April, all countries have USD 40M available under their country cap + additional grants for locally led adaptation, innovation, learning, project scale up and readiness. Even those countries that have already accessed AF financing still have at least 20M available (since the Board doubled the country cap to 40M). There are still countries that have not accessed any funding.
- All countries can nominate up to 2 NIEs for accreditation and can access readiness grants to support accreditation.
- Designated Authorities/ focal points play an important role for national coordination and consultation - the AF is considering to enhance its support to DAs under its enhanced readiness strategy. However, more support from and coordination between the climate funds is needed for DAs in accessing what it is available under the different funds for implementation of their NAPs and NDCs. The MCFs are already exploring ways to do joint programming and capacity-building. The UNFCCC could play a role in coordinating the focal points of the different MCFs.

Key takeaways from the day - messages from countries and from the floor

- Project design and adaptation reasoning/ climate rationale: key topic for funding proposals - no co-financing requirement - full cost of adaptation.
- Project scale up: High potential to use AF grants to generate evidence and learning from successful projects to make it easier to access financing from other funders such as climate funds, MDBs and private sector - easier to demonstrate feasibility and effectiveness. Project scalability should be assessed from project design and throughout project implementation - the scale up can be explored starting from mid-term evaluation. Project scale up grants are available for NIEs. Potential for UNFCCC/ NBF/ MCFs to provide specific capacity support for project scale up and sustainability