

# Speaking Notes Oceans Dialogue

## Panel 2: Means of Implementation

10 June 2026 | New York Plenary Room | 17:15

### Guiding questions

- To what extent is existing climate finance accessible and fit-for-purpose for ocean-based action, particularly for developing countries, SIDS, and LDCs? What are the key financing instruments and sources available to support the implementation of ocean-based action in the NDCs and NAPs?
- What support can the Oceans Dialogue provide to Parties in scaling ocean-related finance and addressing the finance barriers identified in NDCs? How can the 2026 SCF Forum on Financing for Oceans and Water Systems support Parties in improving access to ocean-related finance?
- What opportunities and good practices exist for Parties to strengthen capacity-building and accelerate the deployment of ocean-based technologies, while addressing the identified barriers in Parties' NDCs on institutional capacity, technical expertise, technology transfer, and data gaps, particularly for developing countries, SIDS, and LDCs?

### Background

- We are pleased to join today as co-facilitators of the 2026 SCF Forum.
- The SCF has a mandate to organize a Forum on climate finance to facilitate exchange of information and enhance linkages.
- The Forum was established to serve as a bridge between practice and policy.
- In past 13 years, SCF Forum brought the experiences and lessons of those financing climate projects on the ground into the intergovernmental process, helping to inform decisions taken by Parties at the COP.
- The upcoming 2026 SCF Forum will be dedicated to financing climate action for the ocean and water systems.
- The Forum's mandate extends both to the ocean and water systems, reflecting the interconnections between these systems and the financing challenges they share.

- It will be held on 21 and 22 September, bringing together technical experts on financing ocean and water systems, alongside governments, financial institutions, the private sector, academia, civil society and other stakeholders, to exchange perspectives and lessons from across the financing and implementation landscape.
- Following the Forum, the SCF will prepare a summary report for the consideration of the COP and the CMA.
- Today, we would like to reflect on these guiding questions and share some key reflections drawn from the SCF's technical work in this area.
- To prepare for the Forum, the SCF issued an open call for inputs to Parties and non-Party stakeholders and received 36 submissions.
- Drawing on these inputs, the SCF undertook technical work and discussions on the issues raised in the submissions.

### **Co-facilitators' reflections**

- While reflecting diverse perspectives and national circumstances, the submissions pointed to several common messages.
- **The first message concerns scale.**
- While ocean-related priorities are increasingly reflected in national climate and development strategies, financing remains far below needs.
- Submissions underscored that closing this gap will require not only greater volumes of finance, but also a whole-of-finance approach that combines public and concessional finance, private investment, blended finance and other innovative financing approaches.
- In the submissions, we've seen a range of financing sources and instruments for ocean-related climate action.
- One example was blue carbon finance, including the potential of carbon markets to support mangroves and other coastal ecosystems.

- Robust data and measurement systems to underpin investment and environmental integrity was also highlighted, as enabling environment required for such blue carbon finance.
- **A second message concerns implementation.**
- Many submissions highlighted that the challenge is often not identifying ocean priorities, but translating them into investable and implementable opportunities.
- Limited project preparation support, weak project pipelines, institutional capacity constraints, and persistent barriers to accessing finance continue to impede implementation.
- Several submissions highlighted practical examples of bridging this gap.
- In Vanuatu, for example, project preparation support and strategic partnerships helped translate water security priorities into bankable projects capable of attracting climate finance.
- These experiences suggest that stronger project preparation support, more robust investment pipelines, enhanced institutional capacity, and improved access modalities will be critical to better connect national priorities and local needs with financing opportunities.
- **A third message concerns the need to move beyond fragmented approaches.**
- Several submissions highlighted that financing for ocean-related action remains fragmented across sectors, institutions and funding channels.
- Several submissions also pointed to examples of more coordinated and programmatic approaches.
- Norway's Green Shipping Programme, for example, brings together public and private actors across the maritime value chain to reduce risks, create demand for low-emission technologies and accelerate investment in cleaner shipping.

- Addressing the scale and implementation challenges identified above will require more coordinated and programmatic approaches that can align national priorities, strengthen project pipelines and mobilize finance at scale.

## **Linkages**

- Taken together, the submissions provide a rich evidence base on challenges, solutions and emerging practices.
- The task before the SCF is to translate these insights into a Forum programme that can foster a focused discussion on how to scale up and improve access to climate finance for oceans and water systems.
- In this context, the linkage between the Oceans Dialogue and the SCF Forum looks clear.
- The Oceans Dialogue helps identify Parties' priorities, experiences and challenges in advancing ocean-related action.
- It helps us to better understand where implementation is progressing, where barriers remain, and what support is needed to advance ocean-related objectives under NDCs and NAPs.
- Building on these discussions, the SCF Forum will focus on the financing dimension.
- It will examine the landscape of finance for the ocean, including trends, sources, instruments, gaps and enabling conditions.
- It will also facilitate exchanges on practical solutions for scaling up climate finance and improving the translation of ocean-related priorities into implementation.

## **Closing**

- At SCF 40, taking place from 19 to 20 June, members will consider and finalize the programme for the 2026 SCF Forum.
- We would encourage your continued engagement in the SCF work on the Forum preparations.

- Your insights can help the SCF strengthen coherence between the Oceans Dialogue and the SCF Forum and ensure that the programme addresses the financing issues most relevant to ocean- and water-related climate action.
- We look forward to continuing this exchange and to drawing on the insights shared through the Oceans Dialogue as we advance preparations for the 2026 SCF Forum.
- Thank you very much.

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