

High-Level Roundtable

Enabling climate finance: the make-or-break moment for sustainable future

12 November, 16.00-17.00

Context

Climate finance is a critical enabler of progress towards achieving the Paris Agreement goals, playing a fundamental role in enhancing ambition and driving action on both mitigation and adaptation, as well as addressing loss and damage effectively. While positive progress has been made in recent years, current total global investments and public finance continue to fall far below the average needs to meet the Paris Agreement goals. This financing gap is particularly concerning developing countries including those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change and have significant capacity constraints. In this regard, there is a crucial need for new financial models and a reformed financial architecture that helps to increase climate finance and address the barriers, risk perceptions and inequities in access to finance.

The COP29 Presidency's top negotiation priority is to agree on a fair and ambitious New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance. The NCQG will succeed the previous commitment by developed countries to collectively mobilize USD \$100 billion per year for climate action in developing countries through 2025 in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation. The Presidency is of the firm conviction that an agreement on the NCQG, which takes into account the needs and priorities of developing countries, should represent progress beyond previous efforts, delivering multiples, adequate to the scale and urgency of the problem along with strong qualitative elements.

To that end, COP29 leadership has been working intensively with Parties, including through the NCQG Ministerial Pair informal consultations, to help build and secure consensus. In tandem, the Presidency is driving further climate finance through the Presidency Action Agenda, including initiatives such as the Climate Finance Action Fund (CFAF), Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade Dialogue (BICFIT Dialogue) as well as through engagements with the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs).

As part of the COP29 World Leaders Summit Azerbaijan will convene a high-level roundtable as an opportunity for world leaders, IFIs and MDBs to engage in a focused discussion on how this year's COP29 efforts will provide momentum towards meaningful progress on climate finance, including towards the establishment of the NCQG in view of its importance for the future of global climate action and reaching the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Objectives

The High-Level Roundtable on “Enabling climate finance: the make-or-break moment for sustainable future” provides an opportunity to discuss how we can scale up the provision of public finance and the mobilisation of private finance with the speed and scale required to meet the growing needs of developing countries.

To create the fiscal space that is desperately needed in many developing countries and to increase financial flows from all sources, noting the significant role of public funds, including innovative finance, we require bold leadership and courageous political will.

Logistical Details

- Date and time: 12 November, 16.00-17.00
- Format: Roundtable, with framing remarks and conversation structured around three discussion points
- Location: Meeting Room 21

Guiding questions:

- How has your country enabled climate finance in 2024, and how will you enable climate finance moving forward? What do you need to make this happen?
- What can governments, international financial institutions, and investors do to further create a financial architecture fit for scale-up public finance and leverage additional financial flows commensurate with the risks posed by climate change? What are the short, medium, and long term actions that can facilitate such changes?
- What are the opportunities for the UNFCCC climate finance discussions to better connect with processes and changes outside the UNFCCC framework, ensuring better coordination and resource mobilization at scale for meaningful climate action?