



Standing Committee on Finance

13 June 2025

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

Draft workplan including indicative timeline and outreach activities

Seventh Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows

Delivery date: 2026

I. Mandate(s) and objectives

1. COP 17 decided that the SCF shall assist the COP in exercising its functions with respect to the Financial Mechanism of the Convention in terms of measurement, reporting and verification of support provided to developing countries, *inter alia*, through preparing BAs. The BAs are to include information on the geographical and thematic balance of flows drawing from available sources of information, including, *inter alia*, from BRs and BURs. Further guidance is contained in decisions [1/CP.18](#), paragraph 71, [5/CP.18](#), paragraph 11, [3/CP.19](#), paragraph 11, [9/CP.21](#), paragraph 13, paragraph 37(f) in the annex to decision [8/CP.22](#), and [4/CP.24](#), paragraphs 4 and 5.
2. The objectives of the workplan of the seventh BA will be to:
 - (a) Deliver the seventh BA including its technical report and summary and recommendations by the SCF ahead of COP 31; and
 - (b) Engage a broad group of stakeholders in the development of the report and in the dissemination of its key findings through outreach activities.

II. Overall approach

3. Building on the experience of the SCF in developing previous BAs, the approach will comprise of *technical work*, *committee-level work*, and *dedicated outreach activities* to engage relevant stakeholders from across the climate finance community in preparing the report as well as ensuring its key findings reach a broad audience. The technical work allows the SCF, with the support of the secretariat, to draw on meta-data to inform its work through information and data gathering undertaken with the support of consultants and information and data providers.
4. Two co-facilitators from the SCF will guide the technical work intersessionally and during SCF meetings, supported by the UNFCCC secretariat. Within the SCF, an open-ended working group could participate in the intersessional technical work to ensure timely development of the report ahead of formal SCF meetings. This may involve, *inter alia*, providing input and reviewing the drafts of the report, including through written comments and dedicated calls. The outputs (e.g. draft chapters, graphics, presentations,) will be disseminated to the SCF for consideration.

5. The *technical work* is undertaken by a technical team including expert consultants supported by the UNFCCC secretariat. The work combines literature review with technical expert sessions which can be organised in conjunction with SCF meetings, involving data providers and other contributors. This involves data and information gathering from a range of sources, both national reports to the UNFCCC and other relevant reports.

6. The *Committee-level work* involves reviewing the technical work, discussing technical issues among Committee members collaboratively in order to provide further guidance for the preparation of the technical report, and preparing summary of the report including any recommendations it considers necessary for consideration by the COP and CMA.

III. Expected outputs /deliverables

7. Following the practice in developing previous BAs, the key outputs will include:

(a) An executive summary, including recommendations by the SCF to be communicated to COP and CMA as an addendum to the SCF annual report (maximum 20 pages);

(b) A technical report of the seventh biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows by the technical team authors to be made available on the SCF website;

(c) Infographic on the key messages from the seventh BA;

(d) A dedicated webpage on the SCF website including online annexes and graph data from the seventh BA;

(e) Background papers and presentations for SCF meetings;

IV. Timeline, roles and responsibilities

8. To ensure sufficient rigor, the work will be organized in four phases as outlined below. The table below presents possible milestones and an indicative timeline for the preparation of the seventh BA.

9. Outreach, communications and engagement is an important component integrated into the timeline and activities, providing the opportunity to fill data and information gaps, as well as serve as a platform for disseminating the key products of the SCF in line with the SCF communication strategy.

10. **Phase I – Finalizing scope and approach:** This phase involves developing the scope, structure and outline of the report. The key steps include:

(a) The general outline for the executive summary and the technical report would be finalized at SCF 38 for inclusion in the SCF annual report to COP and CMA.

(b) In Q4 of this year, the technical team and co-facilitators will develop the methodological approach and annotated outline of the technical report which will be circulated to SCF members for written comment and feedback. The annotated outline and methodological approach will clarify the scope and boundary of the analysis to be explored in the report.

11. **Phase II – Research and outreach:** This phase involves data gathering, outreach and engagement with stakeholders to gather the latest metadata and information to respond to the research questions outlined in the methodological approach and annotated outline. The phase will continue until the development of the pre-final draft of the report as relevant information becomes available. The key steps include:

(a) Continuous literature review and data collection by the technical team from sources of information as they become available. The team will engage with various

stakeholders, including Parties, data providers, producers and aggregators to confirm interpretation and presentation of data;

(b) In Q3, ahead of COP 30 and CMA 7, the co-facilitators would launch the call for evidence to allow for outreach and engagement on key topics, data and information gaps during COP 30 and CMA 7. Submissions received are posted on the SCF website unless requested not to do so by submitters, and submissions are listed in an annex to the technical report;

(c) Further outreach through open technical expert sessions and stakeholder dialogues in conjunction with SCF meetings or webinars with broader stakeholder groups to gather inputs and views will be planned by the co-facilitators as needed, with space provided for submitters to the call for evidence to present their views;

12. Phase III – Drafting and feedback: This phase includes the iterative drafting of the executive summary and technical report and presenting it for feedback at SCF meetings or intersessionally. The key steps include:

(a) A zero-order draft of the technical report would be prepared by the technical team and co-facilitators ahead of SCF 39 based on the outline agreed, followed by a first-order draft ahead of SCF 40 and a pre-final draft prepared ahead of SCF 41. The process for integration of guidance on feedback includes:

(i) Feedback on the zero-order and first-order drafts would be invited during SCF 39 and SCF 40 followed by a two-week period for submitting comments in writing;

(ii) In order to collate written comments from different SCF members without overlap and duplication, documents will be locked for editing;

(iii) The compilation of comments on the drafts will be circulated to members;

(iv) The technical team and co-facilitators will integrate feedback and comments in the following drafts and prepare an excel explaining how the comment was addressed or justifications for why it may not be possible to integrate;

(v) During SCF 41, changes and feedback to the technical report are limited to addressing errors or clarifications to ensure sufficient time for finalization of the executive summary by the SCF;

(b) Based on the outline for the executive summary, the co-facilitators, with the support of the technical team, will develop a zero-order draft of the executive summary and potential recommendations, if any, including placeholders for outstanding data or information, for consideration at SCF 40. Feedback received will be integrated into a pre-final draft to be considered and finalized at SCF 41;

(c) In parallel to drafting the pre-final drafts of the executive summary and the technical report, the professional editing and graphic design will be prepared to ensure the report is ready for publication as soon as possible after SCF 41.

13. Phase IV – Publication and dissemination: This phase finalizes the documents for publication and the supporting materials for dissemination. The key steps include:

(a) Following finalization of the executive summary at SCF 41, the unedited, undesigned and unformatted outcome drafts will be made available on the SCF website

(b) In line with UN publication processes, the executive summary will undergo a final round of editing based on the agreed text. Following editing:

(i) The official document template, with document number, of the executive summary with final graphics will be contained in an addendum to the SCF annual report to the COP and CMA;

(ii) The executive summary will be professionally designed and layout for publication on the SCF website as soon as possible after the final editing process.

(iii) The technical report will be professionally designed and layout subject to budget and timing to ensure the document is widely available ahead of COP 31 and CMA 8.

(c) In addition to the documents, an infographic of key messages will be designed and published on the SCF website following SCF 41;

(d) The dedicated webpage for the BA on the SCF website will include the documents, infographics, and additional materials such as online annexes and graph data in accessible forms to increase user-friendliness of the information in the report;

14. Following finalization of the report, the key findings will be disseminated through:

(a) Press release from the SCF and UNFCCC, including through social media channels;

(b) Events to launch the report will include a SCF side event at COP 31 and other speaking opportunities or participation in related events on climate finance that may also occur in 2027;

(c) Dissemination packs for SCF members will include a presentation slide deck on the content of the BA, talking points notes and social media quotes will be prepared for SCF members for their potential use in their capacity as members of the committee and participation in various events.

Table 1

Possible milestones and indicative timeline (tentative) for the seventh Biennial Assessment and Overview of Climate Finance Flows

Activities and deliverables	2025						2026											
	Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Phase I: Finalizing scope and approach																		
General outline of ES and technical report																		
Develop methodological approach and annotated outline and invite SCF feedback																		
Phase II: Research and outreach																		
Literature review																		
Call for evidence																		
Ongoing stakeholder engagement through technical sessions and webinars as needed																		
Phase III: Drafting and feedback																		
Development of iterative drafts of the technical report									ZOD			FOD			PFD			
Working group discussions based on drafts																		
Development of iterative drafts of the executive summary																		
Professional editing and graphic design of executive summary and infographics																		
Light editing and design production of technical report																		
Phase IV – Publication and dissemination																		

Activities and deliverables	2025						2026											
	Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Finalization of document editing, formatting and design																		
Development of web-based content																		
Communication and promotion of the report including SCF side event at COP 31																		
Webinars and events continued into 2027																		->

Abbreviation: ZOD = zero-order draft, FOD = first-order draft, PFD = pre-final draft

General outline of the seventh biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows

[English only]

Executive Summary

- Introduction on background, context and mandate, challenges and limitations to the data presented in the seventh BA
- Key findings on trends in climate finance flows globally, from developed to developing countries, South-South cooperation and domestic climate finance flows
- Key findings on trends in data coverage, methodological updates related to transparency of climate finance
- Key findings on trends in the effectiveness of climate finance flows, geographical distribution, access, impacts and results achieved
- Recommendations by the SCF

Introduction chapter

Objective: provide the background and mandate of the seventh BA, the approach used to develop the report and an overview of the report structure.

- Background: provide context based on the decisions of the COP and CMA related to the seventh BA.
- Scope and approach used to prepare the seventh BA:
 - Explicit description of the seventh BA as a metadata analysis providing an overview of the latest publicly available data on climate finance flows , as well as identifying trends from previous years.
 - Approach used by the SCF in preparing the report including the operational definition of climate finance by the SCF, efforts to avoid double-counting, and outreach and engagement activities
 - Limitations to the data and analysis presented in the report due to drawing on a variety of data sources, timeliness of data, and data gaps
 - Overview of information in each chapter
 - *Figure* on the overview of scope and content within each chapter of the biennial assessment and overview of climate finance flows

Chapter 1: Methodological issues related to the transparency of climate finance

Objective: provide clarity on the differences in the methodologies used by different sources of climate finance data for global, international and domestic finance flows including updates on operational definitions of climate finance in use, improvements on tracking climate finance flows, and measuring impacts and outcomes.

- Introduction on data providers, aggregators and reports on climate finance
 - *Figure* on data providers, aggregators and reporters of climate finance
- Updates in methodologies to track climate finance and operational definitions of climate finance in use
 - Overview of methods and definitions used by Parties to report climate finance provided, mobilized and received in biennial transparency reports under the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement.

- Updates on methods and definitions to track and report climate finance by other international organisations, including the OECD DAC, MDBs, IDFC, Multilateral Climate Funds, TOSSD, and other sources
- Updates on methods and definitions to track climate finance at country level, including climate budget tagging and taxonomies
- Updates on methods used to aggregate estimates of climate finance flows by various sources of information
- Updates in methodologies for measuring climate finance impact and outcomes at project, portfolio or institutional level
- Updates on methodologies that integrate climate change considerations into insurance, lending and investment decision-making processes and that include information relevant to tracking consistency with the long-term goal outlined in Article 2, paragraph 1(c), of the Paris Agreement.
- Follow up on previous recommendations from previous BAs, in relevant sections as appropriate
- Boxes and case studies as appropriate

Chapter 2: Overview of climate finance flows

Objective: provide the latest data and trends of climate finance flows, at global and country level, from developed to developing countries, South-South cooperation; with trends by theme, sector, instruments, and geographical distribution

- Introduction including updates on data availability, any methodological changes to the information presented from previous BAs, and remaining gaps by sector, geographical area, theme and financial instrument or asset class
- Global climate finance flows, both international and domestic including:
 - Updated Onion diagram *figure* on climate finance flows
 - *Figures* on breakdown of global climate finance by instrument and by geographical distribution including LDCs and SIDS
 - Trends in investment in climate action by sectors, including clean energy systems, sustainable transport, building and infrastructure, industry, sustainable agriculture, forestry and land use and other sectors
 - Trends in non-primary climate finance flows e.g. R&D, innovation, manufacturing, green bonds, refinancing
 - Trends in domestic public finance
- Climate finance flows from developed to developing countries¹, including recipient perspectives and data breakdowns by channel, theme, instrument and geographical distribution including LDCs and SIDS
 - Amounts and trends in climate-specific finance reported in biennial reports, biennial update reports, biennial transparency reports and biennial communications under Article 9.5

¹ For the purpose of the overview of climate finance in the BA, various data sources are used to illustrate flows from developed to developing countries, without prejudice to the meaning of those terms in the context of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including but not limited to flows from Parties included in Annex I and Annex II to the Convention to Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention and multilateral development banks; flows from OECD members to non-members; flows from OECD Development Assistance Committee members to countries eligible for OECD Development Assistance Committee official development assistance; and other relevant classifications.

-
- Amounts and trends in pledges, approvals, commitments and disbursements of climate finance from UNFCCC and other multilateral climate funds
 - Amounts and trends in climate finance reported by MDBs and other developing finance institutions
 - Amounts and trends in private finance mobilised through public interventions
 - Amounts and trends in other private finance flows
 - South-South cooperation on climate finance including data breakdowns by channel, theme, instrument and geographical distribution including LDCs and SIDS as available
 - Follow up on recommendations from previous BAs, in relevant sections as appropriate
 - Reflection on possible data and information, as appropriate, that could inform the SCF for the preparation of the first report on progress towards achieving the new collective quantified goal on climate finance
 - Boxes and case studies as appropriate.

Chapter 3: Assessment of climate finance flows

Objective: assess whether climate finance flows are effective in terms of achieving impacts and outcomes, aligned with the needs of developing countries including their thematic and geographical distribution, whether barriers to accessing climate finance are being addressed, and whether climate finance flows are responding to policy and regulatory drivers and their role in the context of broader financial stocks, flows, risks and opportunities.

- Introduction on the narrative flow of the chapter presenting insights into effectiveness, through the lens of country-driven ownership, access and impact and a reflection of the overall amount of climate finance in the context of broader finance flows, needs, risks and opportunities
- Trends in country-driven ownership and alignment with needs and plans e.g. NDCs under Article 4.5 and NAPs, including balance of thematic objectives, the emerging role of country platforms
- Trends in the impacts and outcomes of climate finance: selected insights and experiences
 - Expected and actual results of multilateral climate funds, MDBs, bilateral sources by thematic area
 - Leverage and mobilization including the use of innovative instruments
 - Co-benefits including on gender and just transitions and the inclusion and extension of benefits to vulnerable communities and groups
- Trends in access to bilateral, regional and multilateral concessional climate finance for developing countries in particular LDCs and SIDS:
 - Deployment of readiness funds, project preparation funds
 - Eligibility for concessional finance
 - Timeliness of climate finance through project cycles from proposal to approval and disbursement
 - Simplification measures taken to improve cost-effectiveness and reduce transaction costs, project and programmatic approaches, reporting requirements
 - Accreditation and allocation to implementing entities, including support for locally led approaches and institutions
 - *Figures* of a time series on accredited implementing entities of multilateral climate change funds and percentage of climate finance approved by multilateral climate change funds through different accredited entities
- Climate finance in the context of broader finance stocks and flows, risks and opportunities

- Update of figure on climate finance in context
 - Climate finance flows in the context of overall finance flows, including development finance flows
 - Consideration of the drivers and barriers for climate finance flows, such as policy and regulatory factors including multilateral architecture reform, addressing barriers to accessing capital markets, reducing high costs of capital and limited fiscal space
- Follow up on previous recommendations from previous BAs, in relevant sections as appropriate
- Reflection on possible data and information, as appropriate, that could inform the SCF for the preparation of the first report on progress towards achieving the new collective quantified goal on climate finance
- Boxes and case studies as appropriate.

Annexes

- Submissions received in response to the call for evidence
- List of online annexes
 - Country and institution groupings used in sources of data referenced in the seventh BA
 - Compilation of operational definitions of climate finance in use by Parties and various institutions
 - Data coverage of information on climate finance provide, mobilized and received in biennial transparency reports
 - Compilation of methodologies in use by various sources of information on climate finance flows
 - Overview of evaluation of quality of data on climate finance flows
 - Global climate finance estimates by sector and theme
 - Estimates of domestic climate finance by country
 - Data in graphs and figures

References
