

**Draft Concept Note & Programme
Climate Capital Marketplace (NBF/FINCOAHN)
Korea Climate Week, 23–24 April 2026
Yeosu Expo Convention Center, Yeosu, Republic of Korea
Seminar Room 1**

1. Context

The Needs-Based Climate Finance (NBF) and FINCOAHN projects, established by the UNFCCC, are designed to empower developing countries to take ownership of their climate finance pathways. While global climate finance flows are increasing, a persistent gap remains for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), least developed countries (LDCs) and countries in fragile and conflict-affected situations (FCAS). Many developing countries, including these groups, face bottlenecks linked to accreditation requirements, high transaction costs, fragmented support, and limited technical capacity and information, which hinder the translation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and NDCs into credible concepts, readiness requests and funding proposals.

The Climate Capital Marketplace at Korea Climate Week represents a shift from general advocacy to structured pre-readiness, matchmaking and partnership development. Recognizing that many SIDS, LDCs and FCAS countries are still getting ready to get ready, the event focuses on foundational gaps in accessing readiness support and project funding from the major climate funds.

2. Objectives

- **Demystifying Fund Modalities:** Direct, face-to-face engagement with technical teams from the **GCF, GEF, AF, and FRLD** (some virtually tbc) to understand simplified approval processes tailored for vulnerable contexts.
- **Addressing the "Pre-Readiness" Gap:** An interactive deep dive into the specific challenges of accessing the preparatory support required to unlock larger investment and support.
- **From Theory to Structured Matchmaking: Using curated "Deal Rooms" to connect countries and regional bodies with Accredited Entities (AEs), Technical Assistance (TA) providers and other relevant partners around clearly defined asks.**
- **Building the Roadmaps: Priority participating countries and regional bodies that come prepared with concise materials may leave the session with a short action note setting out follow-up steps, indicative timelines and potential partners for project maturation.**

3. Stakeholders

To ensure these objectives are met, the Marketplace facilitates a unique convergence of actors:

- **Beneficiary Groups:** All developing countries, with funded participation prioritized for representatives from the Pacific, Indian Ocean and Caribbean SIDS, as well as the 5

FCAS countries (Chad, South Sudan, Yemen, Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea) currently supported under the FINCOAHN project.

- **Climate Funds:** Technical teams from the Green Climate Fund (**GCF**), Global Environment Facility (**GEF**), Adaptation Fund (**AF**), and the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (**FRLD**).
- **Support Organizations and Regional Anchors:** Regional entities (PIFS, OECS, CARICOM, Gov. of Maldives) and technical advisors (g7+, ODI, WFP, UNICEF etc.).
- **Project Partners:** Accredited Entities (AEs), National Implementing Entities (NIEs), and private sector partners willing to co-invest in presented projects.
- **Technical Enablers:** Partners will offer advisory support to refine the climate rationale and theory of change for emerging projects.
- **Capital Providers:** A curated group of donors and private sector investors looking for high-impact, de-risked opportunities in developing countries.

4. Outcome expectations

Participating countries and regional bodies with Project Idea Notes (PINs) or draft Concept Notes seeking partnership or support are encouraged to submit concise pitch materials in advance for possible inclusion in the Day 2 deal room and marketplace. Priority participants will leave with a short action note capturing follow-up steps, responsible actors and indicative timelines.

5. Proposed Agenda

Day 1: Fund Engagement and Capacity Building (23 April)		
09:00 30 mins	Session 0: Opening and scene setting	Opening and scene setting the two days ahead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNFCCC • KOICA: Songhee Son (on behalf of KOICA Vice President)
60 mins	Session 1: Regional and country context	Regional presentation of priorities and needs <i>Leading questions:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which two or three bottlenecks most consistently prevent SIDS and FCAS from moving from national priorities to readiness requests, concept notes or funding proposals? 2. Which gaps are genuinely shared at regional level, and which require country-specific support rather than a regional approach? 3. Where is the missing link today: political coordination, institutional capacity, accredited partners, technical design, or access to the right financing instrument? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Ocean: Amjad Abdulla - GoM • Pacific: Khalos Lee Moresi - PIFs

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caribbean: Amrikha Singh - CARICOM • g7+ Secretariat: Hunter Mills • Chad: Tahir Ibrahim Hardane • PNG: Priscilla Pep • South Sudan, Timor Leste – tbc
120 mins	Session 2: Deep dive on Climate Funds' support to countries to Build Capacity and Readiness	<p>Presentation and interaction with GCF, GEF and AF on what they do and offer to incl. inter alia capacity-building pathways, access and support modalities.</p> <p><i>Leading questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>What support windows are available now under each fund, and what is the first practical step for a country to access them?</i> 2. <i>Why do otherwise strong countries stall before concept note stage, and what can the funds and partners do differently to reduce that attrition?</i> 3. <i>How should NDAs, focal points, direct entities, accredited entities and technical partners divide labour so that countries face less fragmentation and lower transaction costs?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF: Pavlos Troulis • GEF: Juan Pablo Hoffmaister • AF: Bianka Kretschmer (<i>virtual</i>) • FRLD: to engage in the afternoon block due to time difference in Zambia (<i>virtual</i>)
13:00-14:00	LUNCH	
60 mins	Session 2 Continued	<p>Updates from FRLD Secretariat on <i>what support windows are available now under FRLD, and what are the steps for a country to access these.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FLRD: Zoha Shawoo or Bastien Bedossa (<i>virtual</i>)
90 mins	Session 3: Country Platforms	<p>Open discussion on support to country-owned pipeline development and country platforms</p> <p><i>Leading questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Under what conditions does a country platform genuinely help coordination, and when does it simply create another layer of meetings and actors?</i> 2. <i>What minimum functions should a country platform perform to support country-owned pipeline development without displacing national institutions?</i>

		<p>3. <i>How can platforms remain voluntary and country-driven while still being useful to climate funds, accredited entities and development partners?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF: David Boland and Julien Taris • GEF: Juan Pablo Hoffmaister • Global Capacity Building Coalition (GCBC): Manshu Deng (<i>virtual</i>) • AF: Bianka Kretschmer (<i>virtual</i>) (tbc) • FLRD: Zoha Shawoo or Bastien Bedossa (<i>virtual</i>) (tbc)
	COFFEE BREAK	
90 mins	Session 4: Strategic direction setting, opportunities and implications for receivers of support	<p>Showcasing GCF Impact and Dialogue on the new Strategic Plan 2028 - 2031</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Claudios Hakuna, David Boland and Julien Taris
18:00	End of Day 1	

Day 2 AM: Country readiness and Partnership (24 April)		
10:30	Opening (and recap of Day 1)	UNFCCC
90 mins	Session 5: Pre-Readiness (Getting ready to get ready)	<p>Interactive roundtable with countries, climate funds and partners on key gaps and challenges in accessing readiness support and the preconditions needed for SIDS and FCAS to move towards larger climate finance. The discussion should identify concrete opportunities for follow-up support and partnerships.</p> <p><i>Leading questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>What does “getting ready to get ready” mean in operational terms for SIDS and FCAS?</i> 2. <i>Which preconditions are most often missing: institutional mandate, focal point coordination, baseline data, partner mapping, fiduciary readiness, or concept development capacity?</i> 3. <i>Which of these gaps can be solved quickly through targeted support, and which require a longer institutional pathway?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF: Pavlos Troulis • GEF: Juan Pablo Hoffmaister

60 mins	Session 6: Targeted partnership responses	<p>Short, focused responses from potential partners to the bottlenecks surfaced in Session 5, identifying concrete offers of support, possible collaborations and immediate follow-up.</p> <p><i>Leading questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which bottlenecks can partners help address immediately, and which require broader institutional change? 2. What support can partners credibly offer in the next six months? 3. How can follow-up remain country-led rather than partner-led? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KOICA on Green ODA: Gyungah Kim • Other providers (tbc)
14:00-15:00	LUNCH	

Day 2 PM: Deal-room & Marketplace (24 April)		
90 mins	Session 7: Deal Room	<p>Curated and pre-matched pitches by countries, regional bodies, AEs and TA providers on projects under development and seeking partnership, technical assistance, readiness support or co-financing.</p> <p><i>Leading questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the precise ask behind each pitch: readiness support, concept development, accreditation partnership, technical assistance, co-financing, guarantees, or another instrument? 2. What is the single biggest issue preventing this idea from moving forward in the next six months? 3. Who is taking which next step after this session, and by what indicative timeline? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government of Maldives: Amjad Abdulla • Government of PNG: Priscilla Pep • Government of Chad: Kodrom Tchankoul • UNDP: Julie Teng
90 mins	Session 8: Marketplace	<p>Broader marketplace engagement with donors, TA providers, regional teams and other partners to support project maturation, readiness access and potential co-financing.</p>

		<p><i>Leading questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which partners in the room can provide concrete support for project maturation, and what type of support are they actually prepared to offer? 2. How should countries and regional bodies prioritize competing offers so that follow-up remains country-led rather than partner-led? 3. What should be captured in the event report and action notes to ensure follow-through after the Climate Week? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCF Regional Teams; GEF team, AF and FRLD representatives (subject to availability)
30 mins	Session 9: Closing	<p>Review and confirmation of next steps, including partnerships, write-shops and follow-up meetings, as captured in the event report and action notes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNFCCC • g7+: Hunter Mills
18:00	End of event	