



Technology Executive Committee

24 March 2026

Thirty-second meeting

14–17 April 2026 (17 April 2026 TEC-CTCN Advisory Board Joint session)

Draft key messages and recommendations on leveraging data to accelerate financing for climate technologies in buildings and infrastructure

Cover note

A. Background

1. As per activity C.2.1 of its rolling workplan, the TEC is to explore the use of low and near zero emission materials in buildings, green building codes and green zoning systems that promote energy efficiency and resilience, with a view to support countries in the implementation of their NDCs.
2. At TEC 29, the TEC agreed to develop a policy brief on “Leveraging data to accelerate financing for climate technologies in buildings and infrastructure” in 2026.
3. At TEC 31, the TEC considered the draft policy brief prepared by the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Climate Policy Center under the guidance of the open-ended activity group. The TEC requested the open-ended activity group to revise the policy brief, taking into account comments provided by TEC members at the meeting, and to present the final draft at TEC 32, including key messages and recommendations for the COP and the CMA.

B. Scope of the note

4. The annex to this note contains draft key messages and recommendations on leveraging data to accelerate financing for climate technologies in buildings and infrastructure.

C. Possible actions by the Technology Executive Committee

5. The TEC will be invited to consider the draft key messages and recommendations on leveraging data to accelerate financing for climate technologies in buildings and infrastructure with a view to finalizing them for inclusion in the joint annual report of the TEC and the CTCN for 2026.

Annex

Draft key messages and recommendations on leveraging data to accelerate financing for climate technologies in buildings and infrastructure

The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) highlights the following key messages and policy recommendations drawn from the findings of its policy brief on leveraging data to accelerate financing for climate technologies in buildings and infrastructure, prepared in collaboration with the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Climate Policy Center.

A. Key Messages

1. Buildings are central to climate and economic goals, yet finance remains misaligned;
2. The global finance system is shifting; policymakers must help the building sector catch up or risk falling behind;
3. Without reliable, comparable and contextually relevant data, low-carbon buildings are undervalued and underfinanced;
4. Better building performance data and early-stage business-case metrics improve investment pricing, lowers perceived risk, and attracts capital to climate-aligned buildings;
5. Policy instruments and tools are available to improve the incorporation of building performance data and have been demonstrated to correct market distortions and unlock green financing for buildings.

B. Policy Recommendations

The following recommendations are structured into short-, medium-, and long-term horizons to support phased implementation.

1. Short-Term Actions (1-2 Years)

1. Launch voluntary whole-life carbon disclosure pilots for new public buildings and major renovations, aligned with international standards (ISO, EN, IPCC, ISSB). In developing countries, recognize established third-party certifications (EDGE, LEED, DGNB) as qualifying interim measures where national data systems are not yet in place. Responsible actors: National governments (Ministries of Environment, Finance, and Works), development finance institutions, and technical assistance providers.
2. Provide training and capacity-building programs for developers, investors, financial institutions, and public officials on interpreting and acting on building emissions data. Governments should prioritize technical assistance to developing economies, especially to SIDS and LDCs, where the data-finance gap is most pronounced. Responsible actors: National governments, multilateral development banks, and international technical cooperation programs.

3. Integrate verified building carbon performance data into existing or emerging national green finance taxonomies. Where taxonomies do not yet exist, governments should recognize established certifications (LEED, EDGE, DGNB) as qualifying criteria for concessional financing and green bonds, with clearly defined performance tiers for transparent classification. Responsible actors: Ministries of Finance, central banks, and financial regulators; multilateral development banks where taxonomies are under development.

4. Deploy targeted financial incentives, including blended finance, green guarantees, and concessional loans, to de-risk early-mover investments in low-carbon buildings. In markets with limited regulatory frameworks, these incentives serve as the primary lever to build a pipeline of bankable green projects. Responsible actors: Development finance institutions, Ministries of Finance, MDBs.

2. Medium-Term Actions (3-5 Years)

5. Establish mandatory whole-life carbon disclosure requirements for new buildings and major renovations, including both operational and embodied emissions. Frameworks should include locally calibrated performance baselines and be scaled to market readiness, relying on simplified approaches for early-stage markets and more comprehensive requirements for more advanced jurisdictions. Responsible actors: National governments (Ministries of Environment, Works, and Housing); supported by standard-setting bodies and international technical assistance.

6. Implement green public procurement mandates requiring publicly financed and publicly owned buildings to meet minimum performance thresholds. Governments should lead by example, creating baseline market demand for climate-aligned construction and supporting professional capacity throughout supply chains. Responsible actors: National and subnational governments; Ministries of Finance and Public Works; procurement agencies.

7. Establish national building performance databases centralizing operational and embodied emissions data. Governments should deploy open-access digital tools for whole-life carbon accounting and require independent third-party verification aligned with international frameworks (ISO, EN, IPCC, ISSB). MRV systems should capture energy, water, and embodied impacts and be interoperable with national NDC tracking systems. Developing country governments should seek technical and financial support to build these systems. Responsible actors: National governments; statistical agencies; climate finance and technology bodies; MDBs providing technical assistance.

3. Long-Term Actions (6+ Years)

8. Transition from voluntary disclosure to binding performance standards, including mandatory embodied carbon limits, whole-life carbon targets, and phase-out timelines for high-carbon materials. Governments should progressively tighten thresholds as market capacity matures, ensuring policy evolution is paired with sustained capacity support, particularly in developing countries. Responsible actors: National governments; regulatory bodies; building standards agencies.

9. Integrate building sector emissions reductions into Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, enabling verified reductions to access international carbon markets. Governments should develop robust MRV frameworks for buildings-related carbon credit transactions to ensure environmental integrity and generate new revenue streams for low-carbon projects. Responsible actors: National governments; climate finance authorities; carbon market regulators; international bodies including UNFCCC.

10. Leverage accumulated building performance data and mature market capacity to mobilize private capital at scale, reducing dependence on public de-risking instruments. Governments should enable performance-based financing where market actors can independently evaluate and price climate risk across building portfolios. Responsible actors: National governments; financial regulators; institutional investors; commercial banks.
