

Climate Finance Options Platform



Climate Finance information at your fingertips:

Search the web's most comprehensive resource for climate finance information.

The Climate Finance Options Platform analyses the multitude of funds available for climate action in developing countries.

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UNFCCC
Overseas Development Institute
World Resources Institute
Project Catalyst

List of Acronyms

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News & Events:
World Bank releases climate finance brief #4
Mon, 2010-11-15
UN Sec-Gen releases report on climate change financing
Tue, 2010-11-09
New IFC document on climate risk & financial institutions
Mon, 2010-11-01

Introduction

This Platform aims at providing comprehensive guidance on financial options available for climate action in developing countries. Here you can find information on where to access the wide range of funds available from multilateral and bilateral institution, as well as public and private sources. Learn more on how these funds are governed and whether your project is eligible. Users are invited to be a resource to share their experiences with investment projects and offer feedback and comments on ongoing projects.

FUNDING SOURCES	ON THE GROUND	KNOWLEDGE CENTRE
Find funding sources that are available for both adaptation and mitigation projects that reduce impacts of climate change. See whether your project is eligible, how the fund is structured, and how your organisation can access financing.	Learn about projects from across the world and a range of sectors that have accessed these funds successfully. They have used a mix of these instruments innovatively and can serve as case studies for those waiting to hit the ground.	Access and leverage the latest climate finance information with a library of targeted financial documents and project guides, a compilation of online tools for financial and project analysis and much more in our knowledge centre.

Funding Sources Funding Sources On the Ground Knowledge Center About

You are here: Home > Funding Sources > UNEP Seed Capital Assistance Facility (SCAF)

Climate Finance Tracker **UNEP Seed Capital Assistance Facility (SCAF)** Information

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Tags

Snapshot

Total Amount	\$9.3 million
Financing Mechanisms	Equity, Grant
Qualifying Projects	Mitigation, Energy, Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy
Eligibility	Commercial Private Equity or Venture Capital Funds can receive coe-sharing support for including early stage seed capital windows within their broader commercial investment offering.

Funding Objectives

The facility is aimed at helping energy investment funds provide seed financing to early stage clean energy enterprises and projects. The Facility is implemented through the United Nations Environment Programme, the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank.

Entrepreneurs can transform markets, but the environment for entrepreneurship is poor in many developing countries, particularly in the energy sector. For new business ventures there is a lack of available enterprise development support services and seed financing is hard to secure, with most investors reluctant to engage too early. This means that even high potential renewable energy and efficiency sectors develop quite slowly.

The two largest challenges that investors have in providing seed capital financing to early stage projects and companies are the higher transaction costs and insufficient returns offered by these small, less mature and more risky ventures. The SCAF facility is designed to address these

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This is an official funding.

THE CLIMATE FINANCE CHALLENGE

Policy makers and project planners in developing countries need access to information on potential sources of finance, inspiring best practice examples, and tools for better investment decision making.

Climate change is an unprecedented global challenge. It demands increasing levels of financial flows along with coordination at a level previously unseen between those providing financial resources and those seeking those resources. Adding to this picture, there is a pressing need for up-to-date information on country projects and programs prepared in line with national priorities in countries seeking financing. Many developing countries are already taking action from their own scarce resources.

There is a growing menu of climate funds that can be used to catalyze other sources for integrated investments in climate-resilient and low-carbon solutions. Policy makers and project planners in developing countries at national and city levels need access to information on potential sources of finance, inspiring best practice examples, research results and tools for better investment decision making.

ACCESS TO CLIMATE FINANCE INFORMATION

The Climate Finance Options Platform addresses that need by providing a window to such information. The web platform is envisioned as the go-to site for information on climate finance. Within the framework of global negotiations on climate change, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank Group have jointly developed the web-based knowledge platform in close cooperation with the UNFCCC Secretariat. It is the first vehicle which a number of UN agencies and multi-lateral development banks (MDBs) use as a joint conduit of information on investment finance. It is also building an interactive community of practice to share South-South experience and best practices in climate action for better development impact.

OBJECTIVE

This **Climate Finance Options** Platform, launched under the theme "Acting on Climate Change: The UN System Delivering As One", analyses the multitude of funds available for climate action in developing countries.



WHAT IT DOES

Climate Finance Options Platform provides the following:

- A harmonised description of **types of funds available**, including (a) types of instruments, (b) eligibility criteria, (c) volume, (d) governance and administrative structures, (e) flows, etc.
- **Examples of successful cases** of blending different types of grant and concessional funds to leverage private sector financing, in addition to enabling environments conducive to climate action; all of which will be supplemented by examples provided by stakeholders through discussion forums of registered Platform users.
- **Knowledge centre** with a glossary of terminology, a library with related publications, and a wide range of tools to enable project developers to analyse their own projects for better-informed decisions.

KEY BENEFITS

The Platform will generate a number of benefits:

- **Improved access to information** on climate finance as a basis for more informed planning and decision making by developing country governments;
- **Greater equity** in the ability of users from countries and communities with varying levels of capacity to access the system;
- **Useful documentation** in preparation of policies related to financing mitigation and adaptation;
- **Greater efficiency in climate finance transactions;**
- **Faster deployment of mitigation and adaptation projects;**
- **Better coordination** among the UN System, MDBs and other actors including the private sector, in financing for climate action in developing countries.



TIMING

Scoping, design and preparation of a demonstration version took place from August 2009 to November 2010. UNDP and the World Bank have provided funding for the development and start-up of this service. Further stakeholder dialogue with potential users and partners as well as fund raising for a long-term support project is currently ongoing. The UNDP/WBG Platform was launched in Cancun on November 30, 2010. Depending on the availability of resources, in addition to English, services will be launched in Arabic, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish through a network of partnerships.