

FINAL AGENDA

From Policy to Capital:

Scaling Blended Finance for Inclusive Climate Action

Regional Dialogue co-hosted by UNDP and UNCDF with support from Sida and FCDO

June 17 -18, The Sukosol Hotel, 477 Si Ayuthaya Rd., Phaya Thai, Bangkok

TIME	SESSION
Day 1: 17 June 2026 (Wednesday)	
0845-0900	Registration
0900-0930 Opening Plenary	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks: The session will set the context for the dialogue, underscore the role of blended finance to support countries as they set ambitious climate and development agendas, as reflected in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and broader national development strategies. The session will account for gender gaps that shape adaptive capacity and resilience outcomes and also introduce the joint UNDP-UNCDF offer, which connects upstream policy and institutional reforms with downstream capital deployment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thomas Beloe, Director, Sustainable Finance Hub, UNDP [Online] ▪ Maria Perdomo, Regional Investment Team Lead, UNCDF ▪ Bharath Varadhan, SE Asia Climate, Energy & Nature Coordinator, British High Commission, Singapore ▪ AnnaMaria Oltorp, Head of the Development Cooperation - Asia and the Pacific, Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok
0930-1040 Session 1	<p>Strengthening national ecosystems for inclusive blended finance</p> <p>This session will introduce the recently released <i>UNDP-Convergence Strategic Framework for Blended Finance</i> and engage policymakers and panelists on the complementary roles of government in blended finance. As ‘Facilitators’, by establishing clear priorities, stable regulatory standards and coordinated institutional arrangements; and as ‘doers’, by strategically deploying concessional capital, anchoring early stage market structures and supporting project preparation where private solutions are not yet viable and where climate risks and gender gaps limit access to climate finance. This session will also explore how de-risking measures that specially enable climate adaptation and resilience investments can be operationalized across both policy and financial domains, recognizing that investment barriers are often structural as well as financial.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ritesh Thakkar, Head, Asia-Pacific, Convergence ▪ Shashini Withana, Deputy Director, Ministry of Finance, Sri Lanka [Online] ▪ Nikki Kemp, Executive Director, Singapore Green Finance Centre ▪ John Adrian Narag, Director, Climate Finance Policy Group, Department of Finance, Philippines ▪ Fathimath Abdulla Kamaalut, Acting CEO, Capital Market Development Authority, Maldives ▪ Moderated by: Asad Maken, Regional Public Finance Advisor, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
1040-1110	GROUP PHOTO + COFFEE BREAK
1110-1130 Session 2	<p>Ted Style Talk: Diagnostics and assessments as a starting point to advance blended finance</p> <p>Grounding blended finance in a clear understanding of financing gaps and market constraints is essential to moving from policy to capital. This session structured as an interactive Ted Style Talk, will examine how diagnostics including informality, climate vulnerability and gender barriers inform the design of financing solutions</p>

	<p>in climate-aligned sectors, including MSMEs and sustainable agriculture, positioning instruments such as guarantees, concessional capital, and loans as responses to identified risks and investment barriers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Samuil Shiderov, Blended Finance Expert, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
<p>1130-1230</p> <p>Session 3</p>	<p>Financial Institutions as enablers of inclusive climate and resilience finance</p> <p>This session will explore how financial institutions including national development banks, commercial banks, microfinance providers, and digital finance platforms can drive the expansion of climate-aligned finance. It will examine their complementary roles in refinancing, risk-sharing, last-mile delivery, and product innovation, particularly for underserved MSMEs including women led/ women owned enterprises, and climate-vulnerable populations. The session will also consider how regulators and industry associations can strengthen enabling frameworks, and how institutions can enhance their capacity to assess climate risk, build resilient portfolios, and design appropriate financial products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mohammad Abu Alam Mohajan, Additional Director, Sustainable Finance Department, Bangladesh ▪ Bimal Sudhakar, Chief Operations Officer, Fiji Development Bank ▪ Rustico Noli Cruz, Vice President, Program Development, Development Bank of the Philippines ▪ Chuan Penn (Joel) Khaw, Head of Group Sustainability Strategic Management and Governance, RHB Banking Group, Malaysia ▪ Moderated by: Diyora Kabulova, Regional SDG Finance Policy Specialist, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
1230-1330	LUNCH BREAK
<p>1340-1440</p> <p>Session 4</p>	<p>Missing middle: Financing MSMEs to deliver climate and development impact</p> <p>MSMEs, particularly micro and small enterprises are central to local economies and climate-vulnerable sectors, yet face a persistent financing gap that limits their ability to invest in climate-resilient and low-carbon activities. In many countries, a large share of these enterprises are served by microfinance and digital financial institutions, with a significant proportion of women-led businesses,. This session will explore how blended finance approaches can better respond to these structural constraints. It will highlight the role of technical assistance in strengthening investment pipelines, enabling climate-smart business models, and improving market linkages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Kazi Shahjahan, Joint Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh ▪ Doel Mukherjee, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Afghanistan [Online] ▪ Neha Rai, Head of Strategic Results and Partnerships, ICIMOD, Nepal ▪ Sai Krishna Kumaraswamy, Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank / CGAP ▪ Kelly Hattel, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, Asian Development Bank ▪ Ros Keomonychenda, Head of Treasury, AMK Cambodia [Online] ▪ Moderated by: Maria Perdomo, Regional Investment Team Lead, UNCDF
<p>1440 – 1540</p> <p>Session 5</p>	<p>Financing inclusive and resilient agricultural value chains</p> <p>Agriculture sits at the heart of climate adaptation across Asia-Pacific, yet remains significantly underfinanced due to structural challenges and risk perceptions. Transitioning to climate-smart agriculture requires financing solutions that operate across entire value chains from pre-harvest, production to processing and markets while integrating gender-responsive approaches and focused on addressing the needs of small holder farmers. This session will unpack financing solutions and risk-sharing mechanisms that can support resilient agricultural value chains.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nirav Khambhati, Partner, The Blended Finance Company, India ▪ Soysouvanh Siborliboun, Manager, Lao Access to Finance Fund, Bank of Lao PDR ▪ Abdelkarim Sma, Lead Regional Economist, Asia and the Pacific Division, IFAD

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderated by: Karanraj Chaudri, Regional Climate Finance and Private Sector Specialist, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
1540-1600	COFFEE BREAK
1605 – 1635	<p>Moving Capital into Adaptation: Evidence and Opportunity in Asia</p> <p>Despite growing investor interest, climate adaptation remains significantly underfinanced across Asia — with annual financing flows a fraction of what the region requires. This session presents new regional evidence on adaptation and resilience financing, mapping solutions across tiers of commercial viability and identifying where different types of capital can play a catalytic role. It also introduces emerging work to identify adaptation investment opportunity areas across ASEAN, offering governments and investors a more structured basis for translating climate priorities into actionable pipelines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Josephine Bellman, Impact Lead, Invesco [Online] Devahuti Choudhury, Senior Private Sector and Impact Specialist, UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub Facilitated by: Karanraj Chaudri, Regional Climate Finance and Private Sector Specialist, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
Session 5A	
1635 - 1720	<p>Designing and Scaling Climate-Responsive Guarantees</p> <p>This session will examine how guarantee instruments can be strengthened and redesigned as climate-responsive solutions that explicitly integrate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience objectives. It will focus on practical pathways for implementation, including design considerations, minimum success factors, and how guarantees can function across national, intermediary, and subnational systems. Particular attention will be given to embedding impact measurement and management approaches to ensure that guarantees deliver measurable climate, resilience and gender and inclusion outcomes. The discussion will also highlight the role of developing climate responsive products and integrating climate considerations into lending.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberto Pascual, President and CEO, Philippine Guarantee Corporation Chun Sothany, Director of Strategy and Business Development, Cambodia CGCC Jude Fernando, Chief Executive Officer, National Credit Guarantee Institution, Sri Lanka Moderated by: Samuil Shiderov, Blended Finance Expert, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
Session 6	
Day 2: 18 June 2026 (Thursday)	
0845-0900	Arrivals and registration
0900 – 1000	<p>From the ground up: Climate resilience and role of subnational governments</p> <p>Subnational governments sit closest to climate risks, those who are most impacted by climate change and investable demand, yet often face constraints in accessing affordable finance. This session will explore how financing approaches can link national climate priorities with local capital deployment including investments aligned to gender differentiated climate impacts and adaptive capacity. Drawing on emerging regional practices, including UNCDF’s experience in Asia-Pacific, it will highlight how performance-based grants, integrated planning and budgeting, and blended finance can strengthen subnational investment pipelines. The session will also examine how concessional finance can act as a catalyst to crowd in private capital through guarantees, structured instruments, and partnerships with financial institutions, enabling local investments to scale.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HE Chheng Vatanak, Deputy Head, NCDDS, Cambodia [Online] Rajesh Yadav, Senior Investment Operations Specialist, AIIB MD Enamul Karim Pavel, Head - Renewable Energy, Infrastructure Development Company, Bangladesh Sara Vigil, Senior Research Fellow and Global Lead, Stockholm Environment Institute Athena Denise Galao, Portfolio Lead - Resilience, UNWomen Asia-Pacific
Session 7	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderated by: Vivek Misra, Regional Public Finance Specialist, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
1000-1045 Session 8	<p>De-risking Adaptation and Resilience Investments: The Role of Insurance</p> <p>Insurance solutions ranging from parametric and climate risk insurance to portfolio-level guarantees can play a dual role as both risk transfer instruments within transactions and as institutional investors in blended finance vehicles. When combined with concessional capital, these instruments can help unlock coverage for high-risk sectors such as climate-health and agriculture, and attract a broader set of investors seeking more secure, investment-grade opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Satyanarayana Patraikuni, NatCat Team Leader, MunichRe, Singapore Pongpanu Damrongsiri, Executive Director, Thai General Insurance Association, Thailand Felichya Khan, Project Lead on Parametric Insurance, Tower Insurance, Fiji Smriti Sharma, Vice President, NIFRA, Nepal Moderated by: Mamta Kohli, Regional Gender & Social Inclusion Specialist, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
1045-1115	COFFEE BREAK
1115-1215 Session 9	<p>Aligning capital across the stack: Partnerships to scale adaptation finance</p> <p>This session will explore how different sources of capital can be more effectively aligned across the financing stack to support scaled, country-led climate action. The discussion will examine how varying actors can play complementary roles—from upstream concessional and catalytic capital to downstream investment and risk-sharing. The session will focus on how such partnerships can be structured to crowd in domestic and private capital at scale, strengthen national financing ecosystems, integrating gender-lens investing approach and better connect policy priorities with investable opportunities. Thus, ensuring adaptation finance reaches priority sectors and population groups critical for resilience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stefanie Fairholme, Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer, British International Investment Priyaka Dhingra, Head of Impact and Sustainable Finance, Farro Capital Mashmooma Zehra Majeed, Chief Executive Officer, Mutual Funds Association of Pakistan Moderated by: Devahuti Choudhury, Senior Private Sector and Impact Specialist, UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub
1215-1300 Session 10	<p>From Country Demand to Financing Solutions: Setting Priorities for Action</p> <p>This session will focus on identifying concrete areas of demand at the country level and how UNDP and UNCDF, drawing on experiences from the Climate Finance Network and LoCAL+, can support the development of integrated, country-led financing solutions. We will hear from country representatives (to be kindly coordinated by accompanying UNDP/ UNCDF focal points) on a key takeaway and outline one potential area of collaboration which integrates climate resilience with particular attention gender differentiated results.</p> <p>Facilitated by: Cristina Gregorio, Regional Climate Finance Specialist, UNDP and Marat Murzabekov, Monitoring and Evaluation and Learning Specialist, UNDP</p>
1300 – 1315	<p>Closing Plenary and Wrap-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maria Perdomo, Regional Investment Team Lead, UNCDF Asad Maken, Regional Public Finance Advisor, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub
1315 - 1415	LUNCH
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