



Country-Led Programmatic Approaches for Scaling Adaptation Finance in LDCs and SIDS

About Policy Briefs

Policy Briefs aim to analyze the state of play, extract best practices, and provide advice on how to further embed the Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance's Principles and Recommendations (Taskforce P&Rs) across countries and the international climate finance system. Policy Briefs are drafted under the leadership of the [Center for Access to Climate Finance](#) (the Center), hosted by the NDC Partnership Support Unit funded by the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office.

This Policy Brief was developed by the [Global Green Growth Institute](#) (GGGI) and [Cadlas](#). The brief builds on and complements a growing literature on country-led programmatic approaches, including reports, technical papers, guidance, and case studies from think tanks, financial institutions, and NDC Partnership publications. The literature review was supplemented by expert and country consultations. Country representatives consulted include Bangladesh (Economic Relations Divisions, Ministry of Finance), Jamaica (Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation and Development Bank of Jamaica), Barbados (Roofs to Reefs Programme), and South Africa (Presidential Climate Commission). Valuable insights and contributions were also received from the following organizations: Asian Development Bank (ADB), African Development Bank (AfDB), Climate Investment Funds (CIF), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Green Climate Fund (GCF), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), World Resources Institute (WRI), and the Africa Climate Foundation (ACF). Private sector representatives included Ricardo, Climate Fund Managers, and Standard Chartered.



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Executive Summary

Adaptation needs are rising rapidly as climate impacts intensify. Most countries have National Adaptation Plans (NAP) or strategies in place, but a significant gap persists between planning and effective implementation on the ground. Developing countries are estimated to require USD 310–365 billion per year by 2035 for adaptation, yet as per the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)'s [latest adaptation gap report](#), current international public adaptation finance remains far below this level and is not scaling at the pace required. Adaptation finance mobilization continues to lag behind due to fragmented, project-based funding modalities, weak alignment between donor funding priorities and country-identified adaptation needs. This is exacerbated by slow disbursement, limited

private sector engagement driven by weak revenue models, high perceived risk, and insufficient pipelines of bankable adaptation investments. These interrelated challenges highlight the need for more programmatic, country-led financing approaches and structures.

Country-led programmatic approaches have emerged as mechanisms with high potential to mobilize climate, including adaptation finance. At COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh in 2022, Rwanda convened discussions on programmatic and platform-based approaches under the aegis of the Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance (the Taskforce). Under [Brazil's G20 Presidency](#), the G20 report emphasized programmatic approaches, including country platforms, as

scalable solutions to better align international support with national priorities. This momentum was reinforced through the COP30 Circle of Finance Ministers, which contributed to the Baku-to-Belém Roadmap and set a pathway for mobilizing USD 1.3 trillion annually by 2035, highlighting the need for structured, nationally anchored mechanisms to channel investments effectively. Another major COP30 milestone was the launch of the Country Platform Hub, announced with participation from 13 countries and one regional platform. Together, these developments signal a shift toward more integrated programmatic approaches that prioritize country ownership, integrated planning to link climate and development priorities, inclusive governance and coordination mechanisms, and enabling environments to improve the efficiency and scale of climate finance mobilization.

This Policy Brief is a direct contribution to this evolving landscape and explores how these programmatic approaches are, or could be, applied to the specific challenges and opportunities of adaptation finance.

These approaches aim to strengthen alignment across government and financiers to mobilize public and private finance, both domestic and international, at scale, and to support the development and implementation

of investment-ready pipelines. Country-led programmatic approaches create structured and coordinated multistakeholder platforms to accelerate and optimize the use of diverse capital sources to respond to national priorities and community needs.

This Policy Brief was developed to support Taskforce members, practitioners, and the climate finance community to better understand the different ways in which country-led programmatic approaches can be deployed to leverage and scale adaptation financing. It draws on lessons that are relevant and potentially replicable in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Building on the NDC Partnership and Green Climate Fund's [Climate Investment Planning and Mobilization Framework](#) (CIPMF) and its [Adaptation Investment Planning Supplement](#), the Policy Brief highlights practices and examples from across the NDC Partnership, the Taskforce, and other initiatives, showing how these approaches mobilize public and private finance, both domestic and international, while coordinating among key stakeholders. Based on the assessment of these cases, this Policy Brief identifies key features and provides recommendations on the effective establishment, management, and development of country-led approaches.

While there are no universally accepted definitions of country-led programmatic approaches, this Policy Brief uses the term to refer to integrated, long-term financing anchored in national priorities and implemented through coordinated multistakeholder frameworks to move beyond fragmented, project-based financing models by providing a coherent structure through which countries can plan, sequence, and finance investments.

Key Findings in the Policy Brief

While there is growing consensus around the importance and role of country-led programmatic approaches, they have yet to reach their full potential in unlocking adaptation finance, particularly when it comes to mobilizing private finance.

While no single model fits all contexts, the underlying mechanics of country-led programmatic approaches (such as anchoring in core national systems and priorities, longer-term perspectives, alignment with country and sector contexts, and coherent mechanisms for finance mobilization and coordination) are broadly replicable.

The effectiveness and long-term sustainability of any country-led programmatic approach depend on flexibility to adapt the design and implementation to a country's specific context, capacities, and priorities and on using diversified financing sources.

Key enablers to establish or effectively manage country-led programmatic approaches

1. Strong government ownership and mandate

- › Strong government ownership can be achieved by anchoring country-led programmatic approaches in core government institutions (such as prime ministers' and presidential offices and ministries of finance) with clear legal mandates, roles, and responsibilities.

2. Enhanced coordination

- › Country examples show that streamlined stakeholder coordination mechanisms ensure policy coherence and align priorities and efforts across national institutions.
- › Successful country-led programmatic approaches adopt a whole-of-government approach, involving center-of-government bodies (such as ministries of finance and planning, central banks, public development banks, and other core economic and financial institutions). Environment ministries and other line ministries with policy responsibility for climate action should also be included and actively engaged from an early stage having an active role in mainstreaming climate into core planning, economic, and investment frameworks.
- › Early and systematic engagement of finance partners, including the private sector, helps develop a common vision and secure financing aligned with national priorities.

3. Evidence-based financing strategies

- › Evidence-based investment prioritization systems, and other means to integrate climate risk and opportunity assessments, are an important part of core national economic and social development planning and investment frameworks, guiding finance strategies and mobilization.
- › Comprehensive financing strategies can optimize limited public funding and strategically blend public and private capital and accelerate private sector investments.

4. Strengthened institutional capacity

- › The operationalization of country-led approaches is often supported by embedded experts and by establishing project preparation facilities (PPFs). Along with capacity building programs implemented in collaboration with development partners, these actions can support country-led programmatic approaches and the development and management of project pipelines.

5. Locally led approaches embedded within national frameworks

- › A whole-of-society approach is essential for effective country-led programmatic adaptation because climate risks are experienced most acutely at the local level, cutting across communities, and livelihoods. Embedding locally led approaches within country-led programmatic frameworks supports effective, inclusive, and sustainable measures. This is particularly crucial for adaptation. While national coordination remains central, systematically integrating subnational governments, local institutions, and communities into investment planning and delivery strengthens relevance, enhances ownership, and supports long-term impact.



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1. Introduction

The NDC Partnership is a global coalition, bringing together more than 260 members, including more than 140 countries, developed and developing, and more than 110 institutions to deliver on ambitious, transformational climate action that helps achieve the Paris Agreement and drive sustainable development.

The NDC Partnership Support Unit hosts the [Center for Access to Climate Finance](#) (the Center), which is an initiative of the

Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance (the Taskforce). The Taskforce is a collaboration between developing countries and climate finance providers to identify and implement solutions to improve access to climate finance. The Center leverages and amplifies learning from the Taskforce and the NDC Partnership by providing thought leadership, sharing best practices, facilitating global knowledge exchange and South-South learning and generating evidence to improve the international climate finance system.

1.1. Context

Despite the intensifying impacts of climate change, reported adaptation finance flows currently fall short of estimated needs and make up only 5% of global climate finance (United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP], 2025; Climate Policy Initiative [CPI] and Global Center on Adaptation, 2024). Furthermore, only 19% (USD 14.5 billion) of total adaptation finance went to Least Developed Countries (LDCs), while only 2% (USD 1.5 billion) reached Small Island Developing States (SIDS; UNEP, 2025). Currently, the adaptation finance landscape is dominated by public financial flows from multilateral development banks (MDBs), development finance institutions (DFIs) and bilateral donors, with debt instruments accounting for a large share of adaptation finance, including over 80% in emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs) and 51% in LDCs (CPI, 2024).

Private finance flows for adaptation remain limited, and innovative instruments (such as climate resilience bonds, debt-for-resilience swaps, and blended finance facilities) are only just beginning to emerge. Evidence increasingly demonstrates that adaptation and resilience investments can deliver strong economic returns. Every USD 1 invested can generate more than USD 10 in benefits over 10 years, implying potential returns of over USD 1.4 trillion and average returns of 27% (World Resources Institute [WRI], 2025b). However, grants continue to play a central role in adaptation finance, particularly in heavily indebted and lower income contexts where debt servicing obligations are high. They support measures, such as ecosystem restoration or smallholder farmer diversification, that lack direct revenue streams and are therefore unattractive to private investors.

National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Development Plans (NDPs), and emerging Climate Prosperity Plans are key frameworks for defining countries' climate priorities and aligning them with investments. As of January 2026, 75 developing countries, including 27 LDCs, [had submitted NAPs](#) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The [2025 NDC Synthesis Report](#) indicates that the theme of adaptation (or climate resilience) is increasingly prominent in NDCs, with 73% of new NDCs including adaptation components. [Climate Prosperity Plans](#), promoted by the Climate Vulnerable Forum and V20 Finance Ministers, further aim to integrate climate resilience, mitigation, and development objectives into coherent, investment-oriented national strategies that link long-term climate ambition with near-term economic transformation.

However, while these plans aim to mainstream adaptation into development and facilitate funding, they vary in their granularity and political clout and often show gaps in actionable strategies, hampering the translation of high-level objectives into investable projects and pipelines (GGGI, 2024). Taken together, these trends reflect an evolving adaptation landscape in which planning frameworks are increasingly in place, but finance mobilization, donor alignment, and pipeline development continue to lag behind articulated national priorities—particularly in LDCs and SIDS.

Country-led programmatic approaches are gaining momentum as important mechanisms for coordinating national progress towards achieving climate mitigation and adaptation objectives through mobilizing coherent finance behind national plans and priorities. [Brazil's G20 Presidency](#) emphasized country ownership, tailored approaches, and stronger coordination across MDBs and DFIs, including support for country platforms and country-driven investment plans to move beyond fragmented, project-based climate finance.

This was reinforced at COP30 in November 2025 by the launch of 13 new country-led and one regional platform and the launch of the [Country Platforms Hub](#).

The COP30 outcomes reflected in the [Baku-to-Belém Roadmap Report](#) also highlight the importance of country-led programmatic approaches. The report underscores that the effectiveness of programmatic approaches depends on strong country ownership, high-level mandates, broad stakeholder engagement, flexibility to adapt to changing contexts, and effective links to public and private sources of finance. It also emphasizes the value of channeling support through national systems and public development banks to build lasting capacity and develop investment-ready pipelines, while recognizing the persistent structural constraints faced by LDCs and SIDS (such as limited capacity and access to finance) and the need to strengthen domestic, subnational, and local-level access to climate finance.

1.2. Approach

While there are no universally accepted definitions of country-led programmatic approaches, this Policy Brief uses the term to refer to integrated, long-term financing anchored in national priorities and implemented through coordinated multistakeholder frameworks to move beyond fragmented, project-based financing models by providing a coherent structure through which countries can plan, sequence, and finance investments. These approaches aim to strengthen alignment across government and financiers to mobilize public and private finance, both domestic and international, at scale and to support the development and implementation of investment-ready pipelines. Country-led programmatic approaches create structured and coordinated multistakeholder platforms to accelerate and optimize the use of diverse capital sources to respond to national priorities and community needs.

Country-led programmatic approaches often require a framework for coordination and prioritization, with national financing vehicles (NFVs) providing the financial mechanisms needed to translate these priorities into investments on the ground. Practical examples of this interaction can be seen in [Dominica's NFV](#), launched in 2021, which channels resources toward priority investments identified through national resilience and sustainable development frameworks. Another example is provided by the [Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility](#) (CCRIF), a risk-pooling facility owned and operated in the Caribbean region to support governments in managing disaster-related risks through innovative insurance and risk pooling.

Figure 1 illustrates how programmatic approaches can enhance country-level efforts to coordinate adaptation finance.

This Policy Brief focuses on adaptation, given the persistent gap in mobilizing finance for adaptation and adds to existing resources and publications on the topic.

While this Policy Brief aims to showcase effective governance structures to unlock and scale financing for adaptation, it is important to note that such country-led approaches may not be limited to adaptation alone. They

often focus on climate mitigation or on wider climate finance which may encompass a dual adaptation and mitigation mandate. Therefore, while most of the findings, case studies and lessons learned presented in the Policy Brief focus on adaptation, given the largely dual mandates, some mitigation-focused examples are also provided.

Beyond national-level mechanisms, this Policy Brief also examines how programmatic approaches are implemented at various levels of governance, including the subnational or local levels.

Figure 1: Theory of Change for a Programmatic, Country-Led Approach



1.3. Methodology

The Policy Brief draws on information provided through desk reviews, interviews with key stakeholders for the case studies, and representatives of leading organizations active in adaptation finance.

The framing used in this Policy Brief to understand and analyze country-led programmatic approaches builds on the [Climate Investment Planning and Mobilization Framework](#) (CIPMF) developed based on the collective experience of the NDC Partnership and the Green Climate Fund (see Figure 2) and its [Adaptation Investment Planning Supplement](#) co-developed with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Adaptation Fund, and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The CIPMF maps a country's path from institutional arrangements to investment in six iterative steps:

1. **Establish the foundations**, including legal mandates, governance and coordination arrangements, core capacity, alignment with existing investment frameworks, and mainstreaming of climate change within core planning, economic, and financial frameworks and institutions.
2. **Identify and prioritize investment needs** by costing NDC and NAP objectives and using evidence (risk assessments, cost-benefit analysis (CBA) to select high-impact opportunities aligned with economic and social development priorities.
3. **Define a financing strategy** that matches each priority investment with appropriate sources and instruments and strengthens enabling environments to advance and de-risk climate investments.
4. **Program with finance partners**, aligning and coordinating donors and investors and devising strategies and instruments to unlock private sector investments.
5. **Translate concepts into investment programs and pipelines of bankable projects** through project preparation: feasibility studies, safeguards, structuring, funding proposals, and appropriate finance instruments and incentives.
6. **Implement and monitor**, tracking results and finance mobilized, learning and adjusting to scale up and sustain impact.

While the six steps of the CIPMF may be applied equally to mitigation and adaptation finance, this Policy Brief explores their use as a lens for understanding the role of country-led programmatic approaches that support adaptation. It is important to note that this framework is not linear and that insights from implementation may feed back into priorities, instruments, and institutional design.





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2. Analysis and Findings

2.1. Stage 1: Investment Planning and Mobilization Capacity

This stage focuses on the governance arrangements and institutional structures and capacities needed for effective investment planning that leads to successful resource mobilization and mainstreaming of climate priorities.

Initial Steps for Establishment

Countries can institutionalize country-led programmatic approaches in a number of ways, as long as central coordination is ensured by a government entity. Most of these approaches stem from a combination of political commitment, the passage of specific legislation or decrees, and the alignment of climate priorities within national development plans (Bhandary, 2022; WRI, 2025a).

For example, South Africa's ongoing efforts to build on its experience from its [Just Energy Transition Partnership \(JETP\)](#) for

the development of the [Just Adaptation and Resilience Investment Platform \(JARIP\)](#) highlights the importance of clear government ownership and early political endorsement at the highest level. Securing presidential and cabinet support provides the mandate needed to convene key ministries (such as the national treasury, environment, water, human settlements, and monitoring bodies) and enables the establishment of an interministerial oversight committee.

The African Climate Foundation (ACF)'s Adaptation and Resilience Investment Platform (ARIP) is one of the most comprehensive finance-driven, country-level programmatic approaches to adaptation. It illustrates an institutional step change in adaptation finance facilitated by an external actor. Structured around three pillars, ARIP builds initially on existing national plans, such as NAPs, and focuses on translating these into investment-ready projects. A core feature of the approach is that it emphasizes high-level political commitment—including buy-in from opposition parties in the parliaments as well—and government-community alignment as prerequisites for durable impact.

Establishing programmatic approaches can also be catalyzed by early support—for example, in the form of technical assistance, seed funding, or capacity building support—from international donors and organizations, including MDBs, DFIs, or bilateral partners, particularly where national systems and capacity are not yet fully established. When designed to strengthen national institutions and transition leadership to government counterparts, such support can help create the foundations for fully country-led programmatic approaches, as seen in the case of Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) country programs (Box 1). For example, the initial stages

of Tajikistan's PPCR process were supported by ADB, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and the World Bank, but once national capacity had been established in the Prime Minister's Office, a more country-led approach was able to evolve.

Institutional Arrangements

Ensuring strong government ownership is a critical feature of programmatic approaches, underscoring the cross-sectoral and strategic nature of investment planning and finance mobilization. These functions are typically housed in ministries of finance or the office of the prime minister, reflecting the need to align adaptation investment planning with national planning and financing processes, as outlined in the Adaptation Financing Supplement to the CIPMF and illustrated in the PPCR example in Box 1.

While there is no “one size fits all” solution, anchoring in finance ministries or the office of the prime minister improves budget integration, authority, and sustainability of country-led approaches. This is particularly effective where central institutions play a coordination role across national planning and financing, sectoral agencies, and subnational authorities, while line ministries (such as environment, climate, and agriculture) can ensure alignment with national climate goals and lead implementation. Where governments establish explicit mandates through decrees or integration into national planning frameworks, coordination improves, responsibilities are clearer, and engagement with partners is more predictable. This underscores the importance of defining institutional roles and coordination responsibilities early in the adaptation investment planning process to ensure that mandated national, sectoral, and subnational institutions are effectively engaged.

Mapping mandates and roles across sectoral ministries can enable horizontal integration managed by relevant ministries' agencies, multistakeholder boards, steering committees, or coordination units that facilitate collaboration and oversight. By providing a cross-government framework, country-led programmatic approaches overcome institutional silos, siloed project pipelines, overlapping and disconnected programs with development partners, and fragmented project finance, tracking, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E). Mapping governance structures and responsibilities should explicitly identify and resolve competing mandates, misaligned incentives, and institutional conflicts of interest between government departments to enable efficient and effective decision-making and delivery.

Well-defined linkages between the national, subnational, and local levels support effective decentralized decision-making that aligns national priorities and project pipelines with local needs. Box 2 presents a model for how adaptation decision-making at the local level is supported under the Least Developed Countries Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR), a long-term initiative that aims to achieve the LDC 2050 Vision for Climate Resilient People, Economies, and Landscapes. Another example of governance structures that enable participatory planning is Jamaica's Blue Green Facility (see Box 6) that envisages the creation of a steering committee to engage local communities in climate finance planning.

BOX 1

Climate Investment Funds Pilot Program for Climate Resilience: An Early Pioneer of Programmatic Approaches

The Climate Investment Funds (CIF) pioneered a programmatic approach to adaptation financing through its [PPCR](#), launched in 2008. Under the PPCR, pilot countries received support to develop nationally owned Strategic Programs for Climate Resilience (SPCRs), under the leadership of governments with broad stakeholder participation. These enabled national adaptation priorities to be articulated coherently and strategically and provided a robust framework for planning and delivering adaptation investments that addressed national priorities. In this way, the PPCR invested USD 1.2 billion of adaptation financing across 31 countries and two regional programs (the Caribbean and Pacific), demonstrating how adaptation financing can be mainstreamed into national development planning in an integrated and strategic manner. The experience of the PPCR also highlighted the key role of ministries of finance, providing evidence that their role as PPCR focal points resulted in more effective integration of climate resilience into budgets and associated processes, improved sustainability after the end of PPCR activities, and mainstreaming of adaptation across key sectors.

BOX 2**Least Developed Countries Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience**

Least Developed Countries Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience ([LIFE-AR](#)) is an LDC-led initiative financed by the governments of Canada, Ireland, and the UK, together with the Quadrature Climate Foundation. It is designed to help countries move beyond business-as-usual adaptation delivery by testing new, locally anchored programmatic models before scaling them nationally. The approach is being piloted in a set of front-runner countries—including Ethiopia, Uganda and Malawi—that are trialing new institutional arrangements, planning tools, and financing mechanisms before expanding to additional regions.

In these countries, LIFE-AR begins with a structured “test and evolve” phase. Rather than scaling prematurely, governments select a small number of local governments to pilot adaptation interventions, refine delivery systems, and identify bottlenecks. Planning and strategic coordination occur at the national level, while implementation is led by local governments and communities. This allows countries to test feasibility in real settings, build local ownership, and generate practical lessons. The process also supports a shift away from short-term, sector-specific, and top-down models, helping both national and local governments adopt more systemic, long-term approaches to developing adaptation pipelines.

A core requirement across pilots is the preparation of vulnerability assessments before prioritizing investments. These assessments combine national meteorological data, climate projections, and local baseline information and help compensate for data gaps. In Ethiopia, this approach is layered onto the existing Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Facility housed in the Ministry of Finance, whereas Uganda and Malawi required new institutional arrangements, including technical teams at national and subnational levels. Across all settings, LIFE-AR has emphasized the need for explicit government commitment to new planning and delivery practices, recognizing that adopting a programmatic approach often requires a shift in institutional set-up. In Uganda, for example, this has involved the national Climate Finance Unit (CFU) working with LIFE-AR and the LoCAL programme to scale local-level adaptation finance from pilot initiatives to nationwide district coverage, ensuring institutionalizing and expanding programmatic approaches are driven by the national government.

Peer-to-peer learning is another central element: front-runner countries regularly exchange lessons on delivery models, governance challenges, and financing arrangements. This collaborative structure strengthens political buy-in and supports consistent refinement of tools and processes before scale-out.



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Institutional Capacity

The institutional capacities and expertise required to establish and manage country-led programmatic approaches depend on national circumstances, needs, and existing arrangements within governments. In some cases, development partners (such as donors, MDBs, or climate funds) provide support by embedding skilled staff. Some examples include GCF's support for Brazil's Climate and Ecological Transformation Investment Platform (BIP) and the Caribbean Platform, UK support to set up Somalia's first national climate fund as part of the Taskforce pioneer country trial, GGGI's support for the Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) in Ethiopia, embedding independent experts within the government by African Climate Foundation as part of the ARIP. In this way, development partners can provide valuable technical support, particularly in the early stages of establishing country-led programmatic approaches.

Longer-term viability and sustainability are most likely when support focuses on strengthening or building the capacities of existing government structures and staff, recognizing that institutional arrangements and staffing levels are unlikely to change significantly in the short term. This includes

targeted training of government officials, embedding technical assistance within government teams for day-to-day knowledge transfer, and gradually shifting responsibility for coordination, investment planning, and financial structuring to national institutions. This approach is key to avoiding capacity gaps as external support is phased out.

Technical assistance can play an important role during the formative phase of country-led programmatic approaches, providing targeted support to establish core coordination functions, analytical tools, and fiduciary systems prior to full government absorption. In Bangladesh, for instance, the structuring of the Bangladesh Climate and Development Partnership (BCDP) drew on [technical assistance from ADB and the World Bank](#) to conduct institutional mapping, undertake initial pipeline diagnostics, and design an interim secretariat model. (The BCDP case study is outlined in Box 3.) These contributions enabled the government to clarify roles, convene participating ministries, and prepare for subsequent anchoring under the Prime Minister's Office. This example shows how well-scoped, task-specific technical assistance can accelerate the set-up of country-led approaches, while building the foundations for sustained national ownership.



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BOX 3

Bangladesh Climate and Development Partnership

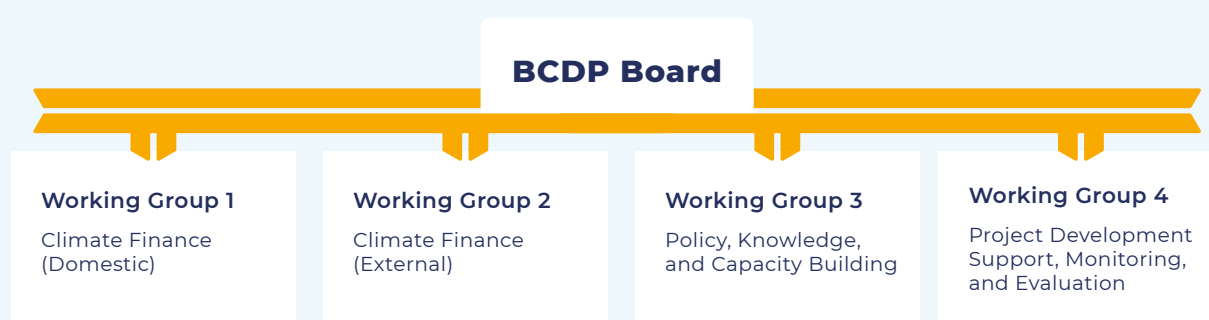
The Bangladesh Climate and Development Partnership ([BCDP](#)) provides a well-defined example of a country-led programmatic approach, reflecting a robust institutional foundation and governance model aligned with stage 1 of the CIPMF. Initiated with approval from the Government of Bangladesh in May 2024, the BCDP is designed to drive climate action at scale and with urgency by providing a cross-sectoral, multi-year partnership approach dedicated to both adaptation and mitigation goals. By creating a pipeline of carefully thought-out, high-impact initiatives in line with long-term plans like the NAP, Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100, and the updated NDC, BCDP helps to achieve national climate priorities.

In line with Bangladesh's climate reform agenda, an interministerial and interagency coordination mechanism has been established through the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), which set up the National Committee for Environment and Climate Change (NCECC) chaired by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. The BCDP was developed as a practical mechanism to advance this agenda by generating a robust project pipeline, mobilizing finance from development partners and enabling improved integration of climate risks into fiscal planning.

The BCDP is led by a board, responsible for providing strategic direction and four working groups focused on domestic climate finance, external climate finance, capacity building, and development and M&E (see figure below). The board is chaired by the Principal Secretary of the Chief Advisor's and Prime Minister's Office. Other board members include representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of Planning; the Ministry of Finance; the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief; the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development, and Cooperatives; the Ministry of Water Resources; the Ministry of Agriculture; the private sector; the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change; and the Development Cooperation Agency.

Testimonies from Bangladeshi country officials emphasized that the chairing and leadership by the Prime Minister's Office provided the political authority needed to coordinate across ministries, resolve institutional silos, and align climate priorities with national planning, investment, and financing processes.

Figure 3: Organizational Structure of the Bangladesh Climate and Development Partnership



Note. This figure was adapted from the [BCDP website](#).

Experience from the BCDP shows that Stage 1 implementation is less about size and more about clarity of ownership, lean legal anchoring, a small but empowered secretariat, and a disciplined two-gate pipeline process backed by a nimble project preparation window. These steps create predictable handoffs, lower transaction costs for partners, and keep government ownership at the core while building toward larger, multi-partner mobilization.

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder mapping is a crucial step for identifying a broader set of actors outside the government and understanding their specific adaptation needs and priorities. It is essential to already engage with potential adaptation finance providers at this stage to establish appropriate coordination mechanisms.

In broad terms, stakeholders that may need to be mapped by the lead organization and engaged under a country-led approach for adaptation financing can be categorized into the following groups:

- › line ministries with sectoral responsibilities (such as ministries of environment, climate change, water, agriculture, urban development, infrastructure) and ministries responsible for health, social protection, energy, transport, housing, disaster risk management, and public works, depending on the country's climate risk profile and priority adaptation sectors;
- › international finance partners (such as climate funds, MDBs, DFIs, and bilateral finance providers);
- › private sector, academia, think tanks and civil society actors, including representatives from relevant sectoral organizations and business associations (particularly actors involved in climate-sensitive sectors (such as agriculture, water, transport, infrastructure, and urban services) with expertise in climate risk, resilience, and adaptation implementation;
- › subnational authorities and governments;
- › local (affected) communities, Indigenous Peoples, and vulnerable groups;
- › implementing partners, including local and international organizations.

Effective country-led programmatic approaches embed participation into their design through multistakeholder representation, structured co-programming processes, and transparent communication practices. The strongest examples mix steering committees and thematic working groups (for example, on finance, pipelines, and M&E) with reserved places for subnational authorities, the private sector, civil society, and local community representatives or regular stakeholder dialogues or partner fora, such as Bangladesh's BCDP. Vertical integration mechanisms connect national decisions to local planning and delivery through local adaptation plans and eligibility "gateways," such as Kenya's Financing Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA), where counties access funds after risk assessments and action plans or planned local windows under country-led approaches.

Ethiopia's CRGE Facility is organized through Sectoral Reduction Action Plans that consolidate inputs from regional and woreda (district) levels, coordinated and appraised by the CRGE Facility Secretariat and approved through the national CRGE decision bodies with stakeholder input via the Advisory Board. Funding is then disbursed from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development to federal implementing entities, which channel resources to regional bureaus and woreda implementers through current government systems, or to community and non-state implementers via approved specialist financial intermediaries. The framework mandates subnational coordination via regional and woreda CRGE coordination committees and CRGE units. However, in practice, the establishment and functioning of regional CRGE units is not uniform across regions.

2.2. Stage 2: Identifying and Prioritizing Investment Needs

Stage 2 focuses on evidence-based methodologies and data-driven approaches to inform investment priorities in alignment with national priorities and the best available science. It supports decision-making by translating climate risk, vulnerability, and opportunity evidence into prioritized and sequenced investment needs. This stage builds on existing frameworks (such as NAPs, NDCs, and sectoral development plans) by strengthening their implementability through prioritization, sequencing, and practical, investment-ready details. The use of appropriate methodologies and processes leveraging National and Sectoral Development Plans, NDCs, NAPs, Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS), other relevant documents, and robust multistakeholder engagement processes can help ensure alignment on adaptation priorities and investment needs informing the focus of the country-led programmatic approaches. This process also embeds adaptation priorities within broader national and sectoral socioeconomic development objectives, supporting policy coherence, interministerial coordination, and sustained ownership across government and stakeholders.

Key documents also include risk and vulnerability assessments, which in the case of LDCs and SIDS are often supported by regional institutions, multilateral climate funds (MCFs), DFIs, and development partners to help overcome capacity deficiencies and data gaps.

Managing and Using Risk Information

As a general principle, reliable data and risk assessment are needed to maximize the impact of adaptation finance. This calls for the design and implementation of integrated risk management frameworks that encompass both physical climate risks (such as sea-level rise, land erosion, and increased storm intensity) and transition risks associated with shifting policies, markets, and technologies related to climate action.

Managing transition risks alongside physical risks can help decision-makers anticipate how policy responses and market shifts may interact with climate impacts and design adaptation investments that remain resilient under different transition pathways. Still, as the CIMPF Adaptation Financing Supplement highlights, fragmented data systems, limited institutional capacity, and governance constraints make it difficult to integrate climate risk assessment and management into investment decisions under country-led programmatic approaches.

One good example is [Jamaica's Systemic Risk Assessment Tool \(J-STRAT\)](#). J-STRAT illustrates both the value of forward-looking transition risk analysis and the importance of addressing data coordination and institutional readiness for project prioritization and investment decisions. Brazil's Climate and Ecological Transformation Investment Platform (BIP; Box 4) also shows how climate risk management can be integrated into investment planning.

Access to climate risk data increasingly benefits from regional information-sharing platforms and technical cooperation with donor agencies and global meteorological services. LIFE-AR (Box 1) is a good example of this. LIFE-AR integrates participatory vulnerability assessments into project design, where district teams and communities co-identify and rank risks, which then directly shape local investment choices, such as in [Malawi](#). It also embeds national meteorological services and complements their records with global datasets to “build a robust understanding of climate risk,” one of LIFE-AR's core locally led adaptation principles.

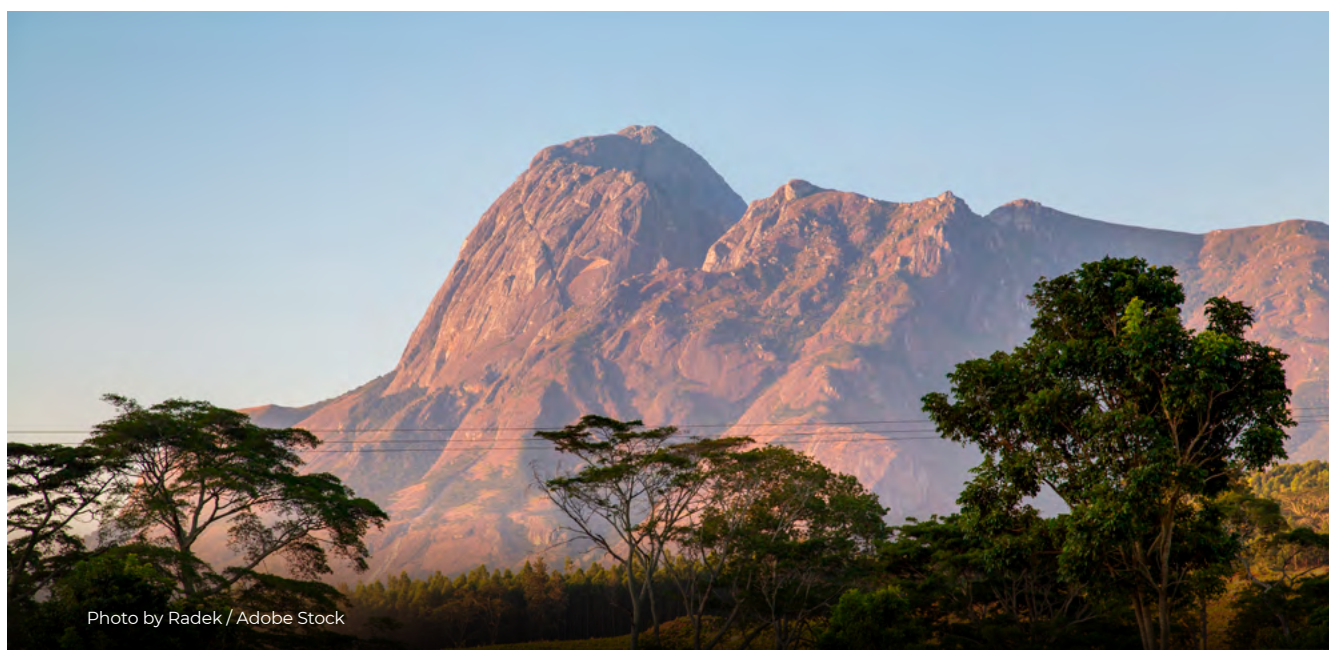


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BOX 4

Brazil's Climate and Ecological Transformation Investment Platform

Brazil's Climate and Ecological Transformation Investment Platform (BIP), [announced in October 2024](#), illustrates how Stage 2 can support investment planning by integrating robust climate risk management, data use, and stakeholder engagement to prioritize investment needs aligned with national climate goals. Launched in 2024, BIP is a high-level, cross-sectoral approach coordinated by Brazil's Ministry of Finance alongside the Ministries of Environment, Mines and Energy, and Development, and working with partners including the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), the GCF, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and international finance alliances. BIP is a roadmap for achieving sustainability across sectors, aiming to decarbonize the economy while promoting social inclusion and environmental conservation. It also builds on sectoral policies and the NAP, as outlined in the [GCF Readiness Proposal](#).

Brazil faces diverse climate risks, with temperature rise, shifting precipitation patterns, and extreme weather events being the most important variables. BIP draws on Brazil's [rich data ecosystem](#) (including satellite monitoring via the National Institute for Space Research [INPE], climate modelling outputs, and comprehensive vulnerability data) to validate and prioritize projects that bolster resilience and promote decarbonization. During the development phase, BIP has identified other risks (such as political, stakeholder engagement, implementation, and operational risks) and linked them to their impact level.

Prioritizing Investment Needs

The effectiveness of investment prioritization processes directly depends on the availability, quality, and institutional use of climate risk and vulnerability information described in the previous section. Integrating both macroeconomic and climate considerations, while balancing the needs of vulnerable communities, is a crucial step for embedding projects in public action. Prioritizing adaptation-related investment needs should reflect national priorities and circumstances and country-specific investment planning processes. This can be supported by consistent and transparent multi-criteria assessment and by using qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate the strategic alignment of investments; their contributions to climate targets, national strategies, and sustainable development goals; and their feasibility.

Prioritization should also support the sequencing and phasing of investments over time, considering implementation of readiness, institutional capacity, and potential financing pathways. Extensive stakeholder engagement further strengthens prioritization, selection criteria, indicators and weighting systems. This ensures that the needs of the different groups are considered and increases buy-in and ownership for implementation.

Country-led programmatic approaches usually build on NDCs, NAPs, and LT-LEDS. For instance, Brazil's BIP refers explicitly to the country's NDCs and NAP. (See Box 4.) National sustainable finance taxonomies may also play an important role in defining priority sectors and themes for adaptation financing, for example [Brazil's Sustainable Taxonomy](#) or [Rwanda's Green Taxonomy](#).

[CBA and multi-criteria analysis](#) help validate the financial, social, and environmental returns of adaptation investments. It is

expected that public agencies, including ministries and technical partners, conduct this analysis. However, due to data and capacity constraints, countries often use external support, including technical assistance and embedded technical advisors. Additionally, when applied to adaptation investments, CBA often faces challenges in establishing an [accurate evaluation benchmark](#) given climate uncertainty, varying monetization of the value of adaptation across countries and sectors, and the selection of the appropriate discounting rate without undervaluing potential benefits (Stockholm Environment Institute [SEI], 2024). As outlined in the CIPMF Adaptation Financing Supplement, this reinforces the value of combining CBA with qualitative and multi-criteria approaches rather than relying on a single analytical tool.

[Climate Finance Roadmaps](#), developed and applied on a country-specific basis, can also be used to identify and prioritize adaptation investments and to match them with available public and private financing. They can also help to identify financial instruments suited to specific adaptation investment measures and to identify policy and regulatory measures needed to overcome investment barriers.

2.3. Stage 3: Financing Strategy

Stage 3 focuses on developing a comprehensive financing strategy that maps and mobilizes diverse sources of climate finance to fund the prioritized investment portfolio identified in Stage 2. This stage calls for strategic leveraging of public finance, including national and international, private sector capital, blended finance mechanisms. It also calls for innovative instruments (such as carbon credits, debt swaps, and green bond issuances) to scale investment in response to national climate priorities, including adaptation.

Mapping Sources of Finance

It is important to make effective use of the full range of public and private financing available to countries to advance both climate and development objectives. This includes domestic public resources, international public finance, and private capital. For LDCs and SIDS, structural constraints (such as limited fiscal space and access to private finance) elevate the importance of strategic finance mapping and innovation. There are tools that can help to map financing sources, including [UNEP FI](#), [International Institute for Sustainable Development \(IISD\) and NAP Global Network](#), [CPI](#) and the [UNFCCC](#) have libraries of approaches and instruments. These resources enable countries to lay out options that combine both traditional and options for blending finance.

When identifying potential sources of finance, it is essential to assess the risk-return profile of each proposed activity across technological, policy, financial, and operational dimensions. Besides that, market assessments and financial analyses help inform whether they are commercially viable, suitable for blended finance structures, or require grant-based or other concessional public funding. Based on this analysis, different financing options can be matched to investment needs.

Identifying Finance Partners and Setting Up a Detailed Financing Plan

Identifying finance partners and developing a financing plan is an iterative process that combines investment analysis with structured stakeholder coordination. It builds on the assessment of the country's priority intervention areas (Stage 2) and their associated financing needs, followed

by a systematic mapping of potential financiers across domestic public institutions, international development partners, private financial actors, philanthropic organizations, and blended finance facilities.

This mapping exercise should assess investment needs against the mandates of relevant financing institutions, their risk tolerance, preferred instruments, and thematic focus. These insights establish the foundation for structuring a comprehensive and coherent financing plan that outlines the proposed financing mix for each investment, the roles and responsibilities of relevant institutions, and the mechanisms for coordinating engagement with development partners and private actors. Clear institutional arrangements ensure that financing efforts remain aligned with national priorities, facilitate engagement with partners, and support ongoing monitoring and adjustment as the financing landscape evolves.

National-level finance coordination and mobilization responsibilities are often allocated to dedicated units, such as climate finance units, which oversee strategy development, resource mobilization, and stakeholder coordination. These units work closely with governments, donors, private sector partners, and civil society to align funding flows with national adaptation and mitigation priorities as articulated in NDCs, NAPs, and broader development plans. For example, [Uganda's Climate Finance Unit](#), located within the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED), serves as the government's central coordination mechanism for climate finance access and mobilization.

Strengthening Enabling Environments and De-Risking Mechanisms

Public finance can be a catalyst for attracting private finance by providing concessional funds and risk mitigation—with blended finance playing a central role in lowering investment risks and transaction costs. In turn, this unlocks commercial capital for projects that might otherwise lack sufficient funding. Multilateral climate funds, MDBs, and bilateral donors, are leading contributors to strengthen countries' financial capacity, building project pipelines, and improving investment readiness. However, limited institutional and technical capacity of accredited entities to develop and submit climate finance proposals can create bottlenecks, constraining access to climate funding.

To mitigate these constraints, countries increasingly need to diversify their funding channels and coordinate strategically with multiple financing partners. Exploring regional

financing opportunities and pursuing national accreditation for direct access to climate funds can further reduce countries' reliance on a narrow set of intermediaries and strengthen their ownership. In an increasingly competitive international climate finance landscape, also affected by a reduction in official development assistance (ODA), enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of public spending to catalyze private investment has become critical.

Country-led programmatic approaches can serve as institutional and financial reform engines. They bring together finance, planning, and sectoral ministries; regulators; subnational authorities; and market actors around a shared investment pipeline to create a structured space to identify policy, regulatory, and institutional barriers that limit adaptation investment; prioritize reforms; align mandates; and embed adaptation objectives across national planning and budgeting systems.



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Country-led programmatic approaches also enable portfolio-level blending, allowing financial instruments to be matched to the varying risk profiles across an entire pipeline rather than on a project-by-project basis. This makes it possible to pool partner resources, direct concessionality where it has the greatest catalytic effect, and apply de-risking tools in a more systematic and predictable manner. The result is lower transaction costs, clearer investment pathways, and a more coherent environment for private sector participation.

By providing continuity across political cycles—as illustrated by Bangladesh’s BCDP, which remained operational during the interim government—country-led programmatic approaches can create the stability and predictability that reduce policy and implementation risk for private investors and strengthen confidence in long-term adaptation financing.

Despite the intention to blend public and private capital, evidence of large-scale mobilization of private finance across the approaches reviewed remains limited. Concessional public finance continues to dominate. There are some encouraging examples, such as the [Rwanda Green Fund](#), which supported a number of public-private partnership (PPP) projects that leveraged private co-investment. Barbados has channeled a share of the proceeds from its debt-for-nature swap into marine conservation initiatives under the Roofs to Reefs Programme (Box 5), showing how national-level instruments can seed downstream investment. However, most country programs, even well established and long operational such as Ethiopia’s CRGE, provide little to no documented evidence of private capital mobilized at scale.

Interviews with private financial institutions, including Standard Chartered as a partner engaged in the BCDP, provided important insights into how country-led programmatic approaches are perceived by commercial investors. From this perspective, programmatic and blended finance approaches are valued for their potential to spread concessionality across multiple investments, reduce transaction costs, and clearly signal government priorities at scale. However, existing national planning instruments—particularly NAPs—are often not investment-ready, as they tend to articulate needs and vulnerabilities rather than financeable projects with defined risk profiles, cash flow structures, and preparation standards.

To effectively leverage private finance for priority adaptation investments, several enabling conditions need to be in place:

› **Stable institutional and policy frameworks:**

Climate-aligned regulations, clear governance arrangements, and capable institutions are essential to reduce perceived policy and execution risk. This includes robust, transparent monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) systems, and the integration of climate risk into financial regulation and national planning. With this, investors can more confidently price and manage climate risks.

› **Bankable project pipelines:** A robust pipeline of well-designed, investment-ready adaptation projects is essential for attracting private capital. These pipelines need to be rooted in NAPs, local priorities, and climate risk assessments.

› **Risk-sharing instruments:** Adaptation projects often have long-term or non-cash benefits. This means de-risking and risk-sharing mechanisms are critical.

Finance structures—such as guarantees, first-loss equity, or subordinated debt—can improve risk–return profiles and crowd in commercial investors.

- › **Programmatic partner alignment:** Moving from fragmented, project-by-project approaches to programmatic, portfolio-based approaches allows scale, diversification of risk, and more strategic engagement of private investors. This requires coordinated co-programming among governments, MDBs, DFIs, national and subnational institutions, the private sector, civil society, and academia. Programmatic platforms or sector-wide adaptation programs can pool projects, standardize documentation, and align technical assistance and resources.
- › **Data, disclosure, and evidence of impact:** Investors need data and credible evidence to make an investment decision. Strengthening climate risk analytics and developing common taxonomies and metrics can help engage private investors.

2.4. Stage 4: Programming with Finance Partners

Stage 4 outlines critical processes through which countries deepen engagement with both private and international public finance actors to mobilize resources beyond individual projects. The steps vary based on whether the investment is financed by the public or private sector or both. This stage also emphasizes the importance of early, structured, and iterative engagement with finance partners to align investment concepts with fiduciary, safeguards, risk, and timeline requirements to increase the credibility, acceptance, and readiness of national pipelines. The targeted outcome of Stage 4 is a prioritized set of projects identified in collaboration with financiers and project developers.

Programming Dialogues with Finance Partners

Country-led programmatic approaches typically combine national resources with external financing arrangements, requiring close coordination with a diverse set of financial partners. Finance partners typically include governments, MDBs (such as ADB, African Development Bank [AfDB], and EBRD), MCFs (such as Global Environment Facility [GEF], GCF, CIF, and Adaptation Fund), bilateral agencies (such as *Agence Française de Développement* [AFD] and *Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau* [KfW])—and in some cases, private investors and philanthropic organizations.

Close cooperation and dialogue with finance partners help ensure effective collaboration, information sharing, and harmonized funding timelines; clarify financing structures and risk-sharing arrangements; and increase the likelihood that projects progress to financial commitment and approval.

Dialogue should be guided by the financial plan developed under Stage 3 to elaborate on specific project or program ideas and create alignment before proceeding. These dialogues will also help test whether the investment idea is viable for further development.

The case examples in this Policy Brief offered various approaches to structuring dialogue with finance partners through formal mechanisms, such as advisory boards, dedicated working groups, and regular gatherings convened by lead ministries and agencies. (See the section on stakeholder mapping and engagement under Stage 1).

Financiers use different evaluation methods to prioritize projects for financing. The Adaptation Fund, for instance, mandates [multi-criteria evaluations](#) that assess projects' contributions to resilience, alignment with set objectives, and potential for replication or scalability.

BOX 5**Barbados's Roofs to Reefs Programme and Blue Green Bank (2023–2026)**

Barbados illustrates Stage 4 by pairing a government-owned program (R2RP), with a domestic Blue Green Bank that has been approved by the Green Climate Fund (FP213).

The R2RP functions as an integrated country-led approach, situated within the Prime Minister's Office, where it used to operationalize national development and adaptation planning across six priority sectors—water, energy, waste, land use, ecosystems, and housing. Its central placement allows the program team to maintain a cross-government view; support line ministries in developing project pipelines; and coordinate engagement with civil society, regional institutions, and international partners.

On the financing side, the R2RP serves as an overarching framework for blending concessional finance and market instruments. Recent innovations include a debt-for-climate resilience package for water and wastewater systems structured and approved by the Inter-American Development Bank with concessional support from the Green Climate Fund (~USD 110 million). This operation links debt service relief to continued investment in climate-resilient infrastructure, ensuring that fiscal space created through the transaction is ring-fenced for priority adaptation investments rather than absorbed into general budget support.

In parallel, and as a complementary but distinct instrument, the IDB and the European Investment Bank jointly approved a USD 300 million guarantee facility (USD 150 million each), designed to reduce sovereign and climate-related risk, improve borrowing terms, and strengthen Barbados's overall climate and fiscal resilience. While not part of the debt-for-climate-resilience swap itself, these guarantees play a critical role in de-risking Barbados's financing environment and enabling sustained investment aligned with R2RP priorities.

In addition, a blue-bond debt conversion (~USD 150 million refinance and ~USD 50 million for conservation), co-guaranteed by The Nature Conservancy and the IDB, contributed to establishing the Barbados Environmental Sustainability Fund and enabled continued investment in the country's marine spatial plan, infrastructure upgrades such as sewage treatment plants, and other resilience-related interventions.

Together, these efforts enhance standardized appraisal processes, align timelines and reporting requirements, and de-risk priority pipelines—curating “investment grade” opportunities while keeping government ownership. Barbados' approach further highlights the importance of situating coordination within a high-level executive body to ensure coherent engagement across sectors and actors.

The involvement of partners is key to the success of these approaches. However, it is important that ownership remains with the country. Box 5 features Barbados, where the government's Roofs to Reefs Programme has facilitated effective collaboration between the government and diverse external finance partners.

As many countries are not tracking climate expenditures in a systematic way, stakeholders often lack full visibility over climate finance flows, making coordination across sources and instruments difficult. As outlined in the Adaptation Financing Supplement, this constrains governments' ability to align financing with national priorities and to sequence public and private resources effectively. Climate expenditure tagging, climate budget tracking, and climate-responsive public financial management tools can address these challenges by improving transparency over how climate resources are allocated, spent, and monitored across sectors and levels of government. Channeling financing through a coordinated approach, such as Bangladesh's BCDP (Box 2) provides an integrated mechanism that aligns both domestic and international resources with national adaptation and resilience priorities under a common framework. Other countries (such as [Indonesia](#) and [Pakistan](#)) have used budget tagging to track and manage the alignment of public expenditures with adaptation priorities.

2.5. Stage 5: Development of Projects and Programs

While adaptation projects often require significant community-level tailoring, country-led programmatic approaches offer a structured approach to project development. Stage 5 builds on the work completed at Stages 3 and 4. The specific processes and mechanisms may vary from country to country depending on national circumstances, governance, and institutional arrangements. However, in principle, these investment proposals may be prepared for two different kinds of funding sources. The first kind refers to national priority projects that seek to access funding from international sources, such as development partners. The second kind refers to projects brought forward by local or private sector actors to seek financing from a centralized, country-led approach. Most available evidence on country-led approaches focuses on the first category, but this Policy Brief also provides some evidence for the second kind, as presented in Boxes 6 and 7.

Project Preparation Support

Once financiers agree to advance a project idea, the process moves into a structured project development phase aimed at transforming the initial concept into a technically robust and financeable proposal.

Building on the concept note—which sets out the project's rationale, objectives, expected adaptation outcomes, implementation arrangements, and an initial view of the financing structure—technical studies assess feasibility and refine the project design. These studies are feasibility assessments, environmental and social safeguards, risk analyses, and economic evaluations. A frequent challenge in LDCs and SIDS is the



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BOX 6

Jamaica's Blue-Green Facility

Jamaica's emerging Blue-Green Facility illustrates the complexity of moving from a concept to a fully structured and programmatic national approach, with the integration of a PPF at its heart. Supported by the GCF, the facility is designed to pool climate finance into a single lending and grants window, rather than relying on project-by-project submissions. The facility underwent multiple iterations as the government refined its pipeline and re-scoped the overall size, composition, and allocation of the financing package.

Still in the development phase, the facility centers around the use of a tailored PPF, leveraging the Jamaica Systemic Risk Assessment Tool to calculate projected losses and damages from extreme weather events, informing how the facility prioritizes key investments. The design process involved defining loan and grant components for public entities, accredited financial institutions, and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) as well as a community window.

This case highlights a key challenge associated with Stage 5 of the CIPMF: translating national priorities and sectoral plans (such as NDCs and NAPs) into a fully costed, submission-ready program that satisfies external investment standards while remaining country led.

lack of capacities and upfront support for these. PPFs represent a practical and effective approach to supporting the development of pipelines of investible adaptation projects through providing targeted technical and financial support.

Box 6 illustrates how Jamaica's Blue-Green Facility has advanced its plans to support local projects and programs by leveraging financial support from the GCF.

Taking a step further, Colombia has developed a whole ecosystem for project preparation (Box 7).

Box 8 illustrates how robust project preparation has helped to make local adaptation priorities investible in Kenya under the FLLoCA program, which aims to deliver locally led climate resilience actions and strengthen government capacity at local and national levels to manage climate risk.



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BOX 7

Colombia's Climate Finance Broker Facility

Colombia's Climate Finance Broker Facility is a country-led ecosystem approach to project preparation and financing. The broker facility supports line ministries and subnational entities by coordinating technical assistance, screening and prioritizing climate investments, and matching projects with suitable financing instruments and partners. By acting as an intermediary, rather than a financing vehicle, the broker facility helps reduce fragmentation, improve project quality, and accelerate the development of investment-ready climate pipelines aligned with national priorities.

Common manuals and technical assistance enable a large number of small adaptation projects to pass through the same appraisal and procurement steps. International partners provide concessional anchors and technical support, while the government retains ownership and national and subnational levels through treasury-led approvals and county public-finance systems.

Beyond the preparation of technical studies, project preparation also involves establishing governance and risk allocation frameworks. This process builds the foundation for clear mechanisms between partners, ensuring that ownership structures and fiduciary responsibilities are well defined and transparently shared among governments, financiers, and other stakeholders.



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BOX 8

Kenya's Financing Locally Led Climate Action program

Kenya shows how a country-led approach can embed project preparation into adaptation projects to turn local priorities into investible pipelines. Under FLLoCA, counties receive climate funds from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and the World Bank after meeting project preparation requirements, completing participatory risk assessments, and adopting local climate action plans. The project preparation for FLLoCA was financed and supported prior to the program through a combination of World Bank-funded devolution programs (KADP), Adaptation (ADA) Consortium-supported County Climate Change Funds (CCCF) pilots, and county-level public systems.

2.6. Stage 6: Project and Program Implementation

Stage 6 of the CIMPf addresses project and program implementation, including delivery and monitoring. Establishing sufficient capacities for implementation, monitoring, and reporting also involves reviewing the necessary skills, expertise, resources, and systems.

Implementation Modalities

Implementation typically involves a diverse set of actors, including delivery agencies, line ministries, local governments, and private sector participants. Ensuring clear roles and responsibilities, aligning implementation arrangements with existing national programs and systems improves efficiency, avoids parallel structures, and eliminates potential tensions between accredited entities and national priorities by creating synergies. Effective delivery also depends on continuous assessment of institutional and technical capacities, ensuring that the skills required for implementation, monitoring, and adaptive management are in place and strengthened over time.

In country-led programmatic approaches, disbursement processes are also related to the reporting requirements of multiple financing partners. Climate finance providers increasingly adopt results-based management approaches, which requires implementers to track progress against agreed indicators, documented outcomes, and demonstrate how activities contribute to agreed objectives. This approach reinforces accountability, supports evidence-based adjustments during implementation, and helps ensure that resources are directed toward interventions with the strongest performance.

It is important that country-led approaches have a central coordination mechanism that oversees the flow of funds. They may disburse funds directly to priority projects or channel resources through line ministries, local governments, or national development banks. One example of how country-led, results-based implementation and monitoring can be operationalized through national systems is provided by UNCDF's Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL) outlined in Box 9.

Monitoring and Performance

The insights derived from monitoring and reporting activities contribute significantly to investment and implementation planning. They inform decisions on resource allocation for strategic gaps, highlight areas that require additional attention, provide evidence for refining the project's progress, and are often a requirement for climate finance providers. Streamlined and harmonized reporting, tracking, and monitoring processes ease the administrative burden on beneficiary entities, support more consistent and comparable data, and help build a comprehensive picture that informs subsequent planning and implementation decisions, as highlighted in the [2024 Annual Report](#) and the [Principles and Recommendations on Access to Climate Finance](#) of the Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance.

Adaptation monitoring frameworks are less developed compared to mitigation frameworks, which benefit from widely recognized, science-based benchmarks, targets, and pathways towards decarbonization. However, there has been progress in equipping leading entities with adaptation monitoring processes, while providing flexibility to account for the local

and national context. Good examples include Brazil's BIP using satellite monitoring via the National Institute for Space Research (INPE), climate modelling outputs, and comprehensive vulnerability data to validate and prioritize projects; LIFE-AR's contextualized monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) plans for each

country; Namibia's national adaptation MEL framework developed with support from the [NAP Global Network](#), which provides a structured system to track progress, outcomes, and learning across adaptation priorities; and Peru's adaptation MEL system documented by [IISD](#).

BOX 9

UNCDF's Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility

An important example of a country-owned mechanism supporting locally led adaptation is UNCDF's LoCAL. LoCAL operates exclusively through national systems rather than parallel structures, using countries' existing intergovernmental fiscal transfer mechanisms to channel climate finance to local governments. By working within these domestic public finance architectures, the mechanism reinforces government ownership, strengthens national and subnational institutions, and avoids bypassing established budgetary processes. This systems-based approach has allowed countries to align local climate investments with national priorities while progressively improving fiscal governance and accountability.

In Uganda and Bangladesh, the LoCAL methodology has been used to strengthen the national systems that support climate-responsive planning and monitoring. Through the Performance-Based Climate Resilience Grant (PBCRG) mechanism, local governments generate climate vulnerability assessments, apply climate-informed budgeting processes, and report on adaptation investments in a structured and consistent manner. These locally driven processes feed upward into national efforts such as NAP and NDC localization and, in Uganda's case, emerging work on climate budget tagging led by the Ministry of Finance and the Climate Finance Unit. Because LoCAL is designed to complement rather than replace national MRV and public finance systems, it reinforces country ownership while improving the quality and relevance of information used for national planning and international reporting.

The LoCAL initiative uses performance-based mechanisms to build local capacities by strengthening project development and ensuring that climate resilience is embedded in project implementation at the local level.



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3. Conclusions and Recommendations

Country-led programmatic approaches offer an opportunity to streamline efforts, financial flows, and long-term ownership, and avoid the pitfalls of a climate finance landscape dominated by fragmented project-based and short-term models. Effectively functioning at the country level requires clear national priorities, institutional structures, conducive regulatory frameworks, and coordination mechanisms that can guide investment planning and implementation. On the financier's side, development partners, MDBs, DFIs, and other financial institutions need

to align their investments with country-led frameworks, commit to coherent and harmonized ways of working, and shift away from project-based support.

The findings and recommendations from the [Taskforce's 2024 Annual Report](#) reinforce the case for country-led programmatic approaches as a means to streamline climate finance, strengthen long-term ownership, and overcome the fragmentation of project-based models. Members and partners of the Taskforce have already identified, piloted,

and scaled several flexible and innovative approaches for financing long-term programs at the country level. Despite this progress, a substantial share of international climate finance continues to flow through individual projects rather than the programmatic finance required to implement comprehensive national climate strategies.

By strengthening coordination and cooperation both within countries and across finance providers, country-led programmatic approaches can serve as hubs of investment coordination by linking national climate policy with financially feasible project portfolios and by providing a common roadmap to involve public and private stakeholders, both domestic and international.

While these approaches are owned by national governments, the engagement and support of stakeholders (such as bilateral donors, MDBs, DFIs, the private sector) and local stakeholders (including subnational governments and communities) remains crucial to achieving their objectives.

There is no strong evidence of innovation and scalable mechanisms on private finance engagement, largely due to the early-stage development of many country-led programmatic approaches. However, programmatic approaches have the potential to help crowd in private capital and address market imperfections. This can be accomplished through blended finance, de-risking instruments, and innovative financing instruments and mechanisms anchored in priority sectors and actions identified in national climate and adaptation plans and by leveraging their public mandates.

Country-led programmatic approaches require sustained political commitment. Frequent shifts in national priorities, institutional

mandates, or leadership can undermine continuity and weaken investor confidence. Embedding these approaches within robust national planning cycles, legal frameworks, and multistakeholder governance structures can withstand political turnover.

Although country-led programmatic approaches are not a universal solution, they offer a mechanism for moving beyond fragmented, project-based interventions toward more strategic and enduring investment partnerships. Their success will depend on the commitment of both governments and finance providers to adopt collaborative modalities of engagement grounded in transparency, and shared accountability.

3.1. Challenges

The interviews and assessments revealed numerous challenges in establishing and maturing country-led programmatic approaches for adaptation financing in LDCs and SIDS. Some of these challenges directly affect the design and operationalization of a country-led approach, while others are pre-existing structural issues, such as climate-related responsibilities spread across different institutions, which country-led approaches are explicitly intended to gradually resolve.

Structural Challenges

Fragmented institutional mandates for adaptation: Adaptation-related responsibilities often fall across multiple ministries and agencies—each with its own mandates, procedures, and planning cycles. This fragmentation weakens coherence and complicates the alignment of adaptation priorities and investment processes.

Lack of necessary legal and regulatory frameworks to support integrated, multistakeholder programmatic approaches:

To mobilize finance and implement national climate policies, such as NAPs and NDCs, countries need solid legal and financial frameworks, including robust and transparent budgeting systems, and legislation that enable access to diverse sources of financing. However, in many SIDS and LDCs, these frameworks remain incomplete or insufficient, creating significant barriers to accessing, coordinating, and deploying climate finance effectively.

Insufficient vertical integration between national and subnational levels: NAPs frequently do not translate into implementable subnational actions. Mandates between national and local authorities are sometimes unclear or inconsistently applied, which hampers coordination and weakens accountability. Without effective vertical integration, programmatic approaches struggle to achieve sustained, context-specific delivery and to channel resources toward the communities and ecosystems most at risk.

Misalignment and insufficient coordination between stakeholders: While country-led approaches can improve information sharing, they do not automatically ensure effective collective action. The actors involved often retain distinct priorities, processes, and timelines, which can increase complexity and transaction costs. In practice, coordination may still occur through bilateral engagements between governments and individual development partners rather than through fully integrated, platform-based decision-making.

Shifting political priorities: Changing political priorities and leadership transitions can result in adaptation plans being revised, reoriented, or deprioritized without durable institutional anchoring. Long reform and investment timelines required for programmatic approaches often clash with short electoral cycles, weakening political commitment and continuity over time.

Capacity Constraints

Limited resources to establish and manage country-led programmatic approaches: Many governments have limited human resources to design, coordinate, and manage complex, multistakeholder investment frameworks. Public institutions frequently operate with small teams and high staff turnover makes it difficult to sustain the long-term planning. Managing country-led programmatic approaches is resource-intensive. Host governments often need to dedicate significant staff time, technical expertise, and administrative capacity—which may all be limited—to coordinate multiple partners, each with distinct reporting requirements, fiduciary standards, and timelines.

Limited capacity within governments for project origination and preparation: Many national and local governments, particularly in LDCs and SIDS, lack the technical and financial capacities required to turn adaptation priorities into fully prepared, investment-ready pipelines. Gaps in technical capabilities to conduct feasibility assessments, environmental and social analysis, and financial structuring—as well as gaps in the availability of data needed for such assessments—continue to be major bottlenecks.

Financial Challenges

Persistent project-based practices:

Despite growing interest in programmatic approaches—especially in countries with limited fiscal space—many financial institutions and international development partners still operate primarily through stand-alone projects rather than portfolios. While a project approach can build investor trust and appetite, this limits opportunities for scale and makes it difficult for countries to build coherent pipelines aligned with long-term national strategies.

Policy ambitions do not translate to investments: NDCs, NAPs, and other national strategies often articulate the priority areas broadly and fail to detail the necessary steps for pipeline development or investment sequencing. Governments often struggle to convert these high-level objectives into costed, bankable, and programmatic portfolios that financiers can support. Limited availability of robust climate-risk information and local-level data compounds this problem, as does the absence of consistent methodologies for vulnerability assessments and climate-informed project design.

Limited private finance for adaptation:

At present, private sector engagement in country-led approaches for adaptation does not necessarily translate into meaningful private finance mobilized in most LDCs and SIDS. Key constraints include the limited maturity of domestic financial markets, such as underdeveloped insurance and capital markets, which are critical for risk transfer and long-term investment; insufficient local expertise and institutional capacity to structure blended finance solutions; and persistent data gaps, including limited availability of standardized climate risk, asset-level exposure,

and performance data needed to assess risk-adjusted returns. Where either strong country ownership or sufficient execution capacity is missing, private financiers often perceive heightened risk, weakening confidence in engaging with country-led approaches.

Adaptation investments may also not have sufficient cashflows (real or perceived) to attract private finance.

This challenge is compounded by high and rising debt burdens in many SIDS and LDCs, which weaken creditworthiness and further constrain the mobilization of private finance for adaptation. Repeated climate shocks have pushed SIDS into debt-disaster cycles, with growing disaster losses feeding higher borrowing needs and debt-service costs, which in turn crowd out fiscal space for co-financing and guarantees that would de-risk private investment. Credit rating methodologies often penalize climate-vulnerable economies, which raises risk premiums and worsens finance terms, further deterring private investors from entering adaptation deals at scale.

3.2. Recommendations

Ensuring the viability and sustainability of country-led approaches requires careful consideration of how they are established, managed, staffed, and funded to safeguard their financial, institutional and operational continuity. Country-led approaches need to be resilient to shifting political and economic conditions in order to deliver on the longer-term objective of providing predictable and reliable mechanisms. Despite the challenges identified, the analysis and case studies presented in the Policy Brief provide concrete examples of existing good practices and offer valuable insights into how country-led programmatic approaches can be further strengthened in LDCs and SIDS.

Establish robust and agile institutional and operational frameworks: Countries should ensure that country-led programmatic approaches are designed to be financially, institutionally, and operationally sustainable—and are therefore able to achieve long-term impact. Financial sustainability requires the capacity to secure stable, predictable funding through domestic and international resources, concessional and commercial finance, grants, and private finance and to have projects that generate revenue or savings to support long-term operations. This calls for strong public financial management systems and clear fiscal integration of adaptation priorities. In practice, country-led programmatic approaches are most effective when they build on and strengthen existing public finance and governance processes, rather than create new parallel structures. Integrating climate resilience considerations into established systems (such as budget tagging, procurement rules, public investment and infrastructure planning, and medium-term expenditure frameworks) helps institutionalize adaptation priorities within core government functions.

Institutional sustainability can be achieved through clear governance arrangements, defined mandates, and continuity of mechanisms that extend beyond political cycles. This includes defining clear, specific, and measurable objectives for country-led approaches, avoiding overly broad or vague mandates that can dilute focus and accountability.

Operational sustainability requires investment in core coordination functions and sustained resourcing of skilled personnel, clear role definitions, and mainstreaming platform functions into core government institutions. Ongoing capacity building, institutional learning, and staff retention mechanisms

are critical to ensure continuity and enable country-led programmatic approaches to remain functional, adaptive, and effective over time. This enables platforms to act as effective coordination hubs rather than stand-alone project units.

Assess readiness and enabling environments:

Before establishing or scaling country-led programmatic approaches, governments should conduct a comprehensive readiness assessment to evaluate their financial, legal, and institutional context. This assessment should identify and understand existing climate finance flows (public and private), priority investment needs, existing investment frameworks, and resource allocation (including public fiscal management [PFM] and public investment management [PIM] systems, legal frameworks, and structural barriers to climate investment). Understanding these elements will strengthen the design and operationalization of these approaches.

Readiness assessments should also test whether proposed country-led approaches have focused scopes and priorities and do not attempt to address multiple objectives simultaneously before adequate coordination and delivery capacity is in place. Such assessments are particularly important in LDCs and SIDS to identify gaps in enabling environments and sequence reforms.

Anchor country-led programmatic approaches within institutions that hold whole-of-government mandates:

Effective country-led approaches need to ensure policy coherence, align priorities across sectors and agencies, and optimize the use of public resources toward nationally defined adaptation objectives. In practice, this requires strong political appetite and sustained support at the highest levels of government to provide strategic direction,

legitimacy, and continuity. Sectoral line ministries, specialized public agencies, and regulators with technical expertise critical for identifying, prioritizing, developing, and implementing adaptation programs and projects should be actively engaged. Engaging experienced civil servants, identifying well-respected political champions, and building awareness of climate risks and impacts across parliaments can further strengthen ownership, support coordination, and anchor programmatic approaches within whole-of-government decision-making structures.

Early and inclusive stakeholder engagement in the design stage—not only during implementation—is essential to build ownership, secure buy-in, and ensure that programmatic approaches reflect sectoral realities. Clear objectives and prioritized focus areas can support more effective coordination by providing a shared reference point for decision-making across institutions.

Integrate whole-of-society perspectives into programmatic adaptation planning: A whole-of-society approach is essential for effective country-led programmatic adaptation because climate risks are experienced most acutely at the local level, cutting across communities, and livelihoods. To address these risks, broad societal engagement and shared ownership are required. A whole-of-society approach also strengthens the evidence base by integrating local knowledge and community perspectives and ensures that adaptation pathways reflect the diverse vulnerabilities and priorities of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and other marginalized groups to enable more equitable and effective climate action.

Governments can establish inclusive governance structures by creating formal coordination platforms that bring together national and local authorities, civil society, communities, the private sector, and technical institutions—each with clear mandates and

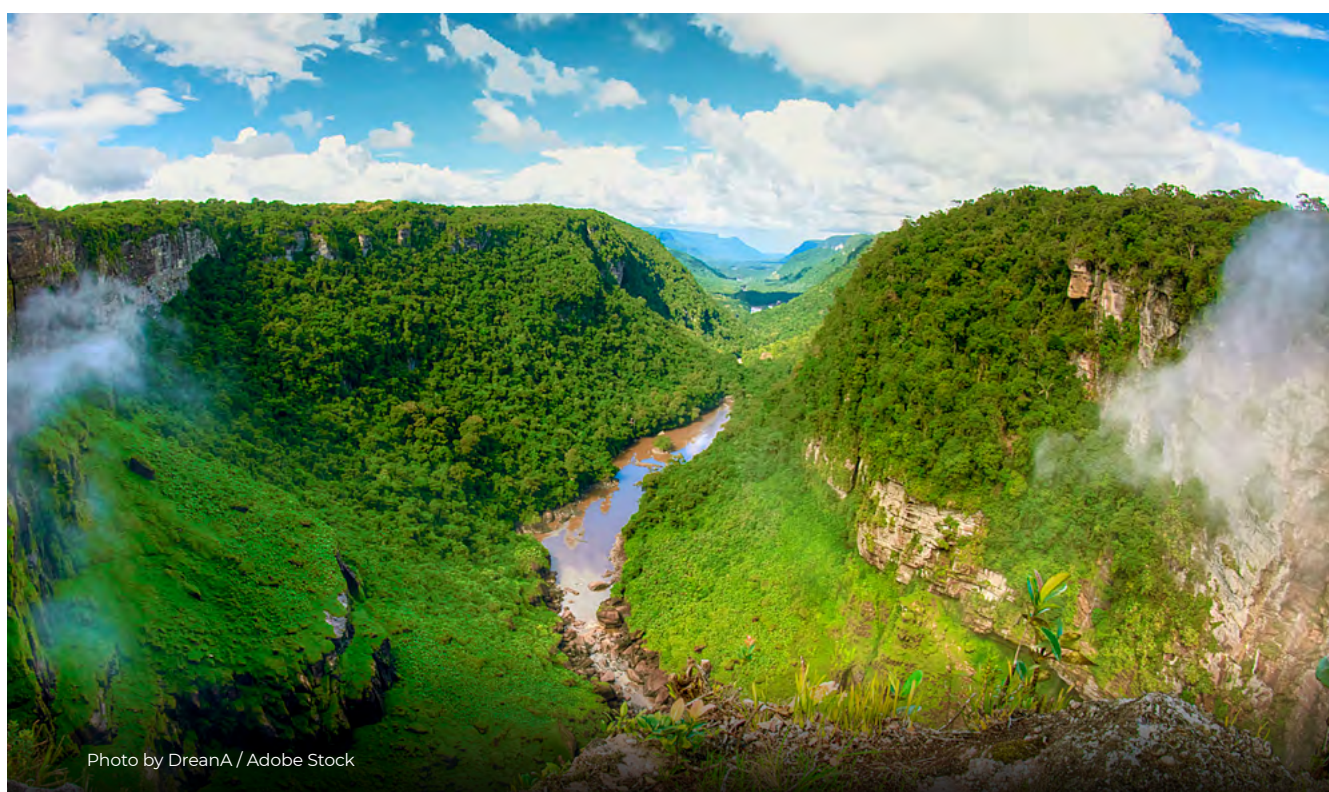


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defined roles. Transparent decision-making processes and regular engagement ensure these actors contribute meaningfully to shaping and implementing adaptation projects.

Align finance strategies and build evidence-based investment pipelines: Countries should develop coherent financing strategies under country-led approaches that align with national plans and match different types of adaptation investments with appropriate financing sources, and instruments, building on prioritized and evidence-based investment needs. This includes combining domestic public finance, concessional resources, climate funds, and private capital, while using public finance strategically to de-risk investments and crowd in private finance, where feasible. Financing strategies should be anchored in a limited number of clearly prioritized sectors, programs, or reform areas aligned with national development and adaptation priorities, rather than attempt to mobilize finance across an overly broad set of objectives simultaneously. This prioritization can help improve credibility with finance partners, support sequencing investments, and enhance the effectiveness of capital allocation.

Engage finance partners early and systematically through structured dialogue: Early engagement allows countries to clarify how national plans translate into investment needs. It also enables finance partners to signal their financing requirements, safeguards, and appraisal standards. Building awareness and a shared understanding of adaptation finance is a critical part of this dialogue, including through recent evidence on the economic and business case for adaptation investment. Stakeholder mapping is a crucial step for securing the engagement of a broader set of actors from across and beyond government,

including the private sector, civil society, and international partners. It also enables early assessments of how scarce public and concessional resources can be deployed and leveraged for private investment. Regulatory and policy actions that strengthen private actors' understanding of their own climate vulnerabilities across operations, supply chains, and distribution channels can further incentivize climate action and investment. These collaborative partnerships help develop a common vision and understanding of adaptation financing priorities.

To address the private finance gap, early engagement can test the appetite of different private actors (such as commercial banks, institutional investors, insurers, and impact investors) and inform how projects are prepared, structured, and sequenced. Public and concessional finance should be used strategically to match de-risking instruments to project risk profiles. Improved data availability, and reliable and transparent risk-sharing frameworks create clearer value propositions for private financiers to engage through platforms rather than bilateral or ad hoc channels.

Secure financing for project preparation: Dedicated PPFs, standardized appraisal processes, and early-stage technical assistance can accelerate the development of investment-ready pipelines. Strengthening upstream project development through feasibility assessments, climate-risk analysis, environmental and social studies, and financial structuring enables governments to translate broad adaptation priorities into robust, bankable, and scalable investment programs.

Governments can establish centralized project preparation units or embed project development functions within ministries.

Development partners, MCFs, and international financial institutions can also provide targeted technical assistance, seconded experts, and on-the-job training to strengthen national capabilities in project design, modelling, and financial structuring.

Establish effective coordination and communication mechanisms: Strong coordination provides a single interface for development partners and investors, increasing predictability, reducing transaction costs, and supporting sustained engagement over time. Establishing formal structures (such as interministerial committees, multistakeholder steering groups, and local-level coordination platforms) creates clear lines of responsibility and enables consistent engagement throughout the program cycle.

Clear communication is critical. Transparent data-sharing systems, open access to climate risk information, and standardized reporting practices allow all stakeholders to operate with a common understanding of risks,

needs, and progress. Regular communication channels, (such as structured consultations, joint reviews, and public reporting), build trust and accountability, ensuring that decisions are informed by diverse perspectives and grounded in realities. For financiers, this clarity reduces uncertainty and strengthens confidence in the country's ability to manage programmatic investments. For communities and local actors, it ensures that their priorities are reflected in national adaptation pathways.

Embed locally led approaches: Country-led programmatic approaches should systematically integrate subnational governments, local institutions, and communities into planning and delivery frameworks. Structured localization mechanisms that connect national planning with subnational implementation (such as decentralized planning tools, performance-based systems, or strengthened local budget processes) enable countries to channel adaptation finance to the communities and ecosystems where impacts are most acute.



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Remain agile, durable, and adaptive: Flexible organizational models, diversified financing sources, and learning systems that preserve institutional memory and support innovation are key factors for long-term sustainability. By being agile, country-led approaches can sustain their relevance and effectiveness and accommodate the evolving needs of LDCs and SIDS. Embedding flexibility—through periodic reviews, feedback loops, and the ability to adjust criteria, tools and structures—helps governments ensure that country-led approaches are durable and can respond to emerging challenges and shift climate risks. Maintaining institutional memory through knowledge repositories, standardized procedures, and staff retention strategies ensures that adaptation programs evolve without losing coherence or past lessons. Exchanging these internal learning processes with structured peer learning and experience-sharing across countries and with development partners can further accelerate learning, diffuse good practice, and reduce duplication of effort. This is particularly important in LDCs and SIDS, where small administrations and high turnover can otherwise undermine continuity.

3.3. Looking Ahead

As the global climate finance landscape continues to evolve, the emergence of country-led programmatic approaches represents a decisive shift in how adaptation is planned, financed, and delivered. The international community is increasingly aligning its support around strengthening the systems that enable countries to translate national priorities into coherent, investable programs. The GCF's Readiness Programme has become a central mechanism for enhancing national coordination structures and supporting the development of country and regional platforms.

Several global initiatives also reinforce the institutional and financial foundations of programmatic approaches. The Country Platform Hub, launched at the COP30, is a collaborative mechanism that will help countries design and operationalize their own platforms, connect with technical partners, and access the expertise required to manage complex investment processes. The ARIP initiative supports countries in developing structured, technically robust, and finance-ready adaptation pipelines. Through its Country Engagement Process, the NDC Partnership assists governments in translating NDC and NAP commitments into actionable investment plans, aligning development partner support, and embedding adaptation priorities into national planning and budgeting systems. PPFs such as the Scaling and Accelerating Finance for Adaptation (SAFA) Facility (a collaboration between GGGI and the Adaptation Fund) supports regional and national platforms in aggregating demand and preparing investment-ready adaptation pipelines. UNDP's Adaptation Accelerator, aims to strengthen investment frameworks and mobilize both public and private finance for national adaptation programs.

Regional platforms are also increasingly recognized as a strategic complement to country-led programmatic approaches, particularly in regions where countries share comparable climate risks, institutional constraints, and financing challenges. While country approaches remain essential for ensuring ownership and alignment with national priorities, regional platforms offer a means to address structural limitations that individual countries, especially SIDS and LDCs, cannot easily overcome on their own.

The Regional Platform for Catalyzing Resilience and Climate Action in the Caribbean, supported by the GCF, exemplifies this emerging model. By bringing together

Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago, with the possibility for additional members, the platform mirrors many of the core features of country-led programmatic approaches while operating at a scale that enables greater aggregation, shared technical capacity, and more efficient deployment of resources.

This evolving architecture marks a pivotal moment. If sustained and deepened, it has the potential to transform how adaptation is financed and delivered, enabling countries—especially LDCs and SIDS—to move from isolated projects to long-term, strategic resilience building.



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Annexes

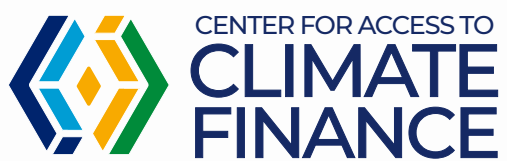
Annex 1. Key Enabling Factors of Country-Led Programmatic Approaches

Stage 1 Investment Planning & Mobilization Capacity	› Establish governance structures, mandates, and coordination roles across ministries. › Define institutional arrangements for horizontal and vertical integration. › Build core capacities for platform operation.
Stage 2 Investment Prioritization	› Align national and sectoral plans. › Use climate risk data, CBA/MCA, and investment gap analysis to define priorities.
Stage 3 Financing Strategy	› Map domestic and international public and private finance sources. › Define instruments and de-risking approaches to mobilize and sequence finance. › Establish coordination mechanisms to align funding flows.
Stage 4 Programming	› Establish structured dialogue with partners. › Harmonize appraisal processes, timelines, and reporting requirements.
Stage 5 Project Development	› Translate priority areas into investment-grade project/program proposals. › Apply standardized appraisal, feasibility, safeguards, and economic analysis processes. › Use project-preparation support.
Stage 6 Implementation	› Channel finance through national systems. › Integrate climate-responsive budgeting, procurement, and delivery processes. › Use streamlined, context-specific M&E systems to track results and inform adaptation learning.

Annex 2. Tools, Resources, and International Programs Supporting Implementation

Provider	Offer	Brief Explanation
NDC Partnership, GCF	CIPMF	Unlocking climate finance at speed and scale is essential to achieving the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. Yet many countries face persistent challenges—including capacity constraints, limited public funding, fragmented coordination, and a complex finance landscape. To support country-specific investment planning and finance mobilization efforts, the NDC Partnership and the GCF developed the CIPMF. The CIPMF helps countries identify support priorities and access available technical and financial assistance through the GCF's Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme and the NDC Partnership's Country Engagement Process.
NDC Partnership, ADB, AF,	The CIPMF Adaptation Supplement	This supplement expands the CIPMF with detailed guidance tailored to adaptation finance. It outlines how countries can identify adaptation investment needs, develop financing strategies, engage partners programmatically, and prepare pipelines of adaptation projects. The document provides practical steps, decision points, and capacity considerations specific to adaptation, addressing data gaps, risk assessments, localization, institutional coordination, and monitoring challenges. It serves as a technical companion to help governments operationalize country-led, programmatic approaches for mobilizing adaptation finance at scale.
Systemiq	Return on Resilience	This report provides an analytical framework for assessing the economic, social, and environmental returns generated by investments in climate resilience. It demonstrates how resilience measures can reduce losses, avoid future costs, and deliver co-benefits across sectors. The report outlines methodologies for valuing resilience outcomes, identifying systemic risks, and comparing adaptation options, helping governments and partners build stronger investment cases for resilience within national planning and financing strategies.
GGGI	Aligning NDCs and LT-LEDS: A Step-by-Step Guide for Practitioners	This guide provides a practical framework for the alignment of NDCs with LT-LEDS to ensure a coherent and effective pathway towards low emission and climate resilient development. It outlines key stages and steps of alignment, including creating aligned governance and stakeholder engagement mechanisms, shaping a clear mid-century vision that would inform short-term targets and policies that avoid carbon lock-in—ensuring consistency between near-term actions and long-term objectives and aligning financial planning and monitoring systems for both policy documents. The alignment process can be flexible, allowing the order of the steps to be tailored to a country's specific needs, policy processes, and circumstances. The guide is designed to support not only countries that already have LT-LEDS in place but also those that are in the process of developing them or have not yet started. The guide provides several good practice examples from different countries on various aspects of NDCs and LT-LEDS alignment.

GGGI	Identifying Good Practices in National Adaptation Plans: A Global Review	This report presents a global analysis of the contents of NAPs submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat before 1 January 2024. The present report has two main objectives: to present the results of the global review of NAPs derived from a review framework that was developed as part of this work and to highlight and share good practices on NAP thematic areas from countries for other countries to learn from to either creating a NAP or to refine their existing NAP.
NAP Global Network	Climate Change Adaptation Investment Plans: Frequently asked questions	Financing adaptation is challenging due to uncertainties associated with future climate risks, difficulties in measuring the return on investment of adaptation options, limited funding availability (which often forces adaptation to compete with other development priorities), and the lack of a coordinated, programmatic approach to accessing adaptation finance, with ad hoc, project-based approaches being the norm. To bridge the global adaptation financing gap, it is crucial to access a diverse array of funding sources, including domestic, international, public and private sources and financing instruments. Climate change adaptation investment planning offers a structured approach to unlocking these financial resources and accelerating the transition toward implementing countries' adaptation priorities. Specifically, adaptation investment planning is a strategic and structured approach to mobilizing finance for adaptation, leading to the development of a climate change adaptation investment plan (CCAIP). This article addresses frequently asked questions about adaptation investment planning.
IISD	The Landscape of Financing Strategies for Adaptation in Developing Countries	As developing countries increasingly transition from planning to implementation of their NAP processes and NDCs, a growing number have prepared or plan to prepare financing strategies for adaptation. These strategies typically set out a nationally coordinated approach to identifying and securing financing for initiatives that advance the country's adaptation priorities. While interest in the preparation of financing strategies for adaptation is growing, there remains uncertainty regarding how these strategies are being developed, the degree of engagement by key actors in their creation (such as MDBs), and their impact on scaling up financing for adaptation. The report provides insights on these issues.
IIED	The Realities of Country Platforms for LDCs and SIDS: Ten Key Lessons	This paper by IIED examines the role of country platforms as mechanisms for coordinating climate finance around nationally defined priorities, with a particular focus on adaptation and resilience in developing countries. It highlights how well-designed platforms can help align public and private finance, strengthen country ownership, and move beyond fragmented, project-based approaches. It also highlights the institutional, political, and capacity conditions required for platforms to function effectively and deliver sustained impact.



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