

SYLLABUS

Scaling Climate Finance

Building the capacities
of key stakeholders
in Asia-Pacific to mobilise
finance for climate action



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1. Background

ABOUT UNITAR

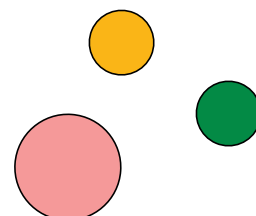
The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) provides innovative learning solutions to individuals, organizations, and institutions to enhance global decision-making and support country-level action for shaping a better future. UNITAR's four-year strategic framework is aligned with the 2030 Agenda and uses the Sustainable Development Goals as the guiding principle for the Institute's work with the strategic objectives organized around four out of five thematic pillars of the 2030 Agenda (Peace, People, Planet and Prosperity).

UNITAR's Division for Planet builds human capacities for green economy, climate change, chemicals and waste management and sustainable consumption and production through on-the-ground interventions, as well as distance learning and support. The Division works with government departments, civil society organizations, and education and training institutions in 50+ partner countries to harness the power that lies within these institutions and individuals through knowledge, networking, and content development aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

ABOUT THE ASIA PACIFIC CLIMATE FINANCE NETWORK (CFN)

The Climate Finance Network (CFN) is a peer-to-peer network and a knowledge management and technical support facility managed by the UN Development Programme (UNDP). It assists Ministries of Finance and sector Ministries, sub-national governments, private sector, and other development cooperation partners in identifying and scaling-up climate finance reforms in eighteen countries in Asia and the Pacific. CFN is being supported by the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) for the period 2022-2028. The government of Sweden is contributing to the network through GCCF (Governance of Climate Change Finance to Enhance Gender Equality).

As part of its "Strengthening Governance of Climate Finance to Enhance Resilience to Promote Climate Inclusive Resilience in Asia Pacific" workstream and through the CFN, UNDP has engaged UNITAR to support the development of a regional training programme on **Scaling Climate Finance**. This current e-learning course forms part of that programme and supersedes two e-tutorials previously developed by UNDP and UNITAR, on "Climate Policy and Public Finance" and "Climate Responsive Budgeting."



2. Introduction

The climate crisis is no longer a distant threat. Its impacts are here, and they are happening now – affecting people around the world on a daily basis.

The Asia-Pacific region stands at the forefront of the crisis. On one hand, it is the world's most carbon-intensive region – accounting for over half of all global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and still heavily reliant on coal. On the other hand, the region is also the most vulnerable – home to many developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) most at-risk to climate change.

These climate impacts are diverse. From melting glaciers in the Himalayas, flooding in South Asia, heatwaves in Southeast Asia and sea level rise in the Pacific, climate change is already impacting people's lives – affecting agriculture, destroying transport systems and homes, and causing food insecurity. All of these disproportionately affect women and other vulnerable groups.

Climate change is undermining social and economic development in the region, and responding to it can contribute to the sustainable development agenda. As well as supporting the achievement of climate mitigation and adaptation commitments that countries have made under the Paris Agreement, tackling climate change can help advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

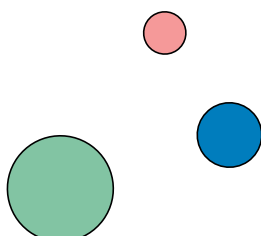
The need to address climate change – for a whole host of reasons – is therefore urgent and pressing. Failure to do so will result in significantly higher costs in the future, to both our economies and societies. But responding to climate change – by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and building resilience to climate impacts – requires a significant amount of finance.

Finance is a key enabler of climate action, but addressing climate change requires trillions of dollars of investments globally each year. We are currently channeling only a fraction of that, and this number will continue to increase as climate impacts continue to worsen.

The better news is that the volume of climate finance is expanding each year. New financing avenues are opening up. The channels and mechanisms of supply are becoming more diverse, and innovations within the coordination and mobilization of climate finance are rapidly growing.

Whether through public spending, private sector investments or even new and innovative forms of climate finance – there are increasing opportunities to scale climate finance. And whether you work in a Ministry of Finance, a line Ministry, a central bank or a civil society NGO – we can all play a role in maximizing these to respond to the climate challenge.

That is the mission statement of this e-learning course. We all have a role to play in Scaling Climate Finance, and this course will aim to provide participants with the knowledge, motivation, and methods to do so.



3. Target Audience

Many different actors have a role to play in scaling finance for climate action. While most of the tools, instruments and approaches are presented through a government or public sector lens, the course should be of interest to many different groups including:

- Policy, planning and technical staff responsible for managing or mobilising climate finance at the national and sub-national level (e.g. from central finance or planning ministries, relevant line-ministries, sub-national governments and parliamentarians)
- Individuals from relevant quasi-governmental organizations including state or central banks, state-owned enterprises and parastatals, supreme audit institutions and securities or exchange commissions
- Private sector stakeholders and market facilitators that impact and enable climate-aligned investments
- Practitioners from non-governmental organizations, civil society groups and regional or national think tanks and education and training institutes focused on climate-related issues
- Citizens interested in understanding how finance is a key enabler of climate action, to hold relevant actors to account

While many of the case studies in the course are taken from the Asia-Pacific region, the tools, instruments and approaches that are featured can be relevant and applicable to individuals from all regions around the world.



4. Learning Objectives

The overall goal of this 5-hour, self-paced e-learning course is to increase participants' knowledge and understanding of the climate finance system. In terms of specific learning objectives, it's expected that by the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Identify key climate finance sources, instruments and mechanisms and explain how these interact to enable climate action for mitigation and adaptation
- Explain the importance of different actors and stakeholders taking on different roles and responsibilities within the climate finance system
- Outline different measures, tools and approaches that can be used to coordinate public climate finance in a more efficient and effective way

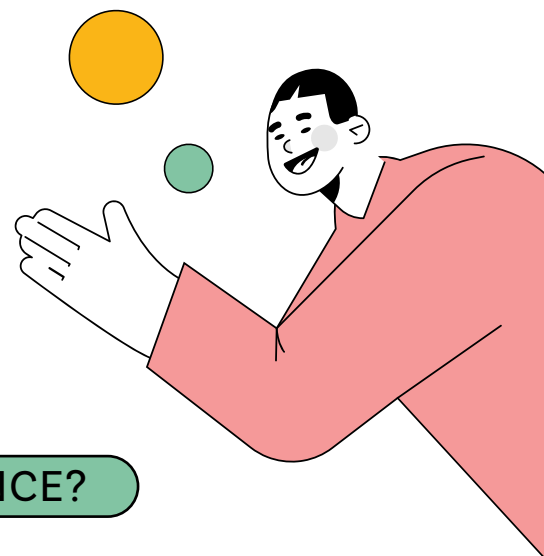
- List innovative sources, mechanisms and instruments that can provide access to new pools of capital for climate action, including from the private sector
- Explain how applying a gender equality and social inclusion lens to climate finance can ensure investments to reach at-risk and vulnerable populations

The e-learning course will be designed and developed through a gender equality and social inclusion lens. Relevant case studies, examples and stories are used to demonstrate how gender equality and social inclusion can be embedded into climate finance-related planning, budgeting, and decision-making for mitigation and adaptation.



5. Course Structure

The course is structured into four distinct modules. Each module has specific learning objectives and features a mix of short introductory videos, interactive lessons, case studies and exercises.



MODULE 1: WHAT IS CLIMATE FINANCE?

The first module introduces participants to the climate finance system. It shows how climate change is impacting different groups of people in Asia-Pacific and explains why current finance flows are insufficient to tackle these. It explores some important climate finance realities including issues relating to accessing, types and uses of climate finance, and looks at the role of international climate finance in perpetuating or addressing these.

By the end of Module 1, participants will be able to:

- Explain what climate finance is and why it is needed
- Identify key climate finance sources and instruments and discuss the relative strengths of these
- Discuss the roles and responsibilities of different actors within the climate finance landscape
- Outline the main issues developing countries face in accessing climate finance, including from international sources

MODULE 2: MAKING PUBLIC FINANCE GO FURTHER FOR CLIMATE ACTION

The second module explores the role of public finance in responding to climate change. A significant portion of climate finance flows through governments, which is then allocated to different government ministries, agencies and other actors through a process of public financial management (PFM). The module looks at how governments can make their PFM and national budget processes more climate-sensitive, including the specific tools that can be adopted to mainstream

climate change into the PFM and budget cycle - with a focus on public investment management (PIM) and climate budget tagging as two entry points in particular

By the end of Module 2, participants will be able to:

- Explain how managing public finance more efficiently and effectively can support climate action
- Explain that while Ministries of Finance play a central part, all stakeholders have

a role to play in the coordination and management of public climate finance

- Identify tools and measures to integrate climate change into public financial management (PFM) and

public investment management (PIM) processes

- Identify opportunities for applying a gender equality and social inclusion lens to public climate finance

MODULE 3: MOBILISING PRIVATE AND INNOVATIVE CLIMATE FINANCE

Module 3 of the e-learning course looks at how governments can unlock more climate finance, with a focus on the relatively untapped potential of private climate finance. The module presents some of the steps that governments can take to set the right conditions for private investment, and explores a range of innovative financing instruments, mechanisms and sources that can be employed to access new pools of capital for climate action.

By the end of Module 3, participants will be able to:

- Identify how the private sector can support climate mitigation and adaptation
- Explain how governments can create the right conditions for private investment
- Describe the main barriers to private investment in climate adaptation and how these can be addressed Provide examples of private investments that have targeted at-risk and vulnerable populations
- Provide examples of private investments that have targeted at-risk and vulnerable populations



MODULE 4: FINANCING A CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN

The fourth and final module of the course allows users to piece together all of the elements that have been presented during the course to solve a climate finance problem. Through a fictional scenario, the fourth and final module focuses on reinforcing what participants have learnt in the course so far, providing them with the opportunity to apply this in a fictional climate change scenario which explores many of the issues and

areas that are covered in the first three modules. To complete the fictional scenario, participants will need to draw on the knowledge and understanding that they've acquired to complete a challenging task - to mobilise finance for their (fictional) country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), taking a step-by-step approach through the various options, issues and measures presented in the course.

6. Methodology

This self-paced, distance learning course is designed to meet the needs and schedules of busy, full-time working professionals. The content is delivered in short, digestible learning units - allowing participants to engage with the learning material at their own pace and providing full learning autonomy.

The course features a diverse range of learning resources that cater to different learning styles, with participants able to learn by absorbing (e.g. reading and watching), interacting (e.g. completing an activity) and reflecting (e.g. relating the content to one's own reality). Case studies, real-world or fictional examples and interactive scenarios are used to illustrate key concepts and demonstrate how these can be applied in practice.

Finally, to reinforce learning and check participants' understanding of the key concepts and themes presented in the course, the learning objectives for each module will be assessed through a series of short quizzes and a final assessment that will need to be completed for participants to successfully complete the course.



7. Learning Resources

The course features a diverse range of learning resources to support learning in a dynamic and engaging way. These include:

VIDEO CONTENT

Each module contains a short introductory video in which several experts briefly explain the underlying themes, concepts and key messaging that participants will be introduced to in that module. Short video interviews with experts based in Asia-Pacific and other regions are also featured at various points across the modules to present specific topics, case studies or projects.

INTERACTIVE LESSONS

The core content for each module is contained in an interactive lesson, which guides participants through the various themes, concepts, and messages in a clear and progressive manner. Each interactive lesson features a variety of instructional tools, including clickable objects, navigation buttons, flipping cards, reflection points and interactive exercises which are designed to assess and solidify learning retention.

FINAL QUIZ

To complete the course and obtain a certificate of completion, participants must successfully answer a series of assessment questions in the form of a final quiz. The quiz assesses the achievement of the specific learning objectives for each module of the course. Further information on the final assessment is provided below.

ADDITIONAL LEARNING RESOURCES

Participants will be directed to additional learning resources – such as further e-learning courses or modules, and relevant reports and guidelines – at different stages throughout the modules.

COURSE EVALUATION

Participants are requested to provide feedback on the course – including its content, structure, and delivery mode – by completing a feedback form that can be accessed in the “Certification” section of the course page.



8. Completion Criteria and Certification

Participants who complete the course requirements will receive a certificate of completion. To do so, participants must:

- Complete all videos, interactive lessons and learning activities
- Pass the final quiz with a minimum score of 70% (from no more than three attempts)
- Once these requirements have been met, the certificate of completion will become available to download automatically.

9. Technical Requirements

BROWSER

- The course works best with **Firefox 3.6** or higher (download for free at <https://www.mozilla.org/en-GB/>).
- The course is also compatible with **Google Chrome** (download for free at <https://www.google.com/intl/en/chrome/>).
- For technical reasons, it is recommended that participants do not use Internet Explorer when completing the course.
- Note: JavaScript and Cookies must be enabled for the course to function correctly.

SOFTWARE

- Adobe Acrobat Reader (download for free at <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>).
- Adobe Flash Player (download for free at <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>).
- Microsoft Office (Windows or Apple version) or Open Office (download for free at <http://www.openoffice.org>).

PLATFORM

- Windows 95, 98, 2000, NT, ME, XP or superior; MacOS 9 or MacOS X
Hardware; 64MB of RAM, 1 GB of free disk space.
- Modem: 56 K