LDC University Leadership for Catalyzing Climate Adaptation Finance

TRAINING MANUAL

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Acronyms and abbreviations

AF	Adaptation Fund
C-PIMA	Climate Public Investment Management Assessment
CBT	Climate Budget Tagging
CBT	Climate Budget Tagging
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CF	Climate Finance
CIF	Climate Investment Funds
COP	Conference of the Parties
CSPFM	Climate-Sensitive Public Finances Management
DFA	Debt-For-Adaptation
DFC	Debt-For-Climate
DFN	Debt-For-Nature
EbA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LDC	Least Developed Countries
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LDF	Loss and Damage Fund
NAPA	National Adaptation Programmes of Action
NAPs	National Adaptation Plans
NCQG	New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance
NDC	National Determined Contribution
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PEER	Public Environmental Expenditure Reviews
PIMA	Public Investment Management Assessment
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SCF	Standing Committee on Finance

SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNI-LEAD	LDC University Leadership for Catalyzing Climate Adaptation Finance
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation

1. Introduction

Least Developed Countries (LDCs) are grappling with a multitude of climate change impacts that adversely affect livelihoods, well-being, ecosystems, and economic development. Persistent obstacles to scaled-up action on climate change adaptation in LDCs impede the effective delivery of finance to where it is needed most.

For instance, in many countries where direct access exists, there are still significant challenges with respect to the skills needed to develop fundable proposals, including developing the climate change evidence base, formulating rigorous theories of change, mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion considerations into project design, and developing effective monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems. The lack of in-country capacity means that LDC governments must rely on international experts and multilateral intermediaries, which significantly increases the costs of project preparation and does not resolve capacity deficits within the countries.

The *LDC University Leadership for Catalyzing Climate-Adaptation Finance* (UNI-LEAD) project aims to address these challenges through strengthening capacities of LDC universities within the LDC University Consortium on Climate Change (LUCCC) to provide technical advice to their governments on climate finance. One important tool for doing so is through this series of short courses that are designed for LUCCC members to offer to their governments. This effort is intended to strengthen collaboration between universities and governments, and to enhance the skills and confidence of LUCCC universities to deliver climate finance training that strengthens the competencies and skills of government officials to develop fundable concept notes and proposals for accessing climate finance.

The five courses explore a range of topics related to climate finance. Short courses 1 and 2 are designed to provide extensive background and examples for navigating the increasingly complex landscape of climate finance structures and schemes, in the LDC context. Short courses 3 and 4 are intended to explore key concepts (infused with practical advice and guidance) on how to effectively incorporate gender equality and social inclusion — and how to develop a strong climate rationale, respectively — into climate finance concepts and proposals. The series culminates with short course 5, which offers a 'how to' on practical steps for developing a climate finance concept note, with a particular emphasis on developing a theory of change.

The five courses are:

1. Basics of Climate Finance in the LDC Context
2. Public and Private Sector Financing for Climate Change Adaptation
3. Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in Climate Finance
4. Fundamentals of Developing a Climate Rationale

5. Developing concept notes and funding proposals for existing climate finance mechanisms

   The project partners wish to thank CFAN for their technical guidance.

2. Training Objectives

The **overall objective** of this training programme is to strengthen the capacity and visibility of LUCCC universities to provide technical expertise and guidance to their respective governments on accessing climate finance.

The **learning outcomes** envisioned by this programme include:
- Enhanced understanding of, and confidence engaging with, key aspects of climate finance by the LUCCC university members.
- Enhanced instructor skills and confidence by the LUCCC university members in providing training to their governments on climate finance.
- Increased understanding by government officials of how to navigate the complex climate finance landscape, and enhanced ability to develop fundable climate finance proposals.

3. Target Audience

The primary audience for this training programme are government officials who work on climate change adaptation, and who need further skill development on climate finance. Secondary audiences could include climate experts from NGOs, CSOs, and other public-facing stakeholders.

4. Training Materials and Tools

Each of the 5 courses contains three elements:
1. A **course workbook** of 40-50 pages average length that provides detailed information on the particular subject matter. This workbook represents the heart of the course.
2. A **Powerpoint presentation** that contains key information contained in the course workbook that the instructor can use to teach the course.
3. An **instructor's guide** that provides detailed information and tips on how to teach the material. The guide is accompanied by a video of the Powerpoint presented by the developer of each of the 5 courses.

5. Training Courses

5.1. Short Course 1: Basics of Climate Finance in the LDC Context

Basics of Climate Finance in the LDC Context is designed to deepen understanding of the long arc of climate negotiations, and how climate finance fits into that landscape. The course primarily focuses on the major climate finance mechanisms (GCF, AF, and GEF) and also highlights challenges that LDCs face in accessing funding through these major schemes.

Session 1.1: Climate Change Negotiations
This session gives participants an overview of the history of climate change negotiations, helping them understand the historical context and process under the UNFCCC. By the end of this session, participants will have a clearer understanding of: (i) the origins and evolution of climate change negotiations and (ii) how countries negotiate within the UN Climate Change framework and influence the outcomes.This session concludes with an exercise that includes a set of questions designed to help participants deepen their understanding of the context and processes that occur during COP (Conference of the Parties) meetings.

Session 1.2: What is Climate Finance?
Building on the previous session, Session 1.2 provides a foundational understanding of climate finance, including its provisions in the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and the current state of climate finance negotiations supporting the implementation of these agreements. Participants will at the end of this session understand: (i) the basics of climate finance, (ii) climate finance provisions in the Convention and the Paris Agreement and (iii) the current state of climate finance negotiations under the UNFCCC process. The session explains how funds are allocated between mitigation and adaptation initiatives, and the evolving goals set under the Convention and Paris Agreement to reach USD 100 billion per year to support developing countries. The session concludes with questions designed to encourage critical thinking and a takeaway message.

Session 1.3: Global Climate Finance Flows and Instrument
Building on the previous session's understanding of climate finance basics, and the state of climate finance, this session delves into global climate finance flows and instruments. It offers an overview of climate finance transfers from developed to developing countries, examining trends, gaps, and the instruments used to channel these funds. At the end of this session, participants will understand: (i) fundamentals of climate finance flows from developed to developing countries, (ii) global trends and gaps in climate finance flows and (iii) instruments and channels for climate finance. This session offers abundant information on the climate finance landscape, including the instruments utilised, the flow of funds, and the different financial sources. It culminates with an exercise designed to enhance understanding and retain the key takeaways from the session.

Session 1.4: Financial Mechanisms and Key Access Challenges
This session provides an overview of the operating entities of the financial mechanism established under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. It is intended to help develop a broad understanding of access modalities, strategic

programming areas, investment criteria, instruments of each of the operation entities namely the Global Environment Facility, Least Developed Countries Fund, Special Climate Change Fund, Adaptation Fund, Green Climate Fund and Loss and Damage Fund. The session includes an overview of the unique challenges that LDCs face resulting from the complexity of processes and requirements in accessing climate finance combined with a general lack of expertise and experience in climate finance.

5.2. Short Course 2: Public and Private Sector Financing for Climate Change Adaptation

The *Public and Private Sector Financing for Climate Change Adaptation* course compliments Short Course 1's focus on multinational climate mechanisms by examining the role of both public and private financing in supporting climate change adaptation as well as the devolution of climate finance to meet local-level adaptation needs. This course focuses on tools for mainstreaming climate adaptation into the budgetary procedures, debt-for-climate swaps, carbon market mechanisms for adaptation finance, and financing sub-national climate adaptation actions.

Session 2.1: Mainstreaming Climate Adaptation Finance in Public Budgeting — Tools and Approaches

This session presents the conceptual framing of the climate adaptation mainstreaming in public budgeting systems and various tools and approaches to carry out the integration exercise. The session covers in detail the rationale for the mainstreaming, the entry points for climate adaptation mainstreaming in budgeting processes, the existing tools to mainstreaming climate adaptation in budgeting process, such as Climate Budget Tagging (CBT), Climate Public Investment Management Assessment (C-PIMA) and Public Environmental Expenditure Reviews (PEER). The session ends with the presentation of the challenges to mainstreaming climate adaptation in budgeting processes and provides case studies from LDCs.

Session 2.2: Debt-for-climate Swap Schemes
Building on the 2.1, this session 2.2 brings an example of an innovative instrument which is increasingly used in LDCs as the country's public budgets are not enough to finance their climate actions due to the limitations and impacts of national debt. This session examines debt-for-climate swap schemes, for climate action through instruments such as Debt-for-Nature swaps, Debt-For-Adaptation swaps etc., which are designed to address two pressing global issues (sovereign debt and climate change), the session presents the process by which DFC mechanisms contribute to climate adaptation efforts and the implementation of the Paris agreement. The session ends with the Debt-For-Adaptation swaps outcomes and the presentation of two case studies from Seychelles and Belize.

Session 2.3: Private Adaptation Financing

This session on *Private Adaptation Financing* aims to equip the learner with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively mobilise and manage private sector financing for climate adaptation projects and programmes. It presents the rationale and motives of private sector engagement in adaptation, the challenges associated with private adaptation finance, the options for leveraging private sector investment for adaptation, and provides case studies from Oxfam and Global Parametrics in Ethiopia, BIMA and Mobile Health Insurance in Ghana, African Agriculture Fund and Farm Support Services in Mozambique, Zambian Breweries and Water Stewardship in Zambia, and Off-Grid Electric (Zola Electric) in Tanzania.

Session 2.4: Carbon Market Mechanisms for adaptation funding

This session revolves around understanding how carbon market mechanisms can support climate adaptation efforts by contributing to adaptation funding, and to understand the policy implications of using carbon market mechanisms for adaptation funding, including considerations related to equity, transparency, and governance. The session also presents the state and trends of carbon markets in the LDCs and the challenges in implementing market mechanisms in LDCs.

Session 2.5: Financing Subnational Climate Adaptation Actions

The last session of this short course focuses on Financing Subnational Climate Change Adaptation Actions in LDCs, and provides options for public and private sector supporting individually or in partnerships for subnational climate actions. The session also presents the institutional, technical, financial and socio-economic barriers to subnational adaptation financing, the measures to address subnational climate finance mobilisation barriers, and cases studies and lessons learnt from the Devolved Climate Finance (DCF) mechanisms and lessons learnt from the DCF pilot mechanisms in Mali, Senegal, Kenya, and Tanzania.

5.3. Short Course 3: Gender Equality and Social Inclusion for Climate Finance

The *Gender Equality and Social Inclusion for Climate Finance* short course aims to enhance understanding of, and actions towards, addressing unique gendered vulnerabilities linked to climate risks and impacts. The course is designed to increase participants' ability to to assess, analyse, and incorporate gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) considerations into the development of climate-finance concept notes and funding proposals. Participants will gain practical guidance and tools to ensure that their proposals are sensitive to GESI concerns and that they effectively address the needs of vulnerable and marginalised groups.

Session 3.1: GESI Introduction and Framing

This session is designed to cover the framing of the subject matter. It helps learners to understand the basics of the GESI concept by breaking down a host of concepts associated with GESI. These include gender vs sex, inequality vs inequity, intersectionality, power, gender mainstreaming, and the link between gender and climate change. The intersection of gender equality, social inclusion, and climate finance is a critical area that requires careful framing and reflection.

Session 3.2: Operationalizing GESI in climate adaptation finance

This session builds on the basic GESI concepts from the previous session in examining the link between gender and climate change, and gender aspects of climate finance. The session explores why GESI is important in climate adaptation financing, how to operationalize gender considerations in climate financing, and what stakeholders and actors are key in the operationalization process. It provides learners with the steps to follow and conduct a gender assessment as well as how to develop a gender action plan with key examples from GCF examples. The gender assessment and action plan are crucial for ensuring that projects effectively meet the needs of marginalised groups and promote more equitable and just societies throughout the entire project lifecycle.

Session 3.3: GESI considerations in existing climate funds

This session focuses on characterising the trajectory of gender mainstreaming in climate finance operations, and focuses on policy frameworks for GESI within the major multilateral funds. Considering that climate change disproportionately affects women, girls, and marginalised groups, exacerbating existing inequalities, incorporating GESI ensures that climate actions contribute to a more equitable and just society. Thus, major funds have prioritised addressing these disparities. GESI is a core component of global agreements such as the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals, so mainstreaming GESI enhances the legitimacy and trust of climate funds among stakeholders. By focusing on GESI mainstreaming, international climate funds can contribute to a more equitable and resilient world while maximising the impact of their investments..

Session 3.4: Challenges in implementing gender mandates in existing climate funds

The GESI short course concludes with a session on key challenges of implementing GESI within climate funds. This session focuses on challenges related to the limited accuracy and reliability of GESI-related data, the role that perceptions play in influencing gender mainstreaming and implementation of climate finance projects by climate funds, and the expertise within major funds to carry out gender mainstreaming, gender assessments or analysis, and the gender action plan.

5.4. Short Course 4: Fundamentals of Developing a Climate Rationale

The *Fundamentals of Developing a Climate Rationale* course emphasises the use of climate data and information to establish a strong climate rationale that can be used to mobilise financial resources to support adaptation efforts, particularly through mechanisms like the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Participants will gain understanding of the climate science basis behind a climate rationale, and explore approaches and processes for applying climate data and information in developing a robust climate rationale within climate finance proposals.

Session 4.1: Climate science as a foundation for climate finance
This session defines the key concepts that are central to understanding the interface between climate science and finance. It also explores how climate science can contribute to robust climate action and enhanced access to climate finance. Key terms and theories, including climate data, climate information, and evidence-based approaches will be covered to serve as a foundation for the remaining sessions of the short course that delve into specifics around developing a climate rationale. This session includes highlights from the IPCC Assessment Report.

Session 4.2: Conceptualising a climate rationale
Building on the previous session, Session 4.2 examines the utility of the climate rationale to connect climate science and climate action. This session focuses on the evidence basis for constructing a climate rationale for adaptation and mitigation, and its relevant principles and considerations. This session also provides a foundation on the subsequent session on how to develop a climate rationale.

Session 4.3: Developing a climate rationale
This session provides a step-by-step process for how to develop a climate rationale. It focuses on the GCF-WMO 4-step process, which entails i) identifying the area of focus; ii) identifying relevant climate contributing factors and data; iii) identifying relevant non-climatic contributing factors; and iv) selecting effective climate actions. The key concepts under this stepwise process are illustrated with examples of successful and unsuccessful GCF proposals.

Session 4.4: Data Platforms & Additional Resources
This session connects all the previous content through an overview of data platforms for accessing climate data, alongside a review of tools and examples of climate change risk and vulnerability tools. The session also discusses the

considerations and good practices surrounding climate data sourcing, which can vary significantly in different contexts.

5.5. Short Course 5: Developing concept notes and funding proposals for existing climate finance mechanisms

The *Developing Climate Finance Concept Notes and Funding Proposals* course provides a practical approach that equips participants with the tools and essential knowledge needed to develop project fiche/technical sheets and concept notes, and how those processes feed into proposals. It examines the project preparation process, access to the major climate funds under the UNFCCC in terms of investment areas, investment criteria and financial instruments, and how to address the key investment criteria of the Green Climate Fund.

Session 5.1: The preliminaries for GCF Concept Notes and Funding Proposals development

The session presents the conceptual framing around project design for climate funds. The learner will have an overall view of the preliminaries for Concept Notes and Funding Proposals development, the climate adaptation project and its characteristics and tips for developing a robust climate adaptation project. The session explored responsibilities of key players including the National Designated Authorities, Focal Points, Accredited Entities and potential co-financers, the potential executing partners, the project co-promoters, the beneficiaries etc.

Session 5.2: The Green Climate Fund Adaptation proposals development

Developing a successful GCF adaptation proposal requires a deep understanding of the fund's priorities, as well as a strong grasp of project development methodologies. This session of the course aims to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to comprehend the GCF's mandate, strategic goals, and investment criteria, grasp the GCF's funding windows and eligibility criteria with focus on adaptation. The session presents an overview of the GCF Project cycle and project approval process, and give the learners with tips on key elements to master when preparing a GCF concept note including practical elements of climate rationale, theory of change and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Mainstreaming and Action Plan, the transitioning from GCF Concept Note to Funding Proposals, and the GCF Project Preparation Facility (PPF).

Session 5.3: Writeshop on GCF proposals development

This hand-on training session is focused on Green Climate Fund (GCF) proposals (concept notes and funding proposals) development and is structured as an interactive workshop aimed at guiding learners through the process of developing high-quality proposals for GCF funding proposals. The learners will gain skills in articulating project ideas and objectives and will practise drafting GCF proposals through interactive exercises and peer review. The session presents best practices in addressing each of the six (6) investment criteria (impact potential, paradigm shift potential, sustainable development potential, the needs of recipient, the country ownership, the efficiency and effectiveness) through providing examples of approved proposals and how the project promoters have responded to those criteria. The Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) mainstreaming in proposals is built on the tools and case studies presented in the short course 3. The process for climate rationale development for GCF proposals is built on the tools and case studies presented in Short Course 4. Exercise on theory of change (ToC) is also proposed based on GCF Template as well as the Concept Note and Funding Proposals elements exposed and practised.

6. Glossary

Term	Definition
Adaptation	Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects. It refers to changes in processes, practices and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change. In simple terms, countries and communities need to develop adaptation solutions and implement actions to respond to current and future climate change impacts.
Adaptation Finance	Financial resources dedicated to activities that help communities, regions, and countries adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as building resilient infrastructure or supporting climate-resilient agriculture.
Adaptation Fund	It is an international fund that finances projects and programs aimed at helping developing countries to adapt to the harmful effects of climate change. It is set up under the Kyoto Protocol of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
Assessment Reports (ARs (4, 5, 6)	The Assessment Reports are comprehensive evaluations produced by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that synthesise scientific research on climate change. These reports are published approximately every six to seven years and are divided into multiple volumes produced by three Working Groups.
Blended Finance	A mix of public and private financing aimed at attracting private investment to projects that contribute to climate adaptation, reducing the risk for private investors.
BURs	Biennial Update Reports (BURs) are reports to be submitted by non-Annex I Parties (developing country parties) to the Paris Agreement, containing updates of national Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventories, including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received.
Climate Change	It is the significant variation of average weather conditions becoming, for example, warmer, wetter, or drier—over several decades or longer. It is the longer-term trend that differentiates climate change from natural weather variability.
Climate Change Adaptation (CCA)	It is the process of adjusting to the effects of climate change. These can be both current and expected impacts.
Climate Data Record	Time series of measurements of sufficient length, consistency, and continuity to determine climate variability and climate change
Climate Finance	It refers to financial resources and instruments that are used to support action on climate change.
Climate Information	The gathering and analysis of actual weather and climate observations as well as simulations of the climate for the past, the present and the future
Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)	The Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) is an organisation dedicated to improving energy and land use policies worldwide with the aim of achieving sustainable development and combating climate change. Founded in 2009, CPI works at the nexus of finance and policy to help governments, businesses, and financial institutions drive economic growth

	while addressing climate change.
Climate Rationale	A climate rationale provides the scientific underpinning for evidence-based climate decision making. It ensures that the linkages between climate impacts, climate action and societal benefits is fully grounded in the best available climate data and science.
Climate Resilience	The ability of communities, ecosystems, or economies to withstand and recover from the effects of climate change, ensuring they can sustain development gains despite climate impacts.
Climate Science	The study of climate science doesn't focus just on what makes changing climate important; it studies how it will affect people around the world.
CMA	The CMA, or Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, is the body responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Paris Agreement. The CMA reviews progress, sets the agenda for future actions, and ensures that the goals of the Paris Agreement are being met. It includes representatives from countries that have ratified the Paris Agreement and meets annually during the UN Climate Change Conference, typically alongside the COP (Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC). The CMA plays a crucial role in driving global climate action and facilitating international cooperation to combat climate change.
Co-Benefits	Secondary benefits of climate adaptation projects, such as improved air quality, job creation, or biodiversity conservation, beyond the primary aim of reducing climate vulnerability.
Conference of the Parties (COP)	Is the supreme decision-making body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It comprises representatives from all signatory countries to the UNFCCC and meets annually to assess progress in dealing with climate change, negotiate and adopt new agreements, and set policies and measures to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts. Each meeting is referred to as COP followed by its session number, such as COP21, which resulted in the Paris Agreement.
Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA)	CBA is a methodology and decision-making tool, which helps identify solutions (either policy options or investment projects) for an efficient allocation of scarce financial resources. It is usually conducted with reference to a project that is under consideration, but has not yet begun.
Cost-Effectiveness Analysis (CEA)	Cost-effectiveness analysis (CEA) compares an initiative's monetary costs to outcomes such as tons of CO2 emissions avoided or reduced as a result of an intervention project or program. It is similar to, or in some cases the same as, a value-for-money or social return on investment analysis where the return is measured in non-monetary terms.
Coupled Model Intercomparison Projects (CMIPs)	An integrated framework within which a number of individual Model Intercomparison Projects (MIPs) are organised. MIPs are sets of experiments and simulations designed to test and compare specific aspects of climate models. Each individual MIP lays out an experimental design aimed at improving understanding of: important physical processes in the climate system; or the response of the climate system to external drivers (such as increasing greenhouse gases). Scientists are currently on the Sixth Phase of the Couples Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP6). CMIP6 also includes scenarios and pathways that differ

	based on GHG intensity levels.
Direct Access Entity (DAE)	It is an institution accredited to receive funding directly from international climate funds, such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Adaptation Fund, to implement climate-related projects and programs. Unlike intermediary access, where funds are channelled through international organisations, direct access allows national and regional entities to manage and deploy funds directly, which can enhance country ownership, build local capacity, and tailor interventions to local contexts. DAEs play a crucial role in the implementation of climate finance, contributing to the effectiveness and sustainability of climate action by ensuring that it is locally driven and managed.
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)	"Disaster risk reduction" can be defined as "action taken to reduce the risk of disasters and the adverse impacts of natural hazards, through systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causes of disasters, including through avoidance of hazards, reduced social and economic vulnerability to hazards, and improved preparedness for adverse events". It is therefore tailor-made to help counteract the added risks arising from climate change.
Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EbA)	The use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall strategy to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, such as mangrove restoration for coastal protection.
Equality	Equal rights, power, access, decision-making, responsibilities and opportunities for women and men, as well as equal consideration of the interests, needs and priorities of women and men, recognizing the diversity of different groups and of gender identities.
Equity	The process of being fair to women and men. To ensure equity, measures often need to be taken to compensate (or reduce) disparity for historical and social disadvantages that prevent women and men from otherwise operating on an equitable basis.
First Assessment Report (FAR)	The First Assessment Report (FAR) refers to the inaugural comprehensive assessment of climate change science conducted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Released in 1990, the FAR represented a landmark in global climate research and policy. It remains a seminal document in the history of climate science and policy, highlighting the need for collective action to safeguard the planet for future generations.
Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (LDF)	The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage is a financial mechanism established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to address the adverse impacts of climate change that are beyond adaptation efforts, often referred to as loss and damage. Loss and damage can include irreversible losses of lives, livelihoods, and ecosystems, as well as non-economic losses such as cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge. By providing financial support for adaptation measures and addressing irreparable losses, the fund contributes to building resilience and promoting sustainable development in the face of climate-related challenges.
Gender	Social attributes and opportunities associated with: Being female or male

Global Environment Facility (GEF)	It is an international financial organisation that provides grants and funding to address global environmental issues. Established in 1991, the GEF operates as a partnership among 183 countries, international institutions, non-governmental organisations, and the private sector to support projects in various environmental areas. The GEF plays a critical role in financing and supporting global efforts to address pressing environmental challenges, fostering international cooperation, and promoting sustainable development.
Global Stocktake (GST)	It is a key process established under the Paris Agreement to periodically assess collective progress towards achieving its long-term goals. It serves as a mechanism for reviewing the implementation of the agreement and enhancing ambition over time. The GST is designed to inform decision-making and facilitate the global response to climate change by providing a comprehensive and transparent assessment of efforts and outcomes. The Global Stocktake is a critical component of the Paris Agreement architecture, playing a vital role in driving ambition, enhancing transparency, and facilitating global cooperation to address the climate crisis effectively.
Green Climate Fund (GCF)	It is a fund for climate finance that was established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Its objective is to assist developing countries with climate change adaptation and mitigation activities.
Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)	Any gas that absorbs infrared radiation in the atmosphere. Greenhouse gases include, but are not limited to, water vapour, carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), ozone (O_3), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6).
Independent Technical Advisory Panel (iTAP)	Mandated body of the Green Climate Fund that serves as an independent technical advisory body which is accountable to the Board. The iTAP conducts technical assessments of concept notes and funding proposals to comment on whether they should be approved, while also providing feedback to project proponents on how to improve various elements of their proposal.
Insurance Mechanisms	Financial products designed to provide compensation for losses resulting from climate impacts, helping communities recover more quickly and effectively.
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	IPCC is a scientific body established by the United Nations (UN) in 1988 to provide policymakers with comprehensive assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts, and potential adaptation and mitigation options. The IPCC operates under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	The official United Nations body for assessing climate change. The objective of the IPCC is to provide governments at all levels with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies. IPCC reports are also a key input into international climate change negotiations. A flagship activity of the IPCC is the development of assessment reports, for which thousands of experts volunteer their time as IPCC authors to assess the thousands of scientific papers published each year to provide a comprehensive summary of what is known about the drivers of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and how adaptation and mitigation can reduce those risks.
International Accredited Entity (IAE)	IAE refers to an organisation or institution that has been accredited by a multilateral climate finance mechanism, such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), to access and manage climate finance resources. International Accredited Entities play a crucial role in facilitating the flow of climate finance, fostering collaboration and capacity-building, and supporting countries in their efforts to address the challenges of climate change.
International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	An international organisation working in the field of nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. Founded in 1948, IUCN has become the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. It is involved in data gathering and analysis, research, field projects, advocacy, and education. IUCN's mission is to "influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable".
Intersectionality	Intersectionality provides an understanding that human beings are shaped by the interaction of different social locations such as ethnicity or race, gender, class, Indigeneity, sexuality, geography, age, disability/ability, migration status, religion and more. These interactions happen within the context of connected systems and structures of power such as law, policies, media, state governments, religious institutions, and more. These processes contribute to interdependent systemic bases of privilege and oppression derived from colonialism, imperialism, racism, homophobia, ableism and patriarchy.
Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	LDCs are nations that face significant structural challenges to sustainable development, including low income, weak human capital, and vulnerability to economic, environmental, and social shocks. The category of LDCs is officially recognized by the United Nations (UN), and the list of LDCs is reviewed and updated every three years by the UN Committee for Development Policy (CDP). Supporting LDCs to overcome poverty, achieve sustainable development, and build resilience to external shocks is essential for advancing global prosperity and ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of the SDGs.

Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF)	The Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) is a financial mechanism established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to support the most vulnerable nations in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change. The fund is specifically designed to assist Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in implementing adaptation projects and programs to enhance their resilience to climate change. By providing financial resources and technical assistance, the LDCF helps LDCs build resilience, protect livelihoods, and safeguard ecosystems, contributing to their sustainable development and ensuring that no one is left behind in the global response to climate change.
Loss and Damage	Refers to the negative impacts of climate change that people have not been able to cope with or adapt to, which require financial compensation or other forms of support.
Mainstreaming	Integrating a gender equality perspective at all stages and levels of policies, programmes and projects.
Mitigation	As there is a direct relation between global average temperatures and the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the key for the solution to the climate change problem rests in decreasing the amount of emissions released into the atmosphere and in reducing the current concentration of carbon dioxide (CO2) by enhancing sinks (e.g. increasing the area of forests). Efforts to reduce emissions and enhance sinks are referred to as "mitigation".
Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA)	MCA describes any structured approach used to determine overall preferences among alternative options, where the options accomplish several objectives. In MCA, desirable objectives are specified and corresponding attributes or indicators are identified. The actual measurement of indicators need not be in monetary terms, but are often based on the quantitative analysis (through scoring, ranking and weighting) of a wide range of qualitative impact categories and criteria.
National Adaptation Plan (NAP)	A strategic planning process that enables countries to identify and address their medium- and long-term adaptation needs, integrating climate resilience into national development planning. The NAP process was established under the Cancun Adaptation Framework (2010) in order to prepare countries for addressing climate risks. The main objectives of the NAPs are to reduce vulnerability to climate change, and to mainstream climate change adaptation in all levels of planning
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)	NDCs are national climate plans highlighting climate actions, including climate related targets, policies and measures governments aims to implement in response to climate change and as a contribution to global climate action. Central to the NDCs is the concept of national determination.
Nature-Based Solutions (NbS)	Strategies that involve the protection, sustainable management, and restoration of natural or modified ecosystems to address societal challenges, effectively and adaptively contributing to human well-being and biodiversity benefits
Nature-based Solutions (NbS)	Nature-based Solutions address societal challenges through actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural and modified ecosystems, benefiting people and nature at the same time. They target major challenges like climate change, disaster risk reduction, food and water security, biodiversity loss and human health, and are critical to

	sustainable development.
New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG)	The NCQG is a new global climate finance goal that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) shall set from a floor of USD 100 billion per year, prior to 2025.
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	The OECD is an international organisation comprising 38 member countries, mostly high-income economies, that collaborate to promote policies that improve economic and social well-being worldwide. Established in 1961, the OECD serves as a forum for governments to discuss and coordinate economic policies, share best practices, and address global challenges. Through its research, analysis, and policy dialogue, the OECD helps governments navigate complex economic, social, and environmental issues and build more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable societies.
Private Sector Engagement	Involvement of private businesses and investors in financing and implementing climate adaptation measures, leveraging private sector innovation, efficiency, and resources.
Public-Private Partnership (PPP)	Collaborative agreements between government entities and private sector companies to finance and implement projects, including those related to climate adaptation, which may involve shared risks and benefits
Resilience Bonds	Financial instruments that allow investors to fund resilience projects, such as infrastructure improvements, and receive returns based on the reduced risk of climate impacts.
Second Assessment Report (SAR)	The Second Assessment Report (SAR) is a comprehensive assessment of climate change science, impacts, and policy responses conducted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Released in 1995, the SAR built upon the findings of the First Assessment Report (FAR) and provided updated insights into the state of knowledge on climate change. The Second Assessment Report represented a significant milestone in climate science and policy, consolidating scientific consensus on the reality of human-induced climate change and its potential impacts. It helped to catalyse international efforts to address climate change and set the stage for subsequent assessments and policy developments.
Sex	Biological and physiological characteristics that define humans as: female or male.
Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	SIDS are a group of countries recognized by the United Nations (UN) as facing unique and specific development challenges due to their small size, limited resource base, geographical isolation, and vulnerability to external shocks, including climate change and natural disasters.
Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF)	SCCF is a financial mechanism established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to support developing countries in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change and implementing climate-related projects and programs. It contributes to the achievement of global climate goals and promotes international cooperation and solidarity in the face of climate change.
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	A collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, which include specific targets related to climate action (SDG 13), as well as goals that support climate adaptation through sustainable development.

Technical Assistance	Support provided to countries and organisations in the form of expertise, training, and knowledge transfer to help design, implement, and manage climate adaptation projects effectively.
The Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)	SCF is a subsidiary body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) established to assist the Conference of the Parties (COP) in the assessment and review of the financial mechanism of the Convention. By providing expert analysis, policy advice, and capacity-building support, the SCF contributes to strengthening the effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of the global climate finance architecture and advancing the implementation of climate action in developing countries.
Third Assessment Report (TAR)	TAR is a comprehensive assessment of climate change science, impacts, and policy responses conducted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Released in 2001 and 2002, the TAR represented a significant advancement in understanding climate change compared to previous assessments. It helped to catalyse international efforts to address climate change and set the stage for subsequent assessments and policy developments, including the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol and the negotiation of the Paris Agreement.
UNFCCC Biennial Update Reports (BURs)	BURs are reports to be submitted by non-Annex I Parties, to the UNFCCC containing updates of national Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventories, including a national inventory report and information on mitigation actions, needs and support received. Such reports provide updates on actions undertaken by a Party to implement the Convention, including the status of its GHG emissions and removals by sinks, as well as on the actions to reduce emissions or enhance sinks.
UNFCCC National Inventory Reports (NIRs)	As part of the Convention agreement, Annex I Parties are required to provide annual GHG inventory covering emissions and removals of direct GHGs (carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF3)) from five sectors (energy; industrial processes and product use; agriculture; land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF); and waste), and for all years from the base year (or period) to two years before the inventory is due.
UNFCCC Paris Agreement	The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris, France, on 12 December 2015. It entered into force on 4 November 2016. Its overarching goal is to hold "the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels" and pursue efforts "to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels." However, in recent years, world leaders have stressed the need to limit global warming to 1.5°C by the end of this century. The Paris Agreement is a landmark in the multilateral climate change process because, for the first time, a binding agreement brings all nations together to combat climate change and adapt to its effects.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	UNEP is the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. Through its leadership, advocacy, and technical assistance, UNEP contributes to the achievement of global environmental goals and the realisation of a more sustainable and equitable future for all.
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	UNFCCC is an international treaty adopted in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It is the primary multilateral instrument for addressing climate change at the global level. It sets out the principles, objectives, and institutional arrangements for international efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote adaptation, and advance sustainable development in the face of climate change.
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	The UNFCCC secretariat (UN Climate Change) is the United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change. UNFCCC stands for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Convention has near universal membership (198 Parties), and the The ultimate objective of all three agreements under the UNFCCC is to stabilise greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system, in a time frame which allows ecosystems to adapt naturally and enables sustainable development.
Vulnerability	Vulnerability varies widely across communities, sectors and regions. This diversity of the "real world" is the starting place for a vulnerability assessment. International comparisons of vulnerability tend to focus on national indicators, e.g., to group less developed countries or to compare progress in human development among countries with similar economic conditions. At a national level, vulnerability assessments contribute to setting development priorities and monitoring progress. Sectoral assessments provide more detail and targets for strategic development plans. At a local or community level, vulnerable groups can be identified and coping strategies implemented, often employing participatory methods. Climate change (IPCC): Vulnerability = Risk (predicted adverse climate impacts) – Adaptation
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	WMO is a specialised agency of the United Nations responsible for promoting international cooperation in meteorology (weather and climate), hydrology (water resources), and related fields. Through its efforts to strengthen meteorological and hydrological services, build capacity, and promote scientific research and innovation, the WMO contributes to the sustainable development and resilience of societies in the face of weather and climate-related hazards and challenges.