



United Nations
Climate Change

United Nations Climate Change
Regional Collaboration Centres

NDC CLINIC

SECOND CLIMATE WEEK: DIALOGUES FOR AMBITION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Dates: 1 - 2 September 2025 for Anglophone countries

5 - 6 September 2025 for Francophone countries

Venue: Addis International Convention Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Organizers: The UNFCCC secretariat and its Regional Collaboration Centres (RCC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), NDC Partnership and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

Background

The effective implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) is fundamental to translating climate pledges into tangible action and measurable progress. Successful NDC implementation demonstrates a country's commitment to achieving its climate goals, fosters credibility within the international community, and provides critical insights for the development of future NDCs. Further, it can contribute to national social and economic development while offering opportunities to catalyse the transformation of key sectors, stimulate innovation in clean technologies, and facilitate the mobilization of climate finance by sending clear signals to investors, thereby creating a positive feedback loop that supports increasingly ambitious climate action.

African countries are facing increasing climate-related challenges that threaten their economic stability, food security, and sustainable development. To address these risks, effective climate investment planning and finance mobilization are essential for scaling up adaptation and mitigation efforts. However, many countries struggle with limited access to finance, fragmented institutional coordination, and inadequate integration of climate priorities into national development plans. Strengthening investment planning capacities will enable governments to prioritize climate actions, align investments with national strategies, and leverage diverse financing sources, including public, private, and international funds.

In response to the challenges African countries face in mobilizing climate investments—and building on the outcomes of the 2024 NDCs 3.0 Regional Fora, the UNFCCC secretariat and its RCCs, UNEP, UNDP, NDCP and GIZ are co-organizing two NDC Clinics as part of [the second Climate Week: Dialogues for Ambition and Implementation in Africa](#). Each NDC Clinic will provide a platform for dialogue and peer exchange on key aspects of investment planning and mobilization, covering the full process from upstream to downstream. This includes strengthening institutional arrangements, policy alignment, investment prioritization, creation of enabling environments, and project preparation and structuring.

Target audiences

The NDC Clinic is designed for government representatives from the relevant ministries in charge of NDC development, finance and implementation. In addition, representatives from civil society, development partner institutions, the private sector, financiers including multilateral development banks, climate funds, philanthropic foundations, and regional institutions will be invited to share their perspectives and experiences to enrich the dialogue and foster collaborative approaches to climate investment planning and mobilization.

Objectives

The NDC Clinic aims to enhance participants' knowledge and capacity in planning and mobilizing climate investments, while offering practical support for peer exchange across countries. It will provide insights into key areas such as stakeholder engagement, institutional strengthening, integration of climate considerations into planning and budgeting, evidence-based investment prioritization, mapping financing sources, and programming with financial partners. The NDC Clinic will also elaborate the importance of inter-ministerial collaboration, helping to strengthen national coordination and alignment with broader policy frameworks.

Additionally, the NDC Clinic will explore strategies to attract private capital and enhance private sector engagement, including through risk mitigation instruments, blended finance, and incentives. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of financing options, progress tracking, and gaps, as well as the integration of scientific data into investment planning to maximize impact.

Outcomes

The NDC Clinic aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- i. Strengthened understanding of key policy, financial, and technical actions associated with investment planning for NDC implementation.
- ii. Improved capacity to assess progress, identify gaps, and explore opportunities to advance investment planning within national and regional contexts, while also building valuable connections and networks.
- iii. Enhanced inter-ministerial coordination to foster greater collaboration and alignment across government institutions.
- iv. Increased familiarity with available support from development agencies, multilateral development banks, financial institutions, bilateral donors, and other partners.
- v. Improved understanding of strategies to attract private capital and engage investors, including the use of incentives, risk mitigation instruments, and blended finance approaches.
- vi. Peer learning and knowledge exchange facilitated among participants to share practical experiences, lessons learned, and country-driven solutions.

A key outcome of the NDC Clinic will be the identification of country-specific priorities to inform a tailored plan for improving and scaling up investment planning and mobilization, taking into account the varying stages of experience and implementation for different countries.

NDC Clinic Structure

The NDC Clinic will be structured around four segments, each tackling various aspects of NDC investment and implementation. These segments, both individually and collectively, will support participants in assessing progress, better understanding gaps, and exploring best practices for institutional coordination and policy integration, progressively guiding them toward refining their

identified priorities. To foster collaboration, countries will be grouped into thematic or regional clusters, encouraging peer learning and alignment of priorities across similar national contexts.

The segments will provide space for participants to reflect on how the NDC update process is positioning them for effective implementation. Discussions will focus on practical strategies for unlocking finance—such as strengthening the assessment of investment needs, identifying, and evaluating financial sources, creating enabling environments, and enhancing the overall investability of NDCs. Participants will also share how key financial actors—including Ministries of Finance, central banks, national development banks, and the private sector—were engaged in the NDC update process. Additionally, countries will outline their short-, medium-, and long-term plans for moving from NDC planning to implementation.

Finally, the discussions will aim to support the development of a country-specific, tailored plan, ensuring a structured and results-oriented approach.

Overall, the NDC Clinic will adopt a highly interactive format, prioritizing dialogue, and deep-dive peer exchange over lengthy presentations. To support this, a mix of methodologies will be used, including concise keynote interventions, participatory discussions, and “clinic-style” working sessions.

- **Segment 1 – Enabling Institutional/Governance Arrangements for NDC Implementation:** This segment will focus on institutional arrangements and governance frameworks that enable effective NDC implementation, with a particular emphasis on mainstreaming climate finance. Drawing on practical experiences, it will examine what has worked, what has not, and why. Discussions will highlight strategies for cross-ministerial coordination and mainstreaming NDCs into broader national planning and budgeting processes.
- **Segment 2 – Prioritizing Investment Needs:** This segment will support countries in identifying strategies and actions to move from climate commitments to climate investments, focusing on the use of evidence-based tools and transparent reporting to mobilize both public and private finance. Emphasis will be placed on adopting a strategic and data-driven approach to guide investment planning. It will outline ways to align financing strategies with national economic and social goals, and to track progress and gaps to strengthen overall climate governance and support access to finance.
- **Segment 3 – Financial Mechanisms and Bankable Pipeline Development:** This segment will focus on strategies to engage financial institutions and private investors in NDC implementation, particularly exploring approaches for mobilizing private sector investments, blended finance mechanisms, and leveraging public finance to scale up private investment. Challenges and opportunities to enhance the investability of projects and investments will be explored.
- **Segment 4 – Roadmap for Implementation Development:** During this segment, participants will outline and define, in the form of a plan, their key priorities for implementation upon returning to their countries. This plan will serve as an implementation roadmap which offers a general overview of the concrete actions to be undertaken, support needs, potential support partners, and indicative timelines. A template will be shared in advance and formally presented during the NDC Clinic introduction session on the first day.