

International climate finance



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Facts and figure

\$100 billion: UNFCCC's International commitment to climate finance

- In 2009 at COP15 of the UNFCCC, wealthy countries committed to mobilizing \$100 billion USD per year for climate financing by 2020. At COP21 in 2015, countries committed to develop a clear road map to get there.¹

\$75.5 billion: Annual commitment to climate finance, as of 2020

- The 2020 UNFCCC assessment put average annual climate finance at \$75.5 billion, but with

an important caveat: the funds going to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) account for less than a quarter, and adaptation funding is likewise only about 20–25%.²

\$11.4 billion USD by 2024: Biden administration pledge

- In the U.S., the Biden administration has pledged to increase assistance to \$11.4 billion USD per year by 2024, including \$3 billion USD for the GCF.³ For fiscal year 2023, however, the U.S. Congress appropriated only \$1 billion USD for international climate accounts.⁴

\$2.65 billion CAD 2015–2021, \$5.3 billion CAD 2021–2026: Trudeau government pledges

- Canada: In 2021 Canada doubled its contributions to climate finance, from \$2.65 billion CAD over five years (2015–2021) to \$5.3 billion CAD over five years (2021–2026). This is equivalent to approximately \$1 billion CAD per year (or approximately 735.2 million USD), less than 1% of the USD 100 billion.⁵

1. unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/climate-finance-roadmap-to-us100-billion.pdf; unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement

2. seors.unfccc.int/applications/seors/attachments/get_attachment?code=7GFLFAGQF7HKO8N8M4ID1MEO8AUZ79JM

3. reuters.com/business/environment/us-seeks-double-climate-change-aid-developing-nations-biden-2021-09-21/

4. nytimes.com/2022/12/20/climate/congress-climate-finance-biden.html

5. canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/canada-international-action/climate-finance.html



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Definitions

Climate finance: Local, national or transnational financing — drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing — that seeks to support **mitigation** and **adaptation** actions that will address climate change.⁶

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): The United Nations entity tasked with supporting the global response to the threat of climate change. The UNFCCC has near universal membership with 198 states.⁷

The UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP): The COP is the supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC. All states that are parties to the convention are represented at the COP, at which they review the implementation of the convention and any other legal instruments that the COP adopts and take decisions necessary to promote the effective implementation of the Convention, including institutional and administrative arrangements.⁸

Green Climate Fund (GCF): The world's largest international fund devoted to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Having approved its first projects in late 2015, the GCF supports projects

and programs that promise the greatest impact in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and building resilience in lower income countries.⁹

Loss and damage: There is no official UN definition for loss and damage but it refers to the irreparable harms caused by climate change — to damage over and above what communities are able to adapt to — and how countries that caused climate change should be responsible for compensating communities for these losses. At COP27, the parties agreed to establish a new fund for loss and damages.

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6. unfccc.int/topics/introduction-to-climate-finance
7. unfccc.int/about-us/about-the-secretariat
8. unfccc.int/process/bodies/supreme-bodies/conference-of-the-parties-cop
9. interaction.org/choose-to-invest-fy-2022/multilateral-assistance/green-climate-fund/