

Sustainable Development and Low Emissions Economies

Supporting and Financing Policies towards Net Zero

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- Material role of Finance for **Green Transition** and Sustainable Development
- 3d Goal of Paris Agreement (2015): *Making finance consistent with the delivery of a net-zero* and resilient economy
- **Backbone** of bold & ambitious Policies
- Creating environmentally sound & **economically efficient** projects to promote *scalability and replicability*

The Role of Finance II

IPCC AR6 (2023)

If climate goals are to be achieved, **both adaptation and mitigation financing would need to increase many-fold**. There is sufficient global capital to close the global investment gaps but there are barriers to redirect capital to climate action. Enhancing technology innovation systems is key to accelerate the widespread adoption of technologies and practices

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- Need to ↑ **Access to Finance** especially for vulnerable regions and communities

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- *Tailored Financial Instruments* required to finance green technologies and promote adaptation & mitigation targets

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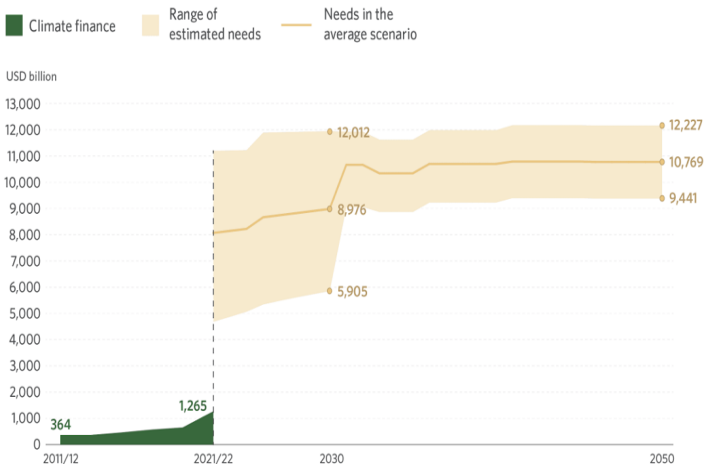
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- Clean Energy Investment must rise from **1.8 tn in 2023 to 4.5 tn** each year by the early 2030s (IEA)
- Average annual mitigation investment requirements for 2020 to 2030 for 2°C or 1.5°C → **3 - 6 x Current Levels**

Climate Finance Needs for 1.5 C)

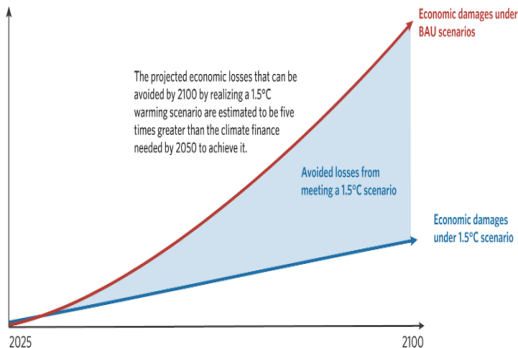
Figure ES3: Global tracked climate finance and average estimated annual needs through 2050



Source: Climate Policy Initiative

Cost of Inaction

Figure 1.3: Meeting climate investment needs will avoid exponential future costs



Economic losses that can be avoided by 2100 by realizing a 1.5°C warming scenario are estimated to be **five times greater** than the climate finance needed by 2050 to achieve it.

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- In 2022, natural disasters caused global economic losses of **\$313 billion, of which less than half was insured** (GARI, 2024)
- The 55 most *climate-vulnerable economies* alone have experienced **losses and damages of more than \$500bn** in the last two decades

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- $\frac{3}{4}$ of the funds for EU decarbonization can be **secured by reallocating** current harmful or irrelevant expenditure

Challenges in Sustainable Finance (Mazzucato, 2024)

Insufficient Funds

- The current financial flows are not enough to meet the needs for achieving the SDGs. The SDG financing gap has widened to an estimated \$3.9–7 trillion annually.

Misalignment with SDGs

- Only partial alignment of public development bank strategies with the SDGs. A survey showed that only half of the public development banks fully incorporated the SDGs into their organizational strategy.

Short-Term Focus

- Finance has been disconnected from the real economy, with a significant portion being short-term. In advanced economies, most bank lending is directed towards trading or lending against existing assets, rather than financing the creation of new productive assets

Lack of Coordination

- There is a need for enhanced coordination among global and regional MDBs and NDBs to prevent isolated planning and financing

Limited Access for Low-Income Countries

- Low-income countries face stringent international credit conditions. 60% of low-income countries are at high risk of, or already in, a state of debt distress.

Bridging the Climate Finance Gap

National-Level Action

- Governments must implement carbon pricing and reduce fossil fuel subsidies (~\$1.7 trillion in 2022).
- Public-private partnerships (PPPs) can help mobilize investment in renewables and climate adaptation.
- Policy incentives and risk-sharing mechanisms can improve private-sector engagement.

International-Level Action

- Just Energy Transition Partnerships (JETPs) (e.g., South Africa, Indonesia) show promise but require scaling up with greater grants and conditional funding.
- Stronger multilateral cooperation through G7, G20, and multilateral development banks (MDBs) to pool resources and coordinate financing efforts.
- Carbon border adjustment mechanisms (CBAMs) could create global incentives for cleaner production while raising revenue for climate finance

Sources of Climate Finance

- **Public Finance**

- ▶ **Governments**
- ▶ **Development Financial Institutions (DFIs)**
National, Multilateral, Bilateral
- ▶ **State-owned Financial Institutions & Enterprises**

- **Private Finance**

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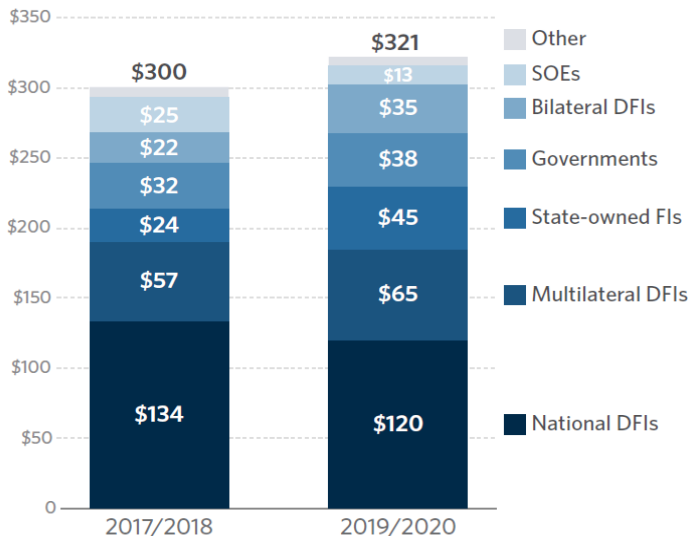
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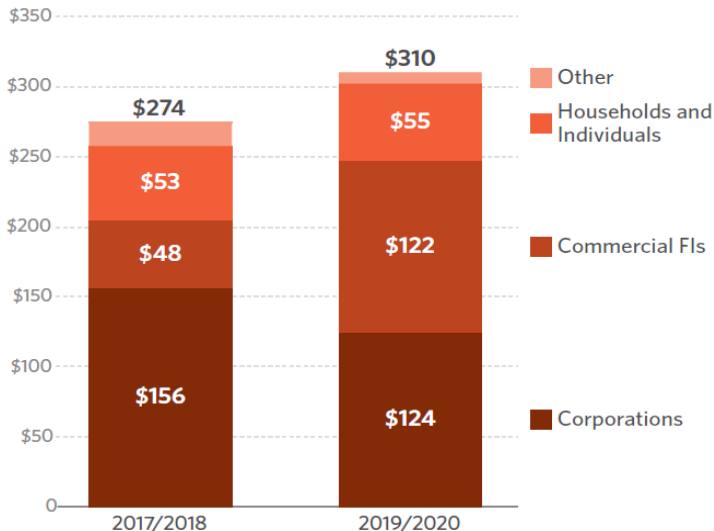
- **Private Finance**

- ▶ **Corporations**
- ▶ **Commercial Financial Institutions**
- ▶ **Households & Individuals**

Public Climate Finance



Private Climate Finance



LANDSCAPE OF CLIMATE FINANCE IN 2019/2020

Global climate finance flows along their life cycle in 2019 and 2020. Values are average of two years' data, in USD billions

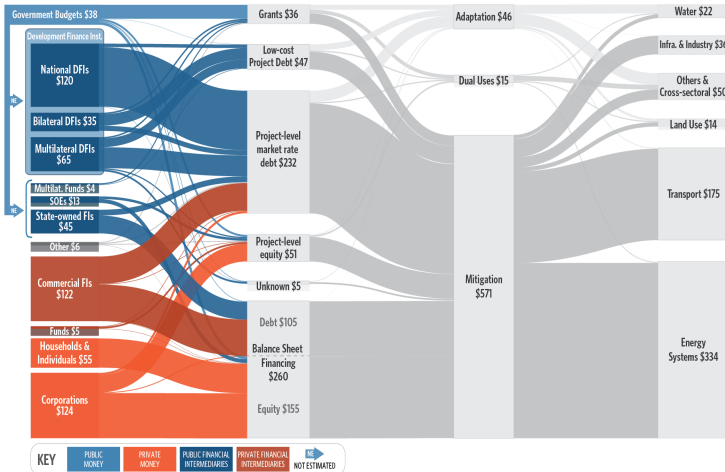
632 BN USD ANNUAL AVERAGECLIMATE
POLICY
INITIATIVE

Which type of organizations are sources or intermediaries of capital for climate finance?

What mix of financial instruments are used?

What types of activities are financed?

What is the finance used for?



Climate Finance for Countries and Regions

Public Sources

- Taxation
- User charges
- (Green) Bonds
- Subsidies
- EU Programs

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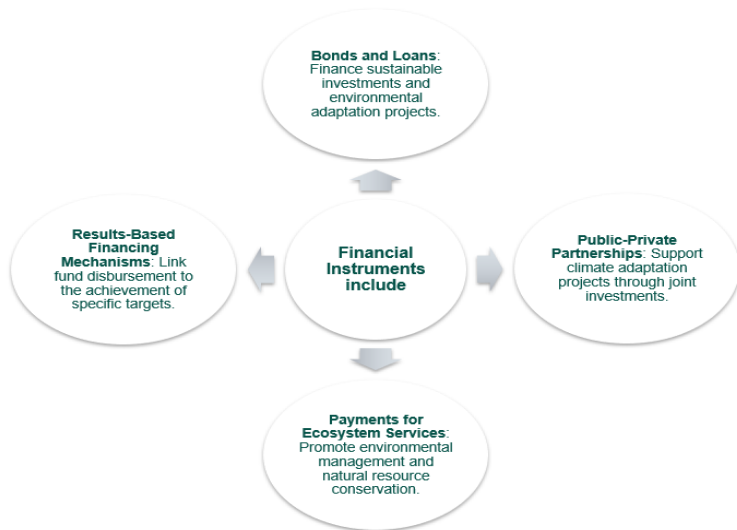
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Private Sources

- Savings - Deposits
- Stocks and Shares
- Venture Capital
- Angel Investors
- Crowdfunding

Instruments for Climate Finance



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Importance of *Intangible Assets* for Innovative Firms
 - ▶ **Embedded Knowledge in Workers**
Highly *tacit*, affects company revenue streams through labor mobility
- Need for **Innovative Financial Mechanisms**

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- **Equity Financing** more suitable
 - ▶ Experience in financing *Innovation & high-risk New Technology*
 - ▶ Stock Prices reflect **future Pollution Costs**
 - ▶ ↑ ESG portfolio of **Institutional Investors**

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- Need for *transparency and a common Taxonomy* on **Use of Proceeds**

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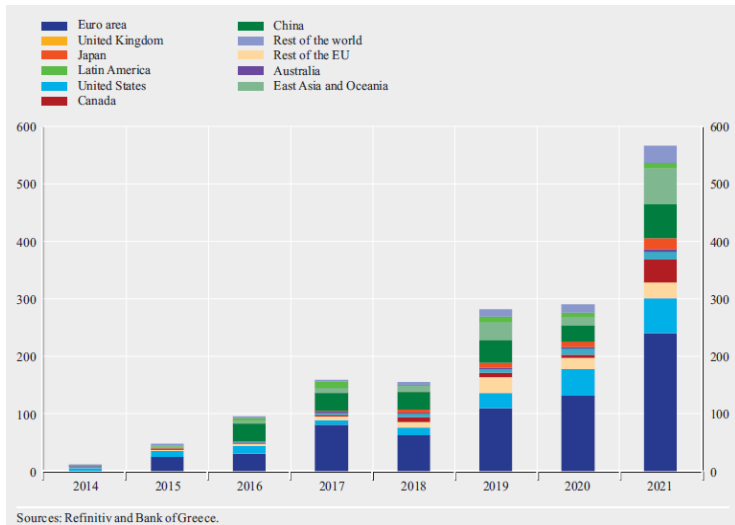
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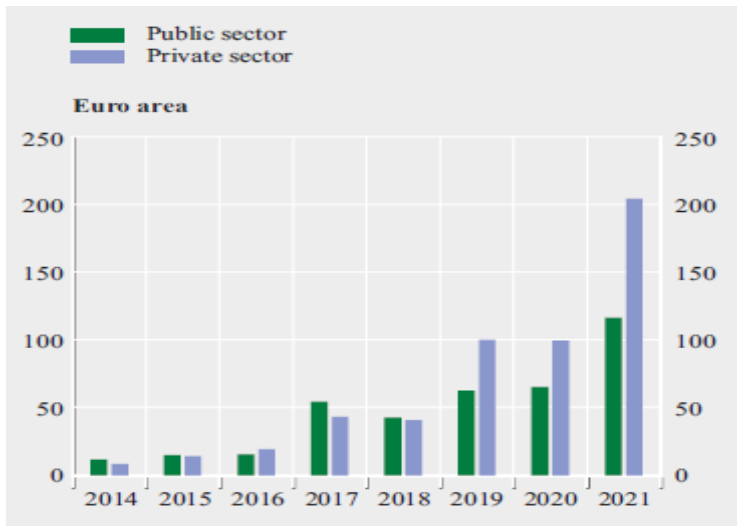
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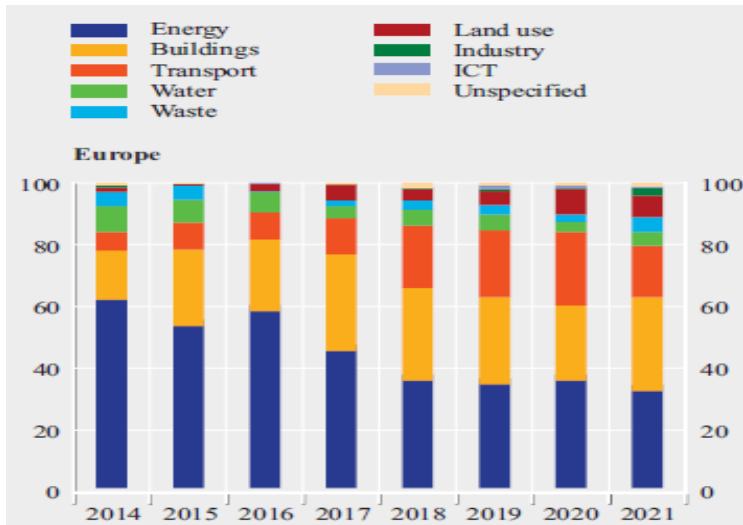
Green Bonds Market



EU Green Bonds by Sector



EU Green Bonds by Industry



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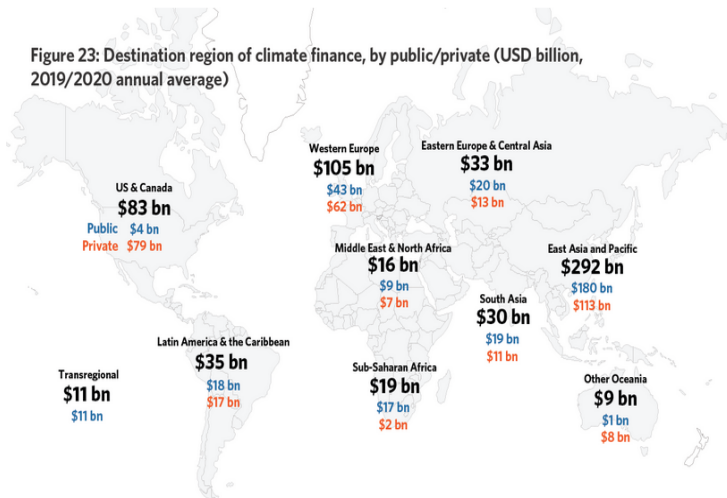
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- Net Zero Policies **at odds with Economic Development**

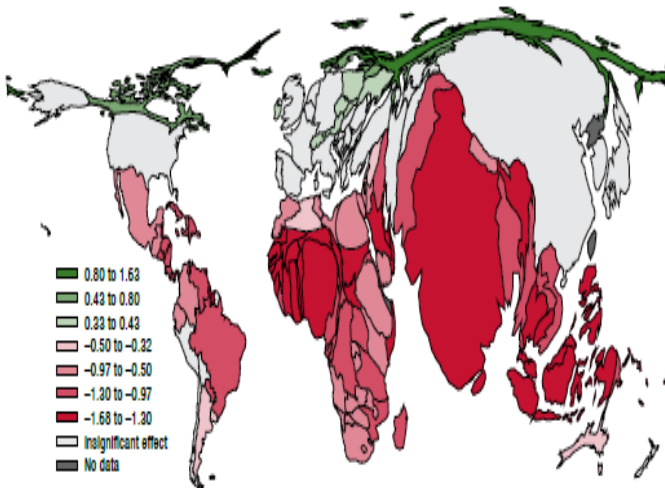
Geography of Climate Finance

Figure 23: Destination region of climate finance, by public/private (USD billion, 2019/2020 annual average)



Source: Climate Policy Initiative

Effect of 1°C rise on GDP per capita



History of Global Climate Finance

Copenhagen (COP15, 2009):

- Developed countries pledged to **mobilize \$100 billion annually by 2020** to support developing nations.
- The goal was to **help with both mitigation and adaptation efforts**.
- Funding was expected to come from **both public and private sources**.

Paris Agreement (COP21, 2015):

- Reaffirmed the **\$100 billion commitment** and extended it until **2025**.
- Introduced the goal of achieving a **balance between adaptation and mitigation finance**.
- Recognized the need for **increased finance post-2025** but did not specify amounts.

Glasgow Climate Pact (COP26, 2021):

- Developed countries **apologized for missing the \$100 billion target** and pledged to **double adaptation finance** by 2025.
- Announced a **\$40 billion adaptation finance target—which has not yet materialized**.

COP27 (2022) & COP28 (2023):

- Established a **Loss and Damage Fund** to compensate vulnerable countries.
- Recognized that climate finance must **increase beyond \$100 billion post-2025** but did not finalize a specific number.

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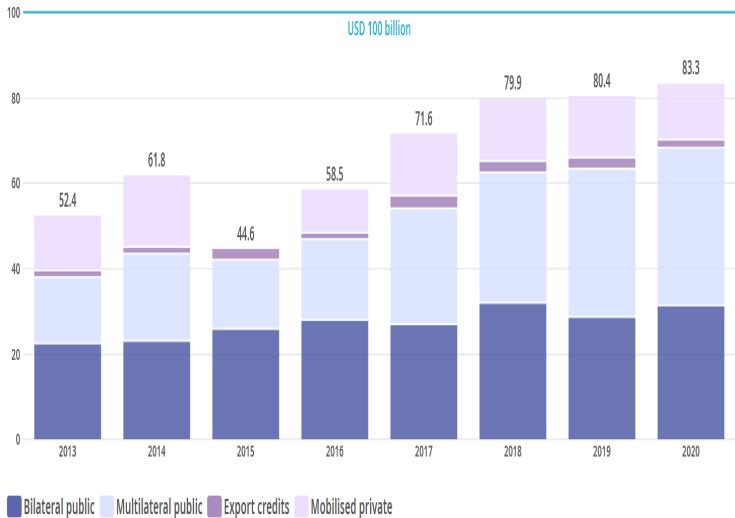
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- lower than anticipated mobilisation of *Private Finance*

Missing the 100 bn Target



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- Mobilize International Finance & Invest on *Innovative Financial Solutions*

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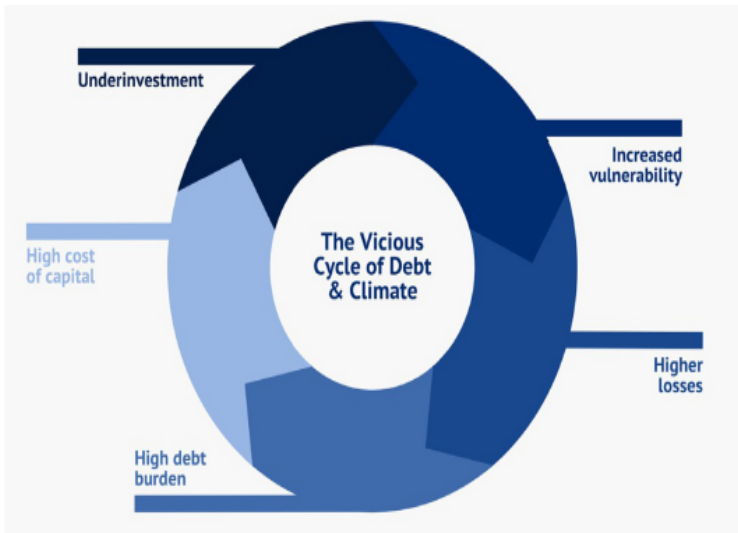
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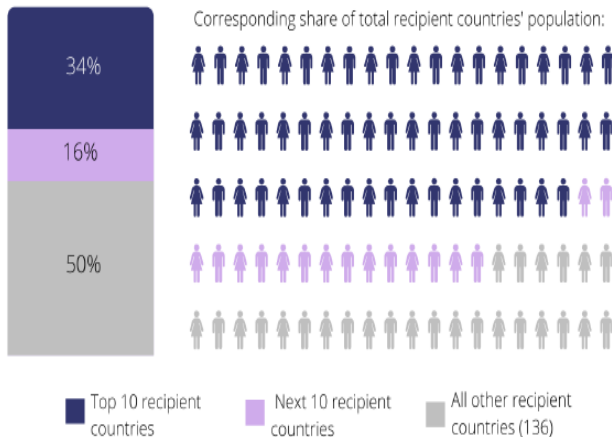
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- Future negotiations will need to define mechanisms for disbursing the funds effectively and ensure that financial flows reach the *most vulnerable*

Vicious Cycle of Climate & Debt



Climate Finance Concentration



Note: This figure does not fully reflect developing countries' differences in terms of size, population, and other socio-economic conditions.
Source: Based on Biennial Reports to the UNFCCC, OECD DAC and Export Credit Group statistics, complementary reporting to the OECD.

Ecological Debt

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- Industrialised countries have benefited from the *overuse of the planet's resources* → debt to less developed nations.
- Unfair (historical and current) **trade practices, pollution, and resource extraction** contribute to this debt
- Recognizing ecological debt highlights the **need for reparations and just climate action**

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- **Equador Galabagos Bond (2023)**
 - ▶ **\$1.6 billion debt swap** replacing existing bonds with low-interest climate bonds
 - ▶ \$450 million over 18 years for marine conservation *saving 1.1 billion* in debt service repayments

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- Mitigation projects continue to dominate global climate finance, accounting for 90% of the total

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- Adaptation requires **cross-sector collaboration**, which can face resistance due to silo thinking

Barriers to Adaptation Finance

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- **Knowledge & Awareness Barriers**

- ▶ Lack of information, understanding, and expertise regarding climate risks and adaptation options

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- **Socio-cultural and Behavioral Barriers**

- ▶ Social norms, cultural values, and individual behaviors

- **Knowledge & Awareness Barriers**

- ▶ Lack of information, understanding, and expertise regarding climate risks and adaptation options

- **Political, Institutional and Governance Barriers**

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Barriers to Adaptation Finance

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- **Technological Barriers**

- ▶ Inefficient/Absent innovation systems; Data gaps

Manifestation of Barriers

Access Financial Resources

Leverage Financial Resources

Economic and Market Barriers

Low levels of business sophistication and small size hinder access to financial capital for the private sector

Financial resources allocated to targets other than adaptation, for example high unemployment and the recent cost-of-living crisis

Socio-cultural and Behavioral Barriers

Lack of recognition for the urgency of climate adaptation measures

Inadequate community engagement and behavioural lock-ins hamper the long-term viability of adaptation projects

Knowledge & Awareness Barriers

Poor identification of tailored funding opportunities and procedures

Lack of knowledgeable actors engaging in adaptation actions and managerial/informational shortcomings

Political, Institutional and Governance Barriers

Low effort from myopic regional & national governments

Governance failures result in the misdirection of scarce financial resources away from impactful adaptation projects

Technological Barriers

Lack of innovative firms/networks to design transformational adaptation solutions to attract capital

No functioning innovation systems and low inter-sectoral cooperation thwarts the efficiency and bankability of adaptation projects

EU (non) Awareness

- More than 60% of Global Adaptation Finance comes from Public Sources
- There are **many different sources and instruments** that could theoretically be used for adaptation
- Cities and Regions require assistance to raise **Awareness**
- **Enabling Conditions** for different Sources of Finance need to be developed

Table 5 - Q. Which sources of adaptation financing have you used, do you intend to use, do you know or don't you know?

Sources of adaptation financing	I have used	I intend to use	I know	I don't know
Cohesion Policy Funds (ERDF, Interreg)	48%	26%	14%	11%
LIFE Programme	31%	31%	24%	14%
European Rural Development funds	22%	21%	30%	28%
Horizon Europe	25%	44%	20%	11%
Other EU funds	27%	26%	18%	29%
European Investment Bank financing	9%	12%	32%	47%
Private/commercial banking financing	8%	10%	31%	50%
National funds	62%	19%	11%	8%
Regional funds	52%	17%	12%	19%
Own local funds	56%	14%	10%	20%
Other	7%	12%	12%	69%

Source: European Commission, 2023.

Financing the Green Transition in the EU

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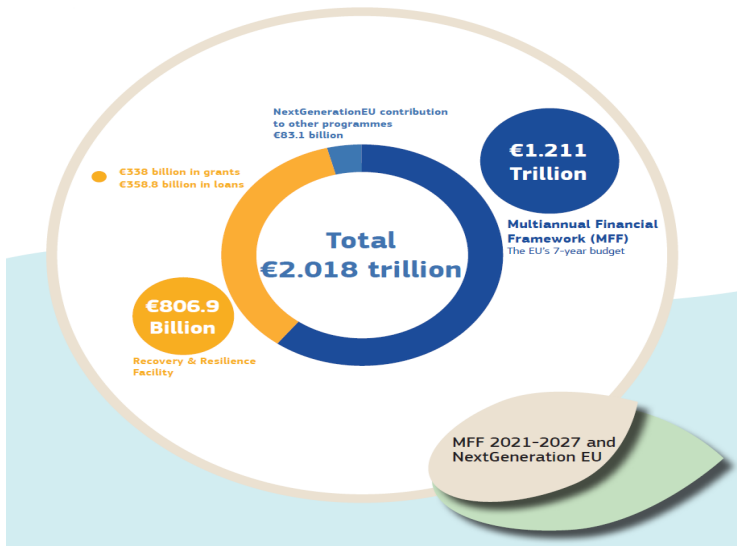
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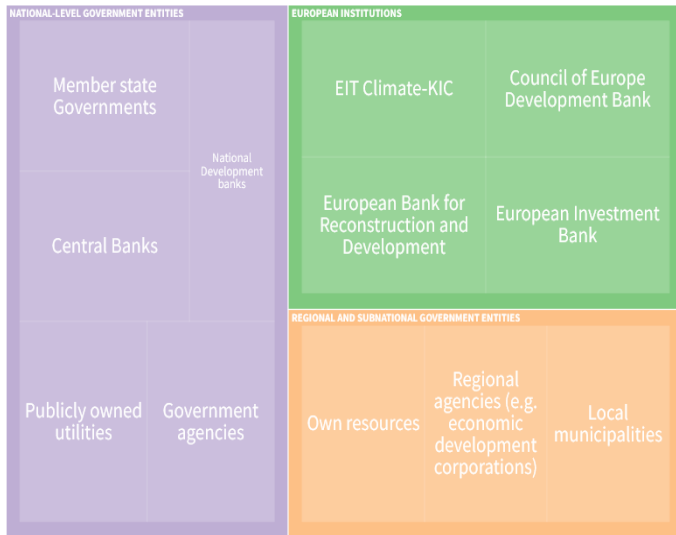
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- **Contribution to international Climate Finance**

Multiannual Financial Framework



Public Climate Finance EU



Private Climate Finance EU



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- Financing Public & Private Sector
 - ▶ *Direct Loans* for large companies and public entities
 - ▶ *Framework Loans* for Climate Investment Portfolios
- *Technical Assistance*
 - ▶ Study the **needs** of Industries & Regions
 - ▶ Guide projects → access to financing
 - ▶ Mobilize *innovative* financial solutions

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- At least 30% dedicated to **Climate Objectives**

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- ▶ *User-friendly database* bringing together investors and project promoters

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- Provides **guidance** on mainstreaming for *climate proofing*
- Specific set of outputs and results that have to be met as part of the programme

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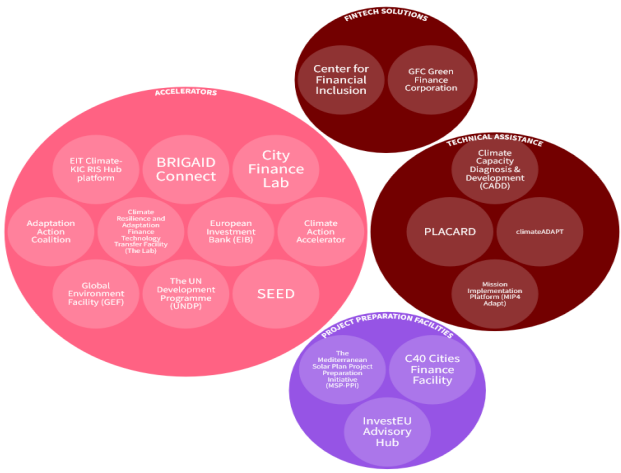
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- **Instruments: Grants, Prizes & Procurement**

Climate Solutions Tools



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identifies and supports for CC Mitigation and Adaptation
 - ▶ *New Products and Services* related to CCA & CCM
 - ▶ Identify & Leverage **public & private funds**
→ Green Innovation
 - ▶ **ClimAccelerator** : Start-ups → sustainable Solutions
 - ▶ Encouraging *New Ideas* through **Climathons**

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- Foster *Innovative Solutions* in
 - ▶ Low Carbon Energy – transition & efficiency
 - ▶ Low Carbon Logistics
 - ▶ Waste Management
 - ▶ Climate Adaptation
 - ▶ Alternative propulsion systems and new ship designs

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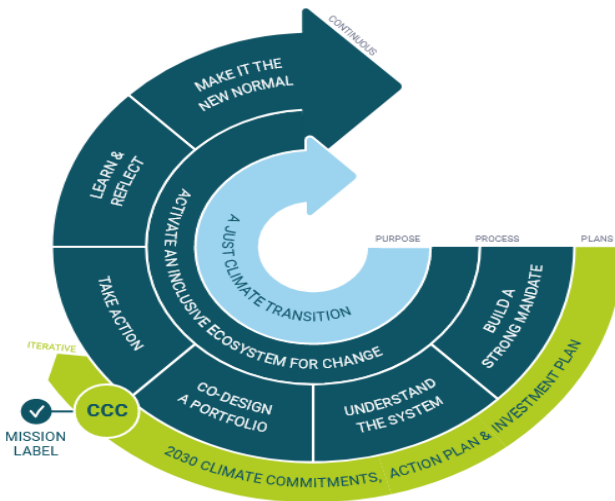
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- *Finance Guidance Tool*
 - ▶ Interactive Tool to **estimate costs and identify financing sources and mechanisms** for climate action in 5 key sectors

Climate Transition Journey - Climate neutral Cities



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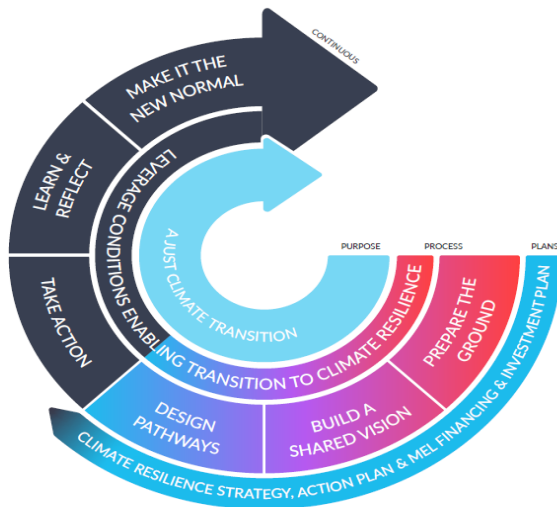
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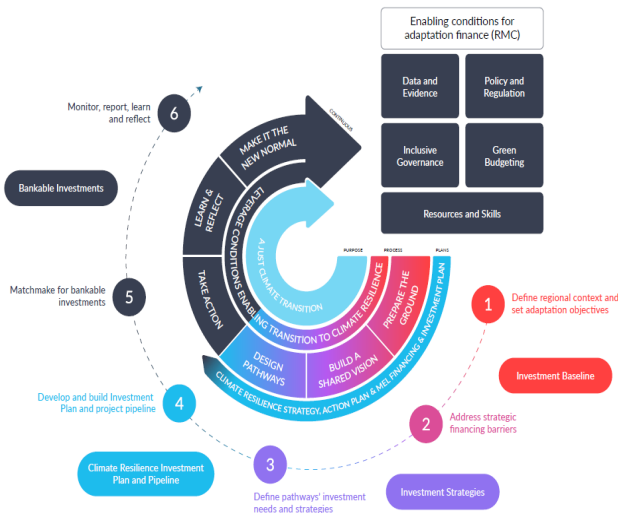
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- Total budget 30 m. EUR → 21 m. for the Regions

Regional Resilience Journey



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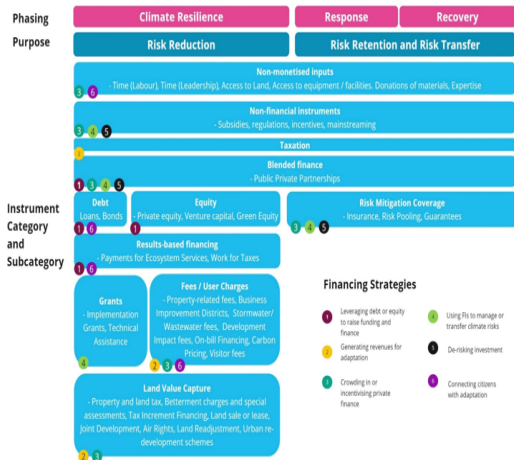
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- **Searchable** database of EU, national, and private funding programmes
 - ▶ Guidance on project development and innovative models (e.g., green bonds, ESCOs)
 - ▶ Linked with technical assistance initiatives (e.g., ELENA, PDA, LIFE)

P2R Catalogue for Adaptation Finance

Excel tool of 57 sources.
78 instruments and 169
best practices.

Designed as a practical
reference tool to support
development of
Investment Plan and
bankable projects.

Provides detailed insights
(e.g. what matters to
particular sources, typical
financing).



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 - ▶ Transition to renewable energy
 - ▶ Adaptation to climate impacts
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- Establishment of **Climate Fund** fund mitigation and adaptation projects
- 50% from the **CO2 emissions tax on vehicles** with mechanical traction
+ 20% from **taxes on environmentally impactful facilities**

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- Criteria for labeling activities as *Sustainable*
- Common *science-based* classification of economic activities significantly contributing to **environmental objectives**
- **Ongoing Procedure** described [Here](#)
- Necessary to scale-up Investment in Green & Sustainable Projects
 - ▶ Minimize the risk of *greenwashing*

EU Taxonomy Guide

What the EU Taxonomy is

A classification system to establish clear definitions of what is an environmentally sustainable economic activity

Tool to help investors and companies to make informed investment decisions on environmentally sustainable activities for the purpose of determining the degree of sustainability of an investment

Reflecting technological and policy developments: The Taxonomy will be updated regularly

Facilitating transition of polluting sectors

Technology neutral

Fostering Transparency by disclosures for financial market participants and large companies related to the Taxonomy

What the EU Taxonomy is not

It's not a mandatory list to invest in

It's not a rating of the "greenness" of companies

It does not make any judgement on the financial performance of an investment

What's not green is not necessarily brown. Activities that are not on the list, are not necessarily polluting activities. The focus is simply on activities that contribute substantially to environmental objectives.

EU Taxonomy Eligible Activities



1

Climate change
mitigation



2

Climate change
adaptation



3

Sustainable use and
protection of water and
marine resources



4

Transition to a
circular economy



5

Pollution prevention
and control



6

Protection and restoration
of biodiversity and
ecosystems

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 - ▶ **Supervision by the European Securities Markets Authority (ESMA)**
Ensure quality of services and protect investors

Just Transition to Net Zero

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 - ▶ Leave no one behind

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 - ▶ 1% of Employment in Developed and 2.5% in Developing Economies (IMF)
- Imperative to complement Policies for Net Zero with Policies promoting **Social Justice and Social Cohesion**

Just Transition in the EU

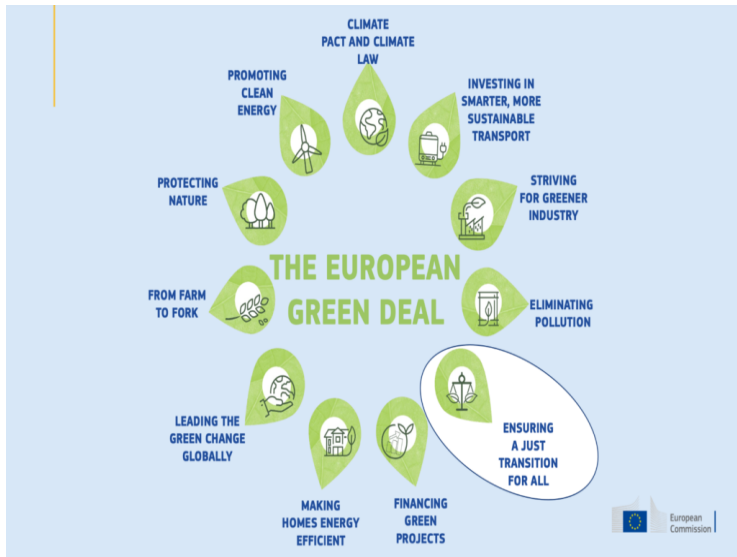
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- Integral Part of the **EU Green Deal**
- EU Just Transition → **Just Transition Mechanism**

Just Transition in the EU

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- EU Just Transition → **Just Transition Mechanism**
 - ▶ Mobilises around **€55 billion** over 2021-2027 in the *most affected regions*
 - ▶ Alleviates the socio-economic impact of the Green Transition
 - ▶ Primarily aimed at *Carbon Regions* and workers in the Fossil Fuel Industry
 - ▶ ↑ Social Cohesion and ↓ Regional Disparities

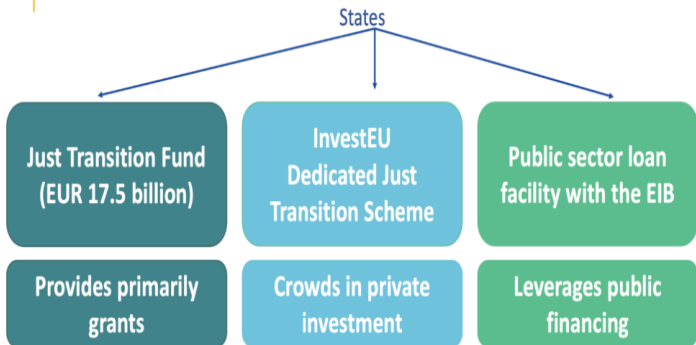
Just Transition in the EGD



EU Just Transition Mechanism

Just Transition Mechanism

to support and finance regions most exposed to transition challenges in all Member States



The JTM includes a governance framework centered on territorial just transition plans

- Support Green transition for *EU regions that rely on fossil-fuel and high-emission industries*
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 - ▶ up- and reskilling of workers
 - ▶ Job-search assistance
 - ▶ Investments in SMEs
 - ▶ Environmental rehabilitation & clean energy
 - ▶ Transformation of existing carbon-intensive installation

Properties of Just Transition

① Locally driven

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- ▶ Strong mechanisms to ensure *social dialogue*

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② Targeted welfare and labour policies included

- ▶ Consistent with other *EU and National Policies*

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