



**RIOMARKERS**

Joint OECD DAC ENVIRONET-WP-STAT Workshop on Partner Country Perspectives for Tracking  
Domestic and International Climate- and Biodiversity-Related Finance  
19-20 May 2015  
OECD, PARIS, FRANCE

Main Points of Discussion

This document presents a summary of the main points of discussion of the Workshop on Partner Country Perspectives for Tracking Domestic and International Climate- and Biodiversity-Related Finance of the Joint ENVIRONET-WP-STAT Task Team, held on 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>st</sup> May 2015 at the OECD in Paris, France.

**Contacts:**

Stephanie Ockenden, DCD/GPP, Tel: +(33-1) 45 24 15 23, Email: [Stephanie.OCKENDEN@oecd.org](mailto:Stephanie.OCKENDEN@oecd.org)

Gisela Campillo, DCD/GPP, Tel: +(33-1) 45 24 18 19, Email: [Gisela.CAMPILLO@oecd.org](mailto:Gisela.CAMPILLO@oecd.org)

JOINT OECD DAC ENVIRONET-WP-STAT WORKSHOP ON PARTNER COUNTRY  
PERSPECTIVES FOR TRACKING DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE- AND  
BIODIVERSITY-RELATED FINANCE

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**Main Points of Discussion**

**Introduction**

1. The OECD DAC Workshop on Partner Country Perspectives for Tracking Domestic and International Climate- and Biodiversity-Related Finance was held at the OECD Conference Centre on May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The workshop was followed by the Fourth Experts Meeting of the Joint ENVIRONET and WP-STAT Task team on OECD Rio markers, environment and development finance statistics.
2. The objectives of the workshop were:
  - To facilitate a dialogue between the DAC, partner countries and stakeholders on approaches and challenges to track domestic and international climate- and biodiversity- related finance in partner countries;
  - To explore the partner country perspective of OECD DAC environmental statistics, in particular the climate- and biodiversity-related “Rio markers”, on areas such as the understanding, access and relevance of these data;
  - To provide insights for the discussion on fine-tuning the “Rio marker” definitions and methodology that will take place during the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Joint ENVIRONET-WP-STAT Task Team to Improve the Rio Markers, Environment and Development Finance Statistics (20-21 May 2015).
3. Attendance was high and included representatives from OECD DAC countries, representatives and experts from partner countries ( Colombia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Viet Nam and Zambia), international organisations (the United Nations Environment program (UNEP), the UN Development Programme (UNDP)), Development Finance Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks (KfW Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the Development Bank for Latin America (CAF), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), The World Bank (WB)), secretariats of the Rio conventions (the Global Mechanism of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), research institutes (the Overseas development Institute (ODI), E3G, the German Development Institute (DIE), and Climate Analytics). (Please find the full participants list in Annex I).
4. Mr. Jon Lomøy (*Director, OECD DAC Secretariat*) provided the opening remarks and welcomed the participants to the workshop, followed by co-facilitators Mr. Matti Numelin (*ENVIRONET Chair (Finland)*) and Mr. Maher Mamhikoff (*WP-STAT Chair (Canada)*). Dr. Amal-Lee Amin, *ENVIRONET Member (E3G)* also acted as co-facilitator for session 3.

**Session 1: Overview of OECD DAC environmental statistics and recent progress to improve these.**

5. Ms. Stephanie Ockenden and Ms. Mariana Mirabile (*OECD DAC Secretariat*) provided an overview of the OECD DAC environment-related development finance statistics, in particular climate-related statistics, and recent progress made to improve these. This includes the integration of bilateral and multilateral climate-related development finance statistics into the DAC statistical framework which has increased transparency, improved the availability of

project level data and allows for a detailed recipient and provider perspective in order to avoid double counting, supporting consistency and robustness. The OECD DAC Secretariat has been working towards improving the accessibility and visualisation of the data in order to improve the usefulness for DAC members and partner countries.

### **Session 2a: Dialogue on Partner Country Approaches and Challenges in Tracking Climate and Biodiversity-related Finance.**

6. This session focused on partner country approaches, experiences and challenges encountered when tracking domestic climate- and biodiversity-related finance flows. The presentations provided by Mexico, Peru, Colombia drew insights from partner country definitions, methodologies and tools currently used or planned to track domestic and international biodiversity- and climate-related flows. The insights provided by UNDP and Grupo de Financiamiento Climático para América Latina y el Caribe (GFLAC) aimed at sharing the experience in the Asia-Pacific and Latin America regions in terms of access to data and priority within the relevant ministries.
7. The presentation by Ms. Neydi Cruz (*Deputy Director General for International Cooperation and International Affairs at the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico*), highlighted the advances of Mexico in the development and implementation of domestic tracking initiatives to track climate finance. Currently five initiatives are tracking climate finance: three of them governmental and two non-governmental. The presentation further raised the issue of responsibility among the different government agencies in tracking climate finance, noting that Mexico passed a Law creating a specific climate change agency. Mexico plays a pivotal role as both a recipient and a donor in the climate finance arena, and the challenges associated with tracking international and domestic are strong, in particular with respect to co-financing and blended funds. Ms. Cruz pointed out that for the Mexican Government the focus is more on results rather than on quantification of flows, and noted that within the Government the knowledge on Rio markers methodology is scarce.
8. Ms. Verónica Villena Cardich, (*Climate Change Office, Ministry of Environment of Peru*) presented the Peruvian experience in tracking climate finance. The Peru climate Change Strategy approved in 2003 serves as a framework for all activities related to climate change in the country and defines institutional arrangements. However, each ministry and agency involved in climate change accounting has different definitions and systems. Examples of challenges included budget tracking of mainstreamed activities and of sectoral support for capacity building. Since 2012 Peru launched a new financial tool to track public domestic expenditures and it included a budget item for climate change-related activities. This is based on tracking the full value of activities and it was noted that it was not as accurate as it could be owing to challenges and limited capacity.
9. In terms of international finance, the national agency for the management of international cooperation within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducted an analysis of international climate finance in Peru in 2013; but the DAC statistics were not used as they were not sufficiently known. Overall Ms. Villena highlighted that the main tracking challenges surround definitions and methodological challenges, together with the need for local level capacity building.
10. Mr. Jorge Iván Escalante Castellanos, (*Presidential Agency for International Co-operation, Colombia*), presented the challenges in tracking international cooperation in climate and biodiversity in Colombia. Mr. Escalante outlined the Unified system for Public Investment (SUIFP) that identifies climate change investments. A main challenge identified by Colombia is the difficulty to define climate change activities at the project level, and classify them according to the markers for climate-related or biodiversity-related development finance.

Important efforts are being made to centralise Colombia's climate finance data collection and to apply the CRS system. Finally it was noted that tracking initiatives should create dialogues to consider opportunities and best practices.

11. Mr. Tom Beloe (*United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)*) stressed the importance of articulating climate finance in a language familiar with Ministries of Finance in order to improve engagement and discussion. This could include a benefits based approach (drawing on economic evidence). Based on UNDP's experience with the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Reviews (CPEIRs) significant benefits are recognised from systematic coding and budget tracking systems for climate activities. UNDP are currently looking to consolidate data into a CPEIR database but significant challenges arise in terms of comparability in approaches within and across governments. There is significant interest to collaborate to explore the interface between the CPEIR domestic tracking approaches and OECD DAC international tracking systems.
12. Ms. Sandra Guzman, *GFLAC*, presented on GFLAC's experiences in building methods to track climate finance in Latin America. It was highlighted that the main challenge related to how to define and classify climate change activities, in particular in reflecting country contexts. Ms. Guzman noted the importance of not only identifying how much is invested in climate-related activities, but also in tracking activities that are causing the problem. The need for improved transparency and access to information was highlighted as key to both governments and civil society, and with respect to both finance and results in order to improve effectiveness.

### **Session 2b: Dialogue on Partner Country Approaches and Challenges in Tracking Climate and Biodiversity-related Finance (continued).**

13. This session focused on partner country approaches, experiences and challenges encountered when tracking international climate- and biodiversity-related finance flows. The first part of the session was focused on learning from the experience of South East Asian countries.
14. Ms. Ria Sartika Azhari and Mr. Hageng Suryo Nugroho, (*Centre for Climate Change Finance and Multilateral Policy, Ministry of Finance, Indonesia*), presented the experience of Indonesia in tracking biodiversity-related finance. In 2011 the Government performed an in depth analysis of the public expenditure in climate change, evaluating data from 11 ministries and surveying data from national and international sources. Indonesia have developed a climate tracking within their budget tracking system – were all climate expenditure are “tagged”. The focus is to increase the quality of expenditure and accountability. It was noted in discussion that Indonesia's climate budget tracking system is a leading international example. Challenges were highlighted in tracking data at the activity level, and in capacity to undertake this especially at the municipal level.
15. Colleagues in Indonesia reflected on the OECD DAC Rio markers and had undertaken an exercise to compare this with official databases held by the Ministries of Planning and of Finance. A limited share of OECD DAC climate-related development finance statistics were captured in Indonesia's official data. It was highlighted that one significant source of discrepancy could be off budget flows, as well as timing issues between commitments (in the DAC data) and disbursements to Indonesia and by the Indonesian Ministry of Finance to other ministries. Colleagues from Indonesia emphasised to members that it was very useful for their development planning if donors could report and register off budget expenditures and future plans also.

16. Ms. Nguyen Thi Dieu Trinh, (*Ministry of Planning and Investment, Viet Nam*) presented the experience of the country in tracking international climate-related finance. In the framework of Viet Nam's Green Growth Strategy, efforts are being undertaken to account for the needs for green finance in order to demonstrate Viet Nam's commitment to these issues and for effective co-ordination. Viet Nam is engaging in a series of activities to track its climate finance flows, including a Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review (CPEIR) and a mapping exercise. Ms. Thi Dieu Trinh put emphasis in the complicated nature of climate finance flows that had been identified through these initiatives and the difficulties to link policy with finance. Owing to capacity constraints and challenges Viet Nam only has a fragmented picture of green finance flows in country. The range of different tracking approaches was also noted, and that developing more common approach could be useful for countries, for example across the UNDP CPEIR and OECD DAC Rio marker methodology.
17. Mr. John Adrian Narag, (*Department of Finance, Philippines*) provided an overview of the experience in tracking climate- and biodiversity-related finance in the Philippines. Regarding climate change tracking expenditure, Philippines produced a CPEIR in 2011 with support of the World Bank, which resulted increased efforts to integrate climate change into budget planning and management tools, like for example through the establishment of a helpdesk to support agencies in their budget recording. In terms of biodiversity efforts, the country follows a performance based budget approach, and are partnering strongly with UNDP in this area. The focus is on the delivered results and in achieving maximum transparency. They are aiming at enhancing the reporting system throughout the government agencies and capture financing flows, including a better understanding on climate tracking.
18. Mr. David Meyers, (*The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) at UNDP*) presented the main activities led by the Initiative, such as Policy and Institutional reviews, Biodiversity reviews, Biodiversity finance needs and gaps and resource mobilisation efforts. The Initiative is actively preparing dissemination materials and tools and engaging with relevant partners.
19. Mr. Dave Steinbach (*International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)*), presented recent work in collaboration with Ethiopia, Rwanda, Nepal and Bangladesh looking at the effectiveness of climate finance delivery. Some of the lessons learned include the significant differences encountered at the national level between reported flows and what the government receives (mostly due to off budget support); the strong leadership of countries in developing strategies and having an integrated approach to both mitigation and adaptation. Mr. Steinbach also reports and increased focus on public private partnerships, and an increasing interest at analysing the impact of leveraging on domestic finance.
20. The main points of discussion were as follows:
- Challenges in classification of climate change-related expenditures and finance: in general, the countries feel like the definitions are not clear enough, leading to poor classification.
  - Difficulties in adjusting national system to track climate and biodiversity activities: existing system are not always adapted properly to climate and biodiversity-related tracking needs, and the crosscutting nature of the activities further adds to the risks of duplication or insufficient tracking of flows.
  - Limited capacity of personnel in ministries to track climate and biodiversity flows: the technical needs are higher than the capacity in general. This area must be strengthened.
  - Alignment between national policies and climate-and biodiversity-related finance is needed and is key for the Ministries of the countries.

- Differences in approaches between CRS and national systems lead to technical challenges. Although it is not expected that a global system replaces a national system, it is important to harmonize approaches to be complementary.
- In order to establish links between national strategies and climate-related finance, the cost and benefits need to be included in the planning process.
- Private sector finance remains an issue, it is essential to capture its finance and to find incentives to participate and finance activities.

**Session 3:** Perspectives for Improving the OECD DAC Climate- and Biodiversity-related Development Finance Statistics.

21. This session focused on how OECD DAC data can be further enhanced to improve the partner country perspective and experiences, including reflections on the use and relevance of OECD DAC data by partner countries.
22. Mr. David Kaluba (*National Climate Change Secretariat, Ministry of Finance, Zambia*) presented the experience of Zambia in tracking climate-related finance. In the framework of Zambia's inclusive green growth approach, the Zambian government sets as objective that a real increase of 25% in key sectors regarding climate resilient programmes. Early results suggest that an 8% increase has happened. However Mr. Kaluba recognizes the need to improve the current tracking systems and expand the tracking to disbursements, as the public budget is not properly organized to recognize climate finance and does not distinguish clearly between adaptation and mitigation.
23. Mr. Appukuttan Nair Damodaran, (*Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, India*) presented India's Climate Finance Resource Assessment Exercise on Rio markers and other Tracking tools. Mr. Damodaran insisted on the need to harmonize national methodologies with the OECD methodology, and build awareness at the federal and state levels. Also, Mr. Damodaran highlighted the importance of sharing the results of the pilot tracking exercises, and of modifying the taxonomy for biodiversity vs. climate change.
24. Ms. Andrea Iro (*Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Germany*) shared Germany's experience with 4 countries (Ghana, Chile, Dominican republic and Philippines) to develop capacity on national statistics and harmonize approaches. GIZ developed a Climate Finance readiness Training tool to help countries navigate the mentioned complexity. It should also enable them to identify ways to enhance capacities in their countries towards climate finance readiness. Ms. Iro further raised the issue of balancing between a snapshot approach (such as a public climate expenditure review) or investing in labor intensive systematic integration.
25. Mr. Sudo Tomonori, (*JICA Research Institute, Japan*) presented Japan's marking approach. Mr. Tomonori introduced JICA's Climate Finance Impact Tool (Fit). This tool that offers both methodologies to implement MRVS systems to mitigation projects to calculate and estimate GHG emission reductions, as well as guidelines to mainstream adaptation concepts into projects. He also stressed the importance of the Rio markers as mainstreaming tool for biodiversity and climate change and recommended the introduction of the Rio markers as mandatory in the project formulation process.
26. Ms. Smita Nakhoda, Climate and Environment, Overseas Development Institute (ODI) offered her insights on the marking process, and noted that studies had shown that up to a quarter of the projects in DAC stats need to be recoded due to difficulties in the understanding of the definitions. She stressed the need to provide more precise guidance on what can be considered adaptation at the country context in order to support improvements in data. The

more accurate the data reporting is the more confident will the stakeholders be in the process. Ms. Nakhoda also proposed that progress in the context of ODA should be carried to non-concessional flows as well, and posed the question of how to judge if the development portfolio is climate adequate. Ms. Nakhoda also insisted on the relevance of the improvements in results management systems, in particular in regard to the adaptation marker.

27. The main points of discussion were as follows:

- There is a need to adapt to current climate finance landscape and include diversity of flows. Often the larger flows identified for mitigation don't reflect the priorities, as adaptation continues to be vital for many partner countries and therefore for donors.
- An urgent need has been identified to improve data reporting through improved understanding and clear definitions of categories
- There is an identified need to improve domestic climate budget categories in order to improve systematic tracking. Several members commented on the differences between tracking at the national level vs. tracking international finance.
- The mismatch between donor marking on Rio Markers and recipients own system is an issue. Therefore emphasis should be put on harmonising methodologies, although the members agree the aim is not to have a global system that replaces any national systems.
- Adaptation continues to be a sensitive sector to define categories and activities.
- An important part of the discussion revolved around the consideration of applications or Rio markers for resource mobilisation and evaluation of resource effectiveness.

#### **Session 4: Update on the Partnership for Climate Finance and Development and Post-2015 Dialogues**

28. The Partnership for Climate Finance and Development is a voluntary initiative promoting the deployment and effective use of climate finance at country-level through coherence and collaboration among climate change, finance and development co-operation communities at the country, regional and global levels.

29. Ms. Jan Corfee-Morlot (*OECD DAC Secretariat*) and Mr. Tom Beloe, (*UNDP*) debriefed the participants on the activities on the partnership in 2015, as well as on two recent informal dialogues organised by ENVIRONET on the post 2015 agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The Partnership builds upon the approach that environment, climate and development issues are fundamentally related –reflected in wide number of proposed SDGs.

30. After a series of events (April 2014 in Mexico; February 2015, and April 2015 in Paris) the ways forward of the partnership include fostering a holistic, joined up and integrated approach to implementation, looking for policy and financial coherence and avoiding fragmentation. This can only be possible by building local and global partnerships to tackle the challenges and opportunities on each particular context.

#### **Further information:**

The presentations from the Workshop on Partner Country Perspectives for Tracking Domestic and International Climate- and Biodiversity-Related Finance of the Task Team are available online [here](#).



**Workshop on Partner Country Perspectives for Tracking Domestic and International Climate- and Biodiversity-Related Finance**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Co-facilitators:**

**Mr. Matti Numelin**, *ENVIRONET Chair (Senior Environmental Adviser, Department for Development Policy Ministry for Foreign Affairs (Finland))*

**Dr. Amal-Lee AMIN**, *ENVIRONET Member (Associate Director - International Climate Finance, Third Generation Environmentalism(E3G))*

**Mr. Maher Mamhikoff**, *Chair of the OECD DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics (Canada)*

**Australia/Australie**

**Ms. Karen MACLENNAN** *Director ODA Statistics and Reporting  
External Budget Branch  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade*

**Austria/Autriche**

**Ms. Hedwig RIEGLER** *TBK Technical Consultancy*

**Belgium/Belgique**

**Mr. Patrick HOLLEBOSCH** *In charge of Program  
FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation*

**Mr. Ludo ROCHETTE** *1st Secretary International Cooperation  
FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation*

**Ms. Els VAN DE VELDE** *Adviser International Policy  
Flemish Ministry of Environment, Nature and Energy*

**Canada**

**Mr. Maarten DE GROOT** *Sr. Environment Policy Advisor  
Food Security and Environment  
Foreign Affairs and International Trade*

**Mr. Maher MAMHIKOFF** *Manager, Statistical Analysis  
Chief Financial Officer Branch  
Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development*

**Denmark/Danemark**

**Mr. Ole Jacob HJØLLUND** *IT-Architect  
Quality Assurance of Development Assistance (KVA)  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**Ms. Sabrina MEINECKE** *Head of section  
Department for Quality Assurance of Development Assistance,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**EU/UE**

**Mr. Jens FUGL** *Policy Officer  
DG DEVCO*

**Finland/Finlande**

**Mr. Matti NUMMELIN** *ENVIRONET Chair  
Senior Environmental Adviser, Department for Development Policy  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

**Germany/Allemagne**

**Ms. Marianne ALKER** *Advisor, Environment and Climate Change  
Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)  
GmbH*

<b>Ms. Marianna KNIRSCH</b>	<i>Advisor Biodiversity Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)</i>
<b>Ms. Andrea IRO</b>	<i>GIZ - Advisor commissioned by BMZ Special Unit 'Climate'</i>
<b>Mr. Benjamin HODICK</b>	<i>Senior technical advisor Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)</i>
	<b>Japan/Japon</b>
<b>Ms. Asami TAKEDA</b>	<i>Researcher Permanent Delegation of Japan to the OECD</i>
<b>Mr. Tomonori SUDO</b>	<i>Senior Research Fellow Office for Global Issues and Development Partnerships, Operations Strategy Department Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)</i>
	<b>Korea/Corée</b>
<b>Ms. Yoon Jeong KOO</b>	<i>Senior Representative - Kexim Bank The Permanent Delegation of Korea to the OECD</i>
<b>Ms. Eunoh CHANG</b>	<i>Expert Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>
<b>Ms. Hanseul CHO</b>	<i>Specialist in Statistics Research &amp; Development Office Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)</i>
<b>Ms. Chanyou KIM</b>	<i>Specialist in Statistics, Research &amp; Development Office KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency)</i>
	<b>Netherlands/Pays-Bas</b>
<b>Ms. Irene KNOBEN</b>	<i>Coordinating Policy Officer, Inclusive Green Growth department/Climate cluster Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights department Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>
	<b>Norway/Norvège</b>
<b>Ms. Reidun GJENGEDAL</b>	<i>Assistant Director Statistics Section, Dept. for Quality Assurance Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD)</i>
	<b>Poland/Pologne</b>
<b>Ms. Monika KUSMIERCZYK</b>	<i>Specialist Department of Sustainable Development Ministry of the Environment (MOS)</i>
	<b>Portugal</b>
<b>Ms. Maria do Carmo FERNANDES</b>	<i>Climate Change Focal Point Camões - Institute for Cooperation and Language</i>
	<b>Spain/Espagne</b>
<b>Mme Carolina MAYEUR DANIEL</b>	<i>Head of Food Security and Environment Area in Development Policy Unit SGCID - Office of Development Planning and Policy Evaluation Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation</i>
<b>Ms. Maria del Mar REQUENA QUESADA</b>	<i>Expert, Environmental sustainability and climate change General Secretariat for International Development Cooperation Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation</i>
	<b>Sweden/Suède</b>
<b>Dr. Anders EKBOM</b>	<i>Deputy director, Center for Environment and Sustainability University of Gothenburg</i>
<b>Mr. Mirza TOPIC</b>	<i>Statistician, Analysis and Coordination Unit Department for Corporate Management Sida - Swedish international development and cooperation agency</i>
	<b>United Kingdom/Royaume-Uni</b>
<b>Mr. Robert PHILLIPS</b>	<i>Statistician Department for International Development (DFID)</i>

**United States/États-Unis**  
**Mr. Darren ENTERLINE** *Economist,  
DevTech Systems, USAID Contactor*

**Mr. William MCCORMICK** *Financial Economist, Office of Development Partners,  
ODP/Bilateral and Multilateral Donors, BMD  
US Agency for International Development (USAID)*

**UN Development Programme (UNDP)/Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (PNUD)**  
**Mr. Thomas BELOE** *Asia-Pacific*  
**Ms. Alice RUHWEZA** *Regional Team Leader - Africa & Regional Technical Advisor  
Ecosystems and Biodiversity, Global Environment Finance Unit*  
**Mr. Davie MEYERS** *Senior Technical Advisor, BIOFIN*

**UN Environment Programme (UNEP)/Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement (PNUE)**  
**Ms. Francoise D'ESTAIS** *Head of Climate Finance Unit  
Division Technology, Industry and Economics  
United Nations - Environment Programme (UNEP)*

**German Development Institute (DIE)**  
**Ms. Katharina Stepping** *Dept. Environmental Policy and Natural Resources Management*

**E3G-Third Generation Environmentalism**  
**Ms. Amal-Lee AMIN** *Associate Director, International Climate Finance  
E3G-Third Generation Environmentalism*

**Institute of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies**  
**Mr. Philippe SANER** *Scientific Staff*

**Overseas Development Institute (ODI)**  
**Ms. Smita Nakhooda** *Climate Change, Environment and Forests*

**International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)**  
**Mr. David STEINBACH** *Climate Change Group*

**European Investment Bank (EIB)/Banque européenne d'investissement (BEI)**  
**Ms. Nancy SAICH** *Adviser in Climate and Environment  
Environment, Climate and Social Office*

**KfW Development Bank**  
**Mr. Josef HAIDER** *Senior Sector Economist Climate Change & Environment  
Competence Centre for Environment & Climate*  
**Mr. Jochen HARNISCH** *Head of Division  
Competence Centre for Environment & Climate*

**World Bank/Banque mondiale**  
**Mr. Eduardo FERREIRA** *Senior Financial Specialist  
Climate Policy & Finance Department*

**UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)**  
**Mr. Simone QUATRINI** *Coordinator, Policy and Investment Analysis  
Global Mechanism of the UNCCD*

**UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**  
**Mr. Marenglen GJONAJ** *Programme Officer, Finance sub-programme  
Long Term Finance unit*

**Colombia/Colombie**  
**Mr. Jorge Ivan ESCALANTE CASTELLANOS** *Advisor for Planning, Evaluation and Monitoring  
Colombian Cooperation Agency*

**GFLAC**  
**Ms. Sandra GUZMAN** *General Coordinator  
Latin American and the Caribbean Climate Finance Group*

**India/Inde**  
**Professor A. DAMODARAN** *Professor  
Indian Institute of Management Bangalore*

**Indonesia**

<b>Ms. Ria Sartika AZAHARI</b>	<i>Head of Division of Fiscal Policy for Climate Change, Centre for Climate Change Finance and Multilateral Policy, Fiscal Policy Agency</i>
<b>Mr. Hageng Suryo NUGROHO</b>	<i>Subdivision Head of Energy Sector Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Indonesia Fiscal Policy Agency</i>
<b>Ms. Neydi SAGNITE CRUZ</b>	<b>Mexico/Mexique</b> <i>Deputy Director General for International Cooperation International Affairs, SEMARNAT</i>
<b>Ms. Maria Veronica VILLENA CARDICH</b>	<b>Peru/Pérou</b> <i>Economist Climate Change Office, Ministry of Environment</i>
<b>Mr. John Adrian NARAG</b>	<b>Philippines</b> <i>Chief Bilateral Assistance Division Department of Finance, International Finance Group</i>
<b>Ms. Thi Dieu Trinh NGUYEN</b>	<b>Viet Nam</b> <i>Senior Official Department of Science, Education, Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of Planning and Investment</i>
<b>Mr. David Chama KALUBA</b>	<b>Zambia/Zambie</b> <i>Principal Economist and National Coordinator (PPCR) Economic Management Department Ministry of Finance – Interim Secretariat for Climate Change</i>
<b>Ms. Julia BENN</b>	<b>OECD/OCDE</b> <i>Senior Policy Analyst, DCD/SDF</i>
<b>Ms. Gisela CAMPILLO</b>	<i>Junior Policy Analyst, DCD/GPP</i>
<b>Mr. Juan CASADO ASENSIO</b>	<i>Policy Analyst – Engagement, DCD/REED</i>
<b>Ms. Jan CORFEE-MORLOT</b>	<i>Senior Policy Analyst - Team Leader, DCD/GPP</i>
<b>Ms. Valérie GAVEAU</b>	<i>Statistical Analyst, DCD/SDF</i>
<b>Ms. Alexis JUBIN</b>	<i>Assistant, DCD/GPP</i>
<b>Ms Mariana MIRABILE</b>	<i>Statistician, Development Finance, DCD/SDF</i>
<b>Ms Stephanie OCKENDEN</b>	<i>Policy Analyst, DCD/GPP</i>
<b>Ms. Lisa SMADJA</b>	<i>Assistant, DCD/GPP</i>
<b>Mr. Haje SHÛTTE</b>	<i>Head of Development Finance and Statistics Division</i>