EAC Secretariat

COP 28 Side Events

30TH NOVEMBER- 12TH DECEMBER 2023

Fast-tracking the energy transition to reduce emissions by 2030 is crucial for climate action. This requires transforming climate finance to fulfill existing commitments and create a new financing framework. EAC seeks to collaborate with partners to integrate the well-being of nature, people, and livelihoods into climate strategies.

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JOIN US AT THE COP 28

UNITING FOR CLIMATE ACTION

For COP 28, EAC stands at the forefront of halting global warming, proudly showcasing our strides in climate action. This event is a platform to highlight our achievements, promote resilience, and foster cooperation. We're dedicating technical sessions to deliberate on NDC implementation, emphasizing our collective commitment to a sustainable future.

During the COP 28 sessions, EAC Secretariat will support and coordinate Partner States participation to ensure the regional interests are considered during the consultations and negotiations processes. Furthermore, EAC Secretariat in collaboration with Partners will organize side events to showcase experience and lessons learned from the implementation of climate change initiatives and programmes.

THE SIDE EVENTS

REGIONAL TRANSBOUNDARY LANDSCAPES MAPPING, ECONOMIC VALUATION, INVESTMENT, AND CONSERVATION FOR THE BENEFITS OF THE EAC CITIZENS
DATE: FRIDAY, 1ST DEC 2023
VENUE: EAC CONFERENCE ROOM
04

A FRAMEWORK FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES
DATE: MONDAY, 4TH DEC 2023
VENUE: EAC CONFERENCE ROOM
05

SCALING UP ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN EAST AFRICA
DATE: TUESDAY, 5TH DEC 2023
VENUE: RWANDA PAVILION
07

DOMESTICATION OF CLIMATE ACTIONS FOR TRANSBOUNDARY ECOSYSTEM IN BUILDING RESILIENCE AND LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT SYSTEMS: EAC CONTEXT
DATE: WEDNESDAY, 6TH DEC 2023
VENUE: KENYA PAVILION
09

NURTURING RESILIENCE: BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCY AND STRENGTHENING EAC ADAPTIVE CAPACITY & FOOD SECURITY
DATE: FRIDAY, 9TH DEC 2023
VENUE: UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA PAVILION
10

SCALING SYNERGY: REGIONAL APPROACHES TO NDC IMPLEMENTATION & CLIMATE FINANCE MOBILIZATION IN EAST AFRICA
DATE: FRIDAY, 10TH DEC 2023
VENUE: BURUNDI PAVILION
12

Regional Transboundary Landscapes Mapping, Economic Valuation, Investment, and Conservation for the Benefits of the EAC Citizens

Date: Friday, 1st December 2023
Time: 10:30 AM- 12:00 PM
Venue: The EAC Conference Room, EAC Hotel, Dubai

BACKGROUND

East Africa is home to some of the world's most biodiverse and ecologically significant landscapes. However, the region faces critical challenges in terms of habitat loss, biodiversity decline, and climate change impacts. In response, there is a growing need for a comprehensive approach to transboundary landscape management, integrating aspects of economic valuation, sustainable investment, and conservation. This side-event will focus on mapping the economic, environmental, and social value of transboundary landscapes in East Africa, exploring investment opportunities and conservation strategies. It aims to engage regional stakeholders in developing a cohesive approach that balances economic development with environmental conservation for the benefit of EAC citizens.

Objectives:

- To map and economically value the transboundary landscapes within the EAC region.
- To identify and discuss sustainable investment opportunities in these landscapes.
- To develop strategies for the conservation and sustainable management of transboundary landscapes.
- To strengthen regional collaboration in environmental conservation and economic development.

Key Messages:

- Investment in Biodiversity: Opportunities for Regional Growth
- Conservation Strategies for Transboundary Landscapes: A Regional Imperative
- Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Environmental Stewardship
- Balancing Economic Development with Ecological Sustainability

Draft Agenda

Moderator: Jean-Baptiste Havugimana (DPS)

- Welcome Remarks (5 Mins)
- Discussion 1: Mapping and Valuation of Transboundary Landscapes (30 Mins)
- Presentation: EAC Concept Notes (20 Mins)
- Discussion 2: Investment and Conservation Strategies (25 Mins)
- Audience Q&A (5 Mins)
- Summary and Way Forward (5 minutes)

Total Duration: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Government officials
- Environmental experts and ecologists
- Investors and financial institutions
- Conservation and environmental organizations
- Academia and research institutions.

A framework for Nature-based Solutions for Climate Resilient Communities in East Africa

Date: Monday, 4th December 2023
Time: 10:30 AM- 12:00 PM
Venue: The EAC Conference Room, EAC Hotel, Dubai

BACKGROUND

Climate change poses significant risks to communities in East Africa, particularly those dependent on natural resources. Nature-based solutions (NbS) offer a sustainable approach to mitigate these impacts, leveraging natural processes to enhance ecosystem resilience and community well-being. This side-event aims to develop a comprehensive framework for implementing NbS in East Africa, focusing on building climate-resilient communities. The event will bring together experts, policymakers, community representatives, and development partners to discuss the potential of NbS in addressing climate change impacts. The framework will consider ecological, social, and economic dimensions, ensuring that NbS are effectively integrated into regional development plans.

Objectives:

- To establish a clear understanding of nature-based solutions and their benefits.
- To develop a framework for integrating NbS into regional climate action strategies.
- To highlight successful case studies of NbS in East Africa.
- To foster partnerships for implementing NbS at various levels – local, national, and regional.

Key Messages:

- Understanding Nature-Based Solutions: Concepts and Benefits
- Integrating NbS in Regional Climate Resilience Strategies
- Success Stories of NbS in Community Resilience Building
- Collaborative Approaches for NbS Implementation
- Scaling Up NbS for Wider Impact in East Africa

Target Audience:

- Government officials
- Environmental and climate change experts
- Investors
- International development partners

Draft Agenda

Moderator: Simon Kiarie, Ag Principal Officer Environment & Natural Resources, EAC Sec.

- Welcome Remarks (5 Mins)
- Discussion 1: Understanding and Implementing Nature-Based Solutions (30 Mins)
- Presentation: EAC Concept Note on NbS (20 Mins)
- Discussion 2: Case Studies and Collaborative Strategies (25 Mins)
- Audience Q&A (5 Mins)
- Summary and Way Forward (5 minutes)

Total Duration: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Scaling Up Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Development in East Africa

BACKGROUND

East Africa is at a pivotal point in its energy transition journey, with vast potential for renewable energy (RE) development and significant opportunities for enhancing energy efficiency. This side-event aims to catalyse actions and partnerships to scale up energy efficiency and RE development in the region, focusing on innovative solutions, policy frameworks, and investment strategies. Participants will discuss the current state of energy efficiency and RE in East Africa, explore scalable models and technologies, and identify opportunities for regional collaboration. This event will serve as a platform for sharing experiences, best practices, and developing a coordinated approach to accelerate the energy transition in East Africa.

Objectives:

- To assess the current landscape of energy efficiency and renewable energy in East Africa.
- To explore innovative technologies and models for scaling up RE and enhancing energy efficiency.
- To discuss policy frameworks and investment strategies that support energy transition.
- To foster partnerships among governments, private sector, and development agencies for sustainable energy development.

Objectives:

- The State of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in East Africa: Challenges and Opportunities
- Innovative Technologies and Models for Scaling up Renewable Energy
- Policy and Investment Strategies for an Effective Energy Transition
- Building Partnerships for Sustainable Energy Development

TARGET AUDIENCE

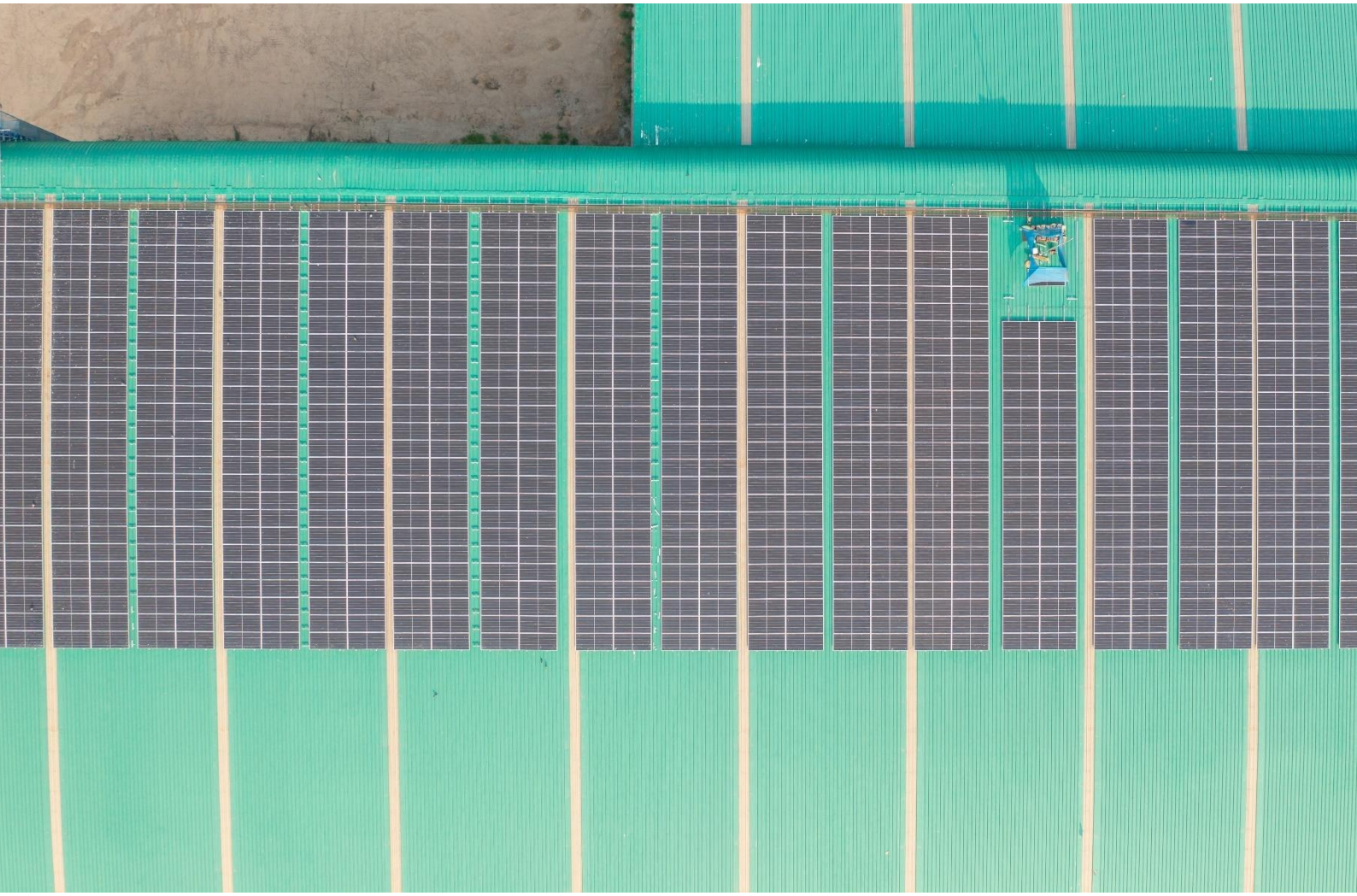
- Government officials
- Energy sector stakeholders, including utility companies and private sector players.
- International development partners and investors
- Renewable energy experts and innovators
- Civil society organizations and environmental groups

Draft Agenda

Moderator: David Wafula

- Welcome Remarks (5 Mins)
- Discussion: The Landscape of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in East Africa (30 Mins)
- Presentation: EAC Concept Note on Renewable Energy (20 Mins)
- Audience Q&A (10 Mins)
- Summary and Way Forward (5 minutes)

Total Duration: 1 Hour 10 Minutes



Domestication of Climate Actions for Transboundary Ecosystem in Building Resilience and Livelihood Support Systems: EAC Context

BACKGROUND

The event hosted by the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat and Kenya is designed to address the unique challenges and opportunities in the East African region regarding climate action. This event focuses on how transboundary ecosystems can be managed and protected through localized climate actions, emphasizing the importance of regional collaboration. It seeks to explore strategies for enhancing resilience and supporting livelihoods in the face of climate change, particularly in shared ecosystems that span national borders. By bringing together experts, policymakers, and stakeholders, the event aims to foster dialogue and develop actionable strategies for integrating climate action into local and regional strategies. This initiative reflects the EAC's commitment to collaborative, region-specific approaches in tackling climate change, recognizing the interconnectedness of ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.

Objectives:

- To promote coordinated climate action across EAC member states, focusing on shared transboundary ecosystems.
- To develop strategies for enhancing resilience against climate change impacts within these ecosystems.
- To explore and establish sustainable livelihood systems that are resilient to environmental changes and beneficial to local communities.
- To facilitate the exchange of ideas, best practices, and lessons learned among EAC member states and stakeholders.

Key Messages:

- Emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts in protecting and managing transboundary ecosystems
- Highlighting the role of localized, context-specific strategies in addressing global climate change challenges

Draft Agenda

Moderator: TBC

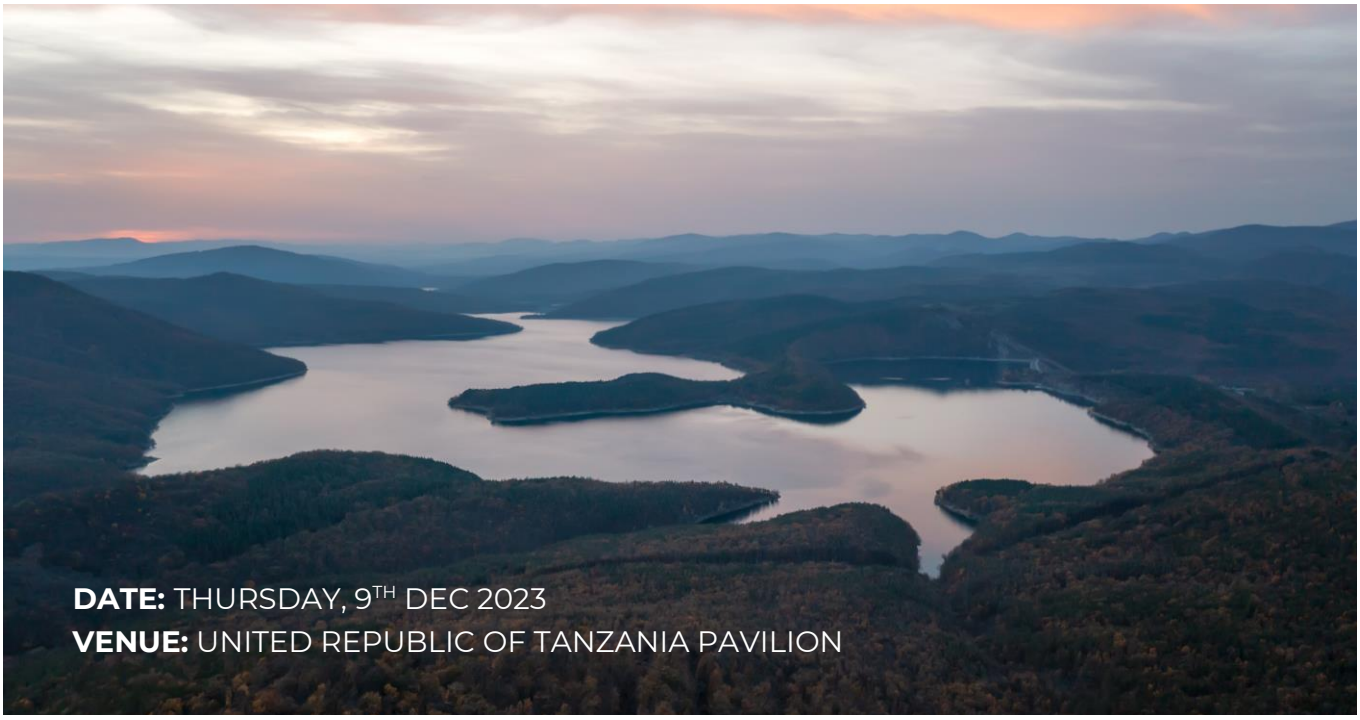
- Welcome Remarks (5 Mins)
- Discussion: Domestication of Climate Actions for Transboundary Ecosystem (20 Mins)
- Presentation 1: EAC Concept Notes (10 Mins)
- Presentation 2: Research findings (15 Mins)
- Audience Q&A (5 Mins)
- Summary and Way Forward (5 minutes)

Total Duration: 1 Hour

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Government officials
- Environmental experts and ecologists
- Investors and financial institutions
- Conservation and environmental organizations
- Academia and research institutions.

Nurturing Resilience: Building Climate Resiliency and Strengthening EAC Adaptive Capacity & Food Security



BACKGROUND

Climate change significantly impacts agricultural productivity and food security in East Africa, necessitating urgent and innovative approaches to build resilience. This side-event aims to address the challenges posed by climate change on agriculture and food security in the EAC region. It will focus on identifying effective strategies and practices to enhance adaptive capacity and resilience of agricultural systems and food security networks. This event will bring together experts, policymakers, farmers' representatives, and development partners to share insights, best practices, and explore collaborative efforts for strengthening climate resilience in the agricultural sector.

Objectives:

- To discuss the impact of climate change on agriculture and food security in East Africa.
- To identify innovative strategies for enhancing climate resilience in agriculture.
- To explore means of strengthening regional adaptive capacity to ensure food security.
- To foster partnerships and collaborative efforts among various stakeholders.

Key Messages:

- The Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture and Food Security
- Innovative Practices for Climate Resilient Agriculture
- Strengthening Adaptive Capacity for Regional Food Security
- Collaborative Efforts for Sustainable Agricultural Practices
- Policy Frameworks Supporting Climate Resilience in Agriculture

Draft Agenda

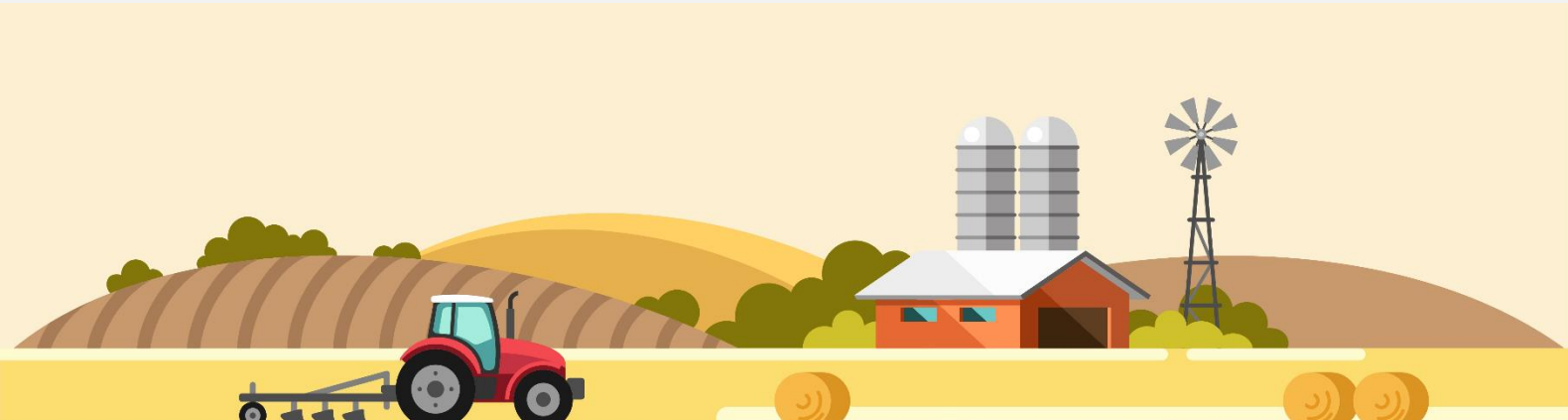
Moderator: TBC

- Welcome Remarks (5 Mins)
- Discussion: Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture and Food Security (30 Mins)
- Presentation: EAC Concept Notes on Climate Change & Food Security (20 Mins)
- Audience Q&A (5 Mins)
- Summary and Way Forward (5 minutes)

Total Duration: 1 Hour 5 Mins

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Government officials
- Investors and financial institutions
- Agribusinesses
- Development partners
- Academia and research institutions.



Scaling Synergy: Regional Approaches to NDC Implementation & Climate Finance Mobilization in East Africa

BACKGROUND

The East African region faces unprecedented challenges brought about by climate change, impacting vulnerable communities and ecosystems. These challenges have been exacerbated by increasing food insecurity, making the development of comprehensive regional strategies more critical. In this context, the outcomes of recent high-level summits such as the Africa Food Systems Forum 2023 and the Africa Climate Summit 2023 organized by the African Union stand as important regional forums that have underlined the collective aspirations and commitments of African states toward food security and climate action.

Both summits emphasized the need for effective multi-stakeholder partnerships and the importance of scaling up financing mechanisms to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the targets set in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). These global commitments resonate strongly with the East African Community (EAC) partner states, who have shown collective commitment toward fulfilling their NDCs and have actively sought to accelerate regional efforts in NDC implementation and climate finance mobilization.

As part of these ongoing efforts, this side-event aims to provide a multi-stakeholder platform to discuss strategies, share best practices, and chart out a roadmap for regional cooperation. Building upon the initiatives led by the EAC Secretariat, such as the Climate Finance Access & Mobilization Strategy [Link to be inserted], we will delve into tangible ways to accelerate progress, including the mobilization of climate finance within East Africa.

Objectives:

- To explore innovative models for regional collaboration on NDC implementation in East Africa.
- To showcase success stories of climate finance mobilization across the region.
- To facilitate dialogue between governments, financial institutions, and development partners for enhanced climate action.

Key Messages:

- The Regional Integration: A Catalyst for NDC Implementation
- Innovations in Climate Finance: Opportunities and Challenges in East Africa
- The Case for Adaptation Finance: Where are the pipelines?
- Cross-Border Climate Initiatives: Case Studies from East Africa
- Policy Frameworks for Climate Finance Mobilization: A Regional Perspective

Draft Agenda

Moderator: Margaret Barihaihi-Regional Manager Africa, NDC Partnership

- Welcome Remarks (5 Mins)
- **Discussion:** How can the EAC and Partner states enhance partnerships with financial institutions / development partners to increase climate-positive investments that catalyze a growth trajectory consistent with the regional development vision (30 Mins)
- **Presentation:** EAC Concept Notes for Climate Finance Mobilization (20 Mins)
- Audience Q&A (5 Mins)
- Summary and Way Forward (5 minutes)

Total Duration: 1 Hour 5 Mins

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Government officials
- Climate finance enablers
- Sustainable finance institutions
- Development partners
- Academia & research institutions
- Private sector

OUR PARTNERS

One People, One Destiny

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