

NEGOTIATING CLIMATE CHANGE FINANCE

Background

An e-learning course on Negotiating Climate Change Finance has been developed by the Multilateral Diplomacy Programme (MDP) of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in cooperation with Germanwatch. This course aims to provide the skills and knowledge needed for participation in multilateral negotiations, in particular in the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It aims to enable those working in relation to climate finance, with respect to diplomatic engagement, public and/ or private sector activities, to work efficiently towards finding agreement on pertinent policy making challenges. The course shall enable participants to enhance their understanding of the key objectives and instruments of international climate finance, the multilateral policy framework and key negotiation issues crucial to reaching a post-2012 agreement, particularly with respect to the forthcoming negotiations in Qatar later this year (UNFCCC COP18).

Event Objectives

This online course aims to facilitate international negotiations, public sector work, and diplomatic engagement in relation to financing climate change through multilateral negotiation and collaboration. The course will enhance participants' understanding of the key objectives and instruments of international climate finance, the multilateral policy framework and key negotiation issues crucial to reaching a post-2012 agreement.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course participants are expected to be able to:

- Understand the key objectives and structure of the negotiations on climate change under the UNFCCC;
- Appreciate the pertinent role of finance to policy making for mitigating and adapting to climate change;
- Consider and critically assess the instruments of international climate change finance;
- Acknowledge and analyse the key challenges on the road to Durban and beyond, with respect to climate change finance;
- Develop skills and knowledge necessary to overcome negotiation deadlocks with respect to these challenges in multilateral fora.

Content and Structure

The course content is to be confirmed but will tentatively include the following one-week modules:

- Module 1: Financing Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Module 2: Climate Finance in the Convention Process
- Module 3: International Climate Finance in Practice
- Module 4: Climate Finance Agenda in Durban (COP 17)

Methodology

The course will be conducted in English over a period of four weeks, each week consisting of a module focusing on a different topic. The course will be delivered via UNITAR's e-Learning platform. This pedagogical tool will help the student meet the course's learning objectives through a

self-paced study routine supported by multimedia, optional and required readings, discussion fora, assessment quizzes, and a wealth of other information.

Targeted Audience

The course is designed for mid- to senior-level government officers in ministries preparing for and/or taking part in conferences as well as staff of intergovernmental/nongovernmental organizations. It also targets entry-level and mid-career diplomats working in a multilateral setting. Private sector specialists and students whose work or studies are related to this subject are also encouraged to apply.