

COP28 AIIB SESSION

Seizing Business Opportunities for Adaptation

Time: Dec. 4, 2023, 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. (GMT+4)

Venue: Blue Zone, AIIB Pavilion

Format: in person with live streaming live

Session Context

The latest report by the Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) indicates that adaptation finance reached a record high of USD63 billion, marking a 28 percent increase from 2019 to 2020. Despite this growth, the amount falls considerably short of the estimated annual need of USD212 billion by 2030 for developing countries. Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) are the primary financiers of climate adaptation, contributing to 98 percent of adaptation finance. Yet to address the growing global demand for strengthened community resilience, there is a critical and immediate need for a substantial escalation in financing from the private sector.

The private sector plays a crucial role in climate adaptation, acting as adaptors, resilience solution providers, and financiers. Meaningful progress in adaptation is unattainable without active private sector involvement. While traditionally viewed as a means of downside risk management, emerging evidence and experiences indicate that adaptation can also present lucrative investment opportunities for private corporations and financial institutions.

In response to the growing adaptation finance gap in developing countries and the increasing call for MDBs to address this shortfall, AIIB is focusing significantly on scaling up finance for adaptation. This commitment is a key feature of AIIB's recently launched Climate Action Plan (CAP).

Session Objective

This event will focus on the critical role and opportunities for private sector involvement in adaptation efforts. It aims to gather insights on how development finance institutions, banks, and fund managers can drive and expand adaptation initiatives through financial support, technical expertise, and collaborative partnerships. The discussions will include the following topics:

- Success stories in incorporating climate resilience into business operations, the development of profitable businesses providing climate resilience solutions, and innovative financing approaches currently in use for adaptation.
- Opportunities for private sector organizations to accelerate adaptation financing.
- Identifying thematic areas that offer immediate opportunities for private sector engagement in adaptation.

Speakers

Welcome remarks: Jin Liqun, President of AIIB

Opening remarks: Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary, UNFCCC

Moderator: Sir Danny Alexander, Vice President for Policy and Strategy, AIIB

Panelists:

- **Rachel Kyte**, Member of Independent Advisory Panel, AIIB
- **Ivo Menzinger**, Managing Director for Public Sector Business, Europe, Middle East and Africa, Swiss RE
- **Marisa Drew**, Chief Sustainability Officer, Standard Chartered Bank
- **Yvonne Zhou**, Managing Director and Senior Partner, Boston Consulting Group
- **Daniel Stacey**, Head of External Affairs, Leapfrog Investments