

# Germanwatch: 12 statements on readiness support for climate finance

- I. Climate readiness definition:  
*The capacities of countries to plan for, access, deliver, and monitor and report on climate finance, both international and domestic, in ways that are catalytic and fully integrated with national development priorities.*<sup>1</sup>
- II. A serious underlying challenge for Least Developed Countries is limited institutional, financial and technical capacities to access climate finance. For poor countries external readiness support becomes a matter of justice. For them it is needed to compete for international resources to address climate change.
- III. It has been argued that the inadequate increases of climate finance flows between developed and developing countries could be seen as a 'chicken-egg-problem' of lack of fundable climate policies and the lack of adequate and predictable funding. To overcome this an iterative process between increased capacities and increased funding is required. Readiness is a key component of such an iterative process towards the necessary transformation to low carbon and climate resilient societies.
- IV. Readiness programmes should be guided by and responsive to country determinants, needs to be tailored and can be conceptualized as a process without a definite end-point. Readiness should not be defined as a one-stop activity, rather it will be continuously needed as countries pursue their transformation to low-carbon and climate resilient economies.
- V. Readiness support is a fine-walk between concrete institutional capacity development, including access readiness for particular vertical climate funds, and national system readiness for transformation.
- VI. Effective institution building includes technically prudent and non-partisan allocation of responsibilities in national climate finance regimes. National awareness of all stakeholders including media and a capacitated national civil society is required to achieve accountability.
- VII. Development actions such as those needed to promote transformational change to address climate change are severely undermined by isolation from mainstream national development planning and poverty reduction strategies.

<sup>1</sup>: UNDP 2013: Readiness for Climate Finance A framework for understanding what it means to be ready to use climate finance, p.4

- VIII. Readiness should help decision-makers to specifically understand the national systems required to use international and domestic climate finance in ways that will transform production and consumption processes. This includes evaluating the role, and organize the participation of the private sector.
- IX. National government's responsibilities in readiness include the need for leadership through political support for strategic change, the need for a conducive policy environment and the ambition to initiate accountability frameworks for climate related finance flows.
- X. Civil societies' role include the operationalization of accountability systems, identifying and conveying needs particularly those of the most vulnerable communities and strengthen the voices of local communities and citizens.
- XI. Readiness support agents need to work in accordance with agreed international principles such as effective development through alignment and harmonization with national strategies, and they should themselves be accountable for ensuring consistency.
- XII. The field of readiness support gathers many actors. A landscape of actors is required to manage issues such as institutional experience and memory as well as self-interest considerations of the institutions in climate finance. This, however, requires strong inter-agency coordination and the articulation of principles by the political level.

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