COUNTRY PLATFORMS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

This deep dive presents country platforms as country-led mechanisms for climate action. It highlights global momentum, challenges, and key lessons to inform stakeholders like policymakers, development partners, and financiers in scaling coordinated climate investment frameworks.

Country platforms (CPs) are voluntary, country-level mechanisms set out by governments and designed to foster collaboration among development partners, based on shared strategic vision and priorities.[1] Such coordination mechanisms connect intra-governmental ministries, donors, financial partners, and other stakeholders while aligning national strategy with financial planning to unlock capital at scale.[2,3]

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

The collaborative concept of country platforms has been deployed across a range of developmental objectives over time, albeit under different names. Country platforms extend the longstanding notion of 'development effectiveness' whereby multiple stakeholders coordinate to direct resources toward a shared vision, while also ensuring a country-owned and country-led model.

Involved stakeholders coordinate to deliver on a set of pre-defined, country-owned outcomes, while also sharing knowledge and building local capacity[2]. Strong country ownership, with an inbuilt flexibility to adapt to local context and evolving circumstances, is key.

THE INCREASING FOCUS ON COUNTRY PLATFORMS FOR CLIMATE ACTION

The renewed focus on country platforms, and its endorsement through several key international mechanisms, including the G20[a], can be seen in the light of its potential to address climate and development challenges holistically.[4] It works across the three integrated pillars of:

Demand

National development priorities aligned with the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plan (NAP)

Supply

Access to the spectrum of blended finance opportunities to realistically support the development priorities identified

Impact

Connecting finance to specific transformational objectives and impact

a In February 2020, the G20 endorsed the "G20 Reference Framework for effective Country Platforms", recognising country platforms as a tool to support sustainable development. G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Communiqué, February 2020: https://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2020/2020-g20-finance-0223.html

Figure 1: Functions of a Country Platform

COUNTRY PLATFROM SECRETARIAT

1

Translate country commitments & ambitions (eg., NDC, NAP, UTS) into sectorial priorities, policies, and tangible, climate-resilient investment pipelines

2

Coordinate stakeholder engagement across government bodies, multilateral/ bilateral agencies, private sector and civil society to secure alignment and effective collaboration

3

Catalyze financing at scale by ensuring investor engagement, structuring investment opportunities, and providing strategic support to tackle barriers to capital deployment

4

Implement policies and projects by developing and preparing pipelines, aligning projects with financing, providing capacity building, facilitating policy dialogue, removing roadblocks, and monitoring impact

***(Source**: Green Climate Fund. 2025)*

The circumstances and emerging needs that give fillip to the idea of country platforms include the following:

1. **Investment needs at scale:** Emerging markets and developing economies are estimated to invest trillions of dollars annually to meet their development and climate goals. Achieving these goals requires the limited concessional funding to catalyze large-scale private capital across both domestic and international capital markets. Country platforms help define a country-specific targeted approach to engage the private sector and increase the overall volume of financing across an investable, structured pipeline of climate and development-oriented projects.
2. **Need for holistic, transformational programs driving structural change:** Country platforms are being proposed as a preferred model to help identify and prioritize investment needs, aligning the NDCs, NAPs, and long-term development strategies of a country. It calls for interrelated areas of energy transition, climate mitigation, adaptation, livelihood, nature, gender equality, and economic development priorities to be addressed in an integrated manner, specific to each individual country and region. CPs are looked up to facilitate a systemic approach and long-term investment-led growth pathways, moving beyond the usual fragmented project-based finance approach.
3. **The entire package:** CPs can be developed as a single focal point to channel the whole package of support needed for structural change and transformative impact: analytics and diagnostics, policy advice, project preparation facilities, project finance (public and private), stakeholder engagement, capacity building, technical assistance, and impact monitoring.[5]

It is with this background that we are witnessing a global shift towards country platforms as a coordinated, country-driven forum for climate investment planning.

PRESENT STATUS

Several countries like Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Bangladesh have launched, designed, or implemented country platforms over the past years. At the recently concluded COP 30 in Belem, Brazil, 14 new developing countries and regions announced plans to launch country-level platforms to strengthen national climate finance.[6] These include India, Cambodia, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Mongolia, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Rwanda, South Africa, and Togo, and the African Islands States Climate Commission[7] (AISCC). A country platform hub was also launched in partnership with Green Climate Fund (GCF), NDC Partnership, Climate Vulnerable Forum- Vulnerable 20 Group (CVF–V20), Finance in Common, and UNDP, amongst others, to support early-stage activities.

Table 1: List of country platforms that have been implemented or are in discussion since 2020.

Country	Platform Name	Estimated Investments	As % of GDP	Main External Stakeholders	Main Sectors
South Africa	Just Energy Transition Investment Plan (JET-IP)	$8.5 billion	2.0	CIF, European Union (EIB), France, Germany, United Kingdom, United States, private sector	Energy, renewables, coal reduction
Egypt	NWFE (Nexus of Water, Food and Energy)	$14.7 billion	4.3	European Commission, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, the United Kingdom, the United States, EBRD, AfDB, IFAD, and the private sector	Energy, agriculture, hydric system
Indonesia	Just Energy Transition Partnership	$20 billion	1.3	IPG – Japan, United States, Canada, Denmark, European Union, Germany, France, Norway, Italy, United Kingdom, Ireland, private sector, GFANZ	Energy, renewables, transmission system
Vietnam	Just Energy Transition Partnership	$15.5 billion	3.1	IPG – United Kingdom, European Union (EIB), United States, Germany, Japan, France, Italy, Canada, Denmark, Norway, ADB, WBG, IFC, JBIC	Energy, renewables, climate adaptation
Bangladesh	BCDP (Bangladesh Climate and Development Platform)	> $4 billion	0.8	ADB, WBG, IFC, MIGA, AIIB, AFD, European Union, EIB, GCF, South Korea, JICA, United Kingdom, private sector	Energy, climate adaptation and mitigation
North Macedonia	Just Energy Transition Investment Platform	€3 billion	17.6	European Commission, Climate Investment Funds, WBG, IFC, EIB, KfW, Council of Europe Development Bank, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, private sector	Energy, renewables, coal reduction
Senegal	Just Energy Transition Partnership	€2.5 billion	6.6	IPG – France, Germany, European Union (EIB), United Kingdom, Canada, private sector, GFANZ	Energy, climate adaptation
Brazil	Brazil Climate and Ecological Transformation Investment Platform	$10.8 billion	0.5	BNDES, GFC, private sector, GFANZ	Energy, agriculture, hydrogen, renewables, rare earth elements
Colombia	Colombia's Socio-Ecological Transition Portfolio	$40 billion	9.5	IDB, private sector	Energy, biodiversity, fossil fuels reduction

***(Source**: Finance for Development Lab & Coalition for Capacity for Climate Action, 2025)*

LEARNINGS AND REFLECTIONS

Despite growing momentum, the successful execution of country platforms remains challenging. They can be costly to run, and their effectiveness hinges on a host of enabling conditions, such as strong domestic institutional capacity and robust governance mechanisms[2]. In a large and diverse country like India, additional coordination challenges emerge from balancing national priorities with diverse regional priorities, building high-quality pipelines, and sustaining investor interest across regions with uneven institutional capacity and varied markets.[7]

Existing experiences offer valuable lessons for the effective establishment of the CPs, as listed below.[8, 9, 10, 11, 12]

1. Country platforms do not follow a pre-defined structure across priorities, stakeholders, or funders. They must be grounded in the national plan or strategy, such as the NDCs, NAP, and other cross-sectoral climate and developmental priorities.
2. Strong political will and commitment backed with robust governance mechanisms, and anchored in key ministries such as finance, planning, or the prime minister's office, is critical to ensure strategic alignment and cross-sectoral coordination.
3. A high degree of flexibility to adapt to goals, country context, and evolving circumstances, and connectivity with financing resources is required.
4. Sound public financial management, allowing for projects to be aligned with the country's own budget/ resources while also clearly identifying the need of international financing, or blended structuring, is crucial. The idea is to mobilize the right type of finance at the right scale, with public finance playing a largely catalytic role. Early and strategic engagement with the private sector is desirable.
5. Target setting and impact monitoring is essential for tracking progress. Adoption of clear, focused, and measurable goals along with a clear framework for tracking the performance and overall impact of a CP is desirable. Goals can be sectoral or thematic, and the monitoring exercise can cover aspects of investment mobilization, policy, and capacity building, amongst others.
6. Finally, transparency and accountability among different actors through mechanisms such as shared monitoring and evaluation plans, independent scrutiny of climate finance, and gradual convergence towards core standards are desirable.

When designed and implemented efficiently, country platforms can serve as a critical instrument to reduce fragmentation of funds and efforts, ensure policy coherence, and align public and private finance with long-term national climate strategies. They can also optimize transaction costs, and mobilize investment at scale for the sustainable development agenda.[13, 7]

ENDNOTES

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