



# A transformative vision for Canada's post-2020 adaptation finance

Written submission on Canada's post-2020 climate  
finance package

Written by Climate Action Network Canada

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**Contact information:**

Eddy Pérez

International Policy Analyst

[eddy@climateactionnetwork.ca](mailto:eddy@climateactionnetwork.ca)

Catherine Abreu

Executive Director

[catherineabreu@climateactionnetwork.ca](mailto:catherineabreu@climateactionnetwork.ca)

**Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada**

305-75 Albert Street | Ottawa, ON | K1P 5E7 | Canada

Tel & Fax: +1 (855) CLIM-NET (254-6638) | [info@climateactionnetwork.ca](mailto:info@climateactionnetwork.ca)

[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | [@CANRACCanada](https://twitter.com/CANRACCanada)

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## **Highlights**

- Adaptation needs are increasing rapidly. COVID-19 is intersecting with conflict, climate extremes and economic shock to amplify structural and systemic inequalities between countries, particularly those most vulnerable to the climate crises (Alcayna 2020). Lack of investments and resources are pushing people and communities to make impossible decisions about which crisis to prioritize, often at the expense of the other. Canada's climate adaptation investments must aim towards higher allocation of locally-led adaptation projects that give a voice to vulnerable populations to shape their recovery in every vital area and system.
- Future adaptation activities and investments should promote the real value of partnership and global solidarity. Canada must see its future adaptation investments as opportunities to develop a vision for a just and resilient recovery from COVID-19. Canada's climate finance must promote country and community ownership, encourage social innovation, capacity building and multi-level global learning and sharing.

**Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada**

305-75 Albert Street | Ottawa, ON | K1P 5E7 | Canada

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[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | @CANRACCCanada

- To be serious about responding to the climate crisis, USD\$100 billion is not enough to assist developing countries contribute to limiting global warming to 1.5°C. It has been estimated that around USD\$400 billion annually is required to implement current conditional NDCs in developing countries between 2021 - 2030. Assuming all NDCs in developing countries are compliant with limiting global warming to 1.5°C these investments would be much higher (Pauw, W. P., Castro, P., Pickering, J., & Bhasin, S. 2019)
- In the context of the USD\$100 billion, Canada must provide its fair share and mobilize at least US\$4 billion (around \$5.2 billion) for international climate finance per year beginning in 2021. Using data from 2016-2018, Canada has mobilized around \$3.6 billion for climate finance or \$1.2 billion per year from all sources - including multilateral development banks' (MDBs) core contributions attributed to Canada - representing approximately 25% of Canada's fair share of the US\$100 billion annually since 2016. We estimate that only 27% of Canada's international climate finance is going to adaptation projects, including from MDBs' core contributions attributed to Canada.
- As Canada decides to scale up climate investments, it must ensure that new targets take into account the need to grow Canadian Official Development Assistance (ODA) to meet the UN target for ODA of 0.7% of GNI and its international development obligations to the poorest and most vulnerable countries.
- Moving forward, Canada should integrate climate resilience across the Feminist International Assistance Policy Action Areas. A resilience approach will help ensure the effectiveness of all Canadian international assistance interventions and the sustainability of impacts.
- Canada's new climate finance package should balance Canada's post-2020 climate finance portfolio by increasing bilateral, grant-based funding for adaptation. New finance should include measures to make investments more accessible to local organizations, both directly and through Canadian international non-governmental organizations. NGOs are best-placed to get resources into the hands of local women's rights organizations and the poorest and most vulnerable.
- Canada should work towards decolonizing Canada's climate finance and development approaches. Future climate finance investments uphold the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), which looks to protect their right to participation (IIPFCC).

Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada

305-75 Albert Street | Ottawa, ON | K1P 5E7 | Canada

Tel & Fax: +1 (855) CLIM-NET (254-6638) | [info@climateactionnetwork.ca](mailto:info@climateactionnetwork.ca)

[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | @CANRACCanada

- **Canada should commit 15% of its international climate finance towards gender equality as a “principal” objective, and 80% as a “significant” objective. This commitment would help strengthen a focus on gender equality as a primary objective in Canada’s international climate finance. It would also help foster coherence with Canada’s Feminist International Assistance Policy, which provides a ready blueprint for Canada’s sustainable development contributions.**
- **Canada should also include a specific financial commitment to support women’s resilience and adaptation in Canada’s post-2020 climate finance. This commitment should be founded on the feminist principles of localization and women’s leadership.**

## Context

On 18 July 2020, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres noted that COVID-19 had revealed the fragility of a range of social and economic systems. He said, “entire regions that were making progress on eradicating poverty and narrowing inequality have been set back years, in a matter of months. The virus poses the greatest risk to the most vulnerable: those living in poverty, older people, and people with disabilities and pre-existing conditions” (UNSG 2020). Most importantly, Guterres was referring to the fact that our vulnerabilities are directly linked to risks that we have decided to ignore for decades, such as the risks of the climate crisis and the risks related to inadequate health systems rooted in structural inequalities.

The following submission presents the case that Canada should focus on scaling up climate adaptation finance to developing countries, particularly those most vulnerable. While it’s doing so, it also commits to invest in feminist adaptation projects that respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

When it comes to adaptation, the Canadian government has shown interest in making adaptation a global priority. Canada has invested time and energy within the Global Commission on Adaptation. On July 9, 2020, Minister Jonathan Wilkinson signed, as a Commissioner of the commission, a Call to Action for a Climate-Resilient Recovery from COVID19. In this letter, Wilkinson and the other commissioners called for a climate-resilient recovery from COVID-19. They acknowledged the need to act, understanding that the impacts of the current health crisis are multiplied by the increasing effects of the climate crisis, particularly in those most vulnerable communities around the world that are facing and responding to multiple emergencies at the same time (GCA 2020).

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305-75 Albert Street | Ottawa, ON | K1P 5E7 | Canada

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The following submission seeks to contribute to the consultation around revising and scaling up Canada's international climate finance contributions. It focuses specifically on increasing Canada's investments in adaptation while enhancing its quality and quantity. It takes us back to 2016 to assess and learn from lessons based on Canada's experience. It presents concrete suggestions on how Canada can use its adaptation investments to promote resilience, gender equality, and reach the poorest and most vulnerable communities facing simultaneous crises like those amplified by COVID-19 and the climate crisis.

Climate Action Network Canada stands in solidarity with Indigenous Peoples and advocates for decolonizing Canada's international climate finance, particularly as Canada seeks to increase its climate-related investments and create new climate finance initiatives. Should Canada develop more partnerships around the world, it must do so in a way that respects Indigenous rights, upholds the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent and promotes and respects traditional knowledge. Canada's future climate investments must promote Indigenous to Indigenous relations globally.

### **Closing the adaptation gap**

COVID-19 has revealed how important it is for societies to protect themselves and recover as quickly as possible. For more than a decade, we have known that in responding to the climate crisis, adaptation needs are increasing rapidly (Mitchell, Anderson, Huq 2008, 1). An important number of reports, like the Adaptation Gap report of the UN Environmental Program (UNEP), has informed the global community of the need to urgently address adaptation finance. We also know that contributing to closing the adaptation gap is also an essential factor of success for COP26 in 2021. The United Kingdom, responsible for organizing the climate summit in Glasgow, has defined five areas that require urgent attention by UNFCCC Parties: clean energy, clean transport, nature-based solutions, finance, and adaptation and resilience (Sharma, 2020).

Despite the urgent need to close the adaptation funding gap, global actions from governments, financial institutions and climate funds have not matched words.

The Adaptation Finance Gap report indicated that adaptation costs could range from USD \$140 to \$300 billion per year in 2030, and rise to between USD \$280 and \$500 billion per year in 2050 (Adaptation Committee 2020, 9). The UNFCCC Adaptation Committee has said in 2020: "adaptation costs could give rise to a dramatic increase in the adaptation finance gap, which already presents a significant challenge for developing countries today (Adaptation Committee 2020, 9)". And those numbers might continue to increase if we don't make the right political and financial investments to increase adaptation support and build resilience in developing countries.

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[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | @CANRACCanada

We witness today how COVID-19 is amplifying structural and systemic inequalities in all countries, particularly in developing countries. Communities worldwide will experience different types of social, economic and cultural shock that will require a greater understanding of needs and an intersectional approach centred around building resilience to respond to future crises. Without enough resources, people and communities will be pushed to make impossible decisions about which crisis to prioritize, often at the expense of the other. The Global Commission on Adaptation called for accelerated progress on locally-led adaptation to give a voice to vulnerable populations to shape the recovery in every vital area and system. Locally-led adaptation action favours agency groups on the frontlines of climate change, like Indigenous Peoples, women, girls, and young people (GCA 2020).

### **Unpacking the US 100 billion commitment from a Canadian perspective**

In 2009 developed countries agreed to mobilize USD \$100 billion per year in climate finance for developing countries by 2020, to come from a wide variety of sources, public and private, bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources of funding (Copenhagen Accord, paragraph 8). The Paris Agreement also calls for a balance in adaptation and mitigation support (Paris Agreement, Article 9.4). In 2016, Canada and other developed countries said they were “confident [they] will meet the USD \$100 billion target, from a variety of sources” (OECD 2016). Canada promised to provide \$2.65 billion until March of 2021 and committed to reach \$800 million annually on climate action in 2021.

Developed countries divided this commitment in three: USD \$37.3 billion per year in bilateral public finance (including contributions to the Green Climate Fund and other multilateral funds), USD \$29.5 billion in multilateral public investment that is attributed to Canada based on its contributions to multilateral institutions. The rest, USD \$33.2 billion, would come from private co-finance mobilized attributed to developed countries and export credits.

In 2019 the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) released a report on public climate finance provided and mobilized by developed countries from 2013 and until 2017. The report concluded that, in 2017, only one-fifth (19%) of international climate finance (USD \$71.3 billion) was going to adaptation projects, an increase of 2% if we compare these levels to those of 2013 (OECD 2019). Another report released by the Climate Policy Initiative in 2019 concluded that only 5% of all (domestic, international, public and private) climate finance flows tracked in 2017 (USD \$579 billion) went to adaptation finance (Climate Policy Initiative 2019). How can we achieve the Paris Agreement’s long-term goals without substantially increasing financial support for adaptation?

**Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada**

305-75 Albert Street | Ottawa, ON | K1P 5E7 | Canada

Tel & Fax: +1 (855) CLIM-NET (254-6638) | [info@climateactionnetwork.ca](mailto:info@climateactionnetwork.ca)

[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | @CANRACCanada

Climate Action Network Canada has been reminding the Government that Canada’s fair share amounts to between 3.8% to 4% or approximately USD \$4 billion of the USD \$100 billion annual commitment. When we consider only the bilateral portion of the USD \$100 billion commitment, - which is also the one which is directly linked to official public resources - Canada’s fair share is CAD \$1.8 billion, which is double what Canada has committed to providing by 2021.

Providing climate finance is a matter of responsibility and equity. Canada, as a wealthy, greenhouse gas-intensive economy, carries significant historical responsibility for the climate crisis. Much of Canada’s wealth and prosperity can be attributed to its use of fossil fuels. Therefore we have an obligation to those enduring the consequences of our fair share in addressing those impacts. Canada has substantially contributed to the global buildup of greenhouse gas pollution in the atmosphere for over a century. It continues doing so today, reaping enormous economic benefits but also accumulating a substantial carbon debt.

Canada must contribute its fair share towards a global effort that limits global warming to no more than 1.5°C without overshoot and to assist those bearing the brunt of the climate crisis today. Using data from 2016-2018, Canada has mobilized around CAD \$3.6 billion for climate finance or CAD \$1.2 billion per year from all sources, including MDBs core contributions attributed to Canada. This amount represents approximately 25% of Canada’s fair share of the USD \$100 billion (Tomlinson 2020).

The table below presents these numbers:

**Table 1: An Estimate of Canada’s Reported Climate Finance, 2016 to 2018, All Channels**

Commitments, Millions Cdn Dollars	Total		
	Three-Year Total	Adaptation	Mitigation
Allocations, \$2.65B Commitment	\$ 1,432.5	\$ 358.1	\$ 1,078.1
Bilateral Principal Purpose Commitments	\$ 153.9	\$ 95.4	\$ 58.5
Bilateral Significant Purpose	\$ 207.6	\$ 133.6	\$ 74.0
Export Development Canada	\$ 645.5	\$ 129.1	\$ 516.4
FinDev Canada	\$ 57.3		\$ 57.3
Private Sector Mobilized	\$ 463.5	\$ 92.7	\$ 370.8

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Total	\$ 2,960.3	\$ 808.9	\$ 2,155.1
Estimate of Imputed Multilateral Finance	\$ 660.0		
Share Excluding Imputed Multilateral		27%	73%

Source: Tomlinson, Brian. 2020. The Reality of Canada’s Climate Finance, AidWatch Canada, September 2020. Link: <http://aidwatchcanada.ca/>

As we show in the table, estimates of adaptation support from Canada’s reported climate finance from all channels and funding pools show that only 27% of Canada’s international climate investments from 2016-18 supported adaptation.

**Canada must mobilize at least USD \$4 billion for international climate finance per year, beginning in 2021. When we consider only the bilateral portion of the USD \$100 billion commitment - which is also the one which is directly linked to official public resources - Canada’s fair share is \$1.8 billion, which is double what Canada has committed to providing by 2021.**

**Ensuring Canada’s climate finance is truly feminist and upholding our obligation to reach the poorest and most vulnerable, making climate finance truly feminist.**

Now, we might have a transformational opportunity to make adaptation investments contribute to building resilience to respond to future crises. “There is a ‘triple dividend’ of investing in resilience, which ensures scarce resources are creating the widest benefits including reducing disaster losses, unlocking development potential, and fostering wider social and environmental co-benefits” (Alcayna 2020, 11).

Contributing to closing the adaptation gap is not just about increasing adaptation, but ensuring that **future adaptation activities and investments promote the real value of partnership and global solidarity. In that sense, Canada must see its future adaptation investments as opportunities to develop a just and resilient recovery vision. Canada’s approach moving forward must promote country and community ownership, encourage social innovation, capacity building and multi-level global learning and sharing.** To be seen as a real partner, Canada must take measures to build trust-based relationships reflected in the activities and programs financed by Canada’s contributions.

Around the world, women, girls and other structurally-oppressed groups are highly dependent on natural resources. Women, girls and other marginalized groups are the primary providers of food, water and fuel in many countries where climate change makes such resources scarce. Agriculture is the primary livelihood source for up to 80% of economically active women in the least



developed countries. In Asia, women contribute up to 70% of rice production. Since they often do not have the economic resources to install irrigation systems, women smallholder farmers are dependent on rain. When there is a shortage of rain, families have less food, less money, and women tend to eat the least to save more food for their children.

With increased water scarcity linked to climate change, women have to travel greater distances to collect water. At the same time, women play a central role in responding to the climate crisis by developing creative and effective solutions to build the resilience of their communities to climate shock and stress. Since climate adaptation and resilience is fundamentally about changing people's behaviours, they provide a critical entry point for promoting gender equality and climate-resilient economic and social systems in tandem. Since traditional norms that influence people's behaviours and challenges will vary from place to place, local communities must be empowered to identify solutions best suited for their context. Prioritizing women and Indigenous communities at the heart of adaptation and disaster risk reduction initiatives have long-lasting impacts on their capacity to absorb climate shocks. Prioritizing women and Indigenous Peoples can help strengthen the sustainability and impact of interventions across all six Action Areas identified in Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy.

**For the post-2020 period, Canada should integrate climate resilience across the Feminist International Assistance Policy Action Areas. A resilience approach will help ensure the effectiveness of all Canadian international assistance interventions and the sustainability of impacts over time.**

**Canada should also include a specific financial commitment to support women's resilience and adaptation in Canada's post-2020 climate finance, emphasizing the principles of localization and women's leadership.**

This commitment would position local women in decision-making and leadership roles to build their agency and change cultural perceptions. It would make funding for local women's organizations accessible and flexible, enabling them to determine their priorities and report how much funding is going to them. Finally, it would develop more robust standards for coding gender equality in climate finance to ensure projects adequately achieve women's empowerment outcomes.

### **Enhancing Canada's adaptation finance record**

When Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced his \$2.65 billion commitment in Paris (The Globe and Mail 2015) organizations welcomed this support as a positive signal of the Government's ambitions for assisting the world's poorest and most vulnerable people in confronting the impacts of climate change.

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As of March 2020, more than \$2 billion has been committed (Government of Canada 2020). Global Affairs Canada allocated \$2.23 billion for principal-purpose climate finance, which includes \$205.2 million in principal purpose bilateral projects not included in the \$2.65 billion commitment (Tomlinson 2020).

Not all of Canada's international climate investments have been reported as part of the \$2.65 billion funding pool. The way Canada decides how these funds are disbursed has implications in the way Canada contributes to adaptation financing. To date, we know that less than 30% of Canada's climate finance goes towards adaptation projects. During the 2016 - 2018 period, Canada reports having committed and mobilized almost \$2.5 billion in total climate finance of which:

- Only \$946 million relates to the \$2.65B commitment;
- \$819.5 million were channelled through Export Development Canada / FinDev Canada;
- \$441.2 million are imputed to Canada in core multilateral support;
- \$858.9 million were allocated through bilateral principal purpose and significant purpose for international development projects. (Tomlinson 2020).

Contrary to expectations, these funding pools have done little to help Canada balance its adaptation finance record, meet its climate goals and obligations, promote sustainable development, or align adaptation finance with Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP) and the SDGs.

Canada's model of partnerships weighs heavily on multilateral development banks (MDBs), special funds that seek to incentivize private sector involvement (BRD 2020). Moreover, MDBs' climate finance allocations are mainly distributed across geographies that don't represent the poorest and most vulnerable countries, upper middle-income countries (UMIC) and lower middle-income countries (LMIC), where adaptation finance is crucially needed. **While Canada has agreed in principle that its climate finance must support the poorest and most vulnerable, its choice of funding mechanisms and modalities are poorly suited for reaching Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Development States (SIDS) (Tomlinson 2020).**

The allocation of funds and country ownership through MDBs remains problematic. First, when we look at the \$820 million that Canada has allocated through specific Canadian funds at the MDBs, taken together, only 18% have been reported as committed projects, which doesn't necessarily mean that they were all disbursed (Tomlinson 2020). Second, while it is true that MDBs can provide technical and institutional capacity at the country level, they have also been criticized for ignoring recipient countries' priorities (Brown 2013). These criticisms are

**Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada**

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[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | @CANRACCanada

particularly problematic for adaptation projects which are context-specific, community-based and require an understanding of local and multi-level governance.

On the other hand, it's of particular interest to note that from March 2016 to December 2019, Canada approved \$205 million in bilateral projects where the principal purpose was mitigation and adaptation activities. Examples include \$13 million for the Climate Adaptation and Economic Development of Agricultural Sectors in Haiti, implemented by CECI, and \$13 million for the Productive and Inclusive Coffee Value Chain Adapted to Climate Change in Haiti implemented by Oxfam-Quebec.

62% of all of these bilateral projects financed adaptation activities and 38% went to mitigation purposes. These funds were provided as grant contributions. Canadian CSOs were responsible for the implementation of \$60 million in projects. All CSOs projects focused on adaptation activities. 83% of these commitments went to LICs/LDCs. None of these projects were reported as part of Canada's \$2.65 billion commitment (Tomlinson 2020).

There is no specific reason to justify why the Canadian Government wouldn't count these initiatives as part of its \$2.65 billion commitment to the UNFCCC. But we strongly recommend that Canada's new climate finance package builds on that experience and aims to **balance Canada's post-2020 climate finance portfolio by increased bilateral, grant-based funding for adaptation. This portfolio should include measures to make Canada's international climate finance more accessible to local organizations. These funds should go both directly and through Canadian international non-governmental organizations that are best-placed to get resources into the hands of local women's rights organizations poorest and most vulnerable.**

### **Making rights-based climate finance commitments and decolonizing climate investments**

**For Canada's climate finance to be fully feminist and to promote reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, Canada's future adaptation investments must evaluate the environmental, social, human and Indigenous rights risks of project activities.** Climate adaptation projects must contribute to fight inequalities in developing countries, not to exacerbate them. We know that women, and in particular - Indigenous women, face greater vulnerability to climate change due to existing social and cultural norms and barriers - meaning they have less access to relevant resources and information and less agency to cope with climate impacts. And in many cases, these inequalities have been exacerbated by COVID-19. Today, Canada's climate finance lacks monitoring and evaluation to ensure its allocation is aligned with reaching the poorest and most vulnerable, women's empowerment, and development goals. There is also no particular policy to ensure that Canada's climate investments uphold Indigenous rights.

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MDBs, which is Canada's preferred delivery mechanism for climate finance, has been criticized for having a flawed, one-size-fits-all approach that fails to recognize different types of legal and normative frameworks and enforcement capacity within developing countries (Humphrey 2016). It's particularly concerning that when looking at safeguards policies across MDBs, most of these institutions have not developed gender-related safeguards and have weak human and Indigenous rights safeguard systems and mechanisms (Engen, Prizzon 2018). **These concerns are enough reasons for Canada to consider using delivery channels that explicitly commit to fostering sustainable development, have developed a feminist-lens development agenda and truly uphold human and the rights of Indigenous Peoples.**

Unlike UN climate funds, within MDBs, countries' voting power is based on the amount of the contribution and selective capital increases (Congressional Research Service 2020), which represents an undemocratic and colonial way to decide how to fund projects.

Canada has an obligation in all of its actions and programs to recognize, respect, and safeguard Indigenous Peoples' rights, knowledge systems, and legal orders and enable the essential and diverse contributions Indigenous Peoples have with living reciprocally with the land, water, and ice. Globally, Indigenous Peoples are among the first to face the direct consequences and impacts of climate change in Canada and worldwide. Indigenous Peoples have been adapting for thousands of years. They feel the effects of the climate and biodiversity loss crises and are facing forced relocation because of it. We see this is, for example, the case in the Arctic and the Pacific. Adapting to climate change is a priority for Indigenous Peoples around the world, but the current climate finance governance doesn't correctly acknowledge and address the needs of Indigenous Peoples.

**Canada should prioritize the decolonization of its climate finance and its development approaches. It should ensure that Canada's future climate finance investments uphold the minimum standard affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the standard of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in any decisions that involve them.)**

To this date, Canada doesn't have a strategy to ensure investments reach Indigenous Peoples around the world and empowers them to champion adaptation projects in their nations and communities. **In consultation with Indigenous Peoples in Canada, the Canadian Government should consider earmarking specific funding towards Indigenous Peoples for adaptation projects, support and empower Indigenous to Indigenous partnerships around the world.**

Women-led organizations at the forefront of local responses to the climate crisis face challenges accessing climate finance and are often excluded from decisions related to the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of climate responses. Moreover, reporting requirements by many donors, including the Government of Canada, often exceed or require a

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[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | @CANRACCanada

diversion of the limited capacities of local organizations. Locally, nationally and globally, women's meaningful participation in climate decision-making and negotiations needs to increase.

Canada should make explicit commitments to protect a proportion of international climate finance commitments for initiatives that target gender equality; otherwise, funds will tend to be diverted towards other objectives deemed more urgent or more comfortable to achieve.

Experts in Canada and worldwide celebrated Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy commitment to direct 15% of Canada's official development assistance (ODA) towards projects in which gender equality is the main objective, and 80% towards initiatives that include gender equality as a significant objective. Given that most international climate finance also counts as ODA, and aims to support Canada's contributions towards Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, the Government of Canada should apply the FIAP proportions to Canada's international climate finance package.

Although a low performer in absolute numbers, Canada leads its peers in terms of the proportion of its climate finance promoting gender equality, with some 93.3% of project disbursements between 2016-17 and 2018-19 mainstreaming gender equality among other objectives. However, virtually none of Canada's international climate finance - only 0.2% of adaptation finance in the same period - identified gender equality as a principal objective (Tomlinson 2020).

**For the post-2020 period, Canada should simplify funding and reporting requirements that limit women's rights organizations' ability to access international climate finance. Funding must be made more accessible to local women's organizations and movements and support their leadership in defining climate-related challenges and appropriate solutions in their context.**

**Canada should commit 15% of Canada's international climate finance towards gender equality as a "principal" objective, and 80% as a "significant" objective. This commitment would help strengthen a focus on gender equality as a primary objective in Canada's international climate finance. It would also help foster coherence with Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, which provides a ready blueprint for Canada's sustainable development contributions.**

### **Canada's participation in multilateral climate funds**

Canada engages within multilateral funds, like the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and currently acts as the co-chair of the GCF Board. Canada has not been shy in encouraging gender equality within the GCF structures, objectives and multilateral processes and funds. The GCF has developed a policy to mainstream gender assessments and a gender plan for every project that it finances (GCF, n.d.).

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Canada has committed \$600 million (and provided \$350 million up to today), but, as we have seen before, its contribution to the GCF is well below its fair share. It doesn't meet the ambition of other contributor countries like the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Sweden, Japan, Norway, Finland, Denmark, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Iceland. These countries' contributions to the GCF's replenishment were equal to or above their fair share, with many doubling their initial 2014 commitments. Of 25 contributor countries to the First replenishment of the GCF, Canada was 19<sup>th</sup> in meeting its fair share (Tomlinson 2020). Canada was also one of the few major economies not to double its contribution to the GCF in the first replenishment.

In the context of making progress on loss and damage within the Green Climate Fund, Canada should promote the creation of a finance facility to provide financial means for measures to minimize and address losses and damages that could fit into the GCF's loss and damage window (Shäfer, Künzel 2019). At COP25, Parties of the UNFCCC invited the GCF to "continue providing financial resources for activities relevant to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage" (Thwaites, Sidner, Larsen and Caldwell 2020).

The Green Climate Fund is not a perfect funding mechanism, but it has been designed to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement in developing countries. It is committed to balancing adaptation and mitigation support, and it has developed policies to promote gender equality and the empowerment and greater participation of Indigenous Peoples. However, the Green Climate Fund analysis shows that adaptation finance commitments have decreased considerably recently (Gronewold 2020). **Canada must use its position within the GCF Board to promote increased support for adaptation, mainly related to projects that benefit SIDs and LDCs.**

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**Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada**

305-75 Albert Street | Ottawa, ON | K1P 5E7 | Canada

Tel & Fax: +1 (855) CLIM-NET (254-6638) | [info@climateactionnetwork.ca](mailto:info@climateactionnetwork.ca)

[www.climateactionnetwork.ca](http://www.climateactionnetwork.ca) | @CANRACCanada

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