



News from COP 27



John Kerry announcing the Launch of the ETA. photo: Benito Müller

On 9 November, the day after the US mid-term elections, US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry launched Energy Transition Accelerator (ETA), an initiative designed to support developing country efforts to switch from fossil to renewable energy, with the help of the private sector and the voluntary carbon market.

According to a [7 November Washington Post article](#) on the initiative, "political paralysis and public pressure are pushing companies to step up with their own emission pledges — and money to help **poorer countries bearing the brunt of climate change's impacts**" and it was indeed extremely welcome to find that ETA includes of what has become known as a Share of Proceeds for Adaptation, as stated in the [State Department Press Release](#).

"To help strengthen climate adaption efforts in vulnerable countries, five percent of the value of all credits generated through the ETA will be dedicated to international support for adaptation and resilience."

Given that the ETA will seek broad alignment with evolving best-practice standards, it would be quite awkward for the best-practice standards, such as the IC-VCM's Core Carbon Principles, not to follow suit and include a SOPA (for more on this, see "[SOPA added to the proposed IC-VCM Core Carbon Principles](#)".

It is also interesting that the hyperlink in the quote leads to a [Post article](#) (5 Nov) on Pakistan leading the drive to establish "a dedicated loss-and-damage fund", as reflected in the OCP [blog post](#) of 4 November. As it happened, in the early hours of Sunday 6 November, Parties adopted a new agenda item on "Matters relating to funding arrangements responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including a focus on addressing loss and damage." This was widely regarded as a break though, indeed reported as [history having been made](#) and as "[an important milestone for the vulnerable nations that have raised the issue for more than 30 years](#)".

OCP has been working with friends over the first week of the COP to find a possible 'landing zone' for the negotiations under this new agenda item 8 (f), a collaboration that led to the following proposal for a decision text: The COP/CMA *decides to establish:*

1. a Technical Expert Body for piloting L&D response tools; and
2. a Pilot Trust Fund for L&D Response, administered by the Adaptation Fund, to receive funding for L&D response tools and to pilot innovative sources of L&D funding, such as new shares of proceeds or crowd sourcing.



European Capacity Building Initiative Seminar - 2022 -

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The 2022 Oxford Seminar took place from 5-7 September. The topics addressed were timely as many of them are being addressed at COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. Topics related to a proposed loss and damage funding facility, adaptation finance including a proposed SoPA in the VCM, the pre-2030 mitigation ambition work programme, the Global Goal on Adaptation, aligning financial flows with the Paris Agreement, and a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on Climate Finance, among others. The Oxford Seminar is ecbi's flagship annual event, providing the opportunity for delegates from developing countries to meet and discuss pressing issues in the UN climate negotiations with their European partners. The Seminar was preceded by the Fellowship Colloquium from 2-5 September. The Colloquium provided the opportunity for developing country experts to discuss amongst themselves issues of importance, form proposals, and consolidate positions on these issues in advance of the Seminar.

Related Documents:

[2022 Oxford Seminar Report.pdf](#)

Opinion Piece on Loss & Damage Finance: Time to Respond!



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

On 4 November 2022, Malik Amin Aslam Khan, former Pakistan Minister for climate change and Benito Müller, ecbi Director, had an OpEd titled 'Time to Respond!' published on the news aggregator [unclimatesummit.org](#) and the [OCP blog site](#). The authors make the case that: "we urgently need [a new multilateral pilot fund to respond to such climate induced loss and damage](#). The fund should be focussed on recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation after having suffered adverse climate impacts. Leaders must heed their genuine demands and help the most vulnerable displaced people to relocate their lives with dignity and rebuild critical infrastructure in a climate compatible manner. COP27 offers yet another opportunity for leaders to fill the gap in existing funding arrangements, which are no longer adequate to meet the requirements of the most vulnerable countries."

On the same topic, Müller was also quoted in a post on the Wall Street Journal Climate & Energy website, arguing that, with its litigious connotations, the term "loss and damage" is regrettable. Instead, he suggested the term "response fund" for the proposed fund might be more acceptable to such countries as the US. Müller said moves by Denmark and Scotland to offer money for countries hit by climate-related disasters suggest that "the dike has been broken" but of course much more needs to be done. Click [here](#) to see the WSJ post authored by Ed Ballard.

Adoption of a new agenda item on Loss and Damage finance at COP 27.

In the early hours of Sunday 6 November, Parties adopted a new agenda item on "Matters relating to funding arrangements responding to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including a focus on addressing loss and damage." This was widely regarded as a break though, indeed reported as [history having been made](#) and as "[an important milestone for the vulnerable nations that have raised the issue for more than 30 years](#)".

ecbi Director presents at SciencesPo Seminar and holds informal meetings in Paris



SciencesPo.



Brice Lalonde



Stéphane Crouzat Delphine Eyraud

On 25 October, Professor Benito Müller, ecbi Director, gave a presentation on his [Quo Vadis COP? Report on the Future Arrangements for Intergovernmental Meetings under the UNFCCC](#) at the [Centre for International Studies of SciencesPo](#) in Paris. The following day, he met [Dr. Marc Ringel](#), SciencesPo European Chair for Sustainable Development and Climate Transition, who kindly invited him to join Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Jeffrey Sachs, and Laurence Tubiana in his Scientific Committee.

On 28 October, Müller met with [Brice Lalonde](#), French Minister of Environment (1988–1992) and Ambassador on Climate Change Negotiations (2007–2010), [Stéphane Crouzat](#), French Head of Delegation and Climate Ambassador, and Dr. Delphine Eryaud, Climate, Environment and Energy Adviser at the Permanent Representation of France to the OECD, to discuss, among other things, the idea of a [Pilot Loss and Damage Response Fund](#) in preparation for COP27 in Sharm el-Sheik, Egypt, which begins on 6 November.

Voluntary Carbon Markets' Credibility in Question Over Support for Adaptation



The [Climate Vulnerable Forum](#), an international forum for countries most threatened by climate change, has published a blog post by Saleemul Huq, Head of the ecbi Training and Support Programme. The blog post, titled [Voluntary Carbon Markets' Credibility in Question Over Support for Adaptation](#), which makes the case for including a share of proceeds for adaptation (SoPA) in the core carbon principles (CCPs) being developed for the voluntary carbon markets (VCM). The Climate Vulnerable Forum has requested, through the official submissions' process, that the [Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market \(IC-VCM\)](#), which is developing the principles, add a SOPA to its CCPs and that from January 2024 onwards, carbon crediting programmes should charge a share of proceeds of 5% at issuance, for the benefit of the Adaptation Fund. Huq argues that if the VCM does not align with the Paris system, its credibility as an instrument for the global environmental response to the climate emergency will be seriously in doubt.

The blog post is calling for a 5% SoPA to match the Paris Agreement approach, which was agreed at COP26 in Glasgow with respect to SoPA under Article 6. This would enable the VCM to provide adaptation benefits in an equitable manner, without distorting market choices to benefit vulnerable developing countries. It would also put

the VCM in the “vanguard of progressive instruments to tackle the climate emergency”.

The IC-VCM, an independent governance body outside the UNFCCC, is in the process of establishing the CCPs, which will set new threshold standards for high-quality carbon credits, provide guidance on how to apply the principles, and define which carbon-crediting programmes and methodology types are eligible.