



Caribbean Climate Funders Commitment Implementation Guide



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International Philanthropy for Climate Commitment

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We proudly celebrate with [915 organizations who have signed the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change \(October 2025\)](#), marking a powerful and transformative global stand against the climate crisis, united by funders with compassion, trust and foresight. CARIPHIL extends heartfelt gratitude also to our Latin American climate philanthropy actors, for their generous solidarity and encouragement, truly exemplifying #philanthropyforclimate spirit!

Finally, CARIPHIL expresses noteworthy appreciation to WINGS and the Philanthropy for Climate funding partners, the European Union, The Daniel and Nina Carasso Foundation, Laudes Foundation and The Rockefeller Brothers Fund; for their sincere, unwavering, dedicated and direct financing of meaningful climate action. This growing momentum shows philanthropy's rising leadership to meet head on the growing requirements of climate emergencies and forecasted impacts.

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Introduction

The [Caribbean Climate Funders Commitment](#) (CCFC and/or Caribbean Commitment) is a regional call to action, inviting all philanthropic and funding organizations including diverse multisector actors, to unite around a shared vision of climate justice, resilience and equitable development for the Caribbean. Signatories to the Caribbean Commitment pledge to take meaningful, demonstrative, coordinated actions, across the Seven Pillars. The Caribbean Commitment also emboldens funders to align their strategies, operations and investments, within the context of the climate-crisis and its escalating impacts on the region.

The Caribbean Commitment was developed in alignment with the [International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change](#) and under the [CLASP \(Climate Philanthropy & Strategic Partnerships\)](#) initiative. CLASP was designed to mobilize climate actors to share strategies, foster collective leadership, engage transparently and determine synergies to advance Caribbean climate action through both vertical and horizontal integration mechanisms. CARIPHIL recognizes philanthropic organizations differ widely across the Caribbean; from institutions and individuals providing direct finance, multilateral partnerships, regional grant makers, corporate investment and social-enterprise actors to non-profit regranting intermediaries, charitable and religious entities, family foundations, diaspora-led initiatives and national and community-based funds. Nevertheless, dedicated Climate funding is inadequate and insufficiently available to advance adaptation technologies, manage climate-risks and enhance resiliency in markets and people. As CLASP seeks to understand our unique philanthropic landscape, *Caribbean Commitment* was developed acknowledging and enhanced by this diversity.

Consequently, this Implementation Guide offers practical direction, inspiration and strategies to support signatories in turning their pledge into action. Each signatory is asked to use this guide as a living framework for learning, collaboration and continuous improvement, together. The suggestions in this guide to implement the Pillars are not prescriptive checklists but provides options and suggestions that can be adapted to the organization's stage of climate action and its broader mission and vision. Please use whatever is useful.

If your foundation is not yet signed up to the Caribbean Climate Funders Commitment but considering doing so, this Guide will give you a clearer idea of the type of actions your organization can take to implement it. CARIPHIL recognizes our region's distinct vulnerabilities and leadership potential, at a pivotal time of global transformation.

We challenge funders to act now to advance innovative, locally grounded solutions and emerging technologies to help build a climate-resilient future for the Caribbean.





Implementation Framework Overview

The implementation framework is grounded in CCFC Seven Pillars — integrating actions on climate funding, knowledge sharing, systems change and transparency. It encourages funders to adopt approaches rooted in co-ownership of responsibilities and to align institutional behaviour with Caribbean climate realities. This CCFC Implementation Guide, outlines suggested actions for each of the CCFC Seven Pillars, presented across three (3) progressive levels of engagement as depicted below:

The Three Levels of Implementation for each Pillar of the Caribbean Climate Funders Commitment



Level 1: Getting Started



Level 2: Building Momentum

(In addition to actions at Level 1)



Level 3: Demonstrating Leadership

(In addition to actions at Level 1 and Level 2)

The Levels provide a **flexible roadmap** for funders, regardless of their size, capacity, philanthropic or funding focus. Not everything in this guide will be relevant or appropriate for every signatory. Some actors may just be starting to explore climate-aligned giving or sustainable operations. Others may already have well-developed environmental, social, and governance (ESG) strategies, or have supported climate adaptation and justice work for years. Wherever your starting point, the CCFC encourages steady, deepening engagement — moving from early steps to systemic transformation in how philanthropy operates, invests, and advocates for the region’s future.

The Levels are informal and meant to shape ideas and designs. Nevertheless, one concept organizations should try to maintain as a signatory of the Caribbean Commitment, whilst pursuing actions in any Levels, the maintenance, supervision, evaluation and even repetition of actions from lower levels. This can build momentum from one action in Level 1 and advance it to Level 2. The review and data capture can determine impacts for repetitions of actions and advancing them to improve upon actions in each level and **continue actions in all Levels, once feasible** (**In addition to actions at Level 1 & *In addition to actions at Level 1 and Level 2*). We encourage signatories to develop their own actions, share ideas, success, strategies and experiences. Moreover, this guidance is also meant to encourage monitoring and evaluation. Establishing participatory monitoring systems, co-designed with local stakeholders to track both economic and non-economic losses is encouraged; especially as Loss and Damage financing mechanisms are advanced. Continuous learning through shared data platforms reinforces trust, transparency and Caribbean-driven progress.





This guide will be accompanied soon by a growing library of Caribbean-relevant tools, capacity-building resources, templates for action and data tracking. These resources will be continuously expanded through CLASP, which serves as the CCFC's coordination platform and regional learning hub. First on the agenda will be developing a simple, annual reporting framework for CCFC signatories, inspired by international good practices but tailored to Caribbean contexts. Its objectives will be to track Levels of Pillar advancement, facilitate collective learning, foster accountability and celebrate progress, **not to burden funders with compliance**. The reporting process will help identify both gaps and opportunities, share good practices, and showcase the evolving leadership of Caribbean climate philanthropy in global climate action.

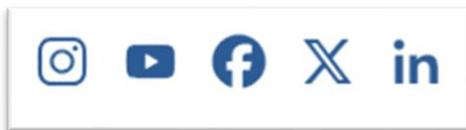
As we take the next steps together, we encourage all signatories to act with ambition, collaboration, and courage. Climate change in the Caribbean is not an abstract future threat — it is a lived and daily reality shaping our economies, ecosystems, and communities. Addressing it effectively demands more than technical fixes; it requires tackling interconnected issues of equity, reparative justice, governance, and development !

We welcome your feedback, stories, and lessons learned as this guide evolves.

Please contact CARIPHIL at projectdirector@cariphilalliance.org; info@cariphilalliance.org to share your feedback, experiences and recommendations for future editions.

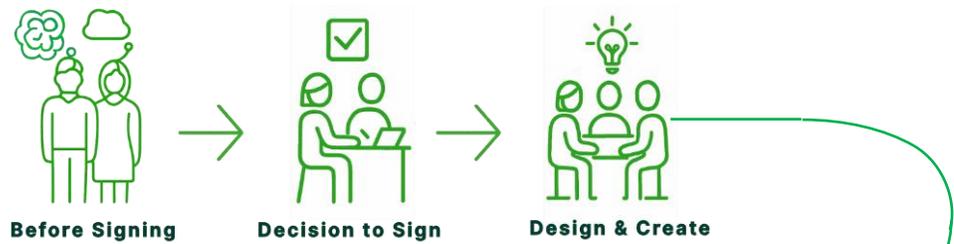
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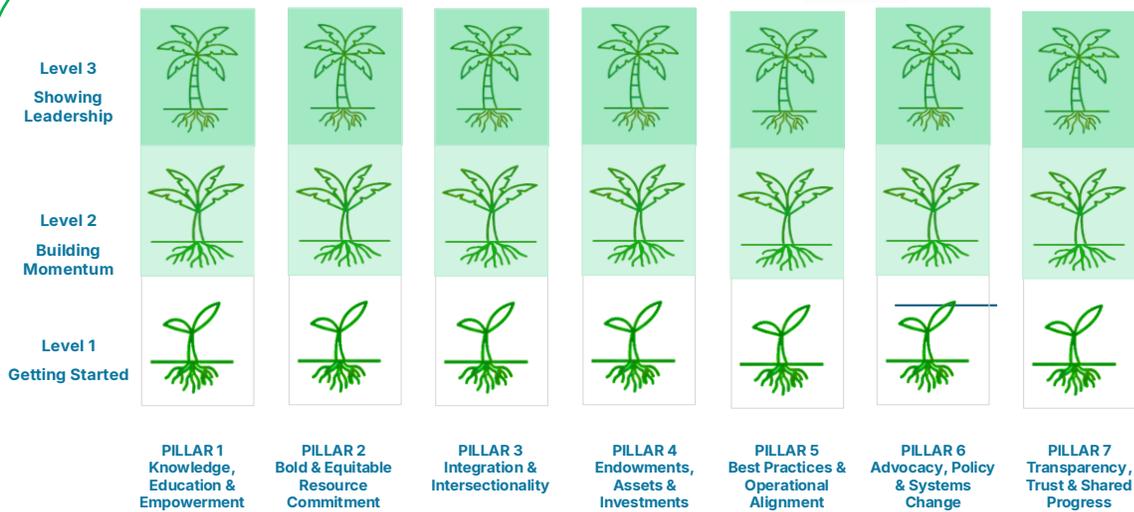




OUR CARRIBEAN CLIMATE JOURNEY



IMPLEMENTATION



The 7 PILLARS of Caribbean Climate Funders Commitment (CCFC)

REVIEW & REPEAT *

***Regular reviews of actions across the CCFC Pillars help identify what is effective, where improvements are needed, and which new opportunities have emerged. By openly sharing both successes and challenges with other CCFC Signatories, organizations contribute to a growing community of practice that fosters collaboration, mutual support, and shared learning across the Caribbean.**

Through each cycle of review and adaptation, organizations strengthen their leadership and collective contribution toward a just, climate-resilient Caribbean future.

The Implementation Guide was created to catalyse CCFC champions into action and provide a roadmap to operationalization of climate justice and resilience. Through co-ownership of responsibilities and adherence to rights-based, inclusive principles, funders can help transform the region's climate response.





There is no “one size fits all” method for a philanthropic organisation to implement the commitment, but the following stages may be a helpful framework to understand the steps of this journey. This guide serves as both a call to action and a framework for enduring, equitable collaboration towards shared progress on climate action

1. BEFORE SIGNING

Organizations do not need to complete any formal preparations before signing the Caribbean Commitment. What matters most:

- Willingness to act collectively to strengthen Caribbean climate resilience and justice.
• Considering what it means for the organization to make a public, Caribbean-rooted commitment to addressing the climate crisis.
• Taking a first step to begin the climate conversation with knowledge and trust and leadership.

Some considerations: How does climate intersect with your organisation’s mission, programmes, or communities and networks. What climate challenges or opportunities are most pressing in your country or sector? How are other regional and international partners responding and what can be learnt from them?

2. DECISION TO SIGN

Signing the CCFC is a public commitment to act—recognizing the urgency of the climate crisis and the power of collective giving to drive tangible, positive change. The decision to sign should be taken at the highest level of governance, usually by the organisation’s Board or Executive Leadership. Signing signals a readiness to begin or deepen the climate and sustainability journey by taking actionable steps and sharing progress transparently. Before signing determine if the organization is already engaged in related national or sectoral climate initiatives, aligning this with the CCFC will strengthen coherence and capacities to sign.

3. DESIGN & CREATE IMPLEMENTATION

After signing, review your organisation’s operations and strategy alongside this Implementation Guide to identify how to create, design and organize simple and effective implementation of the CCFC, growing in complexity as levels advance.

- Some funders may have ability or desire to act across multiple CCFC Pillars while others may prefer to start one pillar at a time.
• Implementation should align with your organisation’s priorities, capacity, vision mission, culture and community relationships and any other unique elements.
• Identify internal champions to support the design.
• Connect with local climate practitioners of experts.

What matters is consistency, setting targets and creating actions that fits the organization context and strengths and tenants of the CCFC. See Suggestion Actions in next section to support this crucial part of CCFC implementation. Be creative and design with purpose.

4. IMPLEMENT

Implementation can take many forms depending on an organization’s resources, readiness, desires and needs, leadership behaviour, it should be executed with priority to ensure benefits and CCFC alignment. Some may choose to:

- Determine their climate or environmental footprint of and set goals to reduce emissions and improve efficiency and lower costs.
• Involve integrating a climate justice lens into funding specific to community-led adaptation.
• Invest in local innovation and even projects that advance energy access, food security, and resilience in vulnerable communities.
• Focus on internal capacity building programs.

Ultimately, organizations should implement with purpose and resources to make the most meaningful impact while strengthening their own institutional process, practice and culture; recognizing that implementation is both a learning journey and a vital contribution to collective regional transformation.

5. REVIEW AND REPEAT

Ongoing monitoring, reflection, and accountability are vital to maintaining long-term impact. Each organization should establish a simple system to track progress, capture lessons learned and share updates with its Board, team and partners.





PILLAR 1: KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION & EMPOWERMENT

From the CCFC:

This pillar is the bedrock of our response to the climate emergency. We recognize that true resilience begins with reclaiming the narrative; therefore, we will resource Caribbean knowledge systems to empower communities through deep climate literacy. This includes use of Indigenous Peoples knowledge, fostering youth leadership, and preserving the oral traditions of storytelling. To ensure Caribbean voices lead the global dialogue, we will develop independent, community-based media platforms to amplify local perspectives. We will also finance the critical data systems needed to measure Loss and Damage²⁵ (both economic & non-economic)²⁶. This data is essential for equity and radical accountability. By transforming regional academic and civil society institutions into innovation hubs—using art, culture, and technology—we turn education into a primary tool for survival and justice.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

Climate literacy, data integrity, and locally grounded knowledge are the foundation of effective climate action and resilient communities. Across the Caribbean, strengthening education and empowerment is not simply about awareness it is about equipping every funder, organization, and community with the understanding, cultural confidence, and scientific insight needed to make informed, just, and sustainable decisions. Caribbean funders, governments, and civil society leaders must work collaboratively to ensure that both traditional and emerging knowledge systems — from Indigenous Peoples' ecological practices to advanced data on Loss and Damage — are valued, shared, and integrated into decision-making. Empowerment in this context also means addressing barriers to access: ensuring that women, youth, rural populations, and marginalized communities have equal opportunity to learn, lead, and inform climate solutions.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS



LEVEL 1 – GETTING STARTED

For organizations beginning their journey toward integrating this pillar, **the focus is on awareness, inclusion, and foundational understanding.**

- Invite local and regional experts to brief the board and staff on the intersection of climate change, resilience, and Caribbean development.
- Organize introductory climate literacy workshops for staff, grantees, and community partners.
- Curate and circulate accessible resources — articles, podcasts, and reports — on Caribbean climate issues.
- Collaborate with other CCFC signatories, regional alliances and academic institutions to host learning circles that connect funders and communities.
- Commit to diversity and equity in all learning spaces that prioritize the inclusion of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and other underrepresented voices.



LEVEL 2 – BUILDING MOMENTUM

As capacity strengthens, organizations can build **structured, participatory learning and application.**

- **Develop or adopt a formal climate literacy training programme** for board, staff, and partner organizations
- Facilitate opportunities for youth and community educators to co-create and deliver content — reinforcing community-led empowerment.
- Provide support to grantees and partners to undertake similar training or to develop localized educational tools, including storytelling initiatives, podcasts, and data visualizations.
- Integrate climate-related learning into existing programmes on governance, leadership, or development to mainstream awareness across portfolios.
- Establish partnerships with local universities media or data hubs to improve access to regional data and promote open-source sharing.



LEVEL 3 – SHOWING LEADERSHIP

At this level, organizations demonstrate institutionalized learning, innovation, and sector-wide influence.

- **Integrate climate literacy and Caribbean contextual understanding** into recruitment, job descriptions and performance reviews.
- Commission or co-sponsor regional research on the social and economic dimensions data reflects the lived realities of Caribbean communities.
- Establish or fund knowledge networks and community-led learning hubs — blending traditional knowledge, science, and creative expression to document and share climate solutions.
- Offer comprehensive training and mentorship on evidence-based advocacy, storytelling, and data literacy.
- **Support independent and community-based media**
- **Share your organization's learning and practices through CLASP and other regional platforms, modelling transparency and inspiring other funders to join.**





PILLAR 2: BOLD & EQUITABLE RESOURCE COMMITMENT

From the CCFC:

Recognizing that the unbanked²⁷ and marginalized face systemic barriers, we will simplify eligibility to ensure funding reaches those often excluded from traditional finance. We will build trust by shifting power directly to the people through inclusionless pathways and Community Access Windows²⁸. Together with NGOs and CBOs, we will jointly finance innovative Loss and Damage solutions while leveraging the Caribbean diaspora and local intermediaries to channel resources where they are needed most. By affirming the rights and leadership of Afro-Caribbean, Indo-Caribbean, Asian-Caribbean and Indigenous Peoples, we protect narrative sovereignty, ensuring climate action is rooted in our authentic histories and cultural identities.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

Effective climate action must prioritize the leadership, rights, and voices of all Caribbean Peoples, ensuring that cultural identities and histories are authentically represented in climate solutions. To address Loss and Damage and the underlying causes of climate vulnerability, philanthropic funders must deploy resources through trusted intermediaries, diaspora networks, community-based organizations (CBOs), and mechanisms designed to reach marginalized and excluded groups — including the unbanked — through inclusive access pathways. Signatories may also need to commit internal resources and leadership to dismantle systemic barriers to support meaningful local ownership of climate financing solutions. Philanthropy has a critical responsibility to design resourcing models that are innovative, equitable, and collaborative.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS



LEVEL 1 – GETTING STARTED

- Assign formal responsibility within your organization for coordinating efforts to implement; a dedicated staff role or an added responsibility to existing position and that person or team has sufficient seniority, expertise and/or budget to engage meaningfully
- Engage the Board and leadership on climate equity and resource justice. Integrate climate justice and equitable financing as standing agenda items. Recruit Board members with relevant experience in climate resilience, community finance, or equity-driven philanthropy.
- Conduct an internal review to identify barriers within funding mechanisms that may restrict access by marginalized Caribbean communities, unbanked populations, or local intermediaries. Begin exploring how these barriers can be removed or eased.

LEVEL 2 – BUILDING MOMENTUM

- Allocate a clear portion of grant making or program budget specifically for innovative and equitable climate financing models.
- Develop or expand funding partnerships with trusted Caribbean intermediaries, diaspora organizations, and community-based organizations that reflect local priorities and enable better access.
- Simplify eligibility requirements and funding application processes to improve access for the (Community Access Windows or similar mechanisms.)
- Join and actively participate in regional philanthropy and climate finance networks focused on equitable resource flows.
- Fund at least one collaborative project or initiative that exemplifies bold and equitable resourcing, such as a jointly financed Loss and Damage mechanism co-designed with NGOs, CBOs, and local stakeholders.

LEVEL 3 – SHOWING LEADERSHIP

- Build capacity by hiring additional staff or experts on narrative sovereignty and cultural representation, financing models.
- Commit to a strategic increase in overall funding dedicated to "Bold & Equitable Resource Commitment," reflecting the organization's long-term investment in Caribbean-led climate solutions.
- Co-create and lead multi-stakeholder financing initiatives that set new standards for transparency, inclusivity, and cultural authenticity.
- Publicly advocate for the removal of systemic barriers in climate finance at international, regional, and national levels. Support reforms to increase access for marginalized Caribbean groups.
- Devote a significant portion of your total philanthropic resources towards transformative funding models that advance Pillar 2 goals, while integrating these commitments with your broader climate, social justice, and organizational strategies.





PILLAR 3 : INTEGRATION & INTERSECTIONALITY

From the CCFC:

Addressing structural oppression and decision-making imbalances is at the heart of this work. Support is prioritized for intersectional inclusion—integrating gender, climate mobility, disability rights, and social justice within a rights-based framework. From rural realities to vulnerable coastal communities, the focus remains on empowering culturally grounded solutions. By addressing the interconnected needs of poverty reduction, health, including, mental health and food security, we will create funding models help sustain community resilience and long-term well-being.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

Climate change in the Caribbean is deeply intertwined with social, economic, cultural, and environmental dimensions — including gender justice, disability rights, climate mobility, poverty reduction, food security, health and wellness, and human rights. Achieving a just and lasting transition to net zero and climate resilience requires an intersectional approach that challenges structural oppression and decision-making imbalances. Philanthropic organizations must intentionally integrate these interconnected realities into their programming and funding, ensuring that solutions are culturally grounded and responsive to the lived experiences of rural, coastal, and vulnerable communities. By weaving intersectionality into climate action, signatories advance rights-based, equitable, and inclusive responses that empower marginalized Caribbean peoples and uphold their leadership in designing transformative, sustainable futures.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS



LEVEL 1 – GETTING STARTED

- Educate staff and leadership about the links between organizational mission, climate change, and intersectional justice — including gender equity, disability rights, climate mobility, and rural and coastal vulnerabilities.
- Hold strategy or learning sessions with programmatic teams to explore how climate change intersects with social justice, health, economic security, and cultural identity.
- Review existing grants or programmes to identify where intersectional approaches are already present and where gaps remain.
- Assess climate-related risks to your mission, programmes, and beneficiaries, especially considering vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- Ensure that any new or revised programme designs explicitly integrate intersectional considerations and support a just transition.

LEVEL 2 – BUILDING MOMENTUM

- Engage directly with grantees, local communities and partners from marginalized and vulnerable Caribbean populations to identify their specific needs and resource gaps to address climate impacts and systemic inequities. E.g. community-led mental health initiatives, food security programs, or disability-inclusive infrastructure.
- Collaborate with other funders, civil society and regional networks to foster integrated approaches linking climate with health, social justice, economic empowerment, and cultural preservation.
- Embed intersectional climate criteria into due diligence and grant making policies, particularly when working with larger institutions, to ensure alignment with rights-based and culturally grounded frameworks.
- Support initiatives that specifically centre Afro-Caribbean, Indo-Caribbean, and Indigenous leadership and cultural knowledge systems as drivers of resilient climate solutions

LEVEL 3 – SHOWING LEADERSHIP

- Redesign organizational strategy to position climate justice and intersectional inclusion as core pillars, integrated with all philanthropic goals and regional priorities.
- Systematically review and adapt programme goals and funding criteria in light of escalating climate impacts, emphasizing adaptation and a just, equitable transition for marginalized Caribbean communities.
- Phase out funding for projects or activities that undermine rapid decarbonization, social justice, or the cultural integrity of Caribbean peoples.
- Lead multi-sectoral partnerships and coalitions advocating for structural reforms that address intersectional oppression, enhance community resilience, and secure rights-based climate finance in the Caribbean.
- Dedicate a significant portion of funding portfolio toward transformative programs that simultaneously tackle poverty reduction, mental health, sustainable livelihoods, and climate resilience — ensuring culturally relevant, community-led solutions are prioritized.





PILLAR 4 : Best Practices & Operational Alignment

From the CCFC:

We will align assets with climate justice, scale Environmental & Social Governance (ESG)²⁹ and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)³⁰ We champion multi-year³¹, agile³² and unrestrictive funding, built on trust-based philanthropy. To meet the extent of needs, we will deploy innovative instruments like parametric insurance³³, debt-for-climate swaps³⁴, and anticipatory finance³⁵ instruments Promoting fair distribution³⁶ across Caribbean states ensures that investment standards reflect the unique regional priorities and justice principles.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

Climate change poses systemic risks to financial assets globally, including those stewarded by philanthropic organizations in the Caribbean. By aligning endowments, operational funds, and investments with climate justice principles, advancing rapid and just transition to a net zero economy may be achieved. The Caribbean's unique vulnerabilities require innovative and contextually appropriate investment approaches, including ESG, CSR and private sector aligned portfolios. Philanthropic funders should embrace innovative financing models that support local leadership and community resilience. Innovative climate finance instruments, identified in this Pillar, ensure fair distribution of investment benefits across Caribbean and should be prioritized along with regional collaboration to develop investment standards rooted in Caribbean justice and priorities to improve impact and accountability

SUGGESTED ACTIONS



LEVEL 1 – GETTING STARTED

- Secure internal capacity within the finance team or engage external advisors knowledgeable in climate-aligned investment strategies and Caribbean regional priorities.
- Request climate risk management and reporting from external fund managers or expert advisors to create clear expectations aligned to just transition goals and innovative finance mechanisms.
- Join relevant initiatives such as the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), to signal commitment and financial best practices.
- Identify all finance providers connected to your organization and help educate and influence them, including operational bank accounts, corporate donors and staff pension schemes to begin integrating climate considerations.

LEVEL 2 – BUILDING MOMENTUM

- Measure and evaluate the climate impact and carbon footprint of your investment portfolio, including endowments and operational assets.
- Transition to fund managers and financial advisers who embed climate risk and opportunity analysis consistently.
- Update investment strategies and policies to explicitly incorporate climate risks, opportunities for a just transition, and innovative financing instruments
- Direct your fund managers to support climate-positive shareholder resolutions at Annual General Meetings or provide explanations when not supporting them.
- Invest in energy efficient activities and activities and screen out high carbon or environmentally harmful investments.
- Engage proactively with finance providers identified under Level 1 — such as banking services, corporate donors, and pension providers — to influence their climate action and alignment with Caribbean justice principles.

LEVEL 3 – SHOWING LEADERSHIP

- Commit to a net zero portfolio aligned with a 1.5°C pathway, setting transparent targets and milestones for divestment and reinvestment.
- Invest substantially within your risk tolerance in low-carbon technologies and climate-resilient infrastructure that supports Caribbean sustainable development such as loss and damage, climate solutions and just transition.
- Collaborate with other philanthropic asset owners and regional stakeholders in coalitions to drive corporate accountability and compel climate action.
- Lead efforts to scale and promote innovative, multi-year, agile, and/or unrestrictive funding models that foster trust-based philanthropy and equitable distribution of investment benefits locally or regionally.
- Champion the development and adoption of Caribbean-specific ESG/CSR standards and climate finance instruments that reflect regional justice and resilience priorities End financial relationships with providers that do not demonstrate credible and sufficient climate action aligned with CCFC principles.





PILLAR 5: BEST PRACTICES & OPERATIONAL ALIGNMENT

From the CCFC:

We will lead by example through sustainable institutional operations³⁷ and active carbon footprint management³⁸. By integrating climate and organizational risk management³⁹, we transform our internal cultures into models of resilience. We will protect local intellectual property and the custodianship of climate innovations⁴⁰, ensuring ownership stays in the region. Through standardized assessments⁴¹ and open-source knowledge sharing, we foster accountability. By nurturing gender-responsive⁴² and intergenerational leadership⁴³, we embed a climate-responsive⁴⁴ organizational culture that sustains future generations

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

Getting “our own house in order” is essential to demonstrate integrity and credibility when addressing climate change collaboratively in the Caribbean. Signatories must embrace institutional transformation that strengthens their capacity to manage carbon footprints, climate-related risks, and organizational sustainability. The Caribbean context demands integrated strategies that include capacity building, sustainable operations (Glossary ref. 37), standardized climate risk management (ref. 39), and robust reporting aligned with regional frameworks for Loss and Damage (ref. 41). Supporting the recognition of local intellectual property and custodianship of climate innovations (ref. 40), alongside promoting open-source knowledge sharing (ref. 42) and gender-responsive, intergenerational leadership (ref. 43), will foster resilient, climate-responsive organizational cultures (ref. 44).

SUGGESTED ACTIONS



LEVEL 1 – GETTING STARTED

- Conduct an assessment or inventory of operational emissions sources, waste and environmental harms, to identify the highest priority areas to reduce operational impacts including carbon footprint from travel, buildings, and procurement. Climate or environmental footprint of the organization as well.
- Embed ongoing monitoring of emissions within your internal systems, for example, tracking energy use, travel, and resource consumption.
- Evaluate your organization’s vulnerability to climate change impacts and operational risks (Climate and Organizational Risk Management, ref. 39).



LEVEL 2 – BUILDING MOMENTUM

- Engage staff at all levels to identify priorities and practical actions to reduce operational emissions and increase sustainability.
- Set clear targets and timelines for achieving net zero operational emissions, with interim milestones to track progress.
- Develop or update policies that support emissions reduction and sustainable practices, such as procurement guidelines, travel policies, and catering standards.
- Design and implement a diverse climate adaptation plan for the organization to manage identified risks and increase resilience.
- Support grantees and partners to assess their own carbon footprints and climate vulnerabilities, encouraging shared responsibility and capacity building.



LEVEL 3 – SHOWING LEADERSHIP

- Extend carbon footprint assessments to include Scope 3 emissions (emissions from supply chain and external activities), following best practices such as those recommended by experts.
- Drive continuous improvement by embedding incentives or recognition programs for leadership in emissions reductions and sustainability practices.
- Offset any residual emissions through reputable and certified providers or, alternatively, impose an internal carbon price aligned with the Paris Agreement objectives, directing these funds toward additional climate mitigation grants.
- Promote standardized Loss and Damage assessments and reporting aligned with Caribbean regional data frameworks to enhance transparency, benchmarking, and accountability.
- Champion institutional knowledge sharing through open-source platforms and foster gender-responsive and intergenerational leadership development to cultivate climate-responsive organizational cultures.
- Recognize and support local intellectual property and custodianship of climate innovations as key assets in building Caribbean climate resilience.





PILLAR 6: ADVOCACY, POLICY & SYSTEMS CHANGE

From the CCFC:

This pillar is our catalyst for global power. While other pillars build local capacity, this one seeks to shape narratives and demand systemic reforms on the world stage. We will fund and strengthen advocacy for climate reparations⁴⁵ and equitable access to climate finance⁴⁶, ensuring Loss and Damage mechanisms are non-negotiable. We will engage with media and storytelling networks to shape narratives⁴⁷ that reflect Caribbean realities and inform global policy debates. By coordinating regional influence across multilateral forums such as the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)⁴⁸, the Conference of the Parties (CoP)⁴⁹ and regionally at CARICOM, we move from being "vulnerable" to being "formidable". Our actions will foster evidence-informed systems reform⁵⁰ built on trusted data, collaboration and integrity. By promoting climate policies serving the collective well-being and sustainable future of the entire Caribbean society, we will not just participate in the debate; we drive the reform.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

Climate change is a systemic challenge that demands coordinated, multi-sectoral responses grounded in scientific evidence and social justice. Philanthropic organizations are uniquely positioned in the Caribbean to bridge sectors, amplify frontline voices, and catalyze policy and systems change at local, regional, and global levels.

Signatories of the CCFC will prioritize amplifying Caribbean leadership and narratives in key international and regional policy arenas, including CARICOM and multilateral forums (Glossary ref. 48 United Nations General Assembly; ref. 49 Conference of the Parties). Supporting advocacy coalitions focused on climate reparations (ref. 45), equitable climate finance access (ref. 46), and Loss and Damage mechanisms is essential to securing justice and resilience for the region.

By fostering evidence-informed systems reform (ref. 50) and shaping narratives (ref. 47) through strategic media engagement, funders can ensure Caribbean realities are centred in climate policy debates and that collective well-being remains paramount.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS



LEVEL 1 – GETTING STARTED

- Publicly declare your commitment to the CCFC and the importance of climate advocacy on your website and external communications, clearly articulating your Caribbean-centred climate justice focus.
- Seek out and build relationships with frontline Caribbean communities, regional advocacy groups, and other stakeholders championing climate justice in your operational geography.
- Review your communications strategy to ensure it is inclusive, culturally relevant, and aligned with the goals of amplifying Caribbean voices and leadership.



LEVEL 2 – BUILDING MOMENTUM

- Actively promote the CCFC within local and regional philanthropic networks to encourage collective climate advocacy.
- Provide platforms in external communications for vulnerable Caribbean communities to share their stories and perspectives directly — through blogs, videos, social media takeovers, or storytelling networks (ref. 47).
- Support and amplify regional climate advocacy efforts, coalitions, and campaigns focused on reparations, Loss and Damage, and equitable access to finance.



LEVEL 3 – SHOWING LEADERSHIP

- Define and pursue a clear climate advocacy goal linked to the organizational mission, collaborating with frontline groups, advocacy coalitions, and policy actors to maximize impact.
- Host annual forums, convenings, or events to bring together signatories and non-signatories, strengthening Caribbean philanthropic engagement and unified advocacy action.
- Engage actively in key regional and global policy platforms, including the UN General Assembly (ref. 48), Conference of the Parties (ref. 49), CARICOM, and other relevant bodies, ensuring Caribbean priorities and justice-based climate policies are advanced.
- Invest in and foster data-driven, evidence-informed systems reforms (ref. 50) that support transparent, accountable, and just climate governance in the Caribbean.





PILLAR 7: TRANSPARENCY, TRUST & SHARED PROGRESS

From the CCFC:

We are shifting philanthropy from transactional to relational. We will prioritize participatory accountability and open data, co-monitoring global mechanisms like the Santiago Network⁵¹ to ensure they deliver for the Caribbean region. By moving from rigid oversight to co-learning, we fill critical data gaps and foster deeper collaboration. We embrace our ethical obligation to centre trust and equity in every partnership. This shared progress is the heartbeat of systems change, ensuring we remain accountable to the Caribbean people by promoting trust, equity, accountability and our ethical obligations to foster deeper collaboration and long-term systems change.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT?

Transparency and accountability are foundational to building trust among Caribbean philanthropic actors, communities, and partners confronting climate change. By openly sharing progress, challenges, and learning, signatories foster co-learning, strengthen collective impact and accelerate responses to the climate crisis. Practicing participatory accountability, open data sharing and inclusive progress reporting enhances legitimacy and aligns with Caribbean justice principles. Supporting monitoring of critical regional mechanisms—such as The Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) and the Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM)—together with stakeholders like the Santiago Network (Glossary ref. 51), enables coordinated, effective climate finance and action. This pillar encourages philanthropy to move beyond transactional relationships toward deeper, trust-based partnerships that drive long-term systemic change rooted in equity and shared ethical obligations.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS



LEVEL 1 – GETTING STARTED

- Share publicly, through blogs, media articles, or other channels, stories about the climate actions the organization is taking within the Caribbean context.
- Participate in peer-to-peer events focused on climate philanthropy, fostering exchange and collaboration among regional funders.
- Complete annual reporting on climate action progress, for example through platforms like CLASP and or other relevant mechanisms.



LEVEL 2 – BUILDING MOMENTUM

- Establish a formal mechanism to publicly report your annual progress on CCFC Pillar commitments, building on existing reporting processes.
- Develop systems to support organizational learning and impact management related to climate actions, emphasizing participatory evaluation involving community stakeholders.
- Create clear, contextually relevant indicators or key performance metrics (KPIs) to measure progress across all seven CCFC pillars, including equity, inclusion, and cultural relevance.



LEVEL 3 – SHOWING LEADERSHIP

- Pursue external, independent verification or certification of your climate action and transparency practices to reinforce credibility and accountability.
- Actively mentor and assist other philanthropic organizations in the Caribbean seeking to deepen their climate commitments and transparency.
- Support co-monitoring efforts of critical regional climate finance instruments such as the FRLD and BIM, collaborating with the Santiago Network and other regional experts to fill gaps in data and communication technologies for Caribbean climate justice (ref. 51).
- Champion the shift in philanthropic culture from transactional to relational engagement, prioritizing trust, equity, and shared ethical responsibility to foster sustained collaboration and systems transformation.



Glossary of Key Terms (From the CCFC)

| TERM | DEFINITION/ DESCRIPTION | REFERENCE/ CITATION |
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| 1. Rights- based Approaches | Climate strategies grounded in international human rights law, ensuring that policies protect dignity, equity, participation and non-discrimination. Rights-based approaches assert that climate action must safeguard the rights to life, health, food, water, culture, land and a clean and healthy environment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN OHCHR – Key Messages on Human Rights and Climate Change (2015). • UNGA Resolution A/76/L.75 “Recognizing the right to a healthy environment” |
| 2. Philanthropy for Climate | A global movement of philanthropic organizations committed to integrating meaningful climate action across their grant-making, investments and operations. Hosted by WINGS, the movement centres on the International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change (launched in 2021), which encourages foundations of all sizes, geographies and thematic missions to publicly pledge and track their climate-related progress. References | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philanthropy For Climate • Philea – International Philanthropy Commitment Progress Report (2023) |
| 3. Funders | Institutions and individuals providing direct financial resources to advance climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), “Financing for Climate Action,” 2022. |
| 4. Philanthropic Partners | Foundations, charitable entities, and non-profit intermediaries collaborating to advance climate-focused giving and resilience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNFCCC Climate Champions & Race to Resilience Campaign, “Role of Philanthropy in Accelerating Climate Action,” 2023. |
| 5. Multi-sector stakeholders (In the context of climate-philanthropy these are diverse actors funding climate action) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multilateral actors : International or regional agencies providing technical, policy, and financial support for climate action (e.g., UNDP, UNEP, CDB, IDB, World Bank). • Collective Giving groups/Giving communities: Collective donor networks, made up of leaders and individual members, who pool resources to support nonprofit organizations, individuals, and/or causes. Examples include Community Foundations, Giving Circles, Pooled Funds. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OECD (2020), Multilateral Development Finance 2020, OECD Publishing, Paris.; • Patterns in the Tapestry A Typology of Collective Giving Groups • UNFCCC Climate Finance Portal • United Nations Global Compact, “Accenture Global Private Sector |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special funding entities : Dedicated climate and resilience financing vehicles such as climate funds, donor-advised funds, blended finance platforms, and regranting intermediaries. • Private sector : Corporate, investment, and social enterprise actors advancing adaptation technologies, risk finance, and resilience markets. • Diaspora : Individuals and networks abroad who contribute through remittances, philanthropy, knowledge exchange, and advocacy. | <p><u>SDG Stocktake</u>, which appraises private sector contributions to the SDGs, including climate action; <u>“Financing a Sustainable Future: How the Private Sector Can Lead”</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>International Organization for Migration (IOM), “Diaspora, Climate-Induced Migration and Skills Mobility: A focus on Africa,” 2023.</u> |
| <p>6. Climate Justice</p> | <p>A rights-based approach ensuring that climate solutions protect vulnerable communities and address inequality, ensuring climate responses uphold human rights and equity. Acknowledgement that those least responsible for emissions (Caribbean SIDS <1% global emissions) bear the heaviest burdens. Caribbean framing emphasizes colonial legacies, systemic debt, and equity.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UNDP Climate Promise “Climate Justice Explained”</u>; <u>OHCHR & UNEP Joint Report on Climate & Human Rights (2022)</u> • <u>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</u> |
| <p>7. CLASP</p> | <p>Climate Philanthropy and Strategic Partnerships A Caribbean-led initiative mobilizing funders, strengthening capacities and expanding knowledge-sharing to integrate climate action into regional philanthropy using a Seven Pillars Framework. Caribbean Philanthropic Alliance – CLASP Overview (2024)</p> | <p><u>CLASP: Forging a Resilient Caribbean through Climate Philanthropy and Strategic Partnerships</u></p> |
| <p>8. Seven Pillars Framework</p> | <p>The <u>International Philanthropy Commitment on Climate Change</u> (International Commitment) calls on foundations and other funders to act on the climate crisis through seven pillars of action: Education and Learning, Commitment of Resources, Integration, Endowment and Assets, Operations, Influencing and Advocacy, and Transparency. This framework is designed to ensure that addressing the climate emergency goes beyond merely allocating financial resources, which, while necessary, does not encompass the holistic approach needed for transformative action.</p> | <p><u>Holistic Climate Integration with #PhilanthropyForClimate Community Foundations Of Canada September 19, 2024</u></p> |
| <p>9. International Court of Justice (ICJ) Advisory</p> | <p>A landmark legal ruling affirming that all States have a binding duty under international law to limit greenhouse gas emissions, prevent environmental harm, and protect the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. The opinion recognizes failure to act on climate as a violation of human</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>International Court of Justice, Advisory Opinion — Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change, 23 July 2025</u> |

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| <p>Opinion (July 23rd, 2025)</p> | <p>rights and international law, strengthening legal arguments for climate action and reparations.</p> <p>. “<i>the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is essential for the enjoyment of other human rights</i>” (para 161) and that States may incur international responsibility if they fail to protect the climate system for present and future generations (para 273).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICJ Official Video – Reading of the Advisory Opinion: Description: The ICJ's official recording of the advisory opinion reading, providing the full text as delivered by the Court. • https://reliefweb.int/report/world/obligations-states-respect-climate-change-court-gives-its-advisory-opinion-and-responds-questions-posed-general-assembly |
| <p>10. Climate-responsive Philanthropy</p> | <p>Philanthropic practices that consciously shape grant making, investments, operations and strategies to anticipate, respond to and support adaptation to climate change — especially in vulnerable communities and systems.</p> | <p>WINGS 2023 Report – Climate Philanthropy in Practice</p> |
| <p>11. Less than 1% of global emissions.</p> | <p>The Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) collectively emit under 1% of global greenhouse-gas emissions but are among the world's most climate-vulnerable regions. This disparity underscores global climate injustice and the need for equitable finance. Caribbean SIDS combined CO₂ share ≈ 0.2% of global total</p> | <p>World Bank Data, 2022</p> |
| <p>12. Sea-level rise</p> | <p>Sea-level rise is accelerating across the Caribbean, threatening coastal communities, freshwater, infrastructure, and cultural sites. The average regional rate is 3.3 – 3.4 mm per year (1993–2019), regional rates ≈ 3.4 mm per year, with some areas showing up to 6 mm per year post-2004.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDPI – Marine Science 2023 • OUCI Sea Level Study 2023 |
| <p>13. Rapidly intensifying hurricanes</p> | <p>The intensity and frequency of Category 4-5 hurricanes have sharply increased in the last decade due to warmer sea-surface temperatures. Stronger storms produce catastrophic damage, repeatedly erasing recovery gains. Category 5 hurricane frequency increased by 226% (2011–2022 vs 1851–1980) in NE Caribbean; rising max wind speeds +5% and 40% more >250 km/h storms.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamaica Observer 2025. • MDPI Sustainability 2024. |
| <p>14. Climate-driven displacement (Climate Mobility)</p> | <p>Climate Mobility or climate driven-displacement describes the movement of people, both within and across borders, driven primarily by climate-related factors such as sea-level rise, extreme weather events, droughts, and loss of livelihoods. These Climate and weather-related disasters are forcing mass displacement, often repeatedly, across Caribbean countries. SIDS experience the world's highest per-capita displacement rates relative to population size. Between 2008 and 2023, ≈ 10 million people in Latin</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinking about Tomorrow. Acting Today: The Future of Climate Mobility. IOM, Geneva, 2023. This publication uses the term "climate mobility," covering various types of movement driven by climate factors • IDMC Global Report 2023. |

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| | <p>America & the Caribbean displaced by natural disasters; millions within Caribbean SIDS. In the Caribbean context, climate mobility also encompasses the displacement of communities from small islands' coastal areas and rural zones due to environmental degradation and disaster impacts. Additionally, data from 2023 shows that between 2012 and 2022, disasters in the Caribbean displaced 5.3 million people internally.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFR Backgrounder 2024. • https://caribbean.un.org/en/262996-iom-caribbean-supports-civil-society-collaboration-environmental-migration-and-disaster |
| <p>15. Ecological loss</p> | <p>Damage or loss of biodiversity, ecosystems and species from extreme events, temperature rise and pollution. A prime example of ecological loss in Caribbean are recorded marine heatwaves have caused extreme coral bleaching and mortality, undermining fisheries, tourism, and coastal protection. Biodiversity losses extend to marine and terrestrial ecosystems. 2023 marine heat wave indicated 60–100% bleaching, ~ 54% mortality at sites; majority of Caribbean reefs > 16 °C-weeks (20+ °C-weeks in some); coral mortality 60–99%.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEP 2023 – Global Biodiversity Outlook • https://news.mongabay.com/2024/09/lab-grown-corals-resisted-bleaching-during-caribbeans-worst-marine-heat-wave/ • NOAA Coral Reef Watch 2023 • PMC 2024 :Cayman Study |
| <p>16. Cultural heritage loss</p> | <p>Rising seas, hurricanes, erosion, and floods threaten historic sites, traditional practices, and intangible cultural heritage. Cultural loss erodes identity, continuity, and local resilience UNESCO estimates ~ 1/6 of cultural heritage sites worldwide under threat from climate change; five Caribbean World Heritage sites received climate-resilience support in 2023.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO Climate & Heritage Portal • UNESCO 2023 Caribbean Resilience Initiative |
| <p>17. Pushed beyond normal bounds</p> | <p>The statement that climate change impacts on island and coastal life are compounded by colonial legacies, fiscal constraints, and social inequities affecting islands and low lying coastal is definitive. Chapter 16 of this report explicitly states that SIDS are "exceeding adaptation limits" due to escalating hazards like sea-level rise and contamination of groundwater. Clark & Cisneros-Montemayor (2024) and Rhiney (2019) discuss how existing vulnerabilities (e.g., colonial legacies, social inequities) exacerbate climate stressors, effectively reducing the "bounds" or limits within which these systems can operate safely. Robinson (2023) and related academic work often discuss the systemic challenges—including economic structure, governance, and social inequalities—that push the "normal bounds" of island systems and make them more vulnerable to climate stressors</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPCC. Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report. [H.-O. Pörtner et al. (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, and New York, NY, USA, 2022. • Robinson 2023; Clark & Cisneros-Montemayor 2024; Ötler 2022; Caribbean Development Bank 2023; Rhiney 2019; Simpson et al. 2012 |

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| 18. Indigenous Peoples and their knowledge | Traditional ecological knowledge systems developed by Indigenous Caribbean and regional peoples that guide sustainable resource use and adaptation. | UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform |
| 19. Diaspora Capital | The financial, social, and intellectual assets of Caribbean diaspora that support climate resilience and climate actions. | IDB 2023 Pub |
| 20. Narrative Sovereignty | A concept recognized in cultural rights literature and policy discussions, particularly regarding Indigenous peoples' rights, and aligns with principles promoted by institutions like UNESCO, though it is not a formal, standalone UNESCO declaration. It is defined as the power of communities (most notably Indigenous communities) to control, define, and tell their own stories and narratives about their lives, histories, and futures. The concept is strongly supported by the principles in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) , which is a key instrument in international law and policy for cultural self-determination namely through UNDRIP Article 31 and UNDRIP Article 18 and Article 33 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Peoples' Voices and Shaping Cultural Policies, Barbara Fillion, Ivana Otasevic, Katharine Turvey, 2022. Canadian Commission for UNESCO • UNDRIP, Davis, 2016 |
| 21. Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) | The financing mechanism established under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a new multilateral fund to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change in responding to economic and non-economic "loss and damage" associated with climate impacts (both extreme events and slow-onset events) Established at COP27 and operationalized in 2024–25 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNFCCC/FRLD • World Bank Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) |
| 22. Barbados Implementation Modalities (BIM) | Early start-up pilot for FRLD (launched 2025). The BIM is set of operational rules, workplan and access modalities established by the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) for its start-up phase, named after the host country (Barbados) . These modalities shape how the Fund will allocate, deliver and manage funding to vulnerable countries (especially Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs)) | FRLD Global Workplan & Rules Named 'BIM' |
| 23. Verified future | A phrase denoting the idea of future harms, needs or conditions that are empirically grounded — i.e., backed by data, modelling or monitoring such that the projected future outcomes are not purely speculative but "verified" | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Effects of Climate Change- NASA |

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| | <p>(in the sense of evidence-based). Examples of data and science see Terms and Definitions 11. – 16.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPCC 2021, <i>Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis, the Working Group I contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report</i>, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK. • USGCRP 2014, <u>Third Climate Assessment</u>. • USGCRP 2017, <u>Fourth Climate Assessment</u>. |
| <p>24. Escazu Agreement</p> | <p>The Escazú Agreement is the first legally binding regional treaty in Latin America and the Caribbean to guarantee rights to environmental information, public participation, and access to justice. It is the only treaty in the world to include specific, enforceable protections for environmental human rights defenders. <i>By centring the right to a healthy environment, it provides the legal framework needed to ensure that climate action is transparent, inclusive, and accountable to the most vulnerable communities.</i> Recognizing the Escazú Agreement is critical for Caribbean funders because it shifts philanthropy from a "voluntary act" to a "rights-based partnership." Its necessity for the CCFC is built on Evidence-Based Accountability, Protection of Partners, Democratic Finance and "Community Access Windows" are not just a funder's choice, but a fulfilment of the regional right to participate in environmental decision-making.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean</u> • It supports <i>Principle 10</i> of the Rio Declaration and linking environmental governance with human rights. • <u>UN SDG Partnerships page on Escazú — highlights environmental democracy and inclusive decision-making.</u> • <u>Open Society Foundation investment to support Escazú implementation</u> |
| <p>25. Loss and Damage</p> | <p>Climate impacts not fully addressed by adaptation or mitigation. Includes economic losses (infrastructure, crops) and non-economic losses (life, culture, health). In the context of loss & damage, co-ownership of responsibilities implies that those who have contributed more to the risk, those who are impacted, and those with capacity to act must together design, fund, and implement responses, rather than placing the burden solely on one group.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Loss and Damage, Supporting Countries in Addressing Loss and Damage</u> • <u>https://climateanalytics.org/our-work/loss-and-damage</u> |

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| 26. Economic losses & non-economic losses | Economic loss and damage refers to negative impacts where the costs are quantifiable, such as damage to infrastructure or reduced crop yields. Non-economic loss and damage refers to negative impacts where it is difficult or infeasible to assign a monetary value this can include cultural heritage and health impacts such as mental health loss of community due to displacement of people, or loss of biodiversity | UNFCCC Loss and Damage Online Guide |
| 27. Unbanked | Unbanked refers to individuals or communities who do not have a transaction account at a formal financial institution (such as a bank or regulated financial service provider), thereby having limited access to savings, payments, credit, insurance or other banking services. | World Bank 2021. The Global Findex Database 2021 . Washington, DC: World Bank. |
| 28. Community Access Window | Direct access window for communities to receive small adaptation grants. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Climate Fund |
| 29. Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Practices | Framework assessing environmental stewardship, social equity, and governance ethics. Also, can be an investment standard that evaluate a company or fund's performance in environmental protection, social responsibility, and corporate governance. Equitable ESG practices in the Caribbean context ensure that investments are fair, meet community needs, and align with climate justice principles. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment • Integrate the Principles for Responsible Investment |
| 30. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) | Business model integrating social and environmental accountability. A business model in which companies integrate social and environmental concerns into their operations and stakeholder interactions. Effective CSR in the Caribbean includes climate-conscious practices, fair investment, and support for local resilience efforts. | UN Global Compact |
| 31. Multi-Year Funding | <p>Commitments of funding over several years ensuring stability and scale and predictability for grantees to implement and scale climate resilience. The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) broadly defines "multi-year funding" as funding provided for a duration of two or more years which enables better continuity, more effective planning, and the ability to undertake activities with longer-range ambitions It often goes hand-in-hand with "flexible funding"</p> <p>Forms: Multi-year funding can take various forms, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grants with fixed amounts and a pre-agreed disbursement schedule. Commitments where the scope and implementation period are set, but the specific annual sums are negotiated depending on availability of funds. Multi-annual "envelopes" for a specific crisis or region, allowing flexibility in specific agreements within that overall commitment. | Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Development Assistance Committee (DAC) |

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| 32. Agile, Trust-Based Funding | <p>Flexible, low-bureaucracy philanthropic approach prioritizing equity and partnership. This Financial support provides with adaptable terms to allow grantees to respond to emerging needs and priorities. Flexible funding in climate philanthropy often includes long-term, unrestricted, or core funding that enables sustainable operations, flexible resourcing recognizing the judgment and dignity of recipient organizations, to allow adaptation to evolving needs and priorities, supporting longer-term objectives such as the humanitarian-development and/or or social justice nexus</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trust-Based Philanthropy Project • OECD Report : Funding for Civil Society Partners. 2023 |
| 33. Parametric Insurance | <p>An insurance product (also called index-based insurance) that provides a predetermined payout when a predefined trigger event or threshold is met (such as rainfall amount, wind speed, earthquake magnitude) rather than paying out based on measured actual losses after the fact.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCRIF SPC • World Economic Forum |
| 34. Debt-for-Climate (DFC) Swaps | <p>Financial arrangements in which a portion of a debtor country’s external public debt is cancelled, exchanged or refinanced in return for the debtor country’s commitment to invest the savings (or freed fiscal space) into climate-related projects (mitigation, adaptation or resilience). Debt-for-climate (DFC) swaps involve the cancellation, exchange, or refinancing of a portion of a country’s public debt in return for its policy commitments to invest the resultant debt-service savings in projects for environmental conservation or climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Debt for climate swaps: a primer for FiCS members” – Climate Policy Initiative 28.02.2025 • Commonwealth Secretariat 2023. |
| 35. Anticipatory Financing | <p>A funding mechanism that enables the release of finance before the full impact of a hazard or event occurs (i.e., prior to or during early onset of a risk) so that actions can be taken in advance (anticipation) to reduce the impacts of climate shocks or disasters (rather than only responding after)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFRC Anticipation Hub • Anticipatory Finance, An Introductory Guide- UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| 36. Fair Distribution | <p>The fair allocation and accessibility of climate funding or the equitable allocation of climate finance ensuring resources reach vulnerable states and just support for adaptation and mitigation. An equitable allocation of resources that reflects the diverse needs of Caribbean communities and countries, particularly those most vulnerable to disaster and climate impacts</p> <p>Equitable Climate Finance</p> | <p>UNFCCC Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) Report 2023</p> |
| 37. Sustainable Institutional Operations | <p>Organizational processes that integrate environmental efficiency, ethical governance, and social responsibility into everyday functions.</p> | <p>UNEP Sustainable Institutions Framework, 2023</p> |
| 38. Carbon Footprint Management | <p>The measurement, reduction, and offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions produced by institutional activities. Another definition The set of practices,</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US EPA |

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| | metrics and processes an organization or individual uses to measure, reduce and report greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions associated with its activities and to track progress toward emission-reduction targets. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GHG Protocol – Corporate Standard |
| 39. Climate and Organizational Risk Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and addressing risks related to climate impacts, financial exposure, and operational continuity. • The systematic identification, assessment, prioritization and governance of climate-related risks (physical and transition risks) across an organization, and the design of controls, adaptation and mitigation actions to reduce exposure and increase resilience. (Applies to enterprise risk management, disaster recovery and public-sector finance planning.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDRR – Climate Risk Management Framework • World Bank: Disaster Recovery Framework 2020 |
| 40. Local Custodianship of Climate Innovations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering communities to lead and retain ownership of technologies, knowledge, and innovations for local adaptation. • The principle and practice by which locally rooted actors (communities, SMEs, Indigenous custodians, local governments) lead the stewardship, deployment and governance of climate-adaptation or mitigation innovations so that technologies/approaches are context-appropriate, equitable and sustained. (Emphasizes local ownership, capacity and long-term stewardship.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP 2023 – Locally Led Adaptation Principles • UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science 2023 |
| 41. Standardized Loss and Damage Reporting | Use consistent regional indicators and frameworks to track and assess climate-related losses and damages. Agreed templates, metrics and methodologies for documenting and reporting economic and non-economic losses and damages from climate impacts (covering e.g., asset damage, lost income, mortality, cultural losses, mental health impacts), to inform needs-assessment, funding requests and transparency under UNFCCC processes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNFCCC Loss and Damage Online Guide • UNFCCC Loss and Damage Framework, 2023 |
| 42. Open-Source Knowledge Sharing | The practice of freely sharing data, methodologies, and findings to promote transparency, collaboration, and public good. Making data, methods, code, research outputs and tools freely available under open licenses so that practitioners, communities and researchers can access, reuse and adapt knowledge for climate action (supports transparency, reproducibility and equitable access to innovation) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OECD Open Knowledge Framework, 2022 • UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science 2021 |
| 43. Gender-Responsive and Intergenerational Leadership | Inclusive leadership models that ensure gender equity and the participation of youth and elders in decision-making; or leadership approaches, policies and programs that consciously integrate gender equality and the perspectives, rights and needs of different age | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Women – Gender-Responsive Climate Action |

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| | groups (including youth and elders) into decision-making, ensuring inclusive participation, fair distribution of benefits and leadership development across genders and generations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Women : Leadership and Intergenerational Partnership 2022 |
| 44. Climate-Responsive Organizational Culture | Institutional culture that embeds climate consciousness into governance, management, and values. An organizational culture that embeds climate awareness and action into values, incentives, policies and everyday practices — e.g., integrating climate risk into business processes, procurement, performance indicators and staff behaviours so the organization acts consistently with resilience and mitigation goals | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP – Climate-Resilient Institutional Practices, 2022 • CIPD: Organizational climate and culture. 27 Oct, 2025 |
| 45. Climate Reparations | The principle that nations historically responsible for greenhouse gas emissions should compensate vulnerable states and communities suffering loss and damage. | UN Human Rights Council Report, 2023 |
| 46. Climate Finance | Finance that aims at reducing emissions and enhancing sinks of greenhouse gases and aims at reducing vulnerability of, and maintaining and increasing the resilience of, human and ecological systems to negative climate change impacts. | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Standing Committee on Finance |
| 47. Narrative Change | Strategic communication that challenges dominant discourses and centers local voices and lived experiences in climate storytelling. | FrameWorks Institute. (2024). Guiding Narrative Change: Considerations for the Philanthropic Field. FrameWorks Institute. © FrameWorks Institute 2024 |
| 48. United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) | The main deliberative body of the United Nations, where all member states discuss international issues, including climate change. | UNGA Climate Action Portal |
| 49. Conference of the Parties (CoP) | The supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC (and of other similar treaties): Parties (states) meet regularly (COP meetings) to review implementation, negotiate decisions, adopt political outcomes and guide the treaty process. | UNFCCC CoP Overview |
| 50. Systemic Reform | Deliberate, coordinated changes to underlying rules, structures, institutions and incentives across a system (economic, governance, finance or ecological) aimed at transforming root causes of a problem rather than only addressing its symptoms | OECD Finance and investment for climate goals |
| 51. Santiago Network | UNFCCC mechanism connecting developing countries with experts for loss and damage. | UNFCCC Santiago Network |

Caribbean Funders Climate Commitment considerations:

Mobilizing Philanthropy for a Resilient, Inclusive, and Just Future



**LEARN AND
BUILD
CAPACITY**



**COMMIT TO
CLIMATE:
RESPONSIVE
RESOURCES**



**INTEGRATE
CLIMATE
ACROSS ALL
WORK**



**ALIGN
INVESTMENTS
WITH CLIMATE
JUSTICE LENS**



**DEMONSTRATE
AND LEAD IN
OPERATIONAL
SUSTAINABILITY**



**RECOGNIZE
REFORMS
HAVE COSTS**



**BE
ACCOUNTABLE
AND SHARE
PROGRESS**

