

# An Overview of Global Mechanism's support

Annual APFM – IDMP meeting  
3 – 5 March 2026, Geneva



**United Nations**  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

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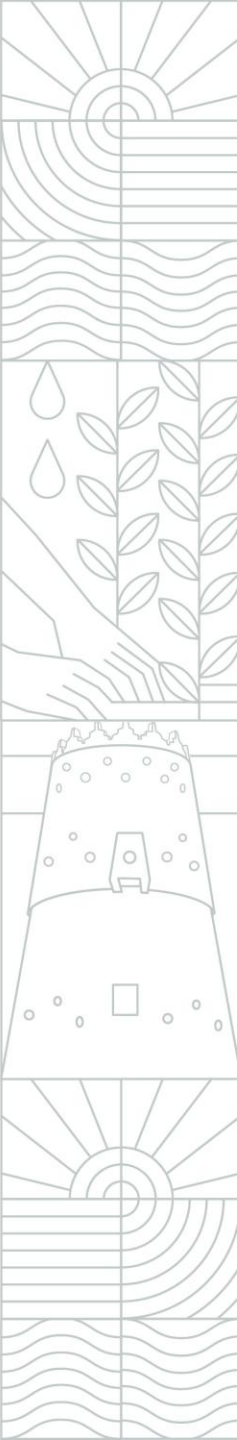
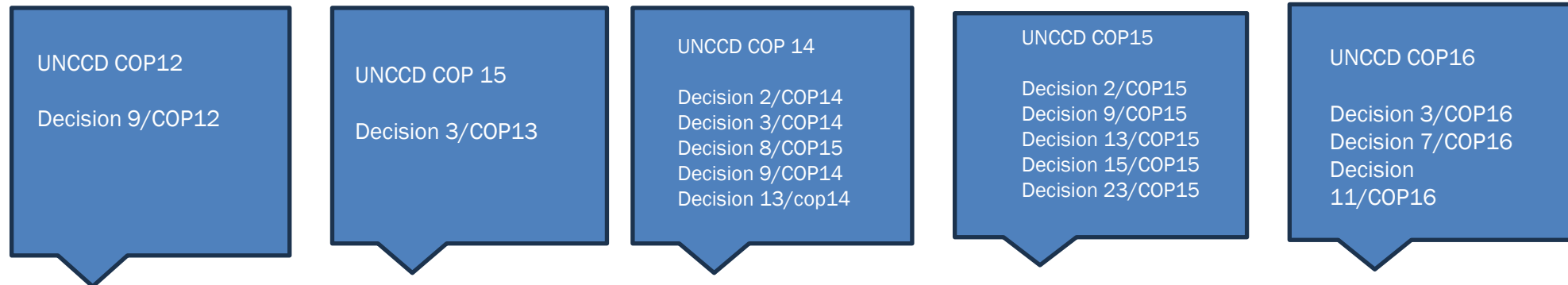
# Overview of GM support



# Global Mechanism Mandate

As an operational arm of the Convention (UNCCD), the mandate of the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD is: To assist countries in the mobilization of financial resources to implement the Convention and address desertification, land degradation and drought.

Guided by Decisions of the UNCCD Conference of Parties



# Global Mechanism Support

**The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD is supporting countries combating desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD):**

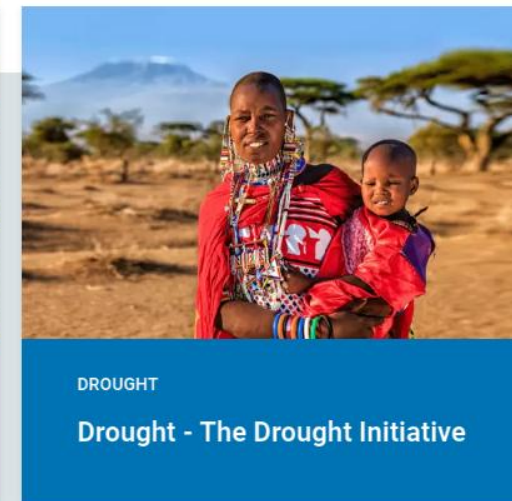
→ Enabling environment:

→ LDN Target Setting Programme

→ Drought planning

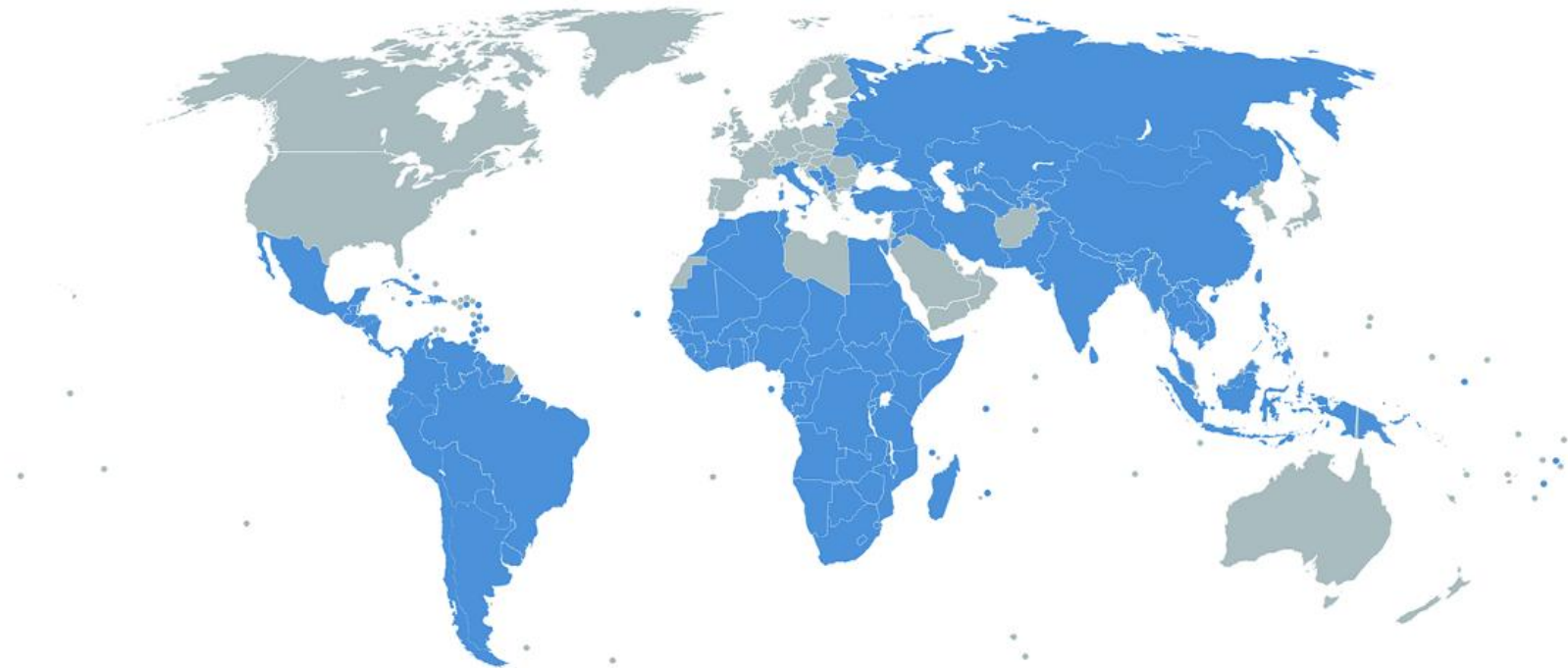
→ Transformative Projects and Programmes development

→ Private and innovative Finance



# Overview of LDN target setting work: current status

- Supporting countries since 2015 (LDN pilot project - 14 pilot countries)
- SDG 15.3 target adopted (Sep 2015) and LDN endorsed by COP12 (Oct 2015) as a vehicle to implement UNCCD
- **LDN Target Setting Programme** developed and operational since summer 2016 (**LDN TSP** – global scale)
- **131 countries engaged** in setting LDN targets (**country-led, voluntary, and non-legally binding policy process based on best-available data on LDN indicators** and related national assessments).
- **113 countries have successfully completed this process with direct support from the LDN TSP**
- **124 countries have reported LDN targets to the UNCCD** to date (via LDN-TSP and PRAIS during 2018 & 2022 national reporting)



■ Countries setting LDN targets

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# Overview of LDN TSP 2.0

**LDN TSP 2.0 VISION:** Achieving healthy productive land in balance by 2030

**LDN TSP 2.0 OVERALL OBJECTIVE:** To support an enabling environment for countries to close the implementation gap, deliver and meet land-based targets

## MANDATED SCOPE OF WORK:

In order for LDN targets to be more effective as a vehicle for delivery and to mobilize more resources at project level, through **Decision 13/COP.15**, Parties advised that **voluntary LDN targets should be more specific, time-bound, policy-coherent** (i.e., linked to NBSAPs, NDCs, NAPs, ER commitments), **quantitative, spatially explicit, gender-responsive and adequately integrated into land use planning frameworks**.



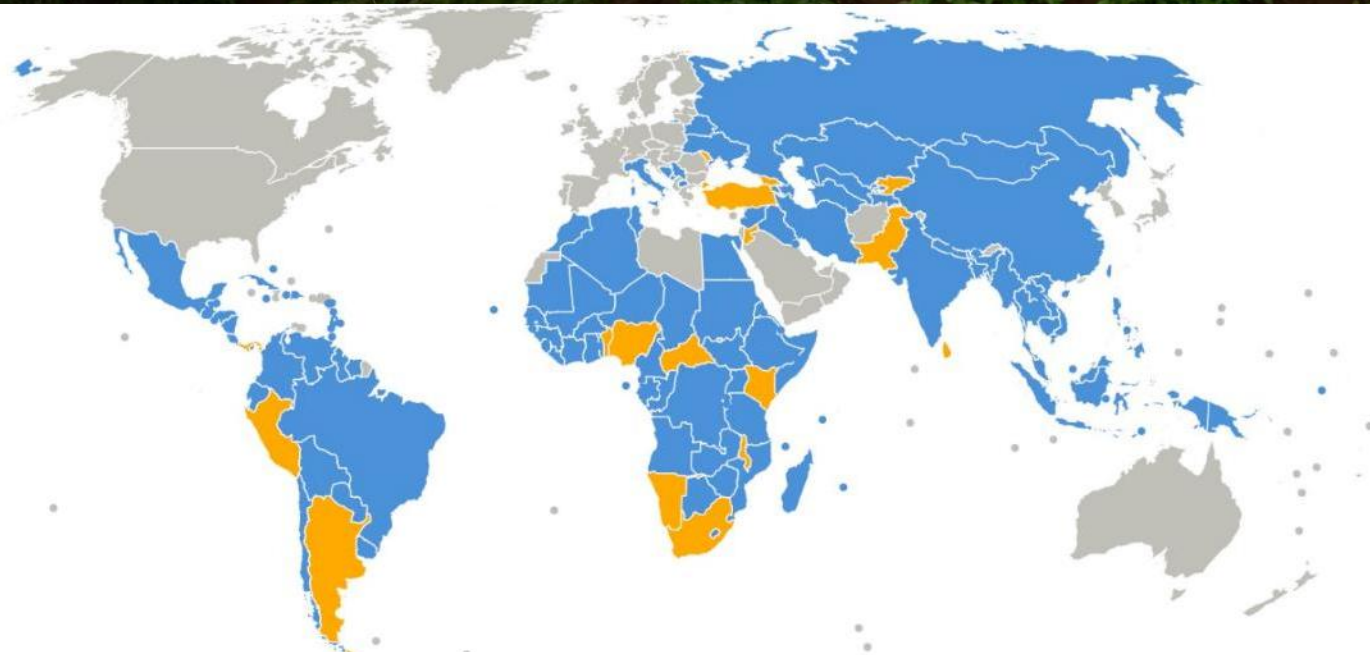
# Overview of LDN TSP 2.0



Open call launched in May 2023

Selection of 18 participating countries in July 2023: Argentina, Benin, Central African Republic, Georgia, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Republic of Moldova, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Saint Lucia and Türkiye. 22 additional countries currently on waiting list.

GEF7 EA project on “Integrating LDN into land use planning frameworks to strengthen national UNCCD enabling environments” launched in May 2025 (Johannesburg, SA)



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Image: UNCCD map of [Countries setting LDN targets](#)

Drought Initiative

More than **70 countries**

engaged in the process of designing  
national-level plans of action

and

**2 Regional Drought risk management &  
mitigation strategies developed**



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# Transformative Projects and Programmes

The GM supports countries in **translating the voluntary LDN targets and national drought plans into concrete actions on the ground**. This is done largely through development of gender-responsive **transformative projects and programmes (TPP)** that generate multiple benefits.



Focus was on early-stage project/programme concept notes that can be developed into full-fledged project proposals to implement land-based solutions, and responding to global priorities

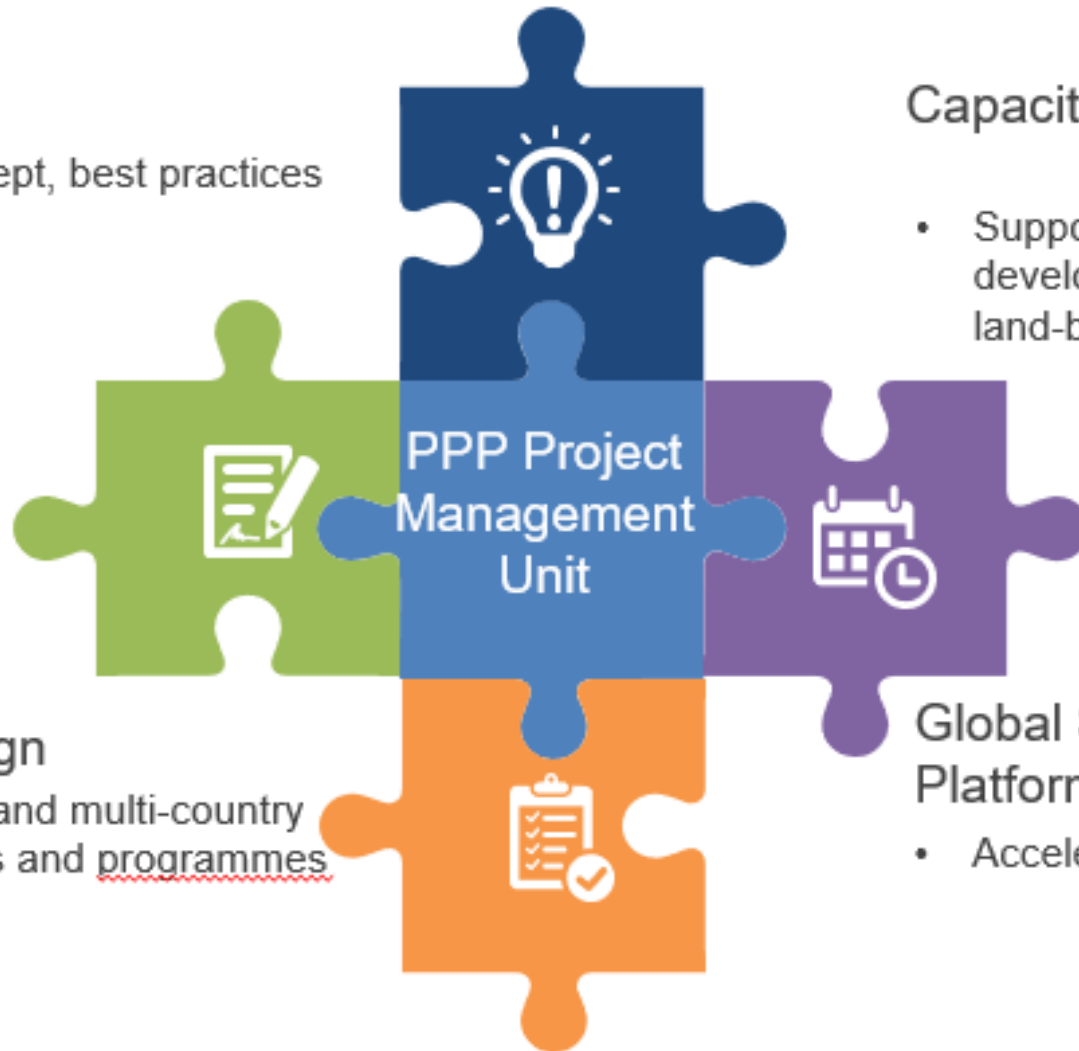
## Previous Criteria and Support Provided

- LDN Targets technically validated or National drought plan finalized
- Official request
  - Project Idea Note
  - Funding Source Identified
  - Implementing Partners
- GM Supported Consultant

# New Business Model: Partnerships for Project Preparation

## Pilot Projects

- Demonstrate proof of concept, best practices and new innovations



## Capacity Building

- Support capacity building and development of investment-ready land-based projects

## Programme/Project Design

- Design of national projects and multi-country flagship land-based projects and programmes

## Global Strategic Partnership Platform

- Accelerate project preparation

# On-going Project Programme Design Cooperation with WMO

Support for concept note development, Gender analysis, Environmental and Social Risk analysis for full proposal, Development of concept workshops, Pilot project consultation.

1. Integrated Drought Management in the riverine countries of the Drin basin - Montenegro and North Macedonia
2. Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia (IDCA) - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan
3. Integrated Drought Management for South Asia (IDSA) - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
4. Adapting National and Regional Water Resources Management to Climate Extremes through Hydro-climatic Information, Early Warning Systems, and Decision Support Tools - Central America (Costa Rica and Panama)
5. An Integrated System for Evaluating Hydrological Status and Outlooks to Support Key Economic Sectors and Vulnerable Communities in South America to Adapt to Climate Change and Build Resilience.

# Gender-transformative Resilience to Drought in Transition States in Southern Africa

**Context:** High vulnerabilities to drought due to climate change, weak infrastructure, and social inequalities. Women and girls are disproportionately affected due to existing vulnerabilities.

**Participating Countries:** Madagascar, Mozambique, Zimbabwe.

**Executing Agency:** UNCCD

**Goal:** Improve the enabling environment for drought resilience of women and girls.

## Expected Results:

- Gender-transformative multi-sectoral drought initiatives implemented.
- Increased capacity of women and vulnerable groups.
- Strengthened partnerships and investments.

## Specific Objectives:

- Enhance policy advocacy and capacity development on gender mainstreaming for drought resilience.
- Mitigate vulnerabilities to drought.
- Catalyze partnerships and investments for drought resilience.

# Gender-transformative Resilience to Drought in Transition States in Southern Africa

## 1. Component 1 – Policy Advocacy & Capacity Development

### ▪ Key Activities:

- Gender-sensitive assessments
- Development of gender tools (e.g., checklists, training modules)
- Capacity building of stakeholders
- Technical support for gender-responsive drought planning
- Project preparation for financing

## 2. Component 2 – Mitigating Vulnerabilities:

Empowerment and leadership development of women

### ▪ Key Activities:

- Training in leadership, negotiation, and resource mobilization
- Outreach at national and global platforms

## 3. Component 3 – Partnerships and Investments:

Leverage cooperation and funding

### ▪ Key Activities:

- Steering Committee
- Mid-term review and final evaluation
- Advocacy and communication efforts

## 4. Component 4 – Project Management:

Oversight, coordination, and reporting

### ▪ Key Activities:

- Project Coordination
- Workshops and missions

# Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership

The Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership was launched at COP16 to shift from a reactive to a proactive approach in managing drought impacts globally.

The primary objective is to substantially improve the ability of countries and regions to prepare for, adapt and respond to drought events by assisting countries in building a sufficiently high level of drought resilience. of women and girls.

The Partnership aims to support implementing national strategies that mitigate drought impacts.

It will acts as a facilitator and enabler, connecting countries and communities to existing drought resilience resources and leveraging ongoing efforts.

# Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership

Primary beneficiaries of the Partnership are low-income and lower-middle income countries.

24

low-income countries

49

lower middle-income countries

*Per World Bank country classification 2025/2026,  
excluding countries under UN sanctions*

**A national drought management strategy and action plan is required for investment support under the Partnership; if not in place yet, this could be prepared with Partnership funding under the Readiness Facility**

Parallel funding will be made available directly to beneficiary countries needs to meet the eligibility criteria of the Partnership to be recorded as supporting the Partnership.

# Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership

## Readiness Fund

**Supporting project preparation & pipeline development, national drought strategies**

- Available for all beneficiary countries
- Merit-based assessments
- Co-financed by other sources
- Includes support for strengthening national drought action plans

## Investment Facility

**Cofinancing investments in building drought resilience**

- Target envelopes based on per capita income, population size and national drought risk
- Grants from pooled funding
- Call for proposal process with detailed assessment criteria

## Knowledge Bank

**Repository and exchange facility on best practices in building drought resilience**

- Leveraging online databases and knowledge platforms
- Drawing on existing expertise (e.g. IDRA, IDMP, FAO, etc.)
- Technical discussions and exchange, mutual learning and assistance

# Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership

## Investment Facility

5 strategic objectives

- **Establish Comprehensive Early Warning and Risk Assessment Systems**, enhancing predictive capacity, vulnerability mapping, and timely impact assessments.
- **Strengthen Sustainable Land & Water Resource Management and Agricultural Resilience**, improving water efficiency, soil health, water harvesting, and adoption of drought-resilient crops.
- **Develop Drought-Resilient Infrastructure and Technology Systems**, equipping critical infrastructure, scaling digital monitoring technologies, and deploying innovations.
- **Implement Comprehensive Drought Policies and Governance Frameworks**, enabling inclusive, multi-stakeholder policies, institutional coordination, and community preparedness.
- **Mobilize Finance, Insurance, and Capacity Building for Drought Resilience**, expanding resilience finance, drought risk insurance, training, and regional cooperation.

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# The Drought Resilience Investment Facility (DRIF)

**A blended finance fund to channel private and public capital into drought resilience, land restoration, and climate adaptation projects in vulnerable regions.**

The fund runs under the **Finance Pillar of the Business for Land (B4L)** initiative, which **brings together the private sector and partners** to advance sustainable land management through three interconnected pillars: **Business Operations & Value Chains, Finance, and Advocacy.**

**An investment fund focused on drought resilient infrastructure Backed by Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Housed within the Luxembourg Earth Impact Fund (LEIF)**

**Geographic focus: Lower and Upper Middle Income countries, initial focus on regions most in need**

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# The Drought Resilience Investment Facility (DRIF)

**Technical Assistance Facility:** Alongside the fund, the plan is to set up a Technical Assistance Facility:

- to support stakeholder dialogue and provide capacity building assistance (pre-investment and post-investment)
- help ensure an adequate pipeline of bankable projects
- promote the long-term success of the fund's investments.

DRIF is housed within the Luxembourg Earth Impact Fund (LEIF)

The Luxembourg Ministry of Foreign Affairs has pledged EUR 2 million in seed funding, reaffirming its commitment to global cooperation and green investment.

The Luxembourg Ministry of Finance is also contributing to the funds.

Additional soft commitments are being explored,

**Launch in August at COP17 in Mongolia**

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# Thank you



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