To tackle the climate crisis, emissions need to go down everywhere in the world. Many countries already face the impact of this crisis. The EU therefore supports developing countries with mitigating and adapting to climate change.

Our approach is twofold

- funding climate action measures globally, with a focus on the poorest and most vulnerable countries and communities
- using grant support to leverage private investment and financing from international development banks

World’s top donor

Together, the EU and its Member States are the biggest contributor of public climate finance to developing economies, committing EUR 23.4 billion in 2020, with almost half of it in the form of grants. This represents a significant share of the global goal of $100 billion as pledged by developed countries at the Copenhagen climate summit in 2009.

Increasing our support

Since 2013, the EU and its Member States have more than doubled the funds raised to help developing countries mitigate and adapt to the impact of climate change.

*Figures include sources from public budgets and development financial institutions of the EU, its member states (including the UK, except for 2020) and the European Investment Bank. It does not include financial support mobilized through public interventions (private finance mobilized).
What climate action does the EU fund?

Mitigation
For example, expanding the use of renewable energy, boosting green transport options, improving waste management and supporting circular economy initiatives.

Adaptation
For example, restoring natural habitats to minimise the impact of extreme weather or improving land use to secure water and food.

Cross-cutting projects
Mitigate climate change and support people to adapt to its impact. For example, planting trees, which remove carbon from the air, but also have a cooling effect and reduce impact of flooding.

Where does the EU fund climate action?

The EU’s climate finance contribution is used in projects across the world. Examples from the European Union budget include:

**Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (GCCA+)** helps vulnerable countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific to address climate change with a budget €420 million from 2014 to 2020.

**EUROCLIMA+** is the EU’s €16.5 million cooperation programme on environmental sustainability and climate change with Latin America. It aims to reduce the impact of climate change in the region by fostering climate mitigation, adaptation, resilience and investment.

**SWITCH Africa Green** The €21.5 million programme assists African countries by encouraging the shift towards an inclusive green economy. SWITCH supports business and non-state actors to adopt sustainable consumption and production practices, which in turn generates growth, creates jobs and reduces poverty.

Why is transparency important?

As international climate finance flows increase and in order to build trust and improve how effectively funds are spent, the EU and its Member States support initiatives to improve reporting and data on financial support to developing countries.

This also helps track progress towards the developed countries’ joint goal of mobilizing USD 100 billion per year for developing countries, from 2020 to 2025. Developed countries are projected to reach this collective target in 2023, but have not done so yet.