

Co-organized by ADB and
the Climate Investment Funds

Infrastructure for Climate Resilience



8 November 2021 | 1-2:30 p.m. (GMT) | Virtual

Progress continues in making newly planned infrastructure climate-resilient. Yet, there is increasing recognition of the need to scale up investment in infrastructure that strengthens the climate resilience of high-risk communities, economies, sectors, and the environment. This requires a resilience-centric approach, rather than infrastructure-first, in infrastructure planning, design, and financing.

Under this approach, the type of infrastructure to invest in is determined by the most effective and efficient way of reducing the impacts of current and future climate risks and/or addressing barriers to adaptation and resilience. Communities may need solar-powered small-scale irrigation schemes that can support farmers in drought-prone areas; nature-based solutions such as the restoration of salt marshes, mudflats, or peat bogs as part of flood risk management systems; or extreme weather warning systems.

OBJECTIVES: Co-organized by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Climate Investment Funds (CIF), this event aims to address the question of what it takes to shift the focus of infrastructure investment to make resilience the primary goal. The event will unpack key elements of scaling up investment in infrastructure designed to build climate resilience: policy and planning processes, finance, and knowledge support.

SESSION FORMAT: This event will take the form of a moderated panel discussion, with the following illustrative agenda:

- Introduction by moderator (3 minutes, ADB)
- Scene setting presentation: findings from the CIF learning brief on infrastructure projects, including examples of investment in infrastructure for resilience, implementation lessons, and good practices (7 minutes, CIF)
- Panel discussion (40 minutes)

PANELISTS:

- » **Noelle O'Brien**
Principal Climate Change Specialist, ADB
Risk informed planning: experience in undertaking risk assessment at the systems level in Tonga and development of adaptive pathways and infrastructure plans.
- » **Swarna Kazi**
Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank
Task team leader for a Pilot Program for Climate Resilience project in Bangladesh that was featured in the CIF learning brief Resilience programming: programming, Design, and delivery challenges and opportunities
- » **Carlos Sanchez**
Executive Director, Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment
Financing for resilience: financing and investment opportunities for resilience-centric infrastructure
- » **Country representative**
Opportunities for national infrastructure planning, particularly in the context of COVID-19 recovery

- Q&A (30 minutes; moderator)
- Summary and Conclusion (10 minutes; CIF/WB)