Concept note

National dialogue on external financing and climate-resilient development

Presentation of the financial strategy and roadmap for mobilising external financing for climate adaptation and mitigation investments in the Union of the Comoros

Date: 23 October 2025

Location: Moroni, Union of the Comoros

Context and rationale

Small island developing states (SIDS) face unique development challenges related to their geographical isolation, small economies, environmental vulnerability, and high exposure to climate-related risks. These challenges have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has put pressure on fiscal resources and accentuated debt-related vulnerabilities.

In response, the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in partnership with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), as well suport from resident coordinators and national governments, launched the project: 'Mobilising external financial resources beyond the COVID-19 pandemic for greener, more equitable and sustainable development in selected vulnerable SIDS in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean'.

The beneficiary countries of this project are: Belize and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Latin America and the Caribbean), as well as Comoros and Cabo Verde (Africa).

Objectives

1. Present the two main reports of the project:

(i) the financial strategy for mobilising climate finance, including through innovative financial instruments, to achieve sustainable and climate-resilient development while ensuring the external and public sector financial sustainability of Comoros;

(ii) the detailed roadmap for implementing this financial strategy.

2. Involve stakeholders in assessing the feasibility and coherence of the strategy and its roadmap, to ensure national ownership and alignment with other ongoing government initiatives.

Expected results

- Strengthening Comoros' capacity to design policies that mobilise accessible external financial resources for sustainable development that is resilient to climate change, while ensuring external and public sector financial sustainability.

- Awareness-raising and better understanding among stakeholders of the challenges associated with adopting innovative financial strategies adapted to the context of SIDS.

- Strengthened collaboration between the ECA, UNCTAD, the resident coordinator and the national government.

Format and participants

The event will take place in Moroni, with in-person participation from representatives of the government, the private sector, academia, civil society organisations, United Nations system partners, multilateral organisations, and other national experts.

Organizers

- Lead: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

- With the support of: UNCTAD, the Resident Coordinator and the national government of Comoros.

Next steps

- Virtual advisory support to assist in the implementation of a priority action from the roadmap.

- Organisation in November of a virtual regional dialogue to share lessons learned from the project and demonstrate the usefulness of the strategy and roadmap, which could be adapted at a later stage to other non-beneficiary countries.