



Blended Finance Hackathon 2026

Yuichiro Akita , Berne Union President &
Senior General Manager, International and Strategic Policy, NEXI

UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development
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The Berne Union Is The International Association For

The Export Credit And Investment Insurance Industry



A truly **global community** of 90 government-backed official export credit agencies, multilateral financial institutions and the largest private underwriters of credit and political risk insurance



Who collectively provide over USD 3 trillion of payment risk protection to banks, exporters and investors annually – amounting to **more than 13% of global cross border trade**

Our Mission

The Berne Union is an international, apolitical, non-profit professional association

- Our mission is to actively **facilitate cross-border trade** by supporting international acceptance of sound principles in export credit and foreign investment
- We do this by providing a **forum for professional exchange, sharing of expertise** and **networking** amongst members, as well as through engagement in collaborative projects with other stakeholders from across the wider community of international finance.
- Our scope of work covers **all risk mitigation and credit enhancement products which support cross-border trade and investment**, from short term trade credit to MLT credit and investment insurance

Knowledge | networking | research | education | representation

Through meetings, webinars, publications and partnership

BU Ecosystem: ECA, Multilateral & Primary CPRI Market

ECAs



Multilaterals



THE WORLD BANK



Private



Allianz Trade



Berne Union Members include 68 ECAs, 17 private underwriters and, 5 multilateral institutions

Our Industry Links Trade, Finance & the Real Economy

RISK MITIGATION



CREDIT MANAGEMENT

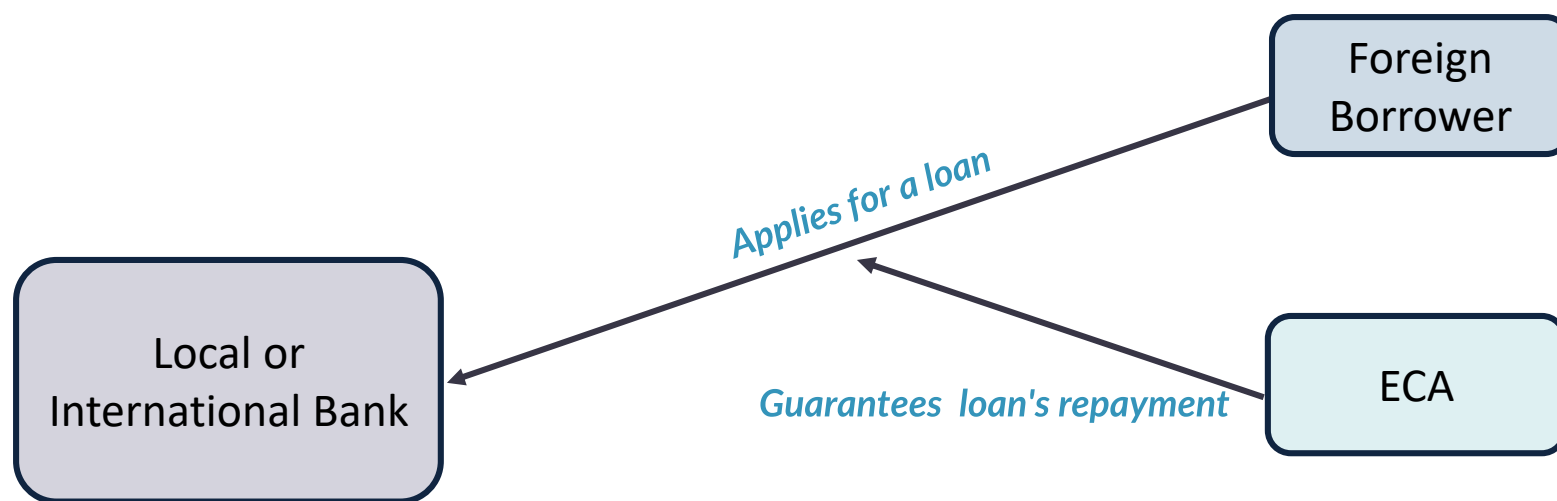


FINANCING



ECA-backed Medium Long Term Loans

Facilitates long-term cross-border lending in hard currency for the purchase of capital goods and services (tied finance), or untied finance to meet national interests, in crucial sectors of the economy such as power, transport, healthcare and infrastructure



Lender

- Obtains mitigation of credit and political risks
- Capital relief supports larger loan-book

Borrower

- Accesses long-term finance
- Enjoys reduced cost of borrowing &
- Repayment profile matching cash-flow

ECA

- Export or broader national interests
- Offers payment security under loan agreement

Political Risk Insurance for Foreign Investments

Protects against losses to cross-border investments due to defined political risks including government actions and political violence. Cover is available from public and private insurers and may be for single assets / investors or multiple investments worldwide up to a set limit



Typical risks covered

- Expropriation confiscation or deprivation
- Contract frustration
- Currency inconvertibility
- Forced abandonment or divestiture
- License cancellation
- Arbitration award default
- Political violence

Advantages

- Highly bespoke product
- Public cover may also include political support in case of losses

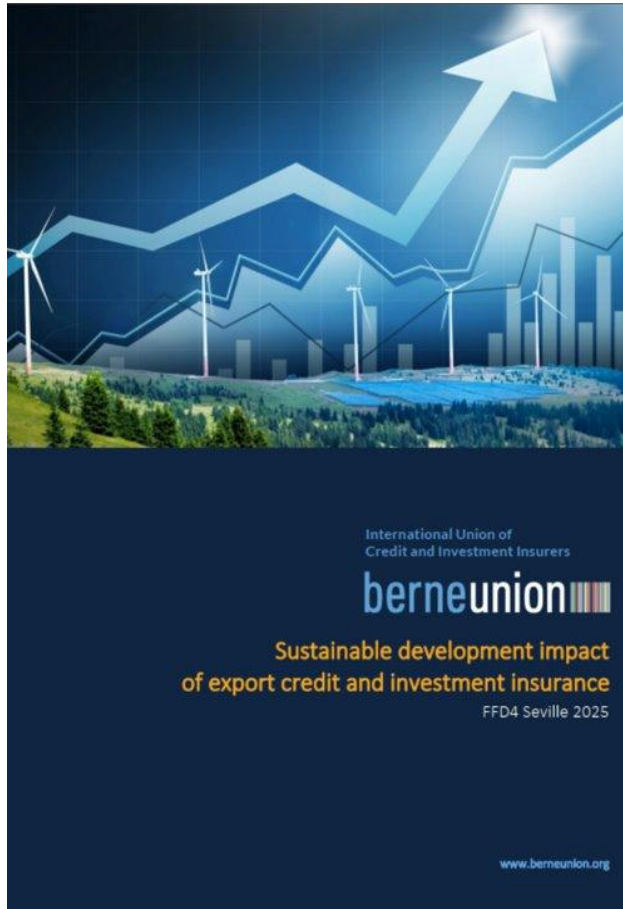
The Path Forward Toward SDGs

Collaboration, Blended finance, and Innovation

- The role of Berne Union members in **facilitating sustainable investment flows** and bridging financing gaps across developing markets has become more critical than ever.
- **In 2024, Berne Union members mobilized USD 140 billion** in private finance for emerging and developing economies (EMDEs), an amount exceeding that of the World Bank Group for the same period.
- Total outstanding **exposure in developing markets now surpasses USD 500 billion**, including USD 97.8 billion across 42 of the 44 Least-Developed Countries.
- Export Credit is recognized as critical to **mobilize private investments** and help to close the estimated USD 4 trillion annual financing gap required to achieve the SDGs globally.



ECAs deliver sustainable development impact



[Download full report](#) for more case studies

Development of digital communication and telecom infrastructure in Ethiopia (2022).

SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure).



De-risked investment from private companies and DFIs in the telecoms sector in Ethiopia, contributing to sustainable economic growth and supporting development of business and innovation in the country. The innovative project structure invoked a reinsurance cooperation agreement between NEXI and ATIDI to provide political risk insurance for Sumitomo Corporation's investment in a joint venture with regional telecoms investors, enabling the expansion of overseas investment and development of the national ICT infrastructure. (ATIDI, NEXI)

Securing stable access to Covid-19 vaccines across Africa (2022).

SDG 3 (Good health and well-being).



NEXI untied insurance cover for USD 207 million private loans extended by MUFG Bank, Ltd. and Mitsubishi UFJ Trust to Afreximbank for financing of the African Union-established African Vaccine Acquisition Trust (AVAT) - a framework designed to ensure stable procurement of Covid-19 vaccines in Africa as well as supporting projects in medical equipment procurement, maintaining medical services and providing healthcare and hygiene services. (NEXI)

ECAs Role Recognition: The FFD4 Commitment

The Compromiso de Sevilla formally acknowledges the critical role of ECAs in the context of private capital mobilisation for sustainable economic development and calls for “greater cooperation and alignment between export credit agencies, multilateral development banks and other financial actors to enhance the efficiency and impact of public capital, particularly in the light of increasing financial constraints”
Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4), Seville, July 3

Why Sevilla Is a Turning Point

Institutional visibility

Positions BU as a hands-on, action-oriented actor in the development finance ecosystem

Partnership building

Encourages stronger linkages between ECAs, MDBs, DFIs and private sector for



Momentum for innovation

Supports scaling of blended finance to crowd-in private investments

Greater scale, efficiency and risk mitigation

Blended finance challenges for BU members

Funding Volume Issues

How to unlock the level of capital required to achieve SDGs

ECAs – Private Financial Institutions need to:

- Align with banks' **originate-and-distribute** model
- **Expand the investor** base (pension funds, insurers, asset managers)

ECAs – MDBs need to:

- **Overcome (PCS) frictions and competition concerns** that limit co-financing efficiency
- Find common grounds despite **differing mandates** (development vs. national interest)
- Work towards **harmonizing processes**

Private Insurers – MDBs need to leverage use of:

- **Portfolio guarantees** to mobilize private capital at scale
- **CLO / securitization structures** to transfer risk to capital markets and free up balance-sheet

Risk Allocation issues

How best to risk-share with multiple stakeholders for optimal capital resources allocation

Collaborating with concessional capital providers (MDBs/DFIs):

- Concessional tranches can **absorb early-stage or higher-risk exposure** (e.g. MDBs/DFIs as 1st loss and/or mezzanine risk taker)
- **Enhances bankability**
- Their participation can serve as a credibility signal, helping mobilize private capital/**crowding-in** commercial players

Financial additionality benefits:

- Longer **tenors** compared to commercial banks' offer
- More favorable **interest rates**
- **Higher flexibility** on grace periods and amortization schedule that enhance project viability

Blended Finance Hackathon

The Hackathon is intended as BU's concrete mechanism to catalyse new ideas, build collaboration, and accelerate deployment of blended finance instruments in line with the Sevilla agenda



Blended Finance Hackathon: Practical laboratory of ideas.

Convening ECAs, MDBs, banks, insurers, and innovators.

Goal: Design, test, and scale solutions to mobilise private capital for sustainable development.

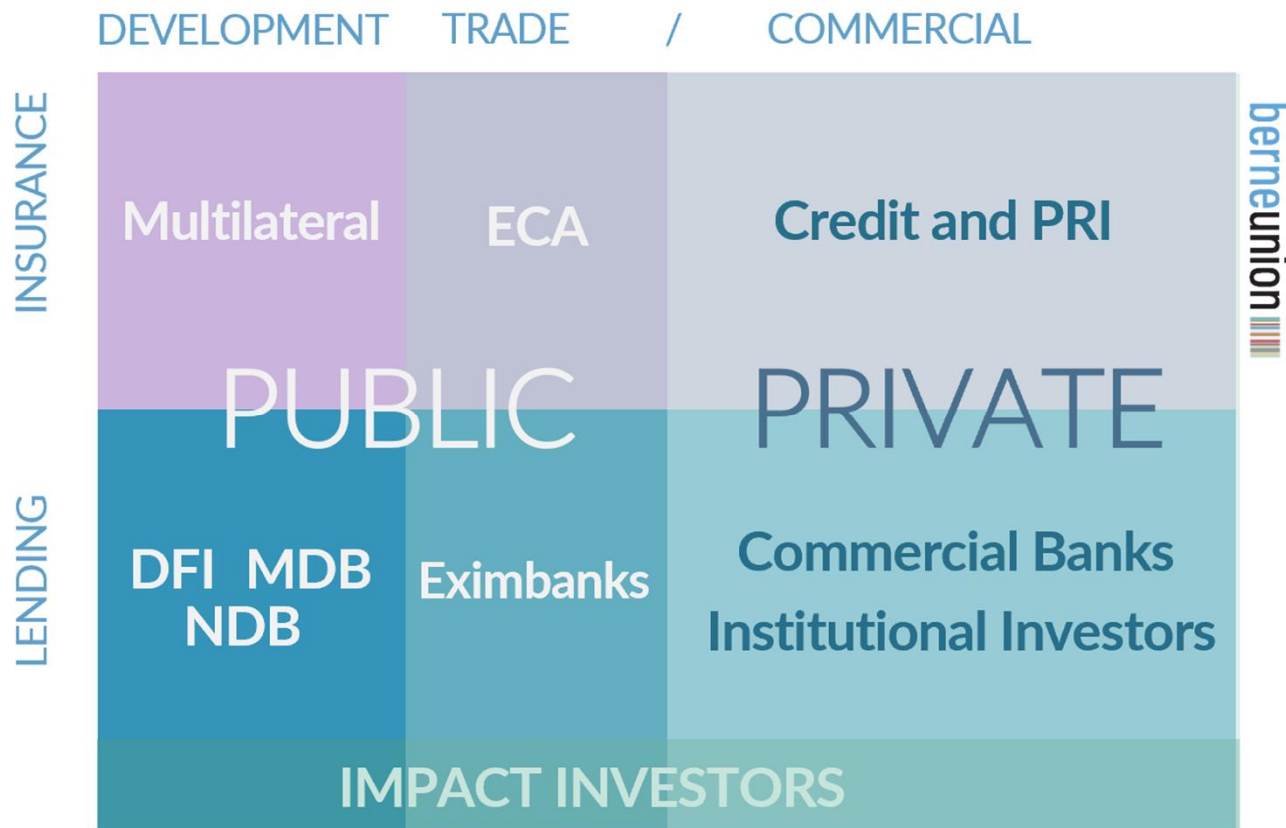
Moves us from *dialogue* → *design*, from *ideas* → *implementation*.



Implementation Schedule:

- ✓ **Launched in August:** Call for papers opened to the global community.
- ✓ **30+ submissions received:** Strong engagement across members and partners.
- ✓ **Nov–Dec:** Participants selection and preparation phase.
- ✓ **5 March (London):** Live hackathon hosted by **Norton Rose Fulbright**.
- ✓ **Post-event:** Publishing of a **White Paper** capturing key takeaways.
- ✓ **AGM26 (Tokyo):** Presenting outcomes in a dedicated **panel discussion**.

Promoting A Joined-Up Ecosystem



Our Global Network

- 90 member institutions across 60+ countries
- Expanding representation, reflecting growing diversity and strength:
 - African Development Bank
 - MSIG USA

Our Shared Context

- Rapid change in the international financial architecture
- Urgent global need to advance sustainability and resilience goals

Our Collective Goals

- Foster a more joined-up ecosystem
- Catalyze new investment, expanding finance, and delivering greater sustainable impact



Thank you