CLIMATE POLICY INITIATIVE

The Lab

What is the Lab looking for?

The 2026 application process, selection criteria, and regional programs

15 October 2025

Agenda

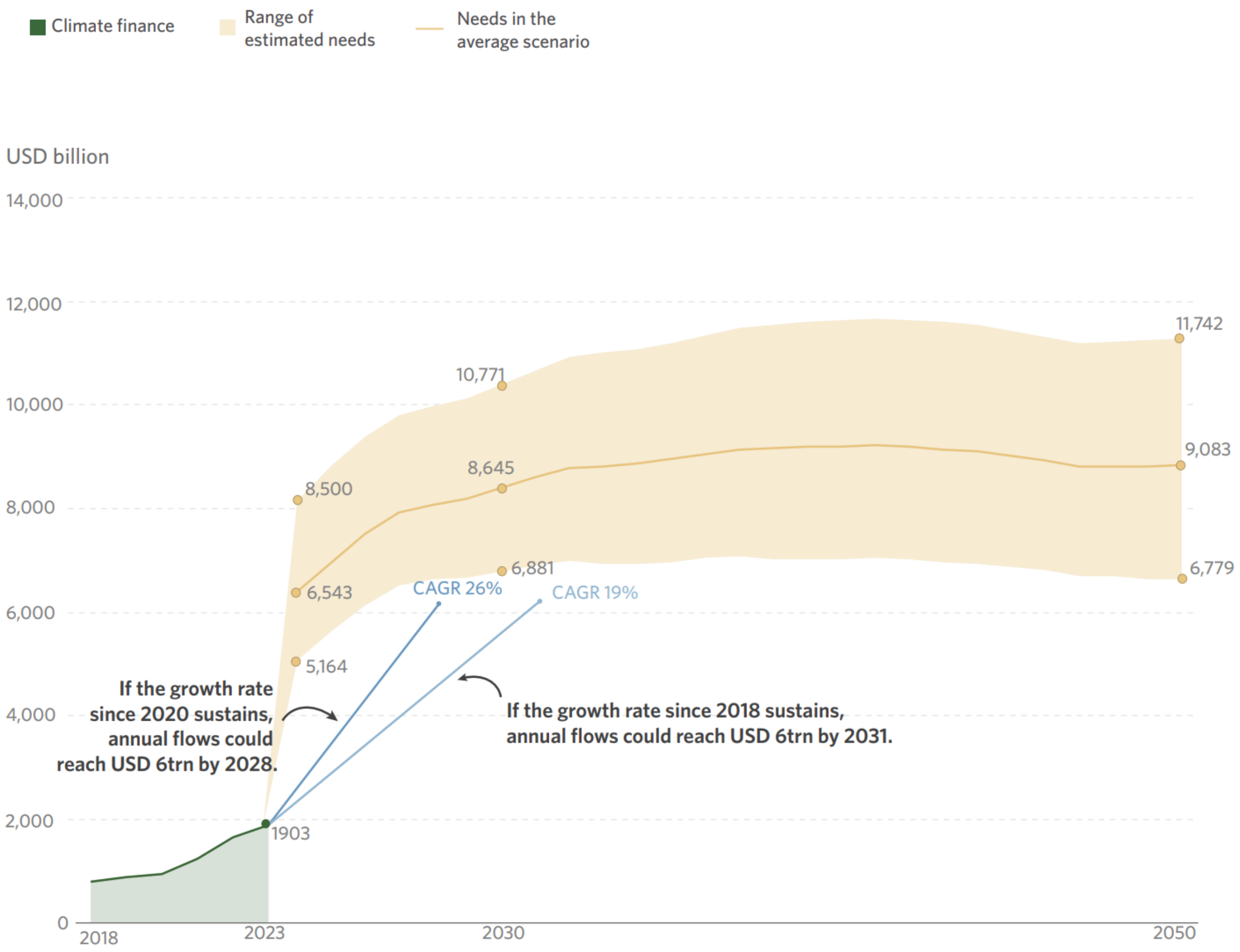
1. How the Lab works
2. What is the Lab looking for
3. What a successful application looks like
4. Q&A

How the Lab works

Addressing the climate finance gap

Limiting warming to 1.5ºC requires a massive increase in investment

USD 6.3 trillion per year needed for climate finance through 2030



Source: Climate Policy Initiative's Global Landscape of Climate Finance 2025

The **Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance** is an investor-led, public-private initiative that accelerates innovative, well-designed, early-stage climate finance solutions to drive private investment into climate change action in developing economies.

78 solutions launched

100+ public and private Lab Member institutions

300+ supporting experts, nearly half from emerging economies

$4.2B+ Mobilized for climate action in emerging markets

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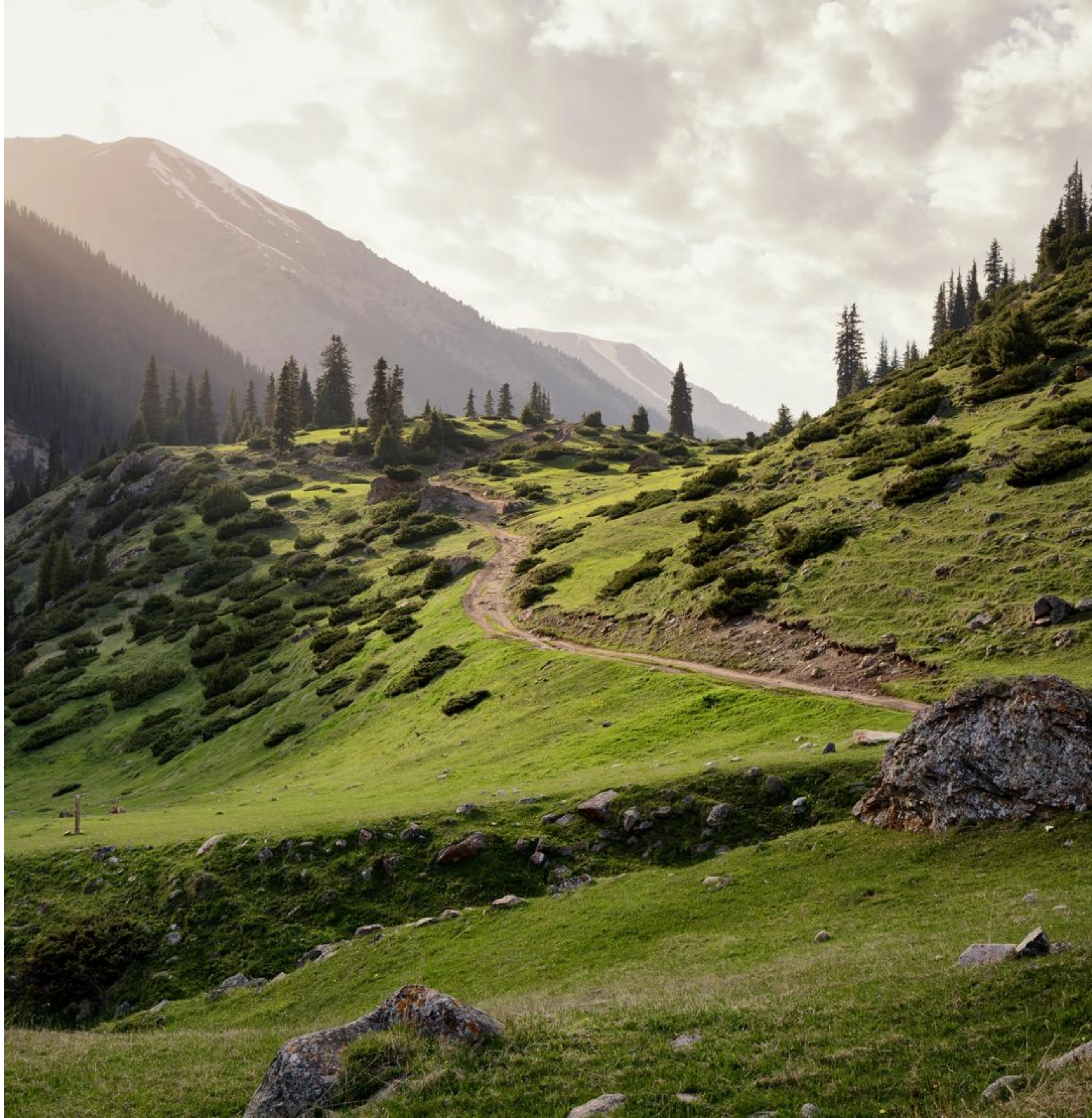
Three ingredients to success

Public-Private Collaboration

Innovation & Transformative Solutions

Mobilizing Finance



The Lab brings together over 100 institutions

FUNDERS

Bloomberg Philanthropies, Canada, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, UNDP

SECRETARIAT

Climate Policy Initiative

GLOBAL AND REGIONAL MEMBERS

ABSOLAR, AGRI3FUND, Africa Finance Corporation, African Development Bank, Allianz, AON, ADB, auctusESG, Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, AYAANA, Bank of America, BPI, BlackRock

BNDES, Ministério da Fazenda – Governo Federal Brasil, British International Investment, btg pactual, BVRIO, CAF, Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator, Capital+ SAFI S.A., cKers finance, Climate Fund Managers, CIF, Climate & Strategy Partners, ClimeCapital

CRDB Bank, CredicorpCapital, CrossBoundary Group, cubo itaú, cyril amarchand mangaldas, Dalberg, KfW DEG, BDMG, DBSA Development Bank of Southern Africa, FMO Entrepreneurial Development Bank, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, ECube Investment Advisors Pvt Ltd, European Investment Bank

financeinmotion, FinDev Canada, Fondo de Fondos, Forest Foundation Philippines, AFD Agence Française de Développement, Fundo Vale, GEF Capital Partners, Green Climate Fund, giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Grupo Sura, Howden, Instituto Humboldt Colombia, HSBC

IDB Invest, IKEA Foundation, IIC Impact Investors Council, IVCA IVC Association, iCS Instituto Clima e Sociedade, intellecap Aavishkaar Group, IDB Improving lives, IFC, IFAD Investing in rural people, IORA Ecological Solutions, Inspired Evolution, KfW, KSK

LeapFrog Investments, go massive incubator, MUFG, Nedbank, NDF Nordic Development Fund, Odyssey, Partnerships for Forests, Department of Energy Philippines, Pinheiro Neto Advogados, Pollination, Produbanco Grupo Promerica, Proparco, Quantum Mutual Fund

RMB, RBN Fund Managers, RIDA, The Rockefeller Foundation, Rwanda Green Fund, SAIL Investments, Sanlam Investments, Santander, Scotiabank, Seguros Sura, SDG Impact Finance Initiative, sidbi, Sida

Tata Capital, The Blended Finance Co., Trilegal, Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs, unitus capital, Vaultus, vivriti capital, The World Bank IBRD · IDA

An incubator for sustainable finance ideas

SEP - DEC

Call for Ideas

The Lab publicizes an open call for innovative sustainable investment solutions.

JAN - FEB

Selection

Lab Members select the most promising ideas to take forward in each annual cycle.

MAR - SEP

Development

Selected ideas benefit from 7 months of analysis, stress-testing, and guidance from experts and investors.

SEP

Endorsement & Launch

Lab Members vote to endorse and launch the ideas for piloting.

OCT - ONWARD

Go To Market

The ideas move into action and fundraising to launch pilots, with continued support from the Lab network.

What happens if your idea is selected

The Lab's core activities and value offerings:

- Design and stress testing
- Target market research and analysis
- Market sounding
- Financial modeling
- Environmental and social impact modelling
- Development of implementation pathway + milestones
- External validation provided by Lab endorsement
- Development of investor pitch materials
- Mapping of potential funders

Two dedicated CPI Analysts

Multidisciplinary working group of experts

Pre-seed capital to implement climate finance solutions

The **Lab Pre-Seed Capital Facility** addresses funding gaps for early-stage climate finance instruments, providing conditional grants to a select group of eligible Lab-endorsed instruments.

The facility targets instruments that require between **USD 150-250K** to move from design to implementation.

What is the Lab looking for

Unlocking billions for climate investments

The Lab will select 8 ideas in 2026

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Apply by **November 9** at climatefinancelab.org/apply

Africa - Mitigation | **Africa - Sust. Agriculture** | **Asia-Pacific - Mitigation**

Brazil | **India** | **LAC - Adaptation** | **LAC - Mitigation** | **The Philippines - Adaptation**

FUNDERS

Bloomberg Philanthropies

Canada

Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

UNDP

Regional focus to leverage local expertise

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Focus sectors

Agriculture and Food Systems	Solutions to accelerate climate finance for businesses.
Climate Adaptation	Support private finance for solutions that build climate resilience.
Climate Mitigation	Focus on renewables, low-carbon transportation, buildings, and industry.
Cross-cutting or multi-sector	Apply under your primary target area.
Multi-region or global focus	Apply to the regional stream that best fits your initial target.

Two-phase application process

Phase 1		Phase 2				
Preliminary Applications Due	Selected Applicants Move to Next Stage	Full Applications Due	Interviews with Selected Applicants	Regional Selection Meetings	Global Selection Meeting	Public Selection Announcement
Nov 9th	Late November	Mid-December	Late Jan	Mid-Feb	Early March	Early March

Eligibility

All ideas should:

- Be a **financial vehicle** targeting climate-relevant sectors.
- Implemented in emerging markets. Ideas must target ODA-eligible countries.
- Focus on local contexts, priorities, and region-specific investment needs.
- Leverage existing regional networks of off-financiers and implementers.

Eligible Proponent Teams

Individual entrepreneurs, public institutions, development finance institutions, the private sector, and civil society organizations may apply.

- Advisory Firm
- Asset manager
- Fund manager
- Asset owner
- Commercial Bank
- Corporate
- Consortium
- Insurer
- Microfinance Institutions
- Non-profit
- Project Developer
- Start-up




Ineligible ideas

The Lab supports financial instruments, not technology development or project implementation. Ideas are **not eligible** if they:

- Focus on developing or selling a climate technology product or service (e.g., a climate-tech startup).
- Use grant funding to directly implement climate projects (e.g., climate education, equipment purchase, or farmer subsidies).

🚫 Not Eligible	✅ Eligible
Startup developing sustainable cookstoves	Startup creating a fund that offers short-term loans so households can purchase sustainable cookstoves
Non-profit providing grants to farmers to buy climate-smart tools	Non-profit developing a fintech platform to improve the bankability of regenerative businesses

How ideas are selected

Core criteria inform how ideas are selected.

Selected ideas are at the right stage for incubation and will benefit the most from the Lab process.

Actionable

Lab ideas are feasible and risk-managed, with a clear pathway to implementation.

Catalytic

Lab ideas have the potential to mobilize private sources of climate finance and scale up investment in target markets.

Innovative

Lab ideas address barriers to climate finance in a unique way.

Financially Sustainable

Lab ideas have a clear strategy for achieving commercial viability.

Value Add

The Lab complements proponent teams' capabilities and needs to ensure their success.

What a successful application looks like

Lab ideas represent the latest and greatest in climate finance

Guidance on Application Form

The Lab's **Preliminary Application** focuses on questions related to your organization's relevant experience, your proposed vehicle design, and your target market's alignment with the Lab's regional streams.

Tips:

- Keep your answers clear and concise.
- Review the Lab’s Guidelines.
- Review details of the Lab’s eight open streams.
- Take a look at the Lab's Portfolio.
- Check the FAQ on the Lab website.

Guidance on Application Form: Team

Goal: Understand your team's experience and readiness to implement the proposed vehicle, and your capacity to engage with the Lab throughout the 2026 cycle.

What we are looking for:

1. **Strong track record:** Experience in designing, implementing, or raising and deploying capital for climate finance vehicles.
2. **Team capacity:** Show that your team has the time and resources to actively engage with CPI during the Lab cycle.
3. **Alignment with organizational goals:** Explain how the proposed vehicle supports your organization's mission and how you'll leverage internal resources to deliver it.

Actionable

Lab ideas are feasible and risk-managed, with a clear pathway to implementation.

Guidance on Application Form: Vehicle Design

Goal: Understand the concept of your proposed vehicle, how it will mobilize capital, achieve impact, source and deploy pipeline, and generate returns.

What we are looking for:

1. Innovative approach to addressing a market gap
2. Stage of development and progress to date.
3. Clear concept of vehicle mechanics, including:

   - What's the financial instrument?
   - How capital flows through your vehicle.
   - Types and sources of capital you plan to raise.
   - Target pipeline: who are the end investees?
   - How will capital be deployed?
   - What is the revenue model?
   - Outline any de-risking mechanisms.

Innovative

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Financially Sustainable

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Guidance on Application Form: Alignment with Regional Streams

Regional focus: Select 1-3 priority countries or target markets and indicate up to two regional Lab streams that best align with their proposed vehicle and sectors.

What we are looking for:

1. **Localized solutions with replication potential**: Show a strong understanding of your target market(s), emphasizing both local product-market fit and replication potential.
2. **Alignment with selected regional stream**: Explain how your vehicle's target markets and sectors align with one or two Lab streams.
3. **Scope guidance**

- Global ideas → apply to the regional stream that best fits your initial market.
- If your main target is Brazil or India, choose only that stream.

Catalytic

Lab ideas have the potential to mobilize private sources of climate finance and scale up investment in target markets.

For example: CoolPact Capital India Fund

Actionable

- Dedicated and capable team; established partnerships.
- Alignment with the Government of India’s priorities; minimal policy dependence.

Catalytic

- Idea targets India's rapidly growing cooling market, expected to increase 10x by 2037-38.
- Easily scalable in other geographies (SE Asia, Africa).

Innovative

- Application of blended finance instruments to bridge the “valley of death" for early-stage enterprises in the cooling sector is new.

Financial Sustainability

- Fund focuses on cost-effective cooling solutions, making economic sense for India.
- Proponents’ acumen and robust growth expectation for cooling in India.

Questions

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Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance

Thank you

Contact

www.climatefinancelab.org

/company/climatefinancelab