

FACT SHEET

Carbon Finance-Assist

What is Carbon Finance-Assist (CF-A)?

CF-Assist is a multi-donor trust supported by Australia, Denmark, France, Spain and Switzerland. It is a capacity building and technical assistance program to complement the World Bank's carbon funds. It was proposed in 2004 and formally launched in mid-2005. While some activities under CF-Assist were designed in 2005, actual implementation did not begin in earnest until early 2006. CF-Assist has been managed by the World Bank Institute (WBI) since 2006, when it was transferred from the World Bank Environment Department.

CF-A supports both the Innovation in Carbon Finance and Cities and Climate Change programs in the WBI Climate Change Practice.

Who are the stakeholders of CF-A?

CF-A has a broad set of stakeholders, representing local and national governments, Designated National Authorities (DNA), project developers, cities, financial institutions, and donor organizations.

What type of work is CF-A doing?

CF-A works in developing countries across all regions to:

- build human and technical capacity;
- put in place the necessary institutional and legal infrastructure;
- help create and manage carbon assets in specific mitigation sectors; and
- help reduce costs of participating in the carbon market.

In implementing these activities, CF-A promotes the deployment of clean technologies contributing to sustainable development in developing countries.

What is the approach of CF-A?

CF-A builds capacity by offering timely and relevant knowledge from inside and outside the World Bank through structured learning and south-south knowledge exchange. It also offers platforms for stakeholder dialogue and facilitates on the ground results by supporting the implementation of selected initiatives.

What are the strategic directions for CF-A between 2010-13?

Responding to political, economic and technological challenges ahead, CF-Assist emphasizes three major directions in its work program 2010-13:

- Scaling up carbon finance through programmatic approaches and providing information on the evolving global regulatory framework and emerging market instruments.
- Expanding the use of carbon finance in urban areas, including fostering development of programmatic carbon finance programs, supporting the preparation of low carbon development strategies for cities, and helping establish institutional frameworks for implementing low carbon strategies.
- Integrating carbon finance into climate finance to promote low carbon development, which involves building skills to use analytical tools, fostering peer-to-peer exchanges of knowledge on strategic low carbon development assessments, identifying sector-specific mitigation activities and accessing new sources of climate financing.

For more information, contact the CF-A team: cfassist@worldbank.org