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The
G7 Research Group
at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto
presents the

2015 Schloss Elmau G7 Summit Interim Compliance Report

9 June 2015 to 20 February 2016

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“We have meanwhile set up a process and there are also independent institutions monitoring which objectives of our G7 meetings we actually achieve. When it comes to these goals we have a compliance rate of about 80%, according to the University of Toronto. Germany, with its 87%, comes off pretty well. That means that next year too, under the Japanese G7 presidency, we are going to check where we stand in comparison to what we have discussed with each other now. So a lot of what we have resolved to do here together is something that we are going to have to work very hard at over the next few months. But I think that it has become apparent that we, as the G7, want to assume responsibility far beyond the prosperity in our own countries. That’s why today’s outreach meetings, that is the meetings with our guests, were also of great importance.”

Chancellor Angela Merkel, Schloss Elmau, June 8, 2015

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15. Climate Change: Vulnerable Countries

“We will ... intensify our support particularly for vulnerable countries’ own efforts to manage climate change related disaster risk”

G7 Schloss Elmau Summit Declaration

Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy	-1		
Japan			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.50	

Background

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the majority of countries vulnerable to climate change are located in South and Southeast Asia, and Africa. Countries that are economically dependent on agriculture are also more at risk.⁷¹⁹ In particular the 2015 Maplecroft Climate Change Vulnerability Index named Bangladesh, India, Ethiopia, Nigeria and the Philippines the most vulnerable.⁷²⁰ The El Nino effect made 2015 the hottest year in history and has been linked to the extreme weather of 2015 such as the extreme heat waves, flooding, droughts and extreme storms that have occurred worldwide.⁷²¹ It is believed that the planet has already passed the tipping point and that extreme weather events as a result of climate change will continue to increase.

In the future, supporting effective emergency response systems in the most vulnerable countries will become an important issue, especially to avoid climate migrants. However, usually the most vulnerable countries are also very poor and have less to spend on adapting to a rapidly changing environment.⁷²² An example would be the impact of Cyclone Pam that demonstrates the consequences of not having enough resources to provide adequate disaster response.⁷²³

⁷¹⁹ Climate Change 2001: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2001. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/tar/wg2/index.php?idp=674>

⁷²⁰ Climate Change and Environmental Risk Atlas 2015, Verisk Maplecroft, 2015. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://maplecroft.com/portfolio/new-analysis/2014/10/29/climate-change-and-lack-food-security-multiply-risks-conflict-and-civil-unrest-32-countries-maplecroft/>

⁷²¹ El Nino weather ‘could be as bad as 1998’, says Nasa, BBC News, 30 December 2015. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-35197887>

The Point of No Return: Climate Change Nightmares Are Already Here, Rolling Stone, 5 August 2015. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://www.rollingstone.com/politics/news/the-point-of-no-return-climate-change-nightmares-are-already-here-20150805>

⁷²² Climate change impacts and adaptation, BBC News, 25 March 2014. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-26715589>

⁷²³ Pacific: Climate Change Heightens Pacific Islands’ Vulnerability, Asia News Monitor, 31 March 2015. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://search.proquest.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/newsstand/docview/1667373277/D74A37F07886445BPQ/2?accountid=14771>

After the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004, the multilateral Hyogo Framework was created to reduce the risk of future natural disasters in part by increasing disaster preparedness measures.⁷²⁴ However, a decade later the framework has become overwhelmed by the large and extreme weather patterns.⁷²⁵ Instead, the G7 has committed to increasing funds available for mutual insurance companies such as the African Risk Capacity and the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility.⁷²⁶ These common insurance companies raise funds among the participating countries, allowing for a faster response time. It has also been shown that these organizations save money that would have been spent on disaster relief and repair, the technology to measure and price the natural disaster has also led to an improved early warning system.⁷²⁷

Commitment Features

This commitment is mentioned within the climate change section of the declaration and aims to improve the “support for vulnerable countries’ own efforts to manage climate change related disaster risk and to build resilience.”⁷²⁸ There are two very important details related to this commitment; the focus on vulnerable countries, and the support for their disaster risk initiatives. The term vulnerable countries applies to the level of influence extreme weather can have on the country’s socioeconomic structures. Furthermore, the G7 countries must provide support for the efforts put forth by these vulnerable countries, they cannot provide support in the form of their own framework. The commitment mentions a number of initiatives that have already been created.

In order for a country to achieve full compliance they must make a clear commitment to provide either financial or technical assistance to the vulnerable countries listed in the commitment. Compliance cannot be achieved if a country merely promises to take efforts to reduce climate change, it must be specifically related to climate change related risk. In addition to the specific requirements of the support, the framework in which the support is provided is also necessary for compliance.

Member countries must work closely together with the vulnerable countries within pre-existing risk insurance facilities. The risk insurance initiatives mentioned in the commitment are funds set aside to immediately ease extreme weather socioeconomic consequences.

Scoring Guidelines

-1	Member does not increase support vulnerable countries in managing disaster risk related to climate change.
0	Member provides support to vulnerable countries but does not actively work with them to improve managing disaster risk related to climate change.
+1	Member provides support to vulnerable countries to manage disaster risk related to climate change through pre-existing frameworks established by vulnerable countries.

Lead Analyst: Emma de Leeuw

⁷²⁴ Vanuatu won’t be the last poor country devastated by climate change inaction, The Guardian, 20 March 2015. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/mar/20/sendai-climate-change-inaction-poor-countries-vanuatu-cyclone-pam>

⁷²⁵ Vanuatu won’t be the last poor country devastated by climate change inaction, The Guardian, 20 March 2015. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/mar/20/sendai-climate-change-inaction-poor-countries-vanuatu-cyclone-pam>

⁷²⁶ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Elmau Summit, 8 June 2015. Access Date: 19 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

⁷²⁷ African Risk Capacity: Insurance For African Development, Forbes, 22 December 2015. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/danielrunde/2015/12/22/african-risk-capacity-insurance-for-african-development/#2715e4857a0b38bc5abb4875> Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility. Date accessed: 19 January 2016. <http://ccrif.org/content/about-us>

⁷²⁸ Leaders’ Declaration: G7 Elmau Summit, 8 June 2015. Access Date: 19 January 2016. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2015elmau/2015-G7-declaration-en.html>

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with the commitment to intensify support for vulnerable countries' efforts to manage disaster risk related to climate change.

Canada has been a major contributor towards climate risk insurance and has had past experience with these organizations before. From 2007 until 2012 Canada provided CAD25 million to the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility.⁷²⁹

Ahead of the 21st Conference of the Parties in Paris, on November 27, 2015, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau declared that over the next five years Canada would contribute CAD2.65 billion to helping developing countries adapt to and mitigate climate change.⁷³⁰ The funding will be aimed at transitioning the poorest and most vulnerable countries into sustainable low-carbon economies as well as providing capacity within vulnerable countries to respond to climate change disasters.⁷³¹

Although the exact details of the above-mentioned pledge have not yet been released, Canada has allocated CAD50 million to the G7 climate risk insurance initiative in developing countries.⁷³² This initiative will provide resources to developing countries to protect themselves against climate change related disaster risk, which over time helps build resilience against climate change disasters impacts.

Although the funds will support climate change initiatives in vulnerable countries, there is no specific emphasis on the support of the countries' own efforts.

Therefore Canada receives a 0 for partial compliance to committing support for vulnerable countries' own efforts to manage disaster risk related to climate change.

Analyst: Emma de Leeuw

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitment to intensify its support for vulnerable countries' efforts to manage disaster risk related to climate change.

On 29 June 2015, Laurent Fabius, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development travelled to New York to participate in a meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on Climate.⁷³³ Minister Fabius also co-chaired a ministerial meeting on climate with the UN Secretary General, during which he called for "the mobilization of global policy makers in order to ensure that an ambitious and lasting agreement can be reached at COP21 [21st Conference of the Parties]."⁷³⁴

⁷²⁹ Canada to invest \$50 million in G7 climate risk insurance initiative, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 December 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6672&nid=1023619>

⁷³⁰ Address by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Malta) 27 November 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2015/11/27/prime-minister-announces-investment-global-climate-change-action>

⁷³¹ Address by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (Malta) 27 November 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2015/11/27/prime-minister-announces-investment-global-climate-change-action>

⁷³² Canada to invest \$50 million in G7 climate risk insurance initiative, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 5 December 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016. <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=advSrch&crtr.page=2&crtr.dpt1D=6672&nid=1023619>

⁷³³ Climate – United Nations – Laurent Fabius's visit to New York (Paris) 29 June 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article /climate-united-nations-laurent-fabius-s-visit-to-new-york-29-06-15>

⁷³⁴ Climate – United Nations – Laurent Fabius's visit to New York (Paris) 29 June 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article /climate-united-nations-laurent-fabius-s-visit-to-new-york-29-06-15>

On 1 July 2015, a representative from the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy attended a Climate Finance Lab meeting in Venice to identify and strategize climate finance instruments aimed at, “climate change mitigation and adaptation in developing countries.”⁷³⁵

On 13 July 2015, Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development and Annick Girardin, Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy travelled to Addis Ababa to partake in the third International Conference on Financing for Development.⁷³⁶ While there, Minister Fabius and Minister Girardin reaffirmed their country’s commitment to assisting vulnerable countries in their efforts against climate disruption.⁷³⁷

On 1 September 2015, in the wake of large-scale flooding in Myanmar caused by a cyclone, Annick Girardin, Minister of State for Development and Francophony pledged EUR400,000 to “support food security and nutrition, notably for children.”⁷³⁸

On 12–13 October 2015, Annick Girardin, Minister of State for Development and Francophony, attended the International Forum on Identifying Nationally Determined Contributions to Climate Change Action in Rabat, Morocco where she evaluated the progress of intended national nationally determined contribution in the face of climate disruption and to secure contributions from new donors.⁷³⁹

At a climate finance ministerial meeting in Lima, Peru, on 9 October 2015, the French Government reaffirmed its commitment to mobilizing USD100 billion and to increase its annual climate finance effort to EUR5 billion by 2020.⁷⁴⁰

On 3 November 2015, a subsidiary of AfD, Proparco agreed to provide a USD25 million loan to help construct two solar power plants in northern Chile in order to help develop renewable energies in Latin America.⁷⁴¹

On 3 November 2015, the Delegation for the External Action of Local Government of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development launched a program called, “Decentralized cooperation for the climate,” whereby a call for climate-related projects led by local domestic governments to combat climate change abroad would be given financial support.⁷⁴²

⁷³⁵ Lab Advisor Meeting on the strategic direction and organization of The Lab (Venice) 1 July 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://climatefinancelab.org/event/lab-advisor-meeting-on-the-strategic-direction-and-organization-of-the-lab/>

⁷³⁶ Laurent Fabius’s visit to the Central African Republic and Ethiopia (Paris) 13 July 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/central-african-republic/france-and-the-central-african/political-relations-6283/article/laurent-fabius-s-visit-to-the-central-african-republic-and-ethiopia-13-07-15>

⁷³⁷ Laurent Fabius’s visit to the Central African Republic and Ethiopia (Paris) 13 July 2015. Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/central-african-republic/france-and-the-central-african/political-relations-6283/article/laurent-fabius-s-visit-to-the-central-african-republic-and-ethiopia-13-07-15>

⁷³⁸ Myanmar/Burma – Climate – French assistance (Paris) 1 September 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/myanmar/events/article/myanmar-burma-climate-french-assistance-september-1-2015>

⁷³⁹ Climate – Morocco – Visit by Annick Girardin (Paris) 12 October 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/2015-paris-climate-conference-cop21/article/climate-morocco-visit-by-annick-girardin-10-12-to-13-15>

⁷⁴⁰ Climate Finance Ministerial Meeting (Paris) 9 October 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/climate-finance-ministerial-meeting-lima-10-09-15>

⁷⁴¹ Chile – Renewable energies – Signing of a \$25 million loan by Proparco to finance two solar power plants (Paris) 3 November 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/chile-renewable-energies-signing-of-a-25-million-loan-by-proparco-to-finance>

⁷⁴² Campaign : “Decentralized cooperation for the climate (Paris) 3 November 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/campaign-decentralized-cooperation-for-the-climate/>

On 2 December 2015, at the COP21 meetings hosted by France in Paris, the French Government and its G7 partners launched the climate risk and early warning systems program with a pledge of EUR10 million through 2016–17.⁷⁴³

On 9 December 2015, Régis Marodon, Director of the Latin America and Caribbean Department at Afd, signed a financial partnership agreement with the European Commission in order to create a technical cooperation program, which is financed via a EUR 4.2 million grant.⁷⁴⁴ This will enable the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and its partners to “define and implement climate strategies at local level.”⁷⁴⁵

France has fully complied with its commitment to provide support to vulnerable countries to manage climate change related disaster risk through pre-existing frameworks established by vulnerable countries. As a result, France has been awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Mathieu Sitaya

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitment to intensify its support for vulnerable countries’ own efforts to manage disaster risk related to climate change.

Germany has taken steps to ensure rising industrial countries sustain its commitment to the agreement to control climate change made at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21). Germany announced EUR550 million would be provided to finance environmental and clean energy programs in Brazil. This will be with the focus of developing renewable energy sources in the country and the preservation of tropical forests.⁷⁴⁶ A further EUR23 million was donated to Brazil to establish a rural land registry aimed at enhanced monitoring of deforestation.⁷⁴⁷ In a visit to India, the German and Indian leaders expressed joint determination to boost clean energy in India. Over the next five years, Germany will provide India EUR1 billion to improve access to clean energy in India’s rural locations.⁷⁴⁸ Thus Germany has taken steps to ensure the COP21 agreement is upheld.

Germany has been actively engaged in participating and promoting the COP21 agreement to reduce global warming. In a statement, Chancellor Angela Merkel praised the climate deal as the “real future course for the world in the direction of energy transition, a course for the world in the direction of reason considering the change in climate.”⁷⁴⁹ Germany could work as a facilitator and supporter in implementation, finance, technology and capacity building for countries to fulfill promises made for the COP21 agreement.⁷⁵⁰

⁷⁴³ Launch of CREWS, climate risk & early warning systems (Paris) 2 December 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/french-foreign-policy/climate/events/article/launch-of-crews-climate-risk-early-warning-systems>

⁷⁴⁴ EU, AFD and CAF, partners for the development of sustainable cities in Latin America (Paris) 9 December 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.afd.fr/lang/en/home/pays/amerique-latine-et-caraibes>

⁷⁴⁵ EU, AFD and CAF, partners for the development of sustainable cities in Latin America (Paris) 9 December 2015, Date of Access: 3 February 2016 <http://www.afd.fr/lang/en/home/pays/amerique-latine-et-caraibes>

⁷⁴⁶ Update 1- Germany and Brazil join forces on climate change action (United States) 20 August 2015. Date of Access: 5 February 2016. <http://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-germany-climatechange-idUSL1N10V2D320150821>

⁷⁴⁷ Update 1- Germany and Brazil join forces on climate change action (United States) 20 August 2015. Date of Access: 5 February 2016. <http://www.reuters.com/article/brazil-germany-climatechange-idUSL1N10V2D320150821>

⁷⁴⁸ India and Germany Set up Cooperation on Clean Energy, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Geneva) 6 October 2015. Date of Access: 5 February 2016. <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/clean-energy/india-and-germany-step-up-cooperation-on-clean-energy/>

⁷⁴⁹ A real future course (Germany) 14 December 2015. Date of Access: 5 February 2016. <https://www.deutschland.de/en/topic/politics/global-issues-law/a-real-future-course>

⁷⁵⁰ Report of the Conference of the Parties on its twenty-first session, held in Paris from 30 November to 13 December 2015, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Paris) 29 January 2016. Date of Access: 6 February 2016. <http://www.cop21.gouv.fr/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/10.pdf>

Germany's efforts have focused on helping many developing countries in their necessary reform and transformation process financially. These efforts do not focus on intensifying support for vulnerable countries' own efforts to manage climate change related disaster risk.

Therefore Germany receive a score of 0 for partial compliance.

Analyst: Fernando Casanova

Italy: -1

Italy has not complied with its commitment to intensify its support for vulnerable countries' own efforts to manage disaster risk related to climate change.

Although Italy did participate on various proactive efforts to provide aid to vulnerable countries easily affected by climate-related disasters, especially under the framework of the vulnerable countries. According to the World Bank's statistics, the Italian official development aid has fallen under the United Nations and European Union target over the past few years, Italy's effort to combat climate change is not entirely absent.⁷⁵¹

At the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris in December 2015, Minister of Environment Gian Luca Galetti made a public statement outlining Italy's engagement in sustainable energy and climate change adaption.⁷⁵² However, its aid commitment from 2015 to 2020 has yet to be accomplished although accepted by numerous reluctant countries in the Caribbean. The memorandum of understanding in question was signed on the 23 November 2015.⁷⁵³

Italy is also contributing to the overall progress on climate vulnerability by working with the CLIM-RUN project on climate information in the Mediterranean. This is an information sharing project funded by the EU to provide more reliable data on climate change, mostly for the local businesses and governments to plan ahead.⁷⁵⁴ This is a service expansion from the United Kingdom and Germany into more countries, and Italy is contributing to the information sheets and paying close attention through the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development.⁷⁵⁵

Although Italy has made commitments to providing aid to vulnerable countries, it has failed to work with pre-existing frameworks. Furthermore, Italy's inability to follow up on past commitments demonstrates a lack of compliance. Therefore Italy receives a score of -1.

Analyst: Angela Hou

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitment to providing aid to countries particularly vulnerable to climate change and supporting disaster risk initiatives of the countries themselves.

⁷⁵¹ Italy - Data, The World Bank. Date of Access: 5 February 2016. <http://data.worldbank.org/country/italy>

⁷⁵² Italy will help vulnerable states to fight climate change. ItalyUN. 3 February 2016. Date of Access: 6 February 2016. <http://www.onuitalia.com/eng/2016/02/03/13771/>

⁷⁵³ Cooperation for the Development of Renewable Energy Sources and Mitigation and Adaption to Climate Change in the Caribbean Region. Ministry of the Environment Land and Sea of the Republic of Italy, 23 November 2015. Date of access: 7 February 2016

http://www.minambiente.it/sites/default/files/archivio/allegati/trasparenza_valutazione_merito/SVI/allegati/30_12_2015/MOU%20Centro%20della%20Comunit%20Caraibica%20sul%20Cambiamento%20Climatico.pdf

⁷⁵⁴ Adapting to Climate Change, Mediterranean Style, European Commission, 2 December 2014, Date of Access: 7 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?artid=33457

⁷⁵⁵ Adapting to Climate Change, Mediterranean Style, European Commission, 2 December 2014, Date of Access: 7 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?artid=33457

On 23 June 2015, the Government of Japan provided Ghana with JPY8.5 million worth of emergency relief goods through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). This relief was in response to heavy floods that caused serious damage to the southern part of the country.⁷⁵⁶

On 1 September 2015, the Government of Japan provided emergency relief goods, such as water purifiers and electric generators, through the JICA to Dominica in response to flood disasters caused by Tropical Storm “Erika.”⁷⁵⁷ Additionally on 22 January 2016, Japan signed an agreement to provide an additional USD1.6 million in disaster resilience equipment to Dominica.⁷⁵⁸

The Government of Japan also provided substantial aid to Myanmar over the course of several months in response to heavy flooding. On 14 August 2015, it provided JPY325 million in cooperation with various humanitarian nongovernmental organizations, such as the World Food Programme and the Red Cross.⁷⁵⁹ Moreover on 2 October 2015, Japan provided an additional JPY1.2 billion for education to Myanmar; this assistance was for the reconstruction of schools, distribution of study kits, and holding workshops for disaster risk education through the United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF).⁷⁶⁰

On 11 October 2015, JICA has provided emergency relief goods, in the form of fire extinguishing agents, to Indonesia in response to smoke pollution caused by forest fires.⁷⁶¹ Additionally on 15 October 2015, it dispatched an expert to Indonesia to aid the local government in dealing with smoke pollution.⁷⁶²

On 1 April 2015, Japan and the Asian Development Bank began helping developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region tap into space-based technologies, such as GPS and satellites, to prepare and respond to natural disasters more efficiently and effectively.⁷⁶³ The Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction provided a grant worth USD2 million to train government officials and local volunteers.⁷⁶⁴

On 24 June 2015, the JICA signed a grant agreement with the Government of Bangladesh to provide up to JPY2.881 billion for the Project for Improvement of Meteorological Radar Systems. This project is to support the upgrading of meteorological radar systems into Doppler systems along with training technical personnel.⁷⁶⁵

⁷⁵⁶ Emergency Assistance to Ghana in Response to the Floods Disaster, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 24 June 2015. Date of Access: 30 January 2015. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_000780.html

⁷⁵⁷ Emergency Assistance to the Commonwealth of Dominica in Response to the Floods Disaster, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 1 September 2015. Date of Access: 30 January 2015. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_000837.html

⁷⁵⁸ Japan and Dominica Sign Agreement for Resilience, Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica (Roseau) 27 January 2015. Date of Access 30 January 2015. <http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/3331-japan-and-dominica-sign-agreement-for-resilience>

⁷⁵⁹ Emergency Grant Aid to Myanmar in Response to Flood Disaster, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 14 August 2015. Date of Access 30 January 2015. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press3e_000037.html

⁷⁶⁰ Emergency Grant Aid to Myanmar for Education in Response to Flood Disaster, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2 October 2015. Date of Access 30 January 2015. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_000876.html

⁷⁶¹ Emergency Assistance to Indonesia in Response to Smoke Pollution (Haze), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 11 October 2015. Date of Access 30 January 2015. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/press4e_000891.html

⁷⁶² Dispatch of an Expert to Indonesia in Response to Smoke Pollution (Haze), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 15 October 2015. Date of Access 30 January 2015. http://www.mofa.go.jp/press/release/page3e_000394.html

⁷⁶³ ADB, Japan to Help Asia Tap Space Technologies to Counter Disasters, Asian Development Bank (Manila) 1 April 2015. Date of Access 30 January 2015. <http://www.adb.org/news/adb-japan-help-asia-tap-space-technologies-counter-disasters>

⁷⁶⁴ ADB, Japan to Help Asia Tap Space Technologies to Counter Disasters, Asian Development Bank (Manila) 1 April 2015. Date of Access 30 January 2015. <http://www.adb.org/news/adb-japan-help-asia-tap-space-technologies-counter-disasters>

⁷⁶⁵ Signing of Grant Agreement with Bangladesh, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 24 June 2015. Date of Access 31 January 2015. http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2015/150624_01.html

Before the Paris Conference on 26 November 2015, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe promised to increase Japan's annual financial support to help developing countries combat climate change to JPY1.3 trillion by 2020, which is 30 per cent more than what Japan currently allocates.⁷⁶⁶

Due to Japan's initiatives to help countries vulnerable to disasters related to climate change through financial and technical assistance and its efforts in creating and improving structures with which these states can better prepare themselves for climate-related disasters, Japan has been awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Raheeb Dastagir

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitment to provide financial assistance to the vulnerable countries and has taken action to reduce climate change through cooperation.

Along with the rest of the G7 members, the United Kingdom has agreed to limit global warming to 2°C.⁷⁶⁷ They hope to accomplish this by “reducing their carbon emissions, mobilizing USD100 billion a year for climate change mitigation, and facilitating more investment in developing nations.”⁷⁶⁸

Through a 50 per cent increase in government spending, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development contributed to the International Climate fund and focused on increasing the resilience countries vulnerable to climate change shocks.⁷⁶⁹

The United Kingdom's Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) settlement included two initiatives on climate change. The first initiative is to double DECC innovation program to GBP500 million over five years to “strengthen the future security of supply, reduce the costs of de-carbonization and boost industrial and research capabilities.”⁷⁷⁰ The share of GBP1.7 billion of the government's GBP5.8 billion International Climate Fund is going towards aiding the poorest and most vulnerable countries by helping them decarbonize and adapt to the effects of climate change.⁷⁷¹

The United Kingdom will increase funding for the Renewable Heat Incentive to GBP1.15 billion in 2021 to ensure it reaches its climate goal.⁷⁷²

The United Kingdom will continue to play a leading role in international research efforts to reduce the costs of low carbon energy, working with other countries to strengthen international collaboration and transparency in clean energy research, development and demonstration.⁷⁷³

⁷⁶⁶ Abe Says Japan to Raise Climate Support for Poorer Nations, Bloomberg Business 25 November 2015. Date of Access 31 January 2015. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-11-26/abe-says-japan-to-raise-climate-support-for-developing-countries>

⁷⁶⁷ G7 Leaders Agree on Action To Limit Global Warming to 2 Degrees 8 June 2015. Date of Access: 2 Tuesday 2016 <http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2015/06/08/3667069/g7-prioritizes-climate-change/>

⁷⁶⁸ G7 Leaders Agree on Action To Limit Global Warming to 2 Degrees 8 June 2015. Date of Access: 2 Tuesday 2016 <http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2015/06/08/3667069/g7-prioritizes-climate-change/>

⁷⁶⁹ Spending review and autumn statement 2015 27 November 2015. Date of Access 2 Tuesday 2016 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015-documents/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015>

⁷⁷⁰ Spending review and autumn statement 2015 27 November 2015. Date of Access 2 Tuesday 2016 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015-documents/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015>

⁷⁷¹ Spending review and autumn statement 2015 27 November 2015. Date of Access 2 Tuesday 2016 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015-documents/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015>

⁷⁷² Spending review and autumn statement 2015 27 November 2015. Date of Access 2 Tuesday 2016 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015-documents/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015>

Therefore the United Kingdom has received a score of +1.

Analyst: Nabiha Chowdhury

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitment to providing financial and technical support to countries particularly vulnerable to climate change.

On 15 May 2015, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided Nepal with an additional USD11 million to aid their earthquake response and recovery efforts, bringing the total US contribution to USD26 million since the earthquake in April.⁷⁷⁴ Moreover, five American military aircraft were deployed to deliver the emergency relief supplies and assist USAID's Disaster Assistance Response Team, which was deployed to Nepal as soon as the earthquake hit.⁷⁷⁵

On 6 August 2015, USAID announced an additional USD600,000 in humanitarian assistance to Burma in response to the heavy flooding, raising their total contribution to Burma to USD48 million since the start of the 2015 fiscal year.⁷⁷⁶ Additionally, a team of USAID disaster experts were also dispatched to assess damages and coordinate with local officials.⁷⁷⁷

On 26 October 2015, President Barack Obama announced USD3 million in humanitarian aid to Indonesia to help fight forest fires and smoke pollution caused by El Niño.⁷⁷⁸

Following the conclusion of the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris on 9 December 2015, Secretary of State John Kerry announced that the United States would double its grant-based climate aid to developing countries.⁷⁷⁹ Furthermore, President Obama announced that the US with 10 other countries would contribute a total of USD248 million to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF).⁷⁸⁰

On 9 June 2015, USAID announced the launching of Climate Services for Resilient Development, a public-private partnership intended to developing tools, services, and technologies to strengthen the resilience of developing countries against climate change.⁷⁸¹ This partnership launched with USD34 million in contributions from its founding-partner institutions, which include USAID, the United Kingdom

⁷⁷³ Spending review and autumn statement 2015 27 November 2015. Date of Access 2 Tuesday 2016

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015-documents/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015>

⁷⁷⁴ USAID Announces \$11 Million in Additional Assistance for Nepal Earthquake Response, US Agency for International Development (Kathmandu) 5 May 2015. Date of Access 3 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/may-5-2015-usaid-announces-11-million-additional-assistance-nepal-earthquake>

⁷⁷⁵ USAID Announces \$11 Million in Additional Assistance for Nepal Earthquake Response, US Agency for International Development (Kathmandu) 5 May 2015. Date of Access 3 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/may-5-2015-usaid-announces-11-million-additional-assistance-nepal-earthquake>

⁷⁷⁶ USAID Announces Humanitarian Assistance for Flood-affected People in Burma, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 6 August 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/aug-6-2015-usaid-announces-humanitarian-assistance-flood-affected-people-burma>

⁷⁷⁷ USAID Announces Humanitarian Assistance for Flood-affected People in Burma, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 6 August 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/aug-6-2015-usaid-announces-humanitarian-assistance-flood-affected-people-burma>

⁷⁷⁸ US Announces Additional Humanitarian Aid to Help Indonesia fight El Nino Effects, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 26 October 2016. Date of Access 3 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/oct-26-2015-us-announces-additional-humanitarian-aid-help-indonesia-fight-el>

⁷⁷⁹ United States Announces It Will Double Grant-Based, Public Climate Finance for Adaptation, United States Department of State (Washington) 9 December 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2015/12/250495.htm>

⁷⁸⁰ United States Announces It Will Double Grant-Based, Public Climate Finance for Adaptation, United States Department of State (Washington) 9 December 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2015/12/250495.htm>

⁷⁸¹ USAID Announces New Partnership to Boost Climate Resilience in the Developing World, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 9 June 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/usaid-announces-new-partnership-boost-climate-resilience-developing>

government, Asian Development Bank and Google, among others.⁷⁸² The United States Geological Survey (USGS) will contribute elevation data to help local authorities better prepare for climate change disasters, such as floods, droughts, landslides, etc.⁷⁸³ Currently, this partnership focuses its efforts in Asia, Latin America and Africa with countries, Bangladesh, Colombia and Ethiopia respectively, representing each region.⁷⁸⁴

On 31 August 2015, USAID and NASA launched SERVIR-Mekong, a project aimed at assisting countries in the Mekong region (Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam) to better prepare for natural disasters using satellite imagery, geospatial data and maps.⁷⁸⁵

The United States has provided a great deal of humanitarian assistance to countries particularly vulnerable to climate change related disasters and it has actively worked with these countries to develop and upgrade systems to better cope with climate change related disasters.

Due to these actions, the United States has been awarded a score of +1.

Analyst: Raheeb Dastagir

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitment to intensify their support to vulnerable countries' own efforts to manage disaster risk related to climate change.

The European Union has identified the fundamental threats caused by global warming were human rights, labour, migration and displacement for the 20 states forming the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF).⁷⁸⁶ Engaging with efforts from CVF countries to tell the world the global warming limit of 2°C was inadequate, the European Union took steps to improve global climate goals.

The European Union has had a leading role in the implementation of the most recent international agreement for climate change at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21). This seeks to limit global warming through a legally binding agreement and build resilience to climate change impacts in developing countries.⁷⁸⁷ The European Union was the first major economy to submit its intended nationally determined contributions to COP21.⁷⁸⁸ Commissioners from the European Union also led the first exploratory meetings with the United States, Canada and various Latin American countries to fulfill the COP21 ambitious climate goal of reducing global warming to 1.5°C.⁷⁸⁹

The European Union has taken action to support vulnerable countries prepare for climate change. European Commissioner for Energy and Climate action, Miguel Arias Cañete and Secretary-General of the African,

⁷⁸² Fact Sheet: Launching a Public-Private Partnership to Empower Climate-Resilient Developing Nations, The White House (Washington) 9 June 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/06/09/fact-sheet-launching-public-private-partnership-empower-climate-resilient>

⁷⁸³ Fact Sheet: Launching a Public-Private Partnership to Empower Climate-Resilient Developing Nations, The White House (Washington) 9 June 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/06/09/fact-sheet-launching-public-private-partnership-empower-climate-resilient>

⁷⁸⁴ USAID Announces New Partnership to Boost Climate Resilience in the Developing World, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 9 June 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/usa-id-announces-new-partnership-boost-climate-resilience-developing>

⁷⁸⁵ USAID and NASA Launch Technology for Development Project in Lower Mekong, US Agency for International Development (Bangkok) 31 August 2015. Date of Access 4 February 2015. <https://www.usaid.gov/asia-regional/press-releases/aug-31-2015-usaid-and-nasa-launch-technology-development-project>

⁷⁸⁶ 20 Nations Call to Strengthen 2 Degrees Climate Goal, Climate Vulnerable Forum (Philippines) 1 May 2015. Date of Access: 4 February 2016. <http://www.theclvf.org/20-nation-forum-questions-unfccc-2-degrees-goal/>

⁷⁸⁷ Paris Agreement, European Commission (Geneva) 20 January 2016. Date of Access: 4 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/international/negotiations/future/index_en.htm

⁷⁸⁸ Paris Agreement, European Commission (Geneva) 20 January 2016. Date of Access: 4 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/international/negotiations/future/index_en.htm

⁷⁸⁹ How the EU helped build the ambition coalition (Brussels) 12 December 2015. Date of Access: 4 February 2016. <https://storify.com/EUClimateAction/how-the-eu-helped-build-the-coalition-ambition>

Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), Patrick Gomes signed the 11th European development fund intra-ACP strategy by ACP group and the European Commission. This allocated EUR475 million for climate change action, resilience building, and the environmental policies in ACP countries.⁷⁹⁰ An agreement was also signed with the country of Bhutan to maintain the country's forest coverage to at least 60 per cent of its surface area and a commitment for permanent carbon neutrality.⁷⁹¹ This is evidence of the importance the European Union has given to the specific needs of the least developed countries to increase resilience to climate change.

The European Union has shown full compliance and is thus awarded the score of +1.

Analyst: Fernando Casanova

⁷⁹⁰ EU and 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries join forces for ambitious global climate deal, European Commission (Geneva) 8 December 2015. Date of Access: 4 February 2016.

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2015120802_en.htm

⁷⁹¹ COP21: EU and Bhutan sign joint climate declaration, European Commission (Geneva) 10 December 2015. Date of Access: 4 February 2016. http://ec.europa.eu/clima/news/articles/news_2015121001_en.htm