FRLD
Fund for responding to Loss and Damage

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FRLD and COP31 Presidency urge increased support for loss and damage

ANTALYA, TÜRKIYE | 14 NOVEMBER 2026

The Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD) and the COP31 Presidency convened a high-level dialogue at COP31 on making loss and damage finance more available, accessible and affordable.

Moderated by FRLD Executive Director Ibrahima Cheikh Diong, the event focused on how timely, predictable finance can help countries protect essential services, preserve development gains and respond to climate impacts.

The Fund's first call for funding requests under the Barbados Implementation Modalities received 176 requests totalling US$2.8 billion, highlighting the scale of demand and the need to strengthen the Fund's resources.

176	US$2.8 billion	€100 million
funding requests received under the first call of the Barbados Implementation Modalities	total value of the funding requests received	Italy's total contribution, following an additional €80 million announced at the event

> "There is a need to replenish this Fund and respond to the needs of developing countries.
>
> **Camila Minerva Rodríguez Tavárez**, FRLD Board Co-Chair

Co-Chair Georg Børsting noted that the FRLD supports responses to both economic and non-economic loss and damage, including losses that cannot be captured through financial measures. He said the Board looks forward to approving the Fund's first projects in December.

Speakers discussed how climate shocks can quickly disrupt livelihoods, economies and public services. They called for timely, flexible finance and stronger collaboration among countries, contributors and development partners.

VOICES FROM THE DIALOGUE: NEPAL

The impact of delayed support was underscored by Nepal's Minister for Agriculture, Forests and Environment, H.E. Ms. Gita Chaudhary. Referring to the Bhote Koshi flash floods of 26 August 2026, she said around 1,500 people had died and more than 5,000 remained missing. The disaster caused economic losses equivalent to nearly 10% of Nepal's GDP, with recovery and rebuilding potentially requiring more than 20%.

UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell urged contributors to fulfil outstanding pledges, make new contributions and support the FRLD's first replenishment, planned for next year. Selwyn Hart, Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Climate Action and Just Transition, called for greater investment in climate finance.

Speakers from vulnerable countries and contributor governments highlighted the need for country-led responses, a stronger resource base and finance that reaches communities quickly. Australia's Ambassador for Climate Change, Will Nankervis, said the credibility of the loss and damage system would be measured by whether support reaches vulnerable communities effectively when they need it.

At the close of the event, Karima Oustadi, FRLD Alternate Board Member representing Italy, announced the signing of Italy's contribution agreement for an additional €80 million, bringing its total contribution to €100 million.

ENDS

About the FRLD

Established at COP27 and operationalized at COP28, the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage assists developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. It aims to provide timely, country-led financing for recovery, reconstruction and long-term economic resilience.

About the COP31 Presidency

COP31 is the United Nations Climate Change Conference taking place in Antalya, Türkiye from 9 to 20 November 2026. Türkiye will host the Conference and Mr. Murat Kurum has been nominated as President of COP31 in Antalya. Mr. Chris Bowen of Australia will be the President of Negotiations.