



Press Release

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COP 16 EU Delegation to South Africa: briefing 1

[With political will, Cancún can mark climate progress](#)

By 2050 there will be more than nine billion people on Earth. To accommodate this jump in population without stoking dangerous climate change we have no choice but to complete the transition to a low-carbon global economy. That is what is at stake in the international negotiations on climate change, and that is why the UN climate conference in Cancún is important.

[EU Climate financing aid - clarification](#)

Following the EU's presentation of its fast start funding at the Cancun climate conference yesterday, some media reported that "EU says aid must be loans, not grants". This is misleading and inaccurate. The European Union has never said that aid to developing countries must take the form of loans rather than grants. For the poorer and least developed countries it is clear that aid must predominantly take the form of grants. The EU does not want to add to their debt burden.

See also: [EU Fast Start Finance report for Cancun](#)

[Cancún conference must mark significant step towards legally binding global climate framework](#)

The United Nations climate change conference which started on 29 November in Cancún, Mexico, must take a significant step towards establishing a comprehensive and legally binding framework for climate action at global level. In Cancún the European Union will be pressing for agreement on a balanced set of decisions which would pave the way for reaching a legally binding global framework as soon as possible and also lead to immediate climate action on the ground. The EU, the world's leading aid donor, will give a full and transparent report in Cancún on its delivery of 'fast start' funding to support developing countries.

See also: [Questions and Answers on the UN climate conference in Cancún](#)

[Commission announces "Climate Change Windows"](#)

As the Cancún Climate Change Conference kicked off, the Commission announced specific climate change "windows" in all EU regional Investment Facilities. These "windows" indicate the financing and enable tracking of all climate change related projects funded by the EU, the European Investment Bank and other European Finance Institutions through these facilities. They encompass both public and private investments in strategic areas like transports, energy, environment, water, sanitation and forests.

See also: [Questions and answers on climate change windows](#)

[Commission launches major investment programme for innovative low-carbon technologies](#)

The European Commission this month launched the first call for proposals for the world's largest programme of investment in low carbon and renewable energy demonstration projects. The initiative, known as NER300, will provide substantial financial support for at least eight projects involving carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies and at least 34 projects involving innovative renewable energy technologies. The aim is to drive low carbon economic development in Europe, creating new green jobs and contributing to the achievement of the EU's ambitious climate change goals. The European Investment Bank (EIB) is collaborating with the Commission in the implementation of the programme. Companies interested in making proposals have 3 months to submit bids at national level.

See also: [Questions and answers on the NER300 programme and first call for proposals](#).

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