



## **Financing Nature for Climate Action: A Framework for Impact and Scale**

19 May 2026 • 2:00–3:30 p.m. Manila Time (GMT+8) • Hybrid: KHub/MS Teams



The session featured the new Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) taxonomy for nature finance which offers a harmonized structure for identifying and monitoring investments that contribute to environmental outcomes. Discussions underscored ADB's efforts to position nature as a core component of climate resilience and development and highlighted how the concept is applicable for private sector activities and commercial finance. Though gaps remain in translating concepts into measurable results and financially attractive opportunities, the session stressed the importance of expanding beyond pilot initiatives toward a larger pipeline of viable investments through practical implementation and continuous enhancement of the process.

**“With over half the Asia-Pacific economy dependent on nature, the degradation of these systems is not an environmental concern alone, but a development and financial risk.”**

**NOELLE O'BRIEN**  
Director, Strategy and Engagement, CCSD

## SPEAKERS



### OPENING REMARKS

#### NOELLE O'BRIEN

Director, Climate Change Strategy and Engagement, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, ADB



#### RACHAEL BARZA

Associate Director, Climate Adaptation and Nature Finance, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development



#### KLAUS PROCHASKA

Senior Finance Sector Specialist, Climate Change Strategy and Engagement, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, ADB



### CLOSING REMARKS

#### YOKO WATANABE

Director, CCNE, CCSD



#### DUNCAN LANG

Principal Environment Specialist and Regional Flyway Initiative Team Leader, Nature and Environment Division, Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department



#### INA HOXHA

Chief Investment Officer, Climate Bonds Initiative



#### MADHAVI PUNDIT

Principal Economist, Economic Research and Development Impact Department, ADB



### MODERATOR

#### ANDREAS THERMANN

Senior Green Finance Specialist, Southeast Asia Department, ADB

## KEY MESSAGES

- **Nature must be treated as core priority, not a safeguard add-on.** Shifting the view of nature from a safeguard concern to a core element of risk management and investment decision-making across sectors is essential. Nature underpins economic development and plays a critical role in strengthening resilience across the region.
- **A common taxonomy is critical but only a starting point.** The MDB Nature Finance Taxonomy provides a shared language to define and track investments, enabling comparability and scaling. However, it remains high-level and requires further operational guidance for consistent application.
- **Measuring positive nature outcomes remains a major gap.** Existing frameworks focus more on avoiding harm than demonstrating measurable biodiversity gains, highlighting the need for robust metrics and monitoring systems.
- **There is strong private sector appetite but limited bankable pipelines.** Investors are increasingly aware of nature-related risks and dependencies, yet the lack of standardized metrics, credible key performance indicators (KPIs), and structured products constrains capital deployment at scale.
- **ADB should adopt a “learning by doing” approach to scale.** Early pilots, portfolio tagging, and iterative refinement, combined with stronger integration into operations, policy-based lending, and financial instruments, are essential to build a credible pipeline and institutional capacity.

**A highly engaging panel discussion on the recently launched MDB Nature Finance Taxonomy, and the importance of tailoring the framework to private sector needs in order to unlock and scale private investment in nature.**

**ELENA ANTONI**

Climate Change Specialist, Strategy and Engagement, CCSD

## FURTHER INFORMATION

- [MDB Common Principles for Tracking Nature Finance](#)
- [Asia-Pacific Climate Report 2025: Unlocking Nature for Development](#)
- [Climate Bonds Resilience Taxonomy Methodology](#)