



Countries Agree 10% Increase for UN Climate Budget

Nearly 200 nations – from major economies like Japan and Saudi Arabia to small island states – agreed to raise the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change’s (UNFCCC) core budget by 10%, bringing it to €81.5 million for 2026–2027.

The deal, struck at talks in Bonn, is a rare increase as other U.N. programs face cuts. China’s contribution will rise to 20% of the new budget (up from 15%), second only to the 22% share allotted to the United States. With the U.S. halting its climate funding, private donors have pledged to cover Washington’s gap.

U.N. climate chief Simon Stiell welcomed the boost as “a clear signal” that nations still value cooperation “even in difficult times,” despite political headwinds. The extra funds aim to strengthen U.N.-led climate efforts under the Paris Agreement, bolstering an institution that has faced budget shortfalls in recent years.



A Third of Pacific Island Nation Applies for Australian Climate Change Visa

More than one-third of Tuvalu’s population has entered the draw for a groundbreaking climate visa, offering permanent relocation to Australia.

Opened on 16 June, the initial round has drawn a surge of interest, suggesting strong demand for the scheme, which grants just 280 visas annually to Tuvaluans through a random selection process.

The visa programme has been pegged by the Australia’s foreign affairs department as a landmark response to the threat of climate-related displacement.

Just five metres (16ft) above sea level, the low-lying Pacific island nation is among the world’s most vulnerable to rising seas.

As of 27 June, there have been 1,124 entries, representing 4,052 individuals when including family members.

Tuvalu’s total population was recorded at 10,643 in the most recent 2022 census.



Record Renewable Growth Fails to Meet COP28 Targets

A record-high 740 gigawatts of new renewable energy capacity was installed worldwide in 2024, yet global deployment needs to accelerate dramatically to meet climate targets.

According to a new report by Paris-based thinktank REN21, the world faces an estimated 6.2 terawatt shortfall in renewables needed to hit the 2030 tripling goal agreed at COP28 – a gap larger than all renewable capacity deployed to date. Solar power dominated growth last year, accounting for 81% of new capacity.

10%

Nearly 200 nations approved a 10% budget increase for the UNFCCC

1/3

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740 gigawatts

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