

Sir Danny Alexander  
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By email: [dalexander@aiib.org](mailto:dalexander@aiib.org)

cc:

Mr. Ludger Schuknecht, V.P. and Corporate Secretary, AIIB  
Mr. Bob Pickard, D.G., Communications Department, AIIB  
Quan Zheng, D.G. Policy and Strategy, AIIB  
AIIB Board of Directors

22 August 2022

**Re: Urging AIIB to Publicly Disclose its Draft Paris Alignment Methodology**

Dear Sir Danny,

We are writing to you as civil society groups which have followed the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) since its inception, engaging with the bank on its policies and projects to raise to the fore the critical issues of respecting the rights of communities where projects are sited, consideration for planetary limitations and accountability to those living in countries across its membership.

We are aware that the AIIB is currently developing its methodology for aligning its investments with the Paris Agreement on climate change, with a 1 July 2023 deadline. The Paris Agreement sets a goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C. How this is achieved will have major economic, political, social and climatic ramifications. As such, it is crucial that the AIIB's methodology be publicly disclosed in draft format and open for consultation with a wide range of sectors, including civil society groups.

The science is clear: if there is to be any realistic prospect of limiting global warming to 1.5°C, there can be no overshoot from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s P1 Scenario. Achieving the 1.5°C will [require a full pivot away from financing](#) (i) any infrastructure that would incentivise the continued extraction or production of fossil fuels, encroach on intact forest areas, or violate the human rights of surrounding communities – with specific attention to those who identify as Indigenous Peoples – and (ii) any discredited mitigation schemes, such as offsetting, carbon capture and sequestration, growing vast areas with monocrop trees, or planting of new mangroves in place of those that can no longer survive in destroyed habitats. Furthermore, for the undersigned organisations, it is critical that there is no reliance on false solutions, including those typically associated with 'Net Zero' schemes, nor should it rely on or incentivise high-risk and extractive energy sources, such as nuclear and large scale hydropower dams.

Several civil society groups, including signatories to this letter, have experience contributing to similar processes at other MDBs, for example with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), which held [public consultations](#) and a specialist roundtable earlier this year. These inputs were accepted by both EBRD management and shareholders as part of the process of strengthening their methodology. In response to a letter sent by CSOs requesting an open and public review of its Paris Alignment methodology, IFC Managing Director Mr. Makthar Diop said that “IFC plans to announce its own public consultation later this year.”

It is therefore disappointing that the AIIB is continuing to treat its Paris alignment methodology as an internal document. We can see no reason for this, especially as other peer MDBs have already demonstrated their openness to civil society input.

Accordingly, we urge AIIB management to commit to publicly disclosing a draft version of its proposed Paris alignment methodology, allowing sufficient space and time for input, in line with [previous letters](#) to the AIIB regarding needed improvements in its consultations with civil society. Given the critical role MDBs must play to help to tackle the climate crisis, we trust you will consider these issues with due urgency and look forward to hearing your response.

Yours sincerely,

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Abibinsroma Foundation

Accountability Counsel

Asociación Unión de taller 11 de septiembre

Association for Solidarity through Humanitarian Imperative Action (ASHIA) International

Asian People’s Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD)

Brighter Green

Both ENDS

CEE Bankwatch Network

Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)

Club Humanitaire sans Frontières

Compassion in World Farming

Counter Balance

Environics Trust

Ethical Farming Ireland

Financial Justice Ireland

Friends of the Earth U.S.

Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN)

GenderAction

Germanwatch e.V.

Global Responsibility - Austrian Platform for Development and Humanitarian Aid

Inclusive Development International

Initiative for Right View (IRV)

Latinoamérica Sustentable

NGO Forum on ADB  
Oil Change International  
Oxfam  
Recourse  
Rivers without Boundaries International Coalition  
The Corner House  
World Animal Protection  
Urgewald e.V.

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