

SIWI Insight Brief

Part of SIWI's 2026 Engagement Series

Event Name	June Climate Meetings (SB64)
Location	Bonn, Germany
Date	8–18 June 2026



The event

The 64th sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB64) are the main negotiating meetings between annual UN climate conferences. Held midway between COP30 in Belém and COP31 in Antalya, they bring together negotiators, UN agencies, development organizations, NGOs, and other stakeholders to advance discussions on climate finance, adaptation, and implementation.

At a glance

Amid growing concerns about geopolitical instability and pressure on multilateral cooperation, SB64 reinforced the importance of collective climate action. Water remained firmly on the agenda through adaptation discussions, highlighting its role in building resilience across sectors.

What stood out

Two themes dominated discussions. The first was finance, particularly access to implementation support, the future of concessional finance, and the role of private investment. The second was coherence: how existing climate, development, and environmental processes can work together more effectively without creating duplication or additional reporting burdens. At the same time, there was a growing recognition that implementation is not keeping pace with ambition, leading to stronger calls for action from non-state actors alongside governments.

Key signals

- The focus is shifting from commitments and plans towards implementation and delivery.
- Water is increasingly being framed as a climate risk, particularly in adaptation discussions.
- Non-state actors are being called upon to play a larger role in accelerating action.
- The Global Climate Action Agenda is gaining importance as a vehicle for implementation.
- New initiatives are emerging to support delivery, including the Climate Implementation Bridge and the COP30 Global Mutual Global Implementation Accelerator.
- Questions around access to finance remain unresolved, particularly for developing countries.

Implications

As attention shifts from negotiation to implementation, the water community will need to demonstrate how water contributes to achieving climate, development, and resilience objectives. Water's role is widely recognized but translating that recognition into investment and action remains a challenge.

SIWI perspective

The discussions at SB64 align closely with SIWI's work on water and climate, water governance, and financing for water security. As implementation moves higher on the climate agenda, SIWI can contribute expertise on water's role in adaptation and mitigation, mobilizing investment for water, and building the partnerships needed to turn commitments into action.

Looking ahead

Attention will now turn to how implementation and finance discussions evolve ahead of COP31. A development to watch is the Turquoise Nexus Initiative, an FAO-led effort linking water, food systems, and climate action.