Key Takeaways der Workshops des COP-Briefings 2025

Workshop 1: Implementing the Global Stocktake (GST): Key Mitigation Steps

Moderation:

- Julia Schweigger, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN)

Speakers:

- Ricarda Faber, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
- Pieter de Pous, E3G

Key Takeaways

1. The Global Stocktake (GST) at COP28 identified critical gaps in meeting the Paris Agreement's climate goals, especially the need to transition away from fossil fuels, doubling energy efficiency and tripling renewables - COP30 is planned to build on that as an implementation COP.

2. Brazil's COP30 Climate Action Agenda brings together multiple efforts from many different stakeholders to drive progress on climate action in order to connect, collaborate and push real-world progress, especially with a view on existing initiatives and good practice.

3. A new momentum behind grids and storage is expected for COP30 through new investments and target pledges, which shall act as an enabler for the global goal of tripling renewables as well as build up on COP29 Global Energy Storage and Grids Pledge.

4. Multilevel climate action (collaboration between subnational and national level) is key for climate change mitigation and for closing the implementation gap. CHAMP (Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships) offers a global framework for this - at COP30, its Roadmap 2026-2030 will be announced with a strong focus on implementation in the coming years.

Workshop 2: Adaptation. Measuring Progress: The UAE-Belém Work Programme on Indicators

Moderation:

- Jonas Paintner, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Speakers:

- Timo Leiter, London School of Economics
- Sabine Minninger, Brot für die Welt (Impuls)

Key Takeaways

1.The UAE–Belém Work Programme on indicators on its way to COP30

The expert process had the task to narrow down the list of indicators to no more than 100 globally applicable adaptation indicators, balancing inter alia meaningfulness, measurability, and data readiness. As Timo Leiter emphasized, the goal is not perfection, but practicality - providing a workable foundation for tracking progress towards the targets of the UAE framework for global climate resilience under the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). The next critical phase will be how Parties adopt and operationalize these indicators at COP30 and beyond.

2. Measuring adaptation must remain both globally coherent and nationally feasible.

While the 100 indicators aim for comparability and alignment with frameworks like the SDGs and the Sendai Framework, concerns were raised that such a broad set could overburden small and vulnerable countries. Yet, Least Developed Countries and Small Island States welcome the full set, seeing it as a chance to make their vulnerabilities visible. This highlights the dual challenge of keeping indicators manageable while ensuring inclusivity and fairness in reporting.

3. Discussion needs to go beyond finance and means of implementation

Civil society voices, notably Sabine Minninger from 'Brot für die Welt' warned that without adequate and equitable adaptation finance, indicators risk remaining a paper exercise. The necessary means of implementation and continued commitments beyond the Glasgow doubling goal for adaptation finance were stressed as essential to make measurable adaptation progress possible. At the same time participants underlined that discussions must not be narrowed down to finance, but should focus on the goal to agree global progress tracking in the key areas defined at COP28.

4. The private sector and evidence-based decision-making are key to scaling adaptation.

As Munich Re's Tobias Grimm underlined, well-defined indicators can attract investment by demonstrating the economic benefits of adaptation. The workshop concluded that indicators should not only track progress but also incentivize evidence-based action - guiding governments, businesses, and civil society toward joint, measurable contributions to climate resilience.

Workshop 3: Climate Finance – The Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3 Trillion Dollars

Moderation:

- Kolja Zajicek, Stiftung KlimaWirtschaft

Speakers:

- Frank Sibert, BNP Paribas S.A. Germany
- Matthias Kopp, Made in Germany 2030 Initiative

Key Takeaways

The Decade of Implementation

While substantial progress has been achieved since Paris in technical and institutional design, the pace of implementation continues to lag. Participants agreed that the persistent "cat-and-mouse game" between public finance and private capital must be overcome. Political clarity, market stability, and institutionalised cooperation are required to shift from pledges to delivery.

Tightening Fiscal Space in the Global North

With slower economic growth and rising fiscal pressures, public budgets in advanced economies are becoming increasingly constrained. As a result, public finance must focus on de-risking and blended finance structures that crowd in private investment rather than replace it. Strategic use of guarantees, concessional tranches, and performance-based mechanisms can create multiplier effects and attract capital at scale.

Financial Space and Partnerships for the Global South

Emerging and developing economies continue to face limited fiscal capacity and high debt burdens. Instruments such as debt-for-climate swaps and innovative facilities like the Tropical Forest Forever Facility (TFFF) can expand fiscal space while protecting critical ecosystems. Blended finance approaches linking multilateral development banks, national banks, and private investors can create investable pipelines and fairer access to technology. Speakers stressed that climate finance must also support international green industrial policies that enable developing countries to diversify their economies, build local value chains, and reduce dependence on raw material exports. Partnerships should evolve toward co-creation models that combine finance, innovation, and knowledge transfer.

Lead Markets and Carbon Pricing Mechanisms

Market instruments like the EU ETS remain essential to guide private investments, even as they face political headwinds. Undermining these mechanisms would risk destabilising one of the few proven tools for large-scale decarbonisation. Strengthening and expanding them, while connecting lead markets with emerging economies through aligned carbon pricing can secure investor confidence and accelerate convergence.

Outlook: The Baku–Belém Roadmap

The Baku–Belém Roadmap should deliver a credible path toward the new Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG), expand blended finance initiatives, and integrate mechanisms such as the TFFF to combine conservation, adaptation, and mitigation outcomes. Strengthening cooperation between public and private actors and ensuring that financial commitments translate into measurable impact will be critical for restoring trust and credibility in the international climate finance architecture.

Workshop 4: What's Next for Climate Science?

Moderation:

- Dr. Susanne Dröge, Deutsches Klima-Konsortium

Speakers:

- Dr. Koko Warner, IOM Global Data Institute
- Dr. Oliver Geden, German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)

Key Takeaways

- Die Wissenschaft in den USA ist stark unter Druck geraten durch die Trump-Regierung. Abschaltungen von Datenquellen (NOAA, NASA, weitere) und Webseiten, das Löschen von bestimmten Begriffen in offiziellen Dokumenten - das alles führt zu Intransparenz und der Blockade von Klimaforschung und -kommunikation. Gleichzeitig werden diese Informationen für die Geheimdienste wichtig bleiben, um Veränderungen des Klimasystems aus sicherheitspolitischer Perspektive auszuwerten. Das Vertrauen in wissenschaftliche Erkenntnisse hat zudem in den USA seit der Pandemie abgenommen.
- Die klimawissenschaftliche Arbeit ist Teamarbeit. Gegenseitige Unterstützung im Lichte des US-Ausfalls ist elementar, um die internationalen Herausforderungen des Klimawandels mit Fakten und Risikoanalysen zu benennen. Die EU hat weiterhin einen hohen Anteil an Forschungsmitteln gemessen an ihrer Wirtschaftsleistung, sie kann aber nicht die Lücke, die die USA reißen, schließen. Das Teilen von Forschungsergebnissen ist umso wichtiger, um effektiv für eine faktenbasierte Politikberatung sorgen zu können.
- Der IPCC steht seit geraumer Zeit Reformanforderungen gegenüber. Entscheidungen werden im Konsens getroffen und unterliegen politischen Interessen. Große Schwellenländer und ölreiche Staaten üben Druck in den Abstimmungsprozessen des IPCC aus. Somit sind Reformbemühungen, unter anderem zu AI-generierten Auswertungen, Integration diverser Wissenssysteme und disziplinäre Erweiterungen in den Sachstandberichten nicht allein der wissenschaftlichen Logik unterworfen.