Climate Change and the Cost of Capital in Developing Countries

> Assessing the impact of climate risks on sovereign borrowing costs







V20 Countries (Members of the Climate Vulnerable Forum)









Total economic losses due to major weather-related events (insured and uninsured), USD inflation adjusted 1970-2017









What impact do climate risks

have on the cost of capital in

climate vulnerable

developing countries?







Cost of debt and ND-GAIN Sensitivity, 2016



Source: Compiled with data from Bloomberg and ND-Gain.







117 basis points

Climate vulnerability has already raised the average cost of debt in a sample of developing countries by 117 basis points.







US51 For every ten dollars paid in interest by developing countries, an additional dollar is spent due to climate vulnerability.







Countries that have not contributed to climate change effectively end up paying twice: For the physical damage their economies face & through higher costs of capital.







Investments in social readiness partially mitigate the impacts of climate risk on sovereign borrowing rates.







Cost of debt and ND-GAIN Social Readiness index, 1996–2016



ND-GAIN Social Readiness index

Source: Compiled with data from Bloomberg and ND-GAIN. Note: Excludes multilateral debt.







Estimated impact on cost of debt



Source: Authors' own work, based on own estimations with data compiled from Bloomberg, ND-GAIN, IMF and the UN.







US\$ 40 billion

40 Members of the Climate Vulnerable Forum have paid US\$ 40 billion in additional interest payments over the past 10 years on government debt alone.







US\$ 62 billion

This raises to US\$ 62 billion in higher interest payments if private external debt is included.







US\$ 146bn – US\$ 168bn

We estimate the additional interest payments attributable to climate vulnerability to increase to between US\$ 146 – US\$ 168 billion over the next decade.







Forecasted increases in annual interest costs due to climate vulnerability, 2007–2028





Risk of a vicious circle







International support needed!

Cooperative efforts to measure, monitor, and transfer climate risks will be needed to prevent a deterioration of sovereign borrowing capacity.







A virtuous circle is possible







How to break the vicious circle and set off a virtuous circle?







Join Session 12! Thursday, 16:15–17:15



Ulrich Volz

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Global Lead, Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Program, World Bank Group



Sili Epa Tuioti (TBC) Minister of Finance of Samoa

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