



**CVF
V20** | CLIMATE
VULNERABLE
FORUM
VULNERABLE
TWENTY
GROUP



16TH V20 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE PROSPERITY, STABILITY, AND SECURITY IN AN ERA OF PLANETARY INSTABILITY

*14 April 2026 (Tuesday) | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM (ET)
MC 13-301, World Bank Headquarters, Washington, D.C.*

Excellencies, and distinguished delegates. Tuvalu is honored to join this important dialogue at a moment when planetary instability is reshaping the foundations of prosperity, and security for all climate-vulnerable nations.

As clearly articulated by previous speakers, our countries are absorbing repeated climate shocks without the fiscal space, productive assets, or institutional capacity required to withstand them. For Tuvalu, these shocks are not episodic; they are structural, and they are existential. The Global Financial Safety Net was designed to provide stability in times of crisis like this. Yet, access remains deeply uneven.

Many V20 economies, including microstates like Tuvalu, are effectively excluded in practice since they face borrowing costs several times higher than advanced economies, even as climate impacts erode growth, strain public finances, and threaten our social cohesion. For Tuvalu, every climate shock accelerates development cost pressures, diverts scarce resources from essential services, and deepens the risk of climate mobility. And this is not only development challenges—it is a stability and security concern with global implications.

Tuvalu strongly supports the V20's call to shift from an austerity-driven approach towards investment-led growth, as articulated in the Debt Growth Agenda. We cannot build resilience by cutting essential services or delaying critical infrastructure. As rightly said by Prime Minister Mottley, austerity does not deliver resilience. Investment does.

Tuvalu welcomes the focus on methane as an immediate and cost-effective lever to slow near-warming. Methane reductions can deliver measurable temperature benefits within years, reducing the frequency and severity of disasters that strain public finance and accelerate debt accumulation. We support integrating methane abatement into Climate Prosperity Plans, call for concessional finance, and target MDB facilities to help V20 members meet global methane pledges.

These are questions. Tuvalu's experience demonstrates that resilience investment, whether in coastal protection, clean energy, or essential services, generate long-term economic, and social returns. But we cannot scale this investment without predictable, affordable finance. We therefore echo the key question posed for this dialogue. These are questions that will determine whether a climate-vulnerable nation can transition from crisis management to climate prosperity.

Chair, our message is simple: Resilience is not a cost. It is the foundation of future prosperity. And for countries like Tuvalu, it is the foundation of our continued existence.

Thank you.

AMBASSADOR TAPUGAO FALEFOU

Permanent Representative of Tuvalu to the United Nations