



ADAPTATION



The United Nations system is working to help people and communities in countries, especially those most vulnerable, to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change while continuing to grow and achieve their development goals and aspirations.

The UN system's work in this area is governed by the stipulations of COP decision 1/CP.10 and the Nairobi Work Programme on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change. Moreover, a large number of sectoral activities mandated by the system's governing bodies in areas such as agriculture and food security, disaster risk reduction, health, water, tourism are central to the challenge of adaptation work. Adaptation strategies are being developed including these areas as climate change considerations get further streamlined in UN system activities. The Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States and countries in Africa are the main focus of such activities, as they face the most difficult challenges and urgently need the assistance of the international community

in order to successfully safeguard the lives and livelihoods of their peoples, while attaining their development goals.

In addition to full-fledged activities in the aforementioned areas, ongoing work, which will be strengthened as intergovernmental mandates evolve, includes addressing the economic and social implications on developing countries of adaptation; climate change-induced human displacement; addressing interconnected issues of climate change, sustainable development, peace and security; special considerations for gender mainstreaming and attention to the needs of vulnerable groups like children and the elderly.

UN system action in the adaptation area includes: →



Support for national planning for adaptation

Assistance to Least Developed Countries with National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs); assistance to African countries in launching integrated and comprehensive approaches to adaptation; studies on the socio-economic and demographic impact of climate change on countries and cities; orienting infrastructure investment to cope with climate change, generate jobs and improve access to basic goods and services for the poor; strengthening health systems; support for demographic data collection; development of guidance and effective procedures for disaster risk reduction and response.

FAO, GEF, IAEA, IFAD, ILO, ITU, UN-DESA, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNISDR, UN-OCHA, UN Regional Commissions, World Bank Group, WFP, WHO

Enhancing knowledge sharing

Improving the linkage of climate data to global early warning and early action networks that build capacities in developing countries, provide consequential policy options, and strengthen humanitarian preparedness and response systems.

IFAD, IPCC, ITU, FAO, GEF, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO/IOC, UNFCCC Secretariat, UNITAR, UN-OCHA, UN Regional Commissions, World Bank Group, WMO

Streamlining and scaling up financial and technological support

Integrating climate change risks into development planning and programming and UN system country operations; exploring insurance schemes; special emphasis on support for the rural poor in Africa and on reducing vulnerability in Sub-Saharan Africa.

IFAD, FAO, GEF, UNDP, UNEP, UNU-EHS, UN Regional Commissions (UN-ECA), World Bank Group

Institutional frameworks

Development of a Global Climate Change Adaptation Network consisting of a series of selected ground facilities, national and regional centres and an international support group of technical institutions; comprehensive approach to disaster risk reduction that includes preparedness and response strategies, guided by the Hyogo Framework for Action and meant to climate-proof development; establishment of regional centres, like the Inter-Agency Climate Change Centre for coordinated UN support to Pacific Island countries and regional organizations.

UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC Secretariat, UN-ISDR, UNITAR, UN-OCHA, WMO, World Bank, NGO partners

Operational activities in key sectors and support for adaptation at the local level

Scaling up sustainable land management in Sub-Saharan Africa within the TerrAfrica framework; Pan-African Land Policy Framework; MENARID umbrella programme for sustainable management of the drylands of the Middle East and North Africa region; decreasing vulnerability to climate variability in African river basins; sustainable natural resources management and building of climate resilient infrastructure through cash and food-based employment programmes to increase the resilience and adaptive capacity of food insecure households and communities; support for adaptation projects that focus on community-based natural resource management; assistance to rural poor by improving agricultural techniques and technologies; climate-friendly tourism; strengthening disaster risk reduction, disaster preparedness and humanitarian response; leveraging local purchases of food assistance in developing countries, Global e-Sustainability Initiative to further sustainable development in the ICT sector.

FAO, GEF, IFAD, ITU, UNCCD Secretariat, UNDP, UNEP, UN-HABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNISDR, UN-OCHA, UN Regional Commissions (UN-ECA), UNWTO, World Bank Group, WFP, WHO, regional and sub-regional organizations and civil society

