

# UN System Acting to Address Adaptation Needs of Member States



Notwithstanding successful efforts to mitigate climate change, inertia in the climate system implies that a certain level of climate change is inevitable, at least for a few decades. Compounded by other challenges, the adverse effects of climate change will therefore continue to impede the ability of nations and communities to achieve sustainable development.

The UN system is taking concerted action to help people and communities in countries, especially those particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, to manage climate-related risks in their efforts to achieve sustainable socio-economic development. Building on its wealth of expertise and broad partnerships with governments, civil society and other partners, the UN system stands ready to support the implementation of the emerging adaptation framework being discussed under the UNFCCC.



**United Nations System  
Chief Executives Board for Coordination**

## UN system-wide response to climate change

Under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General, the Chief Executives Board (CEB) brings together the leaders of 29 UN system organizations to jointly support Member States in meeting the global challenges faced by the international community.

In 2008, the CEB adopted the Climate Change Action Framework, a joint, action-oriented approach in line with the ongoing UNFCCC negotiating processes and the emerging agendas of the Parties of the Convention.

The UN system stands ready to support Member States in implementing their commitments. At COP 16 / CMP 6, it is presenting its ongoing work and practical tools available through side events, exhibits and by sharing a joint package with thematic information.

For more information on the CEB and its joint work on climate change, please visit:

<http://www.unsceb.org/ceb/priorities/climate-change/>

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### Objective

To enable effective adaptation, by delivering actions aimed at reducing vulnerability, strengthening adaptive capacity of socio-economic and ecological systems and enhancing climate-resilient development.

### Ongoing initiatives

To enable and support adaptation, the UN system is taking concerted action through a wide range of initiatives. In particular, UN system organizations have been collectively engaged in:

- **Strengthening technical and institutional capacities for adaptation planning and implementation at different levels and crossing different sectors.** Examples include the efforts by many UN entities to build capacities in vulnerable countries to support disaster risk reduction and adaptation planning; by FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP, WFP, ITU, WHO and WMO to support Least Developed Countries in formulating and implementing National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and/or in strengthening technical capacities for assessing vulnerabilities and implementing adaptation.
- **Streamlining and scaling up financial and technological support.** Among others, FAO, IFAD, UNDP and UNEP are supporting developing countries to improve access to finance for climate change adaptation. Funding opportunities under the UN system include the Global Environment Facility's Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) and the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), the World Bank's Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR), and the Adaptation Fund that features a direct access modality for vulnerable developing country Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. In efforts to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action, UN agencies have been working together with governments and partners to strengthen investment in early warning, disaster risk reduction and financing.
- **Enhancing knowledge sharing and learning.** Facilitated by the UNFCCC Secretariat, the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change under the UNFCCC has become a central platform for knowledge sharing and learning on adaptation, for all Parties to the Convention and the Programme's large number of partner organizations, including over 30 UN system organizations. Other initiatives aimed at providing thematic knowledge support for climate change adaptation include the Adaptation Learning Mechanism led by UNDP, the Global Adaptation Network led by UNEP and the Global Framework for Climate Services coordinated by WMO.

### Moving forward

As Parties to the UNFCCC continue deliberations on the details of the emerging implementation framework for enhanced action on adaptation, the UN system stands ready to provide country-driven support to Member States, through strengthening technical and institutional capacity, streamlining and scaling up financial and technological support, and enhancing learning for adaptation planning and implementation.

### Contact

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