

CLIMATE ADAPTATION SUMMIT

25-26 JANUARY 2021

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1. FOREWORD

Think global, act local!

The decade to 2030 is the make-or-break decade for our society. Either we pass a point of no return on climate, or we hold the line. Either we alter the pace of efforts to adapt to the accelerating climate emergency and keep up, or we fall behind and become engulfed in climate chaos. As society, government, private sector, knowledge partners, we need to choose.

That is why, on 25 and 26 January 2021, the Netherlands hosted the Climate Adaptation Summit (CAS 2021): to show that there is a choice to be made and that actions and initiatives can and will be scaled up to help us adapt to climate change. CAS 2021 demonstrated leadership and commitment to a bolder, integrated global response that will enable us to overcome the immense challenges of responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, while accelerating adaptation progress towards a more resilient society.

Over the course of 24 hours, a range of events streamed entirely online from time zones around the globe provided inspiration for change and leveraged support for tangible solutions to the issues of a warming world, demonstrating how we can achieve a climate-resilient future and build back better. Together with over 30 world leaders, 50 ministers, 300 speakers and 18,000 online attendees from all around the globe, we made 27 high-level events and 160 side events happen worldwide.

The Adaptation Action Agenda, which was launched during CAS 2021, sets out a global framework to guide the acceleration of adaptation action for a climate resilient future by 2030. With this outcome report, I would like to share some CAS 2021 background and the commitments made during the summit that fit the Adaptation Action Framework. Most importantly, I would like to share the projected way forward that was co-developed with the wide range of Summit participants. It's time to act. And our shared sense of urgency is our baseline. This is our make-or-break decade. And I'm convinced that together we will make it!

This foreword does not provide enough space to thank you all personally. But, also on behalf of Prime Minister Mark Rutte, there are two people I would like to thank in particular: UN Secretary-General António Guterres for his unparalleled support for the case of climate adaptation and former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for his tireless advocacy for our shared cause.

And, I would like to thank every participant and each and every one of the speakers (from government leaders and ministers to local communities and our youth voices): you have and will continue to be the key to ensure adaptation action and a climate resilient world by 2030.

The Netherlands was honoured to host you and walks with you in this journey to accelerate adaptation action.



Cora van Nieuwenhuizen,
Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands

2. THE SUMMIT

Climate shocks are happening now, intersecting with and exacerbating the extraordinary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. They show that we need to adapt to a new normal global health landscape and a more extreme climate simultaneously. Building resilience to climate impacts is therefore critical to response and recovery efforts. The COVID-19 crisis has laid bare the underlying vulnerability in our economic and social systems. That is why leaders meeting at the Climate Adaptation Summit 2021 committed to seizing the opportunity to achieve a breakthrough on adaptation and resilience and build forward a more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive world than the pre-pandemic one.

The Summit was organised by the Netherlands Government in close collaboration with the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA). Heads of State and Government, leaders from international organisations, cities, national governments, civil society, youth and business, and scientists convened at this global Summit, entirely dedicated to the task of adapting our society to the threats of global climate change. Groups of the most vulnerable people to climate change raised their voices, and leaders tackled some of the core issues with the overall view to raise ambition, unlock finance and leverage broad-based partnerships.

Knowledge was shared in **27 different sessions** hosted from all over the world, and action was instigated to accelerate action toward a climate-resilient future in 2030. Over **300 speakers** shared their insights and plans, and partners from all over the world contributed **160 side events** to CAS 2021. During the **24 hours of CAS 2021**, participants formed the Adaptation Action Agenda that will serve as a guide for the coming years to accelerate adaptation action, ensuring and driving progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The **Opening Session** in the Netherlands, with Heads of State and Government joining in person or online, was streamed worldwide. Various concrete initiatives and enhanced ambitions from governments, development banks and institutions were launched to radically drive climate adaptation worldwide and turn ambitions into reality. High-level participants committed to significantly raising adaptation finance.

Members of Government in participating countries shared their views on climate adaptation action during the online inaugural **Ministerial Dialogue**. This dialogue is going to be repeated on an annual basis; moreover, it will be one of the primary means of ensuring progress on the Adaptation Action Agenda.





The Summit featured a range of **Anchoring Events**. These Anchoring Events focused on CAS 2021 Action Themes and allowed stakeholders to share best practices and coordinate actions, combining the knowledge and needs of different regions. The ten respective themes were:

- Accelerating African Adaptation, hosted by the **Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs**;
- Disaster Risk Management, hosted by the **International Federation of the Red Cross** and the **World Meteorological Organization**;
- Nature-Based Solutions, hosted by the **Governments of Canada and Mexico**;
- Water, hosted by the **Netherlands' Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management** and the **Global Center on Adaptation (GCA)**;
- Finance & Investment, hosted by the **Government of the United Kingdom** and the **World Resources Institute (WRI)**, with support from the GCA;
- Resilient Cities, hosted by the **Cities of Rotterdam and Miami**;
- Locally Led Adaptation, hosted by the **Government of Bangladesh**;
- Youth Leadership, hosted by the **City of Groningen** and the **GCA**;
- Infrastructure, hosted by the **Netherlands' Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management** and the **Macquarie Group**, and
- Agriculture & Food Security, hosted by the **WRI** and **GCA**.

At the **Global Mayors' Forum** on Climate Adaptation, mayors from all over the globe convened online and brought forward the voices of cities to CAS 2021. With their **Joint Statement** on **Accelerating Climate Adaptation in Cities** (see Annex) they underlined the ambitions and need to speed up and scale up adaptation measures in 1000 cities in the coming decade.

In **Vanguard Cities Events**, leading cities all over the world showed the path forward to move city-led Nature-Based Solutions from good ideas to investment-ready projects. Three events were convened, for the Americas, Asia-Pacific, and Africa-Europe, accommodating global time-zoned meetings.

As a common thread, **CAS Talks** guided the participants through the Summit highlights, with discussions on cross-cutting issues, perspectives from youth, minorities, and the private sector, and other topics.

The **Closing Session** constituted the link between CAS 2021 and the **Davos Dialogues of the World Economic Forum (WEF)** and focused on the way forward towards 2030, resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and joint action between private & public partners. The week preceding CAS 2021, in the build-up to the online conference, various stakeholders, entrepreneurs, scientists, educators, youth, civil society and government actors prepared contributions at **Supporting Events**¹. The Dutch GCA offices in Groningen and Rotterdam partnered with their respective host cities to organise a range of online and in-person activities that addressed the cross-cutting CAS 2021 Action Themes.

CAS 2021 also produced a **Cinema** and a **Library** filled with **Side Events** that were contributed by partners, various actors and communities worldwide to present their action and perspectives. These side events offer a unique cross-section view of the diverse **adaptation community** and the wide variety of actions from all over the world. The events remain available on a dedicated website to ensure that the wealth of content will not be lost.

Partners of CAS 2021 demonstrated leadership and commitment to a bolder and integrated global response to overcome the immense challenges of climate change while responding and recovering from the pandemic. Over the course of 24 hours, a wide range of events, streamed entirely online, from time zones across the globe provided inspiration for change and leveraged support for tangible solutions to the problems of a warming world, showing how we can achieve a climate-resilient future and build forward better.

CAS 2021 also marked the **conclusion of the Global Commission on Adaptation**. This global commission was established by the **Government of the Netherlands** to raise the visibility of climate adaptation on the global agenda and advance concrete solutions. The Commission was led by **Ban Ki-moon**, 8th Secretary-General of the United Nations, **Bill Gates**, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and **Kristalina Georgieva**, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund. For more than two years, over 35 Commissioners – leaders from political, business, multilateral and scientific worlds – and 23 convening countries collaborated to spearhead climate adaptation action. The Commission was co-managed by the World Resources Institute and the Global Center on Adaptation.

The Commission had two key phases: first, developing a flagship report to make a case for adaptation action; and second, a Year of Action to implement recommendations from the report. The flagship report, *Adapt Now: A Global Call for Leadership on Climate Resilience*, laid out a bold agenda to build a more climate-resilient world. The report has shifted the way we think about adaptation and has inspired action among government decision-makers, international leaders, business executives, investors, community members, and more. The report argued that adapting to climate risks is a moral, environmental, and economic imperative and laid out specific recommendations in key sectors: food security, the natural environment, water, cities and urban areas, infrastructure, disaster risk management and finance. It presented a new economic analysis that showed the high returns on investment of adaptation solutions, which has since been widely cited in news stories, speeches, and reports.

The Commission created the **single largest social media moment on adaptation in history**, when it launched the *Adapt Now* report and the **#AdaptOurWorld** digital campaign – these efforts led to more than 74,000 posts on adaptation in a single month, with a potential reach of **269 million people**. To maintain this drumbeat, the Commission hosted or co-hosted more than 60 events, raising the visibility of adaptation. Building forward on these groundworks, CAS 2021 again generated unprecedented media attention on adaptation action worldwide. The Summit generated over **540 million impressions on Twitter, reached 12 million on Facebook, 2.5 million impressions on LinkedIn and over 400,000 views on YouTube**.

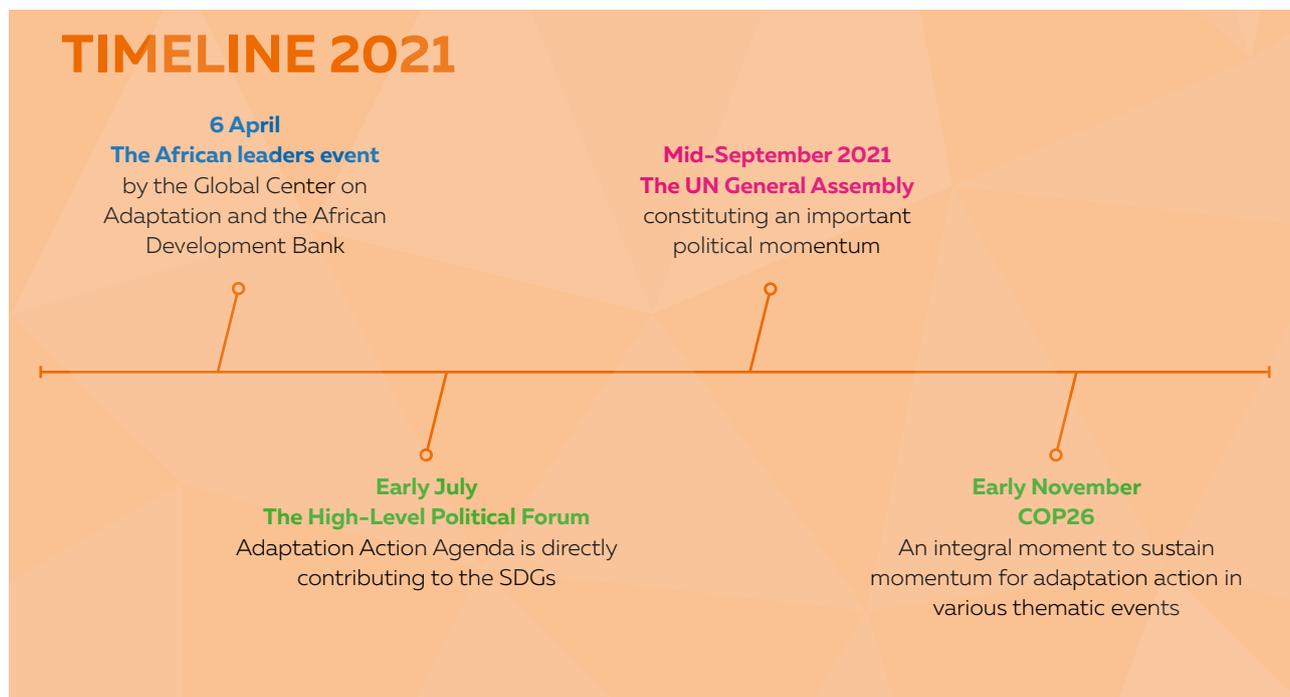
Driving adaptation action, the Commission has guided and led the global acceleration of actions and the establishment of the critically needed partnerships and collaborations for this. In 2019, at the UN Climate Action Summit, the Commission launched a Year of Action to implement the *Adapt Now Report's* recommendations in 2019. The global COVID-19 pandemic inevitably impacted the Year of Action. As a result, actions might take more time than usual to fully implement. Nonetheless, the Year of Action has catalysed significant new actions, commitments, and partnerships. The Commission mobilised more than **100 partners across eight Action Tracks**: agriculture and food security, locally led adaptation, finance and investment, water, resilient cities, nature-based solutions, infrastructure, and risk-informed early action. These Action Track partners continue to build forward on these efforts and the newly established coalitions. In addition, during the Year of Action **over**

¹ [CAS 2021 Supporting Events | CAS 2021 at a glance | Climate Adaptation Summit 2021](#)

² [Climate Adaptation Summit 2021 - side-events \(www.cas21-side-events.com\)](#)

³ [CAS TV - YouTube](#)

60 nations strengthened their national adaptation responses in new and updated nationally determined contributions in 2020, setting new targets, expanding national and sub-national programmes, and reaffirming the growing momentum for accelerating adaptation as part of the Paris Agreement. This will be a crucial basis for driving local resilience. While the eight Action Tracks were concluded with the Commission at CAS 2021, the work that was done in creating actions and driving ambitions presents a key foundation of the Adaptation Action Agenda that was brought forward at CAS 2021. Key initiatives set up by the Commission will be implemented to enhance resilience of our societies and communities all over the world from 2021 onwards.



While the Commission has come to a close, the work is far from over. The bold agenda and recommendations made in the Adapt Now report will take time to implement completely, the initiatives presented at CAS 2021 need to be fully funded, and the commitments made need to be put into practice. CAS 2021 jumpstarted momentum on adaptation and has led to a synergy of adaptation action from different partners and thematic areas, set in various timelines. The Summit's way of forcing action on the Adaptation Action Agenda was exemplary for the way forward. The partners contributing to CAS 2021 will continue to optimise action-forcing events to raise awareness, strengthen capacity building and use momentum to bring partners together and push the Adaptation Action Agenda forward.

The Adaptation Action Agenda will not only continue to resonate in thematic timelines, such as the COP Biodiversity in May 2021 and the Food System Summit in November 2021, but also through all water-related events: from the Stockholm Water Week (August 2021) and the Amsterdam International Water week (November 2021) towards the UN Water Convention in 2023. Furthermore, partners such as IMF, World Bank and other MDBs will continue to cooperate on the financial aspects of the Agenda through their conferences: the spring meetings, the annual meetings and the Finance in Common Summit.

This report looks back at the Summit and presents the many outcomes and deliverables, brought forward throughout the 24-hours programme. These outcomes and deliverables are all part of the Adaptation Action Agenda, the operational framework and roadmap for action towards 2030.

3. THE ADAPTATION ACTION AGENDA FRAMEWORK

The 2030 Adaptation Action Agenda outlines global action on climate adaptation by a wide variety of actors⁴. It aims to accelerate climate adaptation action and promotes exchange, guides, and monitors climate resilience building. It is:

An action-propelling framework to 2030 – The Adaptation Action Agenda is an organising framework designed to help guide adaptation efforts and promote wide-ranging new responses to building climate resilience across the breadth of society, the economy and the environment. Dozens of different multi-stakeholder initiatives for action to deliver the Adaptation Action Agenda are being launched and taken forward with the Climate Adaptation Summit 2021, with the aim to inspire further initiatives under the Agenda in the months and years to come.

A SDG–climate adaptation agenda interface – The Adaptation Action Agenda is a complement and support interface to orientate adaptation efforts so as to ensure cross-cutting resilience building and to propel progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Individual multi-stakeholder initiatives that underpin the Adaptation Action Agenda are each mapped against the SDGs to facilitate monitoring of contributions and to best leverage linkages with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

A common monitoring and knowledge exchange platform – Overall progress of efforts to deliver on the Adaptation Action Agenda will be tracked through both the yearly State & Trends in Adaptation report and a dedicated State & Trends in Adaptation Knowledge Exchange ([STAKE](#)). This platform facilitates the connection and exchange among initiative partners and adaptation practitioners and experts, promoting a community that amounts to more than the sum of its individual parts.

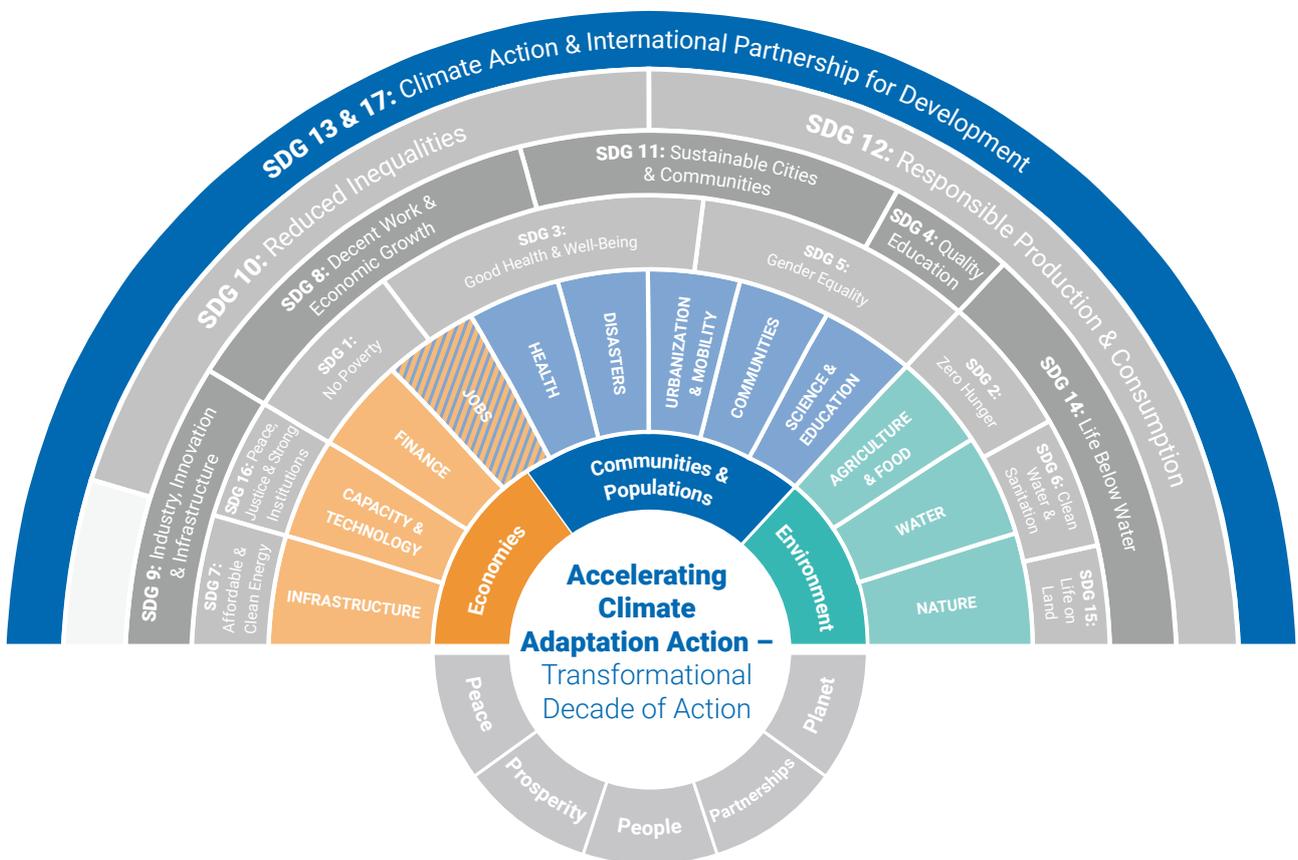
It builds upon key efforts to date – The Adaptation Action Agenda builds on wide-ranging international collaborations, including, in particular, the work of the Global Commission on Adaptation and its multiple Action Tracks, which concluded with CAS 2021. It is also underpinned by the commitments and initiatives of the 2019 UN Climate Action Summit, in particular the “Call for Action on Adaptation and Resilience,” supported by over 100 governments, which laid down a vision that puts adaptation at the centre of decision making. The Adaptation Action Agenda provides a new organising framework that can carry forward a number of the multi-stakeholder initiatives that were incubated through the important efforts of the Global Commission on Adaptation and its Action Tracks, and the outcomes of the UN Climate Action Summit, while also accommodating new and future multi-stakeholder initiatives.



⁴ Please see the relevant Annex or go to adaptionexchange.org to browse through the extensive compilation of action.

The Summit launched the 2030 Adaptation Action Agenda. Leaders recognised that this agenda will serve to help guide accelerated adaptation efforts and promote wide-ranging new responses to building climate resilience across the breadth of society, the economy and the environment. It sets out clear initiatives to deliver concrete new actions and partnerships to make our world more resilient to the effects of climate change, focused on integrated efforts focused on the interconnected domains of communities and populations, economies and the environment.

Partners at the international, regional, national and sub-national levels, including business and youth, underpin the new Adaptation Action Agenda with numerous concrete multi-stakeholder actions across 12 different interconnected sectors as an integrated response in complement to the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Efforts towards realising the Adaptation Action Agenda help promote progress towards the Paris Agreement’s adaptation and resilience goals. Alongside existing efforts, these initiatives will add fresh new momentum to the drive for a climate-resilient society and aim to inspire further initiatives under the Agenda in the months and years to come.



3.1 THEMATIC ADAPTATION AGENDAS - ECONOMIES

Delivering a climate-resilient world by 2030 through economic and financial transformation



3.1.1 FINANCE & INVESTMENT

“ We need finance to join a global economic race to raise the trillions needed to restore nature and prepare for climate shocks”

– Emma Howard Boyd, Chair, Environment Agency, United Kingdom

Finance is critical to accelerating climate adaptation efforts and to building global resilience to worsening climate impacts. In addition, the economic case for investing in climate adaptation is robust, with benefit-cost ratios ranging from 2:1 to 10:1. Nevertheless, current public and private investments in adaptation is far below the required levels. Furthermore, fiscal and financial systems have not integrated climate risks into decision-making, posing key macro-economic risks.

The CAS 2021 Anchoring Event on Finance & Investment, hosted by the United Kingdom and the World Resources Institute (WRI) with support from the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), brought together a range of critical stakeholders to highlight emerging solutions to these challenges.

The Commission's managing partners have prepared two relevant papers for CAS2021 to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on climate adaptation finance and the opportunities for using the recovery stimulus packages to build resilience. One by WRI, called [Tracking Resilience in the Global Recovery](#), tracks the extent to which current stimulus spending addresses climate resilience; the other by GCA, called [Adaptation Finance in the Context of COVID-19](#), looks at recent trends in climate finance and proposes ways forward for using development finance to better build resilience.

The Global Commission on Adaptation announced the preparation of an Adaptation Finance Mainstreaming Program to support the work on macro, fiscal, budget, and procurement policies required to manage climate risk, particularly for middle- and lower-income developing countries to improve their capacity to understand and manage climate risk. This Mainstreaming Program will be finalised later this year and will, amongst other, support finance ministers from climate-vulnerable countries (CVF/V20).

GCA has partnered with UNEP FI to drive the enhancement of physical risk disclosure, alongside a leading group of 10 Financial Institutions worth USD 3.5 trillion. At CAS 2021, these institutions issued the [Physical Risks and Resilience Statement](#), detailing steps they have already taken and signalling a call to action for the industry. It is essential that governments also hear this call and follow the example set by France, New Zealand and the United Kingdom in making this disclosure mandatory.

The recently created private-sector-led [Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment \(CCRI\)](#) is committed to developing and testing solutions for resilient investment decision-making. CCRI targets both developing and developed countries in recognition of the global nature of exposure. Its membership currently stands at 70 institutions – institutional investors, banks, insurance, rating agencies, MDBs and governments – representing over USD 11 trillion in assets.

The GCA supports a leading group of development finance institutions, donors and development agencies through a new [Collaborative on Accelerating Investment in Adaptation and Resilience](#), bringing partners together to break new ground in leveraging public and private finance. As a critical part of this mobilisation challenge, there will be a need to explore new and innovative instruments for leveraging finance and bringing in the private sector. The GCA is working alongside the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI) to [catalyse the green bond market](#). They will produce two forthcoming papers on assessing the potential of this new market in emerging economies and guiding potential issuers in raising new finance from the markets through these instruments.

[InsuResilience Global Partnership](#) is also bundling efforts for improved pre-arranged financing of disaster risks, to strengthen the resilience of poor and most vulnerable people, with particular emphasis on a pro-poor and gender-responsive approach. As an interactive, inclusive multi-stakeholder platform, it enables collaboration and coordination of implementation activities globally to substantially scale up the use of Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI) solutions. As a result, governments and individuals can plan better to manage risks before they occur (ex-ante), to reduce the impact of shocks, and to bounce back better in the face of climate and disaster risk (ex-post).

Scaling up finance for adaptation will remain critical in the next decade to make people and economies more resilient to climate impacts. The continued work includes:

- Implementing the climate adaptation mainstreaming programme to support vulnerable countries' central ministries in incorporating climate risks into decision-making.
- Piloting systemic risk assessments in several countries, as part of CCRI, which will help inform their fiscal and budgetary policy decisions and facilitate private sector investment in infrastructure investments; these efforts will lead to a planned multi-industry commitment at COP26 in the form of a League of Investment Funds for Resilience.
- Supporting university curriculum development, teaching and research in V20 and African countries.
- Partnering with the IMF, World Bank and Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action to develop tools for addressing climate change in macro-fiscal, debt, finance, risk-metrics and NDC-related issues.

3.1.2 INFRASTRUCTURE

“All budget allocations and investment decisions need to be climate-resilient” and climate risk “must be embedded in all procurement processes, particularly for infrastructure”

– António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

Current impacts of climate change already amount to USD 29 billion per year in direct damages to transportation and power generation in developing countries; hydropower revenues in Africa are declining by up to 60%; and, in the Arctic, 70% of existing infrastructure, such as airports and roads built on decreasing permafrost, is under threat of collapse. Until 2030, between USD 75–86 trillion will need to be invested in infrastructure, which is more than the current USD 50 trillion stock of assets. Scaling up infrastructure investment will be vital for ensuring long-term progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. There is an urgent need to expand access to clean water & sanitation and energy, to improve transport links and to build protective infrastructure such as floodwalls.

However, climate change is not just an added challenge for infrastructure. It also provides an opportunity for innovation, new technologies and better planning. For example, increasing the use of Nature-Based Solutions can reduce costs, yield benefits for nature and enhance resilience. If done right, efforts to strengthen climate resilience will yield more reliable long-term cash flow for owners, improve service quality for users, and enhance economic and social resilience of communities. Global estimates suggest that incorporating resilience only adds about 3% to total costs. Investing in climate-resilient infrastructure supports progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as being highly cost-effective: every USD 1 invested in resilience for infrastructure yields an average of USD 4 of benefits.

The CAS 2021 Anchoring Event on Infrastructure, co-hosted by the Macquarie Group and the Government of the Netherlands, aimed to catalyse global efforts to mainstream climate resilience into infrastructure planning, design, operation, and maintenance. The event commenced with a fireside chat between Shemara Wikramanayake, CEO, Macquarie Group and Makhtar Diop, Vice President Infrastructure, World Bank, followed by three panel discussions: The Infrastructure We Have, The Infrastructure We Need, and Achieving Resilient Infrastructure Systems.

One of the primary announcements was that the Government of the Netherlands, together with the GCA and working with partners including UNOPS, Oxford Environmental Change Institute, UNEP, AfDB, ADB, EBRD, GCF, World Bank, and the Governments of Bangladesh and Ghana, will catalyse the integration of climate resilience into infrastructure plans in 20 countries by 2030, starting with Ghana and Bangladesh. This will enhance the resilience of over 500 million people by providing them with enhanced access to reliable, clean and affordable infrastructure services. This will drive and facilitate efforts to mainstream resilience into infrastructure planning based on the latest tools for stress testing infrastructure networks.

A similar initiative is developed to support green, resilient infrastructure in Bangladesh, led by the GCA and funded by the Netherlands Government. This initiative will identify priority impacts from climate change to infrastructure systems to develop a roadmap of prioritised adaptation options, including Nature-Based Solutions, to enhance the resilience of the country's infrastructure, and identify good practices that could be adopted by other countries.

Knowledge sharing to identify and disseminate emerging good practices in system level resilience will be supported. The Government of the Netherlands and the GCA will be building the capacity of professionals to work with public-private partnerships, infrastructure and climate change. The Knowledge Module on PPPs for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure will provide PPP practitioners from financial institutions and the public sector with the tools and knowledge required to structure investment programmes that incorporate climate resilience into infrastructure PPPs. The aim this year is to train 30 Climate Resilient Infrastructure Officers – CRIOs – from around the world, to act as experts and ambassadors in their own organisations, national and international networks. A call for applications was launched during the event.

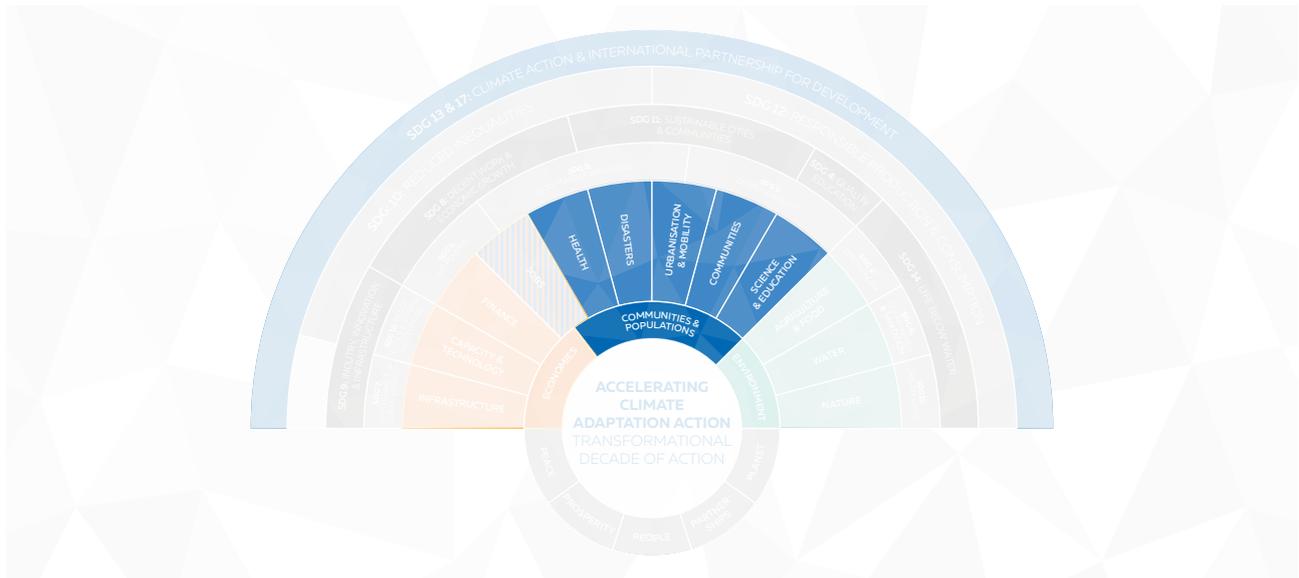
At CAS 2021, Dutch dredging company Van Oord launched the Climate Risk Overview, a global online tool that combines multiple data layers and enables users to identify the world's most at risk coastal areas. The Climate Risk Overview visualises on a map a combination of key parameters, including populations, flood exposure, low lying land, coastal erosion and ecology. Almost all data is from open sources and mapped onto 10 km stretches of the world's coastlines. The tool is in the public domain and anyone can use it.

The European Investment Bank (EIB) had committed to invest USD 1 trillion in climate action over this decade to promote climate resilience to support people, ecosystems, business and assets to adapt to climate change and work towards the aim that all infrastructure will be resilient. The Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment showed its current work on developing Asset valuation methodology to promote investment in climate-resilient infrastructure by understanding physical climate risks to be able to price it.



3.2 THEMATIC AGENDAS – COMMUNITIES AND POPULATIONS

Building a resilient society by 2030 by investing in communities and population resilience



3.2.1 DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

As climate change increases the frequency and intensity of extreme weather, investing in effective early warnings and early action can save lives and livelihoods and prevent climate hazards from becoming disasters. We must extend our systems of preparedness and response, and ensure early warnings enable early action by climate-vulnerable countries and communities. Adaptation is a more cost-effective strategy than responding after hazards have struck.

“One person in three is still not adequately covered by early warning systems, and risk-informed early approaches are not at the scale required. We need to work together to ensure full global coverage by early warning systems to help minimise these losses.”

– António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

The CASDisaster Risk Management (DRM) Anchoring Event addressed the urgent need to invest in people-centred early warning and early action with a focus on vulnerable populations in Africa, low-income countries and Small Island Developing States. It featured an interactive session with exchange of successful practices in tackling extreme weather and climate hazards with experts, countries and partners committing to scale up and foster greater ambition in the run-up to COP26 and towards 2030. The Anchoring Event featured partners of the Risk informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) and launched the REAP’s Framework for Action. The Framework for Action sets out how partners aim to achieve the ambitious targets of the partnership, which ultimately aims to make 1 billion people safer from climate related disasters in the coming years.

The CREWS Initiative (Climate Risk & Early Warning Systems) was launched at the Paris Climate Change conference in 2015, with a target of raising USD 100 million to build resilience, especially in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. It is estimated that an additional 10 million people are being protected thanks to these early warnings systems, through 13 projects covering more than 50 countries in the world.

European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarčič, announced a first EUR 10 million contribution to CREWS, part of EUR 100 million in new funds for disaster risk reduction for African, Caribbean and Pacific countries. Finland joins CREWS and committed EUR 5 million to the Trust Fund as part of the countries scaled up commitment to climate change adaptation. This engagement goes towards the targets of the Risk informed Early Action Partnership (REAP), Minister Skinnari from Finland stated. France's Climate Ambassador announced a new EUR 4 million contribution to CREWS bringing their total contributions, since 2016, to EUR 26 million.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) announced a major expansion of one of the world's only means of channelling international funds directly to frontline disaster responders. At CAS 2021, the plan was announced to at least double the size of the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to an estimated CHF 100 million per year by 2025.

For the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership, a closed-door pledging conference will provide a forum for REAP's partners and stakeholders to raise the ambition to commitments in the run-up to UNFCCC COP26 and bring on board new country partners. UNFCCC COP26 will provide a high-level global stage for announcing and profiling Partners' ambitious commitments and achievements to date.

For the period 2021 – 2025 as indicated in its CREWS Operational Plan, CREWS will scale up its efforts and continue to align with and add value to existing or potential projects and maximising and ensuring the longevity of CREWS' impact through concerted efforts over a sufficiently long period.

3.2.2 RESILIENT CITIES

Cities and urban areas – many of them in coastal regions – are home to half of the world's population, with currently 880 million people living in informal settlements that lack sufficient infrastructure. Climate change is already damaging cities. Droughts, heatwaves, landslides, storms, and – especially in coastal areas – floods are increasing threats, with high human and economic losses.

Especially residents of informal settlements will face huge challenges regarding electricity, health care, sanitation, education, and clean water. By 2050, costs of climate change impact to urban areas will have risen to more than USD 1 trillion. Therefore, the need to accelerate adaptation in cities and to invest in multi-benefit solutions is higher than ever before.

The CAS 2021 Anchoring Event on Resilient Cities, hosted by the City of Miami, highlights the importance of building resilient cities to reduce the threats resulting from climate change: droughts, heat waves, landslides, storms, and – especially in coastal areas – floods. Stakeholders shared best practices, as well as launched approaches and devices for coordinated action, to build more resilient and equitable cities worldwide. Partners around the world shared insights and best practices, solutions and efforts. In addition, mayors shared regional and local experiences with climate change and adaptation efforts. Joint action towards 2030 was discussed to increase city resilience globally.

At the Summit, the 1000 Cities Adapt Now global programme was announced on behalf of the new coalition of partners, endorsed by global influencing cities. This programme will be helping 1000 cities adapt to climate change over the next ten years, defragmenting offers from a growing coalition of complementary global key players that join forces by clustering finances and programmes on the ground in cities, and building transformative capacity by developing urban adaptation practice and supporting local and global knowledge production; and having adaptation as a driver of resilient recovery, Nature-Based Solutions, urban water resilience, inclusive and locally-led action. The programme is a joint effort of the Global Center on Adaptation, the World Resources Institute, Resilient Cities Network, and UN-Habitat. Implementation has already started in Accra (Ghana), and will be scaled up to 100 cities between 2021 and 2023, up to 300 by 2025 and finally to 1000 by 2030.

The Miami Bond Forever initiative was also launched, which intends to build a stronger, more resilient future for Miami, alleviating existing and future risks to residents, economy, tourism and the city's legacy. UNDP announced its Sea Level Rise Strategy in Miami, and its commitment to scale Nature-Based Solutions in 65 cities by 2030. The mayor of Accra launched its Climate Action Plan that will be supported by the GCA's Cities Adaptation Accelerator programme. Many other existing initiatives were showcased, including WRI's Urban Water Resilience initiative, the World Bank's Building Back Better Urban Development work, and others.

3.2.3 LOCALLY LED ADAPTATION

While communities are at the frontlines of climate change impacts, they rarely have an effective voice in prioritising, decision-making, and implementing the actions that most affect them. Nevertheless, they are often most active and innovative in developing adaptation solutions, and they know precisely what they need, and what does and does not work. The Global Commission on Adaptation's flagship report, "Adapt Now," calls for increasing the volume of devolved and decentralised funding available to local governments, community-based organisations, and others working at the local level to identify, prioritise, implement, and monitor climate adaptation solutions. This is now even more important as local institutions are also on the frontlines of responding to the COVID-19 crisis and its consequences, as well as the climate crisis.

"Through the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation, those who give the finance and those who receive it will work together to design, deliver and monitor their adaptation work."

– Sheela Patel, Founder and Director, Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC) India; Former Chair, Slum Dwellers International

At the CAS 2021 Anchoring Event on Locally Led Adaptation, resources were mobilised to get them where they are needed most – on the frontlines of climate change. International commitments and programmes on local action were demonstrated, as well as a new set of principles to guide local action, concluding with an invitation to individual locally led adaptation.

A global coalition on local adaptation has created a set of Principles for Locally Led Adaptation, to bridge the gap between climate adaptation funding and the most climate-vulnerable. The goal is to monitor, evaluate and learn from the implementation of the principles during three conferences each year; Gobeshona Conference (January), Community Based Adaptation Conference (summer), COPs (autumn) to bring together the community of practice and the donors. During the Summit, the principles were endorsed by over 30 organisations, including UNDP, UNCDF, the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility, Climate Investment Funds, several governments, and NGOs such as BRAC International, Hivos, WRI, GCA and the Huairou Commission. The principles are:

1. Devolving decision making to the lowest appropriate level
2. Addressing structural inequalities faced by women, youth, children, disabled, displaced, Indigenous People and marginalised ethnic groups
3. Providing patient and predictable funding that can be accessed more easily
4. Investing in local capabilities to leave an institutional legacy
5. Building a robust understanding of climate risk and uncertainty
6. Flexible programming and learning
7. Ensuring transparency and accountability
8. Collaborative action and investment

Climate Bridge Funds will be set up by Slum/Shack Dwellers International, BRAC, and ICCCAD in at least 10 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and will provide locally directed financial support for locally led adaptation to vulnerable communities of EUR 10 million each. The initiative aims to ensure that grant funding can be made in relatively small to medium amounts to genuine and organised community organisations in cities and towns in LDCs in Africa and Asia with appropriate levels of fiduciary management as well as relevant technical advice.

The LDC Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience (LIFE-AR) has committed to support the delivery of the LDC Vision for LDCs to be on climate-resilient development pathways by 2030. Furthermore, it intends to deliver net-zero emissions by 2050, e.g. with 7 LDC frontrunner countries establish whole of society responses with effective delivery mechanisms enabling 70% of investment behind local climate priorities, increasing the resilience of 31 million people by 2030.

Other projects and initiatives were launched or presented, including the UNCDF LoCAL project in the Sahel region, the Asian Development Bank Community Resilience Partnership Program and the Adaptation Innovation Platform of UNDP, GEF and AF, Amplifying voices for Just Climate Action (WWF, Hivos, SDI and South-South North) and the Green Climate Fund launched an Enhancing Direct Access Pilot Phase to better ensure financial access to the most climate-vulnerable.

3.2.4 YOUTH LEADERSHIP

The powerful voices of young people worldwide to drive action on climate change are escalating. CAS 2021 supported youth involvement throughout its sessions by recognising their importance in driving change and the need to give them the right to have a say on what their future will look like. Their engagement in adaptation is imperative. That is why Youth Leadership, a central driver of the Adaptation Action Agenda and its implementation, has resonated in all CAS 2021 events.

Young people from over 115 countries presented a Global Youth Call to Action among government leaders entitled '[Adapt for our Future](#)'. The Call to Action underlines the imperative for young people to be involved in adaptation because the generations who are young today will experience more significant climate change impacts. Young people bring new ideas and radical ambition, which are required to develop adaptation solutions and implement them at a large scale. When empowered, young people can build climate resilience and adaptive capacity in their communities, even though they are among the most vulnerable and will be disproportionately affected by climate change. Important international principles for the youth are the provision of universal education, expansion of economic opportunities for young people and a strengthening position for the most vulnerable young people.

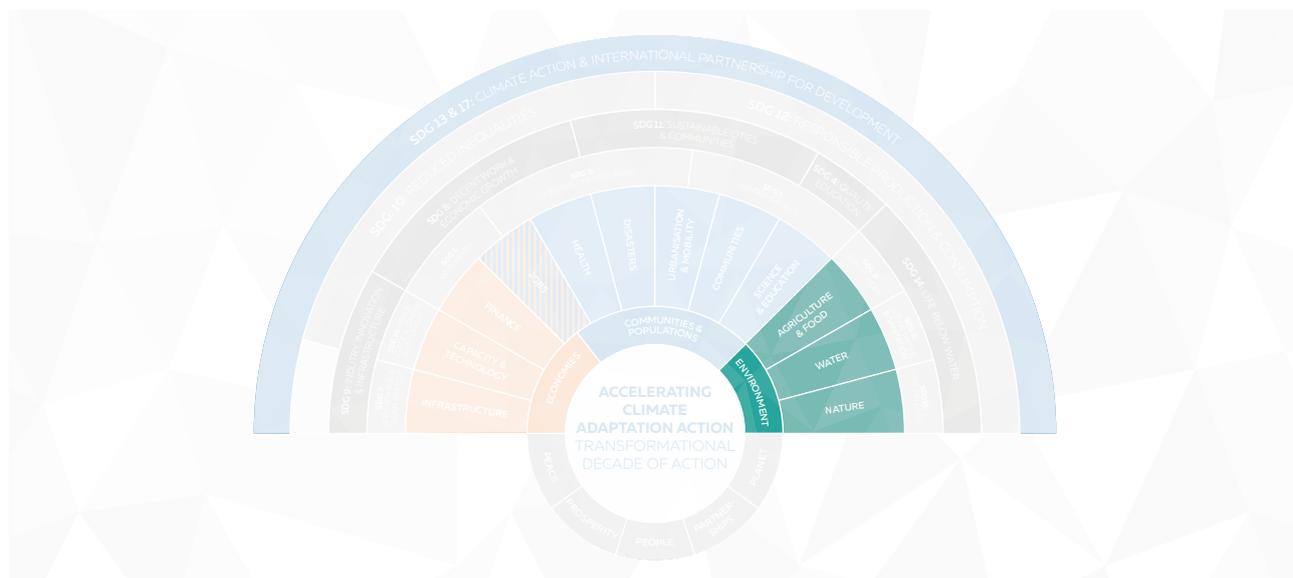
As a response to the Call to Action, the Youth Leadership Program of the Global Center of Adaptation was launched, introducing its five central pillars, "connect, educate, innovate, advocate and participate." The programme's mission is to mobilise the next generation of adaptation leaders around the world, empowering young people to make the case for adaptation on the global stage and make their communities more climate-resilient through action areas like the Youth Adaptation Network, Adaptation Education and Jobs Training, the Youth Adaptation Solutions Challenge, the Youth Adaptation Incubator Fund, Young Leaders, Youth Participation in Adaptation Policy and Young Women Leadership on Adaptation. Key private sector companies pledged their support of the programme and willingness to work with the GCA on specific components, including Macquarie, MKopa, Yes Bank India, Port of Rotterdam, South Pole, Willis Towers Watson, ENEL, Dalmia Group, APCO, Temasek, Royal Schiphol Group and Swiss Re.

Young people from the Northern Netherlands presented the Regional Action Agenda. In this report, youth – ambassadors of Youth for Climate Adaptation – illustrate seven recommendations to municipalities, provinces and water boards. Among other things, they are committed to more citizen participation and more climate (adaptation) in policy and education.



3.3 THEMATIC AGENDAS – ENVIRONMENT

Safeguarding the environment and harnessing the power of nature for accelerated adaptation



3.3.1 NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

Nature provides for many highly effective means of reducing climate change and its negative impacts. Such 'Nature-Based Solutions' (NBS) work for both mitigation and adaptation. Although governments in their policies currently cite the many advantages of Nature-Based Solutions, they hardly implement them, similar to companies reporting adaptation solutions. Floods in coastal areas and river basins, but also heatwaves in cities, are often caused by land degradation and by inappropriate use and construction of infrastructure. Hence, the NBS Anchoring Event was convened to share best practices, as well as launch approaches and devices for coordinated action, to manage natural resources and uses better worldwide.

“Nature-Based Solutions are cost-effective and they provide multiple co-benefits for economies, communities, culture, health, and nature.”

– Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment, Canada

The CAS 2021 Anchoring Event on Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) was hosted by the Governments of Canada and Mexico and demonstrated the value of NBS. Which means to drive resilience, highlighted local participatory approaches as bases for long-term success, developed ways to scale impact with innovative financing approaches and models, showcased key Action Track deliverables, and inspired others to take action towards COP26.

The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) of the GEF approved a USD 2 million novel project to support monetary valuation of Nature Based Infrastructure (NBI), intending to demonstrate its economic point and catalyse more public and private investment. The project is co-financed by the MAVA Foundation and implemented by UNIDO with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). The project will set up a NBI resource centre, take a system-based approach to demonstrate monetary valuation of up to 46 NBI investments, and develop a massive open online course and database to support future valuations. The project is expected to benefit more than 100,000 climate-vulnerable people and support the management of nearly 20,000 hectares of land for climate resilience.

Swiss Re showcased its developed Biodiversity Ecosystems Index to understand interdependencies to be used as a tool to improve risk assessment and facilitate mitigation action. Thinking in systems-based solutions: Biodiversity Ecosystems Index shows that

55% of global GDP is dependent on intact ecosystems. EcoShape highlighted its 14 NBS implemented with partners and its book launched on Building with Nature – “Creating, implementing and upscaling Nature-based Solutions”.

UNEP highlighted key findings on NBS of the Adaptation Gap Report 2020 and the Asian Development Bank is committed to support a holistic approach for future engagement: 1) programmatic framework/enabling environment (policy-regulation), 2) innovations in financial mechanisms, 3) knowledge sharing and capacity building.

A new Global Ecosystem based Adaptation Fund, supported by Germany and implemented by UNEP and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), was developed with an initial capitalisation of EUR 15 million, and the first call for proposals is expected in 2021. Through a rapid-delivery mechanism, the Fund will provide seed capital that aims to catalyse the scaling up of ecosystem based adaptation. The Fund will focus on support to non state actors, with the expectation that they will often need to work closely with national and local governments.

3.3.2 WATER

Water is fundamental to our existence. Without water, there is no life, food or nature. However, climate change is hitting us hard through water: with too much, too little, too dirty water. It is critical to put water issues at the centre of climate adaptation. Not only because 90% of climate problems are water-related, but also because water is the enabler for sustainable climate action for a resilient future. Therefore, the Anchoring Event on Water, delivered by the Water Action Track, brought together key players inside and outside the water sector and launched new actions aimed to accelerate and scale up climate adaptation with water as an essential enabler and connector to safeguard a sustainable and resilient future for all.

“Climate expresses itself through water. Water related climate risks cascade through food, energy, urban and environmental systems

– Mari Pangestu, Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships,
World Bank

The CAS 2021 Anchoring Event on Water brought together various sources to address water and adaptation, in a mixture of voices and visual elements and an opportunity to highlight the essence of the Water Action Track and its 57 partners. In addition, the Water Action Track is working together with 20 countries worldwide. The programme combined short clips on water challenges and foreseen opportunities, best practices, and inspiration. It delivered an urgent call to action, with speakers from governments, multilateral organisations, and NGOs. Most importantly, this session gave the floor to people who cope with climate change consequences on a daily basis. They are the real champions working on water and adaptation.

A Water Adaptation Community (Hub) was launched by GCA and the Netherlands Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management. This community housed at the GCA's online State and Trends in Adaptation Knowledge Exchange ([STAKE](#)) platform aims at accelerating and scaling up climate adaptation interventions globally by bringing the water sector together and making the connection with other sectors and the political level. Acceleration of water adaptation will be achieved by building on and strengthening what is already happening and/or starting. Scale up will be reached by connecting and actively brokering between stakeholders and initiatives.

During the Anchoring Event, [the Delta Lighthouse Case Study](#) report was also presented. Science and best practices as a basis for water management development. The ‘lighthouse’ case studies in this Delta Report explore and share best practices and good examples in climate adaptation and resilience interventions in delta countries. The Delta Coalition strategically selected the case studies to ensure a wide and diverse representation of different hydrological, climatological, social economic, and geographic conditions. Deltas are hotspots and cases vary from Mozambique, Indonesia, Colombia, Argentina, to Vietnam, Bangladesh and the Netherlands. Based on this diverse and representative range of cases, key findings have been formulated to share knowledge and to inform adaptation practices elsewhere.

In addition, the government of the Netherlands announced to make EUR 160 million available through the Dutch Fund for Climate and Development (DFCD). Managed by a pioneering consortium of FMO, climate fund managers SNV and WWF, the DFCD will work with the private sector to catalyse over EUR 500 million in additional funding for bankable projects across the world.

The Global Center on Adaptation announced that it is building a Build Smart Project Preparation Facility for Africa's water sector with the objective to close the current planning-investment gaps for multiple projects. A large regional dedicated facility will scale up and accelerate water climate change adaptation to boost human and economic development in a water-insecure world.

Another global initiative on water is the Water and Climate Coalition, a multi-stakeholder initiative under the SDG 6 Accelerator framework providing tangible action, activities and policy support, for an integrated water and climate agenda, focusing on data, information, monitoring systems and operational capacity.

The main objectives of the coalition are to provide a platform for its members to partner on joint activities and implement solutions that address the gaps of operational water and climate challenges with a focus on data and information and guidance for high-level policy development through its panel of Water and Climate Leaders.

3.3.3 AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

Two billion people are currently food-insecure. Around 570 million in total, comprising a large population of the world's poorest. At the same time, they are the ones providing for over 60% of our food production. Overall, climate change is expected to decrease their production by up to 30% by 2050, while at the same time food prices in their communities may rise by 20%. Smallholder farming households are thus most vulnerable in multiple aspects. If nothing is done, these impacts would push millions of people further into poverty and would represent a major setback in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The CAS 2021 Anchoring Event on Agriculture & Food Security brought together key leaders and actions committed to drive research & innovation, public mobilisation and private investment, to strengthen markets and large-scale application of digital technology, and to better integrate Nature-Based Solutions in food production. Stakeholders shared best practices, ensured conditions, and launched devices for coordinated action, to make our food supply systems more climate-resilient worldwide.

The Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) launched its new 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy, One CGIAR, to address the climate crisis and support a systems transformation approach for food, land, and water systems. Covering all research for development programming across CGIAR, the strategy provides an overview of how CGIAR will develop and deploy its capacities, assets, and skills to address priority global and regional challenges with partners over the decade.

The United Kingdom launched a campaign to transform agricultural innovation for people, nature & climate, as part of the COP26 Nature Campaign. This campaign aims to reform research and innovation to support more sustainable and resilient agriculture and unlock billions for sustainable agriculture. The World Bank, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Netherlands Government supported the launch.

The World Bank announced USD 60 million in support to CGIAR for the "Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa" (AICCRA), which will focus on strengthening the capacity of, and deepening partnerships with, African national and regional organisations to scale up climate-resilient practices and climate information systems. AICCRA is part of the Two Degree Initiative of the CGIAR, which seeks to help 200 million small-scale agricultural producers across the globe adapt their agro-ecological systems, livelihoods, and landscapes by 2030. This Two-Degree Initiative was supported by consultations with over 1,500 stakeholders across nine regional hotspots through over 50 listening sessions over the past year to ensure that the research agenda is demand-led.

The World Resources Institute, the Global Center on Adaptation, the World Food Program, the World Business Council on Sustainable Development, and Columbia University/IRI have shown their progress on an Investment Blueprint to help scale the provision of climate information to 300 million smallholder farmers using digital technologies, to be launched in May 2021. Taking forward the advice of the Blueprint, the AfDB and the GCA, through the Africa Adaptation Accelerated Program (AAP), will partner to roll out Climate Smart Digital Technologies for Agriculture and Food Security. The main goal is to scale up access to climate-smart digital technologies and associated data-driven agricultural and financial services to build climate-smart and resilient food systems in Africa for 30 million smallholder farmers by 2025.

Africa Improved Foods and the GCA announced to work to build a pan-African agri-food industry (Africa Improved Foods 2.0) that will create stable demand for 2 million smallholders. This will stimulate investment in large-scale solutions that will address climate-change-induced food security risks. In collaboration with partners, AIF will develop services for climate adaptation while providing nutritious food for 100 million African consumers.

The International Fund for Agriculture announced its Enhanced Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP+). ASAP+ is a climate financing mechanism envisioned to be the largest fund dedicated to channelling climate finance to small-scale producers. It has a target of mobilising USD 500 million, which is expected to benefit more than 10 million people.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) reaffirmed its commitment to transforming food systems and strengthen the climate resilience of 60 million people in rural areas by 2030 through the German “One World, No Hunger Initiative.” BMZ aims at transformative approaches to jointly address the systemic challenges such as climate change, overexploitation of natural resources, poverty and hunger and malnutrition. Among others, agro-ecological approaches will become a central building block of the strategy and support the transformation of food systems towards resilience and sustainability in line with planetary boundaries.

3.4 ACCELERATING AFRICAN ADAPTATION

While contributing only a meagre 5% to global greenhouse gas emissions, Africa is the largest victim of climate change, being the most vulnerable continent to climate change impacts. Nevertheless, it also has inherent strengths and vast adaptive capacity. Linking climate adaptation with Africa’s development agenda provides key opportunities for sustainable and resilient development. Therefore, its importance is reflected with a dedicated Anchoring Event on Accelerating African Adaptation action.

“Our economic recovery must be green, inclusive and resilient. We have to remain people-focused and leave no one behind. Let’s work with the African countries to build back better to adapt to climate change.”

– Sigrid Kaag, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands.

At the Accelerating African Adaptation Event hosted by the Netherlands Ministry for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, leaders and experts from different sectors and geographies came together to share solutions and opportunities for accelerating African adaptation action.

African Development Bank (AfDB) President Akinwumi Adesina repeated his commitment to mobilising USD 25 billion for climate finance by 2025 (AAAP). AfDB has committed USD 6.5 billion to support the Great Green Wall Initiative. Furthermore, it has committed USD 2 billion to a Digital Agricultural Flagship, which is expected to increase the yields of 300 million farmers across Africa. AfDB has also committed USD 3 billion to youth, and to upscaling the Bank’s African Risk Facility.

Minister White of Gabon stressed that climate change left unchecked will cause hundreds of millions of people to be displaced, by destabilisation and armed conflict and untold suffering due to extreme weather events. He emphasised the need for Nature-Based Solutions, bolstering medical systems and redesigning urban centres. Minister Gerd Müller of Germany announced a commitment of USD 100 million to the Least Developed Countries Fund.

Mauro Raffaele Petriccione of the European Commission elaborated on the European Commission’s new Adaptation Strategy. This strategy includes mobilising EUR 700 million to support the Great Green Wall Initiative and building meaningful partnerships with African-led efforts such as the Africa Adaptation Initiative.

Yannick Glemarec, Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund, reiterated the GCF’s commitment to prioritising adaptation investment in Africa. Mr. Glemarec explained the GCF aims to do this through a four-pronged approach of 1) integrated planning and policy development, 2) catalysing climate change innovations, 3) mobilising greater private sector investment and 4) developing tools and knowledge to mainstream climate risk in decision-making.

Dr Hafez Ghanem, Vice President of Eastern and Southern Africa for the World Bank, emphasised its efforts on access to green energy across the continent, especially in vulnerable areas such as Somalia and the Sahel. These efforts, as well as those on climate-smart agriculture, are central to adaptation on the continent, he said. Dr Ghanem indicated that these projects, which support 28 million farmers across the continent, would not be possible without new technologies. The World Bank expects to reach USD 22.5 billion in adaptation efforts by 2025.

The Netherlands has committed a contribution of EUR 20 million to the Least Developed Countries Fund and EUR 100 million to adaptation action in the Sahel from the budget of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Beyond the financial outcomes, the Africa Anchoring Event emphasised the need to build innovative partnerships and restore trust, to bring marginalised groups into the discussion, particularly youth, women and urban poor, and to actively involve and include them in decision-making processes. As a way forward, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom concluded they will do their utmost to embed adaptation as a priority for COP26 and to have African partners at the heart of that priority.



4. IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING MECHANISMS

Particularly as a result of the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019, several international initiatives are already working to advance joint work to accelerate adaptation. As a further effort towards continuously expanded commitments by the international community and to forge the robust partnerships necessary to promote a sustained acceleration of adaptation action globally over the decade ahead, leaders acknowledged that a set of follow-through contributing mechanisms are being developed that will take forward the aspirations and actions forged with the Climate Adaptation Summit; Global & Regional Partnerships, State & Trends in Adaptation, and the Annual Ministerial Dialogue on Adaptation Action.

4.1 GLOBAL & REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

The Adaptation Action Agenda catalyses collaborations between key international, regional, national and local partners supporting the Agenda's successful implementation. Partners are encouraged to join efforts and deploy knowledge tools, technical assistance frameworks, digital innovation, financing solutions, and youth empowerment programmes, to promote and support adaptation action on the ground. A few key partnerships are:

4.1.1 Adaptation Action Coalition (AAC) – The AAC builds on the 2019 UNCAS Call for Action for Adaptation and Resilience to bring together a broad coalition of like-minded countries committed to driving action to scale up and accelerate adaptation. The [AAC](#) will deliver sector-specific, action-orientated work streams based on the 12-sector framework set out in the Adaptation Action Agenda. Ahead of COP26, a minimum of three sectoral events will be held on infrastructure, water and health. Associated action taken forward from these work streams will be showcased at COP26. As the Coalition grows, it will empower its members to initiate, develop and lead more sectoral work into 2022 and 2023 to maintain momentum and ensure longer-term outcomes.

4.1.2 Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) – A multi-stakeholder global partnership of country governments, UN agencies, multilateral banks, private sector and knowledge institutions that aims to build resilience into infrastructure systems to ensure sustainable development. ([CDRI](#))

4.1.3 Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment (CCRI) – With 83 members including institutional investors, banks and insurance and rating agencies that represent over USD 11 trillion in assets under management, CCRI supports major private and public institutions in integrating physical climate risks into investment decision-making, primarily in infrastructure ([Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment](#)).

4.2 STATE & TRENDS IN ADAPTATION KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE (STAKE)

The Global Center on Adaptation's annual flagship report will provide a comprehensive yearly snapshot of the latest patterns and status of adaptation efforts around the globe, thus providing a monitoring mechanism for adaptation action.. The report will be coordinated with UNEP's yearly 'adaptation gap' report, built on IPCC and Paris Agreement frameworks. Furthermore, it will identify the key hurdles for advancing adaptation action and adaptive capacity, examine progress with the enabling environment for action, and recommend actions that can be taken to accelerate adaptation further. A new global information and knowledge exchange platform will serve as a key repository, linking reference climate adaptation information however disparate in a single accessible online tool that will also serve as an online community of practice for adaptation globally. Managed by the GCA, [STAKE](#) will enable an environment for action and recommend actions that can be taken to accelerate adaptation further.

This platform will foster cooperation, facilitate, and maintain Adaptation Communities that, collectively, will disseminate good practices, build capacity, and inspire adaptation actions and monitoring commitments worldwide.

4.3 ANNUAL MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE ON ADAPTATION ACTION

Ministers from almost 60 nations met for the first Ministerial Dialogue on Adaptation Action during CAS 2021. This Ministerial Dialogue will serve as an annual platform and action-driving vehicle anchored around three Focus Streams of 'Ambition', 'Financing' and 'Partnership.' The Ministerial Dialogue, supported by the Global Center on Adaptation, will guide and build momentum to deliver the Adaptation Action Agenda, sustaining global leadership cooperation to accelerate adaptation at speed and at scale. It will also prepare and inform future leader-level events on a regular basis.

In closing the Inaugural Ministerial Dialogue, Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, highlighted that adaptation is "not about giving up, it is about facing reality." In the face of the twin challenges of COVID-19 and climate change, it is critical for nations to complete the unfinished work on the Paris Agreement, and to get to COP26 with good deliverables on adaptation. It is essential to continue to work closely with all partners in the lead-up to the next scheduled Ministerial Dialogue to be hosted as part of COP26, which will provide the opportunity for a stock-take of implementation in 2021 and a forum for establishing the collaboration needed to accelerate action further in the years ahead.



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#AdaptationSummit

ANNEX 1





Joint Statement on Accelerating Climate Adaptation in Cities

**To be launched 25-01-2021 at Climate Adaptation Summit 2021
Rotterdam, The Netherlands**

Cities and their growing populations are impacted by climate change on a daily basis. The need to accelerate adaptation in cities and to invest in solutions with multiple benefits is higher than ever before. It is for this reason that the first ever 10-year global program, 1000 Cities Adapt Now (1000 CAN), has been established to accelerate and scale climate adaptation in 1000 cities worldwide.

1000 CAN is initiated by a new and unique Coalition to accelerate adaptation in cities, installed by the Global Commission on Adaptation at the launch of their flagship report, "Adapt Now" (Sept 2019), wherein the Commission called for redoubling the effort to build more resilient and equitable cities. The Coalition will create impact on the ground in cities and is endorsed and supported by cities.

In this Joint Statement the Coalition, and a first cohort of Partners and Cities, confirm the urgency to act now and commit to support further development and implementation of 1000 CAN. The Coalition and others also call on city leaders, heads of states, NGO's and the private sector participating in CAS 2021 to support and facilitate this global program laying the foundation for a decade of action toward a climate-resilient future of 1000 cities in 2030.

A Resilient Recovery

As cities recover from COVID-19, smart investments and policies on resilience can create a triple dividend: helping cities boost their economies; improving equity; and preparing communities for inevitable climate and health threats. According to the Global Commission on Adaptation's *Adapt Now* report, adaptation investments consistently deliver high returns, with benefit-cost ratios ranging from 2:1 to 10:1. Plus, when compared to traditional investment, adaptation investments often create more jobs, many of which are at the local level. The health and economic impacts of COVID-19, climate change and inequality are deeply intertwined. The need to accelerate inclusive adaptation in cities and to invest in solutions is higher than ever before. Cities *must* and *can* make a difference, we have no time to waste!

To help cities recover from COVID-19 and build a more climate-resilient and inclusive future, solutions must deliver immediate benefits to our most vulnerable communities, while also strengthening cities' individual and collective capacities to adapt and thrive in the face of climate change contributing to and in line with the COP26 High Level Climate Champion's Race to Resilience.

Five Principles of Accelerating and Scaling Urban Climate Adaptation

We (the *Coalition* and the first cohort of Partners) commit to support the most vulnerable urban communities and help accelerate and scale urban climate adaptation globally during the Decade of Action by implementing the following five principles:

- 1. Strengthen and prioritize urban adaptation and climate resilience in cities with a focus on equity and the most vulnerable and poor communities and settlements in the world;**
- 2. Build water-resilient cities and scale nature-based solutions to address climate risks;**
- 3. Advocate for more devolved mandates and funding for cities and advance coordinated leadership to gain political leverage and financing at scale;**
- 4. Enhance knowledge and capacity on urban adaptation and support peer-to-peer collaboration for deep, long-term and systemic change;**



GLOBAL
CENTER ON
ADAPTATION



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE



RESILIENT
CITIES
NETWORK

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

5. **Coordinate methods and (smart) innovations, partners and investments to maximise synergy and impact and accelerate implementation.**

1000 Cities Adapt Now – global program

The main goal of the 1000 Cities Adapt Now global program is to accelerate adaptation in 1000 cities by 2030. To achieve this, the program is promoting a comprehensive package of measures including the implementation of nature-based solutions, urban water resilience solutions and a transformative capacity building program. An alliance of core delivery partners will start implementation in a first batch of 100 cities. This program will focus on climate adaptation in cities as leverage for an inclusive and resilient COVID-19 recovery, while creating a pathway to reach the Paris climate adaptation goals.

Impact of the 1000 Cities Adapt Now global program:

By 2030 reducing climate risks and improving the quality of life of 500 million – 1 billion citizens.

To deliver on these commitments and generate the speed and scale we must work with cities, community groups, international organizations, financial institutions, city networks and knowledge partners. To kick off, the program has initiated several actions and related partnerships to start creating impact in cities.

The Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) and World Resources Institute (WRI) are co-leading the Resilient Cities Action Track to build a 10 year program and a growing coalition to accelerate urban resilience.

The lead coalition partners, GCA, WRI, the Resilient Cities Network and UN-Habitat respond to the needs of the cities to start adapting to climate change now, and commit to operationalize the Global Program through:

- A. System Change:** *A growing coalition of global organizations will coordinate technical support and investments, share knowledge and networks to maximize impact and accelerate implementation on the ground in cities;*
- B. Strategic Solutions:** *Adaptation as driver of resilient recovery to advance three high impact adaptation solutions: nature-based adaptation, urban water resilience, inclusive and locally led adaptation for the urban poor;*
- C. Scaling Strategy:** *Transformative capacity building – by building an urban adaptation practice and by supporting local and global knowledge partnerships on adaptation;*

Launched by

Francis X. Suarez, Mayor of Miami

Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris

Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam

Patrick Verkooijen, CEO Global Center on Adaptation

Andrew Steer, CEO World Resources Institute

Supported by



PARTNERS

(Role: Act as implementing partner for related sub-deliverables, be an ambassador for the 1000 Cities Adapt global program, connect to donors and other City programs)

Lead Coalition Partners

Global Center on Adaptation; World Resources Institute; Resilient Cities Network; UN-Habitat

Global Knowledge Partners

Slum Dwellers International (SDI); Deltares; the IHE/IHS/TU Delft-coalition; CURE (Collaborative on Urban Resilience and Effectiveness); BLUE21-Foundation; Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water; Global Environment Facility (GEF); GCOM Global Covenant of Mayors

Global Support Partners

ICCCAD (International Centre for Climate Change and Development); LUCCC (Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change); Global Network for Advanced Management; Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Rotary International; Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation Germany (BMZ); Ministry of Environment

INFLUENCING CITIES

(Role: Endorse and support the 1000 Cities Adapt Now global program, share knowledge, advocate for climate resilience regionally and globally and connect to relevant networks and partners)

Accra – Mayor Adjei Sowah

Antwerp – Mayor Bart de Wever

Athens – Mayor Kostas Bakoyannis

Beira – Mayor Daviz Simango

Christchurch – Mayor Lianne Dalziel

The Hague – Mayor Jan van Zanen

Greater Manchester – Mayor Andy Burnham

Groningen – Mayor Koen Schuiling

Istanbul – Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu

Jakarta – Governor Anies Baswedan

Khulna – Mayor Talukder Abdul Khaleque

Milan – Mayor Giuseppe Sala

Miami – Mayor Francis Suarez

Paris – Mayor Anne Hidalgo

Rotterdam – Mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb

Surat – Commissioner Shri Banchhanidhi Pani

A.

Cities Action Track Coalition

Leads:

Global Center for Adaptation (GCA), World Resources Institute (WRI), Resilient Cities Network (R-Cities), UN-Habitat

Deliverables:

- i. **A unique platform of key resilience leaders combines forces to provide donors and cities a defragmented offer, both institutional and programmatic to accelerate climate adaptation in cities.**
- ii. **By 2030, 1000 cities will have a comprehensive Climate Resilience Strategy and have started implementing their related adaptation action plans.**

B.

Transformative Capacity Building for Adaptation and Rigorous Learning

1. Scalable Practical Transformative Capacity Building

Lead: GCA

Co-leads: R-Cities, WRI, Deltares, Partners: SDI, Blue21

Deliverables:

- i. Development of **Cities Adaptation Accelerator (CAA)**, including new modules on e.g. vulnerable communities and on Floating Urban Development in coastal cities;
- ii. By 2030, through partners apply CAA in **300 cities** to build climate adaptation strategies and action plans and parallel start implementation;
- iii. Dissemination to and exchange between **1000** regional cities, supported by the Community of Water Adaptation Practice.

2. Knowledge and Learning network

Leads: WRI (i), GCA (ii)

Co-leads: CURE, ICCCAD, LUCCC, R-Cities, IHE-Delft

Deliverables:

- i. By 2030, support **100 cities** and **100** communities develop and implement 200-300 inclusive climate adaptation initiatives in partnership with global network of 40 universities;
- ii. By 2030 Providing education and knowledge for students in **200 cities** through MSC Climate Resilient Cities run by IHE/IHS/TU Delft-coalition.

C.

Accelerate and Scale Solutions for Urban Adaptation



1. Advance nature-based solutions (NBS) in cities to reduce climate risks

Lead: WRI

Co-lead: Cities4Forests (C4F)

Deliverables:

By 2030, a coalition of **65** cities have integrated NBS into spatial planning, investments, and infrastructure implementation to reduce their climate risks.

2. Urban Water Resilience Initiative

Africa Lead: WRI

Co-leads: R-Cities, tRS, Arup

Deliverables:

By 2030:

- i. An urban water resilience program has been set up to implement and scale urban water action plans in cities across sub-Saharan Africa.
- ii. The Africa Urban Water Resilience program has been scaled from **6 to 20 cities** with catalytic impact in at least **100 cities**.
- iii. A pan-African finance coalition supporting urban water resilience has been established.

India Lead: WRI

Co-leads: WaterAid, BMGF, Water.org, Biome

Trust, MHT, Take a Stake Fund, iihs, NIUM, GUDI,

Dasra Deliverables:

- i. An accelerate access to WASH and healthy spaces coalition has been setup in India
- ii. The coalition develops key research products and implements learning labs for the urban poor communities across India
- iii. The coalition implements demonstration projects advancing placed based integrated WASH and healthy spaces solutions in **8 cities and 18 communities**

3. Build the climate resilience of the urban poor

Leads: UN-Habitat, WRI, GCA

Deliverables:

- i. By 2023, implement climate resilience pilot projects in **12** hotspot cities, and mainstream pro-poor resilience in national and local climate policies.
- ii. By 2027, scale up climate resilience to **50-70** hotspot cities through planning and investment finance.
- iii. By 2030, enhance capacity among all levels of government and core partners to coordinate action towards resilience of the urban poor globally in at least **140** cities.

D.

DATA

Lead: WRI

Co-lead: GCOM

Deliverables:

- i. Establish an M&E plan and develop indicators for the 1000 Cities Adapt Now Program to track progress.
- ii. By 2030, add the resilience data of 1000 cities to GCOM's climate data portal for cities.

ANNEX 2





GLOBAL SCIENTISTS CALL FOR ECONOMIC STIMULUS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND COVID

The world is in a growing climate emergency that requires immediate action¹. With global greenhouse gas emissions rapidly increasing, our fast-warming world is already experiencing major disruptions from more intense droughts, fires, heatwaves, floods, destructive tropical cyclones and other extreme events. Climate science has now attributed the rising intensity of observed extreme climatic events to human influences². We have demonstrated that greenhouse-gas emissions have intensified heat waves and mortality across all continents. We have the evidence that global warming has increased the flooding risk of intense hurricanes across the Caribbean and the southeast of the United States, as well as typhoons across the western Pacific. We know that human influences have increased both observed droughts and extreme precipitation events on all continents.

Over the past three years, climate-related disasters have cost the world \$650 billion – more than 0.25 percent of global GDP for those years³. The UN has warned that by 2040 damages associated with climate change could soar to \$54 trillion⁴.

We must continue to mitigate rapidly with ambitious emissions reductions and increased removals by natural systems. It is clear that business as usual is no longer an option. We can no longer “avoid dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system”⁵. We are experiencing the adverse consequences of that interference now. Our failure to adapt and mitigate COVID-19 parallels the disruption to come if we do not act immediately to mitigate and adapt our world in response to our changing climate.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines adaptation as “the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects, in order to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities”⁶. Throughout history, people have adapted to change. But as our failed response to the Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated the world is simply not ready to face the inevitable impacts of our climate emergency. Unless we step up and adapt now,

the results will be increasing poverty, water shortages, agricultural losses and soaring levels of migration with an enormous toll on human life. We must avoid inaction where those who are not rich lose out, and cannot react in the timeframe necessary and without resources to make the required changes.

The pandemic combined with intensification of extreme weather events has shown how unprepared we are and that we must heal nature in order to heal ourselves. As governments around the world prepare massive stimulus plans to repair the damage of Covid-19 shutdowns, they must also repair the damage to nature, because of its important role in resilience to climate change. If we continue with the unfettered destruction of our natural environment, Covid-19 will not be the last pandemic to upend our lives, and climate change will accelerate beyond the capabilities of nature and humans to adapt.

The twin threats of Covid-19 and climate change are, above all, caused by human actions. We must do everything in our power to ensure our response to both is coordinated and becomes a watershed moment for investment in a more sustainable world. The sooner we act the better off we will be.

This means taking urgent steps to help communities adjust to the world they are living in today. A world in which millions of people struggle on a daily basis.

Without adaptation, a changing climate may depress growth in global food production by up to 30 percent by 2050. The 500 million small farms around the world will be most affected⁷. The number of people who may lack sufficient water, at least one month per year, is projected to soar from 3.6 billion today to more than 5 billion by 2050⁷. Rising seas and greater storm surges could destroy urban economies and force hundreds of millions of people in coastal cities from their homes, with a total cost of more than \$1 trillion each year by 2050⁷. More than 100 million people will be unable to sustain themselves by 2030⁸.

We must do everything we can to protect nature using practical and positive solutions to assure and maintain a sustainable environment, society, and economy. If we act now, we have the opportunity to plan ahead and prosper. If we delay, we will pay.

There must be a revolution in understanding the risks nature, societies and economies face if they cannot adapt to climate change. We conclude that four revolutions need to take place to accelerate adaptation action to the pace and scale required.

1 We must adapt in the way we manage and protect natural systems. We can no longer continue to clear our forests and degrade them. Coastal and freshwater wetlands, mangroves, grasslands and coral reefs must be protected and restored for climate resilience and to accumulate more carbon out of the atmosphere. Adaptive management of agricultural lands will ensure that our food system is more resilient and productive without encroaching on natural ecosystems. Understanding and identifying opportunities to benefit from natural ecosystems is key to planning and investing in adaptation.

2 We need a revolution in long-term planning; a revolution that accounts for climate risk in the way we actually plan our cities, our infrastructure and our private investments. Investors and asset management companies are already starting to assess the environmental and climate risks related to the future worth of their investments. Looking at risk while incorporating future resilience is becoming mainstream. But this process needs to become more widespread and based upon a solid understanding of the consequences of our actions for their scientifically understood consequences.

3 Policies that provide primary and secondary education to all are essential to having a society that can effectively adapt to a changed climate. Innovations are needed in all aspects of society and a resilient economy will require a highly educated population. More education is especially important for girls and young women as it has been shown to increase gender equity, standard of living, and overall health and wellbeing, while decreasing fertility rates which is a major step in climate adaptation given potential food and water scarcity, and the uneven spatial distribution of climate impacts.

4 There must be a revolution in the way finance is organised, so existing funds and resources can be targeted to accelerate adaptation. We need to think about financial returns in a completely different way. At the moment, business proposals are evaluated in the short term and do not capture societal benefits. Longer-term climate risks are often not considered because risk assessments are based upon historical data. The past is no longer a good proxy for the future in an increasingly warming world. And at the moment, public and private finance simply is not flowing fast enough.

Adaptation must be at the forefront of decision-making. Because, in addition to protecting the well-being of natural systems and humans, it makes economic sense. The Global Commission on Adaptation found that investing \$1.8 trillion globally in climate adaptation schemes over the next decade could generate \$7.1 trillion in total net benefits⁹. Or put another way: the World Bank estimates that an extra three per cent of adaptation investment upfront in resilient infrastructure would be offset by savings of up to four times the cost of the loss and damage that would have occurred without said investment¹⁰.

Work to help communities adapt has already started. There are many glimmers of hope; many pockets of innovative adaptation appearing around the world planting of drought-resistant crops; increasing soil carbon, protecting forests that hold the most carbon and those that are accumulating carbon most rapidly, positioning trees along riverbanks; restoring mangrove forests and wetlands; redesigning the way we build our cities reducing the deadly impact of soaring temperatures; building concrete cyclone shelters. Knowledge is being shared between cities, countries and continents.

Without leadership and commitment from the decision-makers, the financiers, the investors, and the world leaders to accelerate adaptation action the toll will be devastating. Long-term global economic prospects will be even more severely compromised than they are now. We need a massive effort now to adapt to the climate change to which the world is already committed and move rapidly to prevent it from becoming worse.

Ahead of the Climate Adaptation Summit, to be hosted by the Netherlands in January, we as a group of scientists call on world leaders, decision-makers and investors, to change the way we understand, plan and invest for a

changing climate to ensure we limit future damage. We commit to supporting you to adapt boldly, to adapt fairly and adapt now. We must work together to act and adapt to our changing climate before it is too late.

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ENDNOTES

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ANNEX 3





GLOBAL
CENTER ON
ADAPTATION

Global Youth Call to Action Adapt for Our Future





WHY A CALL TO ACTION FROM YOUNG PEOPLE?

Today, the world is home to the largest generation of youth in history, with 1.8 billion worldwide. One out of five people globally are between the ages of 15 and 24. Nearly 90 percent of the global youth live in developing countries, nearly one billion in Asia and Africa.

A significant share of the world's population is youth, with the youth population set to increase by as much as 62% in some countries. There is an imperative for young people to be involved in adaptation, because the generations who are young today will experience more significant climate change impacts.

Young people bring new ideas and radical ambition which are required to develop adaptation solutions and implement them at a large scale. When empowered, young people can build climate resilience and adaptive capacity in their communities even though they are among the most vulnerable populations which will be disproportionately affected by climate change.

How was this Call to Action developed?

The Global Youth Call to Action on Adaptation has been co-designed by the Global Center on Adaptation's Youth Adaptation Network through 15 global and regional consultations and inputs from hundreds of thousands of young people from 120 countries around the globe. The Youth Adaptation Network is an umbrella platform to engage, empower and amplify the role of youth in the adaptation agenda by providing them access to adaptation knowledge and campaigning materials while connecting youth with leaders and businesses who are leading the global response to climate change.

OUR CALL TO ACTION

Young people around the world are demanding for climate justice and are already playing a significant role in how countries, communities and businesses respond to the impacts of climate change. We, the Youth Adaptation Network, together with young people across the world, are united through this Global Youth Call to Action on Adaptation to ask world leaders to adapt our world for our future.

We call for a Decade of Action to prepare younger generations for the transition towards green and climate resilient development.

To adapt for our future, we call upon governments and all stakeholders to make the most of the unprecedented opportunity, post-COVID-19, to implement the Global Youth Call to Action on Adaptation below in addition to their mitigation efforts and Paris Agreement targets.



The Needed Actions for the Decade

Raising awareness on adaptation to climate change

- Document the life-long impact of climate change on young people and the cost of inaction on climate adaptation including through online mediums, publications and visual story-telling;
- Develop engaging and informative educational materials on climate change in multiple languages and in accordance with local circumstances and cultural contexts;
- Raise awareness and understanding on climate adaptation, promote sports, healthy lifestyles and sustainable consumption and production patterns;
- Provide adaptation learning resources in both digital and offline platforms through community-based education, to ensure distributional reach of the diversity of the global youth population.

Promoting universal education, training and skills development to empower younger generations to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Countries should:

- Ensure comprehensive climate adaptation and resilience training is universal and mandatorily placed at the center of education policies by integrating them into the curricula at all levels of formal education;
- Support and fund organisations that provide formal, non-formal and informal climate education as well as effective capacity building programs including virtual training, MOOCs on climate adaptation and training of trainers programs that target youth;
- Increase climate adaptation leadership training, as well as youth engagement in adaptation research and community projects in schools, universities, technical and vocational training institutions and non-profit organizations;
- Invest in quality, reliable and sustainable infrastructure to ensure that schools, universities and education institutions are climate resilient.

Fostering youth participation in the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Recognize that it is essential that youth are engaged in the design, implementation and evaluation of national climate change policies including National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and long-term development strategies;
- Undertake multi-stakeholder consultations, dialogues, youth councils and online platforms to enhance youth engagement in the adaptation agenda, including leveraging new and existing climate and youth networks;
- Ensure that youth participation in the local and international decision-making process is non-tokenistic and equitable;
- Direct local and regional authorities to engage with young people in the design of locally led adaptation agendas and facilitate the exchange of best practices on climate resilience through global, regional and local networks.

Accelerating adaptation implementation and scaling of climate resilient solutions

- Create a timely and innovative financing mechanism and technical assistance to support youth-focused projects that build resilience and adaptive capacity among marginalized communities;
- Provide technical assistance to support young people, especially those in the most vulnerable communities, in developing, prototyping and implementing adaptation solutions;
- Ensure equitable participation of youth in international, national and local climate policy in a way that is mutually supportive of new and existing climate youth networks;
- Engage a broad range of stakeholders, including youth organizations and networks, governments, the private sector, academia, the media, IGOs, NGOs, community-based organizations and other international organizations in order to support the Global Youth Call to Action on Adaptation.

Expanding economic opportunities for youth, adaptation jobs and youth-led businesses

- Support and develop youth-led green and climate resilient businesses by fostering youth entrepreneurial skills development, training, mentorship, financing and networking opportunities;
- Boost job creation for youth through paid internships, new job streams in adaptation and partnerships with the private sector;
- Establish and support regional incubators and accelerator programs to promote innovative adaptation solutions across different sectors.



Strengthen youth leadership of girls, young women, indigenous youth, young farmers and the most vulnerable youth

- Ensure the full and effective participation of women and girls in opportunities for adaptation leadership, including local dialogues, decision-making processes and professional trainings;
- Foster the active engagement of indigenous youth, young farmers and vulnerable youth in adaptation solutions;
- Increase the engagement capacity of policy-makers to ensure that they are able to equally engage and empower young people with special needs, those living in last-mile communities, climate migrants and refugees who are currently not represented enough in policy dialogues.

Our Commitment

To work together with existing youth networks to build upon their efforts, and liaise with the Global Center on Adaptation and other stakeholders to enhance the timely stocktaking and implementation of this Global Youth Call to Action on Adaptation;

To act as changemakers to foster implementation of the SDGs, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and related international, regional and local frameworks that are essential to increasing the climate resilience and adaptive capacity of our communities;

To continue to work on climate change mitigation and strengthen our efforts on climate adaptation towards a resilient future for all.

This Call to Action has been developed with input and support from:





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