

2026 Adaptation Forum

Scaling adaptation action towards achieving the global goal on adaptation: partnerships, innovation and practical implementation solutions for climate resilience

Concept Note

Dates: 09–10 September 2026

Venue: Baku Convention Center, Baku, Azerbaijan

I. Introduction

1. The global adaptation agenda is entering a decisive phase. Following the establishment of the global goal on adaptation (GGA) and adoption of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, attention is increasingly turning to translating global commitments into practical and scalable action that strengthens adaptive capacity, reduces vulnerability and enhances resilience. Accelerating implementation at scale, innovation and collaboration is essential to respond to increasing climate risks.
2. The proposed theme, **“Scaling adaptation action towards achieving the global goal on adaptation: partnerships, innovation and practical implementation solutions for climate resilience”**, reflects this focus. The Forum will explore **emerging technologies and approaches for adaptation, practical solutions and opportunities for implementation, and partnerships that can help connect knowledge, capacities and resources with action on the ground**.
3. Bringing together Parties and stakeholders from across the adaptation community, the Forum will facilitate exchange of experience, highlight promising approaches and identify opportunities for collaboration. It will generate practical insights to inform the work of the AC and contribute to broader efforts to advance adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

II. Background

4. The AC has regularly convened Adaptation Forums since 2013 as a modality for promoting coherence, exchanging knowledge and experience, and strengthening adaptation action and support under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.
5. In its workplan for 2025–2027, the AC agreed to convene an Adaptation Forum in 2026, building on its work on the state of adaptation action by Parties, and to consider a concept note setting out the Forum’s theme, timeline and potential collaboration partners at its twenty-seventh meeting.
6. At its twenty-seventh meeting, the AC requested the secretariat to explore opportunities for collaboration with external partners and relevant constituted bodies, including those working on technology and innovation, in the preparation of the Forum.

III. Objectives

7. Adaptation Forums convened by the Adaptation Committee provide a strategic space for dialogue, knowledge exchange and collaboration among Parties and the wider adaptation community.

8. The 2026 Adaptation Forum aims to support progress towards achieving the global goal on adaptation by advancing adaptation implementation, promoting innovation and practical, scalable solutions, strengthening partnerships and collective action across the global adaptation community.

9. Specifically, the Forum will:

1. Accelerate adaptation implementation

Facilitate the exchange of practical experiences, emerging approaches and scalable solutions that can support Parties in implementing adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

2. Explore innovation and emerging approaches.

Highlight frontier technologies, tools and approaches, including AI, climate analytics and digital solutions, and consider their potential to strengthen climate risk management, adaptive capacity and resilience.

3. Strengthen partnerships and collective action

Bring together Parties, constituted bodies and relevant adaptation partners to promote peer learning, connect expertise and resources, and identify opportunities for collaboration and coordinated action.

4. Inform future adaptation priorities

Identify emerging implementation challenges, knowledge and capacity needs, and opportunities that can inform the future work of the AC and contribute to efforts to advance adaptation towards achieving the GGA.

IV. Programme design

10. The 2026 Adaptation Forum will form part of the **Implementation Forum of Climate Week 4**, providing a dedicated space for strategic dialogue, peer learning and collaboration on advancing implementation towards the GGA. Its 1.5-day programme follows a progression from the current state of adaptation action and practical solutions, through partnerships and emerging approaches, to future pathways and strategic priorities. Building on the strategic direction and expected outcomes agreed by the AC at its twenty-ninth meeting, the programme is designed to move from a shared understanding of the state of adaptation implementation to practical solutions and partnerships, emerging priorities and forward-looking recommendations.

11. The programme comprises four interconnected parts: (1) opening and scene-setting, establishing a common evidence base and strategic context; (2) solutions and partnerships, facilitating structured peer exchange on practical adaptation approaches, implementation experience, enabling conditions and opportunities for collaboration; (3) future pathways and emerging frontiers, exploring evolving risks, technologies and approaches; and (4) strategic dialogue and closing, synthesizing key insights, emerging priorities and forward-looking recommendations to inform the future work of the Adaptation Committee.

Day 1 – Scaling adaptation action

<i>Timing</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Illustrative issues</i>	<i>Expected outcome</i>
PART 1				
Wednesday 9 September				
09:30–11:00	Session 1. Opening Session and scene-setting panel: From the state of adaptation to accelerated implementation	Set the strategic context for the Forum, establish a common evidence base through the State of Adaptation (SoA) Portal and synthesis report, and frame discussions around scaling implementation towards achieving the global goal on adaptation and implementing the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.	• Welcome remarks • Evidence snapshot: key insights from the State of Adaptation Portal and synthesis report, including a brief demonstration • State of global adaptation implementation • National leadership • Implementation priorities • Global cooperation	Shared understanding of the global adaptation landscape, strategic priorities for accelerating implementation, and common evidence base for all subsequent discussions.
PART 2				
15:00–16:30	Session 2. Marketplace of solutions: peer exchange on scaling adaptation implementation	Facilitate structured peer exchange on practical adaptation approaches and solutions, focusing on implementation experience, enabling conditions, barriers to scaling and opportunities for replication and collaboration across different contexts.	• Parallel exchanges hosted by regional and thematic actors • Peer learning on scalable adaptation solutions • Practical implementation tools • Case studies • Solution demonstrations • Knowledge and experience sharing	Practical insights on scalable adaptation solutions, enabling conditions and implementation challenges, together with opportunities for replication, peer learning and collaboration across contexts.
16:30–18:00	Session 3. Partnering for progress	Explore how collaboration among Parties, constituted bodies, regional organizations and partners can accelerate adaptation implementation, strengthen collective action and enhance support for achieving the GGA.	• Institutional collaboration among constituted bodies and partners • Strengthen collective action through regional and global platforms supporting adaptation. • Identify and address key gaps, challenges and capacity needs that constrain effective adaptation implementation while highlighting opportunities to	Concrete opportunities for strengthened collaboration, across the adaptation architecture, and partnerships that support implementation at scale.

<i>Timing</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Illustrative issues</i>	<i>Expected outcome</i>
			strengthen support and accelerate actions towards achieving the GGA. • Strengthen partnerships to enhance access to finance, advance technology, build capacity and facilitate knowledge sharing for adaptation action	

Day 2 – Scaling adaptation action

<i>Timing</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Illustrative Issues</i>	<i>Expected Outcome</i>
PART 3				
Thursday 10 September				
09:30–13:00	Session 4. Future pathways for adaptation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, and emerging frontiers for adaptation	Explore future adaptation priorities, emerging risks, technologies and long-term pathways that can inform the next generation of adaptation action and the future work of the Adaptation Committee.	• What does a future-ready adaptation system look like in the context of the global goal on adaptation? • Ensuring adequate adaptation responses in the context of the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement • Embedding national adaptation planning into long-term development pathways • Lessons from national and regional long-term adaptation strategies • Climate risks and impacts • Long-term adaptation pathways and anticipatory action • Emerging tools including foresight, scenario planning, climate intelligence, AI and digital innovation.	Strategic insights on emerging adaptation priorities, innovation frontiers and future pathways to inform the future work of the Adaptation Committee and broader adaptation efforts under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.
PART 4				

<i>Timing</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Illustrative Issues</i>	<i>Expected Outcome</i>
14:00–16:00	Session 5. Strategic dialogue: advancing global adaptation efforts and closing session	Synthesize the Forum's key insights and forward-looking recommendations and identify their relevance for adaptation implementation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, including implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience and the Baku Adaptation Roadmap, strengthened collaboration across the adaptation community, and the future work of the Adaptation Committee.	• Key insights relevant to implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience • Emerging priorities related to adequate adaptation responses in the context of the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement and the Baku Adaptation Roadmap • Opportunities for strengthened collaboration among Parties, constituted bodies, organizations and networks supporting adaptation implementation • Knowledge gaps, emerging needs and opportunities for innovation • Insights relevant to the future work of the AC, the global stocktake and other relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement	Key insights and forward-looking recommendations relevant to implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience and the Baku Adaptation Roadmap, strengthened collaboration across the adaptation community, future work of the Adaptation Committee and other relevant processes under the Convention and the Paris Agreement.