



# UN 4NAPs

**UN4NAPs** - Mobilizing technical assistance from across the UN system to advance National Adaptation Plans

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# UN4NAPs

UN4NAPs is a UN-wide rapid technical backstopping initiative for National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), launched in August 2021 by the UNFCCC secretariat, in response to mandates for engaging international organizations in support of climate change adaptation.

It offers a platform for countries, initially for Least Development Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), to communicate their needs for technical assistance on an ongoing basis.

The partnership enables the UN-wide system of organizations and other intergovernmental organizations to respond to technical requests identified by any country that is in the process of formulating or implementing its NAP.

Upon receipt of requests for technical assistance, the UNFCCC secretariat immediately communicates with relevant partners from a roster of more than 50 UN and intergovernmental organizations for a prompt response.

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## CATEGORIES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:



Simple technical queries which can be answered by relevant agencies via email;



Delivery of specific data/knowledge products (such as datasets, analytical tools, guidance material);



Longer-term capacity development/engagement with the requesting country;



Review of draft NAPs upon request by a country, based on agencies' area of expertise, with a view to enhance the coverage of issues to facilitate subsequent implementation.



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## CURRENT PARTICIPATING UN AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Adaptation Fund	IOM	UNESCAP
ADB	IPCC	UNESCO and UNESCO/IOC
ADPC	IRENA	UNESCWA
AfDB	ITU	UNFPA
CBD	OACPS	UN-Habitat
CGIAR	SPREP	UNHCR
Commonwealth Secretariat	UN OCHA	UNICEF
CTCN	UN Women	UNIDO
EIB	UN OHCHR	UNITAR
FAO	UNCCD	UN-OHRLLS
GCF	UNCDF	UNOOSA
GEF	UNDP	UNU
GWP	UNDRR	WFP
ICIMOD	UNECA	WHO
IFAD	UNECE	WIPO
IFRC	UNECLAC	WMO
ILO	UNEP	WTO

For profiles of the UN4NAPs partner organizations, with more details about their respective areas of expertise and the types of technical assistance they offer, see:

<https://unfccc.int/documents/522859>



# Thematic expertise of UN4NAPs partner organizations



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The thematic expertise of UN4NAPs partner organizations related to climate change adaptation ranges across a wide spectrum, as illustrated below. For each of the following thematic areas, a number of UN4NAPs partner organizations stand ready to support countries: Early warning and disaster management; agriculture,

food security and food systems; water resources; gender; ecosystems, biodiversity, and conservation; coastal zones and oceans; infrastructure; land management; forestry; human settlements and living spaces; health services; economic planning; tourism; transport; cultural heritage.



## TYPES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OFFERED BY THE UN4NAPS PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Based on the abovementioned wide range of areas of thematic expertise, UN4NAPs partner organizations offer different types of technical assistance opportunities to countries, including:

- Research and systematic observations in support of risk-informed adaptation planning.
- Analyzing past and future climate change scenarios;
- Applying best available science in practice of assessment, planning and implementation of adaptation;
- Assessing climate risk and vulnerability at appropriate levels and in different sectors;
- Enabling activities for initiating/launching the NAP formulation (formulating a mandate; stocktaking process);
- Support in engaging multiple stakeholders incl. indigenous peoples, women, youth, and the private sector;
- Integration of adaptation into development plans at the national, subnational or local level;
- Capacity building and strengthening in submitting proposals to the GCF Readiness Programme;
- Support in applying frontier technologies to advance adaptation assessment, planning & implementation
- Developing/strengthening adaptation impact monitoring, evaluation and learning systems.

# Requests for technical assistance submitted by countries to UN4NAPs



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As of December 2023, more than 25 countries had submitted a total of more than 120 requests for technical assistance to the UN4NAPs initiative. The requests have been shared with relevant partner organizations for their rapid reply. Participating organizations have been responding promptly, sharing resources, and offering additional guidance and technical support, often engaging in more in-depth conversations with country representatives facilitated by the UNFCCC secretariat.

Such conversations have helped to refine the technical assistance and to connect relevant actors within the country.

Organizations often inform and mobilize their regional or country offices and identify key experts within their organizations to provide the best possible and tailored technical assistance to the countries' requests.



## TRENDS IN REQUESTS BY COUNTRIES

A common request from the countries has been to provide technical assistance to their efforts of accessing climate finance – both in terms of speed to gain approval on projects, and to attract a diversity of GCF delivery partners in preparing and submitting proposals for implementation of adaptation projects. Many countries have furthermore emphasized the need to strengthen in-country capacity, and a stronger engagement of national actors and experts, rather than relying on international experts.

Further common requests for technical assistance from countries have been centered around:

- Conducting vulnerability assessments;
- Identifying business cases and bankable projects for different sectors, based on the NAP;
- Reviewing different national policies and adaptation strategies;
- Strengthening capacities in climate observation and modeling and access to climate scenarios;
- Improving knowledge in biodiversity assessments and conservation measures for biodiversity, water and soil;
- Strengthening resilience of livestock and crops;
- Developing nature-based solution strategies;
- Strengthening monitoring and evaluation as well as information management systems.



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## EXAMPLES FOR THE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE DELIVERED THROUGH UN4NAPS

The below shows some examples of requests for technical assistance from countries and the responses they received. Many countries submit several requests at once. For each request, countries tend to receive responses by several organizations within a few weeks.



A country requested case studies on nature-based solutions for climate adaptation. Within two weeks, the country had received relevant case studies, guidelines, and fact sheets from four different UN4NAPS partner organizations.

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A country requested technical assistance to strengthen the web-based monitoring and evaluation system for adaptation and NDC implementation from a local to national stakeholder perspective. Within a few weeks, four different organizations had reacted, (i) providing general guidance, (ii) offering to co-design a monitoring and evaluation system with the ministry with a focus on agriculture, (iii) offering to prepare the system design, and (iv) offering support through colleagues in the regional office.

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A country had requested support in designing and preparing bankable adaptation projects to enhance food security by improving agricultural productivity in a climate-smart manner. In the follow up, UN4NAPS facilitated conversations between country counterparts and a relevant partner organization. This resulted in a) support in the project and proposal design process by the partner organization, b) a stronger coordination between different ministries for this work and c) the UN4NAPS request informed the ongoing work and strategy of the partner organization in the country.

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Based on a request to support national efforts on research and systematic observation for adaptation assessments, planning and implementation, a series of virtual and in-person meetings led to the establishment of a workshop in the region by the partner organization to strengthen national capacities.

# UN4NAPs engagement and outreach activities

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Since its launch in August 2021, UN4NAPs has been creating spaces for engagement between country representatives and representatives of participating organizations. In addition to numerous meetings in virtual and hybrid formats, spaces for in-person exchange were offered in UN4NAPs Forum sessions, side events, and bilateral meetings, inter alia, during COP 26 in Glasgow, and COP 27 in Sharm el Sheikh, during the 56th and 58th sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies in Bonn, and during the UN4NAPs Forum at the Botswana Global Adaptation Week (2022), the Chile Global Adaptation Week (2023), the Africa Climate Week (2023) and the Korea Global Adaptation Week (2023).

For more information about the different events, see: <https://unfccc.int/UN4NAPs>.

## NOVEMBER 2021: COP 26

During COP 26, meetings were held with Benin, Bhutan, Chad, Comoros, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Madagascar, Mali, Nepal, Saint Lucia, Tanzania, Vanuatu, and Zambia. Most of these were held in

person, some virtually or in hybrid format. These exchanges, and follow-up conversations encouraged a number of countries to submit requests for technical support.

## JUNE 2022: UN4NAPS AT SB 56

### (i) UN4NAPs side event:

During the 56th sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB 56), the side event 'UN4NAPs: Supporting LDCs and SIDS advance the formulation and implementation of National Adaptation Plans' took place. It was moderated by the UNFCCC secretariat. The event aimed at providing a space for countries to share challenges, and for UN4NAPs organizations to react and share insights on possible opportunities for technical assistance.

It was composed of two panels, in which country representatives shared

challenges regarding (i) NAP formulation – with representatives from Vanuatu and Uganda and (ii) NAP implementation – with representatives from Timor-Leste and Chad. The panels were followed by questions and answers sessions, with active contributions by several UN4NAPs partner organizations, including UNDRR, UNCDF, the Adaptation Fund, UNU and IFAD, as well as some country representatives and organizations from outside of the UN4NAPs initiative. Conversations during and in the follow-up to the event have led to the submission of requests for technical assistance by countries.





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## (ii) WMO briefing on climate information and early warning systems

Additionally, during a briefing organized through UN4NAPs, WMO representatives presented possible opportunities for technical assistance on climate information and early warning systems. The meeting was initiated as a follow-up to conversations between Zambia and WMO based on a request for technical assistance on research and systematic observations in support of adaptation assessment, planning and implementation. It was attended by representatives from a number of countries, including from Zambia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Guinea, Chad, and Madagascar. WMO representatives shared information on assistance to prepare the climate science basis for GCF-funded

activities, including guidance material, the climate information platform and tailored software and country examples, as well as capacity strengthening opportunities, tailored to regional needs. The first such regional workshop, jointly organized by WMO and the GCF, took place in September 2022 in South Africa, addressing Zambia, Malawi, and South Africa.

## (iii) Bilateral meeting with IFRC

In addition, based on previous conversations, a meeting was facilitated between representatives from Haiti and the IFRC, to explore possible opportunities for technical assistance, with a focus on risk communication programmes for local communities, as well as support in establishing planned relocation programmes.

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## **AUGUST 2022: UN4NAPS FORUM DURING THE BOTSWANA GLOBAL ADAPTATION WEEK**

The first UN4NAPs Forum took place during the Botswana Global Adaptation Week, held in Gaborone, Botswana, from 22 to 26 August 2022.

The Forum was comprised of three hazard-based sessions and several bilateral meetings with countries and UN4NAPs partner organizations around countries' needs for technical assistance and possible opportunities. Through the three hazard-based sessions, the countries communicated challenges and technical needs around NAP formulation and implementation.

The first session focused on land degradation, drought, and desertification, with presentations by Mali, Chad, and the Comoros. Needs for technical assistance highlighted by the countries related to the planning and implementation of measures to halt erosion and reduce the degradation, including afforestation, land restoration, reducing risks of wildfires and increasing the share of protected areas. Several UN4NAPs partner organizations provided inputs on possible opportunities for technical assistance, including UNCCD, UNDRR and UN Habitat.

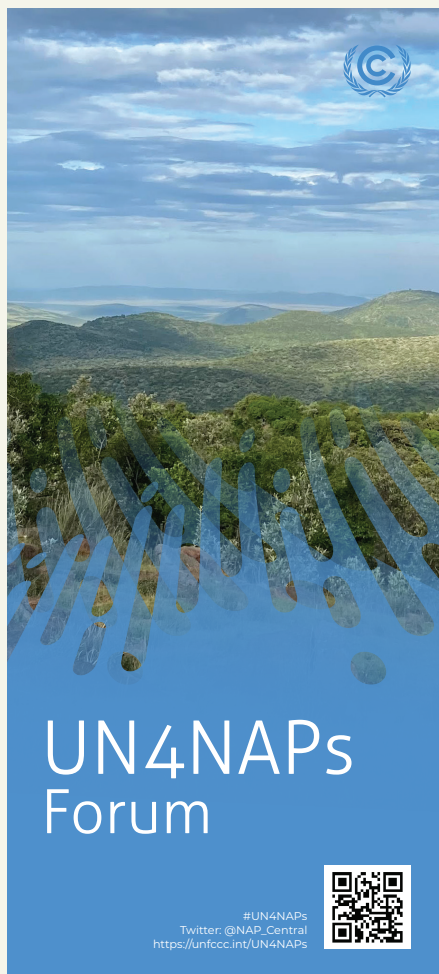


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The second session focused on sea level rise, coastal erosion and storm surges, with presentations by Senegal, Fiji and Saint Lucia, during which countries stressed that in addition to sea level rise, human activities such as deforestation, and extraction of sand have been leading to a deterioration of the situation, which countries attempt to address through different measures, including planned relocation and reforestation.

The third session of the UN4NAPs Forum focused on floods, with presentations by Bangladesh, Uganda, South Sudan, and Burkina Faso, highlighting key factors such as changes in precipitation patterns and rapid urbanization, with impacts on a range of sectors, including agriculture, energy, and health. Some key existing and emerging needs for technical assistance highlighted by countries across the different hazards, included the establishment or enhancement of early warning systems and improved risk communication; improved data collection; vulnerability assessments; improved infrastructure; insurance and support for relocation systems; impact assessments and measurements regarding ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as strengthening institutional capacities and support in developing funding proposals and accessing funding.

In addition to the three sessions, a number of bilateral meetings were



held with countries and UN4NAPs partner organizations, including with the Adaptation Fund, the GEF, the GCF, UNEP, UNDRR and UNCCD. Additional interactions took place with IOM, UN Habitat, UNCDF and UNDP.

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**NOVEMBER 2023:  
OVER THE YEAR 2023,  
NUMEROUS OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR EXCHANGE AND  
ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN  
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES  
AND UN4NAPS PARTNER  
ORGANIZATIONS WERE  
CREATED AND FACILITATED.**

In March, during the Global Adaptation Week in Chile, the [second UN4NAPs Forum](#) was held, with five thematic sessions addressing the technical assistance needs of countries. In addition, numerous bilateral meetings helped to facilitate interaction and collaboration between UN4NAPs partner organizations and countries.

Additional discussions unfolded at the NAP Implementation Workshop in Manama, Bahrain, featuring dynamic exchanges between UN4NAPs partner organizations and participating countries. Subsequent engagements transpired at SB 58 in June in Bonn, Germany, marked by [two UN4NAPs side events](#) and the orchestration of numerous bilateral meetings. Noteworthy interactions ensued at the [Regional UN4NAPs Forum for Asia and the Pacific](#) in Songdo, Republic of Korea, in August, characterized by four thematic sessions and the facilitation of bilateral meetings. Engagements

continued with African countries during a side event and bilateral discussions at the Africa Climate Week in Nairobi, Kenya. This proactive involvement extended to COP 28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, featuring additional side events and bilateral meetings to advance countries' efforts around the formulation and implementation of NAPs.

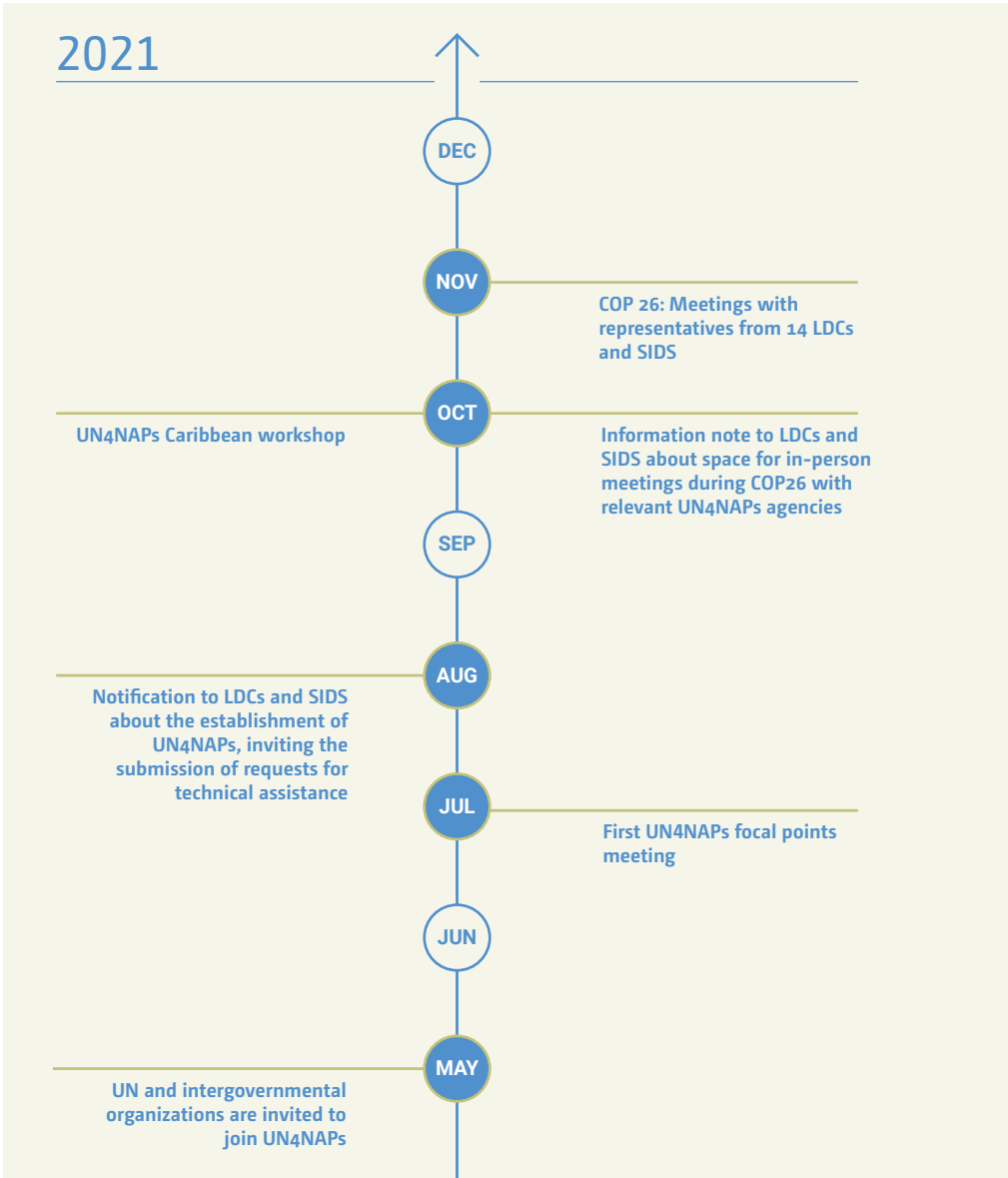
The below timeline illustrates engagement and outreach activities undertaken through the UN4NAPs initiative.



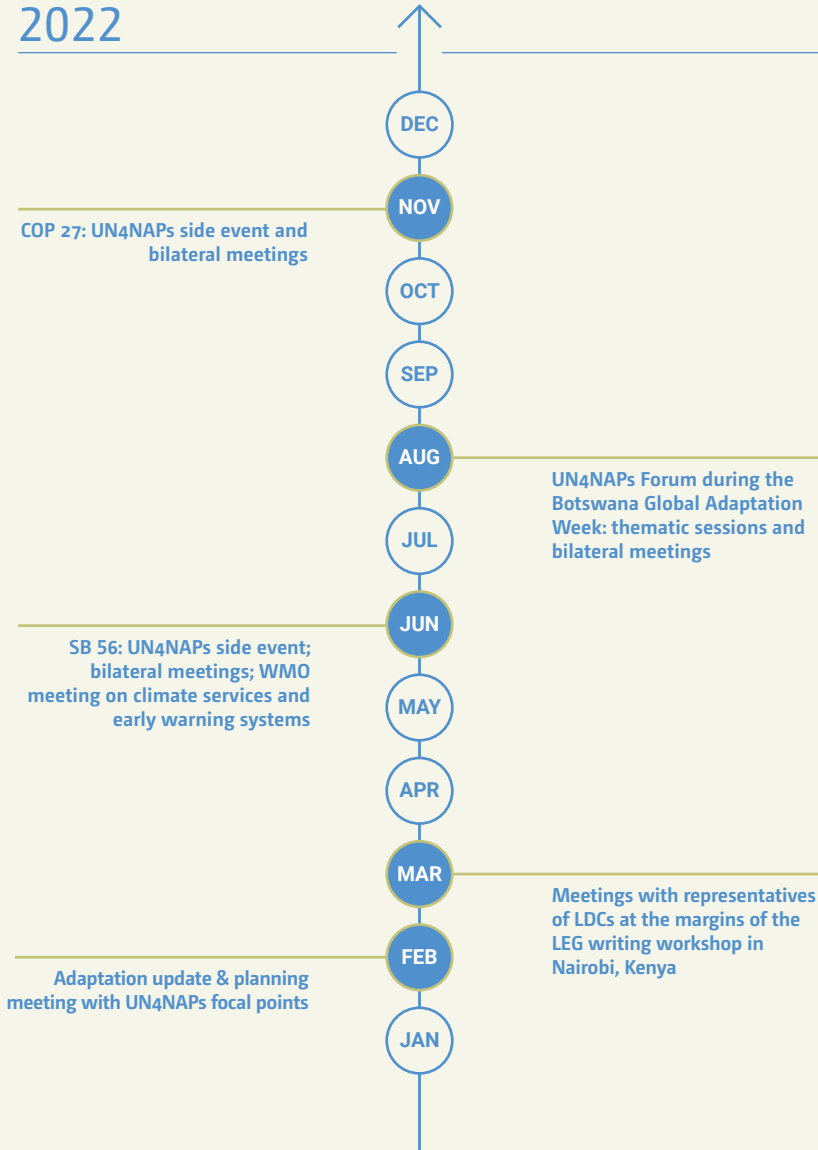


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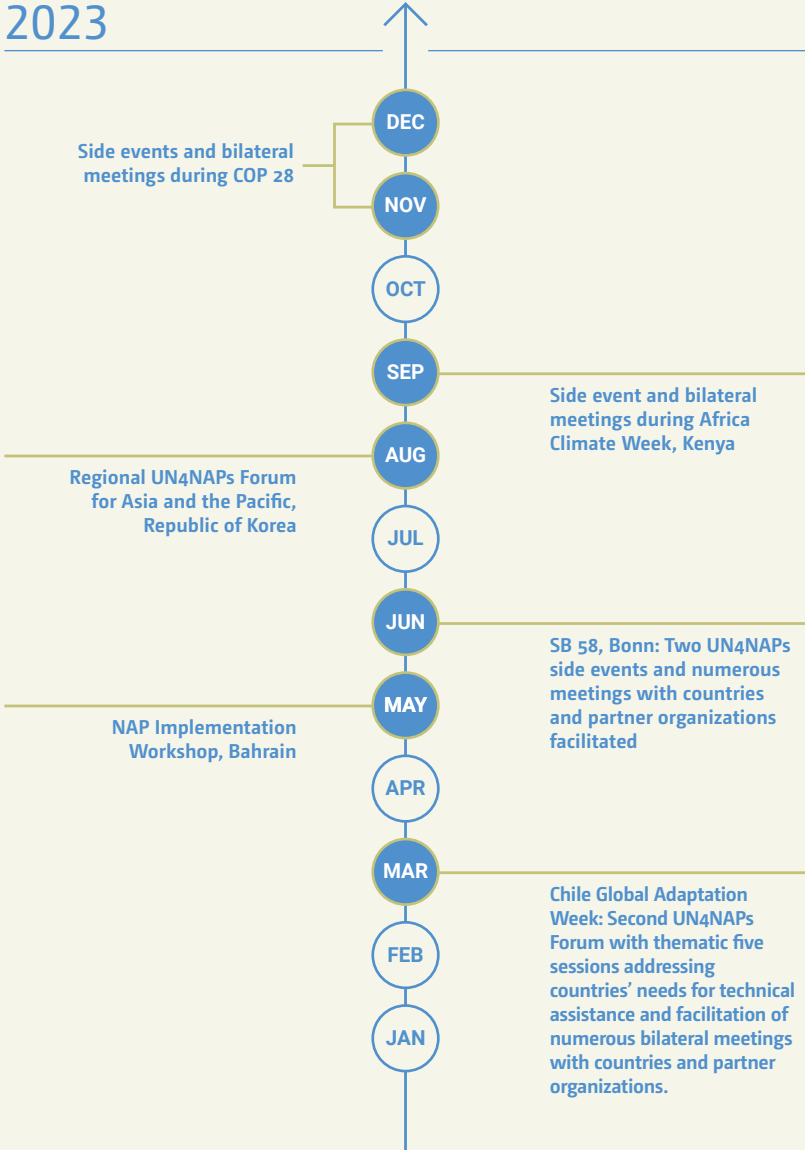
# UN4NAPs timeline



2022



# 2023





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## HOW TO SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Country representatives are invited to, in coordination with their UNFCCC national focal point, submit any technical queries or requests for technical assistance in relation to NAP formulation or implementation, on an ongoing basis, to [un4naps@unfccc.int](mailto:un4naps@unfccc.int).

The queries and requests will be disseminated to those organizations that are relevant to the thematic area in question for prompt response.

### Contact for questions and requests:

[UN4NAPs@unfccc.int](mailto:UN4NAPs@unfccc.int)

### Contacts in the UNFCCC secretariat:

Mr. Paul Desanker - [pdesanker@unfccc.int](mailto:pdesanker@unfccc.int)

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