

State of Adaptation Action by Parties

Information note on the draft 2026 synthesis report

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 30th meeting, will be invited to consider the information and next steps contained in this note and provide further guidance to the secretariat, as appropriate.

I. Background

1. In 2024, the AC launched its interactive portal on the State of Adaptation Action by Parties, containing validated country profiles of all 198 Parties to the UNFCCC.¹ The profiles are organized around the elements of the iterative adaptation cycle and adaptation themes and the information is based on the Parties' submitted national reports and communications, including biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications.
2. At its 26th meeting, the AC noted the utility, value and user-friendliness of the interactive portal, as well as the applicability of the information to multiple mandates and workstreams. It further discussed the value of developing regular synthesis reports on the State of Adaptation based on the information contained in the country profiles. It agreed to consider options for such reports at AC 27.
3. At AC 27, the AC considered the concept note for regular synthesis reports, including proposals on how to ensure synergy and coherence with other efforts to synthesize global adaptation progress, and engaged in discussions on the outline and periodicity of the synthesis reports. It discussed to include in the reports actions by Parties that are relevant in the context of the UAE Framework targets and to ensure that the reports focus on synthesizing information and not be too broad in scope. It recognized the following added value of the regular reports:
4. Positioning the AC as the principal body for adaptation which includes maintaining the principal database on adaptation action and providing information to all relevant stakeholders;
 - (a) Contributing to identifying further required action and support;
 - (b) Informing the organization of the Adaptation Forums;
 - (c) Serving as important communication tools, which should include visual elements like graphics;
 - (d) Informing about Parties' reporting practices and serving as an input to the mandate to the AC, in collaboration with the LEG and the CGE, on providing recommendations on improving adaptation reporting;
 - (e) Facilitating national decision-making.

¹ Available at https://unfccc.int/adaptation_country_portal.

(f) The AC agreed to publish the first report by the end of 2026.

5. At AC 28, the AC requested the secretariat to inform the AC, at AC 29, of the status of updates to each country profile and to prepare a concept note for the first synthesis report, including a draft annotated outline and a proposed cut-off date for defining the database that will inform the report.

6. AC 29 considered the concept note, including the annotated outline, and agreed on the cut-off date for the first synthesis report to be 31 May 2026 by which date the country portal was planned to be fully updated.

7. The AC agreed that the synthesis report will cover all adaptation actions undertaken by Parties, and the support provided and received, as available on the portal. It considered that all future reports could consist of a static part (snapshot of the state of adaptation action by Parties) and a flexible part which could use the information from the portal to respond to a particular mandate or to deep dive into a selected adaptation theme. It further considered that the flexible part of the 2026 report could provide information in response to decision 12/CMA.7, paragraph 15, which “invites the AC to analyse the information on the thematic and dimensional targets referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 respectively of decision 2/CMA.5, including on means of implementation, contained in biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications through the lens of the thematic and dimensional targets of the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience with a view to assessing progress under the global goal on adaptation and future global stocktakes”.

8. The AC requested the secretariat to prepare a first draft of the 2026 State of Adaptation Action (SoA) synthesis report, taking into account inputs received at AC 29, for intersessional consideration by the established working group and the final draft for consideration at AC 30. It further agreed to consider, at the same meeting, whether to adopt the report as an input to the technical assessment component of GST II.

I. Progress since AC 29

9. As agreed at AC 29 all country profiles available on the SoA portal have been fully updated with the information from national reports and communications submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat until 31 May 2026. This has provided the database for developing the static part of the 2026 synthesis report.

10. On 30 July 2026, the working group established on this item held an intersessional call during which it considered and approved the first draft of the 2026 synthesis report. It requested the secretariat to take into account the following inputs for the finalization of the report:

- (a) Ensuring that the report focuses exclusively on adaptation-related information;
- (b) Taking into account adequate regional balance when selecting country case studies;
- (c) Maintaining the approach of factually synthesizing the information without including conclusive or more analytical elements;
- (d) Continuing focusing on graphical and visual representation of the information with limited inclusion of textual elements.

11. Working group members agreed to consider the final draft of the report at AC30, with the aim of publishing a professionally designed document ahead of COP 31. They further recommended exploring the option of preparing an AC-approved preview or teaser of the report for presentation during the 2026 Adaptation Forum, leveraging the expected level of in-person and virtual attendance.

12. A preview of the report was prepared and shared with the AC for approval prior to the 2026 Adaptation Forum which was held from 9-10 September 2026. The approved preview was subsequently presented during the opening and scene-setting session of the Adaptation Forum.²

² Further information on the opening session of the Adaptation Forum, including the preview presentation of the 2026 SoA synthesis report, is available at <https://unfccc.int/event/2026-ac-adapt-forum>.

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13. The final draft of the 2026 SoA synthesis report is available in document AC30/SYR/9A.
14. While updating the country profiles with information from the latest submitted reports and communications, the secretariat collected information relevant in the context of the mandate contained in decision 12/CMA.7, paragraph 15. However, it considers that an adequate response to the mandate would require a more comprehensive analysis of the information submitted by Parties.
15. The initial findings of the information collection are included in the annex to this note.

II. Next steps

16. At AC 30, the AC may consider the following next steps in finalizing the 2026 SoA synthesis report and provide further guidance to the secretariat, as appropriate:
- (a) Adopt the 2026 SoA synthesis report as contained in document AC30/SYR/9A or provide further guidance to the secretariat for its finalization;
 - (b) Request the secretariat to publish a professionally designed version of the final report ahead of COP 31;
 - (c) Consider whether to adopt the report, updated as appropriate, as one of the AC's input to the technical assessment component of the second global stocktake (GST II);³
 - (d) Request the secretariat to maintain the SoA portal, including by regularly updating each country profile on the basis of newly submitted reports and communications;
 - (e) Consider the timing and overall scope of the next SoA synthesis report and request the secretariat to prepare a concept note for consideration by the AC at AC 31 [AC 32];
 - (f) Request the secretariat to continue the analysis included in the annex to this note, taking into account inputs received at AC 30, and share the further progress for the AC's consideration at AC 31.

³ Note that this consideration is linked to AC 30 agenda item 9b "Information collection and preparation for the second global stocktake".

Annex 1

Initial analysis of the information contained in biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications in response to decision 12/CMA.7, paragraph 15 and possible next steps

I. Introduction

1. Decision 12/CMA.7, paragraph 15, invites the AC to analyse the information on the thematic and dimensional targets referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 respectively of decision 2/CMA.5, including on means of implementation, contained in biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications through the lens of the thematic and dimensional targets of the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience with a view to assessing progress under the global goal on adaptation and future global stocktakes.
2. At AC 29, the AC considered that the flexible part of the 2026 SoA report could constitute a first step in responding to the mandate and focus on a predominantly qualitative description of the information shared by Parties relevant to the thematic and dimensional targets of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience, including on means of implementation. It discussed that the analysis would not assess the progress itself, but describe the focus and scope of Parties' reporting. It would thus at the same time deliver valuable findings in the context of the mandate to the AC, in collaboration with the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE) and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), to develop recommendations on how to improve reporting on adaptation action and progress as contained in decision 2/CMA.5, para 45.

II. Approach

3. While updating the country profiles on the SoA portal, information from Parties has been collected on the thematic and dimensional targets referred to in paragraphs 9 and 10 respectively of decision 2/CMA.5, including on means of implementation, as shared through biennial transparency reports, adaptation communications, national adaptation plans, nationally determined contributions and national communications.
4. The information has been collected according to the following categories:
 - (a) Submitting Party (Party/region/developed or developing)
 - (b) Type of information provided
 - (i) Does the information reference the GGA, the UAE Framework or both?
 - (ii) Does it
 - a. Provide a general reference, i.e. a general mention of the GGA or UAE Framework without linking it to a specific national policy, strategy, activity, target or sub-target;
 - b. Link a specific policy or strategy to the overall Framework, i.e. the reporting explicitly links a national adaptation policy, strategy, plan or broader adaptation approach to the GGA or UAE Framework, without identifying a specific target or sub-target;
 - c. Provide target-specific information, i.e. the reporting explicitly links an adaptation action, measure, priority or other information to a specific thematic or dimensional target under the UAE Framework; or
 - d. Provide sub-target-specific information, i.e. the reporting makes a more specific connection between an adaptation action, measure, priority or other information and a particular sub-target or element within a target.

- Is the information activity- or outcome-related or both?
- Is it quantitative or qualitative or both?
- Does the information relate to past, current or planned activities or a mix?
- Is a specific timeframe provided for the described activities?
- e. Reporting instrument (instrument/number/section)
- f. Textual example

5. In the course of updating the country profiles, 23 Parties were identified as having referenced the GGA or the UAE Framework explicitly in their national reports or communications (in some cases Parties have included such information in more than one reporting instrument). This provides the database from which the initial findings, as outlined in the next section, have been derived. It is important to note, however, that a more comprehensive screening of all the reporting instruments will be required to complete this first step in responding to the mandate.

III. Initial findings

6. Parties have reported information that relate explicitly to the GGA or the UAE Framework mainly through their biennial transparency reports (BTRs) (11 observations) and nationally determined contributions (NDCs) (10 observations), followed by national adaptation plans (NAPs) (2 observations) and national communications (NCs) (1 observation) (see figure 1).

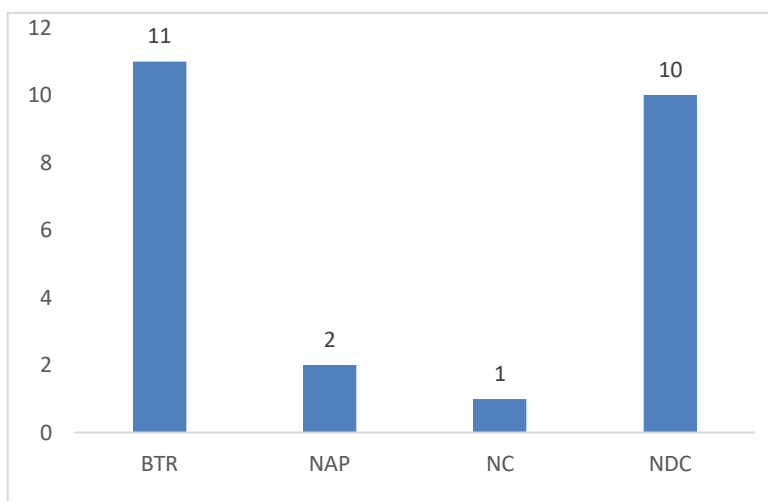


Figure 1

Figure 1. Types of reporting instruments through which Parties have shared information explicitly in the context of the GGA or the UAE Framework

7. The initial analysis suggests that references to the GGA currently remain more common (11 observations) than explicit references to the UAE Framework (5 observations), although a number of Parties is already referring to both (7 observations) (see figure 2).

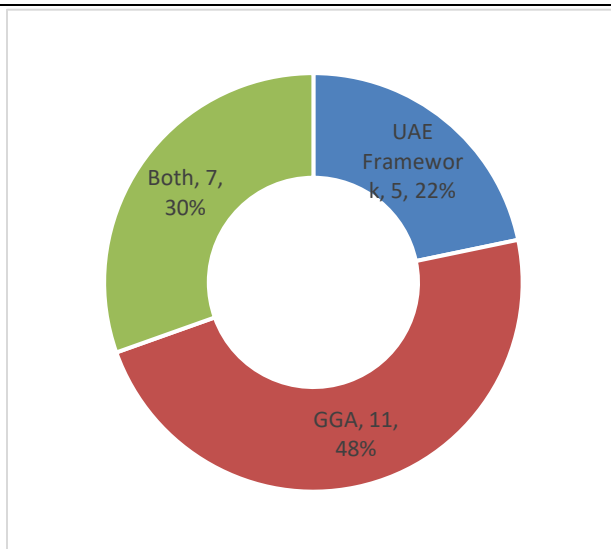


Figure 2

Number and percentage of Parties referencing either the GGA, the UAE Framework or both in their reporting instruments

8. The identified reporting is concentrated in general references (9 observations) and linkages between national policies and strategies to the overall framework (10 observations), while in 7 instances Parties report target-specific information and in only one case a Party has reported sub-target-specific information (see figures 3).

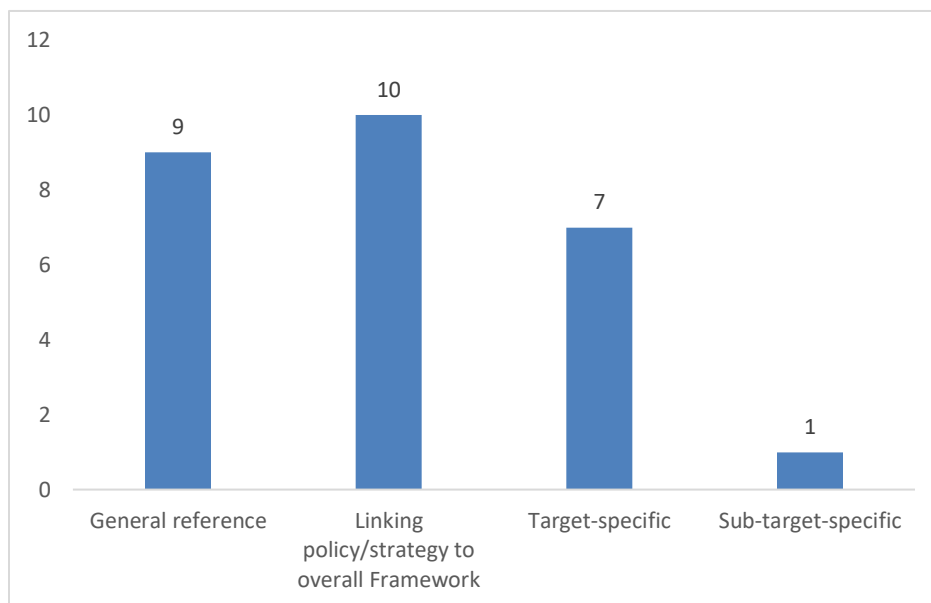


Figure 3

Number of observations by type of reporting on the UAE Framework and/or targets

9. The information identified is predominantly activity-related, with 20 reporting observations referring to activities, actions or measures. Only 2 observations contain information relating to both activities and outcomes, while no observations were identified as reporting exclusively on outcomes. This indicates that reporting on the UAE Framework and GGA targets currently focuses primarily on describing what is being done, with limited reporting on the results or outcomes associated with these actions (see figure 4).

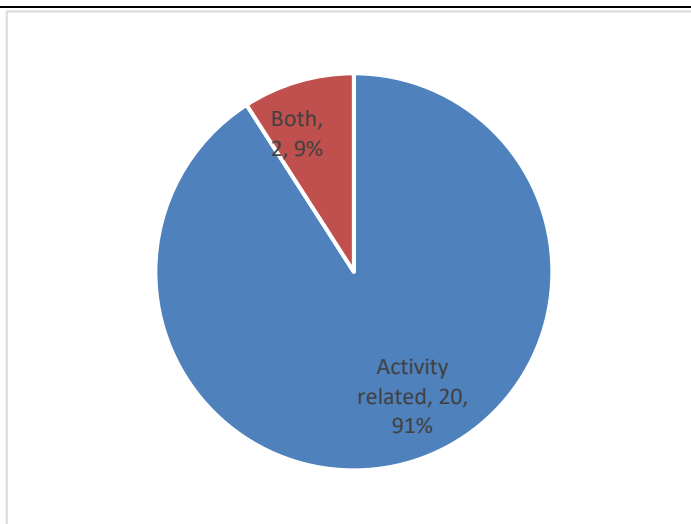


Figure 4

Number and percentage of reporting by type of information (activity-related, outcome-related or both)

10. The reporting currently relies mainly on descriptive information with most information provided being qualitative (19 observations), some information combining qualitative and quantitative elements (3 observations), and no information including exclusively quantitative elements (see figure 5).

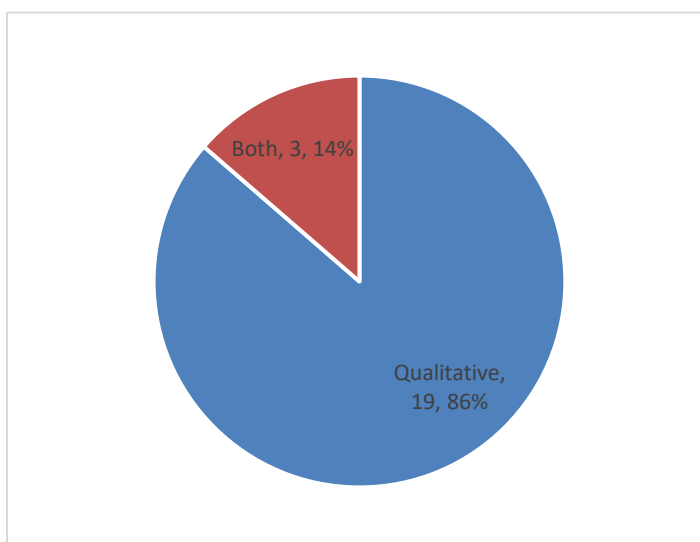


Figure 5

Number and percentage of reporting by type of information (qualitative, quantitative, or both)

11. Regarding the timing of the described activities, the information relates predominantly to planned activities (13 observations). A further 4 observations include a mix of planned, current and/or past activities, while 3 observations relate to past activities and only one to activities currently underway (see figure 6).

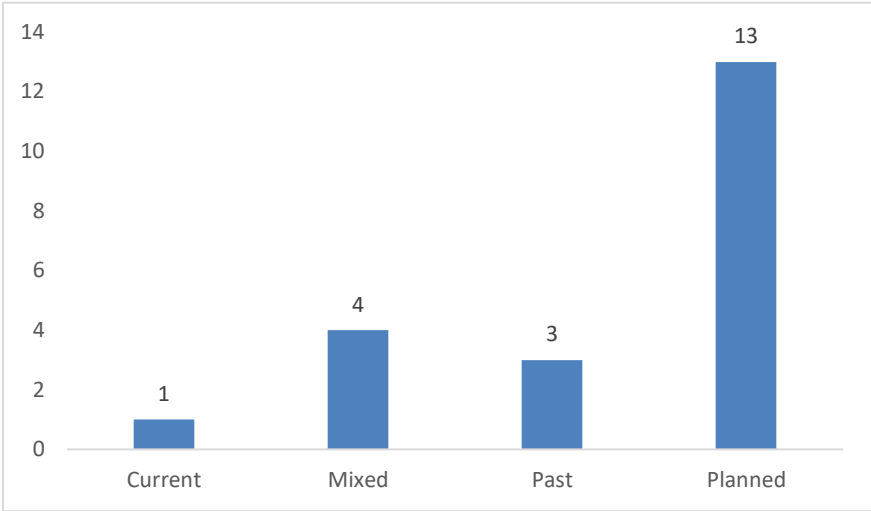


Figure 6
Number and percentage of reporting by type of information (past, current, planned or a mix)

III. Next steps

12. With a view to completing the first step in responding to the mandate contained in decision 12/CMA.5, para 7, the AC may wish to request the secretariat to:
- (a) Complete the initial analysis on the basis of a systematic review of all submitted national reports and communications;
 - (b) Include in the analysis information on which thematic or dimensional target the information is reported against, including on means of implementation;
 - (c) Include any other aspect in the analysis as deemed useful by the AC

Documentation information

Version	Date	Description
1.0	9 September 2026	AC30 This concept note including its next steps is for consideration by the AC.

Keywords: National adaptation plans, means of implementation, Adaptation, Resilience