



COP29
Baku
Azerbaijan



Baku High-Level Dialogue on Adaptation

18-19 November 2025 | 10:00 – 13:00 (GMT-3)
Meeting Room 19, Area D

Concept Note

Context and background

The Paris Agreement (2015) established the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability to climate change, with the aim of supporting sustainable development and ensuring an adequate response in line with the Agreement's temperature goal.

At CMA 5, Parties adopted the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience and launched the two-year UAE–Belém work programme on indicators, marking a new phase in advancing the GGA. The first Global Stocktake (GST) underscored that the world remains off track to meet the Paris goals, with adaptation still underfunded, under-implemented, and under-prioritized. Meanwhile, accelerating climate impacts are straining health, food systems, water security, biodiversity, infrastructure, and livelihoods, with global repercussions that heighten economic instability and inequality.

Recognizing this urgency, Parties at COP 29 adopted Decision 3/CMA.6, establishing the Baku High-Level Dialogue on Adaptation – a standing platform, convened jointly by the current and previous COP Presidencies, to identify ways to enhance implementation of the UAE Framework.

The first Baku High-Level Dialogue, co-chaired by the COP 29 and COP 30 Presidencies, will inaugurate this process at COP 30 in Belém, answering calls to elevate adaptation to the highest political level and signaling a global commitment to place adaptation at the heart of climate action.

Adaptation is no longer optional, it is essential to safeguarding lives, livelihoods, and ecosystems in every country. Yet progress remains uneven: 67 developing countries have submitted national adaptation plans or strategies, but implementation lags behind. Accelerating climate impacts strain health, food systems, water security, biodiversity, and livelihoods, highlighting that adaptation is a multi-dimensional challenge requiring political, institutional, and financial responses in tandem. According to UNEP's 2025 Adaptation Gap Report, the annual adaptation finance gap is estimated at US\$284–339 billion per year. Even if developed countries meet the Glasgow Climate Pact goal of doubling adaptation finance to US\$38 billion by 2025, this would close only about 5% of the gap, underscoring the need for renewed political commitment and a collective effort to deliver an adaptation response at the scale and urgency required.



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Purpose

This Dialogue aims to help increase the adaptation response by:

- Elevating adaptation as a political priority at the level of heads of state, ministers, and leaders of global institutions as a matter of livelihoods, but also as a matter of financial and economic stability;
- Highlighting progress and gaps across key systems: food, water, health, ecosystems, infrastructure and human settlements, livelihoods, cultural heritage;
- Mobilizing the multilateral system (UN agencies, MDBs, development partners) around a coherent, science-based agenda and aligned eligibility processes in order to access finance;
- Showcasing economic and financial cases for adaptation.

This Dialogue provides a unique opportunity to align political momentum, finance, and technical expertise, ensuring that adaptation drives resilience, development, and equity.

Expected outcomes:

- High-level political commitment to elevate adaptation as a global priority, reaffirming leadership and accountability under the Global Goal on Adaptation;
- Concrete proposals and partnerships to scale up adaptation finance, making it predictable, accessible, and investment-ready across public, private, and philanthropic actors;
- Next steps and messages to take forward to COP31.

Format and Timing

- Dates: November 18–19, 2025
- Duration: Two days, 3 hours per day
- Format: High-level plenary dialogue
- Chairs: COP29 and COP30 Presidencies



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Agenda

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Day 1	
10:00 – 10:20	High-level opening
Session 1, Scene setting	
10:20 – 11:00	<i>Speakers to be confirmed</i> <u>Guiding questions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What solutions can be scaled-up and replicated across countries and/or regions for the implementation of the UAE Framework?• What are the challenges remaining for the implementation of the UAE Framework and its targets?• How can this be achieved through innovative collaborations that can uncover new opportunities for this paradigm shift of scale?
Session 2, Country experiences	
11:00 – 13:00	Country experiences and open dialogue, interventions from Ministers and HoDs <u>Guiding questions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How is your country overcoming the challenges of securing adaptation finance in recent years and what positive steps have been made?• What are the key barriers that make adaptation finance, including from multilateral funds, difficult to access?• What existing pilots are already consistent with the new approach to support, and which would fill the gap if nurtured and scaled up?
Day 2	
Session 3, Implementation of the UAE Framework for global climate resilience	
10:00 – 11:00	<i>Speakers to be confirmed</i> <u>Guiding questions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are your experiences in the implementation of the Global Goal on Adaptation targets?• What are the challenges for the implementation of the targets?• What solutions can be scaled-up and replicated across countries and/or regions?
Session 4, Finance for adaptation	
11:00 – 12:00	<i>Speakers to be confirmed</i> <u>Guiding questions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can multilateral climate funds and MDBs make adaptation finance more predictable, accessible, and investment-ready, including through harmonized eligibility and reporting requirements?• What innovative financing tools, such as risk pooling, blended finance, or de-risking mechanisms, can help reduce the fiscal burden on vulnerable developing countries?



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What systemic or policy shifts are needed to ensure more adaptation initiatives are investment-ready and attractive to financiers?• How can governments, MDBs, and the private sector work together to embed adaptation into core investment strategies and scale up resilience finance?
Session 5, Raising ambition on adaptation	
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Open dialogue</p> <p><u>Guiding questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What key message should emerge from COP 30 to ensure stronger political and financial commitments on adaptation?• What arrangements or milestones should be established by COP 31 to monitor and ensure measurable progress?