



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

The NAP Technical Guidelines

Updated technical guidelines for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans

Webinar: Introducing the updated NAP technical guidelines
1 October 2025

Webinar: Introducing the Updated NAP Technical Guidelines

Join the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) to explore the updated technical guidelines for NAPs. The webinar aims to promote awareness and foster the immediate and effective use of the guidelines by Parties and relevant actors.

 17 Wednesday, 01 October 2025

 Three sessions for global participation:

04:00–05:30 CEST/UTC+2
11:00–12:30 CEST/UTC+2
17:30–19:00 CEST/UTC+2



Overview of the updated NAP technical guidelines

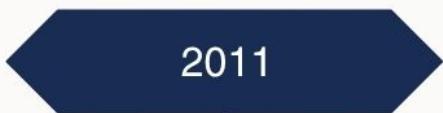
Mandate, timeline

Decision 5/CP.17, Annex

COP 17 (2011) adopted initial guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans by least developed country Parties

Decision 5/CP.17, para. 15

COP 17 (2011) requested the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to prepare technical guidelines as referred to in paragraph 12(a) above for the national adaptation plan process, based on the initial guidelines, included in the annex to this decision



2011



Initial guidelines for the formulation of national adaptation plans



2012



Technical guidelines for the national adaptation process



Decision 2/CMA.5, para. 47

CMA 5 (2023) requested the Least Developed Countries Expert Group to update the technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process, reflecting the provisions of decision 2/CMA.5 (on the global goal on adaptation) as well as the best available science, including the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change



2023



2025



Updated NAP technical guidelines

The NAP Technical Guidelines

Updated technical guidelines for the process
to formulate and implement national
adaptation plans

August 2025
LDC Expert Group

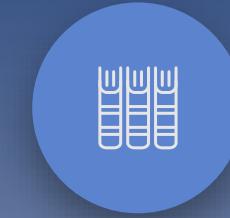


Download the updated
NAP technical
guidelines here!





Two objectives of the process to formulate and implement National Adaptation Plans



Reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by building adaptive capacity and resilience;

Facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant new and existing policies, programmes and activities, in particular development planning processes and strategies, within all relevant sectors and at different levels, as appropriate.

The five modules and steps of the NAP process

A: Impact, vulnerability and risk assessment

1. Frame adaptation at the national level taking into account the GGA thematic and dimensional targets
2. Develop plausible climate change and socio-economic scenarios for the medium and long-term
3. Document climate hazards, vulnerabilities and risks and impacts of climate change
4. Conduct assessments of climate hazard/exposure, vulnerability and risk

B: Plan development

5. Understand the vision for development for the country and major thrusts of that aspirational vision in the context of the changing climate
6. Synthesize best available information on climate hazard/exposure, vulnerability and risk from relevant assessments
7. Identify adaptation options to address key climate risks and vulnerabilities and build resilience
8. Estimate costs of adaptation in relevant contexts: cost of implementation of adaptation actions, costs of inaction or benefits of adaptation action
9. Compile the NAP and process endorsement and submission to the UNFCCC (after Element C)

C: Financing and implementation

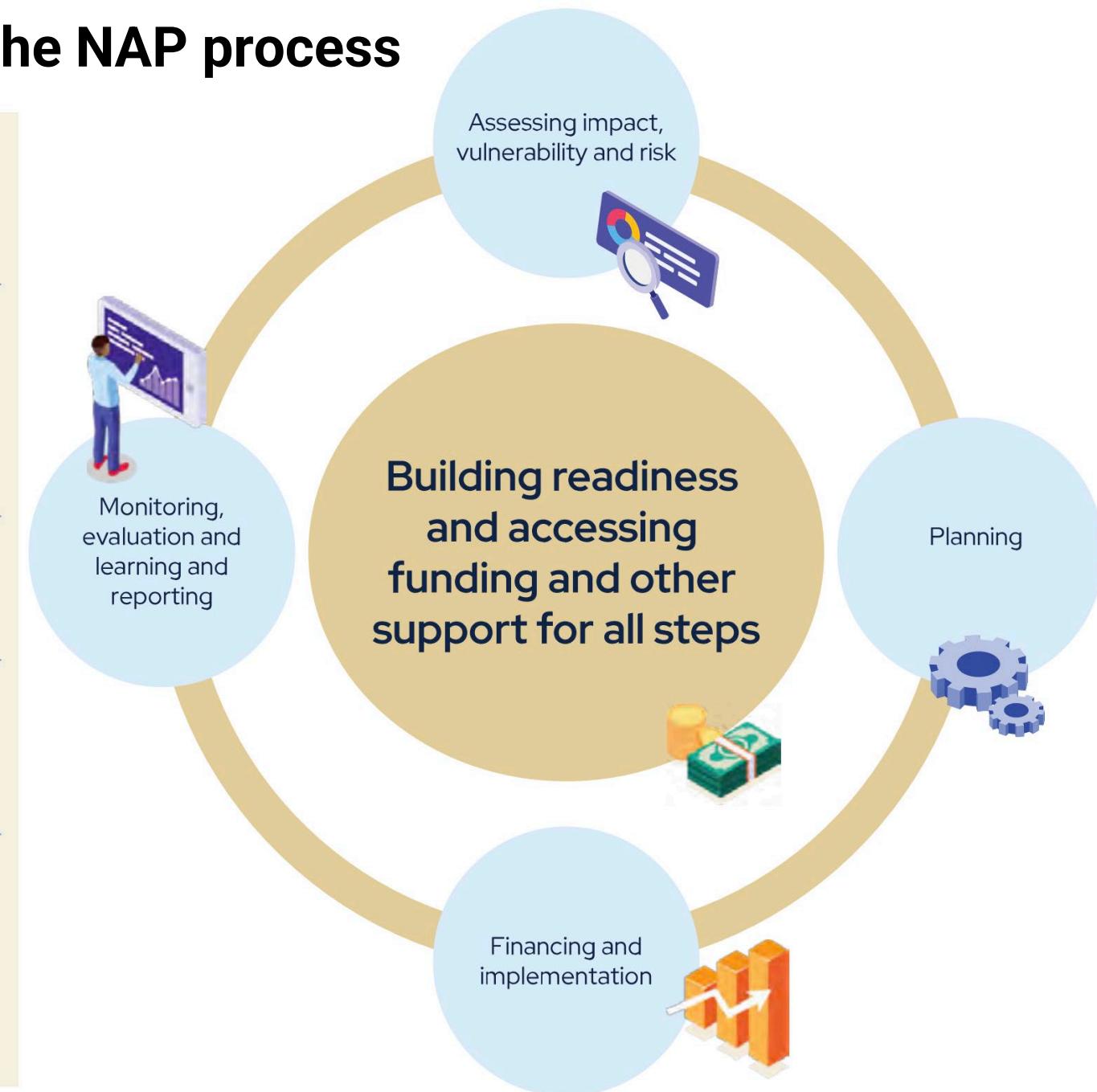
10. Determine financing needs for implementation
11. Implement/execute adaptation/risk management and resilience solutions

D: Monitoring, evaluation and learning and reporting

12. Systematic data collection to inform adaptation and monitoring including of progress
13. Periodic evaluation and learning
14. Progress reporting at the national level
15. Promoting synergy with international reporting

E: Cross-cutting: building readiness and accessing funding and other support for the whole process

16. Strengthen institutional arrangements and regulatory frameworks
17. Lay the groundwork for implementation and determination of needs for addressing climate change including by accessing available technical support
18. Access GCF NAP readiness and general readiness funding, and other relevant sources, to support the process of formulation, and implementation of NAPs, capacity-building and related enabling activities to maintain the process
19. Build/update a data, knowledge and tool base for all modules in close coordination with module D.I





Module A: Impact, vulnerability and risk assessment

- Frame adaptation at the national level taking into account the GGA thematic and dimensional targets
- Develop plausible climate change and socio-economic scenarios for the medium and long-term
- Document climate hazards, vulnerabilities and risks and impacts of climate change
- Conduct assessments of climate hazard/exposure, vulnerability and risk



Module B: Plan development

- Understand the vision for development for the country and major thrusts of that aspirational vision in the context of the changing climate
- Synthesize best available information on climate hazard/exposure, vulnerability and risk from relevant assessments
- Identify adaptation options to address key climate risks and vulnerabilities and build resilience
- Estimate costs of adaptation in relevant contexts: cost of implementation of adaptation actions, costs of inaction or benefits of adaptation action
- Compile the NAP and process endorsement and submission to the UNFCCC (after Element C)



Module C: Financing and implementation

- ❑ Determine financing needs for implementation
- ❑ Implement/execute adaptation/risk management and resilience solutions



Module D: Monitoring, evaluation and learning and reporting

- Systematic data collection to inform adaptation and monitoring including of progress
- Periodic evaluation and learning
- Progress reporting at the national level
- Promoting synergy with international reporting

Module E: Cross-cutting: building readiness and accessing funding and other support for the whole process

- Strengthen institutional arrangements and regulatory frameworks
- Lay the groundwork for implementation and determination of needs for addressing climate change including by accessing available technical support
- Access GCF NAP readiness and general readiness funding, and other relevant sources, to support the process of formulation, and implementation of NAPs, capacity-building and related enabling activities to maintain the process
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The Updated NAP Technical Guidelines (features, considerations)

- Achieving the **global goal on adaptation** targets through NAPs
- Applying **best available science**, including the IPCC AR6
- Fusion of **vulnerability, risk, and resilience**
- Vision for a **well-adapting country**: the future as a baseline
- Identifying **connected systems** to promote integrated approaches
- Transitioning to scaled-up **financing and implementation**
- Modules and steps** of the NAP process
- Best practice contents** of the NAP
- Managing the **flow of information** along the adaptation cycle
- User-friendly **templates** for project profiles and finance mapping
- Development of **supplementary materials**

Recommended contents of a NAP



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Best practice contents of the NAP

- 1. Background and contextual information about the country**
- 2. Vision, goals and objectives**
- 3. Policy and regulatory framework**
- 4. Framework for the NAP**
- 5. Consideration of guiding principles (best practices) for adaptation**
- 6. Key climate risks and vulnerabilities, and adaptation needs**
- 7. Priority adaptation actions**
- 8. Integration of the NAP with national development plans, and sectoral plans where relevant, including synergies**
- 9. Required financial resources**
- 10. Implementation strategy**
- 11. Financing**
- 12. Monitoring, evaluation and learning**
- 13. Reporting**
- 14. Annex: Selected project profiles: essential projects and other priorities**

Key aspects of the table of contents

- Information to fit templates of a summary of the NAP, especially clear adaptation priorities
- Adaptation priorities into projects spanning common funding windows
- Financing plan: where each project will be submitted
- Project profiles to facilitate proposal financing
- Address common needs for information - how each element of the adaptation cycle addressed, how guiding principles addressed, how aligned to the GGA themes

Financing and implementation

Financing and implementation (steps under Module C)

Determine financing needs for implementation

1. Map adaptation priority actions into project ideas and programmes
2. Integrate NAP priority projects into applicable country programmes/country assistance frameworks for each actor or funding vehicle
3. Develop a 5-year programme for implementing the whole NAP, targeting a variety of relevant funding/financing windows for the projects or combinations of windows

Implement/execute adaptation/risk management and resilience solutions

1. Manage implementation of projects and execute adaptation solutions
2. Develop and apply systematic observation and monitoring of systems under adaptation intervention to identify triggers or nodes for changes in adaptation pathways

5 key aspects of the financing and implementation plan

- Estimate cost to implement the whole NAP
- Map the whole NAP to available windows under the Financial Mechanism funds and other sources of funding
- Ensure capacity-development for financing at scale by 2030, including building capacity for direct access, country platforms, etc.
- Scale up actions to work towards meeting the GGA targets by 2030
- Explore scaling up successful projects from LDCF and AF with funding from the GCF

Meeting GGA targets through NAPs

A summary of the key features of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience

UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience

The UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience guides the achievement of [Global Goal on Adaptation \(GGA\)](#) and reviews the overall progress in adapting to climate change. It presents a comprehensive approach to [enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience & reduce vulnerability](#) to climate change.

KEY ASPECTS OF THE FRAMEWORK

-  Focuses on **well-being of people, protection of livelihoods, economies, & nature preservation and regeneration**
-  Adaptation efforts should be **country-driven, voluntary, and tailored to national circumstances**.
-  Highlights importance of **scaling up of adaptation finance & making it timely & predictable**
-  Emphasizes on the importance of **early warning systems** to strengthen of adaptation action
-  Forms a **two-year work programme** to develop indicators to measure progress
-  Emphasizes the need to examine **transformational adaptation** at different scales and sectors

KEY SECTORS PRIORITIZED IN THE FRAMEWORK

-  **WATER & SANITATION**
Reducing **climate-induced water scarcity** & attaining climate-resilient water supply & sanitation and access to safe & affordable potable water for all
-  **FOOD & AGRICULTURE**
Enhancing climate resilient **food and ag production, supply & distribution** and equitable access to adequate food and nutrition for all
-  **HEALTH**
Attaining **health resilience** against climate change and promoting climate-resilient health services & reducing climate-related morbidity
-  **ECOSYSTEMS**
Accelerating **ecosystem based adaptation and nature-based solutions**
-  **INFRASTRUCTURES**
Building climate resilient **infrastructures and human settlements** to ensure essential services for all
-  **LIVELIHOODS**
Reducing climate impacts on **poverty eradication & livelihoods**, and promoting **adaptive social protection**
-  **CULTURAL HERITAGE**
Protecting **cultural heritage** from climate-related risks guided by traditional, indigenous peoples and local knowledge

TARGETS FOR ITERATIVE ADAPTATION CYCLE

The framework details a series of targets linked to different stages of the adaptation policy cycle

By **2030**, calls the parties to

-  **IMPACT, VULNERABILITY & RISK ASSESSMENT**
Conduct up-to-date assessments on climate hazards, impacts & exposure to risks & vulnerabilities
-  **PLANNING**
Put in place country-driven, gender responsive NAPs, policy instruments and mainstreamed adaptation planning processes
-  **IMPLEMENTATION**
Progress in implementing NAP policies, strategies & reduce impacts of climate hazards
-  **MONITORING, EVALUATION, LEARNING**
Design & operationalize a system for monitoring, evaluation & learning

Unpacking the GGA targets

- Each thematic area is **broken into components and subsystems** that represent **typical areas of action**, and that help **deliver on the targets** and outcomes embodied within each GGA thematic target
- **These components and subsystems** help provide an entry point for assessments and exploration of adaptation options, including how to measure **critical nodes to inform decisions along pathways of adaptation and the need for transformative action**
- The breakdown also naturally leads to identification of **interlinked systems**, e.g. so-called **Nexus**es, such as the typical Water-Energy-Food/Fiber nexus. But can be any combination of systems
- The **NAP-SDG iFrame** provides the methodological breakthrough for considering the different entry points and linkages to multiple issues
- A country may also wish to focus on a central, **flagship issue**/process or system to provide the center of the nexus



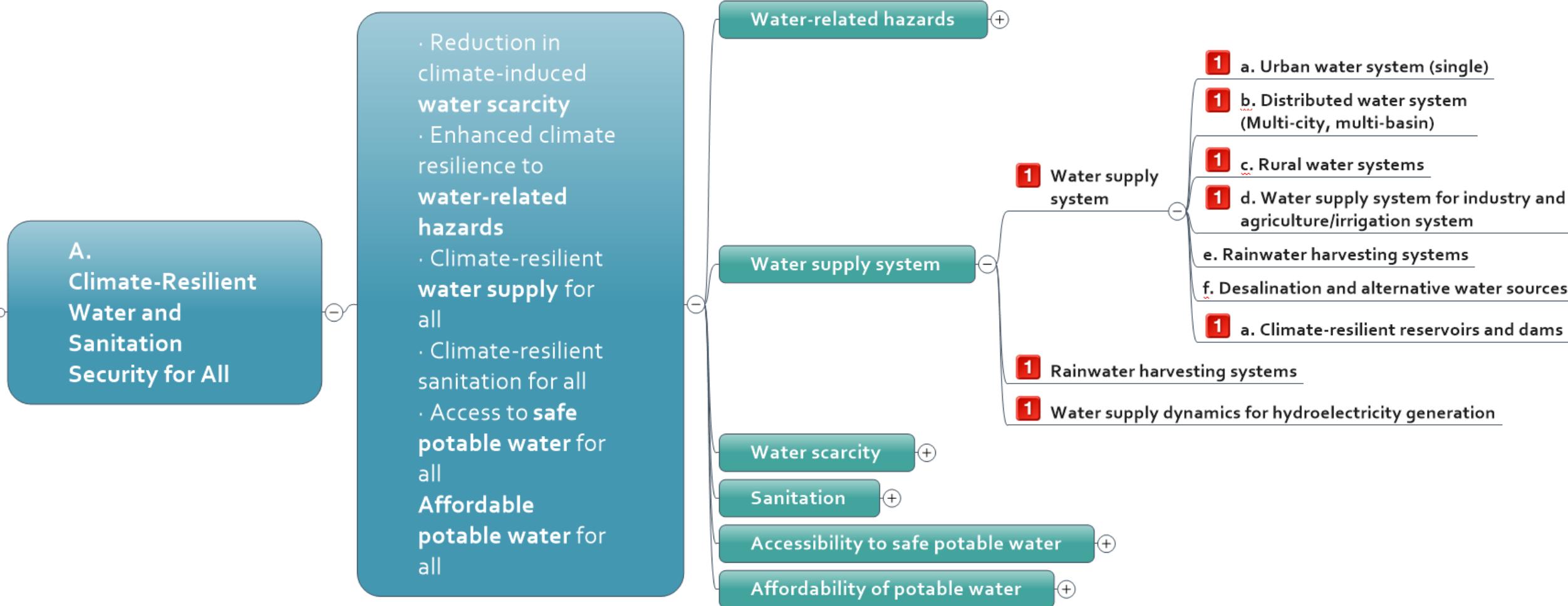
Unpacking the GGA targets – example on water and sanitation

Climate-resilient water security for all: Significantly reducing climate-induced water scarcity and enhancing climate resilience to water-related hazards towards a climate-resilient water supply, climate-resilient sanitation and towards access to safe and affordable potable water for all (paragraph 9a of decision 2/CMA.5)

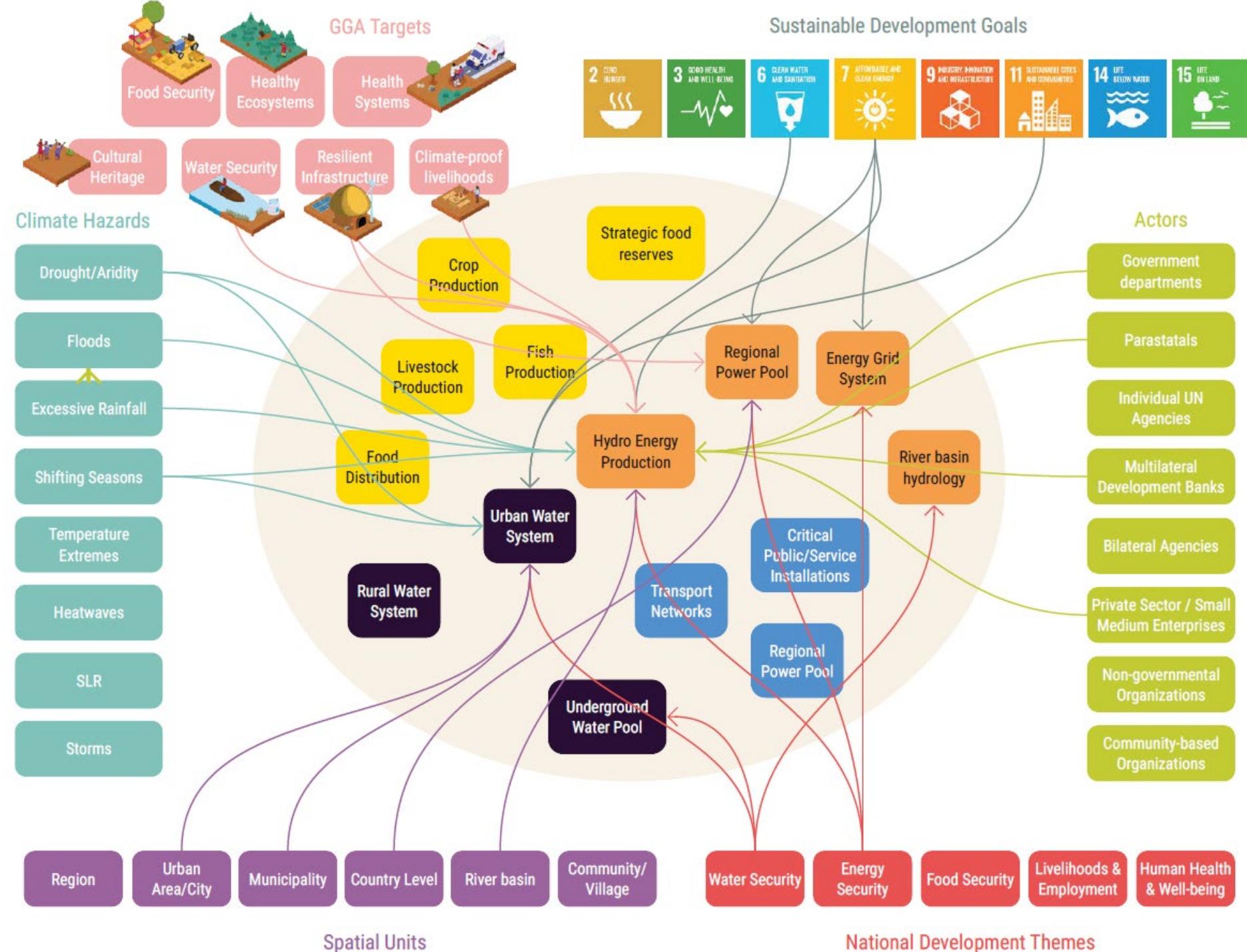
Components:

- Reduction in climate-induced water scarcity
- Enhanced climate resilience to water-related hazards
- Climate-resilient water supply for all
- Climate-resilient sanitation for all
- Access to safe potable water for all
- Affordable potable water for all

Unpacking the GGA targets – example on water and sanitation



The NAP iFrame: harmonizing actions to address SDGs, GGA targets, and national goals





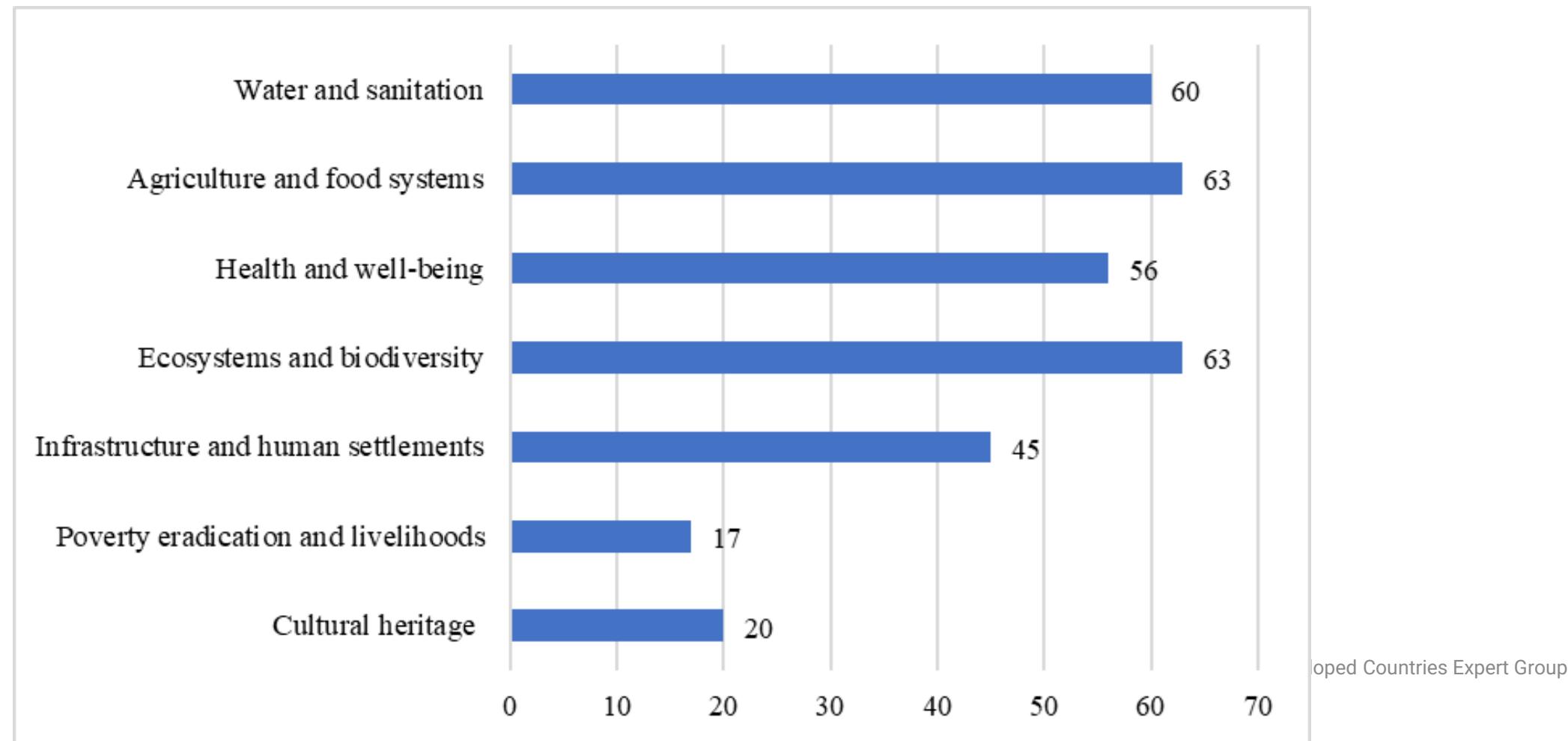
Addressing cross-cutting sectors not covered directly by the seven GGA themes

- Additional sectors not explicitly covered by the seven GGA themes (e.g., tourism, hydroelectricity) can still be included
- These sectors can be treated as cross-cutting issues
- Use a system or nexus approach by linking additional sectors to relevant GGA components

Hydroelectricity production can be linked to:	Tourism can be linked to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water supply systems• Infrastructure (grid and generation equipment)• Energy demand (linked to water, droughts, seasonal rainfall changes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecosystems• Cultural heritage• Infrastructure• Livelihoods

Meeting GGA targets through NAPs

Figure: Number of countries identifying priority sectors in their national adaptation plans that align with each of the seven thematic targets of the global goal on adaptation as at 16 September 2025 (NAP progress report 2025)



How should the updated guidelines be used

Use cases of the updated NAP Technical Guidelines

- The guidelines are geared towards **enriching the country's ongoing process based on the status of its work** rather than starting from scratch
- A country should therefore select relevant steps to further advance on their efforts
- The figure provides four sample use cases

