



# NAP EXPO 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

12 TO 15 AUGUST 2025,  
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA



United Nations  
Climate Change

<https://expo.napcentral.org/2025>

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## ABOUT THE NAP EXPOS

The NAP Expo is an outreach event organized by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) under the UNFCCC in collaboration with various UNFCCC constituted bodies and other relevant organizations. It promotes the exchange of experiences and fosters partnerships between a wide range of actors and stakeholders on how to advance National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). It brings together a diversity of participants from Parties and Non-Party Stakeholders. The NAP Expo 2025 marks the tenth global NAP Expo since its inception in 2013.

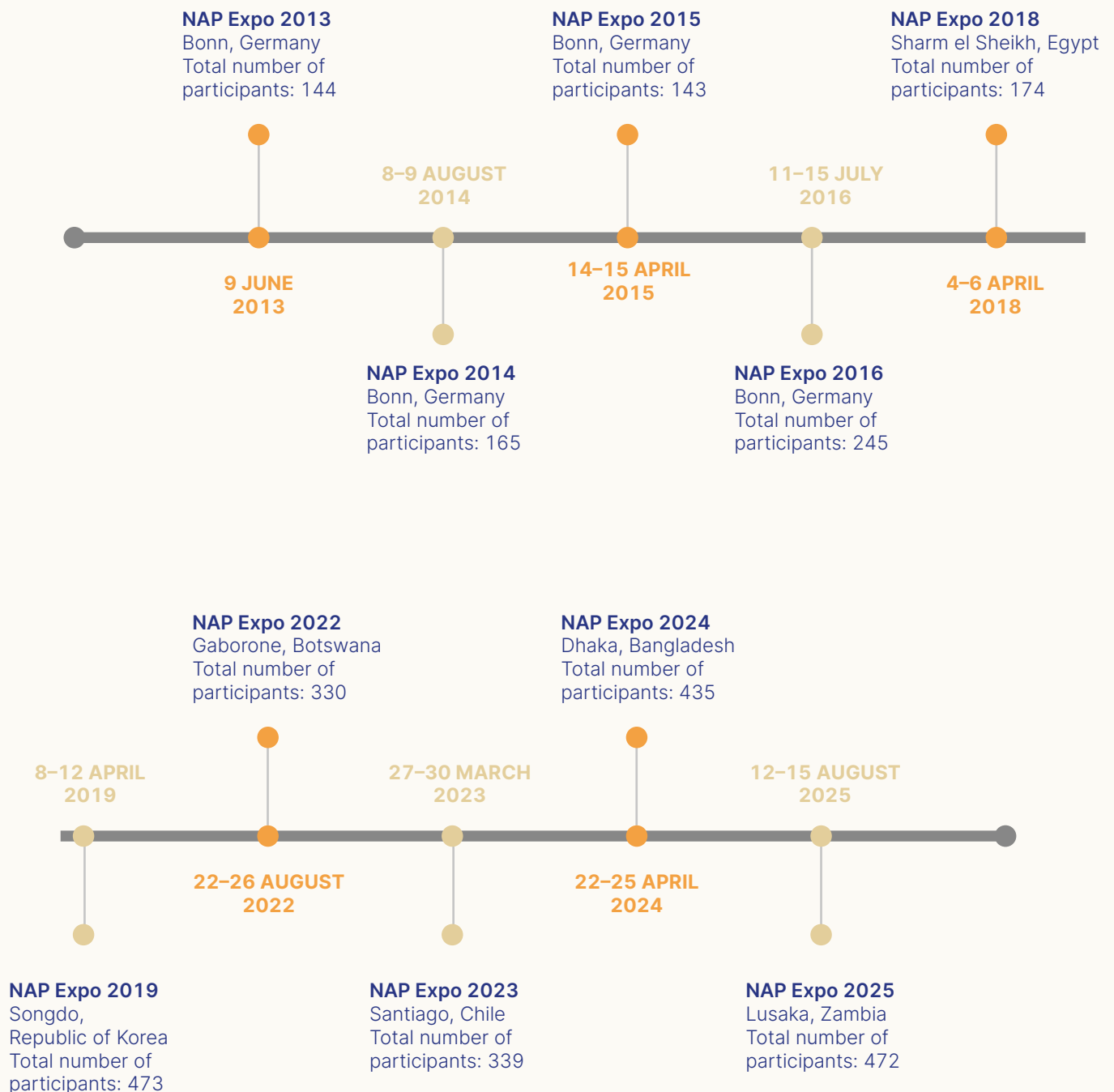
The overall objective of the NAP Expo is to raise adaptation ambition by advancing the formulation and implementation of NAPs. Specific objectives include:

To facilitate the interaction between country NAP teams and providers of support — including, among others, the GCF, GEF and AF, and their respective entities, United Nations organizations and other international organizations, bilateral and multilateral agencies, regional centres and networks, the private sector and academia, to enhance access to financing for NAPs;

To create an interactive global forum on NAPs for countries to share experiences, best practices and lessons learned; for different organizations and bodies to conduct specialized meetings and workshops; and for Parties and non-Party stakeholders to interact, in order to advance the formulation and implementation of NAPs;

To serve as the global platform to advance technical and practical measures towards the production of NAPs by each country, and the implementation of policies, projects, and programmes associated with the NAPs.

## PREVIOUS EVENTS – A TIMELINE





# PARTICIPANTS OF THE NAP EXPO 2025



**Total number  
of participants:**  
472

**Entities:**  
Parties: 67  
UN-System: 17  
IGOs: 6  
NGOs: 21  
Other: 50

**Gender:**  
Female: 199 (42%)  
Male: 273 (58%)

**Least developed  
countries (LDCs)**  
41 Parties

**Non-LDCs**  
26 Parties

**Constituted Body  
representatives:**  
LEG - 11  
FWG - 1  
WIM Excom - 1  
AC - 1  
SCF - 1



## LEG MEMBERS AT THE NAP EXPO 2025



## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS FOR THE NAP EXPO 2025



**Dr. Youssef Nassef, UNFCCC**

Unlocking the full potential of national adaptation plans (NAPs): driving the next generation of adaptation action



**Ms. Pamela Conrad, IFLA**

Works with nature: adaptation techniques for regenerative a future



**Ms. Kotchakorn Voraakhom, IFLA**

Works with nature: adaptation techniques for regenerative a future





**Fumukazi Zilanie Gondwe, Malawi**

Wisdom in the Wind: Indigenous Leadership as Africa's Climate Compass



**Mr. Dario Soto Abril, Trafigura Foundation**

Potential contribution of philanthropies in the implementation of NAPs



**Dr. Tilahun Amede, AGRA**

Adaptation strategies and financing for a resilient food future



**Dr. Hesphina Rukato  
Crisis Action**

African urgency and agency in integrating NAPs into Agenda 2063 priorities





# CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS OF TECHNICAL SESSIONS OF THE 2025 NAP EXPO

Below is a list of organizations and bodies that organized / led technical sessions at the NAP Expo 2025.

UNFCCCC constituted bodies	UNFCCC Financial Mechanism / funds	United Nations entities	International organizations	Government of Zambia and local institutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adaptation Committee (AC)</li> <li>Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)</li> <li>Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG)</li> <li>Paris Committee on capacity-building (PCCB)</li> <li>Standing Committee on Finance (SCF)</li> <li>Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM Excom)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adaptation Fund (AF)</li> <li>Green Climate Fund (GCF)</li> <li>Global Environment Facility (GEF)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</li> <li>United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)</li> <li>United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)</li> <li>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</li> <li>United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)</li> <li>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</li> <li>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</li> <li>United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)</li> <li>United Nations University – Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CARE International</li> <li>International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)</li> <li>Clim-Eat</li> <li>Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)</li> <li>Global Center on Adaptation (GCA)</li> <li>Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)</li> <li>Group on Earth Observations Blue Planet Initiative (GEO Blue Planet)</li> <li>GEO Land Degradation Neutrality (GEO-LDN)</li> <li>Climate Service Center Germany (GERICS)</li> <li>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)</li> <li>Global Water Partnership (GWP)</li> <li>International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR)</li> <li>International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)</li> <li>International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)</li> <li>Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII)</li> <li>NAP Global Network</li> <li>SLYCAN Trust</li> <li>Stichting Nederlandse Vrijwilligers (SNV)</li> <li>Sanitation and Water for All (SWA)</li> <li>WaterAid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry of Agriculture – SCRALA project</li> <li>Ministry of Green Economy and Environment – NDA and TALARD projects</li> <li>NGO Wash Forum Zambia</li> <li>Zambia Climate Change Network</li> <li>United Nations Zambia Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN)</li> <li>World Wide Fund for Nature Zambia (WWF Zambia)</li> </ul>



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NAP EXPO 2025

## #1: OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE UPDATED NAP TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

CMA 5 requested the LEG to update the technical guidelines for the national adaptation plan process (NAP technical guidelines), reflecting the provisions of decision 2/CMA.5 on the global goal on adaptation (GGA), as well as the best available science, including the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The updated NAP technical guidelines were launched during the NAP Expo and are available on NAP Central and ready to use by countries and relevant stakeholders – see <https://napcentral.org/nap-guidelines>.

The guidelines introduce new and innovative approaches to advance NAPs. Key features include, among others, guidance on:

- Achieving the GGA 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.



## #2: UNLOCKING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS (NAPS)

NAPs are a lifeline for a world on the frontlines of the climate crisis. They are not just policy frameworks - they are blueprints of hope and resilience. Through clear priorities and coordinated action, NAPs guide countries in protecting lives, livelihoods, and vital ecosystems from escalating climate impacts. By unlocking and channelling adaptation finance where it is needed most, they turn ambition into action and planning into protection. When fully implemented, NAPs can accelerate progress towards achieving the GGA, thereby helping nations to strengthen resilience, empower communities, and safeguard our shared home, the planet. The time to invest in and act through NAPs is now, because adaptation cannot wait.

Through a dynamic mix of keynote sessions and interactive exchanges, the NAP Expo explored key steps to position NAPs as central drivers of resilience in a rapidly changing climate including:

- **Reimagining the future of adaptation** – using the GGA targets as a guiding north star. Countries are shifting their approaches to adaptation from reactively managing risk to envisioning a resilient future and back casting from that vision, which is in line with the global goal on adaptation targets, and are building on their existing capacities to make progress in this regard;
- **Building on strengths, not just addressing gaps** — moving beyond a narrative focused solely on capacity constraints to one that leverages existing knowledge, innovation, and institutional strengths. Many countries are already pioneering creative approaches and exchanging valuable lessons that can propel collective progress;
- **Centering people and local contexts** — recognizing that adaptation is most effective when it delivers multiple benefits for society, ecosystems, and economies. Adaptation actions should go beyond managing risks to actively strengthening resilience, grounded in local realities, shaped by local leadership, and responsive to the needs and aspirations of vulnerable groups and communities.





*"Adaptation isn't a bill we can skip - it's a cost we shift. If we don't fund it, the poorest pay in lost harvests, poorer health, and, at worst, with their lives"*

**Youssef Nassef, UNFCCC secretariat**



## #3: IMPLEMENTING NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS

Countries are advancing adaptation actions aligned with the key thematic areas of the GGA, positioning NAPs as the driving force of global climate resilience. With its targets, the GGA provides a unifying framework for guiding countries in planning, implementing, and tracking adaptation actions that strengthen resilience across ecosystems, economies, and societies.



**Pamela Conrad, IFLA**



**Kotchakorn Voraakhom, IFLA**

*“Designing with nature is vital for creating landscapes that regenerate ecosystems while supporting people and communities; Integrating traditional ecological knowledge and modern landscape design fosters resilience and sustainable futures.”*





Below is a sampling of concrete adaptation solutions in different thematic areas presented during the NAP Expo:

Thematic area	Adaptation Solutions
Water and sanitation	<p><b>Integrated water management:</b> In the Fouta Djallon Highlands—often called the “water tower of West Africa”—the Republic of Guinea, in collaboration with FAO and other partners, is developing and implementing an integrated water management system to safeguard the region’s water resources from accelerating climate impacts. The initiative focuses on enabling collaboration between the nine countries that depend on the highlands’ watersheds to implement a multidisciplinary, community-based management approach. This approach aims to restore and preserve the region’s natural ecosystems as a means to protect the watershed.</p> <p><b>Diversifying water supply systems:</b> Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Kenya, Malawi, Niger, Peru, and Viet Nam are all making progress in implementing climate-resilient water supply actions as key adaptation priority. These countries have clearly elucidated water supply as a key priority in their NAPs and are creating the mechanisms necessary to implement projects for this priority area. Key areas of focus include strengthening infrastructure, protecting sources, and diversifying supply, though integration of nature-based solutions. Progress is most notable in countries when the priorities are also clearly linked to adaptation finance.</p> <p><b>Strengthening sanitation infrastructure resilience:</b> Implementation of climate-resilient sanitation priorities is less advanced but gaining traction in Cambodia, Haiti, Liberia, Nepal, Niger, Peru, and Viet Nam. Efforts are currently focused on flood- and drought-resilient infrastructure and climate-informed planning.</p>



Thematic area	Adaptation Solutions
Food and agriculture	<p><b>Climate resilient agriculture:</b></p> <p>The Transforming Landscapes for Resilience and Development (TRALARD) Project being implemented in Zambia is focused on improving natural resource management to support sustainable livelihoods and provide emergency response. It is being implemented in selected districts across Luapula, Muchinga, and Northern provinces, with a second phase, TRALARD II, set to expand to Copperbelt and Southern Provinces. Key activities include promoting climate-smart agricultural practices, diversifying livelihoods, and restoring degraded landscapes. The project uses an integrated, multi-sectoral approach that leverages institutional strengths and private sector engagement.</p> <p>Nigeria is implementing the USD 500 million World Bank-funded Livestock Productivity and Resilience Support Project (L-PRES) with the objective of enhancing the productivity, sustainability, and resilience of the national livestock value chain. The project aims to directly benefit more than 1.4 million individuals by addressing the underlying drivers of farmer-herder conflicts across selected states. Specifically, it seeks to improve livestock productivity, strengthen food and nutrition security, promote inclusive income growth, and foster social cohesion among diverse communal groups.</p> <p>Ethiopia is working with the World Bank Group and the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) in implementing the USD 600 million Ethiopia Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP) to enhance the climate resilience of its food systems. The programme is being implemented across nine regional states and two city administrations, focusing on key value chains such as cereals, pulses, horticulture, coffee, oilseeds, and livestock. Its objectives include creating an enabling environment for food system resilience, developing climate-resilient food markets, promoting sustainable small-scale irrigation, and advancing transformative agricultural services and innovation systems.</p> <p>The Kafue Flats Climate Resilience and Adaptation Project (Kaf-Adapt) is being implemented by WWF Zambia, in partnership with the Ministries of Green Economy and Tourism of Zambia, as well as the International Crane Foundation. The USD 9 million project funded through the GEF is focused on safeguarding the fragile ecosystem to bolster community resilience against future droughts and floods.</p> <p><b>Reducing food losses:</b> The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) is implementing the RE-GAIN (Scaling Solutions for Food Loss in Africa) Program, a multi-country initiative co-implemented with the Green Climate Fund. The program aims to reduce climate-driven food loss by enabling smallholder farmers in Uganda, Kenya, and Zambia to adopt affordable technologies such as solar dryers and hermetic storage, thereby strengthening climate resilience and improving food security.</p> <p><b>Enhancing water management</b></p> <p>Niger is utilizing an approach of combining traditional knowledge with technological innovations to improve water management for agriculture. Traditional agro-ecological techniques such as zai pits, half-moons, and stone bunds are being scaled up in climate vulnerable regions to improve water availability, while modern innovations, such as solar drip irrigation, are being deployed actively for more efficient use of water. These efforts are being combined with community-based climate information systems such as early warning cells, rain gauges, and community radio to build resilience of their agriculture sector utilizing a bottom-up approach.</p> <p>In Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, and Burkina Faso, AGRA is promoting Rice Production through Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) to improve water use efficiency in rice cultivation. The AWD technique involves flooding fields for specific periods followed by drying intervals, which reduces irrigation water consumption without lowering yields and decreases methane emissions by up to 23.1%.</p>



Thematic area	Adaptation Solutions
<b>Infrastructures</b>	<p><b>Applying nature-based solutions for infrastructure resilience</b></p> <p>To improve climate resilience of urban and peri urban areas in Bujumbura city, the Government of Burundi is implementing a landscape restoration project with support from the Green Environment Facility (GEF). The focus is on combining nature-based solutions, such as tree plantation and agro-forestry, with technical measures such as anti-erosion ditches and terraces to build multidimensional resilience in the face of escalating climate risks. The project also aims to support almost 120,000 beneficiaries in addition to its core goals of recovering thousands of acres of degraded land, enhancing soil and local biodiversity, and limiting soil erosion.</p> <p>The WORKS with Nature initiative showcased practical nature-based Solutions (NbS) for adaptation, mitigation, and ecosystem restoration, promoting a regenerative future for communities and the environment. Key examples include: (i) Chulalongkorn Centenary Park Project in Bangkok, the city's first blue-green infrastructure, which demonstrates the potential of NbS to address urban flooding while creating vital public green spaces. The 11-acre park can store up to one million gallons of water, enhancing flood resilience and serving as a vibrant community hub; and (ii) Thammasat Urban Farm Rooftop, Asia's largest organic rooftop farm, which transforms over 236,000 square feet of unused space into a productive green area that generates 80,000 meals annually while harnessing solar energy.</p> <p><b>Climate proofing infrastructure</b></p> <p>In Kenya, GCA is supporting the USD 223 million Kenya-South Sudan Link Road Upgrading Project financed by the African Development Bank. The investment project is upgrading sections of the Kenya to South Sudan road corridor, which forms a critical trade route between Kenya and South Sudan across the Rift Valley, Kenya's most populated province and a food basket for the country, producing maize and other crops. Improved connectivity will promote uninterrupted trade and communication between Kenya and South Sudan, boost export-oriented agricultural development, and contribute to the economic and social empowerment of the local population.</p> <p>In Liberia, the Global Center on Adaptation is supporting Locally Led Adaptation efforts to inform the design of the World Bank's USD 40 million Liberia Urban Resilience Project in Greater Monrovia and three secondary cities (Buchanan, Gbarnga and Ganta). The investment project will increase flood resilience and access to urban infrastructure in vulnerable informal neighbourhoods. It is enhancing the climate resilience of these communities. Concurrently, the project is strengthening municipal and institutional capacities in Liberia, improving integrated urban management.</p>



Thematic area	Adaptation Solutions
<b>Diversifying Livelihoods</b>	<p>As part of a project focused on building climate resilience in the highly vulnerable coastal zone of Tadjourah and Hanlé, the Government of Djibouti along with UNDP are deploying interventions to enable sustainable and resilient livelihoods. The project has designated five agro-pastoral perimeters and has trained over 200 beneficiaries in vegetable cultivation, forest management, and pest control to create resilient livelihoods in these two regions. Additional efforts are also underway to create livelihoods in poultry farming, veterinary activities, handicraft training, and mini dairies.</p> <p>In Rwanda, Malawi, Tanzania, and Burkina Faso, AGRA is implementing Market Gardens for Transforming Livelihoods, an initiative designed to enhance income opportunities and promote climate-resilient agriculture. The project has successfully established market linkages, particularly benefiting women farmer, and improved access to gender-responsive water sources such as surface water, rainwater harvesting systems, and shallow wells. It also supports soil fertility enhancement through the use of compost and other sustainable practices.</p> <p>The “Strengthening Climate Resilience Livelihoods in Agroecological Zones I &amp; II (SCRALA) Project” implemented in Zambia by FAO is building resilient agricultural livelihoods. The project is enhancing climate resilience for over 940,000 smallholder farmers across 16 districts in Zambia. Interventions such as the Tauya solar-powered community irrigation scheme in Chirundu district, localized weather advisories, the power of conservation agriculture, community savings groups, farmer field schools, post-harvest management, and market access implemented across the districts have strengthened farmers’ ability to manage climate change effects such as drought and floods.</p>
<b>Integration into different governance levels</b>	<p>Brazil is implementing the Adapta Cidades Initiative to support states and municipalities in adapting to climate change. It aims to strengthen local governments' capacity to develop and implement local climate adaptation plans that account for specific territorial realities, such as increased temperatures, extreme rainfall, and rising sea levels. The program focuses on institutional support, awareness, and ensuring local-level planning is in place for climate change adaptation.</p> <p>Eswatini is developing Local Adaptation Plans (LAPs) as part of the implementation of its broader NAP. These plans are aimed at enabling the development and financing of context specific adaptation projects that rely on traditional knowledge and accounts for the specific circumstances of communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. A seven-step process has been created to develop LAPs where the focus is on integrating climate-resilient land use plans in chiefdoms, establishing community-based disaster response systems, and utilizing traditional knowledge for forecasting and adaptation strategies.</p>



Thematic area	Adaptation Solutions
<b>Finance</b>	<p><b>Developing project pipelines:</b> The Democratic Republic of Congo is developing a pipeline of adaptation projects aligned with their NAP priorities. The vision is to develop coherent, inclusive, effective, and bankable adaptation projects, structured around the NAP, aligned with donor standards, and implemented through a decentralized approach based on scientific evidence and local expertise. The focus is on developing instruments and evaluation criteria designed to screen and select project ideas consistent with NAP priorities.</p> <p><b>Creating enabling regulations:</b> In 2021, the Maldives ratified the Climate Emergency Act, establishing a legal framework to guide national climate policy and climate finance. The Act has strengthened climate-resilient development planning by mandating the mobilization of climate finance and the creation of a financial architecture aligned with global best practices. In parallel, the Decentralization Act has advanced the devolution of authority from the central government to local councils, enhancing their capacity to manage resources and municipal functions while ensuring greater representation of women. This has empowered local councils to manage and implement adaptation initiatives more effectively, delivering high-impact local projects supported by multiple financing sources</p>
<b>Private sector led initiatives</b>	<p>PwC India, through the PwC Foundation, is funding a project that supports enhancing the resilience of communities vulnerable to climate change as part of its corporate social responsibility initiative. Gorakhpur Environment Action Group (GEAG), a non-governmental organization based in India, is implementing this project.</p> <p>Meta Platforms, a multinational technology company based in Menlo Park, California, has joined a multistakeholder effort to secure its home community against the impacts of climate change. As a part of this commitment, it has joined Strategy to Advance Flood Protection, Ecosystems, and Recreation along the San Francisco Bay (SAFER Bay). The programme will construct green and grey infrastructure to build resilience to increased flooding and sea level rise.</p> <p>Agoro Carbon Alliance India Private Limited supports farmers by providing agronomic expertise to help implement conservation farming practices that deliver tangible environmental and economic benefits. These practices improve soil health, enhance resilience to extreme weather, increase crop yields, protect biodiversity and improve water quality.</p>





## #4: FINANCING NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS

### FINANCING UNDER THE UNFCCC FINANCIAL MECHANISM

Financing adaptation and resilience is essential for reducing the risks posed by climate change and for harnessing related opportunities in ways that support global financial stability, thriving communities, and healthy ecosystems. Equally important is the development of investment-ready NAPs that include clear cost estimates and align with global goals to attract diverse funding sources. However, challenges in accessing adaptation finance persist, highlighting the need for funding that is aligned with national priorities, directly linked to NAPs, and supported by readiness programmes and a variety of financial instruments.

Representatives from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), and Adaptation Fund (AF) outlined reforms to simplify access, speed up approvals, and better align support with countries' adaptation priorities. The GCF presented its "50 by 30" vision for balanced adaptation and mitigation finance, new fast-track processes, and regional offices to improve country support. The GEF highlighted expanded catalytic funding through its LDCF and SCCF, with future cycles focused on NAP implementation aligned to the GGA. The AF underscored its USD 40 million per-country allocation and readiness support for project formulation and accreditation. Across all three funds, the message was clear: with more financing earmarked for NAPs and faster disbursement on the horizon, timely completion of plans will be essential to meet the 2025 submission target under the Global Stocktake.

The LEG presented its tool on the mapping of available adaptation finance for the LDCs (see figure below). The mapping provides LDCs with a practical means to identify and apply financing for different types of needs at each stage of the adaptation cycle (impact, vulnerability and risk assessment; planning; implementation; and monitoring, evaluation and learning). It enables countries to navigate multiple sources, including the UNFCCC Financial Mechanism and other relevant channels. For each



source, it provides a description of the funding window, specifies eligibility, and provides links to relevant proposal and funding request templates for submission to the funding institution.

Mapping of relevant sources of finance for climate change adaptation for the least developed countries. See <https://napcentral.org/mapping-available-finance>.



## EXPANDING THE SOURCES AND MODALITIES OF ADAPTATION FINANCE: THE ROLE OF PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS

Philanthropic organizations play a pivotal role in accelerating the implementation of adaptation actions by providing flexible and catalytic finance that fills critical gaps, particularly in vulnerable countries. Their support for innovation, pilot projects, and the scaling of successful interventions enables faster, locally tailored responses to climate risks. Strategic collaboration among governments, donors, civil society, and the private sector enhances philanthropy's impact and ensures resources are used effectively. Through this agility and partnership, philanthropies help bridge funding shortfalls and drive transformative, inclusive, and sustainable adaptation efforts that advance the comprehensive execution of NAPs.



*"Engagement with philanthropic organizations can accelerate the implementation of National Adaptation Plans by offering flexible and catalytic financial support, helping to bridge critical gaps in adaptation finance and innovation for vulnerable countries."*

**Dario Soto Abril, Trafigura Foundation**



## HIGHLIGHTS

- There is a growing uptake of diverse financial instruments to drive adaptation action including blended finance, guarantees, debt-for-climate swaps, resilience bonds, parametric insurance, and green finance for nature-based solutions;
- Philanthropies have huge interest to contribute to successful NAP implementation, and are already pooling funds and creating specific funding windows to support countries;
- The private sector has long been recognized as an important actor in many NAPs, but more actionable processes are needed to engage them in adaptation finance;
- The GGA targets – structured into systems and components in the updated NAP technical guidelines – offer a clear roadmap for developing finance-ready NAPs that demonstrate measurable adaptation progress, crucial for building confidence among funders.



# THE ROLE OF TARGETED PROGRAMMES

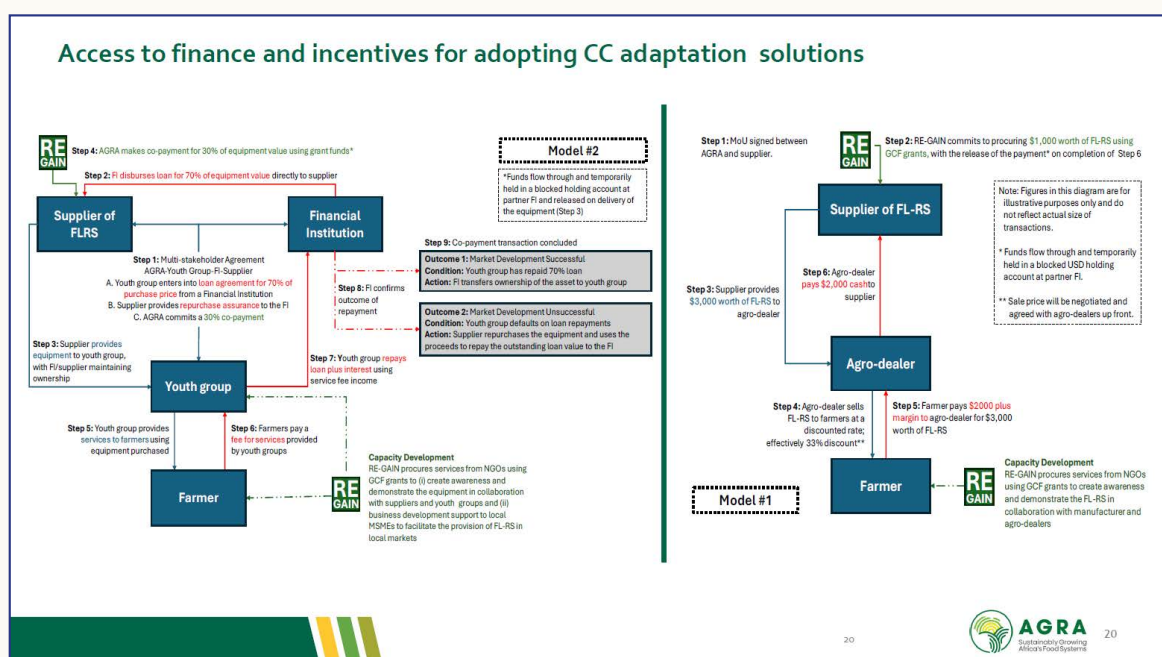
Regional programmes like the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Programme, have demonstrated how large-scale financial mobilization combined with innovation and capacity building can drive resilience, create jobs, and support sustainable development. Financing adaptation is not only about mobilizing funds but also about structuring resources effectively to turn plans into lasting climate-resilient outcomes.



*"Financing adaptive agricultural systems is essential for food security under climate change. Integrated approaches combining sustainable practices, robust funding, and capacity building are fundamental to resilient food futures".*

**Tilahun Amede**

Figure: Access to finance and incentives for adopting climate change adaptation solutions. Extracted from presentation by Tilahun Amede, AGRA





## HIGHLIGHTS

- Adaptation finance should be aligned with national priorities and directly linked to the NAP, underpinned by active stakeholder engagement, unified metrics, and streamlined access, to accelerate implementation and build lasting resilience
- Meaningful adaptation action requires funding mechanisms to provide scaled and diversified financing options, supported by direct access pathways and flexible funding windows, ensuring LDCs, SIDS, and African States can mobilize resources for transformational climate resilience
- NAP implementation needs to be strengthened through structured monitoring and evaluation systems and catalytic investment approaches, complemented by readiness programmes and capacity building, to transform national adaptation priorities into investment-ready projects that leverage additional multilateral financing



## #5: HARNESSING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: THE NAP AI STUDIO

The use of Artificial Intelligence particularly generative AI, machine learning, and other frontier technologies like GIS and big data offer great potential in accelerating the formulation and implementation of NAPs. These technologies could facilitate several aspects including climate risk assessment, adaptation planning, implementation, resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation.

The Using AI Tools session by the LEG introduced frontier technologies, as resources to support vulnerability assessments, sectoral adaptation planning, and monitoring, evaluation, and learning and importantly, implementation. Participants engaged in hands-on exercises and agreed to work together to co-produce a case study for a NAP during further sessions of the Expo.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- An initiative was created during this Expo to promote use of AI tools in the formulation and implementation of NAPs, tentatively called the “NAP AI Studio”
- During the first meeting, the group started to co-develop a sample open NAP, to build on best available science and explore advanced concepts in adaptation planning, while providing ways and means to localize issues for a given country
- Immediate next steps will explore how to deploy AI tools in supporting the different modules of the NAP process as presented in the updated NAP technical guidelines.



## #6: FULLY ENGAGING MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS

Adaptation requires a whole-of-economy and whole-of-society effort, with coordinated planning and action from national, subnational, and local governments; real economy corporates across all sectors; financial institutions, insurers, and investors; multilateral organizations; and regulators and standard-setting bodies. It also requires the active engagement of civil society organizations, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, academia and research institutions, vulnerable groups, farmers and workers, youth, media and communicators, and the philanthropic sector. Only through inclusive collaboration across these diverse stakeholders can climate resilience be scaled and sustained.

Different stakeholders (especially youth and Indigenous Peoples) should not merely be consulted, but actively embedded in decision-making processes and recognized as genuine leaders in driving adaptation innovations. The NAP process must institutionalize the engagement of faith leaders as key actors in fostering a culture of collective care, and systematically build their capacity to lead inclusive, sustained adaptation efforts. The NAP process should actively embed inclusive stakeholder engagement by integrating the diverse values and worldviews of Indigenous Peoples, the lived experiences of local communities, and private sector perspectives, while prioritizing vulnerable communities, advancing gender responsiveness, and empowering youth participation.



## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Traditional knowledge and cultural values are essential for enhancing resilience to climate change. Communities' deep connection to their environment, expressed through time-tested practices and generational wisdom, supports sustainable management of natural resources. These ancestral approaches provide holistic and locally tailored strategies crucial for effective adaptation, particularly in ecologically vulnerable regions. Incorporating community voices in climate planning ensures solutions are culturally relevant and socially inclusive. Combining traditional knowledge with scientific methods improves adaptation efforts' effectiveness, while also promoting biodiversity conservation and protecting livelihoods in changing environments.

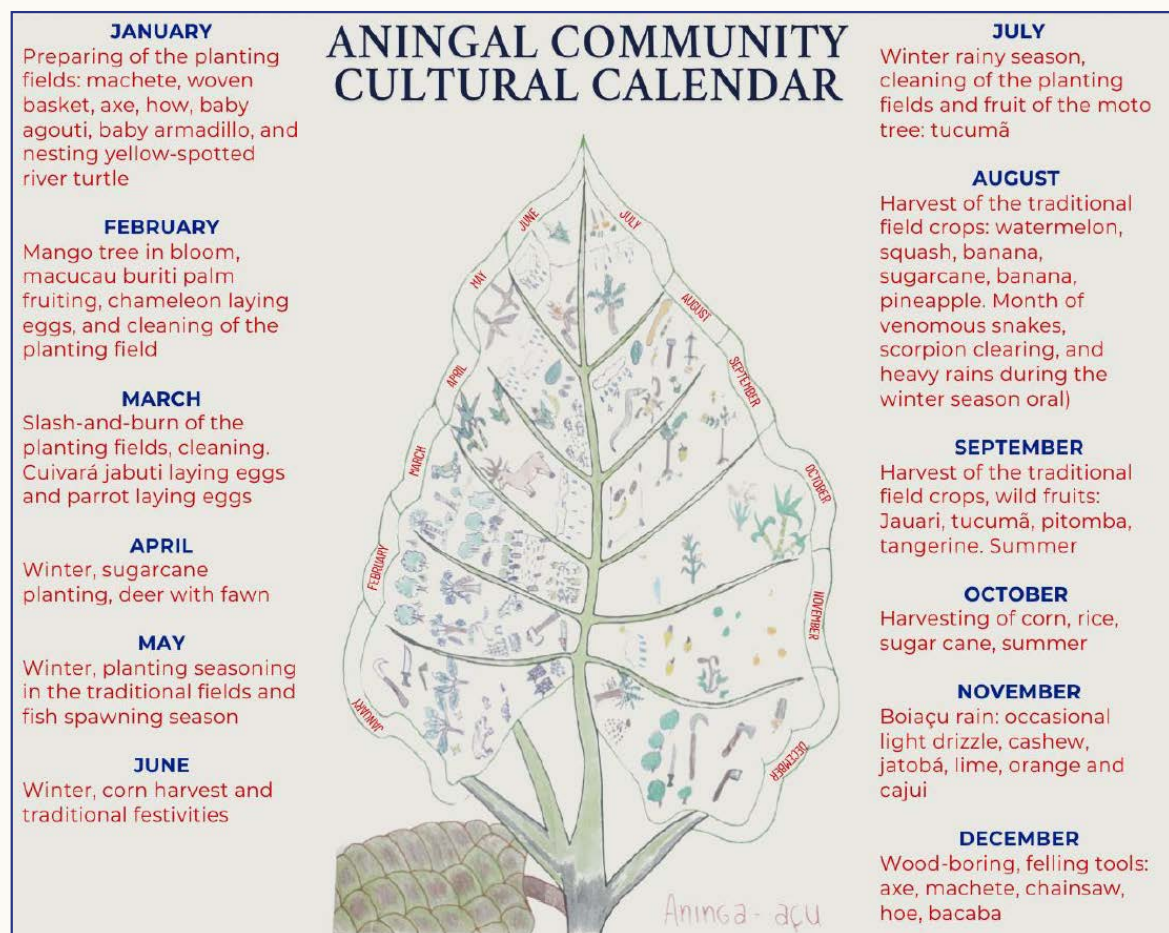


*"Including Indigenous Peoples in adaptation planning means honoring generations of knowledge woven through the cycles of the land and seasons. When adaptation efforts center Indigenous wisdom, stewardship, and community leadership, they become not only culturally grounded but also deeply resilient – rooted in balance, reciprocity, and respect for the rhythms of nature."*

**Fumukazi Zilanie Gondwe, Rumphi, Malawi**



The **Aningal Community Cultural Calendar** (see figure below) illustrates the deep interconnection between Indigenous Peoples and the natural cycles that sustain their livelihoods. Rooted in lived experience and traditional ecological knowledge, this calendar embodies the community's intimate understanding of seasonal rhythms, biodiversity, and resource management. Each month reflects practices of cultivation, harvesting, and stewardship that harmonize with ecological changes, showcasing how Indigenous communities in the Amajari region of Brazil have long adapted to environmental variability. Their practices not only ensure food security and cultural continuity but also serve as vital models for climate change adaptation through sustainable coexistence with nature.



## LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Local and community-led adaptation is crucial in shaping effective and sustainable climate resilience strategies. Integrating community knowledge, priorities, and leadership into national adaptation planning processes is an important step to ensure that solutions are grounded in local realities and foster inclusive participation. Hence, the need for strengthening institutional arrangements that support community-based adaptation, and promoting partnerships that enable direct investment and capacity-building at grassroots levels.

## YOUTH

Young people play critical role as co-creators and champions of climate adaptation. The empowerment of youth has the potential of driving locally-led adaptation efforts, fostering innovation, and advocating for increased adaptation financing. Through intergenerational dialogue and diverse stakeholder engagement, the dialogue highlighted the importance of youth voices in shaping inclusive, effective adaptation strategies that address the needs of vulnerable communities worldwide.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Youth inclusion in policy formulation remains critical. Malawi's best practice demonstrated this through the establishment of a formal national youth network recognized by the government, with members actively contributing to NAP technical and expert working groups.
- Youth empowerment must be knowledge-driven: peer-to-peer learning, dedicated training centers, and targeted technology application programs should be implemented to support scaling youth-led projects.
- Challenges such as access to information, financial access and limited institutional recognition of the youth still limit Youth participation in adaptation Initiatives.



## #7: NAP COUNTRY PLATFORM: SHOWCASING COUNTRY EXPERIENCES IN IMPLEMENTING NAPS

According to the updated NAP technical guidelines, the process to formulate and implement NAPs follows five modules (see figure below) that reflect the necessary actions to fully consider the formulation and implementation of NAPs and cross-cutting activities such as building readiness, accessing funding and technical support from relevant sources in maintaining the NAP process over time.

**Figure: Main modules of the NAP process based on the elements of the process in decision 5/CP.17 and the iterative adaptation cycle in decision 3/CMA.4. (Source: LEG (2025). The NAP Technical Guidelines: Updated technical guidelines for the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans. Bonn. Available at <https://napcentral.org/nap-guidelines>)**



As an integral feature of the NAP Expos, the NAP Country Platform provides a space for countries to showcase their progress, experience and lessons learned in formulating and implementing their NAPs. It plays an important part in the overall context of recognition of adaptation efforts of developing country Parties as outlines in decision 11/CMA.1. At the NAP Expo 2025, ten countries (namely Brazil, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, eSwatini, Guinea, Maldives, Niger, and Uganda) seized the opportunity to showcase experiences in implementing adaptation actions associated with their NAPs, interministerial capacity-building, participatory and multi-sectoral consultation, decentralized planning, partnership between public and private sector entities and communities, and local and traditional knowledge.

Below is a set of takeaways from the different sessions held by the countries:

- Cross-ministerial capacity-building for government officials can be a critical enabler for effective NAP formulation and coordination.
- Participatory, multi-sector consultations support stronger integration of NAPs into broader development plans.
- Inclusivity must be a central consideration at the formulation stage of the NAP, with explicit consideration of gender, youth, persons with disabilities, and refugees.
- Decentralized planning through sectoral and provincial NAPs enables locally led adaptation and strengthens on-the-ground implementation;
- Public-private-community partnerships offer a promising pathway to unlock private capital and scale long-term, sustainable adaptation solutions;
- Blending adaptation technologies with traditional and local knowledge enhances the effectiveness and acceptability of climate responses;
- Finance remains a challenge, however countries illustrated how strong cross-sectoral coordination can improve access to international adaptation funding.



## #8: UN4NAPS FORUM: COORDINATING UNITED NATIONS WIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Coordinated technical assistance is critical for ensuring a programmatic approach to NAP implementation, as highlighted by the UN4NAPs Forum held at the Expo.

The UN4NAPs Forum provided countries with a comprehensive suite of technical and programmatic support options to advance the formulation and implementation of their NAPs. During the discussions, Ethiopia highlighted key challenges, including gaps in climate data management, limited capacity for developing integrated risk profiles, and the need for sustained, long-term programmatic support rather than short-term, fragmented projects.

In response, partners and supporting organizations presented a range of innovative solutions and capacity-building initiatives. These included the Adaptation Accelerator Hub, designed to accelerate the implementation of climate adaptation in the world's most vulnerable countries, by helping turn adaptation planning into investment-ready, bankable projects and strengthening systems to embed adaptation into long-term development; assistance in accessing climate finance through the UNFCCC Financial Mechanism; guidance on accreditation procedures for national entities; and "train-the-trainer" programmes aimed at strengthening national expertise in data analysis, monitoring, and evidence-based adaptation planning.





## #9: LAUNCHING OF NEW SUPPLEMENTS TO THE NAP TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

Through various COP decisions, constituted bodies under the UNFCCC, UN organizations, specialized agencies and other relevant organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies have been mandated to support developing countries in the process to formulate and implement NAPs. Such support includes, among others, developing and applying supplements to the NAP technical guidelines, which provide greater detail on topics and concepts in the updated NAP technical guidelines.

Three new supplements were launched at the NAP Expo 2025, bringing available supplements to a total of 40. All the supplements are available on NAP Central at <https://napcentral.org/supplementary-materials-library>.

	Supplement title and author	Brief description
	Coastal and ocean adaptation: Recommendations to improve the inclusion of coastal and ocean adaptation in the development of National Adaptation Plans	The supplement provides guidance on integrating coastal and ocean adaptation into NAPs, either by including specific measures within NAPs or by developing stand-alone coastal and ocean plans.
	Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI) in National Adaptation Plans and Nationally Determined Contributions	The supplement highlights the growing importance of Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance (CDRFI) in addressing climate-induced disasters. It examines how CDRFI tools are integrated into NAPs and NDCs, aligning with UNFCCC goals. Reviewing 54 NAPs, it identifies key trends, benefits, and actions to strengthen resilience and financial protection.
	Technical guide on integrating human mobility and climate change linkages into relevant national climate change planning processes	This Technical Guide helps stakeholders integrate human mobility challenges and opportunities into national climate change planning, especially the formulation and implementation of NAPs. It offers practical steps, tools, and adaptable approaches for mainstreaming human mobility into adaptation planning and communications.



## THE LDC EXPERT GROUP

The LEG was established in 2001 as part of the suite of support to the LDCs under the Convention. Over the years, the group has developed and implemented several activities on adaptation by virtue of its mandate to provide technical guidance and support to LDCs on adaptation. In its repertoire of mandate includes the provision of technical guidance and advice to countries on the formulation and implementation of NAPs. It also includes the preparation and implementation of the NAPAs and the implementation of the LDC work programme under the UNFCCC. The LEG is also mandated to provide technical guidance and advice on accessing funding from the GCF for the process of formulating and implementing NAPs, in collaboration with the GCF secretariat.

The LEG implements its work programme through a variety of modalities including technical guidance and advice to the countries, technical guidelines, technical papers, training activities, workshops, expert meetings, NAP Expos, case studies, capturing and sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned, NAP Central, monitoring of progress, effectiveness and gaps, collaboration with other bodies, programmes and organizations, and promotion of coherence and synergy.

More information about the LEG, including its work programme is available at <https://unfccc.int/LEG>.

