

Assessing adaptation needs



United Nations
Climate Change

Adaptation Committee (AC)

IPCC event: Findings from the contribution of
IPCC Working Group II to its Sixth Assessment
Report

8 November 2022

Methodologies for assessing adaptation needs and their application

Technical paper



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What are adaptation needs?

- “Circumstances requiring action to ensure safety of population and security of assets in response to climate impacts”
 - => Adaptation needs refer to the actions and resources required to complete all stages of the adaptation process.
- Framework for assessments: Biophysical and environmental, social, institutional, and information-, capacity- and resource-related needs
- Situation-specific and dynamic
- Evolving



How does this link to the UNFCCC process?

Assessing adaptation needs is a fundamental part of enhancing climate resilience

Links to the UNFCCC process :

- Adaptation planning and implementation (i.e. through NAPs),
- Reporting and communications (e.g. NDCs, adaptation communications, biennial reports),
- Analyses and assessments (e.g. determining the needs of developing country Parties, technology and capacity needs assessments),
- Reviews of progress (e.g. global stocktake).



What has worked

For a comprehensive assessment of adaptation needs:

- No single approach but a continuous process
- Best available information, incl. indigenous knowledge and local and practitioner experience

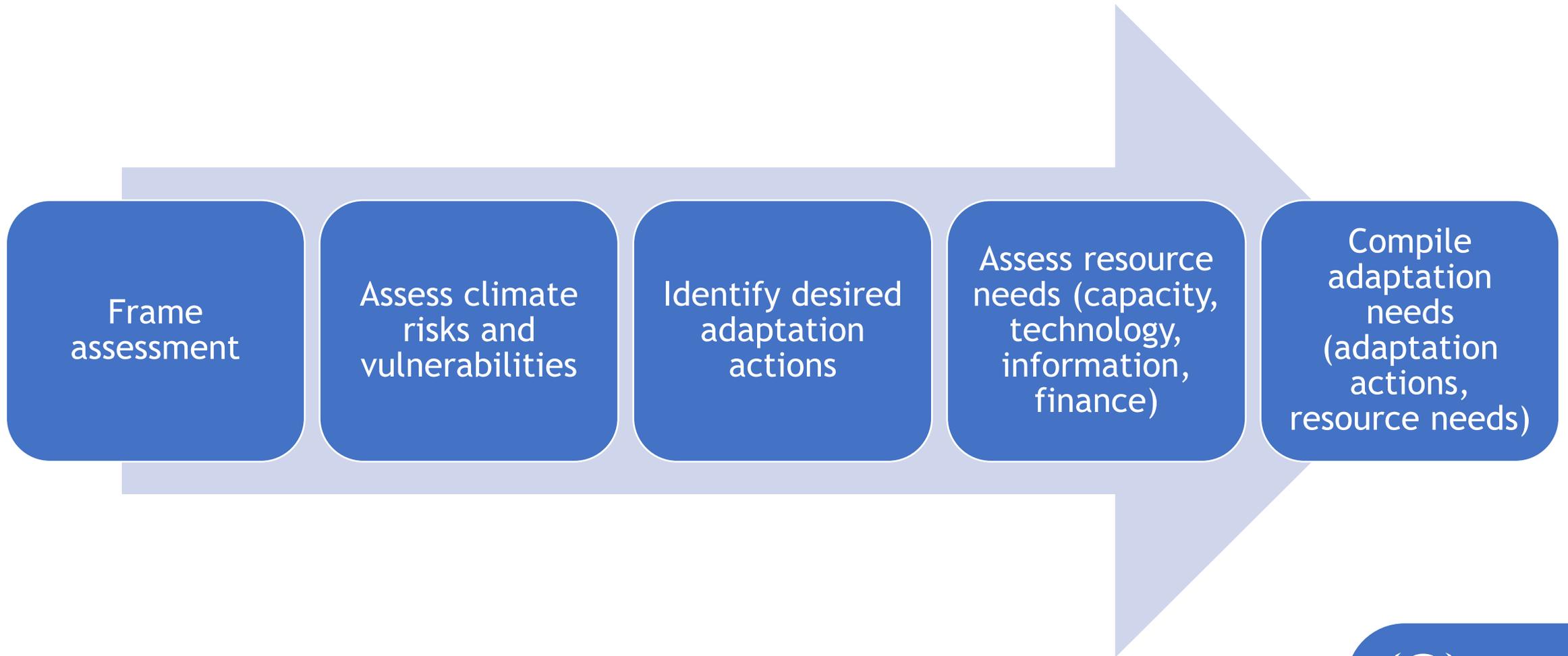


Emerging good practices

- Use participatory approaches
- Use multiple climate and socioeconomic scenarios
- Consider both transboundary and domestic or local climate risks, as well as compound and cascading risks
- Employ an adaptive risk management or pathways approach
- Consider transformational adaptation options in addition to incremental actions
- Conduct integrated assessments of capacity, technological and financial needs



Five-step general process



Possible future work?

- Share practical experience;
- Provide support for developing countries;
- Develop and assess the applicability of methodologies, methods and tools according to countries' capacities;
- Strengthen and collaboration among UNFCCC constituted bodies, the IPCC, practitioners and academia.

