



United Nations
Climate Change

28th meeting of the Adaptation Committee

Agenda item 5

Adaptive capacity assessment

Bonn, Germany

15–19 September 2025





I. Introduction and background

- AC 26 emphasized the need to strengthen work in this area
- AC 27 agreed to consider this agenda item at the next meeting
- During the intersessional call on 8 April 2025, AC members expressed the need to:
 - ✓ **clarify the conceptual basis of adaptive capacity**
 - ✓ **map existing assessment methodologies**
 - ✓ **propose feasible and resource-efficient modalities** for future work



II. Understanding adaptive capacity

- Enables systems and communities to respond to climate risks and variability
- Under-assessed due to its complexity and context-specific nature
- Clarifying this concept helps improve NAPs, adaptation communications, and resilience tracking



Current gaps in methodologies

- No standardized approach across contexts or scales
- Existing assessments lack coherence between local and national levels
- Insufficient attention to governance, equity, and participation
- Data and forward-looking capacity remain limited



III. Potential activities for the AC

- **Technical review and mapping:**
 - ✓ Map existing methodologies and tools, including regional relevance
- **Conceptual clarification note:**
 - ✓ Develop a guidance note with indicators and examples
- **Case documentation:**
 - ✓ Collect case studies of effective, inclusive assessments
- **Knowledge exchange:**
 - ✓ Hold a targeted webinar with IPCC, PCCB, and others
- **Collaborate with other bodies:**
 - ✓ Engage CGE, LEG, PCCB, and NWP to align on indicators and priorities



VI. Next steps

<i>Step</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
1. Agreement on scope	AC 28 to confirm thematic scope, objectives, and initial activities	AC 28
2. Identification of case studies	Secretariat to compile a preliminary list of country examples, including from NAPs, adaptation communications, and NDCs.	By AC 29
3. Technical mapping report	Commission or conduct a desk review of existing methodologies and practices.	Q1 2026
4. Preparation of the outline of technical paper	Draft outline and scope for the technical paper with conceptual, practical elements, methodologies, <u>tools</u> and practices, subject to AC approval.	By AC 29
5. Coordination with partners	Liaise with LEG, PCCB, NWP, and relevant regional networks to identify synergies	Ongoing
6. High-level webinar (outreach step)	Organize a single knowledge-sharing session with key partners once a draft output is available	Mid-2026
7. Consider technical workshop (optional)	Explore feasibility of one regional or thematic technical workshop in 2026	To be determined