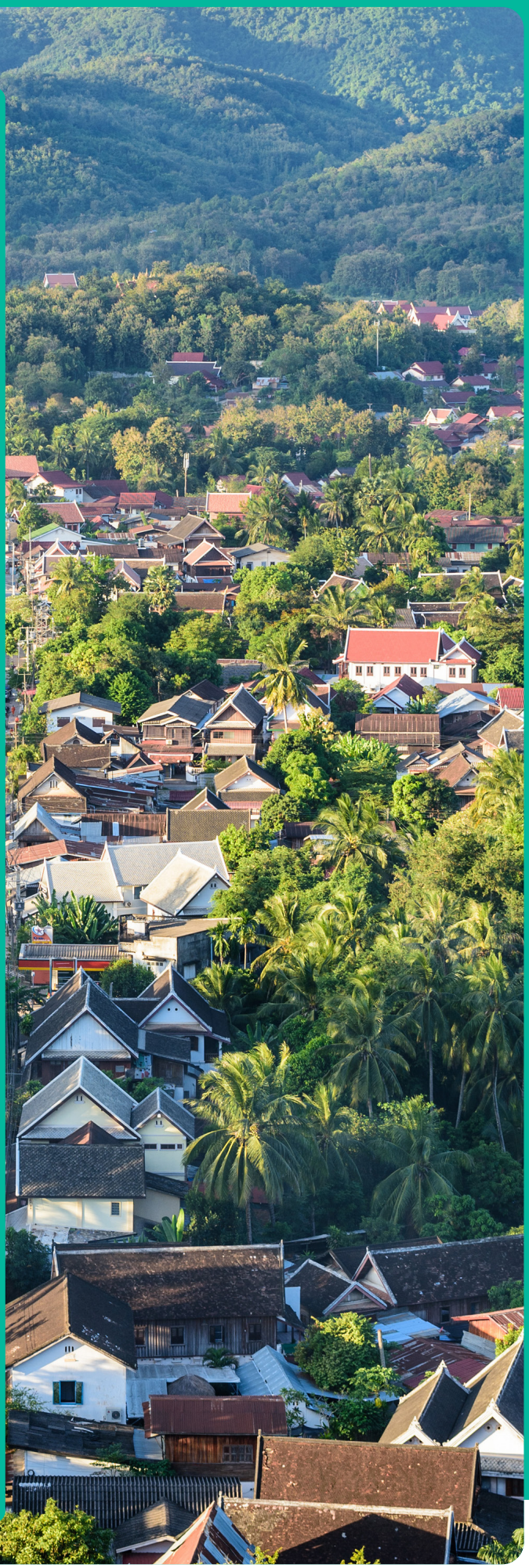
GGGI Technical Report No. 36

Identifying Good Practices in National Adaptation Plans: A Global Review



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ABBREVIATIONS

ALL	Albanian Lek
BAU	Business as usual
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCDA	Climate Change and Development Authority
CCWG	Climate Change Working Group
CRGGTF	Climate Resilience and Green Growth Trust Fund
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DCOG	Department of Cooperative Governance of South Africa
DBE	Department of Basic Education of South Africa
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training of South Africa
DHS	Department of Human Settlements of South Africa
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of South Africa
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
EU	European Union
EbA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
ETF	Enhanced Transparency Framework
ENAMMC	Mozambique's National Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy
FFIPCCA	Financing Framework and Implementation Plan for Climate Change Adaptation
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GCMs	General Circulation Models
GST	Global Stock Take
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KJIP	Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan
KNAP	Kiribati's NAP
LAPs	Local Adaptation Plans
LEG	LDC Expert Group
LDC	Least Developed Countries
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MTE	Ministry of Tourism and Environment of [country]
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAP-GP	National Adaptation Plan - Good Practices

NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
PCCB	Paris Committee Capacity-Building
PoA	Programmes of Action
RDF	Regional Development Fund
SB58	58th session of the Subsidiary Bodies
SIDA	The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SNMAMC	Mozambique's National Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation System
SSE	Secretary of State for the Environment
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound
ToC	Theory of Change
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank

CONTENTS

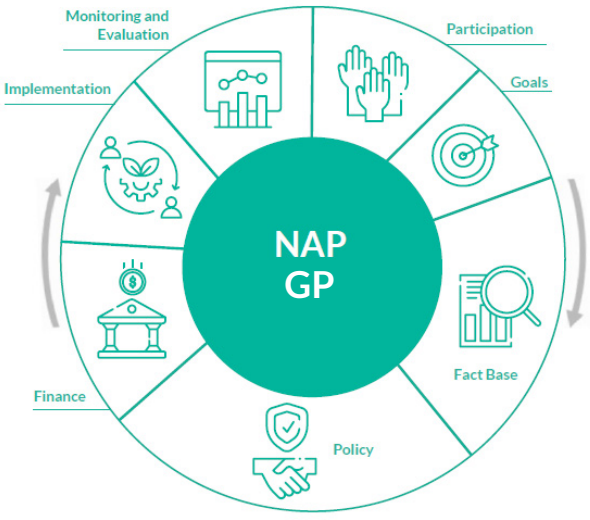
Executive summary

This report presents a global analysis of the contents of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) documents submitted to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) before the 1st of January 2024.

The present report has two main objectives:

- to present the results of the global review of NAPs derived from a review framework that was developed as part of this works and
- to highlight and share good practices on NAP thematic areas from countries, for other countries to learn from to either creating a NAP or to refine their existing NAP.

To facilitate the review process, a NAP good practices (NAP-GP) review framework was developed as part of this work, and is structured into 7 categories, namely *Goals*, *Participation*, *Fact Base*, *Policy*, *Implementation*, *Finance*, and *Monitoring and Evaluation*. The review framework comprises a total of 55 main elements related to the 7 categories.



The review framework was developed closely based on the principles of the Technical Guidelines for the National Adaption Plan Process by the UNFCCC. Apart from that, the review framework was developed based on enhanced scientific robustness through comprehensive desk research and literature review of over 24 related further guidelines, frameworks and articles, alongside collaboration with a diverse range of experts (university researchers, practitioners and key actors like the NAP Global Network and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group). Multiple expert group meetings were convened, and a peer review involving various international organizations was organised for the final report.

The report lists out at least the good practices across the 55 elements, while listing out the countries that the authors think can be a good example for others to explore further in understanding the practices of those countries while developing the NAP. Based on the results, we identified that the *Finance* elements in the NAP documents are the weakest among all seven categories in the review framework. On average, only 38% of the *Finance* elements that are considered good practices are included across the 52 NAPs. This is followed by the categories of *Participation* and *M&E*, with an average inclusion rate of 56% and 57% of good practice elements, respectively. In contrast, the remaining categories—*Fact Base*, *Policy*, *Goals*, and *Implementation*—show better performance, with at least two-thirds of the good practice elements covered on average across the NAPs.

Overall, this study's results highlight the insights gained from the reviewed NAP documents that have been officially submitted to the UNFCCC (listed here: https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps). They should not be interpreted as a comprehensive assessment of all good practices in the entire NAP processes as some countries might have separate internal documents or strategies as part of the NAP process and not reflected in the official NAP document. These may not be reflected in the main NAP document, potentially leading to the oversight of some good practices.,

Overall, by highlighting best practices from other countries, the report simplifies the research process and enables countries to draw on a wealth of knowledge and experience when developing their own NAPs. Additionally, the report aims to facilitate peer-to-peer learning, encouraging countries to exchange experiences and knowledge based on these good practices. This approach ensures that valuable insights and effective strategies are shared and adopted across nations.

The upcoming revision process of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) should be seen as an opportunity to align with a country's NAP to maximize synergy between both processes. Countries should also focus on enhancing capabilities within the relevant agencies by investing in advanced climate adaptation knowledge and tools. Improving skills in vulnerability and risk assessment, climate finance, and economic impact analysis will equip relevant entities to address the complexities of climate adaptation effectively. Development of a knowledge-sharing platform shall also be considered, which will not only document good practices but also promote peer-to-peer learning and collaboration with academic and expert communities. This will help in continuously improving and adapting NAPs, enhancing the country's resilience to climate impacts.

1. Introduction

To advance global adaptation efforts, the Paris Agreement (PA) requires that all developed and developing countries participate in adaptation planning processes. Article 7 of the PA states that "*Each Party shall, as appropriate, engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of actions, including the development or enhancement of relevant plans, policies and/or contributions, which may include the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans*" making the process of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) a key element in achieving the goals of the PA. Countries were called to develop and update their NAP and were requested to submit Adaptation Communications and further encourage Parties' adaptation plans to be inclusive, informed, long-term, and with sustainable development and mitigation co-benefits and synergies in mind.

The initial Global Stocktake (GST), completed in 2023, compiled various findings regarding adaptation strategies. Firstly, the Conference of Parties welcomes the increasing adaptation planning and implementation efforts being undertaken by countries towards enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, and reducing vulnerability, as set out in national adaptation plans (UNFCCC 2023a). However, most observed adaptation responses are fragmented, incremental, sector specific and unequally distributed across regions (Berrang-Ford et al., 2021), and that, despite the progress made, significant adaptation gaps still exist across sectors and regions and will continue to grow under current levels of implementation.

Researchers note that one of the best methods to ensure robust adaptation is to rely on rigorous adaptation planning (Woodruff and Regan 2018, Preston, et al., 2011). Well-developed adaptation strategies with strong institutional frameworks significantly enhance the effectiveness of their implementation, contributing to better outcomes in climate resilience and adaptation efforts (Mimura, et al. 2014). Under the UNFCCC, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) was mandated by the Conference of Parties (COP) to provide technical guidance and support to the NAP process. As part of this mandate, the LEG has published the *Technical Guidelines for the National Adaptation Plan Process* (LDC Expert Group 2012), which serves as the main guideline for countries, in particular least developed countries, to develop and implement their NAPs. The guide identifies four main elements that are critical to the formulation and implementation of NAPs, namely:

- Laying the groundwork and addressing gaps
- Preparatory elements
- Implementation strategies
- Reporting, monitoring and review

Together, these four elements form a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of NAPs, ensuring that countries can systematically build their resilience to the impacts of climate change. One of the central elements of the overall national adaptation planning process is the NAP document, which serves as a comprehensive plan document and includes the strategies, measures and frameworks developed based on the four main elements of the *Technical Guidelines*.

The UNFCCC encourages countries to have in place their NAPs, adaptation strategies and planning processes by 2025 and to advance implementation by 2030 (UNFCCC 2023a). Recognizing that a good planning process is a prerequisite for the effective implementation of the planned actions, countries need to step up their efforts in planning and developing a robust NAP and capture its core in a NAP document, which will be one of the key planning documents referred to in the implementation of the plan. This report presents the results of an analysis of the good practice content of NAP documents submitted to the UNFCCC prior to January 1, 2024. The analysis was conducted using a NAP good practices (NAP-GP) review framework developed in collaboration with various researchers and practitioners with experience in adaptation plan development and closely aligned with the LEG's *Technical Guidelines* process. Based on the results of the analysis, this report aims to identify and share best practices on various topics for other countries to refer to when developing or refining their NAPs.

1.1 Objectives of the report

At COP27, decision 9/CP.27 (UNFCCC 2023b) mandated the Adaptation Committee and the LEG to continue identifying the priority gaps and needs that developing countries encounter in the process of formulating and implementing NAPs. This includes assessing the progress made by each country and recognizing any obstacles and challenges they face. This report aims to contribute to that effort and discussion by reviewing NAP documents and suggesting areas for improvement based on the proposed NAP-GP review framework. Therefore, the aim of this report is twofold:

i) to present the results of the global review of NAPs derived from a review framework that was developed as part of this work, and

ii) to highlight and share good practices on NAP thematic areas, for countries to learn from and improve their NAP processes.

Apart from fulfilling the review purpose, the NAP-GP review framework can also be used for diagnostic purposes to identify areas in existing NAPs that can be enhanced. In addition, this report goes beyond mere review and looks at the good practices of various countries that have successfully integrated key components into their NAPs. These examples serve not only as a source of inspiration, but also as a list of possible solutions to challenges a country may face in NAP development. By highlighting best practices from other countries, the report simplifies the research process and enables countries to draw on a wealth of knowledge and experience when developing their own NAPs.

Resource availability, encompassing both technical expertise and financial support, plays an important role in shaping the quality and reach of a NAP. Recognizing this, the aim of this report is not just focusing on what makes a plan robust, but more importantly also on what makes it actionable. This was the fundamental principle of the review conducted as part of this work. **It is also important to note that there is no one-size-fits-all template for developing NAPs, as the entry point, needs and context for adaptation planning can vary from country to country.** The report is not a recipe for how a country should develop a NAP, but rather a compilation of elements that good adaptation planning should have, based on existing UNFCCC guidelines and countries that have implemented them. This report is aimed at policy makers and practitioners involved in a NAP development or enhancement process.

2. Methodology

This work was mainly inspired by two publications. The first is the publication "*Quality of urban climate adaptation plans over time*" in the scientific journal Nature (Reckien et al. 2023). In this publication, the researchers developed a framework called Adaptation Plan Quality Assessment ADAQA to assess quality of urban adaptation plans in 327 cities (Reckien et al. 2023). In this work, **plan quality was defined as the strengths of plans that are assumed to lead to effective implementation and reduced trade-offs with other societal goals, i.e. avoidance of 'maladaptation', measured by the degree of conformance with agreed criteria for plan quality in the scientific literature.**

The second publication is "*The urban content of the NDCs: Global review 2022*" by UN-Habitat and the UNESCO Chair for Urban Resilience at the University of Southern Denmark (UN-Habitat and SDU.Resilience 2022). As part of this work, 193 NDCs were reviewed to understand the urban content of the NDCs and to show the (mis)alignment between general mitigation/adaptation challenges and urban mitigation/adaptation challenges. The analysis identified gaps and support countries' efforts to further integrate urban climate action into national climate policy.

Following these two publications, the NAP-GP review framework was developed in close alignment with the ADAQA framework and applied to the review of NAPs. Using the ADAQA framework as the foundation **ensures the scientific robustness of the process, given the rigorous peer review it underwent before being published in a high-impact journal**. Additionally, this alignment promotes consistency between local and national adaptation plans.

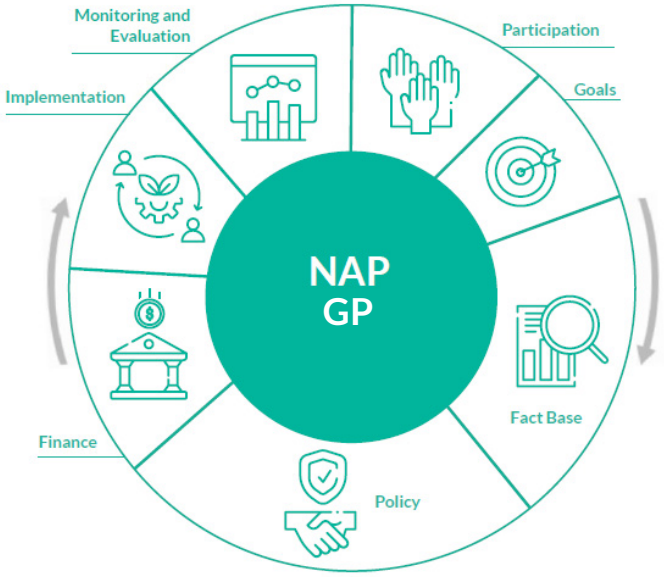
However, the ADAQA framework cannot be applied directly to the assessment of NAPs, as some elements differ at the regional and national levels. Therefore, the ADAQA framework was further enhanced and modified in close alignment with the **Technical Guidelines** by the LEG. The resulting NAP-GP review framework includes questions that align with the four main elements and steps of the NAP process and the key questions proposed in the **Technical Guidelines.**

2.1 Overview of the NAP-GP Review Framework

Inspired by the ADAQA framework, the NAP-GP review framework is structured into 7 categories: *Goals*, *Participation (in preparation of the NAP)*, *Fact Base*, *Policy*, *Implementation*, *Finance*, *and Monitoring and Evaluation*, which represent the main steps and the most important essence of a NAP in planning and implementation. The NAP-GP review framework comprises a total of 55 main elements related to the 7 categories, designed to identify good-practices

and insights. To ensure consistency during the application of the framework, a review protocol was developed parallelly with the aim to reduce potential biases and varying interpretations. The protocol define terms and expressions prone to differing interpretations and offer comprehensive review guidance. The complete NAP-GP review framework (including all elements) is presented in Annex B.

Figure 2: Overview of the categories in the NAP-GP. The segments of the elements in the pie-chart represents the distribution of the 55 elements across the 7 categories.

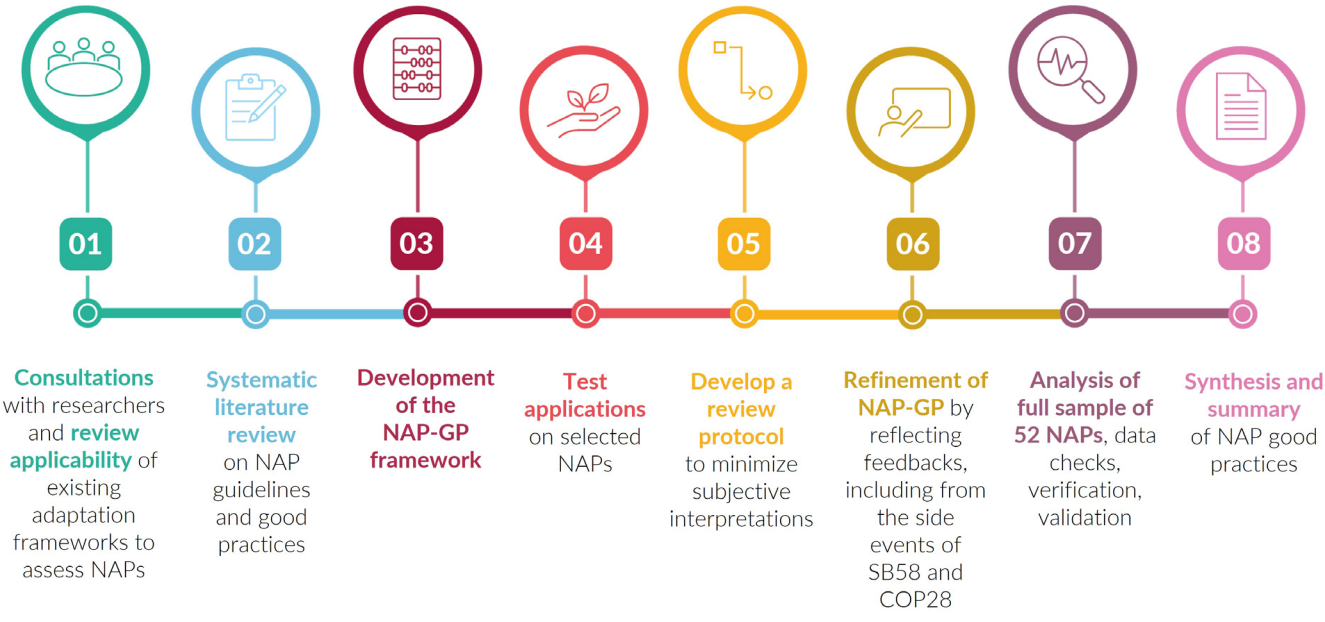


2.2 Development Process of the NAP-GP Review Framework

Coordinated by the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and the University of Twente, the framework was developed in close collaboration with a group of researchers and practitioners with expertise and experience in adaptation planning, developing NAPs and implementing climate adaptation actions. The development of the NAP-GP review framework followed a structured process comprising several key steps. Firstly, relevant documents on NAP development and evaluation were reviewed to establish the framework's main categories and related questions. This involved examining technical guidelines (Commonwealth Secretariat 2022, Morchain 2021, UNDRR 2021, UNEP 2021, World Health Organization 2021, Karttunen, et al. 2017, NAP Global Network and GIZ 2017, Dazé et al. 2016, LDC Expert Group 2012), reports (UNEP 2023, LDC Expert Group 2023, Abeysinghe et al. 2017), frameworks (Reckien et al. 2023, Dazé 2022, NAP Global Network & UNFCCC 2019, BMZ 2014), and articles (Gao, J. 2023, Milhorance, et al. 2022, Leiter, T. 2021) to formulate a comprehensive set of questions for assessing the incorporation of core components across different thematic areas within a NAP. The framework was developed in ways that can be applicable to the least developed countries (LDC), developing countries and developed countries.

Consultations were held over a period of approximately four months with project internal and external experts, encompassing university researchers and practitioners from around 20 organizations as well as the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group and the UNFCCC. These consultations played a crucial role in refining the framework. Through iterative test reviews, protocols were developed to guide

Figure 3: Main steps in the NAP-GP development process



reviewers and ensure a consistent and objective understanding and application of the framework while minimizing researchers' biases. The first version of the NAP-GP framework and the initial review of selected NAPs were presented at a side event of the SB58 Bonn Climate Conference held in June 2023. After receiving additional external feedback, the framework was finalized and applied to 52 NAPs submitted to the UNFCCC up to January 1st 2024. The results were also presented in a side event at the COP28 in UAE and disseminated at the 5th Capacity Building Hub of the Paris Committee Capacity-Building (PCCB) in joint collaboration with the LDC Experts Group (LEG).

This report represents an initial phase in a broader evaluation of the adaptation planning processes, focusing on identifying overall gaps and showcasing good practices identified within the official NAP submissions. Future works may extend the assessment's scope to include all supplementary documents related to NAPs and other parts of the adaptation planning process. For those interested in exploring the supporting materials associated with the NAPs of specific countries, a comprehensive compilation of these documents is available in Annex A.

2.3 Scope and limitation of the report

The scope of this review is **limited exclusively to the official NAP documents submitted to the UNFCCC** (complete list of submitted NAPs can be found here: https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps). This approach ensures a consistent analytical boundary for each NAP, given the varying availability of supporting documents across countries.

It is important to acknowledge that some countries may develop separate sub-strategies, such as implementation roadmaps or financing strategies, as part of their NAP process. These may not be reflected in the main NAP document, potentially leading to the oversight of some good practices. Therefore, our study does not imply that good practices are absent in other documents, the literature, or countries' general adaptation planning processes. The study's results highlight the insights gained from the reviewed NAP documents, and therefore they should not be interpreted as a comprehensive assessment of all good practices in the entire NAP processes.

The NAP-GP review framework was developed collaboratively by researchers and practitioners, emphasizing elements deemed crucial for effective NAP implementation. Ideally, targeted country-level surveys could have been conducted to understand the unique circumstances of NAP planning and implementation in each country. However, due to limited resources, these activities could not be undertaken as part of this work. The research team plans to carry out interviews and surveys with government staff to better understand the needs, the challenges, the opportunities and good practices of countries' NAPs. Furthermore, the research team aims to address some of the above limitations through future research activities and extended or specialized review and analysis.

3. Good practices in designing a NAP

Following the in-depth review of the 52 NAPs using the NAP-GP Review Framework, good practices were identified through a comprehensive cross-analysis. These good practices are presented in the following sub-chapters, organized according to the seven categories of the NAP-GP Review Framework.

Each sub-chapter follows a consistent structure. First, each element within a category is presented alongside a percentage, indicating the proportion of NAPs that rated the element as "yes". The ratings are visually represented using the traffic light principle in the figure to the right.

This is followed by an example of good practice from a selected NAP. Each sub-chapter concludes with a list of other countries' NAPs, which we recommend for further reading to discover additional good practices not covered in this analysis.

>67%	A green box indicates that more than 67% of NAPs rated an element as "yes"
33- 67%	A yellow box represents 33% to 67% of NAPs rated an element as "yes"
<33%	A red box signifies that less than 33% of NAPs of NAPs rated an element as "yes"

3.1 Participation in the preparation phase

82%

1. Does the plan include at least one mechanism for participation of stakeholders in the plan preparation?

A mechanism for stakeholder participation in the development of the plan ensures that different perspectives and expertise can be incorporated into the planning process. Importantly, seeking input from a broad range of stakeholders increases the effectiveness and acceptance of the plan, as it is better aligned with the real needs and priorities of those most affected by climate change.

As part of the NAP preparation, ***Fiji*** proposed a set-up of a NAP Steering Committee to guide the development of the NAP and facilitate the discussion among stakeholders involved. Specifically, a stakeholder participation guiding principle was proposed together with an inter-ministerial approach, stating that an inclusive and multi-stakeholder process will support the development of the NAP by ensuring the promotion of information among stakeholders, alignment of strategies, and coordination efforts at multiple levels. This was specified in the document "National Adaptation Plan Steering Committee: Terms of Reference".

86%

2. Does the plan state that an inter-ministerial steering committee or advisory committee was used to guide plan creation?

An inter-ministerial steering or advisory committee is essential in ensuring alignment of national policies and available resources, which will help make the plan holistic and enhance its efficiency and successful implementation. ***Bangladesh*** provides good practice regarding this element through the establishment of several committees. Firstly, the National Council on Environment and Climate Change, which is responsible for overseeing the plan, policy-level progress and the outcome of implementation. Secondly, the Interministerial Steering Committee on Climate Change, which was set up to guide implementation and regularly conduct inter-ministerial coordination meetings. A separate National Technical Advisory Committee was proposed to coordinate the NAP implementation and address gaps and challenges to ensure smooth implementation, which will be supported by the Technical Working Group on NAP Implementation. The existing district development coordination committees were tasked to stocktake, guide, supervise, and administer climate change adaptation-related initiatives in coordination with district or union-level committees, district disaster management committees, and representatives of marginal communities, women, and people with diverse gender identities, people with disabilities, youth, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs).

34%

3. Does the plan mention that the stakeholders in the plan preparation are gender-balanced?

There are several ways in which a NAP can ensure that the preparatory phase of the plan is gender sensitive and balanced. For example, in the planning process, when stakeholders from different sectors are consulted, gender balance must be considered and sought. Gender equality and social inclusion should also be a focus while identifying adaptation measures. Moreover, stakeholder consultations must be gender-sensitive and different groups of women must be involved in the development of the plan.

In principle, an example of gender-balanced processes and mechanisms are given in the ***South African*** NAP, which states that both of the development and implementation of the adaptation actions supported by having gender-balanced participation, taking into account differences in needs, priorities, living experiences, and vulnerabilities. The NAP of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is a good example because gender balance was taken into account in the plan preparation (in the appendix). In fact, its technicians' workshop had 36 participants, including 16 women, while the decision-makers' session had 25 participants, with 12 being women.

30%

4. Did the plan preparation include representatives from the most vulnerable groups and communities?

Including representatives from the most vulnerable groups and communities in the preparation of the plan supports that their specific challenges and needs are accurately identified and addressed in the NAP. In ***Fiji***, the guiding principles of the NAP stated that a wide range of climate change adaptation stakeholders shall be involved in the development of the plan, especially the specific inclusion of low-income and otherwise vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, the elderly, women, children and the LGBTQ community). These groups are particularly exposed to the impacts of climate change in the country. However, one limitation is that no means of verification

are available to assess whether these groups participated de facto in technical working groups and/or were consulted based on their technical expertise at either national or sub-national levels. The NAP does mention that, among all, participatory and gender-responsive budgeting will be operationalised by gender specialists and that actions are ongoing to strengthen capacities of national-level authorities to include needs of vulnerable groups as 'active agents of change'.

In another example, the NAP of ***Grenada*** was developed with detailed input from more than 160 Grenadian stakeholders (60% male/40% female participation) from various ministries, private sector, NGOs and community-based organizations including women and youth groups', 'citizens, companies, research institutes.

32%

5. Does the plan include at least one youth engagement strategy?

Youth engagement as an agent of change and innovation in climate adaptation contributes to more comprehensive perspectives and long-term interests in national adaptation. The young population has an important role to play in driving change and innovation in climate adaptation. Including their perspectives and long-term interests in the plan will ensure that the plan incorporates a forward-looking approach to national adaptation.

Kiribati's NAP identified specific measures to empower youth and promote the participation of children and youth in climate adaptation initiatives, for instance, training in South Tarawa and outer islands, 'Start Your Business' program, financial literacy program etc. Youth representation in the plan was not a standalone approach, but instead included in communication strategies, stakeholders' consultations, community initiatives and so forth (with the Youth Division being the responsible lead agency, supported by e.g. Kiribati National Youth Council).. In addition, the plan proposed developing a communication strategy on adaptation initiatives for young people and implementing training courses for young people using the training the trainers method.

40%

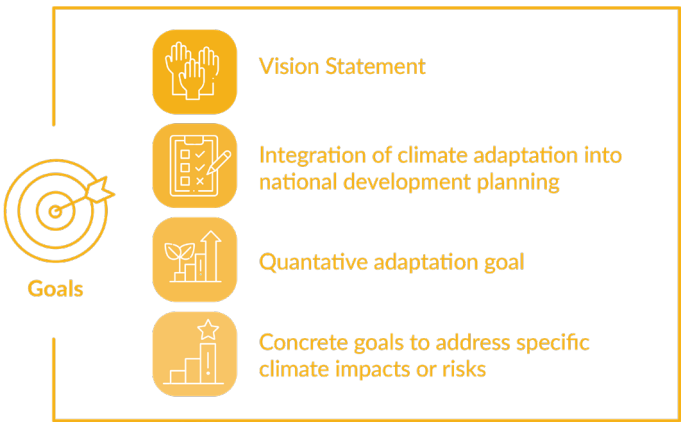
6. Does the plan integrate traditional knowledge in plan preparation?

Incorporating traditional knowledge into the NAP leverages time-tested insights and methodologies that are inherently aligned with the local ecological contexts. This approach ensures that the plan is grounded in sustainable practices and is more likely to be embraced at a wider scale by the community.

Kiribati's NAP particularly perceives the loss of traditional knowledge as a significant issue to be addressed. The integration of traditional information in the plan preparation is well observed under Strategy 2, 'Improving knowledge and information generation, management, and sharing.' One of the goals that Kiribati's NAP aims to achieve is ensuring that the I-Kiribati population is well-informed, with all stakeholders having access to up-to-date and accurate contemporary and traditional information on climate change and disaster risk management. Additionally, it aims for communities to take voluntary action to reduce climate change and disaster risks. To be sector-specific, incorporating traditional knowledge was one of the priorities in plans for food security and early warnings. Improving food preservation and storage techniques to avoid shortages and increase availability through the use of traditional fishing and agricultural skills and knowledge, along with documenting traditional knowledge among men and women regarding cultivation, preparation, and preservation techniques for traditional food crops and fruit trees, are some of the planned actions. An effective monitoring system to improve early warnings for all hazards also draws on traditional knowledge and innovative engineering solutions when drafting key adaptation actions. Examples include researching and incorporating traditional skills into seasonal and weather forecasting and setting up systems to utilize traditional knowledge of early warning signs of environmental stress, including those observed by women.

Further good practices on the ***Participation*** component can be found in the NAP of Kiribati, Costa Rica, Grenada, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Timor-Leste, Liberia, and Uruguay.

3.2 Goals



92%

1. Does the plan include a vision statement?

A good NAP should include a vision statement that sets out an overall image of a desirable future. A vision statement may be supported by more concrete qualitative and quantitative adaptation goals that help in the achievement of the desired future.

The NAP of ***Papua New Guinea*** is a great example of including a vision statement, e.g. by providing a strategic framework to support nation-led endeavours. Such a strategic framework supports the effective integration of adaptation into sectoral planning processes. As such, vision statements and goals are crucial for providing a broad overview of a desired future and supporting the operationalization of climate change actions across horizontal and vertical sub-ordinate governance levels.

34%

2. Does the plan include quantitative adaptation goal(s)?

Many NAPs include qualitative goals, which are, if well formulated, i.e. Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound (SMART), a great tool to effectively address climate vulnerabilities and increase adaptation capacities. However, if possible, the NAP should also specify goals that are SMART. SMART goals enable a more realistic and efficient implementation of the policy and its progress assessment (monitoring) and prevent plans from being overambitious or unrealistic. Hence, setting SMART goals increases the 'SMARTness' of possible adaptation actions. Setting quantitative goals can be challenging, particularly for adaptation, which aims to reduce climate risk and increase resilience which are multi-dimensional and broad concepts. However, experiences show that setting quantitative and SMART goals is beneficial as it allows for a focus on outcomes and offers a metric for performance checks of the process, outputs, and outcomes later on. While setting adaptation goals, it is beneficial to include key national and sub-national social, economic, and ecological stakeholders in the process.

Peru sets goals for specific and relevant sectors for both 2030 and 2050. It sets quantitative goals by highlighting percentages of Climate Change Actions implemented per prioritized objectives.

58%

3. Does the plan include concrete adaptation goal(s) to particular climate change impacts or risks?

A good NAP should strive to increase internal consistency by aligning the set goals with identified impacts or risks. The NAP of Tonga is a good example of setting a vision, a mission, and a goal and supplementing these with 6 thematic objectives and concrete sub-objectives. Each of the concrete sub-objectives is complemented by activities/ actions and expected outcomes. All of these correspond with each other. A timeline for the completion of all activities and the achievement of outcomes is provided. Tonga is planning to implement the NAP in an iterative manner, fostering relevance and specificity.

96%

4. Does the plan discuss at least one strategy to integrate climate adaptation or elements of the NAP into national planning processes?

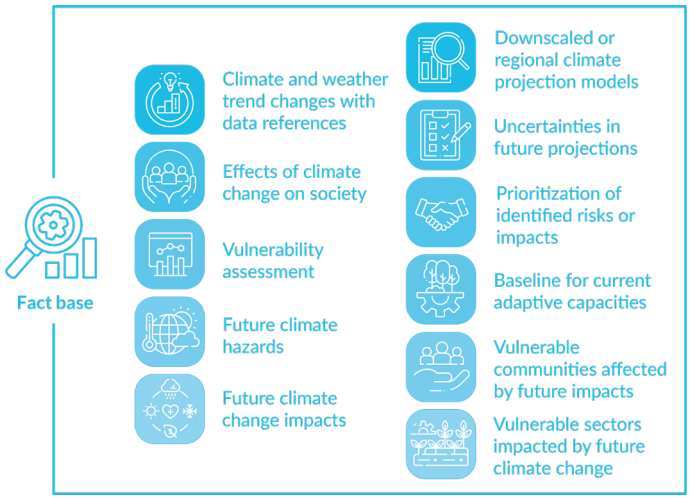
A NAP, as other national strategies, exerts a crucial role as a guiding document for the policies and plans at lower administrative levels or national sector policies. In that sense, it is vitally important to lay out how related governance bodies and institutions can take up the goals of the NAP and integrate them into their policies and plans. Research has shown that such uptake is much more effective if the NAP itself presents those possibilities and gives examples or even directions on how to do that on different national and sectoral policies, plans, and strategies. A number of countries highlight how the goals and objectives of the NAP can be used to alter national sectoral policy and planning processes via so-called mainstreaming.

For example, ***Timor-Leste***, includes a section on sectoral considerations as well as a chapter on NAP alignment with existing strategic, legal, and regulatory frameworks. As part of the sector consideration, it proposes to involve the priority sector agencies in the NAP process, as laid out in a sectoral engagement plan, fostering an iterative NAP formulation and implementation process supported by sectoral focal points and sectoral adaptation teams that work in tandem with priority stakeholders. They also lay out how the NAP goals can be integrated and aligned with the annual national planning and budgeting processes and address sectoral gaps and needs.

Another example is the NAP of ***Chad***, where significant gaps in the country's ability to integrate climate adaptation into its development planning is identified. It highlights the lack of comprehensive socio-economic vulnerability analyses and detailed spatial assessments, which undermines the effectiveness of development plans by failing to fully account for the impacts of climate risks across different sectors and regions. Furthermore, weak systematic data collection and inadequate capacity assessments prevent the creation of informed, responsive development strategies, leaving key vulnerabilities unaddressed. The proposed solutions focus on improving data collection, enhancing institutional capacity, and better integrating climate considerations into the planning process, all of which are crucial for developing resilient development plans in Chad.

Further good practices on the ***Goals*** component of a NAP can be found in the NAP of Marshall Islands, Kiribati, DR Congo, South Africa, Togo, Armenia, Argentina, Chad and Niger.

3.3 Fact base



92%

1. Does the plan mention how climate or weather trends in the country have changed to date with reference to relevant data and clear references?

When drafting a NAP it is important to refer to relevant data based on scientific evidence and well-identified scientific sources, both regarding the discussion of how climate or weather trends have changed to date and the analysis of how changing climate or weather conditions are already affecting society. To provide a context for considering how climate variability impacts potential vulnerabilities, a good NAP should refer to historical trends, but where not available due to the occurrence of various reasons e.g., lack of systematic measures, non-continuous time series, planners could use proxy data to cover periods with missing data or they could refer to larger scale data, for example using clustering methods based on triangularizations (e.g. Thiessen polygons).

The NAP of the ***State of Palestine*** represents a good example as it refers to global analyses of observed trends that have been interpreted from the charts provided in the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report, Working Group I. In addition, studies reported in official documents were supplemented with those published in the scientific literature. In particular, a literature search was conducted to identify studies on regional climate trends in and around the State of Palestine as well as studies conducted in similar climates, i.e. those related to Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt, were examined.

84%

2. Does the plan mention ways that climate change or changing weather conditions are already affecting society based on scientific evidence?

Describing already happening scientifically evidenced impacts of climate change on society in the formulation of a NAP helps ground the plan in reality, ensuring that the planned interventions address current and tangible challenges while also taking into account expected future impacts to avoid maladaptation. This evidence-based approach will enhance the effectiveness of the plan, making it more compelling for stakeholders and policymakers, thereby facilitating better support and funding for implementation.

Regarding the effects of climate change on society, the ***Argentinian*** and ***Zambian*** NAPs emphasise the numerous and growing impacts already experienced by society, supported by numerous scientific studies published in peer-reviewed journals. In particular, the NAP of Zambia cites many of the climate-induced hazards, such as droughts, floods, and extreme temperatures, that have affected the country and increased in frequency and intensity in recent decades. The effects on society are also presented in detail in the NAP of Argentina with reference to variations in precipitation patterns, temperature, and river floods–acknowledging the fact that Argentina is among the top 20 countries in the world with the highest potential population affected by river floods.

72%

3. Does the plan mention that a vulnerability assessment was undertaken as part of the planning process?

A risk analysis that takes into account the particularities of the territories is essential to be able to plan effective adaptation measures; for this reason, it is advisable to adopt a regional approach for risk analysis that can take into account the territorial extension, the biogeographical and climatic diversity, and the heterogeneity in the changes of the climatic variables. The NAP of Argentina adopted a regional approach for the risk analysis, developing hazard chains. The purpose of these hazard chains is to summarise the most relevant hazards for each region and serve as inputs for carrying out specific risk analyses.

52%

4. Does the plan discuss hazards or impacts based on downscaled or regional climate projection models?

Discussing hazards or impacts based on downscaled or regional climate projection models is crucial because these models provide more localized and accurate predictions of climate impacts specific to the region. Many NAPs use climate data based on General Circulation Models (GCMs) to obtain useful information for policy-making. However, it should be mentioned that GCMs are probably valuable for understanding broader climate trends and large-scale climate dynamics, but they may not always provide the detailed local information necessary for effective regional or local planning.

A good practice for this category can be found in the NAP of ***Liberia***, which carried out a statistical downscaling for the entire country to project future temperature and precipitation trends. In addition, this NAP is also based on a vulnerability assessment carried out in the Liberia Climate Change Assessment report.

92%

5. Does the plan include future climate hazards?

Including future climate hazards in national adaptation plans is crucial for assessing risks, planning adaptation measures, and minimizing vulnerabilities in key sectors. The future climate hazards can include but are not limited to, droughts, storms, floods, extreme weather events, heat waves, sea level rise, and coastal storms. As an example, the NAP of the ***State of Palestine*** details future climate scenarios in a comprehensive appendix. In particular, three future climate scenarios have been developed that are representative of all projections considered by the IPCC AR5.

92%

6. Does the plan include specific impacts of climate change in the future?

An ideal NAP should include specific future climate change impacts on natural ecosystems, human communities, or economic structures. The plan can include climate impacts resulting from slow onset events like changes in precipitation patterns, temperature, and sea level or extreme weather events like hurricanes, droughts, and floods. Future climate impacts may include but are not restricted to, increased risk of coastal flooding and erosion, reduced crop yield, increased pest and disease pressure, changes in water availability and quality, altered migration patterns of animals, changes in the distribution of plant species, increased heat-related illnesses, vector-borne diseases or air-pollution related diseases, etc.

Given its separate chapter on the "Characterization of hazards associated with climate change," the NAP of ***Argentina*** is considered of great value for addressing specific impacts of climate change in the future. It specifically mentions future impacts of climate change, including lack of water availability, glacier retreat, increased prevalence of diseases and pests, loss of livestock, health issues, reduced forage and pasture, dust or earth storms, salt clouds, and soil erosion. Also, the NAP of Niger is a good example that includes detailed impacts of climate change in the future and their implications for various sectors such as livelihoods, including agriculture, livestock farming, transportation, infrastructure, energy consumption, and forestry management.

60%

7. Does the plan capture uncertainties in future projections?

Describing uncertainties in future climate projections is important as it enables the planned strategies to be robust yet flexible and effective in various scenarios. These uncertainties can be meaningfully captured through scenario planning and sensitivity analyses, which help identify which adaptation measures are viable under different climatic conditions guiding the planning process and allocation of resources in a way that maximizes resilience.

In the NAP of ***Argentina***, hazard chains are described for each of the five regions into which the national territory has been divided; in addition, future climate risks and specific impacts of climate change are reported, and uncertainties in future projections are discussed. In ***Liberia***'s NAP, climate risks focus on two categories: existing climate risks and emerging climate risks.

84%

8. Does the plan identify certain vulnerable communities and groups that will be particularly affected by the future impacts?

A NAP is most effective when the measures proposed specifically address the needs and challenges of those most at risk. A good NAP should identify vulnerable communities and groups to be actively involved in the planning and decision-making processes. Meaningfully involving vulnerable groups ensures that the planned strategies are responsive to their specific needs and challenges and empower vulnerable groups to take an active role in implementing solutions.

In this regard, in ***Liberia***'s NAP, women and children are identified as segments of the population particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change while at the same time being valued as unique knowledge holders with perspectives that provide opportunities for adaptive responses and inclusive, equitable, and efficient coping strategies.

In most of the other NAPs the vulnerable communities most referred to are:

- Indigenous peoples
- Women or girls
- Children or youth
- Elderly persons
- Persons with disabilities
- Rural communities, including small-scale farmers or fishers
- Coastal communities
- Urban poor
- Migrant, refugee, or displaced populations
- People living in informal settlements or slums
- Ethnic or religious minorities
- People living in conflict-affected areas.

100%

9. Does the plan identify vulnerable sectors that will be particularly impacted by climate change in the future?

Different from vulnerable communities, which focus on specific groups of people, vulnerable sectors refer to segments of the economy or public services (such as agriculture, water resources, and health) that require tailored interventions to sustain functionality and support broader societal stability under changing climatic conditions.

The NAP of the ***State of Palestine***, together with the identification of highly vulnerable issues/sectors (agriculture, coast and sea, energy, food, gender, health, industry, terrestrial ecosystems, tourism, urban infrastructure, waste/wastewater, and water), outlines the economic sectors that might be particularly affected by future impacts.

In the other NAPs, the most referred vulnerable sectors are:

- Energy
- Transport
- Built infrastructure (including building)
- Urban
- Agriculture (fisheries and food security)
- Forestry
- Waste management
- Water (and sanitation)
- Tourism
- Industry
- Health
- Education
- Coastal areas
- Ocean or marine
- Banking or finance or insurance
- Human settlements
- Ecosystems, biodiversity, or wildlife

68%

10. Does the plan prioritize the identified risks or impacts?

Prioritizing identified risks or impacts is a self-evident decision in the formation process of a NAP, as it ensures that the most critical vulnerabilities are addressed first, reducing the risk of severe consequences and facilitating a structured approach to adaptation that aligns with urgent needs and potential benefits. This exercise is particularly relevant where resources are very limited.

In the NAP of the ***State of Palestine***, climate risks specific to various sectors were identified and prioritized. During initial stakeholder workshops, a project team of national experts, with guidance from an international expert, led the identification and prioritization process. This process used the terms 'sensitivity,' 'adaptive capacity,' and 'vulnerability,' in alignment with the IPCC AR5 report. Climate sensitivities and adaptive capacities were assessed in relation to each identified vulnerability. Training workshops were conducted to familiarize stakeholders from each sector with the relevant terms and the spreadsheet used for the assessment. After the workshops, draft vulnerability assessments were distributed to stakeholders, who then rated them using a scoring system. The project team's international expert subsequently reviewed and assured the assessments. Issues identified as high priority were discussed and agreed upon in the workshops as the focus for the identification and prioritization of adaptation options.

50%

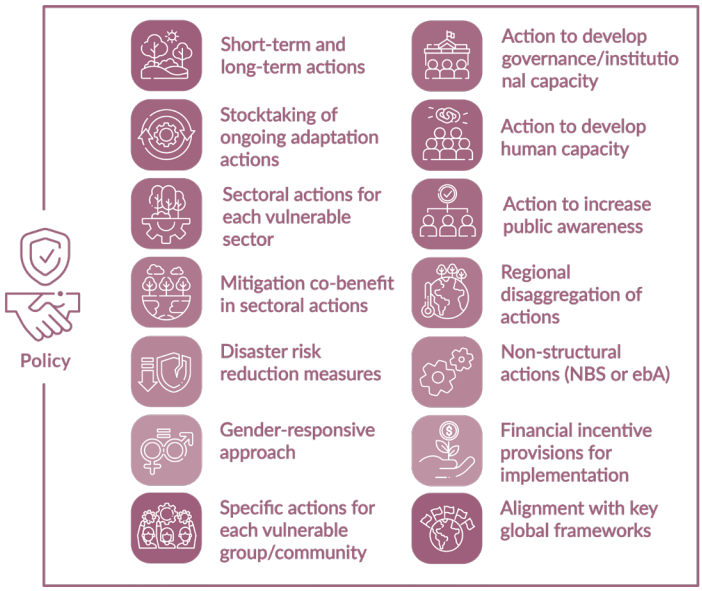
11. Does the plan establish a baseline to assess the current adaptive capacities in the country?

A good NAP should create a baseline to evaluate the current adaptive capacities within the country. Adaptive capacity includes examining the strengths and weaknesses of a system or community in addressing climate risks and organizing adaptation efforts. It can be governance structures, cultural traditions, resources, human or institutional capacity, etc. The assessment of adaptive capacity can be conducted through qualitative or quantitative methods (Brooks & Adger 2005, Afkhami et. al 2022). Establishing a baseline to assess the current adaptive capacities does not relate to the availability of human or financial resources but rather refers to evaluating the system or the community's capability to solve projected impacts.

The NAP of ***Mozambique*** is a good example of establishing a baseline to assess the current adaptive capacities because it endeavoured to increase resilience on a local and community scale through Local Adaptation Plans (LAPs). Out of 154 districts, 125 LAPs have been prepared, showing the country's efforts to strengthen adaptive capacity and establish a respective baseline.

Further high scores on the ***Fact base*** component of a NAP can be found in the NAP of Papua New Guinea, Haiti, Nepal, Ethiopia, Cameroon, and Cabo Verde.

3.4 Policy



68%

1. Does the plan include both short-term and/or long-term actions?

Short-term actions provide immediate relief and protection against current climate impacts, thus allowing vulnerable communities and sectors to stabilize and adapt quickly. Long-term actions are necessary to build resilience, ensuring that adaptation remains effective as climate conditions continue to change over decades. This enables a NAP to be more comprehensive in managing immediate risks while also preparing for future scenarios.

The NAP of ***Papua New Guinea*** is a good example of differentiated actions for different time periods. Short and medium terms actions are considered between up to five years. These actions include integrating adaptation processes into national and subnational plans and mainstreaming of planning and budgeting guidelines, templates, and technical support. On the other hand, long term actions are more aligned with supporting resource mobilisation and technical capacity enhancement of the Climate Change Development Authority. However, the definition of short and long-term perspectives can differ in NAPs; the most important element is if there is a different temporal disaggregation of the actions. This means the intervention of measures is according to the sectoral themes, prioritising the highest climate vulnerability and impacts.

62%

2. Does the plan take stock of adaptation actions that are in progress?

Taking stock of adaptation actions already in progress prevents the duplication of efforts, ensures that resources are allocated efficiently, and provides valuable insights into which interventions are effective or need improvement. This, in turn, informs the development of new adaptation actions and enhances the coherence of the planned actions.

One good example of this is the NAP of ***Papua New Guinea***, which has a strategy to review ongoing actions while aligning with the review of the enhanced NDC on adaptation. These actions could be leveraged and based on their effectiveness, will continue in the future. According to Papua New Guinea's NAP report, the plan does not replace existing plans or policies. It establishes the ideal circumstances for the successful and long-term mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in sectoral planning and policy tools in order to meet the adaptation targets and objectives of Papua New Guinea.

90%

3. Does the plan include at least one sectoral action for each identified vulnerable sector?

Under point 9 in the category of 'fact-base', it is mentioned that basing the adaptation actions on vulnerable sectors is a good practice while developing a NAP. Including at least one sectoral action for each identified vulnerable sector is crucial because it ensures that no sector critical to the nation's infrastructure, economy, environmental or societal well-being is neglected in the face of climate change.

In terms of sectoral actions in vulnerable sectors, ***Papua New Guinea*** has at least one intervention for the identified vulnerable sectors in agriculture, transport, infrastructure, and health, apart from the cross-cutting climate change adaptation strategies. There are nine key priority adaptation areas and links to priority sectors in the NAP, including 1) Coastal flooding and sea level rise, 2) Inland flooding, 3) Food insecurity, 4) Cities and climate change, 5) Climate-induced migration, 6) Damage to coral reefs, 7) Malaria and vector-borne diseases, 8) Water and sanitation, and 9) Landslides.

60%

4. Does the plan refer to at least one mitigation co-benefit in the sectoral actions?

Mitigation co-benefits refer to actions taken to improve adaptive capacity that also have positive impacts in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Identifying mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions is key to ensure that synergies between mitigation and adaptation are enhanced and trade-offs reduced. Actions that may have a small abatement potential but generate high adaptation benefits should be prioritized. Doing this will also maximize the chances of mobilizing multiple funding sources for the implementation of these actions.

Ethiopia included the size of mitigation and other co-benefits as a criterion for prioritizing adaptation options. They emphasized the co-benefits for the specific objective of enhancing food security

through improved agricultural productivity in a climate-smart manner, clarifying that references to climate-smart approaches prioritize those supporting adaptation and resilience building. Climate change mitigation also arises as a co-benefit of these practices.

84%

5. Does the plan include measures to reduce disaster risk?

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters. While many countries might have a dedicated strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), including DRR actions into NAP offers several benefits of efficiency. It aligns efforts and resources, avoids overlapping initiatives, and ensures that both aspects of immediate disaster responses and longer-term climate adaptation are addressed cohesively.

Sierra Leone's NAP prioritizes disaster management as one of its key actions by sector, with two main programs: Establishing early warning systems to enhance local risk awareness and improving regulatory frameworks for disaster management. The program actions encompass various types, including physical investment, human capacity development, institutional strengthening, regulatory modifications, and research. For example, the country aims to enact the necessary legislative framework to implement the Disaster Management Department policy and action plan as part of regulatory modifications and establish a national disaster management agency as the primary government body for disaster response, contributing to institutional strengthening.

66%

6. Does the plan refer to gender-responsive approach?

A gender-responsive approach to NAP actively promotes gender equality and seeks to address gender norms, roles, and inequalities. Gender responsive approaches may be included as a guiding principle in the NAP, or as principles to ensure the NAP will be gender responsive through inclusion of gender in policy, projects, programs across sectors, national and subnational levels.

A good practice in creating a gender-responsive approach can be found in ***Kiribati***'s NAP, as it outlines gender issues and clear efforts to address them effectively. The NAP identifies current gender inequalities in the country, such as gender parity in primary education and women's disproportionate share of home-based duties and responsibilities for children. This results in fewer opportunities for women compared to men in terms of job opportunities or business development. The section also seeks ways to empower women economically, such as diversifying livelihood activities and sources of income. It also describes well how the same disaster can affect women more harshly by providing logical impact chains. The plan also discusses how CSOs can increase women's status in leadership and enhance women's participation in planning and implementing Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Management (DRM) measures.

82%

7. Does the plan identify at least one specific vulnerable group or community in relation to any of these actions?

Kiribati's NAP identifies the factors of vulnerability and affected groups in the '2.3 Vulnerability and Impact' chapter. It states that various factors, such as limited access to employment opportunities, effective transport, communication, and community services like education and health, combined with a high dependency on subsistence agriculture and coastal fisheries, render rural communities more vulnerable. To be specific, the sensitivity and observed and potential impacts indicate threats to fisheries and food security. The country heavily relies on coastal fisheries for subsistence, and Kiribati's lagoons and rich oceanic waters support numerous artisanal and small-scale commercial fisheries, aquaculture operations, and commercial joint ventures. However, with the decreasing productivity of the ocean, people engaged in the fishery sector could face serious impacts.

96%

8. Does the plan include an action to develop governance or institutional capacity?

Enhancing institutional capacity in the plan involves strengthening policies, regulations, and coordination among stakeholders for effective climate adaptation. This includes training key actors and fostering collaboration among government agencies, civil society, and the private sector.

Based on the ***DR Congo*** NAP, the document outlines that the capacity development should, as far as possible, be carried out following an integrated planning approach. First, each institution must develop its own capacity development plan, and then, the entire process will subsequently be combined to form an integrated institutional capacity development plan for climate change adaptation.

90%

9. Does the plan include an action to develop human capacity?

Developing human capacity is crucial for national adaptation plans because it empowers communities to plan and implement NAPs effectively. It involves enhancing the abilities of individuals and communities to address climate-related challenges, including initiatives such as training for farmers, reskilling programs, community partnerships, knowledge-sharing dialogues, and research and development efforts.

Ethiopia has identified 'Building Long-Term Capacities of Institutional Structures Involved in NAP' as one of its five strategic priorities. This strategic priority is supported by specific objectives, anticipated outcomes, performance indicators, data sources, and assumptions and risks. This indicates Ethiopia's dedication to enhancing human capability. Moreover, through capacity gap analysis, Ethiopia provides detailed strategies to build capacity in developing and implementing a well-formulated plan. Eight capacities needed are identified, and the NAP provides 2-3 required interventions to develop each capacity. Some of these include 'Creating task forces involving institutions with overlapping/shared responsibilities' and 'Encouraging effective participation of the public to ensure ownership of adaptation measures/activities.

90%

10. Does the plan include at least one action focused on increasing public awareness?

Raising awareness involves disseminating information about current and future impacts and ensuring shared knowledge about risk reduction measures, what resources are available to implement adaptation, and how to engage in national and sub-national processes. This may involve a communication and outreach plan.

The NAP of ***Kenya*** has a comprehensive strategy to increase awareness of the NAP as part of the devolution strategy by creating a two-way channel of communication and learning between the national government, county level, and local level. In order to further facilitate this, several short-term sub-actions have been planned to conduct participatory county-level climate risk and vulnerability assessments in order to increase awareness of climate change impacts on communities.

42%

11. Does the plan include regional disaggregation of actions?

Different regions within a country often face unique climate risks and vulnerabilities based on their geographic location, topography, and socio-economic characteristics. Tailoring adaptation actions to specific regional contexts allows for more effective responses that address the particular challenges faced by each area.

Papua New Guinea's NAP document was initially drafted following the regional workshops with various stakeholders to socialising adaptation mainstreaming into policy development and planning. Regional workshops were held to seek and provide feedback on the development of the NAP with various stakeholders from subnational government authorities, provincial administrators, provincial disaster planning, finance and budgeting divisions, development partners, and other relevant institutions.

78%

12. Does the plan include non-structural actions such as Nature-based solution (NBS) or Ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) to address the impacts of climate change?

Consideration of non-structural actions is crucial as actions such as NBS or EbA leverage the natural systems to mitigate climate impacts while offering sustainable and cost-effective alternatives to conventional engineering or grey solutions. Ultimately, they provide a wide range of co-benefits to the long-term health of ecosystems, which is foundational to maintaining the natural capital upon which economies and societies depend. For example, while NBS and EbA can enhance ecosystem resilience and stability, they also provide essential services to communities, such as water purification, flood regulation, and climate regulation—functions that engineered solutions cannot replicate.

In the NAP of DR ***Congo***, these solutions include, among others i) NBS (promoting programmes on reforestation and domesticating species of high ancestral value for indigenous peoples) and ii) EbA with a focus on biodiversity and ecosystem services (Dissemination of quality seeds and brood stock, and adapted crop techniques, conservation of biological diversity of forest ecosystems: regulatory and institutional framework) as part of an overall adaptation strategy to reduce the vulnerability of people and ecosystems to climate change impacts.

66%

13. Does the plan mention that any financial or other incentives will be provided for the implementation of any of the actions?

Financial incentives, including but not limited to grants, subsidies, tax credits, and other forms of financial assistance, can help defray the costs associated with implementing adaptation activities. In the case of ***South Africa***'s NAP, enhancements to budgeting and resource mobilisation processes are aimed at ensuring initiatives can be accounted for and financed in a timely and flexible fashion while meeting local needs. Actions to increase resilience and adaptive capacity achieved in social, economic, environmental, physical, and ecological infrastructure within the implementation framework of South Africa's plan include, for example 1) developing training programmes in effective saving methodologies and access to financial education to better manage meagre resources in vulnerable communities, led by the National Treasury in collaboration with Department of Basic Education (DBE), Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). Other actions foresee 2) encouraging businesses to relocate to less hazardous areas through incentives and tax rebates, in collaboration with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), National Treasury, Department of Human Settlements (DHS), provincial government departments, municipalities as well as 3) encouraging the private sector to build in low-climate-risk areas, using resilient materials,

through incentives and tax rebates, through collaborations among the Department of Cooperative Governance (DCOG) in the lead, and DFFE, National Treasury, DHS, provincial government departments, municipalities.

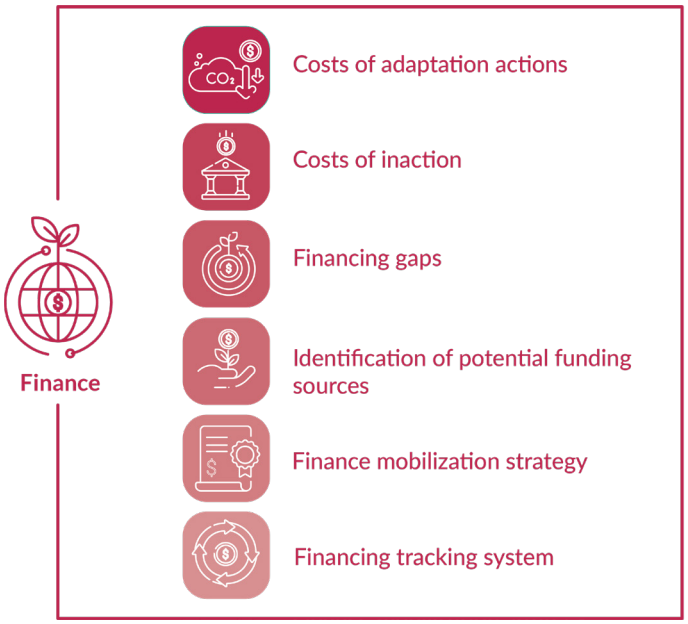
90%

14. Does the plan include action alignment with other key global frameworks?

Aligning NAPs with global frameworks like Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals ensures consistency and coherence with international climate goals, enhancing their effectiveness, credibility, and access to support. In the formulation process of Bangladesh's NAP, the alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the Cancún framework principles, the SDG tracker, as well as the M&E framework of the BDP2100 and the National Priority Indicator was considered.

Further highly scored ***Policy*** component of a NAP can be found in the NAP of Burkina Faso, Suriname, Brazil, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Niger, and Ethiopia.

3.5 Finance



60%

1. Does the plan identify the potential costs of implementing the identified adaptation actions?

Recognizing the financial gaps in the NAPs is crucial for effective implementation. It helps to understand where funding falls short in the implementation of planned adaptation measures. Identifying these gaps allows for better resource allocation and facilitates discussion on additional financial support from different sources. It enables targeted resource mobilization plans that can improve the efficiency of access to the most appropriate funds/financing/mechanisms for adaptation actions.

As part of the NAP, ***Fiji*** developed a costing methodology to provide a rapid and comparable set of cost estimates using a flexible and simple bottom-up or engineering cost approach to estimate the cost of the adaptation actions. The costing method was informed by a national and international literature review, structured interviews with experts, and stakeholder consultations with national and international stakeholders, ensuring the cost estimates' robustness. This process confirms the reliability and accuracy of the cost estimates, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of project implementation by enabling planning to commence with a solid foundation of realistic cost projections.

6%

2. Does the plan discuss the relative costs of inaction to implementing the adaptation plan?

Highlighting the cost of inaction or delaying action helps showcase the potential economic, social, and environmental losses resulting from not implementing adaptation measures. In doing so, the NAP can underline the urgency and necessity of taking action to address climate change impacts. This information is essential for policymakers and stakeholders to grasp the significance of investing in adaptation strategies.

Several NAPs, particularly that of ***Burkina Faso***, emphasize the cost of inaction. They predict a staggering GDP loss of USD 28 to 55 billion by 2050 if no action is taken. However, the estimated total cost of adapting to climate change amounts to a maximum of 1.5% of GDP in 2050. This highlights a crucial perspective: The relatively low cost of adaptation compared to the potential losses is a compelling argument. This underlines the immense value and strong logic of financing adaptation measures.

32%

3. Does the plan identify financing gaps in implementing the plan?
Example of good practice is given below in the following element.

84%

4. Does the plan identify potential funding sources to implement the plan?

Identifying financing gaps in the formulation of a NAP is essential, as it ensures that all necessary measures are adequately funded and can be implemented without delay. If these gaps are not identified and planned for, the plan may face underfunding, leading to partial

or failed implementation of priority adaptation actions. In addition to that, identifying potential funding sources is important because it lays the groundwork for targeted funding applications and facilitates strategic planning for resource allocation. This identification process also helps align the plan's objectives with these organizations' funding criteria and priorities, increasing the likelihood of securing financial support and enabling a proactive approach to addressing potential funding gaps.

The NAP of ***Albania*** has a commendable approach to both estimating the financing gaps and identifying potential funding sources. The total costs needed to implement the National Adaptation Plan up to 2020 are assessed together with working group members. A division of resource allocation is also made. From the overall budget estimation of 11 billion Albanian Lek (ALL), part of it equal to 2.9 billion ALL are partly covered by the state budget (mainly through human resources) and partly through donors such as EU, SIDA, WB, UNEP, UNDP. The financial gap for the priority actions is elaborated at the level of approximately 10%, or approximately 1 billion ALL. The NAP also mentions that steps will be identified and prioritized in the coming years to access adaptation finance to cover the missing gaps.

50%

5. Does the plan outline a finance mobilization strategy?

Some NAPs identify potential funding sources and offer guidance on accessing and mobilizing these funds. This could involve developing a comprehensive roadmap, prioritizing specific funding sources, forming partnerships with relevant stakeholders, enhancing the enabling environment for private sector investment, improving access to climate finance, and enhancing coordination between stakeholders. Armenia's Financing Framework and Implementation Plan for Climate Change Adaptation (FFIPCCA) is tailored to involve the private sector and utilize financial, technical, and human resources for a coordinated implementation of adaptation measures.

Similarly, ***Papua New Guinea***'s resource mobilization strategy involves creating the Climate Resilience and Green Growth Trust Fund (CRGGTF) to channel revenue sources like import or deforestation levies towards climate adaptation, alongside efforts to engage the private sector through public-private partnerships and tax incentives.

32%

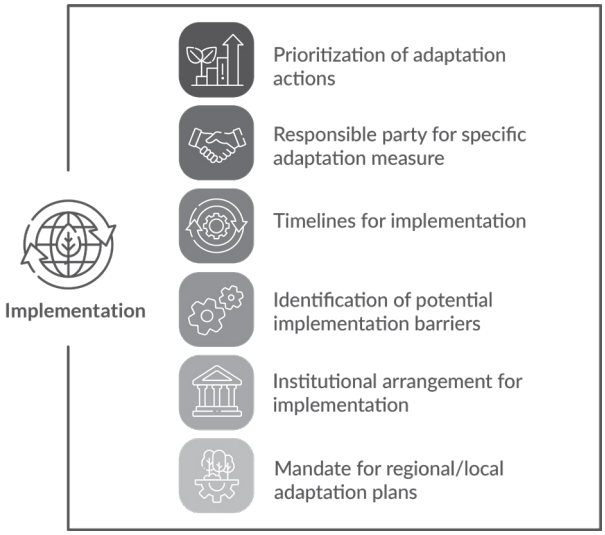
6. Does the plan include a tracking system of the financing of the plan, either as part of the M&E framework or a separate strategy?

Including a financial tracking system of the NAP interventions is crucial for ensuring transparency, accountability, and efficiency in resource use, allowing stakeholders to check whether funds are being used toward the intended adaptation actions. In addition to that, it enables comprehensive reporting on the financial flows and the impacts of those funding, which is often critical for aligning with funding requirements.

Apart from performance indicators, ***Kiribati***'s NAP has incorporated finance elements into the M&E framework. Selected indicators from major climate funds and indicator frameworks have been integrated into the KJIP against the KNAPs to harmonise monitoring and reporting structures of related projects while also facilitating the development of climate finance. The NAP of Bhutan has also incorporated a tracking system for financial support in their M&E system to ensure transparency of climate action and alignment with national reporting to the Paris Agreement as part of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF).

Further highly scored ***Finance*** component of a NAP can be found in the NAP of State of Palestine, Togo, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Grenada.

3.6 Implementation



68%

1. Does the plan prioritize adaptation actions for implementation?

Prioritizing adaptation actions for implementation is essential to ensure that limited resources are allocated efficiently to address the most critical and urgent needs first. Without such prioritization, a NAP risks being inefficient and potentially ineffective, with resources spread too thinly across too many projects, reducing the system's overall resilience to climate impacts.

An example of prioritisation of adaptation action can be found in the NAP of ***Burundi.*** Priority adaptation options are devised from limitations identified in the vulnerability assessment. Six criteria are taken into account: climate risk management, development of R&D and technology transfer, capacity building, knowledge sharing and climate education, consideration of vulnerable populations (particularly gender and youth), and finance mobilisation. An emphasis is placed on capacity building and finance mobilisation so that benefits can be cross-sectional.

These criteria are linked to 6 priority sectors, including agriculture, biodiversity and ecosystem protection, and water resources. The priority adaptation actions within these sectors notably contribute to poverty alleviation, food and water security, access to clean energy, preservation of ecosystems, health and urban and transport infrastructure.

72%

2. Does the plan identify timelines for implementation?

The plan might use different criteria to prioritize adaptation actions, depending on the country's context and needs, with the timeline for implementation incorporating the year for executing an action or the target year for achieving a goal.

Mozambique has a very specific time horizon and schedule for the implementation of the NAP. They have not only divided the implementation phases into three periods (Phase 1: 2022-2024 – establishment of the NAP implementation environment, mechanisms for coordinating and financing the NAP, and piloting the implementation of adaptation actions; Phase 2: 2025-2030 – consolidation of the implementation of vulnerability reduction measures; Phase 3: Post-2030 – Consolidation of climate-resilient development.), but also adopted an approach of prioritizing actions, starting with those considered foundational (e.g., Coordination, Policies) or particularly critical (e.g., Water Resources, Health, Education, and Research). For the specific timeframe, Mozambique has divided the years from 2022 to 2032 and allocated strategic actions and focus according to the estimated time they will take.

Timor-Leste provides a similar model, dividing the implementation plan for the NAP into three timeframes: near-term (2020-2022), medium-term (2023-2025), and long-term (2026-2030), followed by themes and key outcomes for the respective timeframes.

66%

3. Does the plan identify potential barriers to the implementation of adaptation activities?

Barriers to implementing the NAPs might include financial limitations, insufficient information, lack of staff time, policies, lack of authority, information and technology barriers, as well as governance and institutional barriers. By identifying these barriers upfront, the plan can develop strategies and measures to overcome challenges that may hinder successful adaptation efforts. This proactive approach helps minimize delays, reduce costs, and maximize the effectiveness of adaptation actions, ultimately enhancing the country's resilience to climate change impacts. Additionally, understanding potential barriers allows for better planning and allocation of resources to address critical needs, leading to more sustainable and robust adaptation outcomes.

The NAP of ***Cabo Verde*** has identified some barriers to implementing actions for two of the country's highest priority risks (risk from flood and drought). The potential barriers are well represented in the Theory of Change (ToC) diagrams, where they identify problems, sub-outcomes, outcomes, impacts, and goals related to particular climate risks. For example, the ToC diagram on water shortage identified four different barriers in a consultative way at both technical and institutional levels. Some of these barriers include the lack of knowledge and mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in the planning and management of water resources. In addition, the ToC diagram on losses of life, livelihoods, houses, infrastructures, and morbidity identified fragile local early warning systems, poverty, and rural exodus as some of the barriers to achieving the goal of mainstreaming climate change into DRR and land use planning.

82%

4. Does the plan identify a responsible party for at least one specific adaptation measure?

The clarity provided by fixed responsible parties for the adaptation measures facilitates coordinated implementation and enhances the likelihood of successful outcomes. Without designated responsibilities, adaptation measures can suffer from neglect or inefficiencies due to ambiguity about oversight and accountability.

While most of the available NAPs have identified responsible parties for the implementation of the adaptation actions, ***Cabo Verde*** has specified specific institutions to lead the implementation of the actions. The responsible parties also extend to specific elements of the M&E framework.

68%

5. Does the plan outline a clear institutional arrangement between various entities in implementing the plan?

Apart from identifying responsible entities for the implementation of the plan, having a clear institutional arrangement between the entities is equally important as it emphasizes collaboration and shared responsibilities across multiple organizations and sectors.

Timor-Leste has a separate chapter for implementation, 'Chapter 8: NAP Implementation Arrangements', divided into two main parts NAP interim implementation arrangements and NAP implementation plan. In the first part, they explain how the 'Council of Ministers' has legitimate authority in implementing national adaptation priorities by referencing the Constitution. It has clearly mentioned that the Ministry for the Environment will oversee the development and implementation of NAP, and the specific roles and responsibilities are also described. In addition to the highest authority, they designated a high-level operational body, the Secretary of State for the Environment (SSE) under the Minister of Economic Affairs, to coordinate the implementation of the NAP at the policy level. Also, by establishing the Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) as a technical coordinating body, Timor-Leste aims to incorporate diverse stakeholders such as civil society, the private sector, and academic institutions in the implementation stage.

52%

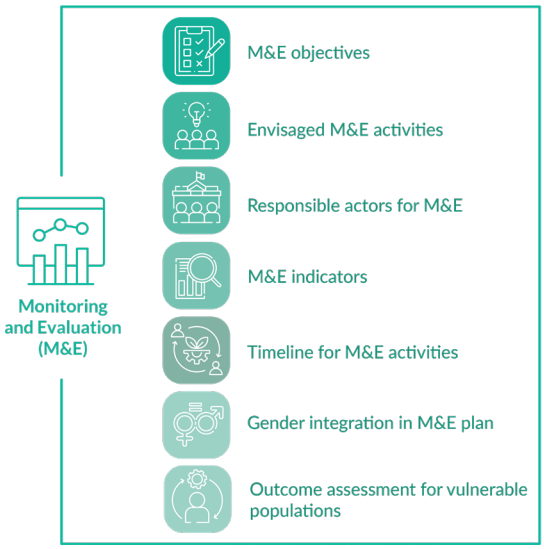
6. Does the plan include a national mandate for sub-national entities (e.g. regions, municipalities, cities) to develop a regional or local adaptation plan?

NAPs should designate specific responsible parties, such as government agencies or community-based organizations, and outline necessary partnerships or coordination mechanisms for implementing actions. This institutional arrangement clarifies roles, responsibilities, and coordination among stakeholders, ensuring accountability and transparency. Additionally, by mandating regional and local adaptation strategies, the plan fosters vertical integration and alignment between national and sub-national efforts, guiding the development of sub-national plans and promoting coherence in adaptation initiatives. Acknowledging the importance of regional implementation of adaptation plans,

Albania's Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MTE) has established a Climate Change Unit, demonstrating the Ministry's commitment to institutional capacity improvements. Decentralization has delegated increased responsibilities to the regions, including environmental protection and the management of natural resources, thus providing an opportunity to enhance local and regional capacity. The Albanian NAP outlines 15 'Priority Actions,' with key actors, including local government units and municipalities, assigned according to actions suitable for specific regions, such as River Basin Management Plans. Implementation plans are supported by the Regional Development Fund (RDF), which plays a central role in providing investment support to regional and local authorities. The RDF is utilized to support investments at the regional and local levels through a competitive grant system in various policy areas. Collaborating with seven ministries, the RDF determines sector priorities of the central government at the regional level on an annual basis.

Further high scores on the ***Implementation*** component of a NAP can be found in the NAP of Paraguay, Suriname, Cameroon, DR Congo, Haiti, Nepal, and Chile.

3.7 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)



72%

1. Does the plan include M&E objectives?

M&E objectives refer to the precise aims or results a plan seeks to accomplish through monitoring and evaluation activities. These objectives are frequently aligned with the overarching goals of the plan and are crafted to gauge the effectiveness or achievement of adaptation interventions.

For the consistency of the objectives, ***Mozambique***'s National Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy (ENAMMC) established the National Climate Change Monitoring and Evaluation System (SNMAMC) as an instrument to measure the progress of the strategy. The SNMAMC mandates the country to report to the Council of Ministers on an annual basis. This report outlines the measures taken to adapt to and mitigate climate change in Mozambique. Mozambique's SNMAMC provides 5 M&E objectives, some examples of which include: improving accountability in the use of resources and verifying the effective allocation of resources to sectors, at all levels and to the most vulnerable groups; and supporting intersectoral coordination and the implementation of ENAMMC and Action Plans for Climate Change through monitoring and learning from the implementation process.

72%

2. Does the plan include envisaged M&E activities?

M&E activities involve collecting data, tracking progress, and assessing the effectiveness of adaptation interventions, typically aligned with plan objectives. ***Bangladesh*** has a well-developed M&E framework based on a 3-Tier approach spanning Strategy and Policy Level (Tier 1), Planning Level (Tier 2), and Program/Project Level (Tier 3). Tier 1 employs simple indicators using red, amber, and green traffic light colors, while Tier 2 indicators are both quantitative and qualitative. Tier 3 follows a process-based framework, determining outcomes for each program/project through inputs, activities, and outputs. Additionally, Bangladesh proposes innovative technology use in M&E, introducing a web-based tool and dashboard to monitor adaptation progress and guide future action. This system will collect, upload, process, and update data from stakeholders within a standardized results-based framework, following a data protocol.

56%

3. Does the plan include M&E indicators?

M&E indicators are metrics used to measure progress and implementation effectiveness. ***Papua New Guinea***'s NAP shows detailed indicators of each expected outcome of the NAP. The 'Result Indicators' present indicators that can evaluate whether the outcome has been achieved. For example, for output 4, "Strengthened financial planning and resource mobilization" the 'Number of sectoral budgets that include allocation to CCA measures according to sectoral CCA plans' and 'NAP database and

a progress dashboard published on the CCDA website and regularly updated' are suggested as indicators. The NAP also provides the expected number of indicators depending on the Mid-term Target (2027) and End Target (2030).

80%

4. Does the plan identify responsible actors for M&E?

Example of good practice is given below in the following question.

52%

5. Does the plan include a timeline for M&E activities?

Drafting a well–specified, goal-oriented M&E section is crucial for effective long-term implementation and agile adaptation of the NAP to changing circumstances. At the higher level, M&E guides the efficacy of interventions in reducing the desired level of risk, assessing adaptation priorities, and ensuring effective and efficient use of material and financial resources. Outlining specific M&E activities and their timeline, and earmarking indicators to monitor implementation progress helps ensure process fluidity and contribute to the success of the entire plan. Identifying actors responsible for envisaged activities and processes brings the plan to a higher qualitative level by ensuring transparency and accountability and connecting the plan at both the strategic and the operational levels.

Grenada boasts a transparent and comprehensive M&E plan that rests on the goals and indicators organically built along 11 Programmes of Action (PoA). M&E further specifies measures with responsible actors across governance scales, timelines, expected budget, and performance indicators for each PoA. Without introducing additional institutions for NAP purposes, the plan builds on the existing processes and expertise from the Regional Climate Change Framework. The timeline for each M&E measure varies from 3 months to ongoing, with different stakeholders assigned responsibility for each measure. For instance, conducting tailored M&E training and building the capacity of climate change focal points would take one year, with the National Climate Change Committee, Environment Division, and Climate Change focal points designated as the responsible parties.

34%

6. Does the plan integrate gender in the monitoring and evaluation plan?

Recognizing diverse gender impacts and monitoring the impacts of adaptation action on vulnerable population groups or communities is important for the long-term effectiveness and thus for the success of the entire NAP because it considers the socio-economic dimension of distributional effects on the populations that are most prone to climate risks. Besides, involving such groups in the NAP process, including the M&E that sheds light on the future of climate adaptation, is critical for societal coherence as a variety of voices are considered and heard, and an inclusive societal and institutional structure is built.

Suriname's NAP provides an M&E framework with an overview and operational mechanism of M&E at the strategic and sectoral level, as well as dedicated outcomes concerning adaptation that respects Surinamese values and culture and reduces gender and other social inequities. It includes indicators that explicitly cover the impacts of adaptation actions on women and their livelihoods, engagement of women and vulnerable groups, adaptation initiatives focused on those groups, budget allocations for gender-related activities, and inclusion of local knowledge in decision-making forums. Besides, the monitoring achievement schedule prioritises the timing for each adaptive measure in the NAP's short, medium, and long-term implementation.

32%

7. Does the M&E process mention assessing the outcome of adaptation actions on different vulnerable population groups or communities?

An M&E process designed to assess the outcomes of adaptation actions on various social groups, such as women, children, marginalized communities, indigenous communities, or sectoral groups like small-scale farmers or pastoralists, can enhance the inclusivity of NAPs. ***Bangladesh***'s M&E framework delineates performance indicators that encompass diverse vulnerable and marginalized groups. These include assessing the adaptive capacity of vulnerable populations by sex, age, and disability and evaluating gender- and disability-inclusive co-management initiatives. The framework also measures the coverage of climate-resilient WASH facilities for rural areas and the urban poor, including women, individuals with diverse gender identities, and people with disabilities.

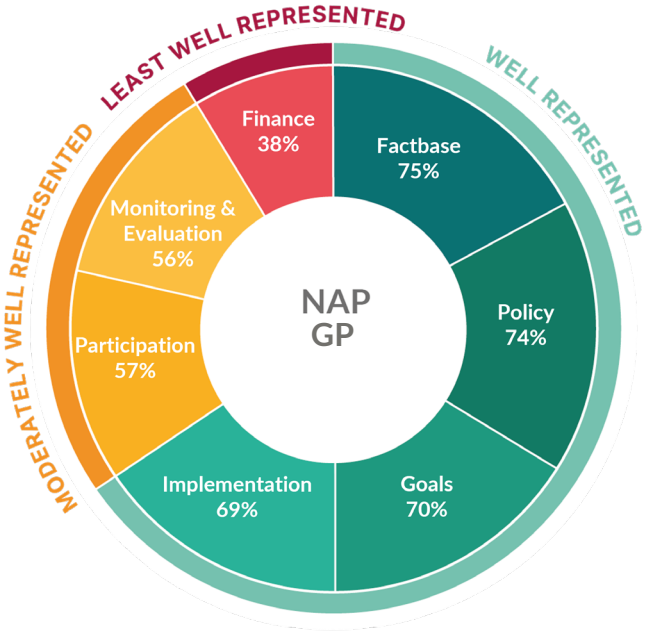
Further high scores on the ***Monitoring and Evaluation*** component of a NAP can be found in the NAP of Togo, Mozambique, Suriname, Bangladesh, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Papua New Guinea.

4. Aggregate results of the NAP Review

Figure 4 provides an overview of how the NAPs perform aggregately in all 7 categories of the NAP-GP framework. The percentages in each category indicate the average coverage of the elements within the respective category. The higher the coverage rate, the higher the qualified presence of the category. For example, a 75% score in the ***Factbase*** category means that, on average, all 52 NAPs met 75% of the elements in that category, which corresponds to approximately 8 out of 11 elements. **The results presented in this chapter should be interpreted with caution, particularly in light of the limitations discussed in Chapter 2.3. It's important to note that this review is confined solely to the official NAP documents submitted to the UNFCCC.**

Overall, the areas of ***Fact base, Policy, Goals*** and ***Implementation*** are covered quite well by the NAPs, with at least two-thirds of the NAPs providing respective information. This is followed by the areas of ***Participation*** and ***M&E***. The ***Finance*** category is the least represented in the NAPs, with only 38% of average coverage across all NAPs. Broken down by country, not a single NAP achieved the maximum coverage of all proposed elements in the ***Finance*** category. This gap in ***Finance*** is particularly concerning when considered alongside the findings of the Adaptation Gap Report 2023 (UNEP 2023). The report highlights a significant shortfall in international public adaptation finance for developing countries and the gap between current finance flows and actual needs is estimated to be 10 to 18 times larger than current levels. While we do not assert that insufficient finance planning in the NAP is the primary cause of the adaptation finance shortfall, it is evident that stronger financial planning could play a vital role in bridging this gap.

Figure 4: Overview of the diagnosis of 52 NAPs submitted to the UNFCCC



The element with the least coverage in the ***Finance*** category concerns whether the plan discussed the relative costs of inaction, with only 6% of countries' NAPs addressing it. Presenting the costs of inaction, often referred to as future monetary losses and damages, including economic losses, environmental damage, and social impacts, in a scenario where no adaptation measures are implemented, is crucial to provide a basis for comparison against which the costs and benefits of implementing adaptation measures can be assessed. Despite the challenges to assess the costs of inaction, in majority of cases, they will almost certainly outweigh the costs of implementing adaptation actions (Valverde et al. 2022). It also helps to highlight the potential risks and vulnerabilities associated with inaction, which is valuable information to accelerate actions. Identifying the costs that would be incurred in the absence of adaptation action is closely linked to resource allocation, as this information also helps prioritize adaptation investments and effectively allocate resources to address the most critical vulnerabilities and risks.

Furthermore, it is noteworthy that only half of the NAP documents have outlined a strategy for mobilizing funding, indicating how the planned funds will be accessed and mobilized. While estimating the total cost of adaptation actions or identifying potential funding sources were completed by 60% and 80% of countries, respectively, developing a comprehensive roadmap, prioritizing and targeting specific funding sources, and building partnerships or collaborations with relevant stakeholders are more challenging, and half of the countries were unable to accomplish these aspects.

Lastly, 70% of NAPs did not include or discuss the potential of innovative financing mechanisms for the proposed adaptation actions in the plan, such as debt-for-nature swaps, resilience bonds, or insurance schemes for climate risk. Additionally, strategies for private sector investment mobilization were also lacking, while international cooperation for funding seems to be the preferred choice for countries as a finance mobilization strategy. However, most countries opted to list down a few choices for finance mobilization strategies rather than going deep into the strategies and discussing how they will be fully utilized in the country.

It is important to emphasise that the success of implementing the strategies outlined in a NAP depends on the collective efficacy of all categories within the NAP-GP framework. For instance, robust coverage in the ***implementation*** category alone does not ensure an improved implementation of the NAP, as such implementation is also contingent upon the adequacy of financial resources and policy frameworks. Hence, lack of consideration or quality in any single category must be treated critically, given their potential to adversely affect the overall implementation of a NAP. **It is imperative that all 55 elements across the 7 categories are given equal attention during the development of a NAP to facilitate its effective implementation, always in the context of each country's needs and priorities.**

5. Concluding remarks and recommendations

The review of selected NAPs submitted to the UNFCCC provides valuable insights regarding good practices and room for improvement in the seven main categories of the NAP-GP review framework, i.e. a good quality and comprehensive NAP development process. Based on the above analysis and assessment of good practices we present key recommendations for policy makers, climate adaptation planning/policy experts and governments and donors who are supporting countries to develop and update their NAPs.

General recommendations

1. **Support the NAP development and/or revision process: Countries that are developing their NAPs can utilize the** findings from this report to guide the NAP development process. The entry point to adaptation planning might differ from country to country. Depending on the needs of the countries, the best practices identified in the report can be a starting point for countries to refer to and use or customize them to their country context. The list of elements from the NAP-GP review framework could also be utilized as a general checklist, complementary to the Technical Guidelines from the UNFCCC, where countries can also choose to omit questions that may not be relevant to a country's context and add other questions to better reflect the country's needs and realities.

2. **Leverage existing guidance and resources to fully realize the NAP's potential:** It is important to highlight that a good quality, comprehensive, and implementable NAP depends on addressing all the categories within the NAP-GP framework. For example, a good coverage of the implementation category alone does not ensure a higher implementation rate of the NAP. As such, implementation is also contingent upon the adequate coverage of financial resources, inclusive participation and systematic selection of adaptation policy interventions. Hence, lack of consideration of the categories of the framework must be treated critically, given their potential to adversely affect the overall implementation of a NAP. It is imperative that all 55 elements across the 7 categories are given sufficient attention during the development (or update) of a NAP to facilitate its effective implementation, always in the context of the needs and priorities of the country.

   It's essential to recognize that while this report introduces the NAP-GP review framework, it is just one of many valuable tools

available to countries aiming to enhance the quality of their NAPs. In addition to this framework, countries have access to a wide array of resources, including the LEG's Technical Guidelines and related supplementary materials (can be found here: https://napcentral.org/supplementary-materials-library), various publications from the NAP Global Network (https://napglobalnetwork.org/resources/?result=nap-resources), as well as the references outlined in Chapter 2.2. These resources collectively provide a rich foundation of knowledge and guidance. To maximize the effectiveness of their NAPs, countries should strategically leverage these materials, ensuring that their adaptation plans are comprehensive, well-informed, and aligned with international best practices in climate resilience.

3. **Maximise synergies with the NDC revision process:** Given that the NDC revision process should be aligned with other climate and national development plans and strategies, the NAP-GP could be also used to support countries to enhance the adaptation aspects of their NDCs. Although the NAP-GP was not developed targeting NDC revision processes, it still could be a highly relevant and important tool to improve the adaptation components of countries' NDC enhancement process (Leiter, T. 2023). In essence, the main principles and categories of a good quality NAP could be also applied to the adaptation part of the NDC enhancement process.

4. **Invest in skills, knowledge and enhanced capacity:** All staff in the relevant Ministries leading the NAP development process, should have a good understanding and knowledge on climate adaptation issues, while staff specialising on climate planning and policies will need to enhance their skills with regard to vulnerability/ risk assessment, climate projections, economic costs and damages due to climate impacts, climate finance, and other relevant thematic areas. This can be achieved through training, recruitment of specialized staff, peer-to-peer learning, engaging with academia and other knowledge providers, and leveraging expertise from national or international organizations with experience and knowledge on climate adaptation planning processes. Conducting skill gaps assessment to guide the development of relevant training materials and capacity building programmes should be prioritized.

5. **Utilize climate adaptation tools, datasets, and planning approaches:** New tools and data are needed to better assess climate risks and vulnerabilities, the costs, and benefits of climate measures, climate-resilient development pathways and investments. Understanding climate adaptation cost–benefit analysis under deep uncertainty (including estimates of costs of no climate action), using a diversity of approaches that capture non-linear climate impacts, non-marginal changes in the economy, and the use of scenario analysis are particularly important. Utilizing cutting-edge climate and socio-economic data science and investing in better data collection and management systems should be also prioritized.

Recommendations for critical NAP categories

Although, all elements and categories should be considered during the development or update of a NAP, we make special recommendations regarding the categories that are covered the least in the NAPs, based on the NAP global assessment, namely finance, monitoring and evaluation, and participation.

Finance

According to the results of the NAP global assessment, the finance component had only 38% average coverage.

6. **Conduct a robust costing of the adaptation measures:** A robust and systematic costing of the adaptation measures could ensure the reliability and accuracy of the estimates of the NAP investment needs, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of identification of funding sources and financing opportunities. This is not an easy exercise and would require the collection of cost data on adaptation projects, and a systematic methodology of costing adaptation actions.

7. **Form partnerships and engage with knowledge-based institutes for estimating the costs of inaction:** Governments could also engage and form partnerships with universities, research institutes, and climate service providers to understand and if possible, estimate the costs of climate inaction. Based on the global assessment results, this component is the one that has been covered the least, only by 3 out of the 50 NAPs, understandably, given the challenges to estimate the potential economic losses and damages of not taking any adaptation measures. Furthermore, enhancing the collection, compilation, and management of data on climate variables and damages and losses from previous climate induced disasters are all important conditions for estimating the costs of inaction under different climate scenarios.

8. **Develop a finance strategy:** Developing a finance strategy to identify and mobilize resources for the implementation of the adaptation measures is necessary to enhance the effective implementation of the NAP. Through a concerted action, the relevant ministries could develop project pipelines for each sector of the NAP and identify potential financing mechanisms. Engaging with bilateral and multilateral development agencies and banks can provide a range of options to governments for financing different adaptation measures. In addition, it is important to engage with the private sector for identifying adaptation projects and measures to be (co-)financed.

9. **Engage with the Ministry of Finance:** Engagement with the Ministry of Finance (MoF) during the NAP development process could be instrumental for estimating the investment needs of the adaptation measures and financing gaps. Most importantly developing a finance strategy to mobilize resources and mainstreaming NAP into the national budgeting process for the implementation of the NAP. Enhanced coordination with the MoF will help the MoF to understand the physical and potential fiscal risks of climate change and maximize the opportunities of mainstreaming, financing and implementing the NAP.

Monitoring and Evaluation

According to the results of the global assessment, the monitoring and evaluation component had only 56% average coverage.

10. **Develop a monitoring and evaluation system with clear timelines and responsibilities:** In order to be able to assess the level of achievement of NAP objectives an M&E system should be developed with a SMART set of indicators, well-defined aims, activities, timelines, and responsibilities. The M&E system should be aligned with the overarching goals of the NAP crafted to gauge the effectiveness or achievement of adaptation interventions.

11. **Ensure integration of gender and social inclusion in the M&E system:** Engaging with women and vulnerable groups to integrate gender and social inclusion related objectives and indicators in the M&E system is important for measuring progress of adaptation measures and results achievement that are particularly gender responsive and socially inclusive. It is crucial, for the long-term effectiveness and success of the entire NAP, to address distributional effects on the populations that are mostly at risk of climate impacts.

Participation

According to the results of the NAPs global assessment, the participation component had only 57% average coverage.

12. **Establish a participation strategy or mechanism:** Participation is an essential element for the development, acceptance and effective implementation of the NAP. Therefore it is essential for governments to establish a participation strategy or mechanism for active engagement with all relevant stakeholders including line ministries, civic society organizations, the most vulnerable, the private sector, academia, sub-national level stakeholders and others.

13. **Establish a whole-of-government-and-society approach to climate adaptation planning:** At a minimum, the areas requiring collaboration and participation of all relevant Ministries in existing inter-ministerial coordination mechanisms should be identified and dedicated resources provided. In addition, it is important to ensure continuous support in developing strong partnerships and multi-stakeholder platforms with the private sector and civil society organizations.

14. **Ensure a gender and social inclusive approach:** Given that many times women, children and youth are disproportionately affected by climate change, the NAP development process should ensure a gender responsive approach and mainstream a gender perspective particularly during the identification of the adaptation measures. Overall, the governments through the NAP stakeholders' consultation processes should incorporate gender issues and include women and youth organizations and representatives of the most vulnerable groups in the development of the NAP. Involving such groups in every stage of the NAP development process, including the M&E system, is critical to enhance societal coherence as a variety of voices are considered and heard, and an inclusive societal and institutional structure is built.

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1. Annex B: NAP-GP Framework

Categories	Code	Assessment questions	Yes	No	Protocol
Participation in the preparation phase (7)	1.1	Does the plan mention at least one mechanism for participation of stakeholders in the plan preparation?			A mechanism for participation refers to the processes, structures, and tools put in place to enable and encourage individuals or groups to actively engage and contribute to decision-making processes, initiatives, or activities. Some participation mechanisms can be, but are not limited to, stakeholder consultations, creation of multi-stakeholder platforms for collaboration, dialogue, and consensus-building, utilization of online portals and surveys, participatory workshops and training or creation of a advisory committee.
	1.2	Does the plan mention that the stakeholders in the plan preparation are gender-balanced?			Some examples of the consideration of gender balance in the plan preparation can include the following formulation; - stakeholders from different sectors were consulted and "gender balance was ensured" in the planning process - "gender perspective was incorporated" in the process of identifying adaptation measures - gender and social inclusion were considered in the development of the plan, and that consultations were held with various groups including women - stakeholder consultations were "gender-sensitive", and that various women's groups were involved in the development of the plan
	1.3	Did the plan preparation include representatives from the most vulnerable groups and communities?			Description may provide assurance that they represented a broad range of community interests and viewpoints; Disadvantaged populations are those that may not be traditionally included in the planning process and may be adversely affected by climate change such as the poor, elderly, indigenous community, disabled, immigrants etc.
	1.4	Does the plan include at least one youth engagement strategy?			Youth engagement in the plan can be, among other modalities, advocacy, decision-making and on-the-ground action, and can be facilitated in various ways, including through awareness-raising and training, capacity-building and empowerment. Some other concrete actions can be conducting policy analysis gaps in youth engagement, packaging messages in animations, videos and social media content or using music, dance, drama, and debates to engage youths.
	1.5	Does the plan state that an inter-ministerial steering committee or advisory committee was used to guide plan creation?			A steering committee may consist of representatives from various relevant government ministries, civil society organizations, academia, and other stakeholders. It can be that a new committee or agency is created for this, such as the NAP of Grenada that mentions the formation of a National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) to guide the development of the plan. The committee was made up of representatives from various government agencies, civil society organizations, and the private sector. Additionally, the NAP of Uganda mentions the establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change (IMCCC) to guide the development of the plan. The committee was composed of representatives from various ministries, departments, and agencies, as well as civil society organizations and the private sector.

	1.6	Does the plan mention that the preparation phase was inclusive of entities from different levels and groups?			During the creation of the plan, did the plan engage entities at multiple levels and across all groups?
		If the above question was scored 1, please score 1 for the following entities if a particular entity is identified.			
		Local businesses (or private sector)			May include local businesses, artisans, small to medium-sized enterprises.
		Federal agencies			A federal agency is a department, bureau, or organization established by the federal government to carry out specific tasks or functions. Some examples could be the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the UBA in Germany.
		Academia and research institutions			This may include universities, colleges, and other educational and research institutions.
		Non-profit organizations (and NGOs)			
		Regional authorities			This refers to the government bodies or administrative organizations that have jurisdiction over a particular region.
		Civil society			The general public and community organizations that are not directly affiliated with the government or private sector but are involved in public life and advocate for social and environmental issues.
		Public administrations in climate change and its key sectors			Government departments or agencies that are responsible for developing and implementing policies related to climate change, including mitigation, adaptation, and climate resilience.
		International Organizations			
		Development partners (technical or financial)			
	1.7	Does the plan integrate traditional knowledge in plan preparation?			Does the plan identify, standardize, and incorporate traditional knowledge into the adaptation action design process? Traditional knowledge refers to the knowledge, practices, and strategies developed by local communities and indigenous peoples over generations to cope with the impacts of climate change on their environment, livelihoods, and cultures.
Goals (4)	2.1	Does the plan include a vision statement?			A vision statement establishes an overall image of the desired future. A vision can also be represented by objectives or outcomes that lead to the achievement of the desired future.
	2.2	Does the plan discuss at least one strategy to integrate climate adaptation or elements of the NAP into national planning processes?			Alignment of NAP and national development plan can be achieved in various ways, eg. by allocating funding and resources from the national budget to support NAP implementation, encouraging collaboration between relevant stakeholders such as the Ministry of Finance, planning, and environment, integrating climate risk/ vulnerability assessments or climate adaptation actions into national planning processes or using the same growth projections and targets in both processes. The national planning process can be but is not limited to, strategies such as a National Development Plan, National Vision Document, Transformational Plan, NDC, etc.
	2.3	Does the plan include quantitative adaptation goal(s)?			Goals are aspired outcomes, which in this case expressed in a measurable way. The quantitative goals can be sectoral or overarching, socio-economic goals. A quantitative goal is also referred to as a "target". A target represents a specific and measurable objective within a set timeframe. A target is closely linked to an indicator that is directly associated with the goal. If the plan does not include any specific measurable goals, please indicate 0.

		If the above question was scored 1, please answer the question below.If not, proceed to question 1.4.			
		Does the plan include time-bound actions for quantitative adaptation goals?			
	2.4	Does the plan include concrete adaptation goal(s) to particular CC impacts or risks?			Goals to a particular climate change impact or risk has to be planned or defined in relation to that particular impact to reduce the impacts in the short or long term. Is there a discussion in the plan where the role of a particular goal to reduce the impact or a particular impact is mentioned?
Fact base (11)	3.1	Does the plan mention how climate or weather trends in the country have changed to date with reference to relevant data and clear references?			The changes of historical weather conditions can be in the form of historical climate data and trends, including changes in temperature, precipitation, and extreme weather events. If the changes in weather patterns are mentioned in the plan without any reference to relevant data (such as from the National Meteorological Department), then please select 'No'.
	3.2	Does the plan mention ways that climate change or changing weather conditions are already affecting society based on scientific evidence?			A discussion on the current impact of changing weather conditions on the community can be, but not limited to, changes in the availability of water resources, impacts on agriculture productivity and food security, health of the population, losses from extreme events, etc.
	3.3	Does the plan mention that a vulnerability assessment was undertaken as part of the planning process?			Vulnerability assessment to climate change refers to the process of evaluating and understanding the potential risks that climate change poses to a particular community or region. The assessment may involve analyzing the exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity of various systems to these climate impacts. Identify whether the plan is based on a vulnerability assessment.
	3.4	Does the plan include future climate hazards?			Does the plan discuss future hazards that might occur as a result of climate change, which includes, but is not limited to, droughts, storms, floods, extreme weather events, heat waves, sea level rise, coastal storms etc.
	3.5	Does the plan include specific impacts of climate change in the future?			Climate impacts refer to the effects of climate change, either on the natural environment, human societies, or economic systems. Climate impacts can be discussed in the plan as the result of slow onset events such as changes in temperature, precipitation patterns, sea level or extreme weather events such as hurricanes, floods, and droughts. Some of future impacts can be, but not limited to, increased risk of coastal flooding and erosion, reduced crop yield, increased pest and disease pressure, changes in water availability and quality, altered migration patterns of animals, changes in the distribution of plant species, increased heat-related illnesses, vector-borne diseases or air-pollution related diseases etc. You can refer to the tables or figures that are presented in the annexes of the plan for more detailed information.
	3.6	Does the plan discuss hazards or impacts based on downscaled or regional climate projection models?			Identify whether the plan has included climate projections in the form of text/graph that indicate projected changes of the climate using a downscaled (statistical or dynamical) climate model, also often called Regional Climate Models (RCM). While Global Climate Models (GCMs) are important tools to assess the impact of future climate change, GCMs are run at a very coarse resolution and the use of GCM should be scored with 'No'.
	3.7	Does the plan capture uncertainties in future projections?			Identify whether the plan has suggested how to address uncertainties of climate impacts.The estimates of uncertainties are statements intended to describe the limits to knowledge. The IPCC notes that "uncertainties can be classified between levels of confidence in scientific understanding (structural uncertainties), and the likelihoods of specific results (value uncertainties). Uncertainties might also be discussed in the terms of probabilities, likelihoods, and scenarios of climate projections or impacts. Uncertainty here is not only limited to climate impacts and projections but can also include uncertainties of economic development projection. If the plan does not mention uncertainties in future projections within the current NAP document and instead refers to a supplementary document, please indicate 'No'.

	3.8	Does the plan prioritize the identified risks or impacts?			A prioritization can be done to focus adaptation efforts on the most pressing impacts. The plan might include several criteria to prioritize the impacts, such as likelihood and severity of the impact, costs or opportunity for adaptation, and mitigation co-benefits. Prioritization can be in the form of a ranking or categorization of different priorities. Please indicate 1 only if the plan explicitly mentions that it prioritizes certain risks or impacts over others.
	3.9	Does the plan establish a baseline to assess the current adaptive capacities in the country?			Adaptive capacity involves evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of a system or community in responding to climate risks and coordinating adaptation processes. It can be human or institutional capacity, governance structures, cultural traditions, resources, etc. The adaptive capacity can be assessed via qualitative or quantitative methods. This question does not refer to the availability of human resources or financial resources, instead, it refers to the explicit mention of the ability of the system or the community to address projected impacts.
	3.10	Does the plan identify certain vulnerable communities and groups that will be particularly affected by the future impacts?			Does the plan address the structural inequalities faced different population groups due to impacts of CC?
		If the above question was scored 'Yes', please score 'Yes' for the following if a particular community is identified. Otherwise 'No'.			
		Indigenous peoples			
		Women or girls			
		Children or youth			
		Elderly persons			
		Persons with disabilities			
		Rural communities, including small-scale farmers or fishers			
		Coastal communities			
		Urban poor			
		Migrant, refugee, or displaced populations			Displaced population in this context refers to the people who have been forced to flee their habitual residence due to climate change, such as sea level rise, severe weather events, desertification, and land degradation.
		People living in informal settlements or slums			
		Ethnic or religious minorities			
		People living in conflict-affected areas.			Conflict-affected areas refer to regions that have experienced or are currently experiencing armed conflict, violence, or political instability.
	3.11	Does the plan identify vulnerable sectors that will be particularly impacted by climate change in the future?			Does the plan mention the impacts of CC disaggregated to a sectoral level?
		If the above question was scored 'Yes', please score 'Yes' for the following if a particular sector is identified. Otherwise 'No'.			
		Energy			
		Transport			
		Built infrastructure (including building)			

		Urban			Migration from the rural to urban areas, rapid urbanization
		Agriculture (fisheries, and food security)			
		Forestry			
		Waste management			
		Water (and sanitation)			Including water resource management, water access, availability and quality
		Tourism			
		Industry			
		Health			
		Education			
		Coastal areas			
		Ocean or marine			
		Banking or finance or insurance			
		Human settlements			Human settlements refer to localities and populated places in which people live. The term encompasses cities, towns, and rural communities.
		Ecosystems, biodiversity, or wildlife			
Policy (14)	4.1	Does the plan include both short-term and/or long-term actions?			Does the plan clearly differentiate the actions to address short-term impacts, which may include extreme events, and long-term impacts caused by change in underlying climate trend? Generally, short-term can be somewhere between 0 to 5 years (including a mid-term), while long-term being beyond that. However, the definition of short-term and long-term can differ in NAPs, the most important element if there is a different temporal disaggregation of the actions.
	4.2	Does the plan take stock of actions that are in progress that have adaptation objectives?			Does the plan discuss CC adaptation actions or policies that are already ongoing? These actions could be leveraged and based on their effectiveness, should be continued in the future. If the plan mentions that it builds on existing adaptation policies and capabilities, but does NOT take stock of the previous actions, please indicate 'No'.
	4.3	Does the plan include at least one sectoral action for each of the identified vulnerable sectors?			Please indicate 1, only if there is at least one action PER EACH of the identified sectors.
	4.4	Does the plan make reference to at least one mitigation co-benefits in any one of the sectoral actions?			Mitigation co-benefits refer to actions taken to improve adaptive capacity that also have positive impacts in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
	4.5	Does the plan include measures to reduce disaster risk?			Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyze and reduce the causal factors of disasters. Disaster response systems may include, but are not limited to, the use of early warning systems, emergency management plans such as evacuation, disaster recovery strategies etc.
	4.6	Does the plan refer to gender-responsive approach?			Gender-responsive approaches actively promote gender equality and seek to address gender norms, roles, in inequalities. Taking into the different needs, the difference in voice and opportunity, and the different ways men, women, boys and girls benefit from adaptation measures and investments. Gender-responsive approaches may be included as a guiding principle in the NAP. Or principles to ensure the NAP will be gender responsive through the inclusion of gender in policy, projects, and programs across sectors, national and subnational levels. It can also include capacity-building actions such as gender-sensitive training, mentoring, and support for women's leadership and participation in decision-making.

	4.7	Does the plan identify at least one specific vulnerable group or community in relation to any of these actions?			This refers to the defined actions and their impact on a specific group of people and not the climate impacts. For example, the plan may mention that adaptation measures such as climate-smart agriculture or crop diversification needs to be prioritized to reduce the vulnerability of small-holder farmers or discuss how actions like upgrading of slums and provision of basic services will improve the life quality of the urban poor who might live in informal settlements.
	4.8	Does the plan include an action to develop governance or institutional capacity?			Enhancing institutional or governance capacity in the plan involves strengthening the policies, regulations, institutions, and systems that support climate adaptation. Some examples of this can be providing training and capacity-building support to key stakeholders, including government officials and agencies, civil society organizations, and private sector actors, on climate change adaptation strategies and techniques or enhancing coordination and collaboration among different government agencies in climate change planning and implementation. Please note that training for a population other than the one mentioned above, such as small-holder farmers, is not considered an institutional capacity enhancement, rather human capacity enhancement and should be scored 0 here.
	4.9	Does the plan include an action to develop human capacity?			Developing human capacity refers to building the knowledge, skills, and abilities of individuals and communities to cope with climate-related risks and impacts. Some example of human capacity developments can be training programs for small-holder farmers, providing retraining and reskilling opportunities, building partnerships between communities, promoting knowledge-sharing dialogues and cooperations among different groups, promoting research and development, creating or supporting educational programs in schools, etc.
	4.10	Does the plan include at least an action focused on increasing public awareness?			Raising awareness involves not only disseminating information about the current and future CC impacts, but also ensuring the shared knowledge about risk reduction measures, what resources are available to implement adaptation, and how to engage in national and sub-national processes. This may also include the inclusion of a communication and outreach plan.
	4.11	Does the plan include regional disaggregation of actions?			Does the plan have different adaptation actions across different regions?
	4.12	Does the plan include non-structural actions to address the impacts of climate change?			Non-structural actions in addressing climate change impacts refer to strategies and measures that do not involve physical infrastructure or built interventions. These approaches focus on non-physical or nature-based solutions to enhance resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts.
		If the above question was scored 1, please score 1 for the following if either NBS or EbA is mentioned. Otherwise 0.			
		Does the plan mention strategies for NBS?			NBS - Nature-based solution, EbA Ecosystem-based adaptation. NbS and EbA can be defined within the plan as a set of actions that use nature to address climate change impacts, enhance the resilience of social and ecological systems, and provide co-benefits such as biodiversity conservation, improved water quality, and increased carbon sequestration. Specifically, NbS can refer to actions that are inspired by, supported by, or utilize nature to address societal challenges in a sustainable and effective manner. These solutions can include both nature-based measures, such as forest restoration or green infrastructure, as well as nature-inspired innovations, such as biomimicry or biotechnology. EbA, on the other hand, can focus on the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to reduce the vulnerability of people and ecosystems to climate change impacts. This can include actions such as protecting and restoring coastal wetlands to reduce the impacts of storms and sea level rise, or managing forests to enhance their resilience to drought and wildfire. Please indicate 1 only if the plan explicitly mentions NBS.

		Does the plan mention strategies for EbA?			EbA stands for Ecosystem-based Adaptation. EbA is defined as the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as an overall adaptation strategy to help people to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. Please indicate 1 only if the plan explicitly mentions EbA.
	4.13	Does the plan mention that any financial or other incentives will be provided for the implementation of any of the actions?			Financial incentives can come in the form of but are not limited to, grants, subsidies, tax credits, and other types of financial support to help cover the costs of implementation of the adaptation activities.
	4.14	Does the plan include action alignment with other key global frameworks?			Some global frameworks that are relevant and may be aligned with NAP include the Sendai Framework, SDG, Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Aichi Biodiversity Targets, UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), New Urban Agenda etc.
Finance (6)	5.1	Does the plan identify the potential costs of implementing the identified adaptation actions?			Whether the plan estimates the total cost of actions and the cost of each action. The cost estimation may also take into account potential extended co-benefits and cost savings associated with the implementation of certain actions.
	5.2	Does the plan discuss the relative costs of inaction to implementing the adaptation plan?			Does the plan present the costs of an alternative scenario, also often referred to a BAU scenario, derived either qualitatively or quantitatively, where no adaptation actions are implemented?
	5.3	Does the plan identify financing gaps in implementing the plan?			A financing gap in the plan refers to the difference between the estimated cost of implementing the identified adaptation actions and the actual available financing for those actions. In other words, it is the difference between the funding needed to fully implement the plan and the funding that is currently available in the country. Identifying financing gaps is also often discussed to inform resource mobilization efforts and encourage the allocation of funding toward adaptation actions.
	5.4	Does the plan identify potential funding sources to implement the plan?			This refers to the process of identifying and cataloging specific funding opportunities or potential sources of finance that could be tapped into to support the implementation of NAP. Funding sources could be both domestic and international and may include public and private sources. Domestic funding sources could include government budgets, national adaptation funds, local government budgets, or contributions from private sector entities. International funding sources could include grants, loans, or other financial assistance from international organizations, bilateral donors, or multilateral funds.
	5.5	Does the plan outline a finance mobilization strategy?			In addition to identifying potential funding sources, the plan may also guide how to access and mobilize these funds. This may include developing a comprehensive plan or roadmap, prioritizing and targeting specific funding sources, developing partnerships or collaborations with relevant stakeholders, recommendations on how to improve the enabling environment for private sector investment, how to enhance access to climate finance, or how to improve coordination and collaboration between different stakeholders involved in funding and implementing adaptation actions. A finance mobilization strategy can also refer to an investment mobilization strategy.
		If the above question was scored 1, please score 1 for the following if a particular sector is identified. Otherwise 0.			
		If the plan does outline a finance mobilization strategy, does the strategy specifically include private-sector investment mobilization?			This may include a strategy to engage the private sector to foster private sector investment. Is there a strategy to encourage the private sector, through corporate social responsibility, to promulgate and finance any policies emerging from the NAP that are relevant to their business practices.

		Does the plan include international cooperation for funding part of the plan?			
		If the plan does outline a finance mobilization strategy, does the plan discuss the inclusion of innovative financing mechanisms for adaptation?			Some examples of innovative financing mechanisms for adaptation include debt for nature swaps, issuance of bonds (green bonds), carbon pricing, results-based finance, green venture capital, crowdfunding, etc
	5.6	Does the plan include a tracking system of the financing of the plan, either as part of the M&E framework or a separate strategy?			The tracking system may include monitoring the budget allocation for each adaptation action, the actual expenditures, and the funding sources. This information can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the financing strategy and make adjustments as needed.
Implementation (6)	6.1	Does the plan prioritize adaptation actions for implementation?			The plan might use different criteria to prioritize adaptation actions, depending on the context and needs of the country. Some examples, but not limited to, are cost-effectiveness, co-benefits, equity impact, political feasibility, implementation capacity etc.
	6.2	Does the plan identify a responsible party for at least one specific adaptation measure?			To ensure that there is clarity on who is accountable for implementing a specific measure, the plan may identify a specific responsible party. The responsible party can be a government agency, a community-based organization, or a combination of actors. The plan may also identify any necessary partnerships or coordination mechanisms to support the implementation of the specific actions. Please note that question does not refer to the plan to outline general institutional arrangements that will be responsible for the overall implementation, coordination, and monitoring of the plan, but instead on specific actors that will be responsible for implementing a particular action.
	6.3	Does the plan identify timelines for implementation?			Timeline for implementation may include the year for the implementation of an action or the target year to achieve a goal. Given the nature of national plans often being less detailed than specific implementation plans, please indicate a value of 1 for this question if the plan includes any form of timeline for implementation.
	6.4	Does the plan identify potential barriers to the implementation of adaptation activities?			Barriers include financial limitations, insufficient information, lack of staff time, policies, lack of authority, information and technology barriers, governance and institutional barriers.
	6.5	Does the plan outline a clear institutional arrangement between various entities in implementing the plan?			Institutional arrangement defines and outlines roles, responsibilities, and coordination mechanisms between different government agencies, institutions, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders involved in implementing the plan. The institutional arrangement provides a framework for effective collaboration and coordination. It also encompasses actions that ensure accountability and transparency in the implementation process. The institutional arrangement may vary depending on the country's context and can involve different levels of government, such as national, sub-national, and local.
	6.6	Does the plan include a national mandate for sub-national entities (e.g. regions, municipalities, cities) to develop a regional or local adaptation plan?			By mandating a regional and local adaptation strategy, the plan aims at vertical integration, where the plan can be linked to and support the development of sub-national adaptation plans. Mandate can also come as a form of guidance on how to develop sub-national plans, including methodologies, tools, and examples. The sub-national plans can then feed into the national planning process, helping to ensure coherence and alignment between national and sub-national adaptation efforts. If any of the elements is present, please select 'Yes'. Please note that this question might not be relevant for SIDS or other small countries, where further disaggregating plans would not make sense due to the small size of a country. If this is the case, please leave the scoring empty.

Monitoring and Evaluation (7)	7.1	Does the plan include M&E objectives?			M&E objectives are the specific goals or outcomes that the plan seeks to achieve through its M&E activities. M&E objectives are often linked to the overall goals of the plan and are designed to measure the success or effectiveness of adaptation interventions.
	7.2	Does the plan include envisaged M&E activities?			M&E activities, as opposed to the objectives, are the specific methods or processes used to collect data, track progress, and assess the effectiveness of adaptation interventions. M&E activities are often designed to achieve the M&E objectives of the plan. For example, if the M&E objective is to increase the adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities, some M&E activities that could be undertaken include conducting vulnerability assessments, tracking changes in exposure and sensitivity to climate risks, and evaluating the effectiveness of community-based adaptation initiatives. Some other M&E activities can include, but are not limited to - Developing a monitoring framework that identifies key indicators and data sources for tracking progress towards NAP goals and objectives. - Conduct vulnerability assessments and risk analyses to identify areas of priority for adaptation interventions and to track changes in vulnerability over time. - Establishing baselines and setting targets for key indicators related to adaptation, such as changes in temperature, precipitation, or sea levels, and changes in the frequency or intensity of extreme weather events. - Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of adaptation interventions, such as the construction of infrastructure or the implementation of policy measures, to assess their effectiveness and identify any necessary adjustments. - Conducting periodic reviews of the NAP to assess its relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency, and to identify any gaps or areas for improvement.
	7.3	Does the plan identify responsible actors for M&E?			Actors, or stakeholders or parties, can include national government agencies, sectoral agencies, local governments or civil society organizations that are responsible for any M&E activities.

	7.4	Does the plan include M&E indicators?			M&E indicators are specific metrics that are used to measure the progress and effectiveness of adaptation interventions and the implementation of the plan. Some of the examples of M&E indicators ,but not limited to, are: - Number of people and communities reached by adaptation interventions. - Changes in exposure and sensitivity to climate change risks, such as changes in temperature and precipitation patterns. - Adoption of climate-resilient practices and technologies in key economic sectors. - Changes in land use patterns and management practices that support ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) interventions. - Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions resulting from adaptation interventions. - Availability and accessibility of climate information and early warning systems to vulnerable communities. - Level of engagement and participation of vulnerable communities in the design and implementation of adaptation interventions. - Effectiveness and efficiency of adaptation interventions in achieving their intended goals and objectives.
	7.5	Does the plan include a timeline for M&E activities?			The timeline for M&E activities will depend on the duration of the plan, the timeframe for implementing adaptation interventions, and the frequency of data collection and reporting. The timeline can include specific milestones or deadlines for each stage of the M&E process. For example, the timeline might include deadlines for developing an M&E plan (if it is not available), collecting baseline data, conducting regular progress reviews, and reporting on the effectiveness of adaptation interventions.
	7.6	Does the plan integrate gender in the monitoring and evaluation plan?			Integration of gender in M&E may be through the inclusion of explicit gender and/or women empowerment-related indicators, collection of gender-disaggregated data, and explicit reference to gender in reporting requirements. If the plan merely mentions that it integrates gender without providing specific measures to actively integrate a gender perspective, please indicate 0 for this question.
	7.7	Does the M&E process mentions assessing the outcome of adaptation actions on different vulnerable population groups or communities?			A M&E process can be designed to assess the outcome of adaptation actions on different social groups such as women, children, marginalized communities, indigenous communities or sectoral communities such as small-scale farmers or pastoralists.

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