



Advancing adaptation through policy, planning and cooperation



Sharing some thoughts through examples

International Symposium commemorating
the 5th anniversary of The Centre for Climate
Change Adaptation

December 14th, 2023

State of International Adaptation

- 85% of countries have at least one national-level adaptation planning instrument
- Of remaining 15%, just under half are in the process of developing one
- 25% of countries have in place a legal instrument (laws and acts) that require national governments to prepare a national adaptation planning instrument, rising slowly since the late-2000s
- 69% of countries have put a central administrative body in place to oversee adaptation action and 67% are allocating domestic finance towards implementing adaptation priorities



Trends in Regional Efforts

- More and more to support implementation at the local levels
- 90% of climate adaptation measures currently undertaken by local and regional authorities
- Focus of regional efforts
 - Mobilising regional interests and networks to leverage political commitment
 - Trigger wide engagement of citizens and diverse stakeholders in the co-creation of transformative climate resilience
 - Facilitate learning and capacity development
 - Supporting skills, partnerships and knowledge exchange
 - Addressing data and information gaps, including tools and other resources
 - Boost enabling conditions, including funding and financing
 - Focus on working local authorities – place-based adaptation interventions

Examples of National Adaptation Strategies and Related Activities

Canadian Adaptation Strategies and Plans

National Adaptation Strategy

Government of Canada's Adaptation Action Plan

Provincial and Territorial governments strategies / plans

Provision of Independent and Expert-driven Advice

Canada's National Adaptation Strategy: Building Resilient Communities and a Strong Economy

- Building strong and resilient communities
 - reducing the impacts of climate-related disasters
 - improving health and well-being
 - protecting and restoring nature and biodiversity
 - building and maintaining resilient infrastructure





The Government of Canada's Adaptation Action Plan

- Federal government's part in achieving the goals, objectives, and targets laid out in the National Adaptation Strategy
- Highlights 73 new and ongoing federal actions across 22 departments and agencies to help meet Canada's adaptation goals
- Reducing the impacts of climate-related disasters; Supporting health and well-being; Building resilient infrastructure; Supporting a climate-resilient economy and workers; and Scaling up solutions in communities.

Provincial and territorial governments

- Developed stand-alone climate change adaptation plans or strategies and have made investments to support adaptation decision-making and on-the-ground action



Canadian Climate Institute

- ▶ Pan-Canadian expert collaboration – provides independent and expert-driven analyses guided by science and knowledge
- ▶ Engages in knowledge sharing and thought leaderships focusing on advancing actional and effective solutions
- ▶ Analyses, recommendations and opinions based on evidence developed through robust, credible and authoritative research
- ▶ Undertook an independent assessment of Canada's first National Adaptation Strategy
 - ▶ NAS and corresponding federal Action Plan represent a major step toward a more coordinated and effective nationwide response – 11 recommendations for changes aimed to ensure effective implementation
 - ▶ Continue to monitor and evaluate implementation to ensure it drives action on the biggest climate risks facing Canada



UK Adaptation Strategies and Activities

Third National Adaptation Programme (NAP3)

UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022

Responses to the NAP3



Third National Adaptation Programme



- Sets out the actions that government and others will take to adapt to the impacts (2023-2028)
- Builds on and developing the approach from previous rounds
- Based on the evidence compiled through the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022
- Vision: effectively plans for and is fully adapted to the changing climate, with resilience against each of the identified climate risks
- Three main themes: Action, information and coordination
- Actions focused on: Infrastructure; Natural environment; Health; Communities and the Built environment; Business and industry; and International impacts.



UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2022

- Third five-year assessment of risks of climate change on the UK – required by the Climate Change Act 2008
- Considers 61 UK-wide climate risks and opportunities, cutting across multiple economic sectors, prioritizing the following eight risk areas for action in the next two years:
 - Risks to viability and diversity of habitats and species
 - Risks to soil health from increased flooding and droughts
 - Risks to natural carbon stores and sequestration
 - Risks to human health, wellbeing and productivity from heat in homes and buildings
 - Risks to supply of food, goods and vital services (supply chains and distribution networks)
 - Risks to people and the economy from failure of the power system
 - Risks to crops, livestock and commercial trees
 - Risks to the UK from climate change impacts overseas



UK Climate Change Committee

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- Independent advice to UK Government and devolved administrations
 - Provides Independent Assessment as commissioned by the UK government and devolved administrations
 - Informs the UK Government's third CCRA – submitted to parliament
 - The UK Government and devolved administrations must set out their response to the risks and opportunities in their national adaptation programmes.
 - Commission research projects to feed into their independent advice, with funding from the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra); the Devolved Administrations; and the UK research councils
 - Scrutinises action by UK Government and devolved administrations, including the NAP3



Responses to NAP3

- Need for more of a high-level, principled approach throughout government – adaptation built into all relevant legislative frameworks as a forceful duty
- Need for more detailed strategies of how to protect our towns and cities, and build resilience into our society – a vision of a climate resilient UK.
- In addition to physical assets, other types of assets, such as human, financial, social, and place-based assets, are also influential in reducing vulnerability to heat.
- Need to urgently ramp up actions on adaptation across all sectors of society, commensurate with the existing and projected threats.
- The argument for a stronger response has not been won across government. Ministers are urged to build on this with much greater ambition. The scale of the climate impacts we are seeing make clear that resilience to climate change should be a much greater national priority.

Examples of International Cooperation



International Climate Councils Network

International Climate Adaptation Platform Initiatives

Japan through AP-Plat

KE4CAP – Stepping-Up Knowledge Exchange between
Climate Adaptation Knowledge Platforms



International Climate Councils Network

- An international network launched in 2021 as a forum to facilitate collaboration and mutual support between climate councils from around the world.
- Providing a forum for:
 - Exchanging methods and approaches to advising on and monitoring Government action to address climate change and its impacts.
 - Sharing lessons learned from experiences in climate policy making and implementation.
 - Exploring and undertaking joint research and analysis in support of common interests, including on related development considerations and outcomes.
 - Identifying and promoting shared interests and/or principles on climate governance and the implementation of the Paris Agreement
 - Highlighting the role of Climate Councils in supporting effective climate policy development, including through supporting parties in introducing Climate Councils as part of climate governance frameworks.



International Climate Adaptation Platform Initiatives

- Japan through AP-Plat – 4th International meeting
 - Share knowledge and information related to developing and operating national and international information platforms.
 - Share recent activities supporting local and national governments and other stakeholders working on climate change adaptation through national and international information platforms.
 - Discuss potential collaboration and partnership in supporting national and international information platforms in Asia-Pacific countries.



International Climate Adaptation Platform Initiatives

- KE4CAP – Funded by European Commission 2019-2021
 - Provided a forum for developers and operators of climate adaptation knowledge platforms (from those at the early planning stage through to well-established platforms) to come together to compare and learn from their individual approaches,
 - Shared knowledge and best practices, and to work together to address common and emerging challenges.
 - Shared recent activities supporting local and national governments and other stakeholders working on climate change adaptation through these national and international information platforms.
 - Stimulated knowledge exchange to advance cooperation and learning, and to inspire the evolution of national and regional adaptation platforms in terms of scope, governance, content coverage, functionality and management.
- There are on-going discussion based on an ever-present demand to continue this level of collaboration at the global and regional levels



Thank you for your attention

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