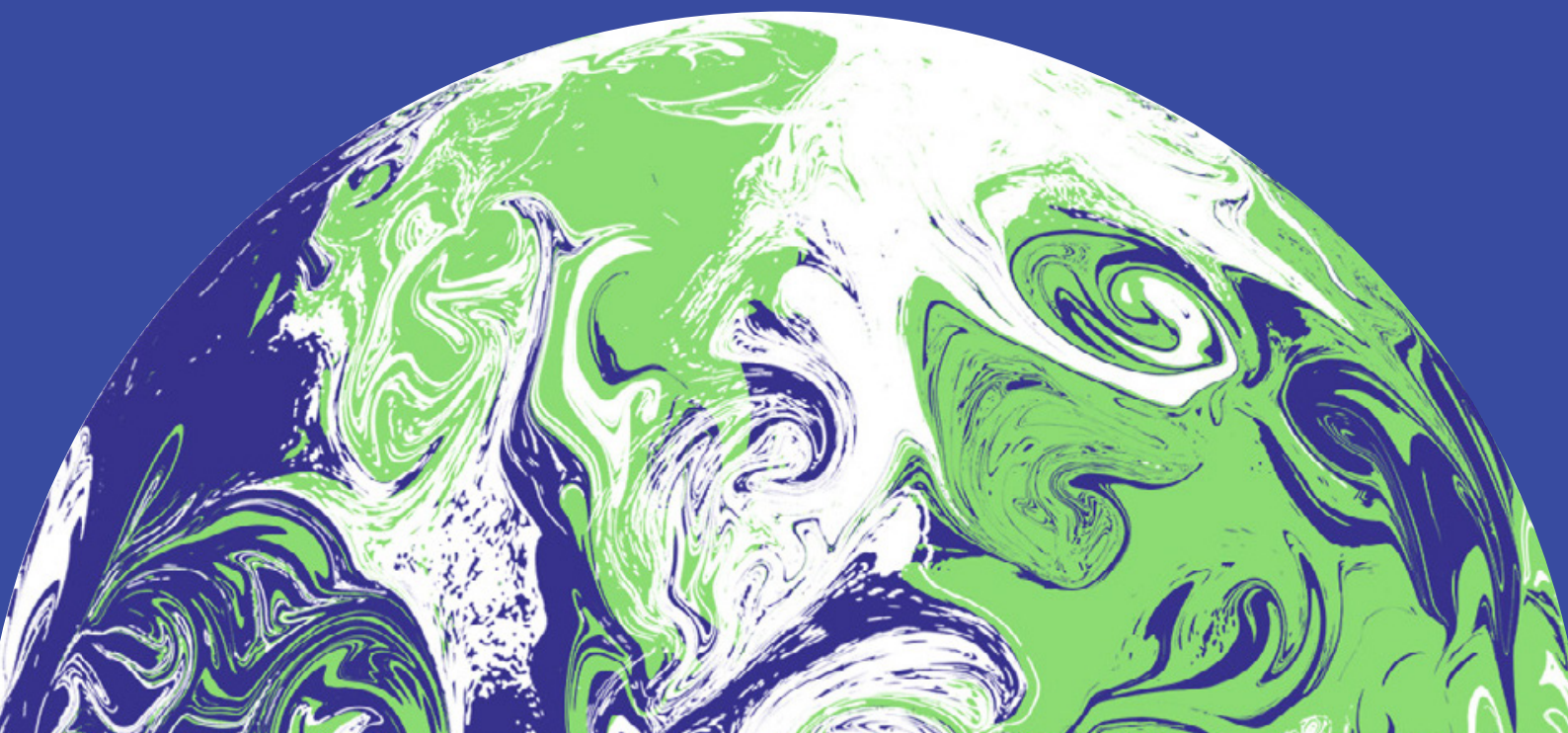


**COP26 CATALYST  
FOR CLIMATE  
ACTION**

Action Recommendations on  
Capacity Building for

**Adaptation  
Communications**



**UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2021**

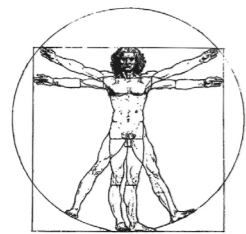
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**Wilton Park**

These recommendations were developed by the COP26 Catalyst Action Group on Capacity Building for Adaptation Communications, which includes representatives from the countries and organisations shown below. These institutions endorse the recommendations at the time of initial publication; we invite further organisations and countries to endorse the recommendations during and after COP26.

**SOUTH  
SOUTH  
NORTH**  
TOWARDS CLIMATE RESILIENCE



European Capacity Building Initiative

**oxford  
climate  
policy**

## COP26 CATALYST FOR CLIMATE ACTION

# Recommendations on Capacity Building for Adaptation Communications

The extent to which the Adaptation Communications (ADCOMs) are useful to national adaptation efforts, the Global Stocktake, and to track progress on the Global Goal on Adaptation will depend on the quality of the information they contain. To generate quality information, capacity building of governments, sectors, stakeholders (national and sub-national, most vulnerable), and institutions is essential. Given the cyclic nature of commitments under the Paris Agreement, and the long-term and continuous adaptation-related capacity needs of countries in future, it is important that capacity is not delivered in a sporadic and fragmented manner. Instead, **long-term, coordinated, sustained, iterative, synergistic, and institutionalised capacity building is essential, designed and delivered in a manner that encourages capacity retention.**

ADCOMs should, first and foremost, **serve to strengthen national adaptation planning, implementation, and monitoring processes.** Considerations of national relevance should therefore inform decisions on the choice of vehicle, design, content, periodicity, and sequencing of the ADCOMs – and hence specific capacity building needs. Specific elements of capacity building for the ADCOMs should include:

- **Capacity building for inclusion**, of sub-national actors, and of the most vulnerable sections and members of society, to ensure that their knowledge, views, and experiences are well represented in the ADCOMs. This includes strengthened institutional arrangements, and thematic capacity building, for instance on gender and intersectionality. Adequate time should be built into the process of developing ADCOMs, to ensure that the necessary capacities exist for meaningful engagement of all stakeholders.
- **Capacity building for integration across key national sectors**, in particular sectors that relate to poverty and vulnerability, to ensure that impacts on these sectors, and contributions to adaptation, are captured.
- **Capacity building to ensure efficient synergies** between national and global adaptation processes, documents, and reports.
- **Capacity building for rapid revision and updating** of ADCOMs and other adaptation-related national plans and processes, in response to updated climate projections, or to unforeseen climate impacts.



## Recommendations

### FUNDERS

1. Provide coordinated, adequate, predictable, flexible, targeted funding for long-term capacity building for producing the ADCOMs and for adaptation in general, so countries can invest more efficiently in strengthening and institutionalising capacity over time. Uncoordinated and sporadic funding will deliver uncoordinated and sporadic capacity.

### ADAPTATION COMMITTEE/ UNFCCC

2. Develop succinct guidelines and tools for national actors preparing and contributing to the ADCOMs, translated into different languages, keeping in mind that these actors are not all familiar with UNFCCC terminology and processes.
3. Establish regional and national knowledge platforms for peer-to-peer learning and support, such as South-South platforms, hotlines, and buddy systems.
4. Establish UNFCCC National Focal Points (NFPs) for Adaptation, to work with existing ACE Focal Points and coordinate horizontal and vertical integration and inputs for more inclusive ADCOMs.

### NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

5. Invest in long-term, integrated and coordinated systemic, human, and institutional capacity to plan, implement, and monitor adaptation action across sectors, across levels (national to local), and across UNFCCC communications such as the ADCOMs and BTRs.
6. Capacity building efforts (systemic, human, and institutional) for ADCOMs specifically, and for adaptation in general, should focus not only on the ministries and departments that directly deal with the UNFCCC, but also comprehensively include the ministries, departments, and stakeholders of all the key vulnerable and enabling sectors; local governments; and local stakeholders, including in particular the most vulnerable, women, indigenous communities, and youth.
7. The specific capacity needs of NFPs and climate change departments in the context of ADCOMs relate, among other things, to: accessing funds to produce ADCOMs; planning, implementing, and sustaining an inclusive and integrated process for producing ADCOMs; engaging sectors and stakeholders in the preparation of ADCOMs to ensure a truly inclusive process; embedding and integrating the process of producing the ADCOMs into other national adaptation processes; communicating and socialising the information contained in the ADCOM back to sectors and local stakeholders; and using the ADCOMs to generate political and stakeholder support at the national level, and adaptation finance at the global level.

### SECTORAL MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS

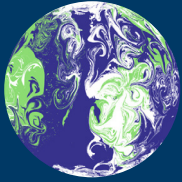
8. Key sectoral government ministries and departments related to adaptation, both at the national and sub-national levels, should invest in long-term capacities to, inter alia: understand the sector-specific impacts of climate change at all levels; climate-proof sectoral plans and activities; identify and prioritise the needs of the most vulnerable, marginalised, and disenfranchised communities and groups within the sector; track and report sectoral spending on adaptation; and assess sectoral financial need for adaptation.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

9. Local governments need resources and capacity to invest in, inter alia: understanding the localised impacts of climate change on sectors, stakeholders, and local development efforts; gather disaggregated data; identify the most vulnerable and prioritise their needs; engage with key stakeholders on a sustained basis; track and report local progress, needs and gaps on adaptation; assess local financial needs; access funding; and report on funding received for adaptation.

### STAKEHOLDERS, IN PARTICULAR THE MOST VULNERABLE, MARGINALISED, AND DISENFRANCHISED

10. Key stakeholders include, among others, the most vulnerable; community leaders and representatives; NGOs; youth; universities; research institutions; professionals; media; and the private sector. They will need capacity building to, inter alia, work with authorities to co-develop adaptations plans and communications; engage with each other constructively; participate in efforts to identify key vulnerabilities and vulnerable groups, and priority needs and gaps; contribute to planning, implementation, and monitoring of progress; and hold elected representatives, office bearers, and stakeholder representatives to account.



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# **COP26 CATALYST FOR CLIMATE ACTION**

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**UK Government**



**Wilton Park**