First Adaptation Communication   
to the United Nations Framework Convention   
on Climate Change

by [Country]

Submitted by: [Institution]

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Date: [Date]

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1. National circumstances, institutional arrangements, legal frameworks

i. Geography, ecosystems, demographics, economy, infrastructure and social characteristics

[Please elaborate on the national circumstances relevant to adaptation actions, including geography and ecosystems, demographics, economy, infrastructure and social characteristics.]

ii. National/sub-national policy frameworks and provisions on climate change

[Please elaborate on national and/or sub-national policy frameworks and provisions on climate change. Policy frameworks and provisions specifically on adaptation can be indicated under element c)]

iii. Institutional arrangements and governance

[Please elaborate on institutional arrangements and governance, i.e. the institutions mandated with the implementation of the Paris Agreement and overseeing national adaptation planning and actions.]

iv. Existing legal frameworks and regulations

[Please elaborate on the existing legal frameworks and regulations on climate change with relevance for climate change adaptation (e.g. climate change acts, laws, regulations)]

1. Impacts, risks, vulnerabilities

i. Observed (ecological, economic and social) impacts of climate change

[Which observed impacts of climate change is your country already experiencing? (Please consider ecological, economic and social aspects)]

ii. Climate risk/vulnerability at national/sectoral level

[Have climate risk and/or vulnerability assessments been conducted at the national, sub-national, regional or sectoral level?]

[GIZ (2014). Vulnerability Sourcebook](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/vulnerability-assessment/vulnerability-sourcebook/)

*If yes, please elaborate on the findings of the assessments regarding:*

iii. Main climate risks

[What are the main climate risks identified through these assessments?]

IPCC (2014). Assessment Report, AR5

iv. Vulnerable Regions

[Regions particularly vulnerable to a specific climate risk or climate induced disaster]

v. Vulnerable Cities

[Cities particularly vulnerable to a specific climate risk or climate induced disaster]

vi. Vulnerable social groups

[Social groups particularly vulnerable to a specific climate risk or climate induced disaster]

vii. Vulnerable sectors

[Sectors particularly vulnerable to a specific climate risk or climate induced disaster (i.e. water, agriculture, health, infrastructure, other productive sectors, biodiversity and ecosystems)]

viii. Methods for climate risk/vulnerability assessment

[Please provide further details on the methods that have been used for the climate risk or vulnerability assessments with an emphasis on the latest/most comprehensive CR/VA.]

[GIZ (2013). Comparative analysis of climate change vulnerability assessments](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/publications/comparative-analysis-climate-change-vulnerability-assessments/)

1. National adaptation priorities, strategies, policies, plans, goals and actions

i. Climate change adaptation policy framework

[Does the country currently have a climate change adaptation policy framework? (e.g. within development plan, strategies, sectoral strategy, national climate change plans). If yes, please specify]

[If no, please indicate if climate change or adaptation is anchored in any other plan, strategy, or framework]

ii. Adaptation priorities of risk and/or vulnerability assessments

[Which adaptation priorities have been identified from the risk and/or vulnerability assessments? Are they explicitly stated in the policy framework?]

iii. Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and adaptation

[Has the country submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the UNFCCC?]

* Does the country’s NDC provide information on adaptation? Which goals are formulated for adaptation?

iv. NAP process

[Is the country undertaking a national adaptation planning process on the national level, such as the NAP process?]

* At which NAP stage is the country currently at?
* Is the NAP process aligned with the implementation of the NDC adaptation goals?

[Submitted NAPs](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/News/Pages/national_adaptation_plans.aspx) | [GIZ (2017). Linking NAPs & NDCs](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/The-Role-of-the-NAP-Process-in-Translating-NDC-Adaptation-Goals-into-Action.-Linking-NAP-processes-and-NDCs_final_korrigiert-20180918.pdf)

v. National Communication on adaptation

[Did the country’s last National Communication to the UNFCCC include information on adaptation? Please elaborate briefly on the content.]

[Submitted National Communications (non Annex I countries)](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/transparency-and-reporting/reporting-and-review-under-the-convention/national-communications-and-biennial-update-reports-non-annex-i-parties/national-communication-submissions-from-non-annex-i-parties)

vi. National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)

[Has the country formulated a National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)?]

* Which adaptation activities were prioritised through the NAPA?
* Are they taken up by the other plans and policies mentioned above?

[Submitted NAPAs](https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/workstreams/national-adaptation-programmes-of-action/napas-received)

vii. Alignment of policy frameworks

[Are the goals and strategies in the policy frameworks previously described aligned coherently amongst each other? Please elaborate on coherence as well as discrepancies.]

viii. Sources of adaptation policies

[Are the approaches identified in the adaptation policies based on up-to-date technical assessments and/or latest science?]

[IPCC (2014). Assessment Report, AR5; IPCC (2018) Special Report 1.5)](https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/)

ix. Timeframe for national adaptation goals

[Does the national policy framework for climate change adaptation indicate a specific timeframe for achieving its goals?]

* Is the foreseen timeframe aligned with the NDC cycle and/or the cycle of the Global Stocktake?

[UNFCCC (2016). The NDC Cycle (Webinar)](https://unfccc.int/files/focus/application/pdf/ndc_cycle_webinar2.pdf) | [CEEW (2016). Shaping the GST under the Paris Agreement](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/973.pdf)

x. Mainstreaming of adaptation into development and sectoral planning/sub-national governance

[Is climate change adaptation being mainstreamed into development planning, sectoral planning, sub-national governance, e.g. through the NAP process?]

* In which sectors is adaptation already well-established? Which sectors require additional mainstreaming?
* How does your country mainstream adaptation vertically from the national to the sub-national and local levels?

[GIZ (2011). Integrating climate change adaptation into development planning](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/?wpfb_dl=38)

1. Implementation and support need of, and provision of support to, developing country Parties

i. Assessment of technical capacities for planning and implementation of adaptation

[Have the domestic technical capacities for the planning and implementation of adaptation actions been assessed? (E.g. sensitisation of finance or planning ministries on climate mainstreaming)]

* Which support needs in terms of capacity building were identified based on the assessment?

ii. Readiness support for climate finance/ adaptation planning

[Has the country received readiness support to access climate finance and/or for adaptation planning?]

iii. Overall national costs for adaptation

[Have the overall national costs for climate change adaptation been analysed and estimated?]

* What were the results?
* Which methods have been used for the assessment?

[Climate Policy Initiative (2018). Understanding and Increasing Finance for Climate Adaptation in Developing Countries](https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Understanding-and-Increasing-Finance-for-Climate-Adaptation-in-Developing-Countries-1.pdf)

iv. Specific costs for planned adaptation measures

[Have the costs for adaptation in particular sectors or for specific planned adaptation measures been analysed and quantified?]

v. Domestic budget potential for adaptation

[Has the domestic budget potential for adaptation been analysed and estimated?]

* Which budget lines have been found to be most relevant?
* Which financial support needs were identified based on the analysis?
* If possible, please elaborate by referring to different emission pathways.

vi. Private sector engagement and their financial potential

[Has the potential for private sector finance been analysed and quantified? Are strategies in place for private sector engagement/cooperation?]

[NAP Global Network (2019). Engaging the private sector in National Adaptation Planning Processes](http://napglobalnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/napgn-en-2019-engaging-the-private-sector-in-national-adaptation-planning-processes.pdf)  | [UNEP (2016). Adaptation GAP Report 2016](http://web.unep.org/adaptationgapreport/2016)

vii. Assessments on technology development and transfer

[Has the country undertaken assessments on technology development and transfer, e.g. in technology needs assessments (TNAs)?]

* What were the main findings?

[UNFCCC & UNEP DTU (2016). Guidance for Preparing a TAP](https://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_column_M/33933c6ccb7744bc8fd643feb0f8032a/82af010d04f14a84b9d24c5379514053.pdf)

viii. Support through international/bilateral cooperation

[To what extent does the country already receive support through international or bilateral cooperation (i.e. financial support or technical support for capacity building or technology transfer)?]

* Please list the main types and sources of support and financial amounts (if available). If already mentioned in other elements, please cross-reference here.

1. Implementation of adaptation actions and plans

Implementation of adaptation actions in line with the global goal on adaptation

[Please list adaptation actions that have been implemented in accordance with the global goal on adaptation (Article 7.1) (e.g. adaptation projects, measures, concrete actions).]

* *Please elaborate while making a reference to the strategies policies/action plans indicated in section (c) above, if applicable, e.g. whether implemented actions refer to the NAP or the NDC.*
  1. Progress and Results achieved

Current status of adaptation actions

[Please elaborate on the current status of adaptation actions that are under implementation or have been completed.]

* What is their current status of implementation?
* Which tangible results have already been achieved?
* Is there evidence for increased resilience, increased adaptive capacity or reduced vulnerability?
* Have all relevant stakeholders/social groups been involved?
  1. Adaptation efforts of developing countries for recognition

Adaptation efforts and actions undertaken with domestic capacities

[Please elaborate on adaptation efforts and actions undertaken with domestic capacities, as part of your country’s contribution to the global effort to address climate change (e.g. domestic expenditure on adaptation efforts or redirections of investments)]

[GIZ (2016). SNAP: Stocktaking for National Adaptation Planning](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/?wpfb_dl=362)

Support by/to developing countries

[Please elaborate on support provided by/to other developing countries, i.e. in the form of south-south cooperation as contribution to the global effort to address climate change, if applicable.]

* 1. Cooperation on enhancing adaptation at the national, regional and international level

Enhancement of adaptation goals through cooperation

[Is the achievement of the goals formulated in the climate change adaptation policy framework or planning process being enhanced through cooperation?]

If yes, please elaborate on cooperation at the different levels:

(Sub-)national level

[(Sub-) national level (i.e. engagement of relevant stakeholders, such as national and local government, civil society and private sector)]

Regional level

[Regional level (e.g. through regional centres and networks, e.g. the Caribbean Community Center for Climate Change)]

International level

[International level (i.e. through global multi-stakeholder initiatives, such as the NDC Partnership, NAP Global Network, NAP Global Support Programme)]

* 1. Barriers, challenges, gaps related to the implementation of adaptation

Barriers, challenges/ gaps for the implementation of adaptation actions

[Which barriers, challenges or gaps have been experienced during the implementation of past or ongoing adaptation actions?]

[GIZ (2016). SNAP: Stocktaking for National Adaptation Planning](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/?wpfb_dl=362)

Please elaborate on barriers, challenges and gaps related to:

Finance

[Financing for planning and implementation of adaptation actions]

Technical capacities

[Technical capacities for implementing adaptation actions]

Availability of knowledge

[Availability of data and/or technology for implementing adaptation actions]

Other barriers

[Other barriers]

Domestic measures to tackle barriers, challenges and gaps

[Please elaborate on how the country currently plans/undertakes domestic measures to overcome the barriers, challenges and gaps.]

* 1. Good practices, lessons learned and information-sharing

Good practices, lessons learned and information-sharing

[Which good practices and lessons learned emerged from the implementation of past or ongoing adaptation actions? How has the sharing of information been carried out?]

LEG Good Practices in addressing adaptation in LDCs, Volumes I-III (links: [Volume I](https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/ldc_publication_bbll_2011.pdf), [Volume II](https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/ldc_publication_bbll_2012.pdf), [Volume III](https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/50301_leg_unfccc_bpll_vol3.pdf))

Please elaborate on good practices and lessons learned regarding:

Stocktaking and information gathering

[Stocktaking and information gathering (e.g. including assessing gaps and needs, vulnerability and risk assessments, addressing capacity gaps)]

Planning of adaptation actions

[Planning of adaptation actions (e.g. including the identification and prioritisation of adaptation actions)]

Developing implementation strategies

[Developing implementation strategies (e.g. including climate mainstreaming and financing strategies; development of bankable projects and programmes)]

Implementing adaptation activities

[Implementing adaptation activities (e.g. lessons learned from implementation)]

Monitoring and evaluation

[Monitoring and evaluation (e.g. M&E of the process of adaptation (planning, implementation) as well as on its outcomes on national or project-level)]

Institutional arrangements

[Institutional arrangements (e.g. including coordination mechanisms that help avoid duplication of efforts)]

Capacity Building

[Capacity Building (e.g. including trainings or cooperation to share information and to strengthen science)]

* 1. Monitoring & evaluation

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System/Framework for adaptation

[Has the country established a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System/Framework for climate change adaptation?]

[GIZ (2016). Adaptation M&E Toolbox](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/monitoring-evaluation/toolbox/). [GIZ & IISD (2015).   
Developing national adaptation monitoring and evaluation systems: A guidebook](https://www.adaptationcommunity.net/?wpfb_dl=268).

Please elaborate on the characteristics of the system:

Purpose

[Purpose of the M&E system, e.g. accountability or learning or informing planning]

Design and involved actors

[Design of the M&E system & actors involved in the design]

Indicators/progress tracking

[(Sets of) indicators or other ways of tracking progress]

Roles and responsibilities

[Roles and responsibilities of relevant actors]

Inclusion of NDC adaptation goals/targets

[Does the adaptation M&E system cover adaptation goals/targets included in the NDC?]

Project-based/(sub)national interlinkages of M&E systems

[Are project-based/subnational M&E systems linked to the national M&E System?]

Synergies with other M&E Systems/Frameworks

[Have synergies with other M&E Systems/Frameworks been considered (e.g. reporting frameworks on the 2030 Agenda and the Sendai Framework)?]

Reporting of M&E findings

[Has the country decided how to report findings of the adaptation M&E System/Framework domestically and internationally?]

If yes, please elaborate:

Definition of target audiences and communication channels

[Have domestic target audiences and relevant communication channels been defined?]

Communication to the UNFCCC Secretariat

[How does the country intend to or already communicate information to the UNFCCC Secretariat? Which vehicles will be used?]

1. Adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans, including mitigation   
   co-benefits

i. Mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions

[Do the ongoing/planned adaptation actions have mitigation co-benefits?]

ii. Economic diversification plans

[Do the ongoing/planned adaptation actions include economic diversification plans, shifting the economy away from vulnerable products, markets, and jobs toward income sources that are low-emission and more climate resilient?]

[UNFCCC Website on Economic Diversification](https://unfccc.int/topics/resilience/resources/economic-diversification)

1. Contribution to other international frameworks/conventions

i. Synergies/trade-offs between adaptation and SDGs

[Have synergies (and trade-offs) between actions on adaptation to climate change and sustainable development goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda been analysed and considered when planning adaptation actions?]

ii. Synergies/trade-offs between adaptation and the Sendai Framework

[Have synergies (and trade-offs) between actions on adaptation to climate change and the Global Targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction been analysed and considered when planning adaptation actions?]

iii. Synergies/trade-offs between adaptation and Aichi Targets

[Have synergies (and trade-offs) between actions on adaptation to climate change and the Aichi Targets of the Convention on Biodiversity been analysed and considered when planning adaptation actions?]

iv. Synergies/trade-offs between adaptation and other relevant international frameworks/conventions

[Have synergies (and trade-offs) between actions on adaptation to climate change and any other relevant international frameworks/conventions been considered? (e.g., RAMSAR Convention, Convention to combat desertification)]

1. Information on gender-responsive adaptation action, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge

i. Consideration of dynamics regarding vulnerable groups

[Are the ongoing/planned adaptation actions based on vulnerable group’s needs and experiences and do they consider using disaggregated data within risk & vulnerability assessments?]

ii. Consideration of dynamics regarding gender

[Are the ongoing/planned adaptation actions based on needs and experiences of all gender groups and do they consider using gender-disaggregated data within risk & vulnerability assessments?]

iii. Integration of traditional, local and indigenous knowledge

[Are the ongoing/planned adaptation actions making use traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge?]

iv. Institutional mechanisms for the equal participation of all gender groups and vulnerable groups

[Are institutional mechanisms in place to involve vulnerable groups (including youth and minorities), all gender groups and indigenous peoples in the consultation process of the ongoing/planned adaptation actions?]

1. Any other information related to adaptation

[Please elaborate on any other information to be included in the Adaptation Communication that was not covered under the previous elements.]