



PARTNERS FOR RESILIENCE

KEY MESSAGES

25th Session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP25)
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1. Invest in, and localize, adaptation and resilience.

- The Paris Agreement prioritizes action on both adaptation and mitigation; yet the majority of climate finance is committed for mitigation. Transformative approaches to bridging the divide between short-term humanitarian response and long-term development planning **include innovative financing mechanisms such as [forecast-based finance](#) which ensures funding flows to the local level and is tailored to local needs**. This requires increased financing and investments in climate change adaptation initiatives to support for vulnerable communities facing dire impacts of climate change.
- **By 2030 without significant investment to improve the resilience of cities around the world climate change may push up to 77 million urban residents into poverty**. Globally only 16% of the finances is spent on adaptation to growing impacts, while 84% is for mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.¹ Only about 10 per cent of the climate finance available from international donors is channelled to the local level, and vulnerable communities are not receiving finance at the volume or pace needed to adapt effectively.²
- Across the post 2015 international frameworks on climate and development, resilience building is agreed on as the way forward to reduce risks, however a fundamental shift is needed to address adaption needs for vulnerable people. We need more practice that is locally anchored, multisector and multi-actor, that removes the silos between different disciplines.

2. Accelerate the integration of climate-smart DRR in the adaptation agenda.

- **A priority is to step up investments in and maintaining natural buffers to enhance ecosystem's protective functions** where appropriate, and by investing in climate-resilient livelihoods. Such integrated risk management approaches to building resilience are essential for addressing disaster, climate and environmental risk patterns from local to national levels in policies, plans, laws and investment decisions.
- **Climate action from nature, or natural climate solutions**, including forests, peatlands, coastal wetlands, agriculture and grasslands have the potential to provide over one third of global reductions of greenhouse gas emissions, ensure the integrity of ecosystems & ecosystem services and contribute key adaptation benefits.
- **Nature based Solutions** are underrepresented in countries' existing National Determined Contributions (NDCs). To harness this potential and enhance ambition, NDCs should fully integrate natural climate solutions so that these important climate actions may be prioritized for implementation and support. Article 5 of the Paris Agreement highlights the importance of natural ecosystems to achieve the global climate goals.³
- **Core biodiversity conservation and restoration principles must be adhered to secure sustainable development and livelihoods**; protect value chains; build coastal resilience and infrastructure, and sustain access to nutritious food, water and decent jobs.

¹ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/10/12/world-bank-investing-in-urban-resilience-can-save-the-worlds-cities-billions-each-year-and-keep-millions-out-of-poverty>

² <https://climatecentre.org/news/982/only-about-10-of-available-climate-finance-reaches-local-level-nap-expo-told>

³ Article 5 of the Paris Agreement invites countries to take action to conserve and enhance sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases, including forests. https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/paris_nov_2015/application/pdf/paris_agreement_english_.pdf

3. National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) must include a much stronger focus on the most vulnerable people.

- It is important to focus not only at the level of vulnerability of a country, but direct policy and resources to the people who are likely to suffer the most from the humanitarian consequences of climate change. **NAP and NDC planning processes must therefore include participatory and interactive ways to ensure local risk perceptions, needs and solutions are included.**
- Certain segments of society have less ability to adapt to climate change due to a combination of vulnerabilities that exceed that of the general population. **National Adaptation Plans and National Determined Contributions should consider, as a priority, ways to identify and protect those most vulnerable, especially poor women and girls (as well as boys, the elderly, disabled and other minority groups),** and to assist the inclusion of their views in UNFCCC processes and implementation of the Paris Agreement in order not to leave them behind.
- NDC's, NAPs and National Sustainable Development Goals can be key 'entry-points' to include better policies and investments in Nature-based Solutions and Integrated Risk Management.

4. Ensure a more comprehensive risk management analysis in discussion on climate finance.

- States need to speed their progress towards resilience, including through more comprehensive disaster risk management laws and policies which clearly articulate budgetary allowances for DRR.
- In order to facilitate the work of local actors, decentralised climate finance should also be allocated to local civil society actors in their efforts to support implementation of the Paris Agreement. This should include both more direct access to global adaptation funding and "sub-contractor" relationships with governments receiving international funds. We can mobilise and empower partners across sectors and governance levels to take and report on climate action.
- Increase finance for adaptation and resilience, in order to strike a balance with finance committed for mitigation. Preliminary estimates on finance flowing to adaptation show that this area has received a smaller share of public climate finance from 18%, on average, from 2013/2014 to 16% from 2015/2016.

5. Recognize and enable the work of non-state and local actors in implementing the Paris Agreement, including through promotion of decentralised access to climate finance

- **Integration of initiatives between climate change adaptation and ecosystem management is critical.** Effective implementation of the Paris Agreement that builds the resilience of the most vulnerable communities cannot be achieved by states alone. It is only through collaborative action between states, civil society, private sector, academia and others that we will achieve the ambitions set out in the Paris Agreement. Interventions, particularly in vulnerable states with structural issues and facing cyclical climate disasters, remain siloed.