

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

GUIDE FOR JOURNALISTS AND NEWSROOMS



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***“SUPPORT FOR ADAPTATION
AND RESILIENCE IS A
MORAL, ECONOMIC, AND
SOCIAL IMPERATIVE”***

ANTONIO GUTERRES,
Secretary-General of the United Nations

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PRESENTATION

ADAPTATION: STORIES THAT NEED TO BE TOLD

Torrential rains collapsing cities in southern Brazil. Record droughts devastating the Amazon. Wildfires consuming the Pantanal wetlands. Beyond Brazil, Europe faces unprecedented heatwaves, North America braces for hurricanes, and Asia endures typhoons.

Journalism documents this escalation of climate-related disasters in daily headlines. At nearly **1.5°C warmer than pre-industrial levels**, the world has already transformed – with impacts and inequalities that heighten the vulnerability of people, ecosystems, and economies. Even if all global efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) were to work immediately, **we have already crossed the threshold of the world we once knew**.

Yet, beyond the bad news, people everywhere are adapting – communities, businesses, and countries alike – finding ways to live and thrive on a hotter planet.

Still, most journalistic coverage on Adaptation remains confined to crises and disasters. Faced with the growing frequency of extreme events, it's time to move **beyond emergency mode** – to report, debate, and highlight **solutions that anticipate chaos** and reduce both human suffering and financial losses when crises hit.

Journalism can continue to chronicle worsening extremes until tragedy becomes routine and stops being news.

Or it can, as it has at other turning points in history, **shape the public agenda** – spotlighting alternatives and the actors leading the urgent transformation our time demands. As a guardian of the public interest, the press also holds the duty to **track promises**, monitor delivery, and assess outcomes.

The upcoming COP30, hosted by Brazil, offers a historic opportunity to redefine climate **Adaptation coverage**.

If elevated to headlines and woven through all editorial sections, the Brazilian Presidency's prioritization of this agenda could become a lasting political legacy.

The **Talanoa Institute** recognizes the media's power and responsibility in moments that shape history. Climate change demands journalism that asks: How will populations be affected? Who is already acting to confront the crisis? Are those in power doing enough to protect lives and promote people's well-being on a destabilized planet?

Adaptation must be understood by the public and taken seriously by those in power. That goal can only be achieved through journalists equipped with a deeper knowledge of the issue.

This *Guide for Journalistic Coverage on Climate Adaptation* was created to underscore the urgency of this agenda, **debunk misconceptions, expand understanding, and encourage reporting driven by the public interest** – to preserve and improve quality of life amid a climate emergency.

For us, "*Adaptation*" is written with a capital A – a reflection of the weight and priority this issue deserves. This material is meant to **guide coverage in the coming years**, serving as a **compass for newsrooms worldwide**. While globally applicable, it places strong emphasis on regional realities and aims to evolve across media, territories, cultures, and languages.

Here, communication professionals will find resources as **data, sources, and story ideas** – and a warm support of those who believe that the solutions to our time's greatest challenge already exist. The future is being built now – and it can be **fairer, more equitable, and more resilient**, daily witnessed and told by journalists.

Happy reading! We hope you make good use of it.
The Talanoa Team.

ADAPTATION: WHAT'S THIS STORY ABOUT?

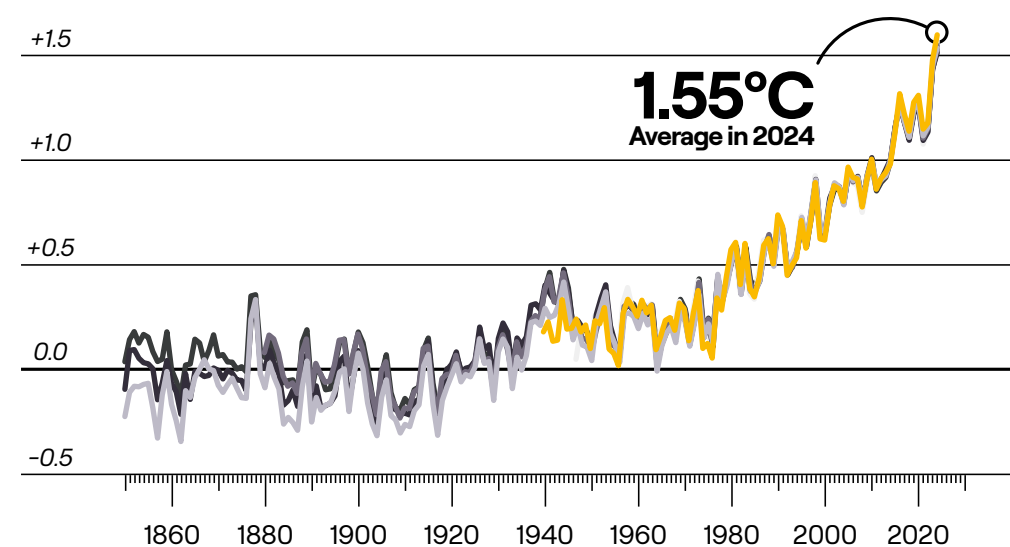
Climate coverage was born in the science editorial section, merged with the environment pages, appeared in world and politics, and increasingly finds its place in the economy section. From a scientific discovery to an undeniable reality, global warming and its consequences are now felt by everyone. Even though a small but powerful minority still tries to deny it, journalism has shown the world that the climate is changing because of human action, that we must abandon fossil fuels to slow down the planet's thermometer, and that the severe impacts of increasingly intense and frequent climate events are the result of negligence.

We are living through the hottest year on record, 2024 — the first in which the global average temperature exceeded 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels (1.55°C higher, with an uncertainty margin of $\pm 0.13^\circ\text{C}$; WMO, 2025). And this was not an isolated year. The ten hottest years ever recorded all occurred in the last decade (2015–2024).

This does not mean that the goal established in 2015 by the Paris Agreement — limiting warming to 1.5°C — has been lost. The commitment, aligned with science, refers to preventing this warming from extending over a longer period, of two to three decades.

Annual temperature anomalies (global mean relative to the 1850–1900 average) from six international datasets

● HadCRUT5 ● NOAA GlobalTemp v6 ● GISTEMP ● Berkeley Earth ● JRA-3Q ● ERA5



Source: World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Copernicus Climate Change Service/ECMWF

We are still fighting to prevent reaching or surpassing the 1.5°C threshold, beyond which climate scenarios and ecosystem consequences worsen significantly. But that does not mean the world today — already so close to that limit — is not facing massive impacts from climate change. It reinforces that while we strive to reduce the causes of global warming — greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions — we must also prepare for the impacts, many of which are already visible. In other words, we must combine mitigation efforts to reduce emissions with Adaptation efforts to face the new reality.

The world is already less welcoming to most of us. We live through cycles of storms, floods, droughts, wildfires, and cyclones. The lack of water in crops leads to the loss of entire harvests, which weighs on our wallets and on our plates, while excessive rainfall in other regions leaves entire cities underwater. During dry seasons, hydropower plants struggle, and the energy matrix becomes dirtier due to the addition of thermoelectric generation — forcing us to emit even more GHGs. Heatwaves affect global tourism, street festivities, work routines, and the health of ordinary people. The school calendar is suffocated between extreme heat and canceled classes caused by floods, or because schools must serve as shelters.

However, the conversation cannot remain trapped in the fear of tragedy and the pain of loss. Vulnerable populations are already showing examples of resistance and resilience, building local solutions with a thirst for a prosperous future. Forest peoples resist and expand their knowledge to reaffirm their relationships with a nature that no longer follows the cycles they once knew. Entrepreneurs — and even entire sectors — see opportunity in the urgency of creating new paradigms for how we inhabit cities.

A hotter planet already demands human action to reduce damage, ensure survival, and protect or improve our quality of life — all this in a world that still struggles with social inequality and must think of climate justice solutions that serve diverse populations equitably. It is an enormous challenge, one that must be urgently confronted and reported.

ADAPTATION: in human systems, is the process of adjusting to the current or expected climate and its effects, in order to moderate harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In natural systems, it refers to the process of adjusting to the actual climate and its effects; human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its impacts. (IPCC, 2022)

DATA ON ADAPTATION

Journalistic coverage of climate Adaptation still falls short of the urgency and relevance that the topic demands. The lack and dispersion of information, criteria, and indicators on Adaptation make journalists' work more difficult. Scattered and incomplete data — besides often inaccessible — turn monitoring, a fundamental feature of journalism, into an almost impossible task.

The challenge goes beyond the mere existence of data. It is essential to have access to robust and methodologically consistent historical series, with spatial and social granularity. Without these, it becomes difficult to connect climate scenarios with impacts across different dimensions — geographic, socioeconomic, racial, and gender — which are essential for guiding accurate and informed coverage of the subject.

The indicators for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), under negotiation since COP28 in 2023 in Dubai, may help guide journalists in collecting data to support Adaptation stories and make coverage less reactive and more forward-looking. At COP30, in Belém, a list of a hundred indicators is expected to be finalized, after a process that began with nearly ten thousand. Distributed across thematic and cross-cutting targets, the indicators serve as excellent reference points for reporting in diverse sectors — from housing and infrastructure to health and culture.

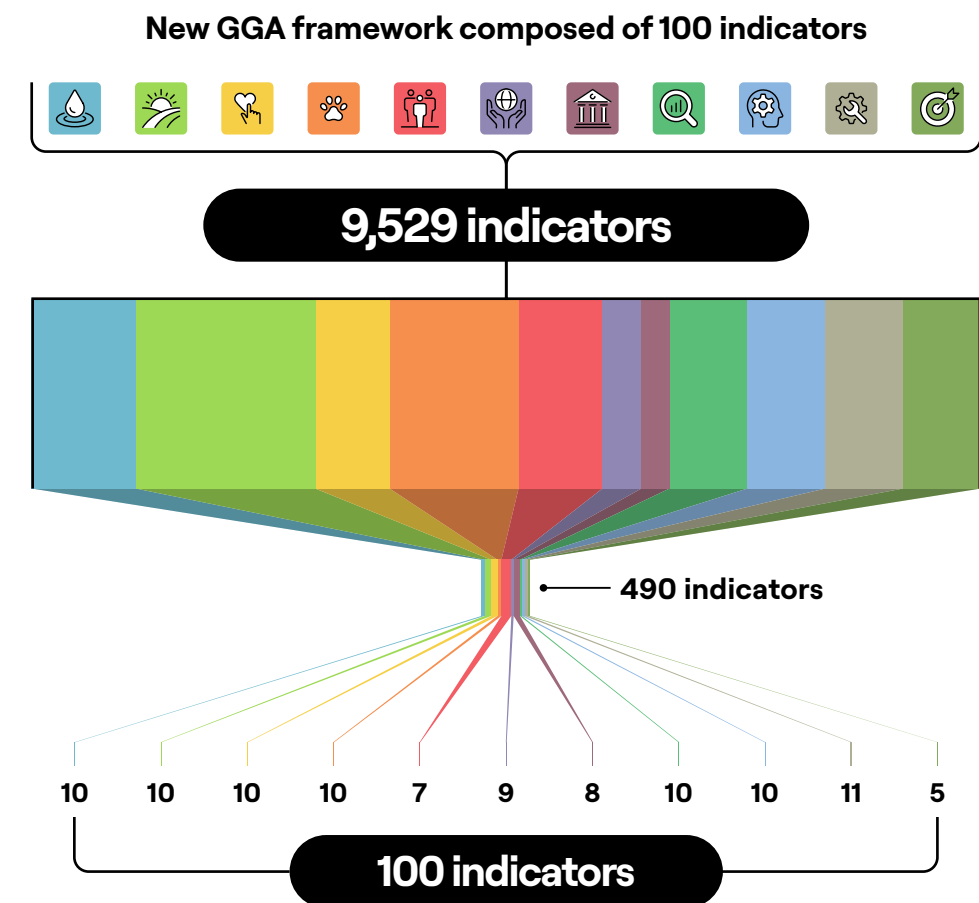
The GGA comprises 11 targets: 7 thematic ones focused on vulnerable sectors such as water, health, food, and infrastructure, and 4 dimensional ones related to the Adaptation cycle

THEMATIC TARGETS

-  Water supply and sanitation
-  Food and agriculture
-  Health impacts and health services
-  Ecosystems and biodiversity
-  Infrastructure and human settlements
-  Poverty eradication and livelihoods
-  Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge

CROSS-CUTTING DIMENSIONAL TARGETS

-  Impact, vulnerability, and risk assessment
-  Planning
-  Implementation
-  Monitoring, evaluation, and learning



Every year, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) publishes its **Adaptation Gap Report** in late October/early November, just before the COP. The report assesses progress in Adaptation planning, financing, and implementation around the world and remains one of the most important sources for tracking the global state of Adaptation.

The **UNFCCC Adaptation Committee** also releases publications on the subject and maintains an interactive online portal – a Power BI dashboard – with information on how countries are advancing their Adaptation agendas. Although its navigation is not intuitive and it is available only in English, it is a good starting point for finding documents and data from countries. The **portal** also lists additional sources that provide Adaptation-related information.

In Brazil, the **AdaptaBrasil platform**, managed by the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MCTI), provides indexes and indicators of climate risk across strategic sectors such as water resources, food security, health, port, rail and road infrastructure, geo-hydrological disasters, energy security, and biodiversity.

THE NUMBERS BEHIND ADAPTATION

IMPACTS ARE A DAILY REALITY

1 in 5 people
Worldwide



ALREADY EXPERIENCE SEVERE CLIMATE IMPACTS EVERY DAY

TRANSITIONING AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUELS ALSO REQUIRES ADAPTATION

In 2024, extreme heat drove an increase in cooling demand, responsible for **50% of peak emissions in the power sector**. Without Adaptation, the energy transition itself becomes more fragile

GROWING PUBLIC DEMAND

- 55% of people worldwide want governments to do more to address heatwaves
- In the G20, the biggest driver for climate action is protecting the next generation – “after that, it’s too late”

POLITICAL MOMENTUM EXISTS, BUT IT’S UNDERREPORTED

- 171 countries (87% of UNFCCC members) already have at least one national Adaptation plan
- 71% of finance ministries report being “particularly concerned” about physical climate risks

THE COSTS OF INACTION ARE RISING

US\$ 2 trillion: global economic losses between 2014–2023

In 2024 alone, inaction costs were over US\$ 320 billion, nearly 40% above the “norm”

In just the first quarter of 2025: US\$ 162 billion

By 2050, climate damages could wipe out up to 18% of global GDP if Adaptation and Mitigation fail



ADAPTATION DELIVERS RETURNS

US\$ 1 invested **► US\$ 10** in benefits

- ✓ Avoided damages
- ✓ Reduced risks
- ✓ Improved health and jobs

- Brazil’s US\$ 2 billion investment in resilient roads is expected to prevent US\$ 47 billion in losses
- Early warning systems reduce mortality sixfold
- Homes built to resilient codes show 50% less mortgage delinquency after hurricanes

UNEQUAL VULNERABILITY IS EVIDENT, BUT ADAPTATION IS ALIVE ON THE GROUND



Developing countries face seven times higher mortality from climate-related disasters compared to wealthy nations

Women and girls, traditional communities, Afro-descendants, and low-income groups are disproportionately affected, yet they often lead local solutions. In Brazil, traditional peoples and communities, such as quilombolas, Indigenous peoples, and riverine communities, act as permanent Adaptation agents: they promote food security and native vegetation conservation, apply ancestral knowledge, preserve livelihoods, and respond to climate impacts despite inequalities

Sources: Aviva, World Bank, Climate Central, Coalition of Finance Ministers/LSE, CoreLogic, Yale, Potential Energy Coalition, IEA, Swiss Re, UNFCCC, WMO, and WRI

CURRENT PERCEPTIONS OF ADAPTATION

LATIN AMERICA



A pragmatic and pro-Adaptation public: **88%** want stronger government measures; 70 percent say the climate crisis already affects their income or livelihoods; and 54 percent believe they may need to relocate – a clear signal of the need to invest in protection that reduces displacement pressures. In Brazil, **around 90%** of respondents want national funds for local climate action in cities; 80 percent support urban cooling initiatives such as tree planting and green spaces; and **66%** support public spending on nature-based solutions such as forest and wetland restoration.

ASIA



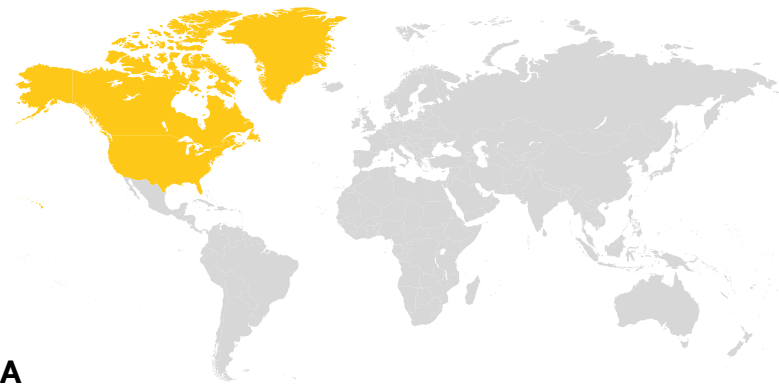
Citizens feel **better prepared than the global average** to face disasters. About 74 percent report having received early warnings before recent events, and between 62 and 67 percent say they have household plans or feel capable of protecting themselves during a disaster.

Even so, major **gaps** remain: only 11 percent of households in Asia have high adaptive capacity, while 28 percent are classified as low, according to comparative studies. Institutionally, around **35 percent of cities in the Asia-Pacific** region have already set climate Adaptation targets, and 56 percent have or are developing local strategies – yet the **required financing**, estimated between 102 and 431 billion dollars per year, remains far above current commitments.

AUSTRALIA AND THE PACIFIC



Adaptation is already underway and scalable across several islands. In Micronesia and Melanesia, regional reports show that many families are already taking autonomous Adaptation measures such as shifting crops, elevating homes, and storing water – often in contexts of high vulnerability and low fiscal capacity. In Polynesia, there are examples like the **Cook Islands**, where 38 percent of households have installed water tanks and 20 percent have added filters. To defend against floods, 12 percent have improved drainage systems, 6 percent have reinforced roofs, and 9 percent have strengthened structural foundations. In **Kiribati**, one in four households was affected by disasters in the past year, with widespread damage to housing, creating an urgent need for coastal defenses, safe water, and early-warning systems. In Australia, **66 percent** of people say they or their relatives have already suffered direct harm from climate extremes. Local governments are expanding responses such as cooling centers and drainage infrastructure, though coordination remains uneven. In **New Zealand**, surveys show that 61 percent of citizens want stronger efforts to reduce risks and control rising insurance costs – evidence of a growing appetite for Adaptation shaped by recent disasters.



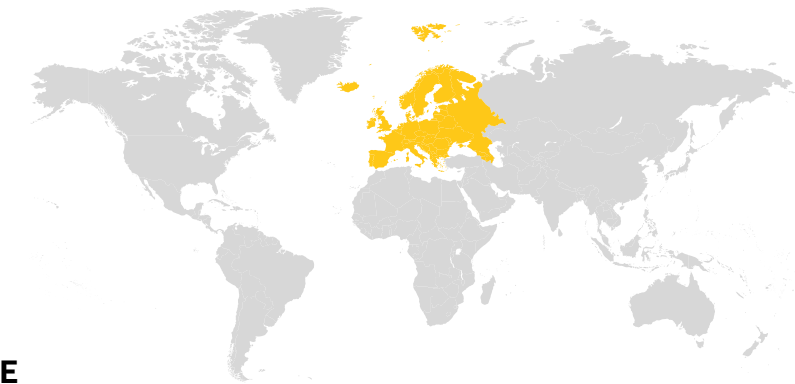
NORTH AMERICA

In the United States, **48%** of people believe global warming will be a serious threat during their lifetime. Most of those who have already faced extreme weather events link them to climate change – a signal that personal experience is driving demand for local Adaptation. **Research** also shows that risk perception rises sharply among those who have lived through heatwaves, wildfires, or floods, increasing support for resilience policies. In **Canada**, more than **60%** recognize that climate change is mainly caused by human activity, reinforcing public legitimacy for national and municipal Adaptation plans.



AFRICA

On average, **51%** of people have heard of climate change (a drop of seven percentage points since 2016–2018). Among those familiar with the issue, **72%** say the crisis is already making life “worse,” and **74%** believe governments should act now, even if it comes at a cost. In countries like Sudan, half of the population has faced more severe flooding in the past decade. Top priorities include expanding early-warning systems and drainage infrastructure, along with agricultural and water management programs.



EUROPE

Ninety-four percent (**94%**) of Europeans believe it is important for their country to adapt to climate change, and **half** (50%) think it should be a national priority. Eighty-five percent support investing in Adaptation now to avoid higher future costs. In cities, 51 percent already have Adaptation plans – a significant increase compared to 2018, though still insufficient given the growing pace of climate extremes. This shows both a strong social appetite and a solid technical foundation for expanding housing retrofits, heat-warning systems, and local resilience networks.



MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Surveys show that for most people, the top environmental problems are water pollution, waste, and air quality – while climate change ranks **fourth**, revealing a **fragmented** perception of climate risks. Even so, governments such as Egypt and Morocco have already developed Adaptation plans, though implementation remains limited. International **reports** highlight weaknesses in water infrastructure, disaster defenses, and early-warning systems, along with institutional barriers that slow delivery. A critical communication **gap** persists: many of these measures are still framed merely as environmental policy.

THE ABCs OF ADAPTATION

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

The process of adjusting to the current or expected impacts of climate change, with the goal of reducing vulnerabilities and increasing the resilience of communities, ecosystems, and economies. Adaptation can involve changes in practices, infrastructure, and policies to mitigate negative effects and seize potential opportunities arising from climate shifts. (IPCC, 2014). Adaptation is the means; resilience is the end.

ANTIRACIST CLIMATE ADAPTATION*

This refers to confronting racial, gender, generational, social, regional, and territorial inequalities through a set of structural, intersectional, and cross-sectoral public policies. Such policies must focus on ensuring well-being, protecting vulnerable lives, and conserving ecosystems. They should combine structural and emergency measures to reduce the impacts of extreme climate events on the most vulnerable populations.

TRANSFORMATIVE ADAPTATION

This concept refers to measures that bring about significant changes in the structures and ways we live and interact with the environment – going beyond incremental adjustments to existing practices. Transformative Adaptation provokes deep, long-term shifts in society, encompassing transformations in values, worldviews, and social, economic, and environmental systems.

ADAPTATION FUND (AF)

The Adaptation Fund was established in 2001 under the Kyoto Protocol to finance Adaptation projects in developing countries that are parties to the Protocol and particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The fund receives a share of proceeds from the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) – equivalent to 2 percent of Certified Emission Reductions issued under that mechanism.



MALADAPTATION

MalAdaptation refers to climate Adaptation strategies, actions, or policies that, instead of reducing vulnerability, end up increasing long-term climate risks or negative impacts. Such actions can heighten the risk of future damage, shift vulnerabilities onto other groups or regions, or create undesirable social, environmental, or economic costs.

GLOBAL GOAL ON ADAPTATION (GGA)

The Global Goal on Adaptation was established under the Paris Agreement to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience, and reduce vulnerability to climate change, ensuring an adequate global response to the temperature goal. The GGA seeks to measure progress through indicators that assess how countries are improving their ability to address climate risks, strengthen resilience, and minimize losses. The initial list of indicators proposed by experts was presented in Bonn in 2025, and the consolidated version – with 100 indicators – will be discussed and adopted at COP30.

LOSS AND DAMAGE

This term refers to the unavoidable and/or irreversible impacts of climate change that occur despite efforts in mitigation and Adaptation. It covers both socioeconomic losses – such as livelihoods, crops, and property, which can be expressed in monetary terms – and non-economic losses, such as lives, health, rights, biodiversity, ecosystem services, Indigenous knowledge, and cultural heritage, which cannot easily be quantified financially.

LOSS AND DAMAGE FUND

A historic demand of small island nations, the Loss and Damage Fund was created at COP27 and officially operationalized at COP28 in Dubai. It supports vulnerable countries in recovering from the unavoidable and irreversible impacts of climate change – both economic and non-economic. The fund finances recovery for losses in livelihoods, property, health, biodiversity, and cultural heritage.



It receives voluntary contributions from developed countries, while also encouraging participation from developing nations (IDR, 2024).

NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS (NAPS)

National Adaptation Plans are key national tools for planning medium- and long-term Adaptation measures. Under the UNFCCC, NAPs must be aligned with GGA indicators and the Adaptation components of each country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). There is broad consensus on the importance of integrating NAPs with broader national development plans. As of September 2025, 65 countries have submitted their NAPs to the UNFCCC. While the GGA sets 2030 as the deadline for ambitious NAPs, the Global Stocktake (GST) urges Parties to submit their plans by 2025 and advance implementation by 2030. These different timelines may affect how Adaptation progress is monitored. NAPs also serve as a crucial mechanism for mobilizing and accessing finance through UNFCCC financial instruments such as the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the Global Environment Facility.

RESILIENCE

Resilience is the destination of those who adapt to climate change. It refers to the capacity to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the impacts of extreme or long-term climate events, minimizing damage to social well-being, nature, and the economy. It is a complementary concept to climate Adaptation: when Adaptation is well planned and implemented, it can strengthen resilience — or, if poorly designed, weaken it. Building resilience therefore requires a multidimensional and holistic approach aimed at reinforcing the social, human, and natural capacities of ecosystems, territories, and communities.



10 MYTHS ABOUT ADAPTATION

1 ADAPTATION IS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN UP ON MITIGATION

Adaptation is not a substitute for mitigation. Cutting emissions remains indispensable to prevent the worst outcomes of climate change. Even if we succeed in limiting warming to 1.5°C, we will still face more floods, heatwaves, and ecosystem losses. That is why **we need both strategies simultaneously**: mitigation to slow down the problem, and Adaptation to cope with the impacts that are already unavoidable.

Moreover, mitigation itself depends on Adaptation. In 2024, heatwaves drove up demand for cooling so much that it accounted for 50 percent of the growth in emissions in the global power sector (IEA). Without power grids prepared for extreme heat and without efficient cooling systems, the gains from mitigation are lost. The same applies to roads, ports, and housing: if they are not resilient, the energy transition becomes vulnerable to disasters and cannot hold. In a world that has already warmed, Adaptation is not resignation, surrender, or defeatism. It is the precondition for mitigation to succeed.

2 WE CAN ADAPT TO 4°C OF GLOBAL WARMING

Adaptation has limits. Even today, at around 1.3°C of warming, those limits are already being exceeded in many places – coral reefs cannot survive repeated marine heatwaves, crops fail under prolonged drought, coastal communities losing land to rising seas.

According to the IPCC, with every fraction of a degree, the effectiveness of Adaptation measures declines. There are still scenarios where Adaptation can make a real difference: around 1.5°C, we can reduce significant risks if we act swiftly and at scale. At 2°C, costs increase dramatically, and some limits become insurmountable. Beyond that point, the space for Adaptation narrows sharply – no infrastructure, technology, or financial resource can prevent massive humanitarian crises and irreversible losses in a 4°C world.

Adaptation is not limitless. We can adapt to some impacts at 1.5°C, and with great difficulty at 2°C, but beyond that, losses only grow larger.

3 ADAPTATION IS A LICENSE TO KEEP USING FOSSIL FUELS AND DELAY THE TRANSITION

Adaptation has clear boundaries and cannot be hijacked as an excuse to extend dependence on oil, gas, and coal. The IPCC shows that there is no level of Adaptation sufficient for a world that warms by 3°C or 4°C. Turning Adaptation into a “license for fossil fuels” is a distortion of reality: the longer we take to cut emissions, the more costly, difficult, and eventually impossible Adaptation becomes. Science is clear – only rapid and deep mitigation keeps Adaptation viable.

The energy transition will only succeed if it is also resilient. Without Adaptation, the decarbonization process itself becomes fragile. In Brazil, for instance, declining rainfall has strained hydropower generation. During droughts, the system relies on thermoelectric plants, which emit more and move in the opposite direction of the transition. If we fail to adapt the energy sector to extreme heat – through efficient cooling and stronger grids – mitigation gains will be lost.

The same applies to infrastructure. Brazil’s 2-billion-dollar investment in resilient highways is projected to prevent 47 billion dollars in losses (World Bank). Without such Adaptation measures, even clean-energy investments are at risk, since a resilient infrastructure is required to access markets at disastrous events.

Adaptation also strengthens financial systems. In the United States, homes built to resilient codes have shown 50 percent lower mortgage default rates after hurricanes (CoreLogic), which helps maintain stability for banks and investors – a key condition for sustaining the transition over time.

Far from delaying the transition, Adaptation enables it: it reduces systemic risks, protects assets, and gives solidity to the path toward a fossil-free future.

4 WE DON’T NEED TO ADAPT NOW. ADAPTATION IS ONLY FOR THE FUTURE

One in every five people on the planet already feels daily the strong effects of climate change (Climate Central). Between 2000 and 2019, climate-related disasters affected an average of 3 billion people and caused economic losses of about 2.97 trillion dollars (UNDRR). In 2024, disasters cost over 320 billion dollars – nearly 40 percent above what was once considered “normal.”

In the first quarter of 2025 alone, losses reached 162 billion dollars, including 40 billion from the Los Angeles Palisades wildfires – the most expensive wildfire event in history.

The numbers make it clear: Adaptation is not something for later. For those facing droughts, floods, and landslides today, the absence of Adaptation is already undermining well-being.

5 ADAPTATION IS INTANGIBLE

Climate disasters are visible because they destroy homes and infrastructure all at once. Adaptation measures, on the other hand, often go unnoticed precisely because they work. Early-warning systems quietly save thousands of lives. Restored mangroves prevent storms from causing catastrophic damage. Building codes reduce collapses during hurricanes.

The absence of headlines does not mean the absence of impact. The challenge is that Adaptation is less “spectacular” than a disaster, but its effects are concrete and measurable. Journalists can help make this invisible materiality visible – **showing that Adaptation saves lives** and reduces losses every single day.

6 ONLY THE MOST VULNERABLE NEED TO ADAPT

It is true that economically vulnerable communities, Indigenous peoples, coastal residents, and small farmers are among the most exposed – but believing that only they need to adapt is misleading and even dangerous.

First, because climate change already affects critical infrastructure and entire economies. If we fail to adapt our cities and energy systems, the energy transition itself becomes more vulnerable.

Second, so-called “less vulnerable” countries and groups are also paying the price. Even in rich countries, lack of Adaptation leads to severe economic losses.

Third, global value chains connect us all. A drought in India or flooding in Brazil can disrupt food, input, and energy supplies worldwide. In other words, vulnerability is unequal, but impact is shared.

Treating Adaptation as a problem “only for the vulnerable” is a myth that obscures systemic risks.

The difference is that some have more resources to protect themselves, while others face immediate risks without safety nets. Neglecting this reality perpetuates inequality and ignores the fact that climate impacts are ultimately systemic.

7 ADAPTATION IS TOO EXPENSIVE

The IPCC shows that many Adaptation measures are “no-regret” options because they deliver immediate returns – fewer economic losses, greater resilience, and social and environmental co-benefits – even if climate impacts turn out to be less severe than expected.

Improving building codes, expanding early-warning systems, restoring coastal ecosystems, diversifying water sources, or upgrading agricultural infrastructure are classic examples. Even if future impacts were smaller than projected, these actions would still pay off through improved safety, reduced losses, and social and economic benefits.

In practice, this means that Adaptation is never a sunk cost – it is an investment that always pays off. For example, in Vietnam, communities that restored mangroves cut dike maintenance costs by 7.3 million dollars per year while protecting themselves from storms and creating new livelihoods.

The Global Commission on Adaptation estimates that investing in resilience can yield returns between 2:1 and 10:1. In other words, every dollar invested generates multiple economic and social benefits.

While the costs of Adaptation rise as global warming advances, the greatest costs come not from adapting, but from delaying mitigation. If temperatures exceed 2°C, many Adaptation limits will be breached, and solutions will become more expensive, less effective, or even unfeasible. The IPCC is clear: only rapid and deep mitigation keeps Adaptation possible and financially viable.

Far from being “too costly,” Adaptation is a smart and urgent investment. The real risk lies in waiting – because the longer we take to cut emissions, the more expensive and difficult Adaptation becomes.

8 ADAPTATION IS A LOCAL ISSUE

It is true that climate impacts manifest in specific places – a flood in a city, a drought in a farming region, coastal erosion in a community by the sea.

But saying that Adaptation is only local is a reductionist and misleading idea:

- A. Impactos locais têm efeitos globais. Uma seca na Índia pode interromper**
exLocal impacts have global consequences. A drought in India can interrupt
rice exports, affecting food prices across continents. Floods in Brazil can
paralyze global supply chains for soy, minerals, and energy. In other words,
a lack of Adaptation in one place can reverberate throughout the world.
- B. Interdependence demands coordination. Systems of energy, transport,**
trade, and health are globally interconnected. Adapting a power plant
or a port is a local act, but without international networks of finance,
insurance, trade, and cooperation, resilience cannot be sustained.
- C. Climate diplomacy reflects this reality. The IPCC itself stresses**
that Adaptation has local, national, and global dimensions. This is why
countries compete for access to international Adaptation finance
– because local failures ultimately generate transnational costs.

Adaptation begins in the territory, but it does not end there. It is local in action and global in consequence. Treating Adaptation merely as a “local problem” is another myth – one that hides the interdependence of the global economy and the need for international solidarity.

9 THE DECLINE IN DEATHS FROM EXTREME WEATHER PROVES THAT HUMANITY IS SUCCESSFULLY ADAPTING

Vulnerability is actually growing, even in wealthy countries – where infrastructure, healthcare, and safety nets are presumed to be strong enough to protect people.

A study by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) analyzed 50 years of data across 21 types of climate impacts and found that in three-quarters of cases, there has been no real Adaptation. A hurricane or heatwave today causes roughly the same level of damage as it did decades ago, despite more technology, wealth, and supposed protections.

There are some exceptions, but they are few: gains in maize production in the United States, wheat in Europe, and lower heat-related mortality in certain European countries. In the U.S., heatwaves have shown a weaker correlation with income and fewer associated deaths or violent crimes. But these represent only six out of 21 cases studied – small victories against a backdrop of overall stagnation.

The implication is clear: if we are already struggling with 1.3°C of warming, scenarios of 2.5°C to 3°C by the end of the century could bring devastating impacts far beyond our current adaptive capacity.

10 THE PRIVATE SECTOR ISN'T INTERESTED IN ADAPTATION

The idea that the private sector has no interest in Adaptation does not hold up when we look at real incentives. Companies, banks, and insurers have already realized that investing in resilience protects their assets, reduces risks, and yields tangible returns.

The main motivation is asset protection. Factories, warehouses, roads, and power grids are all exposed. Without Adaptation, extreme weather can shut down entire operations. The World Bank illustrates this clearly: Brazil's 2-billion-dollar investment in resilient road infrastructure is expected to prevent about 47 billion dollars in future losses.

Another driver is business continuity. Flooded cities, blocked ports, and unstable power grids interrupt global supply chains. That is why the Port of Rotterdam, one of the largest in the world, has already invested billions in coastal defenses against sea-level rise – ensuring that trade continues even during more intense storms.

Financial risk management is another factor. Better Adaptation means lower risk for banks and investors, smaller insurance premiums, and greater stability in financial markets.

The private sector is also driven by competitiveness and market opportunity. Multinationals such as Nestlé and Olam are investing in drought-resistant varieties of cocoa and coffee to secure a steady supply of key commodities. Similarly, tech companies and startups are offering innovative solutions – such as the use of drones to mitigate flood risk in Cameroon – attracting impact investment capital.

Finally, there is regulatory and reputational pressure. Companies that fail to incorporate Adaptation expose themselves to market losses as investors and governments increasingly demand clear climate-risk management plans. Those that move early are seen as safer, more resilient, and capable of attracting cheaper, long-term capital.

The return on investment in Adaptation is therefore clear. The Global Commission on Adaptation estimates that investing 1.8 trillion U.S. dollars across five key sectors by 2030 could generate 7.1 trillion dollars in net benefits – from higher agricultural productivity to fewer deaths and diseases. In short: the private sector invests in Adaptation because it is both good risk management and good business.

5 PITFALLS IN ADAPTATION COVERAGE

1 SPILLED MILK AND THE WRONG FRAMING Adaptation should not be portrayed as an endless cycle of disasters, gaps, and failures. It is essential to look through the lens of solutions, opportunities, innovation, and resilience.

2 ADAPTATION HIJACKED BY FOSSIL INTERESTS Fossil fuel lobbies often promote the distorted narrative that “Adaptation alone” is enough – as if it were a license to delay mitigation and the energy transition. In doing so, they rob Adaptation of its real purpose: to strengthen the transition, not replace it. It is urgent to move past this false dichotomy and highlight the symbiosis between Adaptation and mitigation.

3 FINANCIAL FATALISM The constant refrain of “there’s no money” sustains the myth that Adaptation is unfeasible. In practice, it offers some of the highest returns on public spending. The press needs to reframe Adaptation from being a “cost” to being an investment with guaranteed returns – and the numbers prove it.

4 MALADAPTATION ON DISPLAY Critical thinking is essential when reporting on Adaptation projects in practice. Not every project labeled as “Adaptation” is a solution. When an initiative serves to prolong fossil fuel use or shift risks onto society, it is malAdaptation.

EXAMPLES OF MALADAPTATION WORLDWIDE



United States (Gulf Coast)
Refineries elevated against hurricanes continue emitting and delay the transition



BRAZIL Offshore oil platforms in the pre-salt region are reinforced for rougher seas, yet expansion plans proceed in parallel



INDIA Coal-fired plants adapted with dry-cooling technology for drought resilience become more expensive – and more polluting



BANGLADESH Aquaculture projects have led to soil salinization and predatory business models, pushing vulnerable populations toward urban migration framed as “inevitable”

EDITORIAL RULE OF THUMB: Adaptation is about securing the future, not preserving the past. If “adapting” means extending fossil dependence and closing the door to clean alternatives, the story is about the cost of delay, not resilience – and it must be called out. As *Le Monde Diplomatique* warned in the article “*Climate Change: Adapt to Stay the Same*,” Adaptation can be misused to preserve the status quo. Another piece, “*Smarter Adaptation Is Not Enough*,” reinforces that Adaptation alone is insufficient – especially when plans are built around extreme warming scenarios of +3°C to +4°C

5 PLANS THAT NEVER LEAVE THE DRAWER It is crucial to demand present-day action with real planning for the future. Every year that emissions remain high, the Adaptation gap widens – and the burden grows heavier on those least responsible for the crisis. Without transformative action, today’s “success stories” become tomorrow’s failures. Ideally, Adaptation should be transformative, resulting in deep, structural change that goes beyond short-term fixes. Incremental Adaptation – adjustments to existing practices – can be useful, but only if part of a broader, long-term transformation strategy. Short-term plans are merely palliative: they neither foresee nor propose the systemic change needed to ensure real safety. Worse still, some plans remain only on paper, never reflected in people’s lives. In the 2010s, for instance, the Brazilian government developed climate Adaptation scenarios and solutions for 2040 – but the plan ended up **shelved**.

4 STEPS TO REPOSITION THE AGENDA

WHAT JOURNALISTS CAN DO

The press is not merely a neutral observer. Journalists are multipliers of ideas. Depending on how stories are framed, the public may see only “heatwaves and floods” – or they may see solutions, accountability, and opportunity. It is possible to change the narrative:

1 REVERSE THE PANORAMA Stop reporting on Adaptation as if it were a bankruptcy recovery plan. Avoid the sensationalist logic of calamity and the narrative of helplessness among the vulnerable. Approach the subject through the lens of solutions and prevention, not only through the absence or failure that follows losses and damage. Pay attention to language. Replace “tragedy” with “public decision,” highlighting the cost of inaction. Replace “natural disaster” with “extreme climate event.” Remember that Adaptation is inseparable from the energy transition – it provides security today, supports mitigation, increases competitiveness, and enables climate justice.

2 PUT PEOPLE FIRST Readers care about housing, food, health, and safety. Reporting must be anchored in the dynamics of everyday life and in the solutions that emerge from local territories. These stories are not side notes – they are the frontline of climate policy. The real story of Adaptation is not confined to UN paragraphs. Adaptation is about life itself, happening daily in communities. Local adaptive solutions carry the hope of making climate justice real, narrowing the distance between the vulnerable and the privileged. This is the story that must be told. Local populations who are actively building adaptive measures deserve amplified voices in the media.

3 ASK TOUGH QUESTIONS, GO BEYOND THE BASICS Do not let leaders hide behind vague promises, nor allow private interests to appropriate the Adaptation narrative to justify delaying the phase-out of fossil fuels. Bring Adaptation into political debates – both during elections and throughout government mandates. Demand concrete answers: Where is the money for Adaptation? How are you protecting your citizens today, not in 2050? What prevention triggers – such as temperature thresholds or river levels – are currently in use? Scrutinize numbers, policies, plans, and budgets. Connect Adaptation to emission trajectories.

Ask: How does this plan reduce risk and accelerate the transition away from fossil fuels? Follow up on implementation and demand measurable indicators. Remember: Adaptation is not charity – it is a smart investment in jobs, health, and safety. Highlight the benefits and argue with facts and examples.

4 MAKE ADAPTATION AN EDITORIAL PRIORITY Adaptation can and should be an editorial commitment, reflecting the legitimacy and credibility of professional journalism. Incorporate the topic into newsroom style guides, staff training, and editorial planning. Express institutional opinions through editorials – a powerful way to signal the newsroom’s position to both the public and political elites.

A NOTEWORTHY EXAMPLE COMES FROM LE MONDE, WHICH LAUNCHED THE “ADAPTATION PROJECT” IN 2023: a series of in-depth reports exploring the current and near-term effects of climate change, examining both impacts and responses. The 11-chapter investigation covered the wide range of challenges France faces in adapting to global warming. All angles were explored: fragile ecosystems such as forests and mountains, coastal regions, overseas territories, and impacts on agriculture, rivers, infrastructure, schools, and disaster insurance. The project illustrates how comprehensive, well-contextualized journalism can make Adaptation visible, tangible, and politically relevant



STORY IDEAS BY NEWS DESK

Climate affects every aspect of public policy — and of life itself. With severe impacts on all forms of human activity, it is no longer possible to confine the discussion to “environment” — not in governance, nor in journalism. Climate Adaptation reveals this overflow, offering stories that cut across all beats: from health and education to infrastructure, economy, and culture. Below are examples of how Adaptation can become a recurring editorial theme, supported by metrics, focus points, and sources



HEALTH DESK

Story hook Extreme heat, vector-borne diseases, and mental health

Key metrics Number of heat stress-related medical visits; working days preserved; waiting times in public health services; heat island maps; changes in outbreak cycles of vector-borne diseases such as dengue.

Reporting focus How can health systems remain resilient under peak demand? What adaptive measures can prevent illness? Which protocols guide public management (alerts, hydration stations, ventilation, relocation of activities)?

Resources and references

🔗 [The Lancet Countdown: Society of Environmental Journalists' Health & Climate Reporting Guides](#)

EDUCATION DESK

Story hook Heatwaves and wildfire smoke disrupt classes; schools used as emergency shelters; preparedness and continuity plans

Key metrics Number of school days preserved or cancelled; average classroom temperature; health incidents per 1,000 students; percentage of schools with heat plans and drills; evacuation times; number of shade and water points per 100 students; cost per student of Adaptations.

Reporting focus What works (and at what cost) to keep students safe and ensure learning continuity during crises? Do local school networks have heat plans? What triggers are in place (WBGT — Wet Bulb Globe Temperature, hydration, shade, ventilation, scheduled breaks)? Are evacuation exercises integrated with civil defense? How do schools maintain classes (remote or hybrid) when heat or smoke prevent in-person learning? Does the budget include maintenance of fans or air conditioners, shading, and green courtyards? Are students with disabilities covered by specific protocols?

Resources and references

- 🔗 [Tá Lá no Gráfico \(Talanoa\): The Climate Crisis has Entered the Classroom](#)
- 🔗 [Porvir: Resilient Schools \(Covering Climate Now Journalism Award Award\)](#)
- 🔗 [Alana Institute: Guide “Care and Protect: Childhoods and Adolescence in Times of Climate Crisis”](#)
- 🔗 [Refresca São Paulo \(Instituto Alana\): Project to Increase Nature in and Around Schools](#)
- 🔗 [The Guardian: Spanish Schools to Teach Pupils How to Cope With Climate Crisis Disasters](#)
- 🔗 [Instituto Alana: School + Natura Report: Access to Green Spaces and Climate Resilience in Schools Across Brazil's Capitals](#)



AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DESK

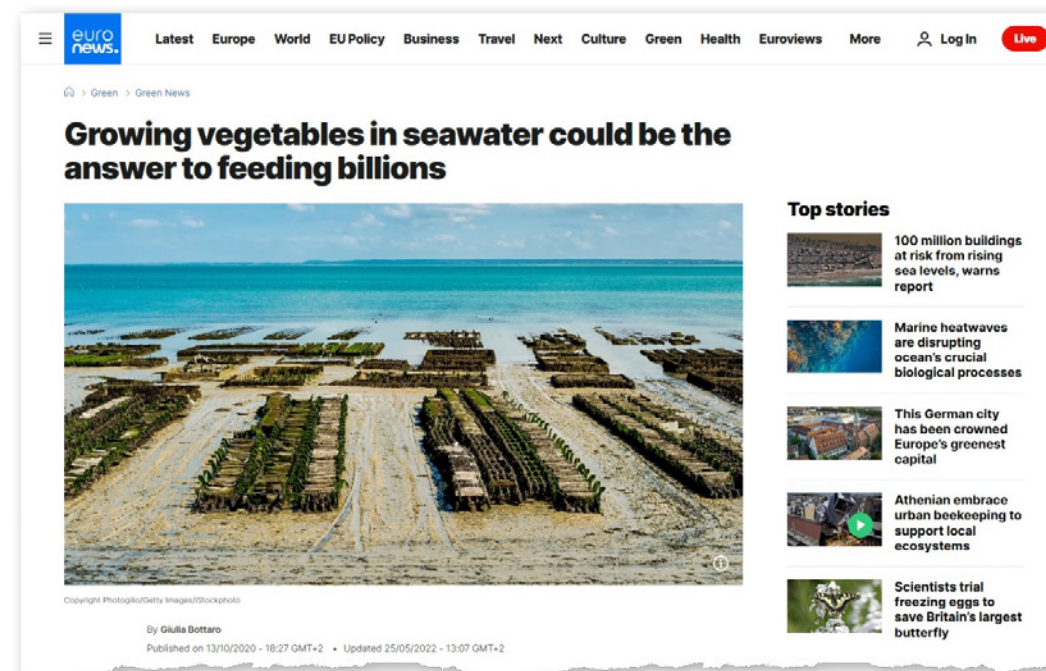
Story hook Crops under stress (from drought or flooding); adaptive management practices that sustain yields

Key metrics Productivity per hectare; water availability; avoided losses per event.

Reporting focus The Adaptation that saves the harvest – local and nature-based solutions that ensure productivity (such as micro-dams or other water storage systems). Is technical assistance and credit reaching smallholders? What adaptive practices are being used by family farmers, Indigenous peoples, and traditional communities? How do ancestral farming systems address today's challenges?

Resources and references

- 🔗 [Euronews Green: Growing Vegetables in Seawater May Be the Answer to Feeding Billions](#)
- 🔗 [Equal Times: Low-Carbon Agriculture Helps Rural Poor in India Face Climate Uncertainty](#)
- 🔗 [Mongabay: In the Sundarbans, Women Restore Mangroves as Alternative Livelihoods](#)
- 🔗 [RISE, Resilience in the Sahel Enhanced, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali: Initiative focused on food security, soil regeneration, and community governance to confront drought and resource conflicts](#)



AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DESK

Story hook Warming seas, migrating fish stocks, and coastal livelihoods at risk

Key metrics Fishers' income levels; area of mangrove or reef restored.

Reporting focus From tuna to mussels – how to save marine livelihoods in changing waters. Are there flexible treaties for mobile stocks? How can aquaculture become more resilient (seaweed, shellfish)? Are there parametric insurance mechanisms for small-scale fishers?

Resources and references

- 🔗 [The Guardian: Pacific Islands Turn to Seaweed and Aquaculture as Tuna Moves Away](#)
- 🔗 [Mongabay: Indigenous Divers in Chile Restore Seabeds to Protect Seafood Sources](#)
- 🔗 [FAO: Climate-Resilient Aquaculture Practices](#)



TOURISM DESK

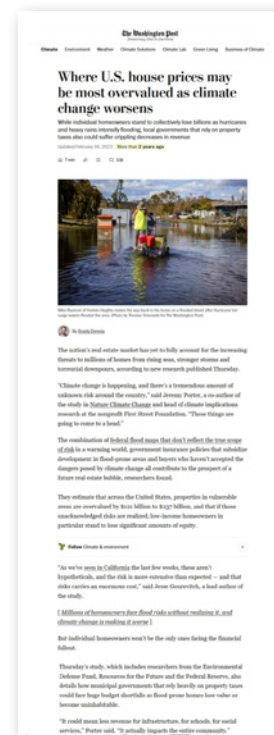
Story hook Heatwaves, wildfires, coral bleaching, shrinking snow seasons; shifting wine and chocolate production

Key metrics Season rescheduling; tourism revenue declines; insurance premiums; cost of climate resilience per hotel room; revenue from environmental restoration.

Reporting focus Designing tourism for an age of extremes. What changes, what can be adapted, and what is lost? Are destinations shifting to mid-season calendars? Are insurance providers setting new resilience standards? What creative solutions are helping keep visitors safe and tourism profitable?

Resources and references

- 🔗 [Le Monde: The Ski Factory Reinventing Itself](#)
- 🔗 [Reuters: Wildfires in Greece Burn Through Tourism Revenue](#)
- 🔗 [NPR: Alpine Resorts Reinvent as Snow Disappears](#)
- 🔗 [Washington Post: Mediterranean Cities Promote Off-Season Tourism](#)



HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE DESK

Story hook Inaccessible insurance, building codes, infrastructure modernization (thermal retrofitting), and planned retreat

Key metrics Insurance premiums by ZIP code; percentage of homes with Adaptation measures; compensation and payouts after disasters; price per square meter in safer regions.

Reporting focus A map of climate (in)security in the real estate market – addressing how insurance costs reflect exposure to climate risk. Who can get insured, and who is left behind? Are there subsidies to include climate-proofing measures in housing projects, especially for low-income families?

Recursos e referências

🔗 [The Washington Post: Where U.S. house prices may be most overvalued as climate change worsens](#)

HOUSING AND INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS DESK

Story hook Climate risk in informal settlements and favelas: more than one billion people worldwide live in informal areas, many located on hillsides, floodplains, or heat islands with high risk and little coverage

Key metrics Indoor temperature (°C) after interventions; number of landslide or flood incidents; drainage and green space coverage; number of residents reached by early-warning systems.

Reporting focus What works in favelas: with little money and lots of urgency. Are there local shading and green infrastructure measures? Are there programs for cool roofs or eco-tiles? Do early warnings reach residents via cell phone? Are microinsurance products available? What is the public policy framework for this population, and what initiatives are emerging from the communities themselves?

Resources and references

🔗 [The Guardian: “Hell de Janeiro”: Heat and Inequality in Rio de Janeiro](#)

🔗 [SEI: Risk App for Nairobi](#)

🔗 [Lumkani: Heat alarm and microinsurance system](#)

🔗 [Eco-Tiles in Delhi: Cooling rooftops initiative](#)

🔗 [Slum Dwellers International \(SDI\): Global network supporting low-income urban communities in building their own climate crisis responses, with a focus on locally generated data, housing, and infrastructure](#)

Visual Insight: How to View Adaptation?



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Setback of buildings in relation to the coastline |
| 2 | Conservation and restoration of natural areas |
| 3 | Coral restoration |
| 4 | Use of flooded areas for aquaculture |
| 5 | Beach nourishment |
| 6 | Coastal stabilization |
| 7 | Construction of protective seawalls |
| 8 | Construction of breakwaters or offshore structures |
| 9 | Reorganization of port structures |

Source: Sergio Margulis. *Climate Change: Everything You Wanted and Didn't Want to Know*. (2020)

CONSUMER DESK

Story hook Growing demand for energy-efficient appliances, affordable cooling, electricity bill programs, and rooftop solar systems

Key metrics Kilowatt-hours saved; cost of electricity; peak-hour demand reduction.

Reporting focus Lower bills in extreme temperatures – who manages to pay less, how, and why?

Recursos e referências

🔗 **Bloomberg: Mapping Cooling Solutions in Cities**

Facing Extreme Heat

🔗 **Bloomberg: How to Cool Parks in Hot Cities**

🔗 **The Guardian: How to Stay Cool Without Air Conditioning**



CULTURE AND SOCIETY DESK

Story hook Climate anxiety and art that communicates solutions and soothes hearts

Key metrics Cultural events, exhibitions, artistic and literary works addressing Adaptation.

Reporting focus How art and cultural expressions communicate the lived experience of Adaptation – raising awareness, inspiring action, and helping people process life in a warmer world.

Recursos e referências

🔗 **The New York Times (Style):**

Rain Flash-Flood Anxiety

🔗 **AFP (Photography):**

Climate-Driven Disasters

Around the World, 2021

🔗 **Coffee & Quaq (Podcast):**

Alaska Natives on the Frontlines

of Climate Change

🔗 **The New York Times (Arts/**

Design): Maritime Museum at

Mystic Seaport & Rising Seas

🔗 **Um só Planeta: Eco-anxiety**

surges 295% on Google: “it’s time to turn fear into collective action”



CULTURE AND SOCIETY DESK

Story hook Pilgrimages, festivals, and rituals disrupted by extreme heat and floods; temples and churches located in high-risk areas

Key metrics Temperature/WBGT (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature) during events; number of cancellations or reschedulings; health incidents per 10,000 participants; number of water and shade points per 1,000 people; additional operating costs; emergency response times.

Reporting focus Faith, tradition, and climate resilience – the logistics of protecting worshippers (water, shade, timing, routes). Do religious organizations have heat or rain contingency plans? What medical protocols are in place (WBGT monitoring, triage, ambulances)? Are there alternative routes and hydration stations? How is risk communication managed with congregants? Who finances these Adaptations (public authorities, donations, insurance)? How are vulnerable groups (elderly, children, people with disabilities) cared for? How do faith communities provide support to those most affected by climate stress?

Resources and references

🔗 **The Washington Post (Interactive): As Climate Change Alters Sacred Rituals, Worshippers Adapt**

🔗 **AP News: Catholic bishops from Asia, Africa,**

Latin America demand climate justice

🔗 **PMC Journal: Religious beliefs and climate change adaptation: A study of three rural South African communities**

CULTURE AND SOCIETY DESK

Story hook Concerts and festivals on the frontlines of heat, smoke, and rain. The case of Ana Clara Benevides in Brazil exposed systemic safety gaps

Key metrics Number of cancellations; event frequency; adopted safety protocols; outdoor event attendance during heatwaves; health incidents per 10,000 attendees; number of heat-related pauses; availability of water and shade points; additional costs versus insurance premiums.

Reporting focus How to make outdoor events heatproof (keeping both audiences and performers safe). How are concerts and festivals adapting schedules and infrastructure to heat or heavy rain? What contingency protocols are in place? Are there free water stations, shaded areas, WBGT (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature) sensors, "heat/smoke officers," or pause-and-cancel plans? Are insurance companies requiring minimum standards?

Resources and references

- 🔗 Good practices: "Benevides Law" (bill proposes free water at outdoor events)
- 🔗 The Guardian: Festival-Goers Struggle to Stay Cool as 30°C Heatwave Hits Glastonbury
- 🔗 AP News: Heat exhaustion killed Taylor Swift fan attending Rio concert, forensics report says
- 🔗 Los Angeles Times: Taylor Swift fan died of heat exhaustion attending Brazil concert, forensics
- 🔗 Tá Lá no Gráfico (Talanoia): Alalaô, ooo ooo, what a heat!



ACTIVISM AND REPRESENTATION DESK

Story hook Local networks making a difference; intersection with racial and gender justice

Key metrics Number of people reached; approved public policies; funds unlocked; measurable impact of executed projects.

Reporting focus Which impacts disproportionately affect women and marginalized groups? Which Adaptation challenges are grassroots and activist initiatives addressing today? How do they measure their results and influence budget decisions? How are citizens mobilized in the search for solutions? What are the emerging ideas to reduce inequalities and promote climate justice?

Resources and references

- 🔗 Campaign "Rio Não É Disney: Plano Climático Já": led by young activists from Rio de Janeiro's peripheries, presenting an Adaptation proposal focused on territorial justice, green infrastructure, and urban rights
- 🔗 Antiracist Adaptation Network: coalition of collectives, activists, and researchers proposing a Black-centered view of Adaptation, grounded in territorial belonging and the fight against environmental racism
- 🔗 Fapesp: Bairro da periferia de Diadema elabora plano de adaptação às mudanças climáticas

ACTIVISM AND REPRESENTATION DESK

Story hook Community-led Adaptation plans, grounded in traditional governance and knowledge

Key metrics Number of households or villages protected; avoided losses; food and water security indicators.

Reporting focus How traditional knowledge teaches powerful lessons for Adaptation. What nature-based solutions are being implemented? Who sets priorities? How are outcomes measured in the territory? How do fire brigades, territorial protection groups, and Indigenous science coordinate local action?

Resources and references

- 🔗 CONAQ: Black Territories, Ancestry, and Global Climate Action: Bodies, Forests, and Solutions
- 🔗 The Washington Post: An Ancestral People with a Modern Climate Plan (Swinomish)
- 🔗 IPAM: Youth from 18 Communities Present Climate Adaptation Plans



ACTIVISM AND REPRESENTATION DESK

Story hook Unequal distribution of risk and disaster relief; community-led solutions for climate security

Key metrics Average time to transfer relief funds by neighborhood; per capita assistance; race and gender breakdowns of recipients

Reporting focus A climate justice perspective: who decides which projects or aid are prioritized? Did the money reach those who lost the most and how fast?

Resources and references

- 🔗 [e360: As Miami Keeps Building, Rising Seas Deepen Its Social Divide](#)
- 🔗 [RM Times: Inside a Nigerian Community Living the Climate Crisis](#)
- 🔗 [Los Angeles Times: The Deadly Cost of Extreme Heat \(series\)](#)
- 🔗 [Noëma: Magazine: The Last of the Marsh Arabs](#)



SPORTS DESK

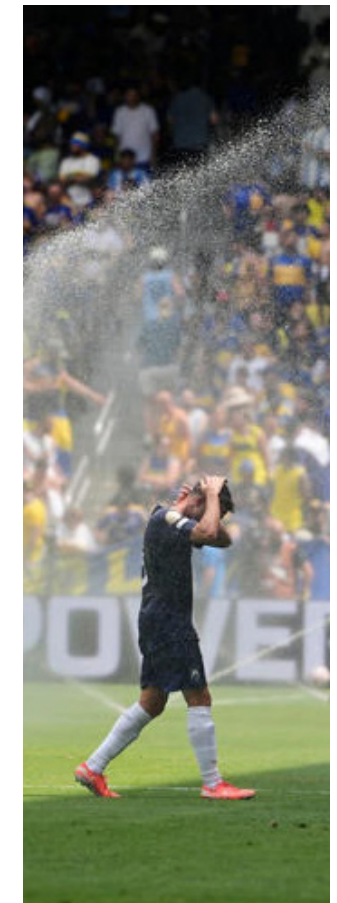
Story hook One in three summer sports events faces high heat risk; smoke and flooding force cancellations

Key metrics Field temperature; number of official cooling breaks; medical incidents; event cancellations; insurance premiums.

Reporting focus How sports are tackling extreme heat. How are clubs and sports federations adapting schedules and infrastructure to ensure safety of athletes and the public? What new “heat playbooks” are emerging for tournaments, leagues, and stadiums? Are there official heat break rules (based on WBGT – Wet Bulb Globe Temperature), hydration schedules, shaded zones, or microgrids in stadiums to ensure energy reliability during heat events?

Resources and references

- 🔗 [The Guardian: Extreme heat poses a danger to players and fans at Club World Cup](#)
- 🔗 [Reuters: Extreme heat a rising threat to 2026 World Cup venues, says report](#)
- 🔗 [BBC: What Are the Heat Rules at Wimbledon?](#)



FASHION DESK

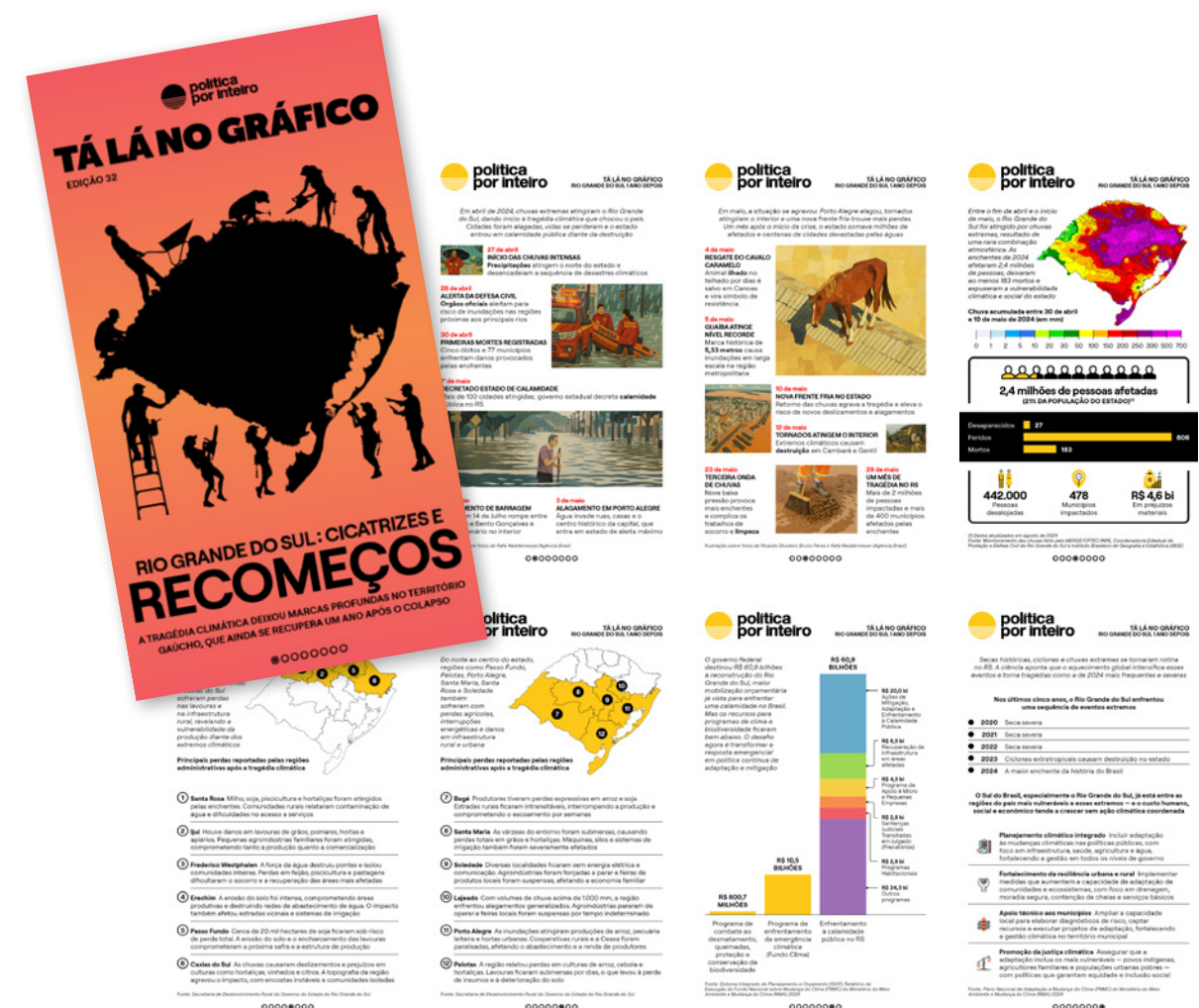
Story hook A warming world demands cooler clothes. And the people who make them are also at risk

Key metrics WBGT (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature) in factories; number of mandatory breaks; absenteeism rates; productivity and health incidents; percentage of climate-resilient fabrics.

Reporting focus A provocation: what would fashion collections look like for the new climate reality? How is heat reshaping the industry? How do floods in textile hubs like Bangladesh, Vietnam, and Pakistan force systemic change? Do factories have heat alert systems, ventilation, or cooling measures? Are there funds to support worker Adaptation?

Resources and references

- 🔗 [Vogue: What Is “Just Resilience” and Why Fashion Should Care](#)
- 🔗 [Vogue Business: Extreme Heat Is Putting Garment Workers at Risk](#)
- 🔗 [Reuters: Brands Bet on Cooling Fabrics in an Age of Rising Temperatures](#)
- 🔗 [Tá Lá no Gráfico \(Talanoa\): Work in a hotter world](#)



Sites in Senegal Are Being Swallowed by the Sea

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT DESK

Story hook 2030–2050 scenarios for cities, energy, water, and health; stress tests for critical infrastructure; decision triggers for construction, relocation, and new regulations.

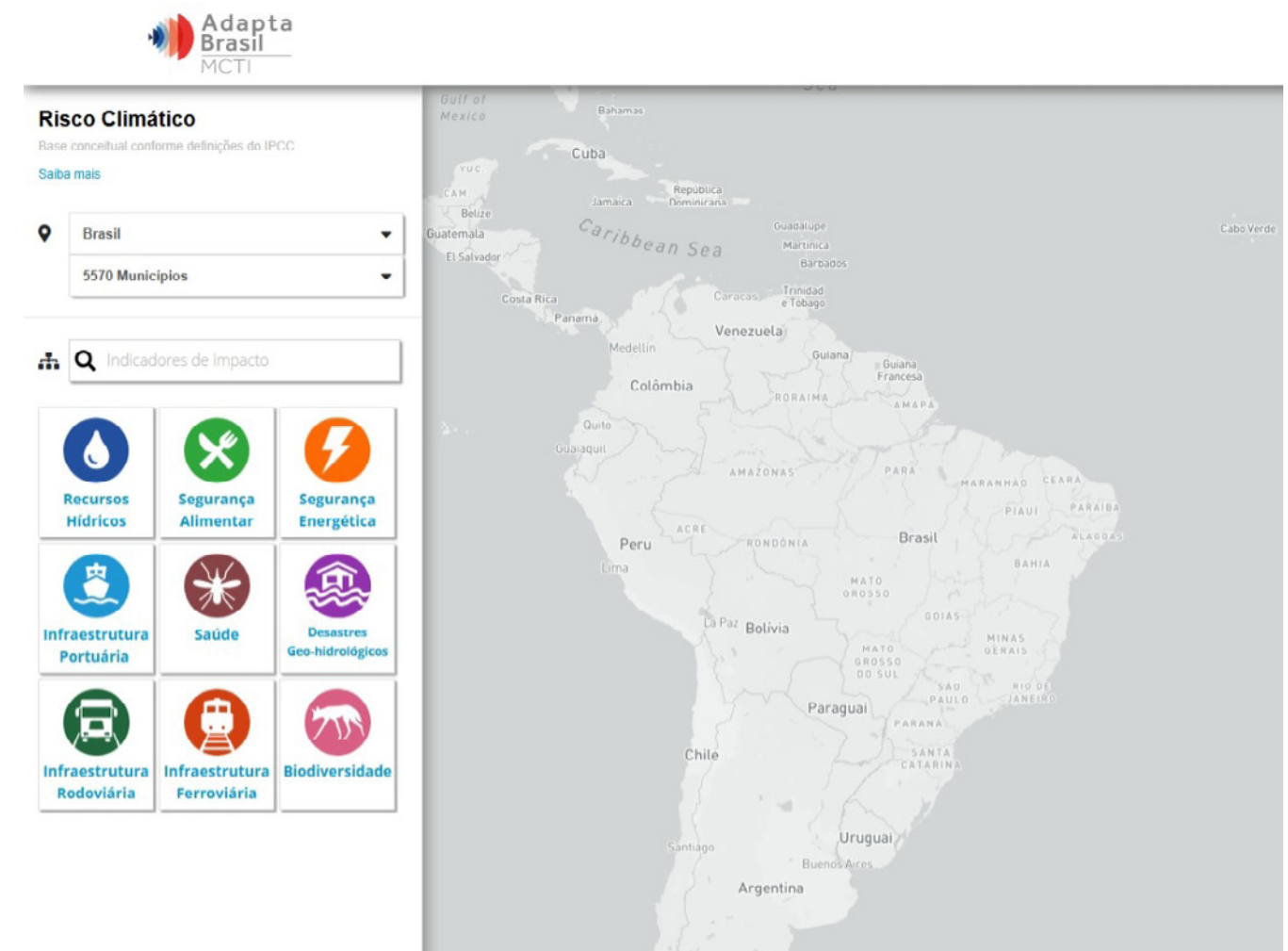
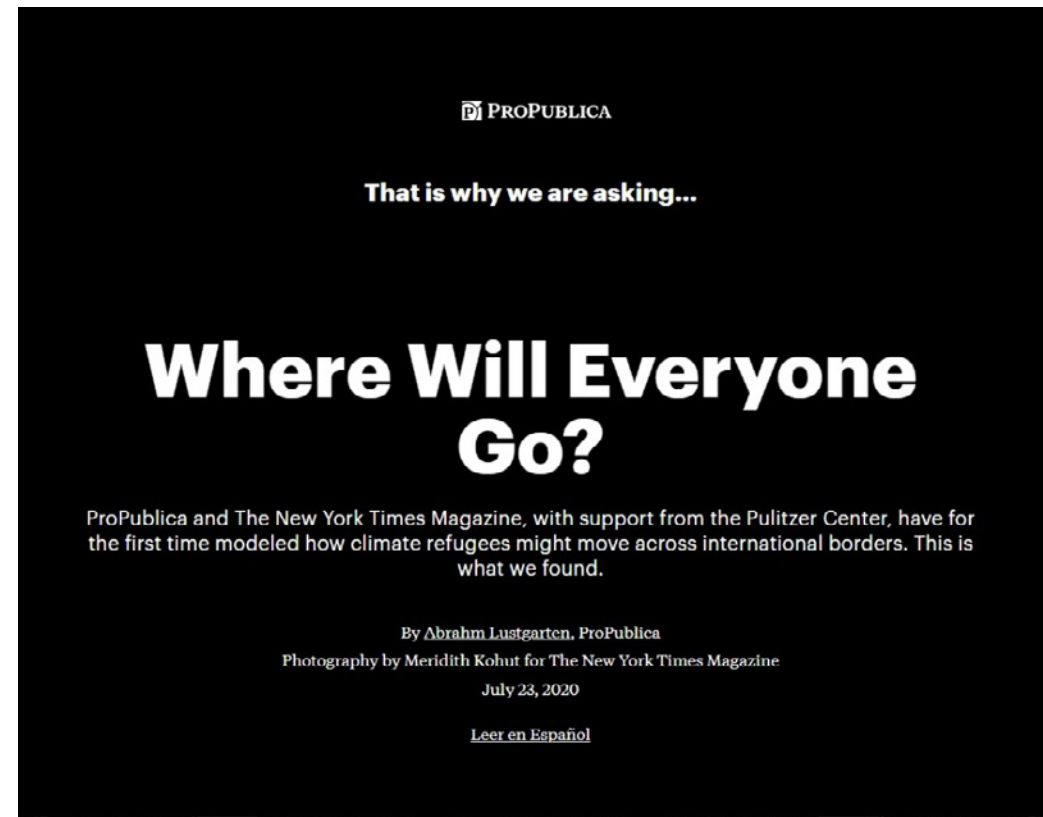
Key metrics Percentage of critical infrastructure located in 2050 risk zones; recovery time (RTO) for hospitals, water, and power after extreme events; annual per capita investment in Adaptation; early-warning coverage

Reporting focus What climate and socioeconomic scenarios are municipalities using to plan? How are building codes, electrical grids, and transport systems being updated? Are there formal triggers for activating planned retreat, school closures, or changes in working hours during extreme events? What are the financing plans (Capex/Opex)? What indicators are governments and companies using to measure readiness?

Resources and references

🔗 [The Washington Post: A Strange New Climate Era Is Starting to Set In](#)

🔗 [ProPublica: Where Will Everyone Go?](#)



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT DESK

Story hook Climate governance and Adaptation across government levels

Key metrics Implementation of the National Climate Adaptation Plans and their integration with other policies and plans.

Reporting focus What are the responsibilities of different levels of governments in implementing Adaptation measures? What mechanisms ensure execution and effectiveness? What role can the legislative and judiciary branches play in advancing this agenda? Do sectoral policies (infrastructure, energy, etc) include an explicit Adaptation dimension?

Recursos e referências

🔗 [Tá Lá no Gráfico \(Talanoa\): Sectoral Adaptation Plans: What's the Plan?](#)

🔗 [Brazil: AdaptaCidades Platform](#)



POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT DESK

Story hook Tracking Adaptation spending in public budgets

Key metrics Percentage of executed budget dedicated to Adaptation; performance indicators linked to Adaptation outcomes.

Reporting focus How to safeguard climate resilience within public budgets. Where is the money right now? How are results measured (using GGA indicators)? Who has direct access to funds municipalities, Indigenous peoples, or local organizations?

Resources and references

🔗 [Le Monde: How Lyon Is Adapting as France's Most Heat-Exposed City](#)

🔗 [The Washington Post: After a Summer of Climate](#)

[Horror, Adaptation Is an Imperative](#)

🔗 [Phys.org: Coastal Cities Confront Their Mortality on the Climate Frontline](#)

🔗 [The New York Times Magazine: Wildfires and the Ecology of Los Angeles](#)

🔗 [The Outlier \(South Africa\): A Perfect Storm](#)

🔗 [Big U Project, New York: A climate-resilient infrastructure](#)

[proposal to create a protective ring around Manhattan, combining flood control, parks, and urban regeneration](#)

NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY DESK

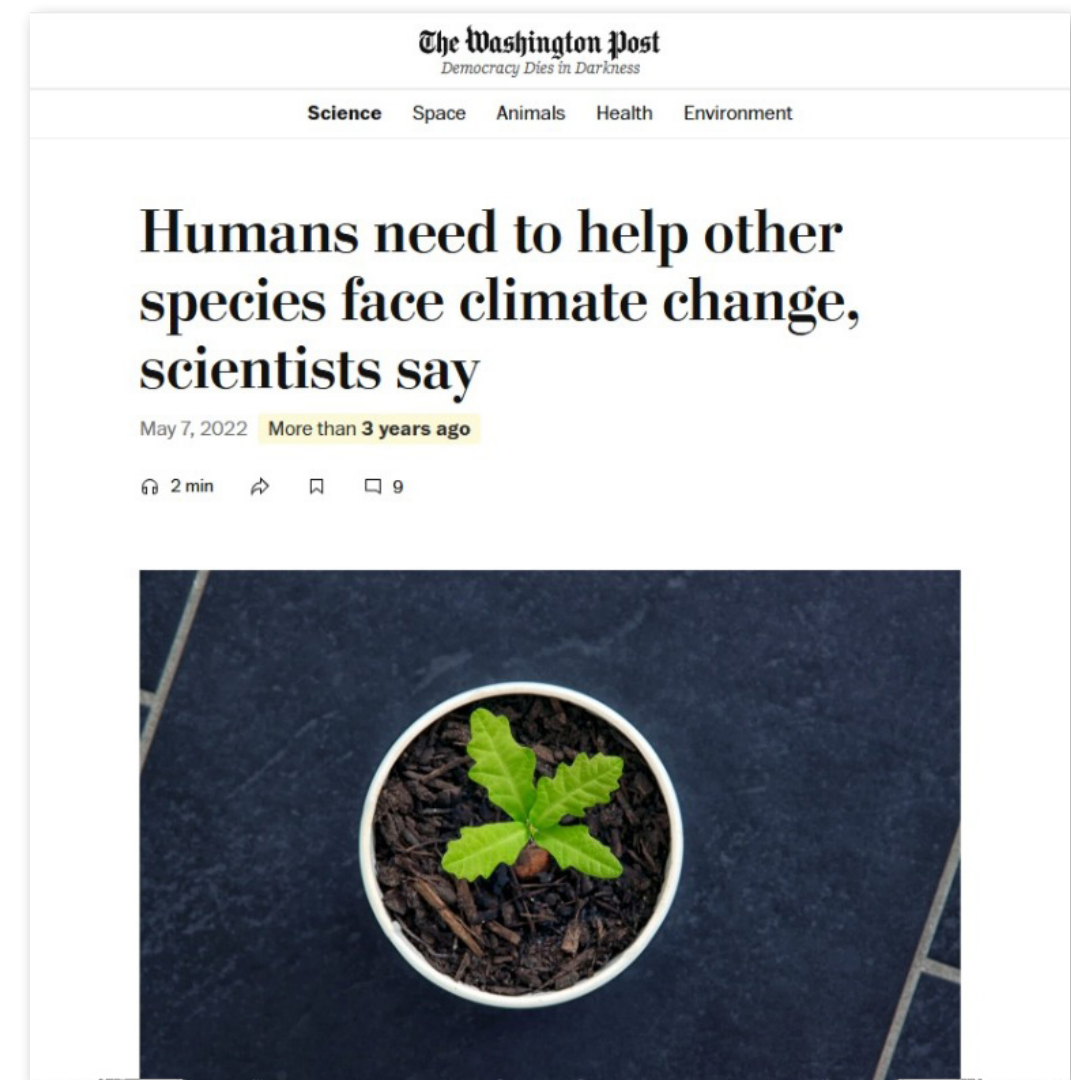
Story hook Assisted Adaptation, ecological corridors, and adaptive ecosystem management

Key metrics Species survival and reproduction rates; area of restored habitat; number of avoided extreme events or ecosystem losses

Reporting focus Saving species in a +1.5°C world — what truly works? Which species and habitats are included in official Adaptation plans? Who is financing these measures, and how is success measured?

Recursos e referências

🔗 [The Washington Post: Scientists Say Humans Must Help Other Species Adapt to Climate Change](#)



BUSINESS AND FINANCE DESK

Story hook Insurance market withdrawals, physical risk disclosures, return on investment (ROI) from Adaptation, collective funds and initiatives

Key metrics Insurance claims; capital expenditure (Capex) versus avoided losses; changes in capital spreads after extreme events.

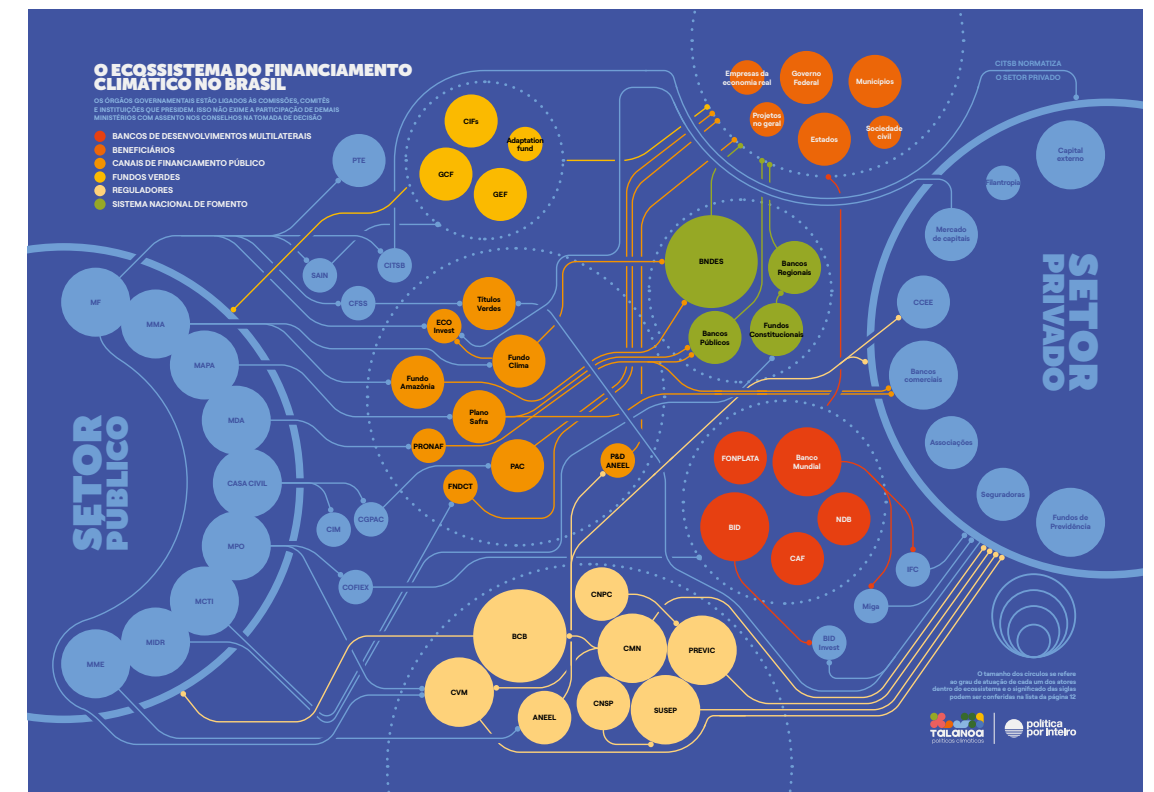
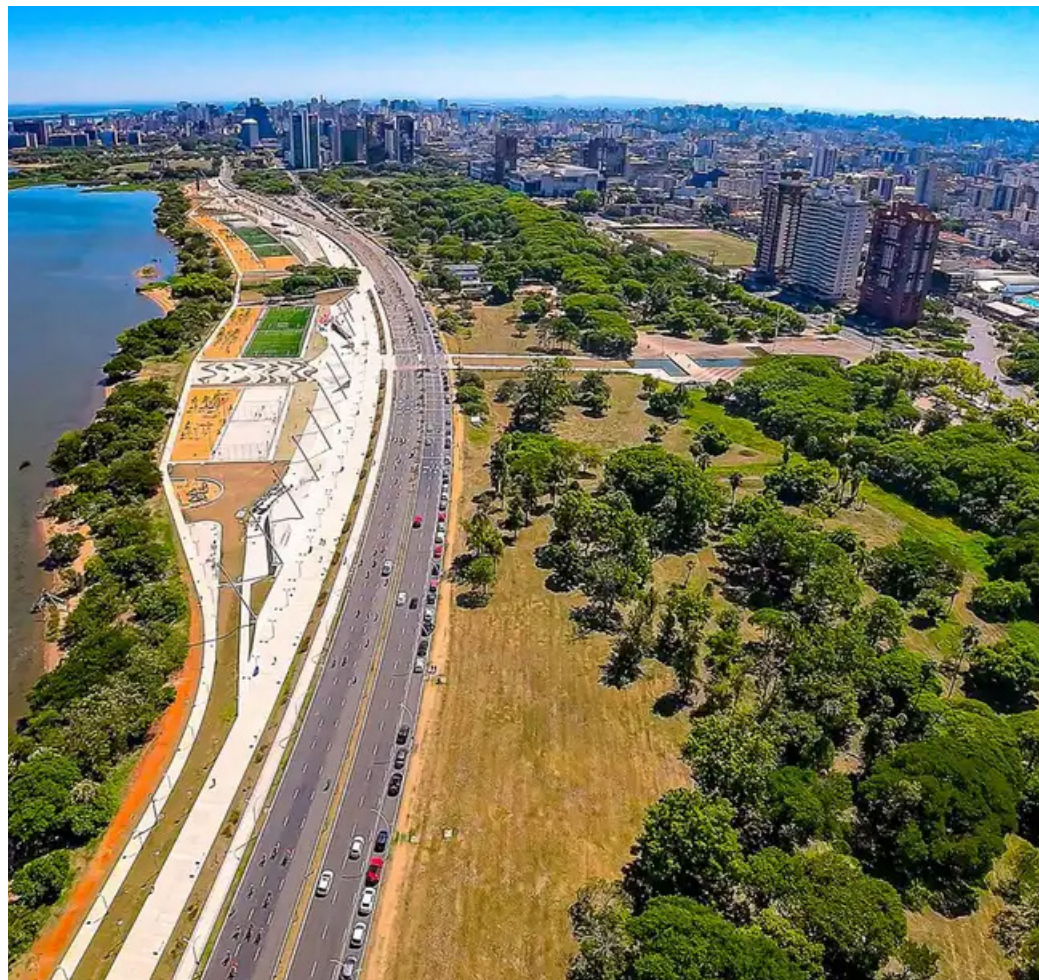
Reporting focus How much are companies and municipalities saving through avoided losses? Do businesses have physical risk strategies integrated into their operations and supply chains?

Resources and references

🌀 **Agência Brasil: Study shows high returns on investments in climate adaptation**

🔗 **The New York Times (DealBook): Extreme Heat and Investments**

Le Monde: The Rhône: An Industrial River at a Crossroads

**CLIMATE FINANCE DESK**

Story hook The Adaptation finance gap and the question of funding quality

Key metrics Total U.S. dollars executed in Adaptation projects; share of grants versus debt; average disbursement time; number of projects aligned with Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) indicators.

Reporting focus Where is the funding (not just the financing)? Who has access to these resources? How can we ensure that money reaches local implementation and delivers results?

Resources and references

 **Financial Times: Kenya's Ruto Says Western Leaders Broke a "Climate Blood Pact"**

 **Reuters: Developing world faces multi-billion climate adaptation cash gap, U.N. report says**

🔗 **The Washington Post: As Climate Disasters Multiply, the World Is Investing Nowhere Near Enough in Adaptation**

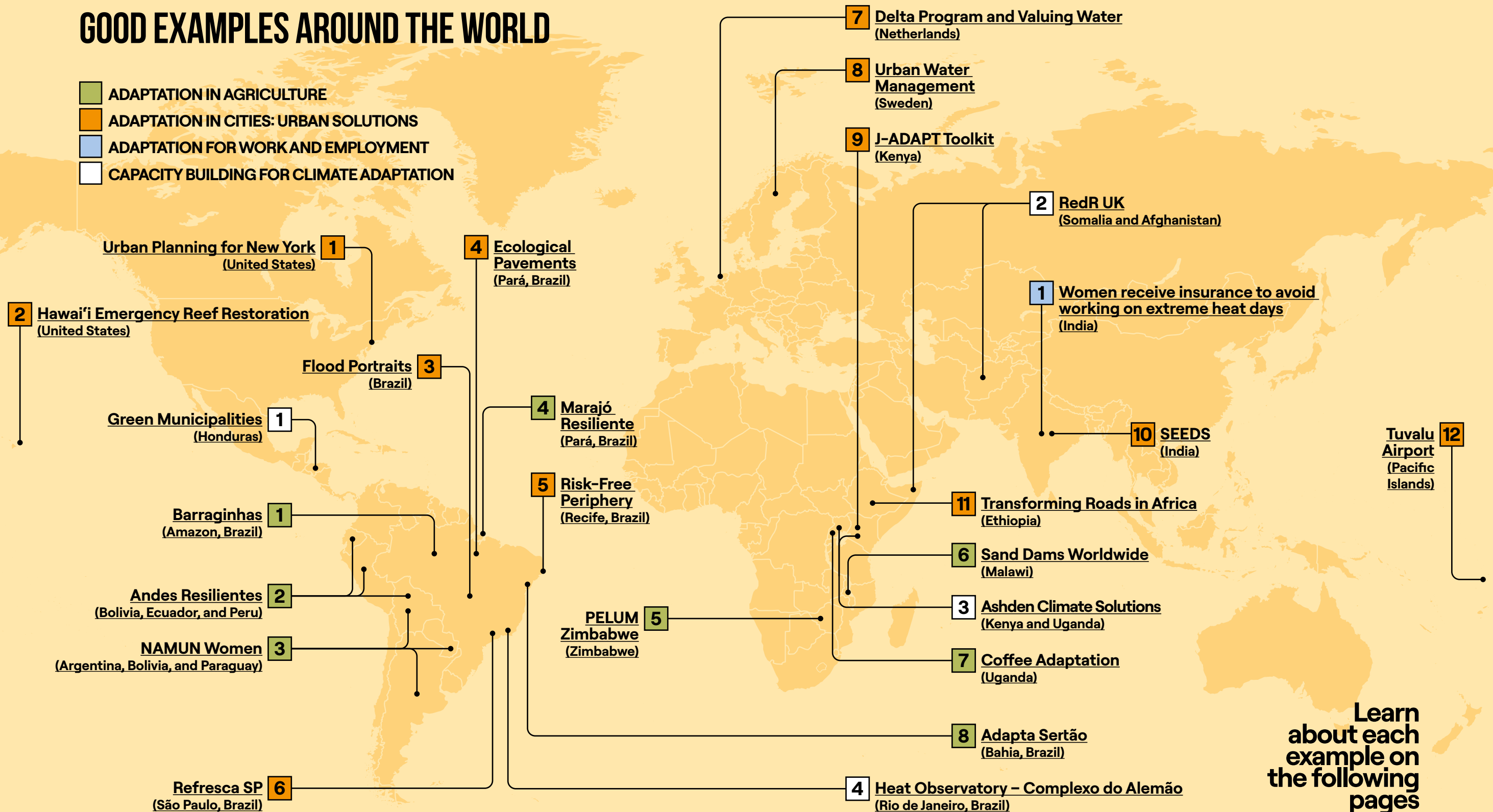
 **Reuters: Development Banks' Climate Finance Reaches Record \$137 Billion in 2024**

🔗 **Tá Lá no Gráfico (Talanoa): Strategies for a safe future**

Talanoa: Financing Strategy for Adaptation Talanoa 2025

GOOD EXAMPLES AROUND THE WORLD

- ADAPTATION IN AGRICULTURE
- ADAPTATION IN CITIES: URBAN SOLUTIONS
- ADAPTATION FOR WORK AND EMPLOYMENT
- CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION



Learn
about each
example on
the following
pages

ADAPTATION IN AGRICULTURE

1 **BARRAGINHAS** **Amazon, Brazil**

This project supports local communities in addressing climate Adaptation challenges by implementing *barraginhas* – small rainwater retention basins designed to capture excess water, control soil erosion, and improve infiltration, replenishing groundwater reserves. The initiative is complemented by the cultivation of native plants and agroecological practices, contributing to biodiversity conservation in the region. The technology originates from Brazil’s semiarid Caatinga biome, where communities are true experts in low-cost water resilience.



2 **ANDES RESILIENTES** **Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru**

The *Andes Resilientes* initiative supports smallholder farmers in the Andean highlands of Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru to strengthen their resilience and adaptive capacity, improving food and water security. A project by Fundación Avina.



3 **NAMUN WOMEN** **Argentina, Bolivia, and Paraguay**

An initiative by Fundación Avina that empowers rural women as agents of change through digital connectivity and applied innovation. Operating in the Gran Chaco region, *NAMUN Mujeres* strengthens women’s adaptive capacity and resilience, supports their organizations, and promotes sustainable income generation and disruptive Adaptation solutions.



4 **MARAJÓ RESILIENTE** **Pará, Brazil**

An initiative dedicated to strengthening the climate resilience of family farmers and traditional communities in the Marajó archipelago, in Pará – an area often stigmatized by reports on commercial sexual exploitation of children and as a symbol of climate vulnerability. It brings together local community strategies to adapt and thrive, combining ancestral knowledge with innovative solutions and specialized technical assistance. A project by the Avina Foundation, it contributes to demystifying aspects of Adaptation. A narrative of active hope.



5 **PELUM ZIMBABWE** Zimbabwe

The Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) organization in Zimbabwe partners with local farmer associations to promote regenerative agricultural practices that enhance food security, livelihoods, and environmental sustainability. Focused on restoring soil health and improving pasture management, the initiative strengthens farmers' drought resilience and fosters collaboration among communities, policymakers, and national authorities. Rotational grazing, for instance, has improved soil water retention and livestock health while revitalizing ecosystems.

6 **SAND DAMS WORLDWIDE** Malawi

The UK-based organization *Sand Dams Worldwide* helps some of the world's poorest communities achieve water and food security through sustainable soil and water conservation. In partnership with Churches Action in Relief and Development (CARD), the organization builds sand dams in seasonal riverbeds in arid regions of Malawi. These natural rainwater storage systems can hold up to 40 million liters of water, providing clean water access for more than 8,000 people. By reducing the time women spend collecting water, the project enables them to engage in agriculture and participate in CARD's climate-resilient farming programs.



7 **COFFEE ADAPTATION** Uganda

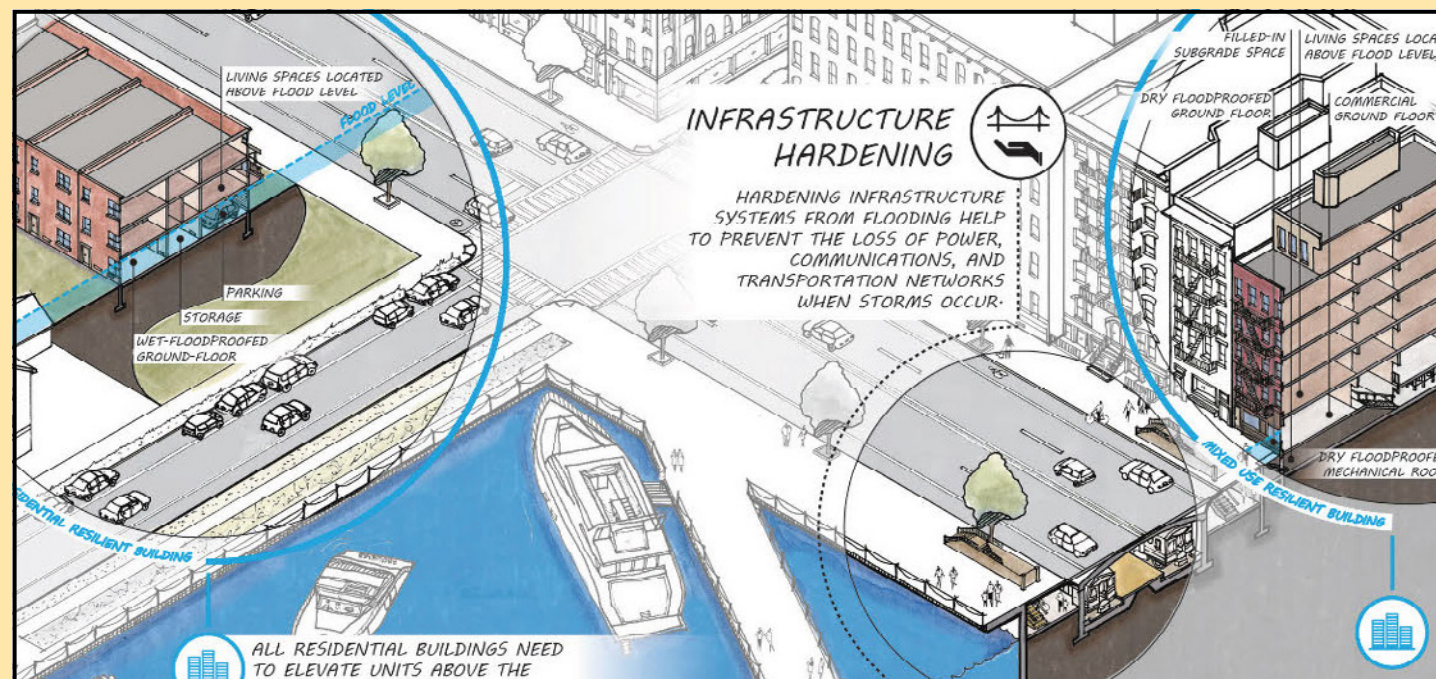
Coffee is one of Uganda's main export crops, but drought, pests, and diseases have reduced yields and value. As an alternative, many farmers are intercropping coffee with shade trees like *Grevillea robusta* and native species to moderate temperature and improve soil fertility. Research by the World Agroforestry Centre shows that farmers using agroforestry practices reported up to a 25 percent increase in coffee productivity.



8 **ADAPTA SERTÃO** **Bahia, Brazil**

In Brazil's semiarid Northeast, the *Adapta Sertão* project was developed to help small-scale farmers adapt to the impacts of climate change. The initiative promotes sustainable livelihoods through technologies such as drip irrigation, which has increased efficiency and productivity for local farmers while ensuring food and income security despite unpredictable rainfall.

ADAPTATION IN CITIES: URBAN SOLUTIONS



1 **URBAN PLANNING FOR NEW YORK** **United States**

New York City's *Resilience Plan* maps urban risk zones, coordinates with communities, and adapts infrastructure to climate hazards. The plan incorporates neighborhood-level risk assessments for sea-level rise, flooding, and heatwaves, proposing tailored solutions such as coastal barriers, green infrastructure, and community engagement. Each risk area receives targeted strategies, from flood protection to public awareness campaigns, while ensuring that funding and environmental justice guide implementation.

2 **HAWAII EMERGENCY REEF RESTORATION** **United States**

A coalition led by The Nature Conservancy (TNC), in partnership with government agencies, community organizations, scientists, and local groups, established the *Hawai'i Emergency Reef Restoration Network* to rapidly respond to coral reef damage caused by tropical storms and hurricanes. Funded through the first-ever U.S. coral reef insurance policy, the network uses insurance payouts to repair reefs, reducing storm surge impacts on coastal communities while protecting a vital part of Hawaii's culture, economy, and way of life.



3 **FLOOD PORTRAITS** **Brazil**

A citizen science project that maps flood risks and impacts across three peripheral regions in Brazil, identifying local and community-based Adaptation solutions. Led by the Instituto Decodifica, the research is conducted by those directly affected by environmental racism, combining lived experience with local knowledge to inform public policy and resilience strategies.

4 **ECOLOGICAL PAVEMENTS**

Pará, Brazil

This project, originating in the island communities of Caratateua near Belém, promotes permeable pavements that reduce soil contamination, improve water infiltration, and lower surface temperatures. Designed as an alternative to asphalt, ecological paving combines community demand with sustainable urban planning – particularly important for flood-prone island environments



5 **RISK-FREE PERIPHERY**

Recife, Brazil

Developed by GRIS Espaço Solidário and the Federal University of Pernambuco's Geography Department, this initiative promotes community engagement to prevent and reduce risks from extreme rain and flooding. It includes participatory mapping of risk areas, community-based early-warning systems, and neighborhood response brigades for emergency support. The project strengthens community autonomy and connects academic and local knowledge to co-create solutions for climate safety in low-income urban areas.



6 **REFRESCA SP**

São Paulo, Brazil

In partnership with the São Paulo City Government, Instituto Alana launched *Refresca SP*, a project to increase green spaces in and around schools as a heat Adaptation measure. The initiative aims to transform school infrastructure by bringing nature to the forefront – expanding children's contact with green areas, encouraging environmental stewardship, and mitigating the impacts of heat in urban learning environments.



7 **DELTA PROGRAM AND VALUING WATER**

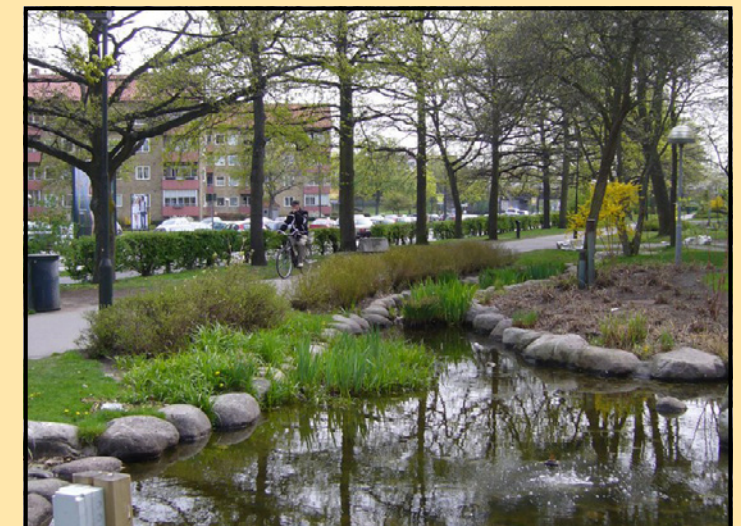
Netherlands

Dutch cities are world leaders in flood risk management. Through the *Delta Program and Valuing Water Initiative*, the Netherlands integrates gray infrastructure (dikes, barriers, and locks) with nature-based solutions, urban planning, and public participation. The approach combines technical expertise with social inclusion, ensuring that all levels of government and civil society collaborate on comprehensive water resilience.

8 **URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT**

Sweden

In Malmö's Augustenborg neighborhood, sustainable drainage systems (SUDS) – including canals, retention ponds, and green roofs – were implemented to prevent recurrent flooding, restore degraded areas, and increase resilience to heavy rainfall. The project is now recognized as a global model of sustainable urban water management.



9 **J-ADAPT TOOLKIT**

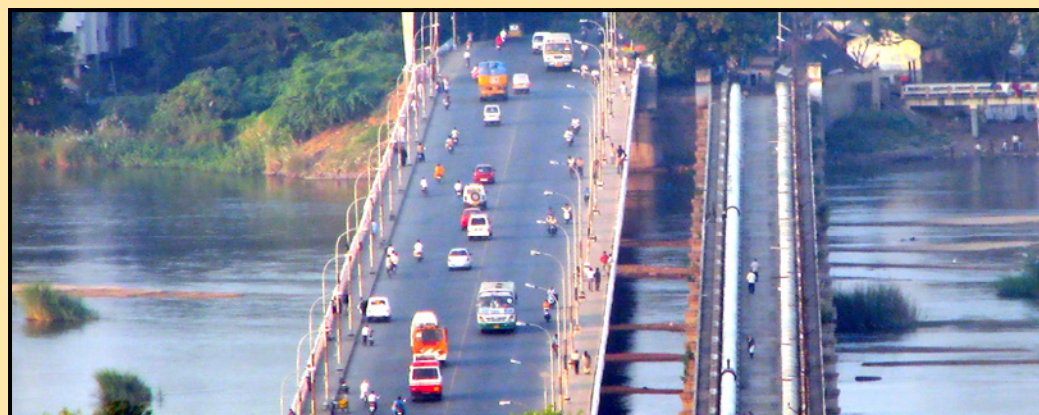
Kenya

Developed by the Environmental Change Institute at the University of Oxford in partnership with the Howden Foundation, J-ADAPT is an open-source platform applying the concept of *Just Climate Adaptation*. The toolkit integrates local social vulnerability data with natural hazard assessments such as droughts and floods, enabling investors, insurers, and governments to identify, in real time, which communities are most in need of support. The pilot in Kenya aims to expand across the Global South.



10 SEEDS India

The *Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society* is an Indian organization that helps vulnerable communities build resilience. To identify homes at risk from extreme heat in New Delhi, an innovative tool combines AI-based heat mapping, satellite imagery, and local weather data. After identifying 1,450 of the most vulnerable households, SEEDS will work on installing nature-based cooling solutions to improve thermal comfort in buildings, while also collaborating with local authorities to advocate for the adoption of this approach in other parts of the country. The initiative includes training residents in roof insulation techniques capable of reducing indoor temperatures by 6 to 8 degrees Celsius, using jute sacks, bamboo mats, and green creepers.



11 TRANSFORMING ROADS IN AFRICA Ethiopia

MetaMeta Research received investment from the Global Resilience Partnership to transform how roads are planned and built in Ethiopia and Kenya, introducing innovative designs and improved guidelines to harvest rainwater, prevent soil erosion, and enhance land use along roadsides.



12 TUVALU AIRPORT Pacific Islands

The project proposes engineering solutions such as subsurface drainage, moisture monitoring, and construction techniques adapted to coral atolls. Rising sea levels and groundwater fluctuations are damaging the runway at Funafuti Airport, creating deformations and cracks that threaten the island nation's connectivity and economy. The plan seeks to preserve infrastructure and community well-being through innovative, context-sensitive Adaptation.

ADAPTATION FOR WORK AND EMPLOYMENT



1 **WOMEN RECEIVE INSURANCE TO AVOID WORKING ON EXTREME HEAT DAYS**

India

Led by women, CRA supports vulnerable women and communities exposed to extreme heat. Through its *Women's Climate Shock Insurance and Livelihoods (WCSI)* program, the organization provides direct income support to informal-sector workers during harmful heatwaves. Triggered by temperature thresholds, the insurance paid out assistance to 50,000 women in three Indian states, helping them manage income loss while improving resilience to climate extremes.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION

1 **GREEN MUNICIPALITIES** Honduras

This initiative builds local government capacity for climate Adaptation through training and exchanges between environmental, health, and cultural authorities. It promotes the integration of traditional medicinal plants into local Adaptation plans and supports the formulation of nature-based projects eligible for global climate funds.



2 **REDR UK** Somalia and Afghanistan

RedR UK is a humanitarian organization that trains frontline workers to face climate challenges in drought-prone regions of Somalia and Afghanistan. Supported by the Howden Foundation, the program focuses on drought response, resilience planning, and gender-sensitive approaches to climate risk management, empowering local actors to assess risks and implement preventive measures independently.



3 **ASHDEN CLIMATE SOLUTIONS** **Kenya and Uganda**

The *Ashden Climate Solutions* initiative promotes climate innovation in the UK and the Global South. Working with refugees in camps in northern Kenya and Uganda, the program provides direct funding, technical assistance, and communications support to nine refugee-led organizations. The goal is to expand access to clean, affordable energy technologies – such as solar irrigation, sustainable cooking, and home cooling – that enhance resilience to drought and heat while reducing deforestation.

4 **HEAT OBSERVATORY –** **COMPLEXO DO ALEMÃO** **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

A partnership between the NGO *Voz das Comunidades* and the Rio de Janeiro Secretariat for Environment and Climate, the *Heat Observatory* monitors local temperatures in favelas and promotes community-led nature-based solutions. Six local residents were trained as citizen scientists to measure heat three times a day in strategic points across the community. The project combines data generation with dialogue and collective problem-solving to inspire localized Adaptation policies.



Programs Supporting Projects

Teia de Soluções

This open call invites innovative practices that use Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) as a central strategy to strengthen coastal municipalities and regions affected by flooding in Rio Grande do Sul. The goal is to identify and support projects that can be scaled up and replicated in other vulnerable areas across Brazil, integrating nature, infrastructure, and community resilience

Regenera RS

A catalytic philanthropic fund created to promote innovative solutions and systemic change, Regenera RS seeks to build a more resilient and better-prepared Rio Grande do Sul for the future. The initiative supports organizations and local actors working on reconstruction and Adaptation efforts after climate disasters, with a focus on resilience, social inclusion, and environmental recovery

- **Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program: Global Center on Adaptation (GCA)**
- **Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator (AF-CIA)**
- **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Adaptation Case Collection**



- **UNEP Map Hub on Adaptation**
- **Regional Platform for Catalyzing Resilience and Climate Action in the Caribbean**

INSPIRATION BANK

Climate Adaptation is alive across territories! To access the updated database with these and other inspiring solutions, click here or scan the QR code



VOICES: WHO TO LISTEN TO



Adelheid Herrmann, Alaska/United States

Dena'ina Athabaskan researcher, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Her work centers on Climate Change Adaptation for rural Alaskan and Indigenous communities, building local capacity, resilience, and Adaptation planning in collaboration with Tribal governments. Formerly a member of the Alaska House of Representatives, she also serves on the Council of Elders at Alaska Pacific University.

Publications and references:
Building Capacity of Rural Communities to Respond and Adapt to Climate Change

Contact: hrmcfarland@alaska.edu • Media Contact: hrmcfarland@alaska.edu
Website: uaf-accap.org



Adelle Thomas, Bahamas

Senior Director for Adaptation, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Working at the intersection of climate action and development, she focuses on reducing vulnerability, understanding Adaptation limits, and addressing socioeconomic challenges in small island states. Vice-chair of Working Group II of the IPCC and lead author of both the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C and the Sixth Assessment Report.

Publications and references:
What Could a New Adaptation Finance Goal Look Like?

Contact: adelle.thomas@ub.edu.bs
Website: nrdc.org



Ana Mulio Alvarez, Spain

Policy Advisor, E3G
(Third Generation Environmentalism)
Specialist in integrating Adaptation and resilience into financial systems and climate diplomacy.

Publications and references:
Pathways Towards Resilience

Contact: ana.mulio@e3g.org
Website: e3g.org



Andréia Coutinho, Brazil

Executive Director, Brazilian Center for Climate Justice (CBJC); Member, COP30 Adaptation Council
Expert in climate justice with a focus on gender, race, and class intersections in Brazil's climate agenda. Promotes social equity in Adaptation policies and strategies, ensuring the inclusion of vulnerable populations.

Publications and references:
Quem precisa de justiça climática?

Contact: andreia@cbjc.com.br
Website: cbjc.com.br



Ali Shareef, Maldives

Special Envoy for Climate Change, The Presidents' Office, Maldives
A climate policy practitioner who integrates science into decision-making on mitigation, Adaptation to droughts, floods, and sea-level rise. Contributed to IPCC AR6 as a Lead Author, National Communications, NDCs, and other climate reports.

Publications and references:
Climate Envoy Urges to Harness Ocean Resources for Renewable Energy

Contact: ali.shareef@po.gov.mv
Website:



Avinash Persaud, Barbados

Special Advisor, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); Member, COP30 Adaptation Council
Architect of the Bridgetown Initiative, which reimagines international financial systems for climate resilience. He has served on high-level expert groups for climate finance under the COP26, COP27, and COP28 presidencies.

Publications and references:
Breaking the deadlock on climate-The Bridgetown initiative

Contact: avinashp@iadb.org
Website: Bridgetown Initiative

VOICES: WHO TO LISTEN TO



Carlos Lopes, Guinea-Bissau

Former UN Under-Secretary-General; Climate Envoy for COP30 to Africa
Professor at the University of Cape Town and one of Africa's leading voices on Adaptation, resilience, and structural transformation.

Publications and references:

Project Syndicate: Strengthening Africa's Climate Resiliency

Contact: carlos.lopes@uct.ac.za

Website: africacheetah.run



Diosmar Filho, Brazil

Geographer, Senior Researcher at the Iyaleta Research Association
Specialist in studies on urban territorial planning. He coordinates research to develop strategies for implementing Climate Adaptation that eliminate social inequalities in the urban context of the Legal Amazon and the Northeast Region, while promoting scientific advancement for climate governance in Brazilian municipalities.

Publications and references:

Adaptação climática: uma intersecção Brasil 2030

Contact: diosmarfilho@iyaleta.org

Website: iyaleta.org



Friederike Otto, Germany/United Kingdom

Professor of Climate Science, Imperial College London
Renowned expert in extreme event attribution and vulnerability. Leads the World Weather Attribution initiative and serves at the Grantham Institute.

Publications and references:

Angry Weather: Heat Waves, Floods and the Climate Science of Extreme Events

Contact: f.otto@imperial.ac.uk • Media contact: wwamedia@imperial.ac.uk

Website: imperial.ac.uk/grantham



Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Chad

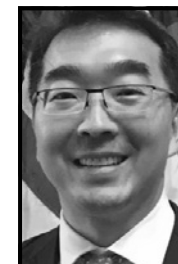
President, Association of Peul Women and Indigenous Peoples of Chad; Member, UN Secretary-General's Climate Advisory Group
Globally recognized advocate for Indigenous knowledge as a foundation for Adaptation and resilience.

Publications and references:

Discurso na Cúpula Global sobre Crescimento Inclusivo (2023)

Contact: hindou.o.ibrahim@gmail.com

Website: hindouibrahim.com



Jay Koh, United States

Co-founder and Managing Director, The Lightsmith Group
Leader of the world's first global investment fund dedicated to climate Adaptation. Develops markets and metrics to make Adaptation a measurable financial asset.

Publications and references:

The Lightsmith Group's Adaptation Investment Strategy

Contact: info@lightsmithgp.com

Website: lightsmithgp.com



Jorge Gastelumendi, Peru

Senior Director, Atlantic Council's Adrienne Arsht-Rockefeller Center for Resilience
Works to strengthen community resilience, promote Adaptation to extreme heat, and mobilize private finance for Adaptation in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Publications and references:

An invitation to governments to mobilise private finance for adaptation and resilience

Contact: jgastelumendi@atlanticcouncil.org

Website: atlanticcouncil.org

VOICES: WHO TO LISTEN TO



José Marengo, Brazil

Chief Scientist, CEMADEN; Member, COP30 Adaptation Council

Expert in climate modeling and vulnerability analysis. Contributing author to the IPCC since Second Assessment Report (1998). Participated in public policy formulation in Brazil, assisting with national Adaptation plans and Adaptation communications on Brazil's impacts under the UNFCCC.

Publications and references:

Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change in Brazil's Semiarid Region

Contact: jose.marengo@cemaden.gov.br

Website:



Lina Yassin, Sudan

Climate Policy Researcher, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Supports the UNFCCC Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group in Adaptation negotiations. Expert in Adaptation diplomacy and continuity planning.

Publications and references:

Reframing Transformational Adaptation in the UNFCCC

Contact: lina.yassin@iied.org

Website: iied.org



Markus Repnik, Austria

Director, Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)

Leads efforts to ensure that all countries have operational meteorological and climate observation systems by 2030.

Publications and references:

SOFF Action Report 2024

Contact: soffsecretariat@wmo.int

Website: un-soff.org



Maria del Pilar Bueno Rubial, Argentina

Executive Director, Fundación Argentina 1.5; Advisor, Grupo SUR

Former Secretary for Climate Change of Argentina and Subsecretary for Climate Change in Rosario. Negotiator on Adaptation under the UNFCCC and expert on GGA indicators and Adaptation finance.

Publications and references:

Documento Técnico CoCoA. De Bakú a Bonn: estado de situación y propuestas

Contact: pilarbuenorubial@gmail.com

Website: arglpunto5.com



Mattias Söderberg, Denmark

Global Climate Lead, DanChurchAid

Spokesperson on climate change for DanChurchAid, where the political and public engagement is built on experiences from climate projects on the ground in Africa, Middle East and Asia.

Publications and references:

Climate Publications - DanChurchAid

Contact: msd@dca.dk • WhatsApp/Signal +45 2970 0609

Website: Climate Action - DanChurchAid



Michael Otoara Ha'apio, Salomon Island

Commonwealth National Climate Finance Adviser for Solomon Islands Government

Expert in Adaptation finance with over 20 years of experience in small island states, including community Adaptation planning, private sector engagement, and national investment strategies.

Publications and references:

Climate Change Adaptation on Small Island States: An Assessment of Limits

Contact: mhaapio@gmail.com

Website:

VOICES: WHO TO LISTEN TO



Mikko Ollikainen, Finland

Head, Adaptation Fund (AF)

Oversees more than 200 Adaptation projects in over 100 countries. Specializes in Adaptation finance in developing nations and scaling locally led action.

Publications and references:

Scaling up climate adaptation: lessons from the Adaptation Fund

Contact: mollikainen@adaptation-fund.org

Website: adaptation-fund.org



Natalie Unterstell, Brazil

President, Instituto Talanoa; Member, COP30 Adaptation Council

With a background in public policy and international climate negotiations, she promotes collaboration across government, business, and civil society to advance transformative Adaptation. As President of Instituto Talanoa, she coordinates research, recommendations, and advocacy for climate resilience.

Publications and references:

Climate Adaptation Is Collective and Must Become The New Normal

Contact: natalie@institutotalanoa.org

Website: institutotalanoa.org



Richard Klein, Germany

Senior Researcher at the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

A veteran in Adaptation science and policy, Richard has devoted his career to exploring the role of Adaptation in global agreements and institutional challenges, coordinating research to integrate Adaptation into international policies and socioeconomic systems.

Publications and references:

European Climate Risk Assessment

Contact: richard.klein@sei.org

Website: sei.org



Rumaitha Al Busaidi, Oman

Marine Scientist, Vice-President of the Environment Society of Oman

A marine scientist who has worked on coastal Adaptation projects, saltwater intrusion in agricultural systems, and the development of integrated aquaculture systems in Oman. She is also an advocate for women's rights.

Publications and references:

TED Talk Women and girls, you are part of the climate solution

Contact: rumaitha.albusaidi@gmail.com

Website: rumaithaalbusaidi.com



Sara Jane Ahmed, Phillippines/Bangladesh

Director of the Financial Futures Center, Financial Advisor to the V20

(Vulnerable Twenty Group) for the Climate Vulnerable Forum and Finance Ministers, and Member of the COP30 Adaptation Council

A climate finance specialist for vulnerable countries, she contributes to strengthening adaptive capacity, mobilizing financial resources, and driving economic resilience policies.

Publications and references:

Climate finance key to economic resiliency

Contact: sahmed@ieefa.org

Website: financialfutures.ngo/about-us



Shameran Bahar Abed, Bangladesh

Executive Director of BRAC International

Leads BRAC, one of the world's largest development organizations.

He coordinates community-led local Adaptation programs focused on resilient agriculture and green microfinance.

Publications and references:

BRAC Good Practices on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

Contact: info@bracinternational.org

Website: bracinternational.org

VOICES: WHO TO LISTEN TO



Sineia Wapichana, Brazil

Coordinator of the Indigenous Climate Change Committee, Special Envoy for COP30, and Co-President of the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change (Caucus)

An Indigenous leader pioneering the articulation between traditional knowledge and science for Adaptation. She leads efforts to bring Indigenous voices into global climate negotiations.

Publications and references:

Indigenous Adaptation Plans in Roraima

Contact: sineiadovale_39@hotmail.com

Website:



Stephane Hallegatte, France

Chief Climate Economist at the World Bank

An experienced researcher on resilient low-emission development economics, integrating climate change into macroeconomic models and poverty assessments. A lead author of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report. Coordinates the Country Climate and Development Report, the new World Bank Group diagnostic.

Publications and references:

Lifelines: The Resilient Infrastructure Opportunity

Contact: shallegatte@worldbank.org

Website: worldbank.org



Timo Leiter, Germany/united Kingdom

Distinguished Policy Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science

One of the leading experts in monitoring and evaluation of Adaptation and a key reference behind the development of indicators for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). One of the coordinating lead authors of the technical guidelines for assessing Adaptation under the IPCC AR7, he has served as a lead author of UNEP's Adaptation Gap Report since 2017.

Publications and references:

Global progress on adaptation implementation

Contact: t.l.leiter@lse.ac.uk

Website: lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute



Victoria Herrmann, United States

Senior Fellow and Leadership Group Member at The Arctic Institute

Leads research on community Adaptation, resilient development, and geopolitics in the Arctic. As a National Geographic Explorer, she studies climate-induced displacement and cultural heritage preservation.

Publications and references:

Holding Hope and Grieving Loss in the New Normal of Arctic Climate Change

Contact: victoria.herrmann@thearcticinstitute.org

Website: thearcticinstitute.org



Virgilio Viana, Brazil

General Director, Foundation for Amazon Sustainability (FAS)

Forest engineer with a PhD from Harvard, former Secretary of Environment of Amazonas and member of the Adaptation Council for COP30. He leads projects on climate Adaptation with traditional peoples and communities and forest conservation in the Amazon.

Publications and references:

Amazônia Negra: Climate Adaptation as Historical Reparation

Contact: virgilio.viana@fas-amazonas.org

Website: fas-amazonia.org



Xiaoming Wang, Australia/China

Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Monash University; Former Senior Principal Scientist at the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)

Lead research on climate change impact and Adaptation, risk management, planning and public policies to address climate extremes in cities, coasts and high mountains.

Publications and references:

Resilience and Adaptation in Buildings

Contact: xiaoming.wang@monash.edu

Website: raseconsulting.com

WHO SHAPES CLIMATE ADAPTATION



BRAC International

One of the largest development organizations in the world, BRAC International operates across Asia and Africa, with a growing focus on climate Adaptation solutions. Its programs promote climate-resilient agriculture, food security, risk management, and community capacity building

CLIMATE
RESILIENCE
FOR ALL

Climate Resilience for All (CRA)

A women-led NGO dedicated to strengthening and supporting women and vulnerable communities facing extreme heat

Fundación Avina

A Latin American foundation that works through partnerships with social leaders, businesses, traditional communities, and governments. In the field of climate Adaptation, Fundación Avina develops projects in vulnerable regions, promoting climate risk assessments, diversified agroforestry systems, and strategies for increasing food security and resilience among traditional, quilombola, and smallholder farming communities



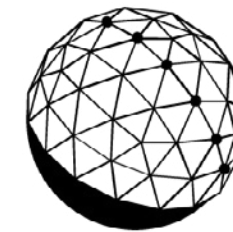
Adaptation as a Priority Task Force for COP30

A Latin American initiative dedicated to advancing Adaptation in climate negotiations. The Task Force conducts research and produces strategic recommendations for government delegations in the run-up to COP30. It is a collaboration between Instituto Talanoa and the Climate Action Network Latin America (CANLA), bringing together more than 40 organizations from across the region



Global Center on Adaptation (GCA)

An international organization working to accelerate climate change adaptation actions



GLOBAL
CENTER ON
ADAPTATION



Group on Climate Finance for Latin America and the Caribbean (GFLAC)

Civil society and academic organization that works to strengthen transparency and accountability in climate finance, promoting evidence-based approaches to improve policies and practices in Latin America and the Caribbean

E3G

International think tank that drives the transition toward a low-carbon, climate-resilient world. It integrates risk management, resilience, and climate justice into public policies and investments, working with governments, development banks, and multilateral organizations to strengthen responses to climate impacts



Humanity Insured

A newly established independent organization supported by the insurance sector. Its mission is to provide accessible and affordable insurance solutions for people living on the frontlines of the climate crisis

International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Policy research organization that works to generate evidence and build capacity to drive changes in policies and practices





International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

The IISD develops strategies, tools, and policy advice for sustainable development

and climate resilience. It serves as the secretariat of the Global Network on National Adaptation Plans (NAP Global Network) and leads the Nature for Climate Adaptation Initiative, which promotes nature-based solutions to strengthen Adaptation worldwide

Laboratório da Cidade

Think and Do tank focused on reimagining cities to be more sustainable, democratic, and resilient, with an emphasis on building resilience in the Urban Amazon region



Start Network

Network of more than 100 humanitarian agencies working together to revolutionize the existing global humanitarian system, providing early and effective support to people on the frontlines of crises, with rapid responses before and during disasters

PowerShift Africa

An African think tank that provides policy analysis and solutions from an African perspective, with the goal of mobilizing climate action on the continent. PowerShift Africa amplifies African voices through media and public communication, ensuring that African priorities and innovations shape global climate policy



POWER SHIFT
A F R I C A



WRI

World Resources Institute (WRI)

Global research organization working on environment and sustainable development. It provides data, analysis, and recommendations to help inform sustainable policies and practices worldwide

USEFUL MATERIALS

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION PUBLICATIONS

- [Climate Adaptation as a Priority for Latin America and the Caribbean](#)
- [Extreme Drought Bulletin in Indigenous Lands of the Brazilian Amazon](#)
- [Monthly adaptation Bulletins: Subscribe, Adaptation Task Force](#)
- [UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience: Argentina 1.5°](#)
- [Climate Adaptation Indicators, Talanoa](#)
- [KitClima: Tool for Municipal Adaptation, IDS](#)
- [Adaptation as a Priority at COP30, Adaptation Task Force](#)
- [Six ways to scale private finance for climate adaptation](#)

DATA SOURCES AND REFERENCE COVERAGE

- [Adapt Unbound](#)
- [World Bank: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Guide](#)
- [CCNow Extreme Weather Reporting: Extreme Weather](#)
- [Climate Central's Climate Shift Index: Climate Shift Index](#)
- [Constructive Institute: Climate Explorer Project](#)
- [MindWorksLab: Community Adaptation Hub](#)
- [Nairobi Work Programme: UNFCCC Adaption Knowledge Portal](#)
- [SciLine's Extreme Weather: Wildfires and climate change](#)
- [South Climate Database](#)
- [World Weather Attribution: Real-time Assessments](#)

GLOBAL NETWORKS

- [Climate Action Network \(CAN\): Climate Action Network](#)
- [Global Commission on Adaptation: About the Commission](#)
- [Global Resilience Partnership: Official website](#)
- [National Global Network: Global Stocktake and NAP Processes](#)
- [weADAPT: Global Collaborative Platform](#)

MAJOR ADAPTATION FINANCE FUNDS

- [Adaptation Fund \(AF\)](#)
- [Green Climate Fund \(GCF\)](#)
- [Fundo Clima](#)
- [Global Environment Facility \(GEF\)](#)

GLOBAL ADAPTATION-FOCUSED EVENTS

- [Adaptation Research Network: CBA19](#)
- [NAP Expo: NAP Expo 2025 | UNFCCC](#)

HOW TO COVER ADAPTATION AT COP30



Adaptation will be present across all fronts of COP30: in leaders' summit speeches, negotiation rooms, the action agenda, global mobilization efforts, and announcements of new financing commitments. Media coverage should capture these multiple layers.

LEADERS' SUMMIT

The Leaders' Summit is expected to bring new financial commitments, thematic coalitions, and intergovernmental initiatives in areas such as food security, early-warning systems, and green infrastructure. Brazil aims to position Belém as the COP that turns discourse into direction, setting the tone for negotiations to follow.

When: November 5–7, prior to the official opening of COP30

Journalist's focus: Which leaders will include Adaptation in their speeches? Which countries with commitments expiring in 2025–2026 will announce new pledges or funding packages?

NEGOTIATIONS

Three key issues will define the negotiation agenda:

- **GGA indicators:** The adoption of up to 100 global indicators to measure collective progress on Adaptation, including finance, technology, and capacity building.
- **Successor to the Glasgow Pledge:** Negotiations on what will replace the commitment made at COP26 to double Adaptation finance by 2025 — potentially a new collective target such as “tripling by 2030.”
- **NAPs:** The review of National Adaptation Plans and updated technical guidelines to help countries implement them effectively.

When: Throughout the two weeks of COP30

Journalist's focus: Will Parties reach consensus on indicators and a new financial commitment? Will finance again become the central sticking point?





GLOBAL MOBILIZATION

Action beyond the negotiation rooms will be crucial to sustain political momentum. The Early Warnings for All initiative, supported by the UN Secretary-General and the COP30 Presidency, has become a symbol of anticipatory action. Other campaigns – such as Beat the Heat – are expected to gain traction with scalable, practical solutions.

When: Throughout COP30, with highlights on November 10–11, dedicated to Adaptation and resilience

Journalist's focus: Which initiatives bridge global action with local impact? Which countries, cities, or companies are showing concrete results?

ACTION AGENDA

The Action Agenda will highlight how subnational governments, financial institutions, and businesses can integrate resilience into existing investment portfolios – in sectors such as infrastructure, health, energy, and agriculture – while avoiding maladaptation (projects that inadvertently increase vulnerability). There is also anticipation of new thematic funds, blended finance instruments, and resilience standards for large-scale public works.

When: During the two weeks of COP30, especially November 10–11, the official Adaptation and resilience days

Journalist's focus: How does COP30 encourage mayors, business leaders, and banks to act? Are there concrete monitoring mechanisms to ensure accountability?

ADAPTATION IS NOT OPTIONAL

COP30 will be the decisive test of climate credibility: governments must protect people and ecosystems from the impacts already being felt. Positive signs:

● Adaptation as a priority

The COP30 Presidency has already prioritized Adaptation as a central theme, breaking with decades of invisibility. A Special Adaptation Council for COP30 was created, featuring figures such as former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark and former Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, to raise the profile of the issue and ensure that outcomes are concrete and visible, including at the Leaders' Summit

● Relevant decisions

For the first time, the Adaptation agenda reaches a COP with several decision items – a sign of the urgency brought by already-felt impacts

Main agenda items

● GGA indicators (the “Adaptation scoreboard”)

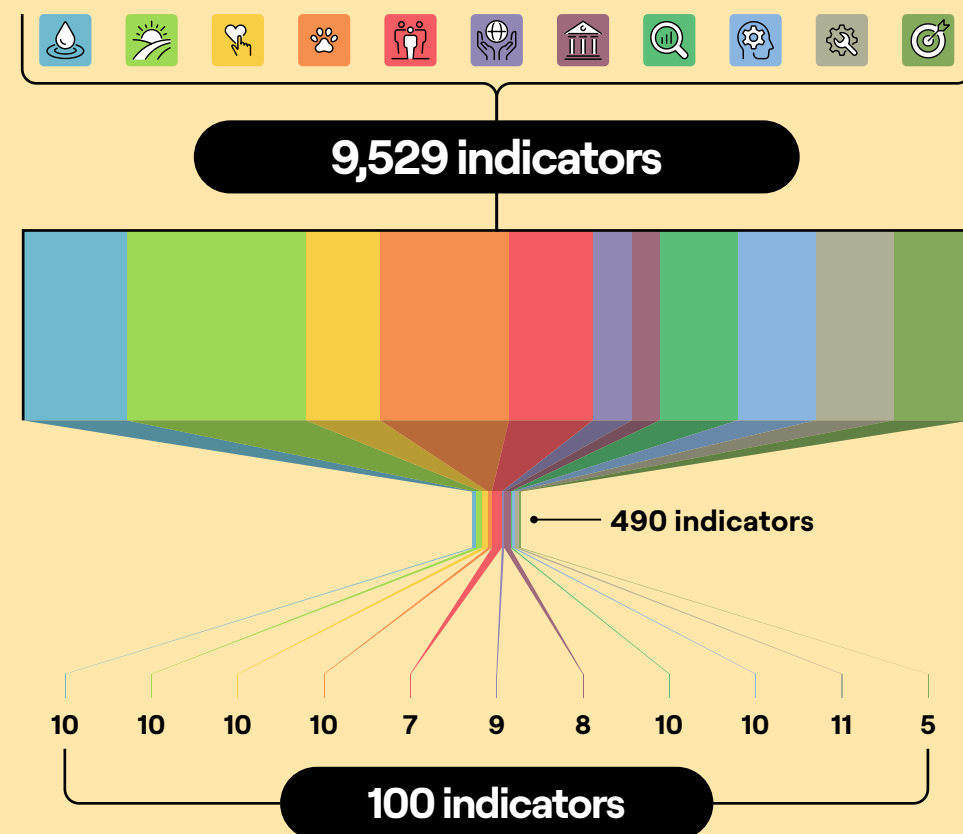
When the Paris Agreement was signed in 2015, it recognized that tackling the climate crisis required more than cutting emissions. It also meant strengthening adaptive capacity – that is, protecting lives, ecosystems, and economies from ongoing impacts. Thus, alongside mitigation and means of implementation, Adaptation became one of the central pillars of the Agreement, with a global vision: ensuring that all countries, especially the most vulnerable, can react and prepare for a hotter world.

The Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) is the mechanism created by the Paris Agreement to drive collective progress on Adaptation – in other words, to make the world more prepared and less vulnerable. At COP27, the GGA received a framework with seven broad resilience targets. But until now, climate diplomacy has measured success in tons of carbon avoided, not in lives protected or systems strengthened. It was designed to manage emissions, not impacts.

It is expected that COP30 in Belém can correct this imbalance through the adoption of a set of 100 indicators within the GGA and its seven thematic targets.

This will mark a new level: from then on, the effectiveness of climate policies can be measured not only by how much they reduce emissions, but also by how much they protect lives.

Since Dubai (COP28), countries have been advancing in defining up to 100 global indicators – flexible enough to reflect different contexts but clear enough to allow for aggregated assessment. In Belém, Parties are expected to reach consensus on the GGA indicator set.



Key points

Up to 100 global indicators, with a “flexible menu” for national contexts

Should measure real security

less exposure to risks,
functioning services, more resilient
communities

Financing included in the package

access to and quality of
Adaptation finance, technology,
and local capacity

● Financing (the “fuel”)

Outro assunto inadiável, ainda que não tenha um item formal de Another urgent topic – though not a formal agenda item – is Adaptation finance. The call made in Glasgow (COP26) to at least double Adaptation finance by 2025 ends now, with no clarity about what comes next.

Developing countries advocate for a successor commitment – a new collective political signal to keep ambition alive. Developed countries, however, face a sensitive moment: fourteen multi-year public finance commitments – including from Canada, Germany, France, Japan, the UK, and Australia – will expire between 2025 and 2026.

With the United States stepping back from its Glasgow pledges, only thirteen potential active donors remain. As of October 2025, only Denmark had confirmed a new budget with a specific Adaptation target. The others remain silent – and this is what Belém needs to unlock.

The end of the Glasgow commitment creates a predictability gap that threatens trust among countries and the priority of Adaptation within the new Global Climate Finance Goal (NCQG) agreed in Baku. The discussion now is: what will succeed that commitment?

■ The Least Developed Countries Group (LDCs) proposed tripling Adaptation finance by 2030.

■ The G77 has not yet officially endorsed that proposal.

■ The African Group (AGN) signals that it doesn’t want to set a fixed number, to avoid it being seen as a “ceiling” instead of a “floor.”

■ So far, no developed country has presented its own proposal to replace the Glasgow commitment.

■ In Bonn, there was growing recognition that doubling Adaptation finance by 2025 will not be enough – there is pressure for something more ambitious, such as tripling.

■ Most Adaptation finance comes from international public institutions. The *OECD* projected an annual drop of 9–17% in official development assistance in 2025, in addition to a 9% reduction in 2024, according to a June statement. Assistance is expected to return to 2020 levels only by 2027.

■ The *NRDC* mapped the possible options for this outcome at the COP.

What to watch: Which countries will confirm or renew climate budgets before Belém; which will include specific Adaptation funding targets; whether the Baku–Belém Roadmap will explicitly address the issue; and whether COP30 will approve a new collective signal – such as “tripling by 2030” – to keep Adaptation at the center of the global financial agenda.

● **National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)**

NAPs are countries’ main tool to plan and implement medium- and long-term Adaptation measures – something like national “climate master plans.”

They won’t be the most politicized topic at the conference (though no consensus was reached on them at the last COP), but they are the operational arm of the Adaptation agenda.

So far, around 70 countries have submitted their NAPs to the UNFCCC, but less than half are actually implementing actions at scale. At the Bonn meetings (SB62), negotiations resumed on the so-called “NAP assessment,” a collective review to assess how far countries have progressed in formulating and implementing their NAPs.

This assessment was supposed to conclude at COP29 but failed to reach consensus. Now, the goal is a robust outcome in Belém – one that recognizes efforts made, identifies gaps, and helps guide further support.

There are also discussions on updating technical guidelines for formulating and implementing NAPs, with additional consultations among Parties. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) agreed to continue the analysis of NAPs at SBI 63 in Belém, based on the SB62 draft text, so that a draft decision can be recommended for adoption at COP30.

What to watch: Whether there will be technical and capacity-building support commitments for countries that have not yet finalized their plans, especially the most vulnerable (LDCs and SIDS). Simplified guidelines could lower participation barriers, particularly for smaller or less-resourced countries. If a decision text on NAPs emerges from COP30, it could guide future support from multilateral and bilateral institutions.

EMERGING THEMES TO MONITOR

● **Adaptation + mitigation**

Not “either/or.” Power grids, water, health, and cities all need Adaptation for the transition to work.

● **Data and monitoring**

without stations, alerts, and historical series (e.g., initiatives like Early Warning Systems for All), promises become assumptions.

● **Invisible impacts**

mental health, internal migration, children missing school due to heat/smoke/flooding – a hot and undercovered topic.

● **Geopolitics**

Adaptation enters the national security lexicon; finance becomes a diplomatic currency

WHAT TO WATCH (DIRECT QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEWS)



Which countries will announce new financial commitments?



Are there specific Adaptation targets or only general promises?



Will “tripling by 2030” gain enough political support to be adopted as a COP decision?



Will the Baku–Belém Roadmap bring Adaptation as an explicit axis?



Is Brazil coordinating the issue with donor countries and Global South groups?



How will funding reach cities and vulnerable communities?



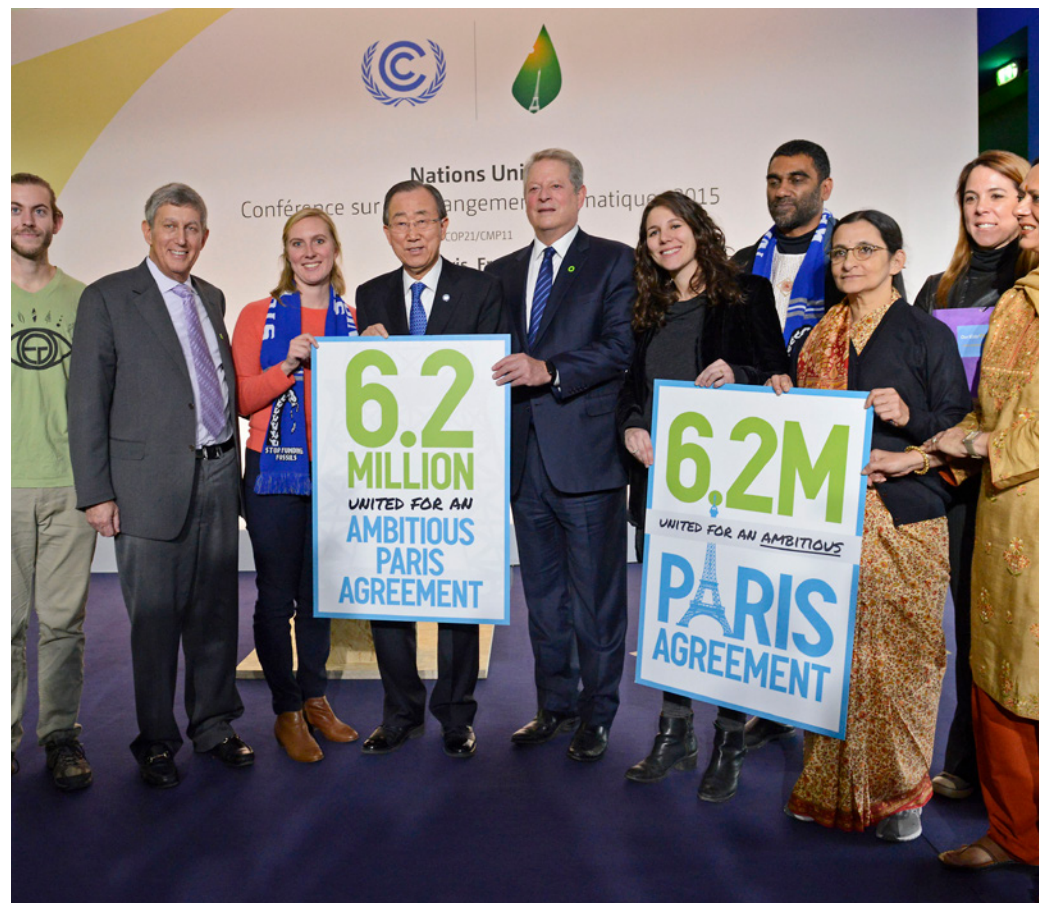
Will there be a decision on updated NAP guidelines?



How will the COP30 Presidency keep Adaptation a political priority after Belém?

How to cover the GGA at COP30

Adaptation will be one of the most visible themes in Belém, and the Global Goal on Adaptation will be its centerpiece. Journalists covering the negotiations should focus on how the world defines and measures resilience for the first time. Unlike other workstreams, the GGA offers a concrete storyline: a long technical process coming to a political conclusion.



WHY IT'S A STORY

Eight years after the Paris Agreement, the world is about to decide how to measure protection, not just pollution. The GGA is the test of whether climate diplomacy can move from counting carbon to counting lives. If countries succeed in Belém, the COP30 legacy will be a new global scoreboard for resilience, one that finally shows whether promises to protect the most vulnerable are working.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- **The adoption of the indicators**
Are countries able to approve the full set of 100 indicators?
Which indicators remain disputed, especially those related to finance and technology?
Are there attempts to dilute the list by keeping key metrics optional?
- **The link to Adaptation finance**
Do countries agree to connect the GGA to the new global finance goal?
Does the final decision reflect a collective target, such as tripling Adaptation finance by 2030?
- **Implementation and accountability**
Is there a clear process for national reporting and global aggregation?
Are there timelines for reviewing and improving the indicators?
- **Voices to follow**
Countries leading on Adaptation, including LDCs, SIDS, Grupo Sur and the African Group of Negotiators.
The COP30 Presidency, which has positioned Adaptation as a defining legacy of Belém.
UN agencies and data organizations that will support indicator measurement and reporting.

STORY ANGLES AND FRAMING

- **A new scoreboard for resilience**
This is the first time countries will measure Adaptation systematically, shifting from project success stories to global accountability.
- **The politics of metrics**
Agreement on how to count Adaptation finance could redefine trust between developed and developing nations.
- **Data and justice**
Who gets measured and who gets left behind will reveal how inclusive the global Adaptation effort really is.
- **From technical to political**
The GGA's final negotiation will test whether countries can turn scientific consensus into collective action.



IN SHORT

- **Purpose**
Make Adaptation measurable under the Paris Agreement
- **Timeline**
Technical phase (2023–2025) under the UAE–Belém Work Programme
- **Scope**
11 global targets, 100 indicators
- **Core issues**
Indicators on finance, data comparability, national reporting
- **Next step**
Adoption at COP30 and rollout through the Baku–Belém Roadmap

How to cover Adaptation finance at COP 30

Although not a formal agenda item, Adaptation finance remains an unavoidable topic. The Glasgow commitment made at COP26 – to double Adaptation finance by 2025 – will expire at COP30, with no clear successor yet.

Developing countries are calling for a new collective political goal to sustain ambition, while developed countries face domestic fiscal constraints. Fourteen major multi-year commitments – including those from Canada, Germany, France, Japan, the United Kingdom, and Australia – will expire between 2025 and 2026.

Following the United States’ withdrawal from its Glasgow pledges, only thirteen potential donor countries remain active. By October 2025, Denmark was the only one to confirm a new budget with a specific target for Adaptation; the others remain silent.

Belém is expected to break this impasse. The end of the Glasgow pledge creates a dangerous vacuum in predictability – undermining trust between developed and developing countries and threatening to push Adaptation off the global finance agenda, even with the new New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) agreed in Baku.

PROPOSALS UNDER DISCUSSION INCLUDE

- The Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group advocating a tripling of Adaptation finance by 2030
- The G77 has not yet adopted an official position
- The African Group (AGN) prefers not to set a fixed number, to avoid having it interpreted as a ceiling instead of a floor
- So far, no developed country has presented its own proposal

At the Bonn intersessional meetings, a growing consensus emerged that doubling by 2025 is insufficient and that a more ambitious collective goal is needed – likely the tripling by 2030 framework.

Meanwhile, the OECD projects a temporary 9–17% annual decline in official development assistance (ODA) through 2025, with levels not expected to return to 2020 benchmarks before 2027 – what deepens the shortfall in Adaptation finance.

JOURNALIST'S FOCUS

- ✓ Which countries confirm or renew climate budgets ahead of COP30?

- ✓ Which include specific Adaptation targets?

- ✓ Will the Baku–Belém Roadmap explicitly prioritize Adaptation?

- ✓ Will COP30 adopt a new collective target – such as *“tripling by 2030”* – to keep Adaptation at the core of global climate finance?

How to cover National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) at COP 30

NAPs are the primary instrument through which countries plan and implement medium – and long-term Adaptation measures – they are, essentially, national climate master plans

While less politicized than finance or the GGA, they are the operational arm of the Adaptation agenda.

As of mid-2025, around 70 countries have submitted NAPs to the UNFCCC, but fewer than half are implementing them at scale.

During the Bonn meetings (SB62), negotiations on the NAP Assessment were resumed. The Assessment is a collective review of the progress in formulating and implementing NAPs.

Originally planned for adoption at COP29, the review was postponed due to lack of consensus.

At COP30, negotiators aim for a robust outcome that both recognizes progress and identifies support gaps – thus guiding future assistance.

Parties are also discussing updates to the technical guidelines for preparing and implementing NAPs, to make them more practical and accessible.



Hello, I’m Noa, the collective AI created by Instituto Talanoa. I’m here to help you better understand Brazil’s climate policies. To answer your questions, I draw on documents and materials produced by Talanoa’s projects – such as Política por Inteiro and its monitoring tools. You can find me at

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