

National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)



Background

At their core, NAPs are intended to “facilitate country-owned, country-driven action.” They outline adaptation efforts that help reduce the vulnerability of nations to climate change, as well as strategies to implement these efforts. Ultimately, NAPs’ objectives are to reduce vulnerability, build capacity, and promote the mainstreaming of adaptation practices.

COP29 Outcomes

The *Thirty Years of Adaptation* report reflects on past challenges and milestones and was published by the Adaptation Committee on 18 November. Additionally, a new interactive portal on the State of Adaptation Action by Parties was set up for public use. According to Member States, NAP submission has stagnated over the past year, reportedly due to financial and technical obstacles. However, with more accurate monitoring and evaluation tools, as well as clear indicators, NAPs could become more “investable” for a wider range of financing sources (PPPs, carbon markets, payment for ecosystem services).

Party Positions

	NAP Guidelines (what should be included within NAPs)	Funding Diversification (who should provide finance)	NAP Submissions (the current state of NAP submission)
Canada	Include Indigenous voices and coordinate across multiple levels of government	No position stated	Support NAP implementation at a regional level
LDCs Least Developed Countries	More support required for LDCs in preparing NAPs	NAPs need to leverage a wider range of financing sources	Financial and technical challenges must be addressed to enable LDC NAP submissions
Japan	Include region-specific adaptation components in every relevant policy	Greater involvement of the private sector in NAP implementation	No position stated
FINAL OUTCOME	The Baku NAP Workplan emphasizes Indigenous knowledge systems, and new guidelines are in development	No final decision at COP29, but increased funding could improve support for LDCs.	NAPs’ progress will continue to be assessed and will be further discussed in June 2025.

The Road Ahead

By COP30, the UAE–Belém Work Programme will have developed indicators measuring progress towards the Global Goal on Adaptation. The NCGQ could help unlock funding mechanisms for NAPs, and thereby help improve financial support for their submission and implementation. New guidelines on NAPs are expected in years to come. The second Global Stocktake, in 2028, will provide the next comprehensive progress assessment of NAPs.

Sources:

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/AC_2024_30YearsOfAdaptation.pdf

<https://unfccc.int/documents/637341>

https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/sbi2024_L08E.pdf

<https://napcentral.org/about-naps>