

The Adaptation Accelerator Hub: Unlocking Finance to Accelerate Climate Adaptation

The Challenge: Moving from Planning to Action

As global temperatures rise, the impacts of climate change, from severe droughts to devastating floods, are intensifying at an unprecedented rate. Climate adaptation is no longer an option; it is crucial to protecting vulnerable communities, safeguarding economic progress and building long-term resilience against unpredictable future shocks. However, available finance for climate adaptation remains far below what is needed, particularly in developing countries. At present, the [adaptation finance needs](#) of developing countries are estimated to be US\$310-365 billion per year by 2035, approximately 12-14 times greater than the existing flow of public adaptation finance.

Despite having identified national climate adaptation priorities through their [National Adaptation Plans \(NAPs\)](#) and [Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#), implementation of these plans is often slowed by poor coordination and integration of these plans into national development budgets and plans, and a lack of technical expertise and funding. Many developing countries are facing the urgent challenge of securing the financing needed for translating adaptation plans into on-the-ground action.



Photo: Manuth Buth/UNDP Cambodia

A Commitment to Climate Adaptation

The [Adaptation Accelerator Hub \(AAH\)](#), established during the G7 Climate, Energy and Environment ministerial meeting in 2024, helps governments transform adaptation strategies into sustained, system-level adaptation action and promoting collaboration among governments, private sector and multilateral organizations. As a flagship contribution to UNDP's Climate Promise, the AAH supports countries in translating National Adaptation Plans and climate commitments into investable adaptation priorities, helping unlock the finance needed to build long-term resilience.

Led by the Government of Italy, with the participation of G7 members and UNDP as the partner agency, the AAH supports developing countries, particularly those most vulnerable to climate change accelerate climate adaptation, helping translate national priorities into bankable, finance-ready initiatives that can drive systemic, long-term resilience, through its partnerships with G7 countries, MDBs, and the private sector. AAH is committed to closing the adaptation finance gap by empowering countries to unlock the capital needed to protect their people and economies.

A defining feature of the AAH is its focus on alignment and investment readiness. By linking national priorities with sources of finance and fostering collaboration across governments, donors and partners, the Hub helps ensure that adaptation investments are coherent, scalable and grounded in country needs. It also promotes inclusive, locally led approaches that integrate gender equality, social equity and local knowledge.

AAH Unique Value Proposition

AAH provides a pragmatic approach to tackling the complexities of climate adaptation finance. Moving beyond the traditional design of supporting individual projects, it focuses on strengthening the policy and financial ecosystem to make it conducive to implement adaptation plans. AAH is designed to complement, not duplicate, existing adaptation programs supported by bilateral, multilateral and other intergovernmental agencies, while strategically linking and augmenting the past, ongoing, and planned investments of G7 members to maximize their collective impact. By filling specific service gaps, the AAH addresses national adaptation finance needs precisely when required.

A Systemic Upstream Focus

Unlike conventional project preparation facilities, the AAH focuses on the foundation. It works with countries to address systemic constraints within public finance systems, sectoral policies, and regulatory frameworks. By improving the enabling environment, AAH ensures adaptation priorities can be successfully financed and sustained over time.

Smart Capital Allocation: Finance vs. Investment

AAH addresses the climate funding shortage with a practical approach. It strengthens national

public finance systems while simultaneously identifying realistic opportunities to attract private investment. AAH helps governments make a critical distinction between climate adaptation *finance* and adaptation *investment*. By doing so, AAH helps countries use scarce public funds more strategically for essential public goods, while simultaneously identifying and structuring viable opportunities to attract private capital.

Integrated and Country-Owned

AAH does not believe in one-size-fits-all solutions. Support is delivered through a flexible framework tailored to each country's specific context, existing capabilities, and national systems. This ensures that the assistance provided complements ongoing work and fosters long-term institutional ownership.



Photo: UNDP Maldives

How AAH Supports Partner Countries

AAH guides governments through a tailored journey to build a strong, finance-ready portfolio of adaptation actions.

- **Step 1: Building the Foundation** – Analyzing climate risks, mapping national priorities, and assessing the current finance landscape.
- **Step 2: Strategic Prioritization** – Collaboratively sequencing adaptation actions based on maximum impact and financial feasibility.

- **Step 3: Developing Financing Strategies** – Matching prioritized actions with the right mix of public, private, or blended finance.
- **Step 4: Operational Support** – Assisting with pipeline development and engaging financial partners to turn strategy into action.

AAH in Action: Country Partnerships

The AAH is currently working alongside governments and international partners to translate climate ambition into tangible resilience. So far, Ethiopia, Senegal, Mauritius, Maldives, Cambodia, and Ghana are being supported to build country-owned investment plans for adaptation through a €6 million contribution from Italy.

- **Ethiopia:** Amid macroeconomic reforms, the AAH is strengthening institutional coordination to develop a robust pipeline of bankable adaptation investments and unlock private finance.
- **Senegal:** In partnership with France, the AAH is linking national priorities to financing strategies, focusing on coastal resilience, infrastructure, and improved donor coordination.
- **Mauritius:** Supported by the United Kingdom, the AAH is helping the Ministry of Finance operationalize a national green taxonomy, develop an investment pipeline, and engage the private sector to scale climate finance.
- **Maldives:** Partnering with the European Union, the AAH is translating national adaptation priorities into costed, finance-ready investments and building a coherent country platform for adaptation finance.
- **Cambodia:** In collaboration with Japan, the AAH is strengthening the investment case for climate-informed early warning systems in agriculture, identifying new pathways for private sector engagement.

Accelerating Adaptation Together

AAH is currently supporting five countries to translate their climate adaptation ambitions into tangible action and is open to opportunities to expand its reach and provide support to more governments in building country owned investment platforms for climate adaptation.

Contact the AAH Team

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