

Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation

Background

In the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and in the Global Development Goals, countries confirmed their commitment to increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience. Societies face a multitude of risks that emanate from the changing climate, such as heat waves, drought, rising sea levels and floods. Many countries, communities and companies are beginning to redesign, adopt and implement development policies and programmes to adapt to these changes.

"Failure of dealing adequately with climate change will increase a multitude of risks such as natural disasters, social and economic disruptions and increasing political tensions. Many people are looking for good practices and guidance with regard to climate change adaptation. I am convinced the Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation can help addressing these challenges."

Sharon Dijksma, Minister of the Environment, the Netherlands

Adaptation Challenges

What is effective climate adaptation? How can we scale-up climate adaptation? Determined to help meet these challenges the Government of the Netherlands, UN Environment, the National Institute for Environmental Studies of Japan joined efforts to establish a Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation (GCECA).

"The effective engagement of all stakeholders and the management of knowledge for adaptation is vital in supporting all adaptation activities. By providing these elements and developing guidance, the Global Centre of Excellence on Climate Adaptation will accelerate climate adaptation and greatly contribute to the effective planning and implementation of national adaptation climate plans."

Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC

Mission

The GCECA **builds excellence** and convenes all stakeholders to **accelerate climate adaptation**:

- Connecting global commitments and national and local needs & actions
- Creating enabling conditions, and mainstream climate risks in strategies, policies and investment plans
- Mobilising and connecting investors and the private sector to adaptation efforts through bankable projects
- Monitoring, measuring and analysing progress on adaptation for the benefit of policymakers and stakeholders
- Disseminating knowledge on effective climate adaptation to relevant stakeholders

Activities

The GCECA will:

- Sign-post, develop, review and convene: knowledge, information, best practices, narratives, methods and tools, metrics and indicators. As a knowledge broker with a widely recognised quality standard.
- Advocate adaptation and adaptation excellence and support capacity building
- Mobilise and convene stakeholders, uniquely in the adaptation landscape with all relevant stakeholder groups: international organisations, governments (national, regional, local), businesses, knowledge institutions, NGOs and finance.
- Monitor and evaluate adaptation efforts, and facilitate through outlooks and policy advice, individually and together with other organisations

Organisation and Governance

The GCECA will be an independent organisation with a physical office in the Netherlands. The GCECA is part of a large international network working together with partner organisations. During the current preparation phase, the GCECA works with a temporary organisation staffed by 8 partner organisations (UN Environment, National Institute for Environmental Studies of Japan, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency PBL, Acclimatise, Delta Alliance, Global Environment Facility, Municipality of Rotterdam, the Government of the Netherlands) and an advisory group with over 70 member organisations.

Planning

The GCECA will be launched at COP23 in Bonn in November 2017. The GCECA welcomes end-users, donors, partners, and dialogue with initiatives and organisations to partner and complement work undertaken by others.

More information

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