

COP29 Nature and Biodiversity Day

Water for Climate Action: Integrating Water Solutions into NDCs and NAPs

21 November

Time: 09:00 – 10:30

Venue: Blue Zone, Special Event Room 2 - Mugham

Event Concept Note

Event summary

Event Description

At COP 29, the Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action will be launched by the Presidency, in collaboration with government representatives, UN entities, and other key stakeholders. This initiative, building on the momentum and action initiatives from previous COPs, aims to unite countries and relevant stakeholders around a shared platform for dialogue on water and climate to advance climate change adaptation and mitigation. The focus is on reducing climate-induced water scarcity, enhancing resilience to water-related hazards, halt and reverse water-related ecosystems' degradation, and basin-wide cooperation. This event will highlight how the UN system is supporting Parties strategies and plans to scale up and implement water-related mitigation and adaptation measures, including through National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Parties and other stakeholders will be able to engage with the speakers in a dialogue to exchange perspectives, ask questions, and explore collaborative solutions.

Organizers

COP29 Presidency together with UNECE, UNEP, and WMO

Context, objectives and outcomes

Event Rationale

Water is central to the global climate crisis, and its availability and management are increasingly threatened by climate-induced challenges such as droughts, floods, sea-level rise, shrinking water levels and water pollution. As countries work to achieve their climate goals, water must be recognized as both a vulnerable sector and a key solution in adaptation and mitigation strategies. Climate change impacts are often transboundary in nature and can benefit from climate-informed transboundary management especially in shared basins including through Integrated Water Resources Management.

The Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action addresses this critical nexus by providing a platform to enhance cooperation on water-related climate action. It focuses on actions and initiatives at the international, regional, basin-wide, and national levels in line with the Global Goal on Adaptation, including relevant water-related climate mitigation actions. The initiative seeks to elevate water as a core component in climate strategies by facilitating the integration of water-focused solutions into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

This event will serve as an opportunity to share good practices, experiences and lessons learned on water-related measures for adaptation and mitigation. Speakers will present the latest scientific evidence on the impacts of climate change on water basins and water-related ecosystems. Additionally, participants will share experiences in implementing water management approaches such as Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), Nature Based Solutions (NSB), Ecosystem Based Adaptation Solutions (EBAS), Source to Sea pollution approaches, etc. Parties and other stakeholders in the audience will be able to engage with the speakers in a dialogue to exchange perspectives, ask questions, and explore collaborative solutions. The event will launch several recent tools in this regard, such as the UN-Water analytical brief on water for climate mitigation, the mid-point reports on SDG indicators 6.5.1 and 6.5.2 and the action-oriented document on mainstreaming transboundary water cooperation into NDCs and NAPs.



By bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders, the event aims to catalyze action and accelerate the implementation of effective water management measures in support of global efforts to mitigate climate change and adapt to its effects and exemplify the type of exchanges to be featured as part of the Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action.

Objectives

- UN System, country representatives and other stakeholders share insights to strengthen Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), aiming to achieve water-related targets including those under the Global Goal on Adaptation and help the scaling up and implementation of mitigation measures.

Outcomes

Announcements:

- As part of the event, the UN Strategy on Water and Sanitation and the UN-Water Analytical Brief on Water for Climate Mitigation will be presented.

Impacts & Legacy:

- Countries have improved access to integrated water and climate data, tools, and mechanisms to assist in successfully managing water incl. in shared basins for climate adaptation and mitigation.
- Countries are supported in integrating water into the NDCs and NAPs by presenting examples and accompanying tools for adaptation and mitigation action.
- A collective platform is established ensuring COP2COP continuity for Governments, the UN system and other international organizations, regional and transboundary organizations, academia, the private sector, youth and indigenous people to work towards climate change adaptation and mitigation through sustainable water solutions.

Requirements for participation

- This event is bringing together technical speakers of the UN System, Parties and other stakeholders in support of integrating water solutions into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).