



# GLOBAL ADAPTATION NETWORK



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## INTRODUCTION

Climate change is one of the defining issues of our time. Both the physical impacts of climate change, and human vulnerability to it, affect different parts of the world in distinct, yet interlinked, ways. In conjunction with the increasing awareness about the impacts of climate change, a growing number of agencies, organizations, research institutes, and political bodies are grappling with understanding patterns of vulnerability and how to adapt.

Adaptation is a multidisciplinary undertaking, requiring collaboration from diverse actors operating in different sectors and this makes it critical to share information. While much knowledge exists for successful adaptation, it is often fragmented and not always accessible to diverse stakeholders. The mobilization and sharing of knowledge and experiences is therefore, critical for informing adaptation decision-making, planning and practice. The Global Adaptation Network (GAN) aims to address this need.

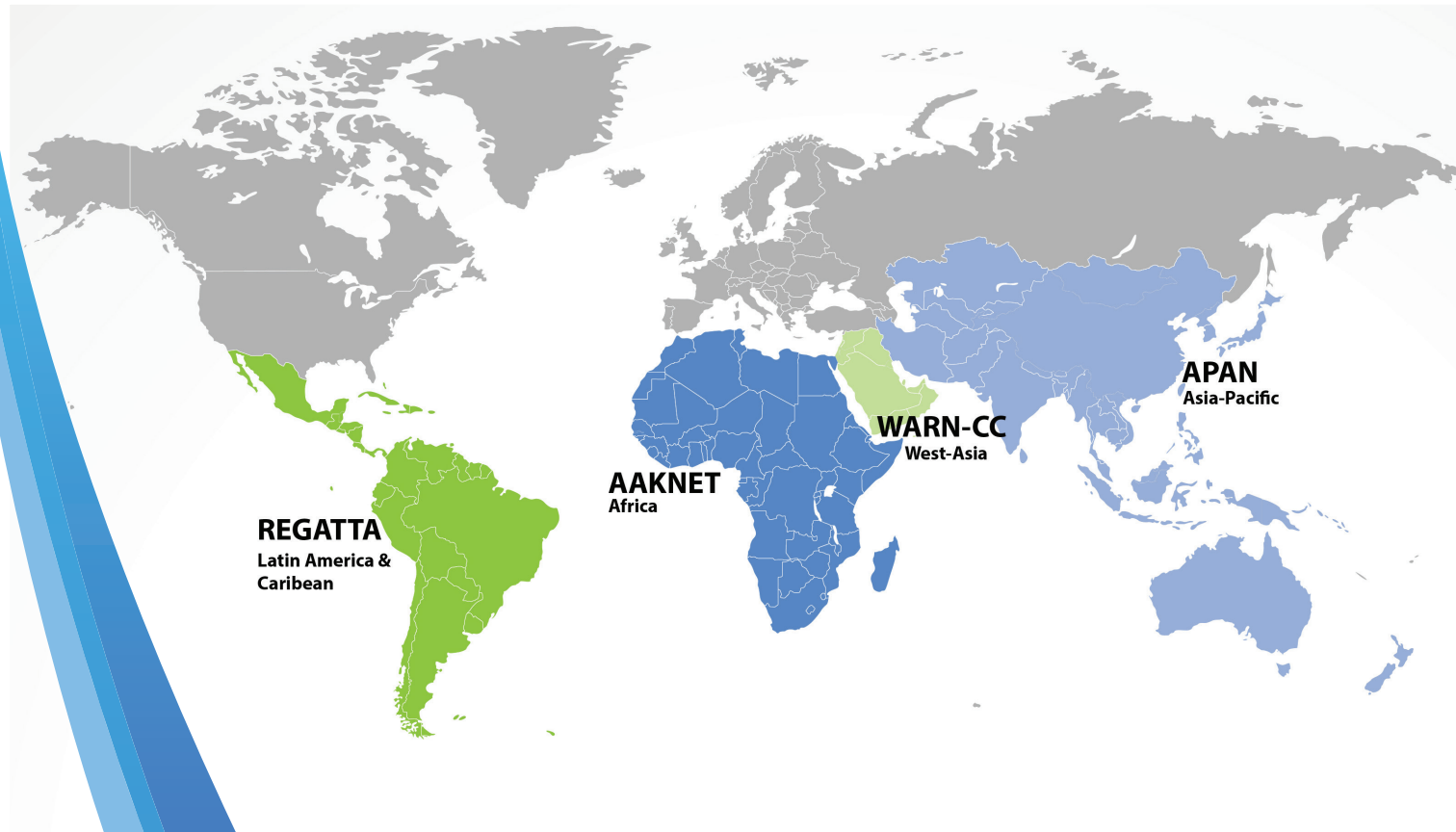




## STRUCTURE

Currently there are four regional networks linked to the GAN that are operational: the Africa Adaptation Knowledge Network (AAKNet) in Africa, the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) in the Asia-Pacific, the Regional Gateway for Technology Transfer and Climate Change Action (REGATTA) in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the West Asia Regional Network on Climate Change (WARN-CC) in West Asia.

In addition, GAN is seeking to establish linkages with organisations in North America and Europe that are already engaged in adaptation knowledge exchange, in order to increase the opportunities for cross-regional learning.





## GLOBAL ADAPTATION FUNCTIONS

GAN holds its annual global adaptation forums in different regions in conjunction with the forums of relevant regional networks. It brings together policy makers, experts and practitioners of adaptation from around the world, with an aim to facilitating exchange of knowledge intra-regionally and cross-regionally. It also aims to ensure that global processes, particularly the UNFCCC are informed of adaptation experience at regional, national and local levels

The first Forum, held in Panama City in March 2015, brought together over 100 participants from around the world. At the end of the Forum many of the participants made action pledge. The UNFCCC Adaptation Committee joined GAN to organize its Adaptation Forum during the GAN Forum.



### ADAPTATION KNOWLEDGE DAYS

The Adaptation Knowledge Days are organized annually in the margins of the UNFCCC climate change talks in Bonn. The sixth event held in 2015 discussed the formal and informal mechanisms that could deliver more effective knowledge sharing. The event was featured by contributions by a number of speakers from a wide range of countries and organizations, including from the Peruvian Presidency of Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC the Adaptation Committee of the UNFCCC, CTCN, FAO, UNDP, the UNFCCC secretariat, and IUCN.



## LIMA ADAPTATION KNOWLEDGE INITIATIVE

Adaptation knowledge gaps remain a barrier to widespread and successful adaptation actions. During COP 20 in Lima, Peru, the COP Presidency endorsed the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) under the Nairobi Work Programme. LAKI aims to identify and prioritise adaptation gaps at the sub-regional level. It then catalyses action to fill the gaps.

A pilot initiative took place in the Andean region in September 2014, followed by full scale LAKI processes in West Asia and southern Africa. Additional sub-regional activities are being implemented through 2016.

## GOING FORWARD

Building on its successes so far, GAN will have a strategic focus on two areas. First, it will support and facilitate sustained inter-regional and intra-regional knowledge exchanges. This will allow practitioners to learn from each other over time through meetings, exchange visits and shared information. In order to qualify for GAN support the communities of practitioners will need commit their own resources and undertake further knowledge dissemination at the end of the process.

Second, GAN will strengthen its role in fostering two-way exchanges between global processes and activities at the regional and national levels where actual adaptation takes place. Adaptation Knowledge Days and our Global Adaptation Forums contribute to this, as do our linkages with UNFCCC bodies, including the Adaptation Committee, the Nairobi Work Programme and the Climate Technology Centre and Network.

## REGIONAL NETWORK AND FUNCTIONS

The regional networks provide adaptation knowledge services in the regions, sub-regions and countries, working in collaboration with partners at these different levels. They help target groups to access knowledge for planning and implementing adaptation through capacity building and training events, dialogues and seminars, the development and dissemination of knowledge products such as assessments and best practice compilations, and provision of advisory support.



**REGATTA**  
Regional Gateway for Technology Transfer and Climate  
Change Action in Latin America and the Caribbean

## REGIONAL GATEWAY FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Regional Gateway for Technology Transfer and Climate Change Action for Latin America and the Caribbean (REGATTA) acts as a facilitator of climate change information exchange in the region. The platform currently engages 13 regional implementing partners and more than 4,000 users. Through eight communities of practice on mitigation and adaptation, the platform has delivered more than 100 virtual webinars and organised more than 45 regional or sub-regional workshops to build capacities on a wide range of issues related to climate change.

The platform has also become a generator of new knowledge on climate change and has delivered technical assistance on more than 30 occasions. These include vulnerability assessments undertaken in more than 15 countries that are currently serving as the baseline for the design of large-scale adaptation strategies.

REGATTA has partnered with local organizations to implement six pilot projects to demonstrate the benefits and feasibility of the Ecosystem-based Adaptation approach in Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, and Perú.

<http://www.cambioclimatico-regatta.org/index.php/en/>



## STREAMLINING ADAPTATION IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

LAC Countries have increased capacity to develop low carbon emission climate resilient development strategies. REGATTA is supporting the mainstreaming of climate change Adaptation in National Development Plans. The platform has encouraged close collaboration between knowledge centers, governments and other stakeholders in undertaking vulnerability assessments and identifying relevant adaptation strategies. This contributes to the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process in participating countries.

## COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE AND WEBINARS

REGATTA compiles information on latest developments in the international negotiations, gathers experiences on adaptation from around the region and also disseminates cutting-edge knowledge on the different dimensions of climate change. Through the Communities of Practice and webinars, REGATTA builds a stronger connection among relevant institutions and individuals in the region.



## ASIA PACIFIC ADAPTATION NETWORK (APAN)

The Asia Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN) is a regional network of practitioners responding to the growing and urgent need for climate change adaptation. Together with international organisations, development agencies and other partners across the region, APAN serves to prepare government officials and other key actors with critical knowledge to design climate change adaptation measures, to access needed finance and technologies, and to build capacity to integrate climate change adaptation into national development policies.

As a 'network of networks,' APAN functions in a collaborative way, working to disseminate climate change adaptation knowledge and to meet on the- ground demands of climate change practitioners.

APAN's mission is to help build climate change resilient and sustainable human systems, ecosystems and economies in countries across the Asia-Pacific region.

<http://www.apan-gan.net>

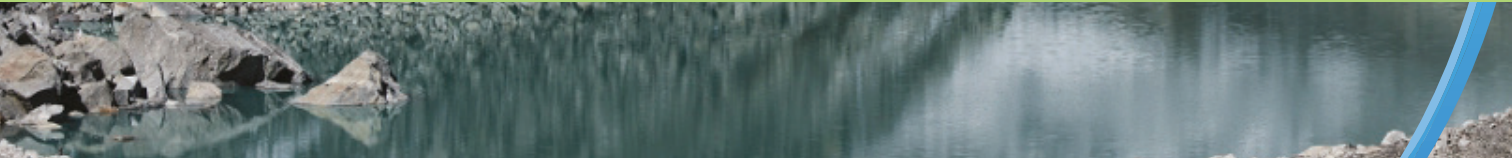




## APAN FORUM

Asia-Pacific Adaptation Forum is a biennial flagship activity of APAN that brings climate change adaptation practitioners from wide range of adaptation communities and provide a unique opportunity to share frontline findings, innovation, experiences, challenges and learning in mainstreaming adaptation into development in the region. The format includes a diverse range of plenary and keynote sessions, panel discussions, roundtables, thematic events, a market place and a film festival. It brings together adaptation practitioners and actors from global, regional, national, and sub-national levels, with over 600 participants.

Following the four successful Adaptation Forum since APAN's inception in 2009, the next Adaptation Forum is scheduled for 2016 hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka



## WEST-ASIA REGIONAL NETWORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE (WARN-CC)

Being an arid and semi-arid region, West Asia is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Water, agriculture, land, coastal areas and biodiversity are some of the most affected sectors. The West Asia Regional Network on Climate Change (WARN-CC) was established in 2010 to help build institutional and human resource capacities in the region to address the challenges of climate change. It aims to enhance capacities to integrate climate change into national development and to formulate and implement national climate change programmes, through mobilizing knowledge, technology and resources.

WARN-CC covers the areas of climate change mitigation, adaptation, technology and finance. A core network of national climate change focal points has been established, and a website and a linked expert database are under development. A study of the networking of mitigation and adaptation technology centres in the region was conducted, pointing out that the region still needs scaling up of adaptation activities and knowledge platforms to facilitate the exchange of know-how across institutions, sectors, countries and localities.

The regional network aims to expand its membership and the regional and sub-regional knowledge hubs involved in the network. The ambition of the network is that it will eventually evolve into three “Practice Groups”, focusing on adaptation, mitigation and technology topics.

<http://warncc.ganadapt.org>



## MAPPING OF CLIMATE TECHNOLOGY CENTRES IN THE ARAB REGION

In order to pave the way for and enhance the engagement of climate technology centres from the Arab Region into the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism and more specifically the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), WARN-CC has undertaken a mapping of the Climate Technology Centres in the region. The study also analysed barriers to technology transfer within the region. The study identified a total of 40 centres working on mitigation technologies, while 34 centres work on adaptation technologies. The scope and scale of work, resources and capacities of these centres vary substantially. The study recommended the establishment of leading technology hubs to enhance regional cooperation on the most important areas of technologies. The study also recommended the development of a regional framework to enhance the capacities of institutions working on climate change technologies



## AFRICA ADAPTATION KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

Africa continues to be vulnerable to climate change and the need for mechanisms to buttress the continent's policy and institutional capacity to reflect this reality in developing and upscaling solutions remains an urgent imperative. To this end, enhancing access to adaptation information at all levels is an important continental need. Africa Adaptation Knowledge Network (AAKNet) was established to respond to this need for a continental platform to harmonize, coordinate, facilitate and strengthen the exchange of information and knowledge for strategic planning & implementation on climate adaptation.

### ECOSYSTEMS BASED ADAPTATION FOR FOOD SECURITY ASSEMBLY

The latest AAKNet achievement has been the establishment of the Ecosystems Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA) facilitated by UNEP, the African Union and other partners. EBAFOSA is a pan-African cross-sectorial and inclusive policy framework and implementation platform which responds to the urgent imperative to climate proof Africa's food systems and optimizes the agro-sector by upscaling EBA-driven agriculture. It brings together key stakeholders and actors, from governments, the private sector, academia, NGOs, CSOs, and international organizations in a participatory solutions space to forge mutually benefiting partnerships.

<http://www.ebafosa.org>, <http://www.aaknet.org>





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