



# The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021

## *Extended Report*

### -Goal 13-



## Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

**Note:** The UN Statistics Division (UNSD) prepares the annual *The Sustainable Development Goals Report*, also known as the glossy report, based on storyline inputs submitted by UN international agencies in their capacity as mandated custodian agencies for the SDG indicators. However, due to space constraints, not all information received from custodian agencies is able to be included in the final glossy report. Therefore, in order to provide the general public with all information regarding the indicators, this 'Extended Report' has been prepared by UNSD. It includes all storyline contents for each indicator as provided by the custodian agencies and is unedited. For instances where the custodian agency has not submitted a storyline for an indicator, please see the custodian agency focal point information linked for further information.

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## Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Indicator 1.5.1/11.5.1/13.1.1: Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population

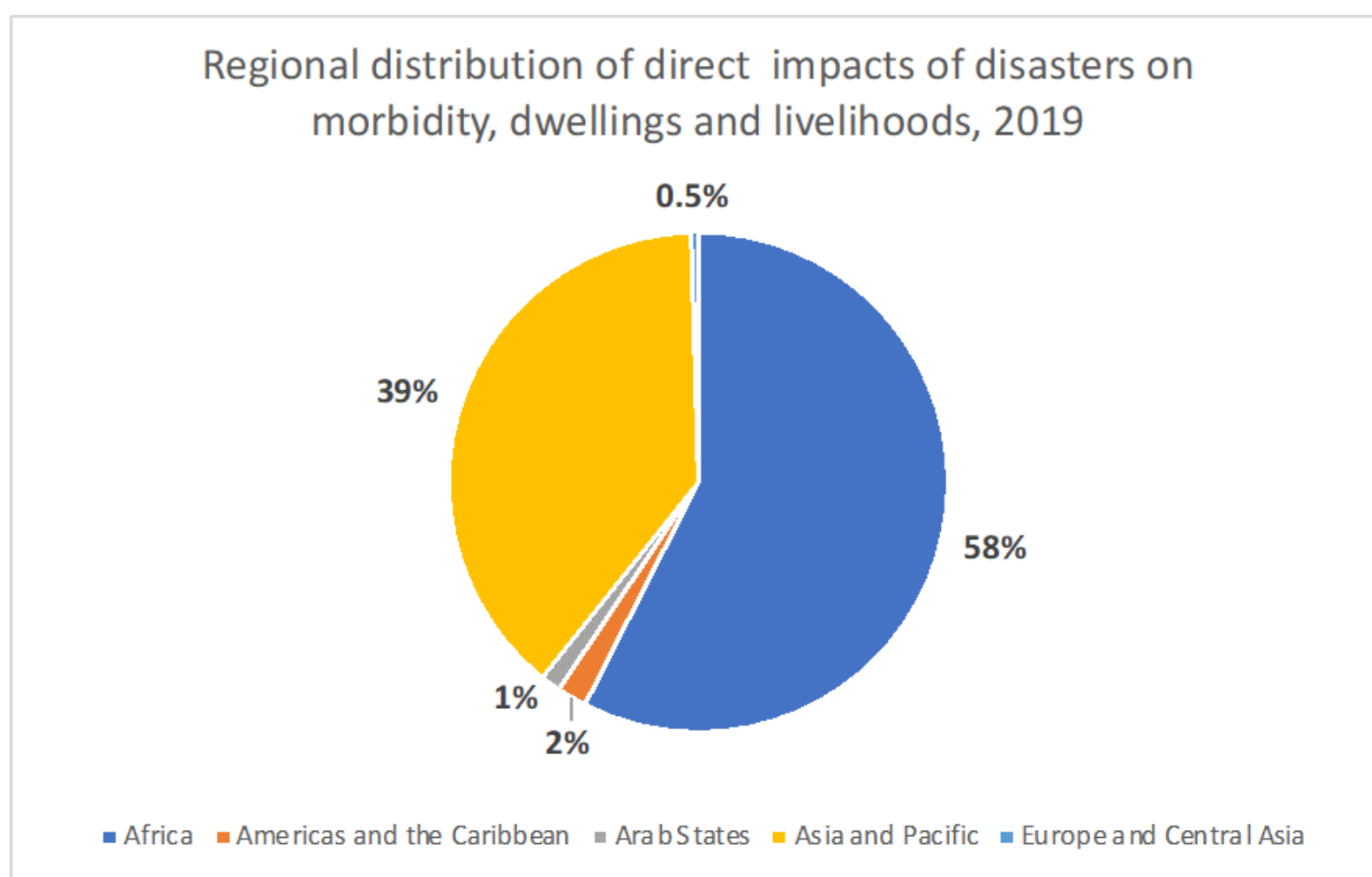
COVID-19 is disrupting progress made towards reducing global disaster mortality, highlighting the importance of multi-hazard and multi-sectoral approaches to disaster risk reduction.

In 2019, global mortality attributed to disasters was reported at 12,000 people, representing a steep drop compared to the 2018 reported figure of 125,000 fatalities worldwide. While the number of casualties fell by 90 per cent, so did the number of reporting countries – only two-thirds of the countries that reported in 2018 have reported in 2019. The longer-term trend reveals that mortality has been declining at an average rate of 6 per cent over the period between 2005-2019. This progress is however likely to be disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic as it wreaks havoc and overwhelms health systems.

36 per cent of all disaster-related mortalities in 2019 were recorded in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). For the 2010-2019 period, the average share of mortalities in LDCs was over 24 per cent, meaning that the least developed countries bear a quarter of the overall mortality brunt of disasters, according to official Sendai Framework reporting.

In line with mortality, the overall number of people affected by disasters – either in terms of morbidity or impacts to livelihoods and dwellings – has also declined in 2019 to just over 39 million, 10 per cent lower than the 2018 count. However, the overall trend when it comes to disaster impacts on people’s health and wellbeing is an increasing one: the average number of people affected by disasters in 2015-2019 is 80 per cent higher compared to the 2005-2009 period.

Disasters tend to have uneven and disproportional regional impacts, with 58 per cent of the people affected in 2019 located in Africa and 39 per cent in Asia and the Pacific. Furthermore, LDCs accounted for over half of the people affected in 2019 (52 per cent). On average, in the decade between 2010-2019, LDCs accounted for 43 per cent of all people affected by disasters. Such high variations in vulnerability, against a backdrop of existing critical socio-economic inequalities, are further aggravated by the spread of COVID-19. To address these issues, concerted and tailored effort is required to address the cascading and systemic nature of risks and build resilience with a focus on adapting existing systems for multi-hazard and multisectoral response.



[Custodian agency\(ies\):](#)

UNDRR

Indicator 1.5.3/11.b.1/13.1.2: Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030

Indicator 1.5.4/11.b.2/13.1.3: Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies

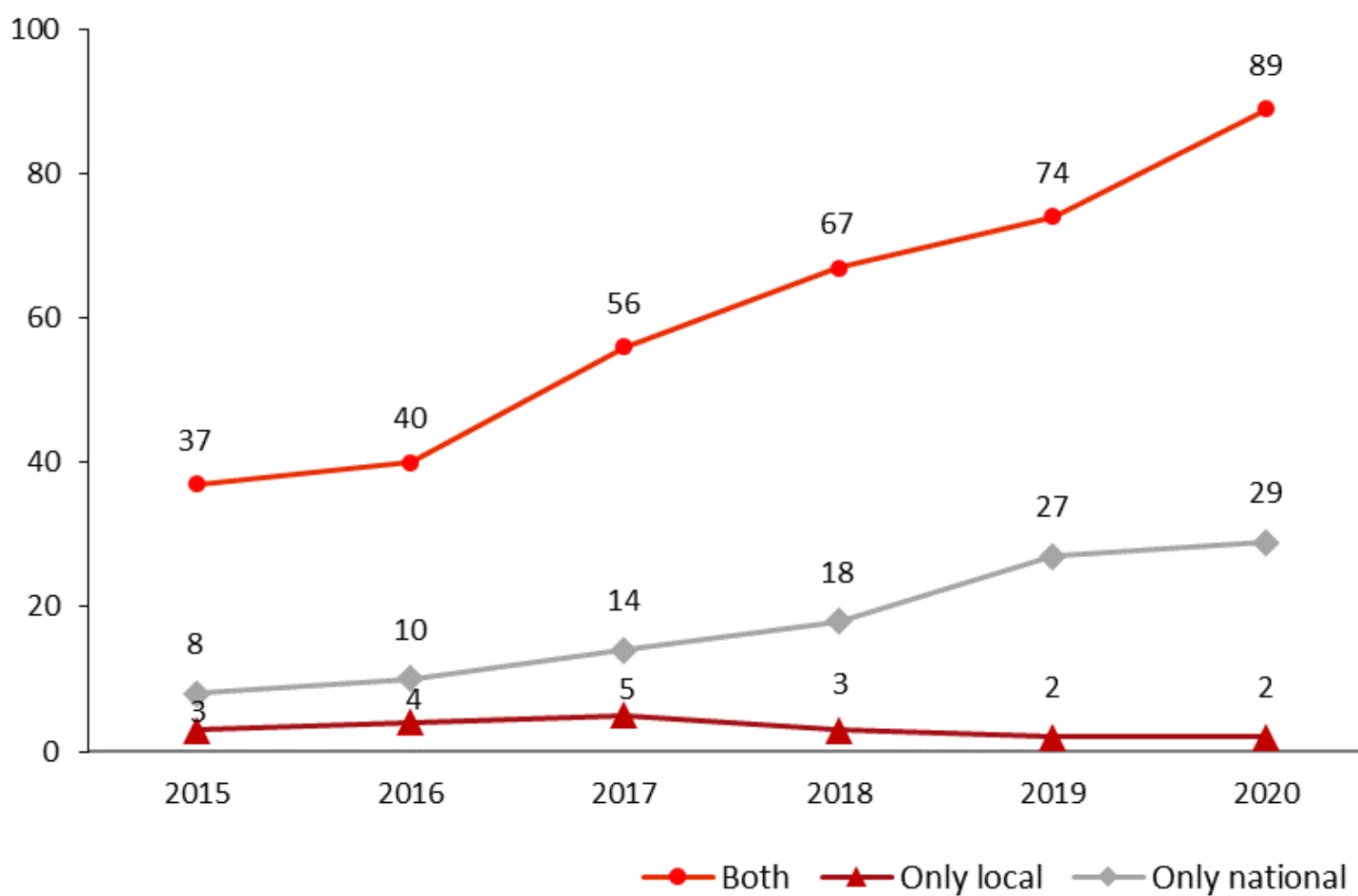
The adoption and implementation of robust disaster risk reduction strategies, which incorporate biological risks such as pandemics, is critical. In order maintain progress on the 2020 deadline for this target, efforts need to be stepped up and drastically accelerated.

Significant progress has been achieved towards increasing the adoption and availability of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020, as reported under the Sendai Framework Target E. As of October 2020, there has been a 115 per cent increase in the number of countries with either national or local DRR strategies or both, reaching 103 countries, compared to 48 in 2015. Of these, 74 countries report having both national and local DRR strategies – a 100 percent increase from 37 countries in 2015.

The number of countries with DRR strategies that follow a substantial or comprehensive alignment to the Sendai Framework in 2019 has almost quadrupled compared to 2015, rising from 13 to 47 countries. The number of countries with DRR strategies that promote policy coherence and compliance, notably with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement, has reached 52 countries, compared to only 10 countries in 2015. Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) in particular have shown a high level of achievement, with 69 per cent reporting to have national DRR strategies in place in 2019 (compared to 30 per cent in 2015).

Despite significant progress, the achievement of Target E of the Sendai Framework requires further concerted effort. Both the development and implementation of these strategies need to be supported by a coherent institutional architecture, clear legislative mandates, political buy-in of decision makers, partnerships engagement and sufficient financial resources at national and sub-national level. Furthermore, the COVID-19 crisis triggered global awareness of the urgency to adopt multi-hazard DRR strategies that address all risks – including biological hazards, pandemics and health emergencies.

Number of countries with national and/or local disaster risk reduction strategies, 2015-2020



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- UNDRR (2020), Status Report on Target E Implementation, Geneva, Switzerland, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
- Link: <https://www.undrr.org/publication/status-report-target-e-implementation-2020>

Custodian agency(ies):

UNDRR

## Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

Indicator 13.2.1: Number of countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

[International visibility of adaptation is strengthening regardless of the pandemic, paving way for understanding of global progress](#)

The adaptation communications and adaptation components of NDCs communicated to the UNFCCC illustrate that the areas of highest adaptation priority identified in the new and updated NDCs are: 1. Food security and production (90% of submitting countries); 2. Terrestrial and wetland ecosystems (90%); 3. Freshwater resources (79%); 4. Human health (79%); 5. Key economic sectors and services (77%).

The information provided illustrates how Parties have advanced adaptation since their previous NDCs:

- They provided more detailed information and described more integrated national frameworks, in contrast to the multiple frameworks and individual projects described in their previous NDCs;
- More Parties described the status of their NAP process, illustrating how the NAP has been established as the main national instrument for adaptation;
- They included more quantitative time-bound targets, in contrast to the qualitative and open-ended adaptation objectives provided previously; and some highlighted the indicator frameworks that they intend to use for monitoring progress;
- They included more detailed information on mitigation and sustainable development co-benefits of adaptation, as well as on other synergies between mitigation and adaptation;
- Some Parties identified the adaptation component of their NDC as their adaptation communication;
- They described in more detail linkages of adaptation efforts with efforts under other international frameworks, such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular describing how adaptation actions relate to specific SDGs.

### National adaptation planning is advancing regardless of the pandemic

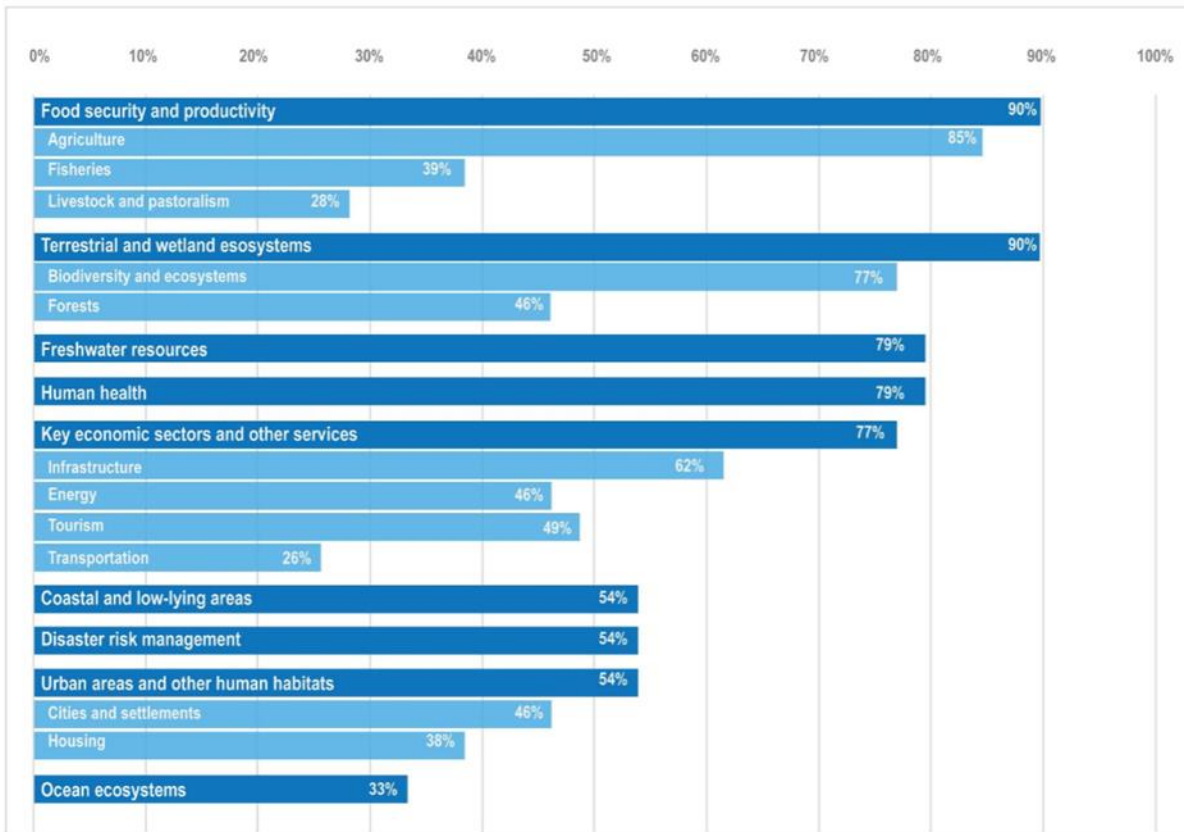
An increasing number of countries are prioritizing the formulation and implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) to boost their efforts to adapt to the effects of climate change, for example by building flood defenses, setting up early warning systems for cyclones, or switching to drought-resistant crops.

The [2020 annual progress report on NAPs produced by the LDC Expert Group](#) shows that support for the formulation of NAPs through the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Programme is steadily increasing to all regions and groups. Out of the 126 countries that are undertaking measures for NAPs, 85 countries have submitted a total of 88 proposals to the GCF Readiness Programme for NAP formulation. Out of the 85 countries, 55 are being supported by the GCF under the Readiness Programme while others are being supported in various activities by bilateral partners and other agencies.

Of the 22 countries that have submitted their NAPs in NAP Central, several are successfully implementing their NAPs with financing from the GCF. Eleven developing countries had submitted 23 project proposals to the GCF to fund priority projects and programmes identified in the NAPs. Seven of these have been approved, totaling 464 million USD. The approved proposals are projects addressing climate risks in food and agriculture, energy, health and well-being, and water resources.

On gender consideration, 18 out of 20 countries that have submitted NAPs considers gender and women. Further analysis of the NAPs revealed the statistics of women as a group vulnerable to climate change (80%), as beneficiaries of adaptation action (65%) and/or agents of change (45%).

**Figure 1**  
Share of adaptation components of nationally determined contributions referring to specific adaptation priority areas and sectors



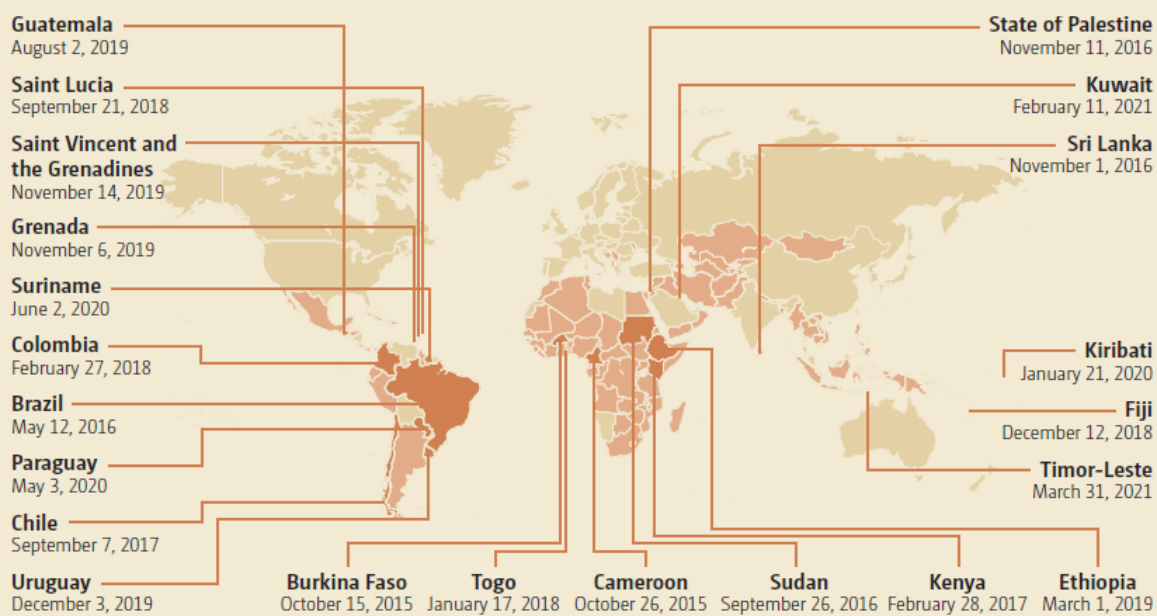
**Figure 2**  
Synergies between efforts in adaptation priority areas and Sustainable Development Goals identified in nationally determined contributions



Note: The shading of the boxes reflects how frequently linkages were identified by Parties: the darker the shade, the more frequently linkages were identified.

**Figure 2.** Information on national adaptation plans in developing countries as of 31 March 2021

Darker shades are those countries with NAPs while the lighter shades are those that started the process. Those without shades are developing countries with no information on whether they have initiated the process.



**Status of project proposals submitted by developing countries for accessing funding from the Green Climate Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund for formulating national adaptation plans**

<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Number of submitted proposals</i>	<i>Number of proposals approved or in approval process</i>	<i>Number of projects with funds disbursed</i>
GCF	Africa	40 (26)	26 (17)	22 (15)
	Asia-Pacific	20 (6)	13 (5)	11 (4)
	Eastern Europe and Central Asia	12	11	10
	Latin America and the Caribbean	22 (1)	13 (1)	13 (1)
<b>Total</b>		<b>94 (33)</b>	<b>63 (23)</b>	<b>56 (20)</b>
LDCF	Africa	7	7	4
	Asia-Pacific	1	1	–
	Latin America and the Caribbean	0	0	–
<b>Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

*Note: The figures are as at 31 December 2020 for the GCF, and 31 March 2021 for the LDCF. For the GCF, the first figures are for all developing countries and those in parentheses indicate the number of LDCs. For the LDCF, one project that was included in previous reports was removed due to a change in the scope. A more detailed table with lists of the submitting countries is available at [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/accessing\\_funding\\_for\\_NAPs.aspx](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Pages/accessing_funding_for_NAPs.aspx).*

**Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:**

- More detailed information on adaptation information in the NDCs is included in document [FCCC/PA/CMA/2012: Nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement – Synthesis report by the secretariat](#) (pages 23 to 27), as well as its [technical addendum](#).
- More information on the progress on NAPs is available here <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/national-adaptation-plans-naps/documents-national-adaptation-plans>.

**Custodian agency(ies):**

UNFCCC

### Indicator 13.2.2: Total greenhouse gas emissions per year

All actors must strengthen their efforts in meeting the Paris Agreement goals.

Developed countries have decreased their emissions in 2019, by about 15 per cent compared to 1990 and by about 6 per cent compared to 2010. The decline in emissions are largely due to the structural changes in the economies of EIT Parties, as well as the impacts of the implemented measures in the agriculture and waste sectors and mitigation actions, such as the increased use of renewable energy for electricity, less use of carbon-intensive fuels and improved efficiency in energy end-use.

Emission levels of developing countries<sup>1</sup> rose by 14.4 per cent between 2010 and 2014. This may be attributed to increased industrialization and enhanced economic output. While some measures have been put in place to mitigate emissions, additional support is needed to scale up actions by developing countries.

Progress analysis: [See progress chart](#)

Custodian agency(ies):

UNFCCC

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<sup>1</sup> Data is available for only the following 70 countries: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen.



Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Indicator 4.7.1/12.8.1/13.3.1: Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment

Custodian agency(ies):

UNESCO-UIS

**Target 13.a:** Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible

**Indicator 13.a.1:** Amounts provided and mobilized in United States dollars per year in relation to the continued existing collective mobilization goal of the \$100 billion commitment through to 2025

Climate-specific financial support continues to increase, reflecting a continued commitment to supporting the global transition to a low-emission, climate-resilient future.

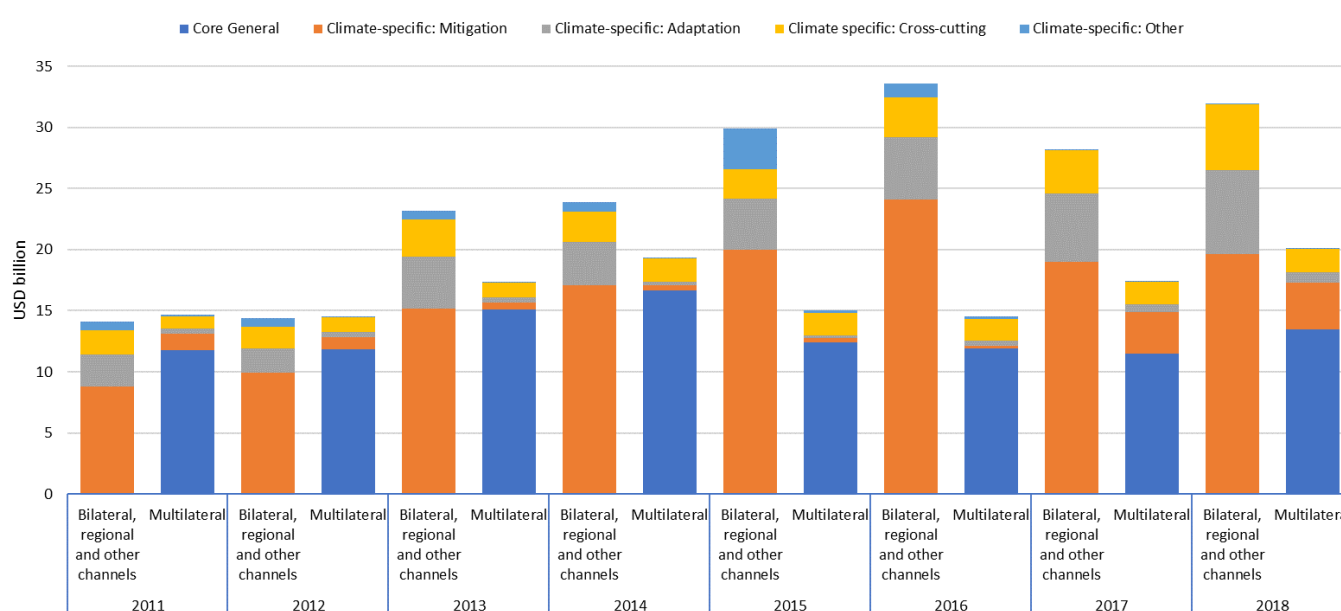
There is no agreed definition under the UNFCCC on what should count toward assessing progress toward the \$100 billion commitment. Data from the UNFCCC secretariat refers to climate-specific financial support to developing country Parties, reported by Annex I Parties in their Biennial Reports. Average annual financial support to developing countries increased to USD 48.7 billion in 2017–2018. On a comparable basis, this represents an increase of 10 per cent over the previous biennium 2015–2016.

Two thirds of financial support provided in 2017–2018 (equivalent to an annual average of USD 32.3 billion) flowed through bilateral, regional and other channels, while the remaining one third was channeled through multilateral institutions and funds such as the Green Climate Fund.

While over half of all climate-specific financial support in the period 2017–2018 was targeted at mitigation actions, the share of adaptation support is growing, and many countries are prioritizing adaptation in their provision of financial support.

In 2017–2018, climate-specific support constituted the largest share of financial support (USD 36.2 billion), while the share of core/general support (i.e. support provided to multilateral and bilateral institutions that is not considered climate-specific) has been decreasing over time, from over 40 per cent of the total in 2011–2012 to roughly 25 per cent in 2017–2018.

**Total financial support provided, including climate-specific and core/general support, in 2011–2018 as reported in Biennial Reports by Annex I Parties**



Source: Fourth Biennial Reports of Annex I Parties, available at: [www.unfccc.int/brs](http://www.unfccc.int/brs)

Note: Financial information for 2017–2018 captures data from 22 Annex II Parties and 19 other Annex I Parties that had submitted their BR4s by October 2020. Financial information for the period 2011–2016 captures data from 24 Annex II Parties and 19 other Annex I Parties which limits comparability over years.

**Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:**

- Original data source: Biennial Reports by Annex I Parties: <https://unfccc.int/BRs>
- Compilation and synthesis of the fourth Biennial Reports (BR4) by Annex I Parties: <https://unfccc.int/CandS-report-2020>

**Custodian agency(ies):**

UNFCCC

**Target 13.b: Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities**

**Indicator 13.b.1: Number of least developed countries and small island developing States with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change**

**International visibility of adaptation is strengthening regardless of the pandemic, paving way for understanding of global progress**

The areas of highest adaptation priority identified in the NDCs submitted by LDCs and SIDS as of 31 December 2020 are: 1. Food security and production (ca. 89% of submitting LDCs and SIDS); 2. Terrestrial and wetland ecosystems (ca. 78%); 3. Freshwater resources (78%); 4. Coastal and low-lying areas (67%); 5. Key economic sectors and services (67%).

**National adaptation planning is advancing regardless of the pandemic**

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**Custodian agency(ies):**

UNFCCC