

World Adaptation Science Programme and its work on adaptation

Minpeng Chen
Co-chair of WASP SC

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The Big Picture - Adaptation Progress

Climate change is posing unprecedented impacts on natural and human systems globally, and climate-related risks depend on the magnitude and rate of warming, geographic location, level of development and vulnerability, and on the choices and implementation of adaptation options.

- Paris Agreement established the Global Goal on Adaptation.
- 120 countries had initiated and launched the NAP process to formulate and implement NAPs, as at 20 November 2019, of which 20 have already been submitted.
- The annual costs of adaptation could be USD 140 - 300 billion by 2030 and from USD 280 billion to USD 500 billion by 2050.
- Adaptation is deeply interlinked with development and disaster prevention and preparedness, especially when facing the high-end climate risks and the transboundary climate risks.
- Nature-based solution; Weather forecasting and early warning system

The World Adaptation Science Programme

The World Adaptation Science Programme (WASP) is one of the four components that formed the World Climate Programme (WCP) based on the [WMO Congress XVI Resolution18](#).

WASP is co-led by five UN agencies: UNEP, WMO, UNFCCC, IPCC and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). This programme is overseen by a Management Group (MG), a Science Committee (SC), a Policy and Finance Committee (PFC), and a Secretariat hosted by UNEP.



*making science work
for climate solutions*



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Climate Change

ipcc
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON
climate change



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WASP-Vision

The core vision of WASP is that of **ensuring that adaptation research gaps are filled**, with a particular focus on policy-relevant scientific research and giving priority to research needs in vulnerable developing countries. This vision encapsulates three major components:

- **Catalyze bridging current research gaps**
- **Catalyze bridging potential future research gaps**
- **Provide policy-relevant guidance through WASP products**

WASP-Initiative and Partners

WASP plays a key role in moving towards a climate-resilient future by bridging the gaps between science, policy, and action. To do so, WASP will seek partnerships to enhance its impact, and will engage with a variety of research and practice networks – building on the core team of WASP members (either in their personal capacity or as representative of their organizations). Besides WASP's membership, WASP seeks to work collaboratively through core initiatives and collaborative partnerships, as listed below. These collaborations will be developed, ensuring that they are in line with the WASP vision and that they can add value to WASP's products and services and increase the impact of WASP.

- **WASP core initiatives**
- **WASP collaborative partnerships**

WASP-Adaptation Futures conference

- Adaptation Futures 2020-21: New Delhi, India
 - Online webinars in 2020
 - Physical gathering in 2021



HOSTED BY



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STRATEGIC COLLABORATORS



ADAPTATION FUTURES
2010
Queensland, Australia

ADAPTATION FUTURES
2012
Arizona, USA

ADAPTATION FUTURES
2014
Fortaleza Ceará, Brazil

ADAPTATION FUTURES
2016
Rotterdam, Netherlands

ADAPTATION FUTURES
2018
Cape Town, South Africa

Adaptation Gap Report

Adaptation Gap Report (AGR) informs the negotiators of the UNFCCC Member States, and the broader UNFCCC constituency, of the status and trends with regards to progress towards climate adaptation at global and regional levels. The AGR provides a set of science-based options to policy- and decision-makers to increase ambition in adapting to climate change across key climate-sensitive sectors.

The AGR 2020 will deliver this through a three-part structure.

- the first recurrent assessment of global status and progress of the adaptation process across three core elements (planning, financing and implementation)
- a thematic deep dive into the status and progress of Nature Based Solutions in adaptation, and
- an initial outlook on overall results in adaptation at the global level

WASP-Science for Adaptation Policy Brief

To bridge the science-policy interface and ensure end users have the knowledge and capacity to underpin effective adaptation.

First three topics addressed:

- **Adaptation decision-support tools and platforms**
- **Transboundary climate risks and adaptation**
- **High-end climate risks and adaptation**

To be published in November of 2020

WASP-Biennial Research Priority Report

- Adaptation research must inform action, be proactive, and look forward
- Important to capture not only what research is needed, but also how it needs to be executed
- Defining time horizons for decision-making on adaptation research priorities (such as by 2030 and 2050); i.e., what would be suitable research priorities in the short term vs medium term? What are the big unknowns? What are the areas where gaps can be addressed relatively quickly?
- Describe how the structure and focus of the scientific community has evolved over the past ten years in regard to adaptation
- Mapping key adaptation research priorities; i.e., similar to IGBP/WCRP science plans
- Opportunities for broad range of research funders to engage; Potential link to Adaptation Research Alliance as an initiative that can help address the identified research priorities

WASP-Partnerships

Except for WASP members and their extended network, WASP also hosts partnership with other initiatives in the adaptation arena:

- **Adaptation Committee, UNFCCC**
- **LAKI, between UNEP and UNFCCC**
- **Adaptation Research Alliance-initiated by DFID, UK**

Never before has it been so clear that we need long term, inclusive, clean transitions to tackle the climate crisis and achieve sustainable development. We must turn the recovery from the pandemic into a real opportunity to build a better future.

- António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Thank you

<https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/climate-change/what-we-do/climate-adaptation/world-adaptation-science-programme>