



PRESS RELEASE

The Hague – 26th January 2021

DECADE OF ACTION LAUNCHED AT CLIMATE ADAPTATION SUMMIT

More than 30 world leaders, 50 ministers, and 50 international organisations gathered together with scientists, the private sector, civil society, youth representatives and over 18.500 registered participants at the Climate Adaptation Summit. They joined forces in 27 different sessions to share knowledge, create action and drive the agenda toward a climate resilient future in 2030. 300 speakers shared their insights and plans, and partners from all over the world contributed 160 side events to CAS 2021. During the 24 hours of CAS 2021, they formed the Adaptation Action Agenda that will serve as a guide for the coming years to accelerate adaptation action.

Investing in adaptation is smart economics. Adding to the announcements and commitments world leaders already made during the opening session, several instruments were presented and launched to support an increase in finance and investment for adaptation:

- The Adaptation Finance Mainstreaming Program was launched for middle- and lower-income developing countries to improve their capacity to understand and manage climate risk
- The newly created private sector-led Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment (CCRI) committed to the development and testing of solutions for resilient investment decision-making
- A new Global Ecosystem-based Adaptation Fund, supported by Germany and implemented by UNEP and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), was developed with an initial capitalization of 15 million euros, and the first call for proposals is expected in 2021
- The International Fund for Agricultural Development launched a new umbrella Fund – The Rural Resilience Program (2RP) with one key pillar, the enhanced Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Program (ASAP+)
- The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) of the Global Environment Facility approved a \$2 million novel project to support the monetary valuation of Nature-Based Infrastructure (NBI), with the objective of demonstrating the economic case and catalyzing more public and private investment.

It was stressed in several events how important it is to create action on the ground. Several partners upscaled the best national and subnational adaptation efforts and innovative collaborative experiences to deliver the most effective results and international partnerships:

- The 1000 Cities Adapt Now program was announced by Mayor Aboutaleb of Rotterdam, on behalf of global cities and a new coalition of partners
- The Principles on Locally Led Adaptation were endorsed during the CAS 2021 by over 30 organisations, including UNDP, UNCDF, the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility, Climate Investment Funds, several governments, NGO's, such as BRAC International, Hivos, WRI, GCA and the Huairou Commission

- A Project Preparation Facility (PPF) will build a pipeline of city-led NBS projects for climate adaptation that are positioned to access large-scale infrastructure finance and capital markets
- The resilience of over 500 million people will be enhanced by catalyzing the integration of climate resilience into infrastructure plans in 20 countries by 2030, starting with Ghana and Bangladesh. This initiative is supported by the Netherlands, working with partners including UNOPS, GCA, Oxford Environmental Change Institute, UNEP, AfDB, ADB, EBRD, GCF World Bank, Governments of Bangladesh and Ghana
- The World Food Programme, World Resources Institute, World Business Council on Sustainable Development, Global Center on Adaptation, Columbia University /IRI have launched an Investment Blueprint for Climate-Informed Digital Advisory Services to help scale the provision of climate information to 100 million smallholder farmers using digital technologies
- Royal DSM and Africa Improved Foods (AIF) and the governments of Ethiopia and Kenya announced AIF 2.0 – expanding from Rwanda to 10 African countries by 2030, providing climate-resilient and financially rewarding value chains for over 2 million smallholder farmers, enhancing the nutrition for more than 100 million consumers and driving \$1 billion of private sector investment
- The Water Adaptation Hub was launched at the Summit to accelerate and scale up climate adaptation interventions globally, bringing the water sector together and making the connection with other sectors
- European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarcic, announced a first Euro 10 million contribution to CREWS (Climate Risk & Early Warning Systems), part of EURO 100 million new funds for disaster risk reduction for Africa, Caribbean and Pacific countries
- Eight Caribbean countries now receive CREWS (Climate Risk & Early Warning Systems) funding.

All these initiatives are part of the Adaptation Action Agenda, which will guide the Decade of Action towards 2030.

Further information for the press – not for publication:

Video's, photos and other enquiries:

Please send questions or interview requests via Miranda Mens, miranda.mens@minienw.nl or +31 6 53215501.

Questions about streaming and clips can be made via Broadcast Services: Paul Sanders, paul@egotainment.nl tel. +31 6 51 88 56 38.

Photos from the Climate Adaptation Summit are free of rights and costs:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/191756221@N05/>.

Information about CAS:

Check www.cas2021.com for:

The program, <https://www.cas2021.com/about-cas2021/programme>

Frequently asked questions, <https://www.cas2021.com/faq>

The media note, <https://www.cas2021.com/press/documents/media-articles/2021/01/22/media-note-on-cas-2021>

ANNEX

Finance

To support the work on macro, fiscal, budget, and procurement policies required to manage climate risk, an **Adaptation Finance Mainstreaming Program** was launched by the Global Commission on Adaptation, for middle- and lower-income developing countries to improve their capacity to understand and manage climate risk.

UNEP FI contributed to drive the enhancement of physical risk disclosure, alongside a leading group of 10 financial institutions worth US\$3.5tn. The newly created private sector-led **Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment (CCRI)** is committed to the development and testing of solutions for resilient investment decision-making. CCRI targets both developing and developed countries, in recognition of the global nature of exposure. Its membership currently stands at 70 institutions - institutional investors, banks, insurance, rating agencies, MDBs and governments - representing over USD 11tn in assets.

Green bonds

Existing budgets are insufficient to address climate adaptation needs. New instruments as green bonds for climate resilience will increase available funding. A leading group of development finance institutions, donors and development agencies engages in a new '**Collaborative on Accelerating Investment in Adaptation and Resilience**', bringing partners together to break new ground in leveraging public and private finance. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, GCA and Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI) work together on how to increase new finance from markets in emerging economies.

Resilient Cities

At the Climate Adaptation Summit, the 1000 Cities Adapt Now was announced by Mayor Aboutaleb of Rotterdam, on behalf of global cities and a new coalition of partners. This program will be helping **1000 cities adapt to climate change** over the next ten years. The program is a joint effort of the Global Center on Adaptation, the World Resources Institute, Resilient Cities Network, and UN-Habitat. Implementation has already started in Accra (Ghana), and this will be upscaled to 100 cities in 2021-2023, up to 300 by 2025 and finally to 1000 by 2030.

Race to Resilience

The **High Level Climate Champions Race to Resilience** was launched at CAS 2021. Race to Resilience aims to catalyze action by non-state actors that builds the resilience of 4 billion people from vulnerable groups and communities to climate risks by 2030. Through a partnership of initiatives, the campaign will focus on helping frontline communities to build resilience and adapt to impacts of climate change, such as extreme heat, drought, flooding and sea level rise, via three themes:

- Urban: Transform urban slums into healthy, clean and safe cities
- Rural: Equip smallholder farmers to adapt and thrive
- Coastal: Protect homes and businesses against climate shocks

Locally led action

A global coalition on local adaptation has created a set of **principles on Locally Led Adaptation**, to bridge the gap between climate adaptation funding and the most climate vulnerable. During the conference the principles were **endorsed by over 30 organisations, including UNDP, UNCDF, the**

Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility, Climate Investment Funds, several governments, ngo's, such as BRAC International, Hivos, WRI, GCA and the Huairou Commission.

Furthermore, several projects leading as example of action taken from the ground were presented, such as the Climate Bridge Fund, the UNCDF LoCAL project in the Sahel region, the Asian Development Bank Community Resilience Partnership Programme or the Adaptation Innovation Platform of UNDP, GEF and AF.

Infrastructure

The Netherlands, working with partners including UNOPS, GCA, Oxford Environmental Change Institute, UNEP, AfDB, ADB, EBRD, GCF, World Bank, Governments of Bangladesh and Ghana will catalyze **the integration of climate resilience into infrastructure plans in 20 countries by 2030**, starting with Ghana and Bangladesh. This will enhance the resilience of over 500 million people by providing them with enhanced access to reliable, clean and affordable infrastructure services. This will drive and facilitate efforts to mainstream resilience into infrastructure planning, based on the latest tools for stress testing infrastructure networks.

Funded by the Netherlands, an initiative is launched to support green-resilient infrastructure in Bangladesh. This **funding supports the use of stress testing**, a quantitative analysis of current vulnerabilities and climate risk dialogues with stakeholders to discuss and analyze and the impact to infrastructure in different future scenarios. The stress testing aims to identify priority impacts from climate change, the development of a roadmap for resilient infrastructure, and identifies good practices that could be adopted by other countries.

Knowledge sharing to identify and disseminate emerging good practices in system-level resilience will be supported. Our aim this year is to train **30 Climate Resilient Infrastructure Officers – CRIOs** – from around the world, to act as experts and ambassadors in their own organisations, national and international networks.

At CAS2021, Dutch dredging company Van Oord launched the **Climate Risk Overview**, a global online tool that combines multiple data layers and enables users to identify the world's most-at-risk coastal areas. The Climate Risk Overview visualises on a map a combination of key parameters, including populations, flood exposure, low-lying land, coastal erosion and ecology. Almost all data is from open sources and mapped onto 10-kilometer stretches of the world's coastlines. The tool is in the public domain and anyone can use it.

Africa

African and European countries and international institutions have announced that they will jointly invest more in climate adaptation in Africa. For example, the Netherlands is contributing 20 million euros extra to the adaptation fund for least developed countries to adapt to climate change. The Netherlands is also investing 100 million euros in the Drylands Sahel program for sustainable agriculture and better incomes for farmers and livestock farmers, with special attention for young people and women.

The African Development Bank (AfDB) announced a new Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAP). This flagship program will focus on agriculture, infrastructure, youth and innovative finance. The African Development Bank has committed to mobilize \$25 billion as climate finance between 2020 and 2025, of which at least 50% will support climate adaptation and resilience building. AfDB and GCA will use this to leverage an additional \$12.5 billion through other key partners.

Agriculture & Food Security

facilitating climate-informed agricultural advisories for 100 million farmers

The World Food Programme, World Resources Institute, World Business Council on Sustainable



Development, Global Center on Adaptation and Columbia University /IRI have launched an Investment Blueprint to help scale the provision of climate information to 100 million smallholder farmers using digital technologies. This **Blueprint for Climate-Informed Digital Advisory Services** supports countries to unlock the potential for climate resilient agriculture provides new insights on best practice for digitally enabled climate services and delivers an investment framework against which donors and governments can confidently invest to scale coverage and usage of critical services to enhance farmer resilience. The Investment Blueprint was informed by working groups involving more than 40 organisations, including the World Meteorological Organization, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa, and many others.

Africa Improved Foods (AIF) 2.0

Royal DSM and **Africa Improved Foods (AIF)** and the governments of Ethiopia and Kenya announced AIF 2.0 – expanding from Rwanda to 10 African countries by 2030, providing climate-resilient and financially rewarding value chains for 2 M+ smallholder farmers, enhancing the nutrition for 100 M+ consumers and driving 1 B+ of private sector investment.

New climate fund to build resilience of small-scale producers

The International Fund for Agricultural Development launched a new umbrella fund – The Rural Resilience Programme (2RP) with one key pillar, the enhanced **Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme (ASAP+)**. ASAP+ will increase the climate resilience of 10 million vulnerable people in numerous countries, particularly women and youth, enabling an increase in food and nutrition security.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has presented their efforts to mainstream climate adaptation into the new strategy of their special initiative '**One World -No Hunger**', with a special focus on an agro-ecological approach, reaching over 60 million farmers.

Nature based solutions

The Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) of the GEF approved a **\$2 million novel project** to support monetary valuation of Nature-Based Infrastructure (NBI), with the objective of demonstrating its economic case and catalyzing more public and private investment. The project is co-financed by the MAVA Foundation and implemented by UNIDO with International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). The project will set up an NBI resource center, take a system-based approach to demonstrate monetary valuation of up to 46 nature-based infrastructure investments, and develop a massive open online course and database to support future valuations. The project is expected to benefit more than 100,000 climate vulnerable people and support the management of nearly 20,000 hectares of land for climate resilience.

A new **Global Ecosystem-based Adaptation Fund**, supported by Germany and implemented by UNEP and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), was developed with an initial capitalization of 15 million euros, and the first call for proposals is expected in 2021. Through a rapid delivery mechanism, the Fund will provide seed capital that aims to catalyze the scaling up of ecosystem-based adaptation. The Fund will focus on support to non-state actors, with the expectation that they will often need to work closely with national and local governments. We recruited a vanguard group of countries, including Canada, Ethiopia, Mexico, the Netherlands, and Peru, to plan and/or implementing large-scale NBS action for climate adaptation. WRI and partners have worked with this vanguard group to garner commitments to action that will yield benefits to the majority of people in each city by 2030. The scaled-up action, commitments, and ambitions from these cities are showcased at the Climate Adaptation Summit and COP26 to build

support for city-led NBS initiatives and inspire other cities to act.

A **Project Preparation Facility (PPF)** is designed that will build a pipeline of city-led NBS projects for climate adaptation that are positioned to access large-scale infrastructure finance and capital markets. The facility will provide financial and technical assistance to city leadership, civil society, and infrastructure operators to plan and design bankable NBS for climate resilience and human well-being.

Water

The Water Action Track has launched a Water Adaptation Hub. This community aims to accelerate and scale up climate adaptation interventions globally bringing the water sector together and making the connection with other sectors. Acceleration of water adaptation will be achieved by building on and strengthening what is already happening and/or starting. Scale-up will be reached by connecting and actively brokering between stakeholders and initiatives. A collaborative effort with the goal to use the water sector as the key enabler in the worldwide climate change dialogue.

The Water Adaptation Hub in essence works on three key things:

- Bringing water communities and subsectors together
- Bringing the water (adaptation) sector closer to other sectors (i.e. agriculture, nature based solution, food, cities infrastructure, health) 300 words
- Sharing and exchanging knowledge, simplifying learning and facilitating finding solutions together
- Bring water adaptation to the international climate community and negotiations and more prominently into the NDCs and NAPs.

It will be a permanent, inclusive service open to all communities of practice, networks and groups either those working directly in the water sector or indirectly through climate change and adaptation.

Delta Lighthouse Case Study

Science and best practices as a base for water management development. The 'lighthouse' case studies in this Delta Report explore and share best practices and good examples in climate adaptation and resilience interventions in delta countries. The case studies were selected through the Delta Coalition strategically to ensure a wide and diverse representation of different hydrological, climatological, social-economic, and geographic conditions. Deltas are hot spots and it concerns cases from Mozambique, Indonesia, Colombia, Argentina, Vietnam, Bangladesh and the Netherlands. Based on this diverse and representative range of cases, key findings have been formulated to share knowledge and to inform adaptation practices elsewhere.

Disaster Risk management

The DRM anchoring event featured partners of the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership and provided an opportunity for the IFRC secretary General, Jagan Chapagain, to launch REAP's Framework for Action. The Framework for Action sets out how partners aim to achieve the ambitious targets of the partnership, which ultimately aims to make 1 billion people safer from climate-related disasters in the coming years.

The CREWS Initiative (Climate Risk & Early Warning Systems) was launched at the Paris Climate Change conference in 2015, with a target of raising US\$ 100 million dollars to build resilience, especially in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. It is estimated that an additional 10 million people are being protected thanks to these early warnings systems, through 13 projects covering more than 50 countries in the world. Thus, **eight Caribbean countries now receive CREWS funding**. European Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarcic, announced a first



Euro 10 million contribution to CREWS, part of EURO 100 million new funds for disaster risk reduction for Africa, Caribbean and Pacific countries. Finland joins CREWS and committed 5 million to the Trust Fund as part of the countries scaled-up commitment to climate change adaptation. This engagement goes towards the targets of the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP), Minister Skinnari from Finland stated. France's Climate Ambassador announced a new Euro 4 million contribution to CREWS bringing their total contributions, since 2016, to Euro 26 million. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) announced today a major expansion of one of the world's only means of channeling international funds directly to frontline disaster responders. At the CAS 2021, the plan was announced to at least double the size of the IFRC's **Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF)** to an estimated 100 million Swiss francs per year by 2025.

Youth call to action

Young people from more than 115 countries presented a call to action among government leaders entitled '**Adapt for our Future**' to former Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. Important international principles for the youth are the provision of universal education, expansion of economic opportunities for young people and a strengthening position for the most vulnerable young people. Young people from the Northern Netherlands presented the **Regional Action Agenda**. In this report, youth - ambassadors of Youth for Climate Adaptation - illustrates seven recommendations to municipalities, provinces and water boards. Among other things, they are committed to more citizen participation and more climate (adaptation) in policy and education.

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