

# WASP

World Adaptation  
Science Programme

WASP

WORLD  
ADAPTATION  
SCIENCE  
PROGRAMME

NEWSLETTER  
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(2024-Q4)



Photo: DurkTalsma / iStock

## About the World Adaptation Science Programme

The World Adaptation Science Programme is a **United Nations initiative, global think tank**, overseen by nine international organisations (AF, GCF, GEF, IPCC, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, UNU-EHS, and WMO). The programme involves interdisciplinary world-renowned experts from the Global North and South. The WASP has a multi-stakeholder governance panel consisting of a supervisory Management Group, which oversees a Science Committee and a Policy and Finance Committee, and four Working Groups, and is supported by a Secretariat.

WASP's vision is ensuring that **the science-policy gap climate adaptation gap is bridged** to inform novel climate conditions. Our main priority is addressing the **knowledge needs** in vulnerable developing countries and **providing policy-relevant science for decision-makers**.

**Contact us:** WASP Secretariat, Thematic Assessment Unit, Early Warning and Assessment Division, UNEP, Secretariat@wasp-adaptation.org

### Quick links:

#### WASP Website

- Events
- News
- Publications



United Nations  
Climate Change



## Adaptation Finance Working Group Workshop – October 2024, Beijing



On October 11-12, the WASP Working Group on Adaptation Finance held a hybrid workshop in Beijing on **enhancing accessibility and delivery of adaptation finance in developing countries**. The purpose of the workshop was to review the aims and workplan of the working group, discuss a policy brief on enhancing accessibility and delivery of adaptation finance in developing countries and to discuss how to enhance the visibility and impacts of the Working Group.

### Call for proposals, papers and posters for Adaptation Futures 2025

The next edition of the premier international conference “Adaptation Futures” will be held in **Ōtautahi Christchurch, New Zealand, 13-16 October 2025**. It will be hosted by the University of Canterbury, the WASP and partners and bring together researchers, policymakers, practitioners, industry representatives and communicators from around the globe. The call for session proposals, abstracts and posters for the conference is now open. The deadline for submissions is 25 February 2025. Find out more at: <https://adaptationfutures2025.com>.

### Launch of the UNEP Adaptation Gap Report

The latest edition of the WASP-supported **Adaptation Gap Report 2024: Come hell and high water** was launched on 7 November 2024 in the run-up to the UNFCCC COP29 in Baku. The report was launched by UNEP in a virtual press conference, featuring a video message from the UN Secretary General, remarks from the UNEP Executive Director and a technical presentation on the report’s findings by WASP member Henry Neufeldt, Chief Scientific Editor of the report. Along with the annual **update on the global status and progress on climate adaptation in planning, financing, and implementation**, the 2024 edition features a deep dive on how to **strengthen capacity building and technology transfer** to improve the effectiveness of adaptation actions.



Numbers on the financial costs and need of adaptation in the 2023 edition of the Adaptation Gap Report were **cited in the outcome document on the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance (NCQG)** adopted at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. Leaders from Eswatini and Kenya, among other nations, referenced the Adaptation Gap Report 2024 during COP29. A series of WASP-related outreach and side events on the Adaptation Gap Report 2024 were also organized at COP29 in collaboration with UNEP.



UNEP Executive Director, Inger Andersen, providing remarks about the Adaptation Gap Report during a high-level event at the UNFCCC COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. Photo: UNEP / Florian Fusstetter

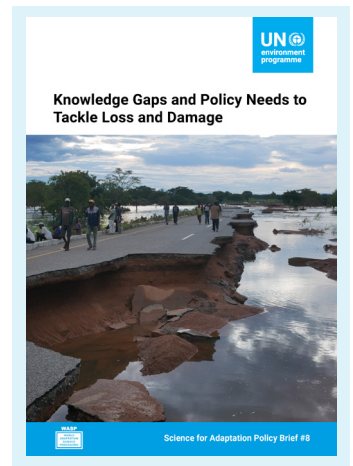
## Engagement with the IPCC and UNFCCC

The WASP, through its working groups on the Global Goal on Adaptation, has been actively participating in the ongoing scientific work on **adaptation metrics under the UNFCCC Global Goal on Adaptation framework**. WASP Co-chairs and members are also actively participating in the pre-survey and the **IPCC Scoping Meeting in December 2024** to discuss the draft outline of the IPCC AR7 assessment report .

## Launch of the Science-for-Adaptation Policy Brief on loss and damage

On 13 November 2024, the WASP launched its eighth Science-for-Adaptation Policy Brief (SABP) on **Knowledge Gaps and Policy Needs to Tackle Loss and Damage**. The brief was launched at a COP29 side event titled "Science and policy gaps for effective measures to avert, minimize and address loss and damage" at the Faith Pavilion in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The session featured a technical presentation of the findings by Policy Brief author and WASP member Bhim Adhikari and a panel discussion with leading experts. The session was moderated by WASP member Henry Neufeldt. This policy brief **discusses the multiple dimensions of loss and damage**, which are induced by inadequate action on climate change.



## The Adaptation Fund joins the WASP Management Group

The WASP is delighted to announce that the Adaptation Fund has joined the World Adaptation Science Programme following the COP29 in Baku. Ms. Saliha Dobardzic, Senior Climate Change Specialist at the Adaptation Fund, will represent the fund in the WASP Management Group.



Photo: Maarten Kappelle, Head of the WASP Secretariat, Saliha Dobardzic, Senior Climate Change Specialist at the Adaptation Fund, and Mikko Ollikainen, Head of the Adaptation Fund, at COP29 in Baku.