

# World Adaptation Science Programme and its work on adaptation

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**Minpeng Chen**  
**Co-chair of WASP SC**

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# The Big Picture - Adaptation Progress

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The increasing and irreversible impacts of climate change at all latitudes, which affects glaciers, oceans, nature, economies and human living conditions and regardless of the level of socioeconomic development, that highlight the importance and urgency of 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, especially when facing the high-end climate risks and the transboundary climate risks.
- Nature-based solution; Weather forecasting and early warning system
- Pitfalls: maladaptation, sham adaptation

# The World Adaptation Science Programme

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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*



WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION



United Nations  
Climate Change

ipcc  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON  
climate change



GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND

UN   
environment  
programme

# WASP-Vision

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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

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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



## SUPPORTED BY



## 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

# WASP-Adaptation Gap Report

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**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

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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

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# WASP-Research Priority Identify Process

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- 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

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

- **Research Dialogue of SASTA, under 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

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