

WASP

World Adaptation Science Programme

WASP

WORLD
ADAPTATION
SCIENCE
PROGRAMME



Photo credit: Unsplash/Nicholas Doherty

NEWSLETTER
March 2025
2025-Q1

About the World Adaptation Science Programme

The World Adaptation Science Programme (WASP) is a **United Nations Initiative**, global think tank and knowledge hub supported by nine agencies (AF, GCF, GEF, IPCC, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, UNU-EHS and WMO) and involves over 40 core specialists/members from around the globe belonging to leading intergovernmental agencies, national, regional and global institutions, development agencies, funding organisations, and the financial sector.

WASP's core mission is to ensure that **climate adaptation knowledge gaps are filled to inform evidence-based policies, solutions and actions** for successful adaptation to new climate conditions. Our priority is addressing the knowledge needs in vulnerable developing countries and providing policy relevant science for decision-makers.



Photo credit: Envato Elements/Shaiith

Quick links:

WASP Website

- Events
- News
- Publications

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United Nations
Climate Change



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environment
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WASP Fifth Annual Meeting



WASP 5th Annual Meeting Group

Photo credit: Paul V. Desanker/UNFCCC

From 4–6 March 2025, the WASP convened its Fifth Annual Meeting and Strategic Scoping Meeting in a hybrid format, generously hosted by the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG-RTD) of the European Commission in Brussels. The event brought together over 40 interdisciplinary experts and representatives from sponsoring agencies to assess progress and shape the programme’s strategic direction for the coming years.

Participants reflected on the achievements and activities undertaken over the past six years and engaged in forward-looking discussions to define WASP’s future goals and priorities. Highlights included progress updates from the WASP Secretariat and Co-Chairs of WASP’s two main committees and its four Working Groups, as well as a presentation from the European Commission on their mission for Adaptation to Climate Change. The meeting also marked a leadership transition, with members officially welcoming the newly appointed Chairperson of WASP.

WASP Welcomes New Chairperson for 2025-2026

During the Fifth Annual Meeting of the WASP, held on 4 March 2025 at DG-RTD, European Commission, Brussels, Ms. Chizuru Aoki from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was elected and officially welcomed as the new Chairperson of WASP for a two-year term (2025-2026).



Photo credit: Paul V. Desanker/UNFCCC

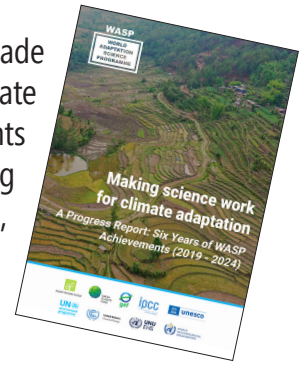
Ms. Aoki currently serves as Head of the GEF Division of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Funds in Washington, D.C., United States. She succeeds Mr. Abdalah Mokssit, Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) based in Geneva, who previously held the position for two years (2023-2024).

Her appointment marks a new chapter in WASP’s leadership as the programme continues to strengthen the science-policy interface and advance adaptation policy and practice around the world.

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WASP Progress Report - Making science work for climate adaptation

The World Adaptation Science Programme (WASP) has made significant strides in bridging the science-policy gap for climate adaptation over the past six years. This progress report highlights key achievements, including the establishment of four Working Groups focused on adaptation effectiveness, loss and damage, the global goal on adaptation, and adaptation finance. WASP has published eight Science-for-Adaptation Policy Briefs and co-produced the annual Adaptation Gap Report, which assesses global progress on adaptation. The programme's efforts have been instrumental in supporting vulnerable developing countries with policy-relevant science and fostering international collaboration for effective climate adaptation.



Upcoming Events



The 8th international Adaptation Futures Conference (AF2025) will be held in Ōtautahi Christchurch, New Zealand from 13 to 16 October 2025. It is co-hosted by WASP and the University of Canterbury Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha with regional Oceania and international partners. Adaptation Futures is the flagship event of the United Nations World Adaptation Science Programme (WASP). This premier international climate change adaptation conference brings together practitioners, policymakers, researchers and academics from across the world to network, collaborate, learn and inspire. More information can be found here: [Adaptation Futures Conference 2025](https://adaptation.un.org/adaptation-futures-conference-2025).



Nau mai, haere mai, tauti mai!

Welcome to the homelands of

Ngāi Tūāhuriri and Ngāi Tahu.

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<https://wasp-adaptation.org/>