

## Plan to Accelerate the Integration of Cultural Heritage considerations into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

Axis: 5 – Fostering Human and Social Development

Key objective: 19 – Culture, Cultural Heritage Protection and Climate Action

Solution: **Accelerate the integration of Cultural Heritage considerations into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)**

Host initiative: The Group of Friends for Culture-Based Climate Action (GFCBCA)

Scope: [\[Addressed scope, such as specific technologies and geographic/sectoral focus, if any.\]](#)

- Geographic: global, focused on the member countries of the GFCBCA
- Sectoral:
- Other aspects:

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Levers assessment: *(each lever is described in the guidance document)*

- **Knowledge & Capacity Building: medium maturity**
    - *Rationale: Most countries lack sufficient skills, training, and institutional capacity to systematically integrate cultural heritage into NAPs.*
  - **Inclusive decision-making governance & design: low maturity**
    - *Rationale: isolated examples of inclusive cultural heritage adaptation exist, most NAPs are developed with limited stakeholder engagement.*
  - **Public/private finance: low maturity**
    - *Rationale: Cultural heritage is largely invisible in adaptation finance. Ministries of culture, subnational governments and other national and local stakeholders face systemic barriers to accessing climate funds, and heritage is often not recognized in adaptation cost–benefit frameworks.*
  - **Partnerships and collaboration: medium maturity**
    - *Rationale: Partnerships exist at multiple levels, but they remain fragmented and cultural heritage is rarely embedded in formal NAP governance mechanisms.*
  - **Policy & regulatory: low maturity**
    - *Rationale: While a few examples exist, most NAPs and climate policies omit cultural heritage or reference it only superficially. Heritage policies are not systematically connected to climate regulations.*
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## **Plan to Accelerate the Integration of Cultural Heritage considerations into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)**

Expected impact of this plan on the 2030 targets (if any):

By strengthening the integration of cultural heritage into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), this plan supports the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) by enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, and reducing vulnerability, including for cultural heritage, which is frequently overlooked. The plan contributes to the outcome of the first Global Stocktake (GST) by responding to its call to “Protecting cultural heritage from the impacts of climate-related risks by developing adaptive strategies for preserving cultural practices and heritage sites and by designing climate-resilient infrastructure, guided by traditional knowledge, Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge and local knowledge systems”

This Plan to Accelerate the Integration of Cultural Heritage into NAPs will, by 2028 and through the next GST cycle, enable a measurable shift in national adaptation planning. It aims to:

1. increase the number of countries that explicitly include cultural heritage in their NAPs;
2. establish operational guidance and tools for heritage-inclusive adaptation planning;
3. launch pilot country processes that apply the PAS guidance in real NAP revisions.

These outcomes will strengthen institutional capacities, stimulate demand for heritage-sensitive adaptation finance, and embed culture within climate-resilient governance frameworks. The plan is aligned with the indicators and targets of the GGA to be approved during COP30 and is designed to contribute directly to the adaptation-focused deliverables of the next GST.

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| Output                                                                                               | Action Scope | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Type of action | Implementation Lever                                                    | Responsible                                       | Time horizon | Stakeholder engagement <sup>1</sup>         | Committed Stakeholders |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Diagnosis – Report on existing NAPs comprising cultural heritage + existing gaps in this integration | Global       | <p>Conduct a study with countries in the Group of Friends to identify which already include cultural heritage in NAPs.</p> <p>Map gaps in current NAPs regarding cultural heritage integration (produce a baseline of what exists, what's missing, where support is needed)</p>                                                             | New Action     | <p>Knowledge &amp; Capacity Building</p> <p>Policy &amp; regulatory</p> | Group of Friends for Culture-based Climate Action | Until 2028   | Countries, support of partner organizations |                        |
| Dossier with Guidance and Recommendations                                                            | Global       | <p>Draft a dossier outlining best practices and steps to integrate cultural heritage into NAPs. Share knowledge collected in Output 1. Offer clear steps for countries to integrate cultural heritage in NAPs.</p> <p>Include practical examples and links to technical tools (risk assessment, planning templates, financing options).</p> | New Action     | <p>Knowledge &amp; Capacity Building</p> <p>Policy &amp; regulatory</p> | Group of Friends for Culture-based Climate Action | Until 2028   | Countries, support of partner organizations |                        |
| Engagement and Commitment                                                                            | Global       | Identify pilot countries willing to review or update NAPs with cultural heritage integration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | New Action     | Policy & regulatory                                                     | Group of Friends for Culture-based Climate Action | Until 2028   | Countries                                   |                        |

<sup>1</sup> Such as countries, companies, investors, cities and local governments, technical institutions, MDBs, regulators & public agencies, utilities & system operators, youth & indigenous groups, multi-stakeholders platform (non-exhaustive)