



GUIDANCE

on the Climate Crisis and Humanitarian Coordination

/ August 2025

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Purpose of this guidance

This guidance provides humanitarian coordination groups/platforms with practical steps to integrate climate considerations into humanitarian work. It helps ensure that services, decisions, plans, advocacy, monitoring, preparedness and accountability of humanitarian coordination groups are climate-informed, inclusive, and aligned with United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) standards related to the climate crisis.

Climate-related hazards – such as floods, droughts, storms and heatwaves – are increasingly causing or worsening emergencies. In parallel, long-term environmental changes like desertification, rising sea levels, shifting rainfall patterns and ecosystem disruption gradually erode the conditions needed for social cohesion (both horizontal – relationships and trust within communities; and vertical – trust between communities and institutions), economic resilience, health and well-being. These stressors can also drive displacement and social instability. The compounding effects significantly impact the resilience of children and caregivers. Humanitarian organizations need to anticipate both sudden and slow-onset climate risks, adapt strategies accordingly, and deliver effective, life-saving assistance. Integrating climate resilience improves preparedness, response and recovery across all types of crises.

This guidance can be adapted to specific contexts such as conflict settings, natural disasters and public health emergencies. In the acute phase of

emergencies, you may need to begin with hazard assessments to stabilize resources, while also identifying opportunities for longer-term resilience, even in protracted crises. In protracted emergencies, the focus can be on developing long-term resilience and mitigation by aligning with national adaptation plans, as well as the Nexus and Collective Outcomes frameworks, where climate is increasingly and explicitly recognized as a core component.

Some coordination platforms are just beginning to integrate climate considerations and these can start by raising partner awareness of the climate crisis. More advanced platforms can prioritize anticipatory actions and policy alignment across the sector. The starting point can be chosen based on the level of integration within the group or platform, beginning with the most relevant step.

A glossary of key climate terms is available to support shared understanding.

FOUNDATIONAL CONCEPTS FOR CLIMATE-RESPONSIVE COORDINATION

The guidance is built around three foundational concepts which guide coordination across six core coordination functions (see below) and accountability to affected populations.

Figure 1. Six Core Functions of Clusters



Figure 2. Three Foundational Concepts

Drawing on climate forecasts and scenarios

Accessing and applying short-term forecasts and longer-term climate scenarios to guide operational decisions, strategic planning and priority-setting across coordination functions.

Implementing proactive responses: anticipatory and adaptation actions

Acting early through forecast-based anticipatory actions to reduce immediate **and secondary impacts and risks**, and integrating adaptation measures to build longer-term resilience into humanitarian strategies, service delivery and recovery efforts.

Embedding community-centred and inclusive approaches

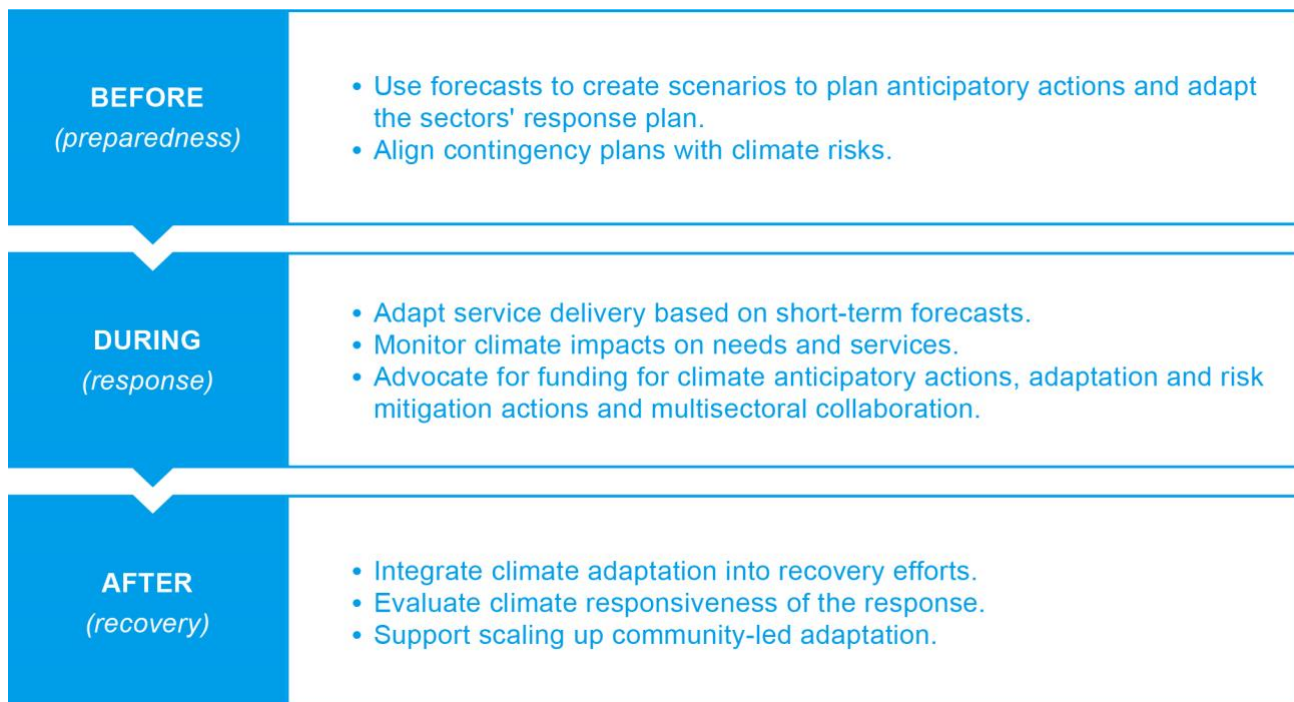
Ensuring that climate-responsive humanitarian action reflects the needs and priorities of all affected groups – including children, caregivers and communities – through inclusive participation, disability inclusion, safeguarding of child and caregiver resilience, **mitigation of gender-based violence and other protection risks**, localization and accountability to affected populations.

« Integrating climate resilience strengthens humanitarian action in all types of crises, whether caused by conflict, poverty or natural hazards. »

CLIMATE-INFORMED COORDINATION BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER EMERGENCIES

Humanitarian coordination must integrate climate resilience before, during and after emergencies, ensuring that key coordination functions are adapted to evolving climate risks at each stage.

Figure 3. Climate-informed coordination before, during and after emergency



HOW TO INTEGRATE THE CLIMATE CRISIS ACROSS THE SIX CORE COORDINATION FUNCTIONS

This section outlines practical actions that national coordination groups can undertake. [Annex A](#) provides a summary table of key actions for each function. Actions related to accountability to the affected population have been integrated into all core functions.

Quick Activity Cross-check Reference

Action/Activity	Relevant Key Actions
Developing a cluster strategy	Actions 1.1, 5.1, 5.2
Conducting a needs assessment	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 5.2
Developing a Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Plan	Actions 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2
Organizing/running coordination meetings	Actions 1.1, 1.2, 2.2, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, 5.2, 6.1, 6.2
Creating a Strategic Advisory Group and Technical Working Group including Strategic Advisory Group or Technical Working Group	Action 1.2
Resource mobilization	Actions 3.2, 6.1, 6.2

CORE FUNCTION 1: Supporting Service Delivery (Climate Crisis Lens)

Purpose: Support partners in delivering climate-responsive humanitarian services based on forecasts and gradually adapting longer-term services to evolve with climate risks and strategic sectoral priorities.

How well do you know your current status in this core function?

Do you know the answers to the following questions?	✓ YES	✓ NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the level of internal understanding or technical capacity on climate-related concepts within partner organizations? To what extent do members currently integrate climate considerations into their activities or operational plans? 	→ Go to action 1.2	→ Go to action 1.1
Do you have a system to track who does what in climate-related activities? Do you share forecasts and shared climate risks with your partners to facilitate operational discussion?	→ Well done! See other core functions.	→ Go to action 1.2

ACTION 1.1: Assess and strengthen partners' capacity related to the climate crisis (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 1.6)

Practical steps:

- Assess the partner's climate knowledge, skills and activities, including local and national partners and community groups (see [Annex B, A Model Survey: Assessing Partners' Capacity](#)).
- Share accessible learning resources (e.g. resources included in the *Climate Crisis Starter-kit* and relevant climate-related policy frameworks (e.g. national adaptation plans, disaster risk reduction strategies), global guidance, and climate-related updates, such as funding opportunities or innovative approaches, to help partners stay aligned and engaged in broader climate coordination efforts. Make sure that key resources are translated into local languages.
- Facilitate peer learning on the climate crisis by connecting partners with experience in climate-responsive programming to others through structured exchanges such as webinars, case study discussions, or peer visits.¹
- Adapt existing 3/4/5Ws or other relevant tools to capture who is implementing/planning what types of climate-related actions and where they occur, if feasible (see [Annex E](#) for suggested adaptation).
- Map partners' (including the government and development actors) existing/planned climate actions using the adapted 3/4/5Ws or other relevant tools. If the group uses dashboards, include climate-related roles and actions in the dashboards.

ACTION 1.2: Enhance climate-related information exchange and regularly analyse and identify gaps in climate-related actions in the sector

Practical steps:

- Identify the potential chronic impacts of climate change on the sector, and the areas where these impacts are not known, in coordination with global clusters, and informed by local community experiences and knowledge. (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 2.1)
- Assess and monitor protection risks and negative coping strategies that may emerge or intensify as a result of climate shocks. This includes understanding how climate-related stressors contribute to heightened vulnerability, displacement, exploitation, or harmful behaviours, and ensuring that these dynamics are factored into sectoral analysis and responses.
- Include the climate crisis as a standing agenda item in regular meetings of the platform covering the following:
 - Information on current climate hazards, short-term forecasts and their potential impact on communities, particularly vulnerable populations. Gather this information from reliable

¹ Effective peer learning involves two-way sharing, practical examples and reflection. Consider inviting local climate experts or organizations to lead orientation sessions, and deliver these in local languages to support inclusion. A few cluster and global platforms use a Community of Practice, for example, the Global Shelter Cluster supports coordination and technical exchange across humanitarian shelter actors (<https://sheltercluster.org/global-shelter-cluster/pages/communities-practice>). In climate-specific contexts, the CALP Network's cash and voucher assistance scheme, Environment and Climate Change community of practice explores how cash assistance supports climate adaptation (<https://www.calpnetwork.org/event/calp-cva-climate-environment-cop-americas-friendly-time>).

sources including national meteorological services such as [ICPAC](#) climate prediction and applications centre, or [INFORM](#) (see [Annex B](#) for more information).

- Operational discussions that link known hazards, forecasted trends, and community feedback to help partners adapt their response services.
- Discuss how to implement the [new IASC Guidance on Environmental Responsibility in Humanitarian Operations](#) and potential cluster-specific support to implementation against agreed collective commitments/targets. (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 3.1)
- Monitor and document how forecasts inform adjustments to strategies.
- Appoint a climate focal point, establish a climate-focused working group involving a diverse range of partners, or include the climate crisis as a standing agenda item in the Strategic Advisory Group meeting for the platform to incorporate climate considerations into its activities. Ensure that local actors are adequately represented as focal points in the working group or the Strategic Advisory Group.

CORE FUNCTION 2: Informing Strategic Decision-Making (Climate Crisis Lens)

Enhance evidence-based humanitarian decision-making by systematically integrating climate risk analysis and scenario planning, and facilitating collaboration with external experts and other sectors. Strategic decisions must proactively anticipate climate impacts, prioritize vulnerable populations, and strengthen inter-sectoral understanding, aligning with IASC’s data-driven planning (Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC)).

How well do you know your current status in this core function?

Do you know the answers to the following questions?	✓ YES	✓ NO
Are climate risks consistently included in needs assessments and planning?	→ Go to action 2.2	→ Go to action 2.1
Do you regularly collaborate with climate experts and other sectors to respond to climate crisis?	→ Well done! See other core functions.	→ Go to action 2.2

ACTION 2.1: Conduct climate-informed humanitarian needs assessments and risk analysis

Practical steps:

- Adapt the existing assessment tools (both sector-specific and multisectoral, e.g. multisectoral needs assessment) and process to collect and analyse the climate-related risks in your sector (see [Annex D](#) for suggested questions and see the starter kit for existing assessment tools).

- Collaborate with climate specialists to refine risk analysis methods and train the platform partners on the updated tools and analysis.²
- Engage local community members, including children, in needs assessments, with a focus on identifying and involving those most vulnerable to climate hazards. Ensure that assessments consider how factors such as age, gender, disability, indigenous identity and other context-specific characteristics influence vulnerability. Collect and analyse disaggregated data to better understand differential impacts and support targeted responses.
- Invite external climate experts (e.g. meteorological agencies, academic institutions) to support joint risk analysis and solution development (see [the guidance on risk analysis from UN Disaster Risk Reduction](#)). (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 1.1)

Key considerations for setting the scope of risk-sensitive analysis for the Humanitarian Programme Cycle

- What main shocks have occurred over the last 20 years, and what sectoral impact did they have, for example in relation to child protection, education, nutrition and WASH?
- What are the main hazards in the country?
- What has changed in the humanitarian context since last year?
- What geographical areas might be affected by hazards? How many people live in those areas?
- How are different population groups exposed to different hazards or shocks?
- What key events are expected in the next 12 months that might affect population, infrastructure or assets?

([UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction: Strengthening Risk Analysis for Humanitarian Planning](#))

² The European Union [Guide to Coordinated Education in Emergencies Needs Assessment](#) and [the Global Education Cluster's Needs Assessment Package](#) include good examples.

ACTION 2.2: Enhance coordination across coordination platforms on shared climate risks

Practical steps:

- Map climate-expert agencies, academia, NGOs, etc., that could join the clusters to contribute their technical knowledge in your country.
- Coordinate with other platforms/sectors to identify shared climate risks and overlapping vulnerabilities in priority areas (e.g. WASH and health in flood zones; education and protection in both flood and heatwave contexts).
- Facilitate cross-sectoral workshops or working sessions to develop joint risk maps or shared adaptation actions, supported by community and partner input.³
- Advocate for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to include climate-related coordination issues as a standing agenda in the intersectoral coordination meetings to enhance coordination across all sectors, if it is not already included.⁴
- Present climate-related risks and related recommendations in the Humanitarian Country Team meetings (see more in Core Function 6).
- Identify key stakeholders with whom coordination platforms may partner and actively pursue complementarities in programming to effectively transition from emergencies to development. (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 2.3)

CORE FUNCTION 3: Planning and Strategy Development (Climate Crisis Lens)

Ensure that sector strategies systematically incorporate climate risks, anticipatory actions, adaptation and mitigation measures and measurable indicators. This function focuses on aligning humanitarian coordination group strategies with national adaptation priorities, strengthening cross-sector resilience, and ensuring effective resource mobilization for climate-responsive humanitarian programming. It also involves understanding and supporting community-level coping strategies and adaptive practices, which may require forms of assistance beyond partner funding, such as technical support, local engagement mechanisms, or community-led initiatives.

³ For example, in Somalia, FAO SWALIM provides flood risk maps used by humanitarian actors, including inter-cluster groups, to support coordinated preparedness and response. These maps highlight flood-prone areas and are used in cross-sectoral planning to inform shared priorities and anticipatory action. <https://faoswalim.org/information-management/information-services/online-systems>

⁴ OCHA is already advancing this agenda through initiatives such as risk-informed coordination approaches, promoting the integration of climate risks into the Humanitarian Programme Cycle, and the use of tools like the Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework. Make use of their existing work for advocacy as needed.

How well do you know your current status in this core function?

Do you know the answers to the following questions?	✓ YES	✓ NO
Are the sector strategy and Humanitarian Response Plan informed by identified climate risks and scenarios?	→ Go to action 3.2	→ Go to action 3.1
Do you know the following information? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners' funding needs and gaps related to climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation. The funding requirements and opportunities for climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation. 	→ Well done! See other core functions.	→ Go to action 3.2

ACTION 3.1: Integrate climate risks into strategic sector planning, including the Humanitarian Response Plan (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 1.5)

Practical steps:

- Develop response strategies which reflect identified climate-related risks in the needs assessments and by using other relevant climate-related information from reliable sources including national meteorological services such as [ICPAC](#) climate prediction and applications centre, or [INFORM](#) (see [Annex B](#) for more information).
- For those sectors that provide infrastructure, such as WASH, identify key vulnerabilities in existing infrastructure and programmes to likely climate shocks (such as heatwaves or flash floods) and collectively develop approaches to upgrading and climate-proofing response modalities against these shocks.
- Integrate mitigation actions in the response and strategy where feasible (see Climate Change Mitigation in Humanitarian Work: Tip Sheet for Coordinators).
- Include at least one practical indicator for anticipatory and adaptation actions (e.g. percentage of children learning at heat-resilient school infrastructure) in the Humanitarian Response Plan, sector strategy and other relevant sector resources such as the Quality Assurance Framework. Alternatively, adapt existing indicators to capture aspects of climate adaptation (e.g. percentage of infrastructure upgraded *responding to extreme heat*).
- Prioritize community-led climate initiatives in the response of the humanitarian coordination group. (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 2.2)
- Align sector strategies with national adaptation priorities from the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) in your country.

- Invite local climate experts and organizations to support the planning process, ensuring that local knowledge and priorities are reflected in the response strategies.

ACTION 3.2: Promote collective anticipatory action and adaptation while facilitating partners' access to necessary funds (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 1.4)

Practical steps:

- Advocate for OCHA to ensure participation of humanitarian coordination groups in developing the anticipatory action framework of the country along with relevant leading agencies and local actors.
- Support the development of multi-partner anticipatory action protocols clearly defining roles and responsibilities through community engagement.
- Coordinate regular drills and simulations to test the effectiveness of anticipatory action protocols. The drills can be conducted by simulating forecast-based triggers and implementing pre-planned anticipatory actions in collaboration with government agencies, humanitarian actors, and communities to test coordination, timing and operational readiness.
- Use HPC planning or other opportunities to understand partners' funding needs for climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation for advocacy with the Humanitarian Country Team and donors (see Core Function 6).
- Collect and share information on relevant funding mechanisms related to the climate crisis, as well as the requirements for humanitarian funding (e.g. Start Fund; Central Emergency Response Fund – Anticipatory Action; Green Climate Fund) and guidance on access.
- Prioritize those organizations that integrate climate considerations into the Country-based Pooled Fund by updating its scorecard to include the climate crisis as a requirement in the cluster allocation strategy.
- Provide technical support to partners, i.e. local organizations, on proposal development, ensuring that climate objectives and risks are clearly articulated in funding submissions and strategy documents.

CORE FUNCTION 4: Monitoring and evaluating Performance (Climate Crisis Lens)

Strengthen the effectiveness of climate-responsive humanitarian responses by systematically monitoring activities, evaluating climate risk integration, and adapting strategies based on findings. This ensures continuous improvement, learning and alignment with climate resilience goals, following IASC's performance monitoring and learning principles (see Cluster Coordination Reference Module and Results Group on Learning).

How well do you know your current status in this core function?

Do you know the answers to the following questions?	✓ YES	✓ NO
Do you monitor and track climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation in your sector?	→ Go to action 4.2	→ Go to action 4.1
Do your partners conduct evaluations of climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation? Does your platform use the evaluation findings to inform the Humanitarian Needs / Humanitarian Response Plan and sector strategy?	→ Well done! See other core functions.	→ Go to action 4.2

ACTION 4.1: Monitor and adjust climate-responsive activities

Practical steps:

- Use the climate indicators in the Humanitarian Response Plan and the sector strategy for monitoring. If no climate-related indicators are present in the current Response Plan and sector strategy, identify at least one climate-related indicator to observe and track activities associated with climate-related anticipatory action and adaptation.
- Facilitate periodic review sessions (e.g. quarterly) to agree on climate-related corrective actions based on monitoring and evaluation findings, including feedback from communities, anticipated climate risks and forecasts.
- Encourage partners to implement participatory monitoring to gather feedback from and engage in dialogue with individuals who are most vulnerable to climate hazards affecting your sector.
- Highlight successes, good practices and lessons through regular meetings, platform newsletters and updates, and other relevant forums, e.g. Inter-Cluster Coordination Groups, for continuous peer exchange and learning.

ACTION 4.2: Encourage evaluation of climate risk integration and its effectiveness, utilizing the findings for future planning

Practical steps:

- Encourage partners to conduct evaluations that assess climate risk integration and the effectiveness of implemented climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation.
- Share partners' or other relevant evaluation reports and tools among partners and others, such as other sectors, for peer learning. If possible, create a brief information sheet based on the evaluation reports for advocacy. (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 2.2)
- Advocate for the allocation of funding for evaluation with donors and HPC.

- Make use of findings from evaluations for the next HPC, the sector strategy revision, and other opportunities for strategic planning related to your sector.

CORE FUNCTION 5: Building National Capacity in Preparedness and Contingency Planning (Climate Crisis Lens)

Enhance national and local capacity to anticipate and respond to climate-related hazards through climate-inclusive preparedness planning, targeted capacity-building, strengthened early-warning systems, and alignment with national adaptation frameworks, incorporating community feedback to ensure resilience.

How well do you know your current status in this core function?

Do you know the answers to the following questions?	✓ YES	✓ NO
Have you collaborated with those responsible for emergency preparedness and national contingency planning in your country to integrate the climate considerations?	→ Go to action 5.2	→ Go to action 5.1
Do you have a capacity-building plan related to the climate crisis for your partners with a focus on national and local partners?	→ Well done! See other core functions.	→ Go to action 5.2

ACTION 5.1: Meaningfully contribute to climate-inclusive preparedness planning

Practical steps:

- Collaborate with those responsible for emergency preparedness and national contingency planning in your country to: 1) share key information, including the level of knowledge, capacity and coverage of climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation by partners in your sector, findings from needs assessments, monitoring and evaluation; and funding needs for anticipatory actions, preparedness and response actions; 2) if such plans are available, advocate for integration between your cluster's thematic area and climate; and 3) integrate actions in the national contingency plan into your sectoral plan.
- Facilitate access for your local partners to participate in the emergency preparedness and contingency planning process by advocating for and providing information about the planning process to them.

ACTION 5.2: Strengthen local and national partners’ capacity for climate-responsive action (IASC Climate Crisis: Recommendation 1.3)

Practical steps:

- Include a clear commitment in sector strategies to enhance the capacity of partners by promoting learning exchange between local and national partners and international actors in addressing the climate crisis.
- Identify community-based organizations, including women-led organizations, organizations for persons with disabilities, youth organizations and key service providers at risk of climate-related disasters, to support inclusive participation in climate-related planning, decision-making, and action.
- Conduct a capacity needs assessment related to the climate-related anticipatory actions, adaptation and climate-responsive actions (see the guidance on anticipatory actions and climate adaptation) with special focus on local and national partners, including women-led organizations and organizations for persons with disabilities, and make a suitable capacity-strengthening plan (see [Annex B](#) for a sample survey).
- Implement the capacity-strengthening plan, especially for local and national partners of your coordination group. If not yet in place, it could be useful to introduce forecast interpretation training with regional climate centres (e.g. [RIMES](#)), focusing on anticipatory actions and seasonal outlooks.
- Develop simple action plans for partners to implement key adaptation activities (e.g. drought-resilient infrastructure), validated through community consultations to be endorsed by National Disaster Management Agencies or relevant government ministries.

CORE FUNCTION 6: Supporting Robust Advocacy (Climate Crisis Lens)

Strengthen evidence-based climate advocacy efforts to communicate climate-related humanitarian impacts, mobilize targeted resources for enhanced humanitarian preparedness and response, building on existing climate adaptation and advocacy tools developed by humanitarian organizations.

How well do you know your current status in this core function?

Do you know the answers to the following questions?	✓ YES	✓ NO
Have you included climate-related needs and gaps in your sector’s advocacy strategy or plan, including advocacy messages?	→ Go to action 6.2	→ Go to action 6.1
Are you effectively implementing your advocacy strategy/plan, including collective advocacy with your partners and other sectors?	Well done! Share your experiences with others and take more advanced actions!	→ Go to action 6.2

ACTION 6.1: Identify key climate-related issues and gaps for evidence-based collective advocacy on the climate crisis (IASC Climate Crisis Roadmap: Recommendation 5.1)

Practical steps:

- Facilitate consultations with your partners, focusing particularly on local and national partners, to identify key issues and gaps affecting their ability to address climate risks, and outline the key advocacy positions of your platform.
- Identify actors and donors, including those in development, who can facilitate the changes you advocate (see Advocacy Tipsheet). (Link to be added)
- Develop an advocacy strategy or plan for your sector with clear advocacy messages tailored for different audiences (e.g. donors: funding needs; policymakers: systemic gaps) and necessary communication materials, such as position papers, information sheets, presentations and human interest stories (see Advocacy Tipsheet).
- Include a clear plan to create opportunities for local and national partners to engage with in-country donors and enhance their visibility in your advocacy strategy or plan.
- Advocate for donors to promote participatory monitoring to gather feedback from and engage in dialogue with those most vulnerable to climate hazards across all sectors, while also allocating a budget for evaluations that assess climate risk integration and the effectiveness of implemented climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation.

ACTION 6.2: Implement the advocacy strategy or plan in collaboration with other sectors

Practical steps:

- Encourage partners to align their advocacy messages with the coordination group by sharing your advocacy strategy/plan and materials for collective advocacy.
- Organize targeted engagements (e.g. roundtables, Q&A sessions) with your target audience to present key advocacy messages.
- Collaborate with other sectors and OCHA to advocate collectively on common issues, such as increasing funding for climate-related anticipatory actions.
- Leverage your influence to advocate for pooled funding allocations and donor funding for local and national partners, and create opportunities, such as meeting with donors and local and national partners to increase their visibility.
- Monitor the advocacy efforts and make necessary adjustments to the strategy, plan and key advocacy messages.

Annexes

ANNEX A. SUMMARY OF CLIMATE-RESPONSIVE HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION

Core Function	Action	Practical steps summary
Core Function 1: Supporting service delivery	1.1 Strengthen climate engagement, leadership and partner capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess partner knowledge and activities • Share accessible learning resources • Facilitate peer learning on the climate crisis with partners advanced in climate-responsive actions, and/or invite local climate experts or organizations • Adapt existing 3/4/5Ws or other relevant tools • Map partners' existing/planned climate actions
	1.2 Enhance climate-related information exchange and regularly analyse and identify gaps in climate-related actions in the sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include the climate crisis as a standing agenda item in regular meetings of the platform • Monitor and document how forecasts inform adjustments to strategies • Discuss how to implement the new IASC Guidance on Environmental Responsibility in Humanitarian Operations and potential cluster-specific support to implementation against agreed collective commitments/targets • Appoint a climate focal point, establish a climate-focused working group, or include the climate crisis as a standing agenda item in the Strategic Advisory Group meeting
Core Function 2: Informing strategic decision-making	2.1 Conduct climate-informed humanitarian needs assessments and risk analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adapt the existing assessment tools • Collaborate with climate specialists to refine risk analysis methods and train the platform partners on the updated tools and analysis • Engage local community members in needs assessments • Invite external climate experts to support joint risk analysis and solution development

	<p>2.2 Enhance coordination across coordination platforms on shared climate risks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with other platforms/sectors to identify shared climate risks and overlapping vulnerabilities in priority areas • Facilitate cross-sectoral workshops or working sessions • Advocate for OCHA to include climate-related coordination issues as a standing agenda item in the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group • Present climate-related risks and related recommendations in the Humanitarian Country Team meetings • Identify key stakeholders with whom coordination platforms may partner and actively pursue complementarities in programming to effectively transition from emergencies to development
<p>Core Function 3: Planning and strategy development</p>	<p>3.1 Integrate climate risks into strategic sector planning including the Humanitarian Response Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a specific discussion based on identified climate-related risks in the needs assessments • Develop response strategies which reflect identified climate-related risks • Identify key vulnerabilities in existing infrastructure and programmes to likely climate shocks and collectively develop approaches to upgrading and climate-proofing against these shocks • Include at least one practical indicator for anticipatory and adaptation actions • Prioritize community-led climate initiatives in your response • Align sector strategies with national adaptation priorities from the national adaptation plan in your country • Invite local climate experts and organizations to support the planning process
	<p>3.2 Promote collective anticipatory action and adaptation while facilitating partners' access to necessary funds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the development of multi-partner anticipatory action protocols through community engagement • Use HPC planning or other opportunities to understand partners' funding needs for climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation for advocacy with the Humanitarian Country Team and donors

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect and share information on relevant funding mechanisms related to the climate crisis • Prioritize those organizations that incorporate climate considerations into the Country-based Pooled Fund • Provide technical support to partners on proposal development
Core Function 4: Monitoring and evaluating performance	<p>4.1 Monitor climate-responsive activities and outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the climate indicators in the Humanitarian Response Plan and the sector strategy for monitoring • Facilitate periodic review sessions to agree on climate-related corrective actions based on monitoring and evaluation findings • Encourage partners to implement participatory monitoring to gather feedback from and engage in dialogue with individuals who are most vulnerable to climate hazards affecting your sector • Highlight successes, good practices and lessons through regular meetings, platform newsletters and updates, and other relevant forums
	<p>4.2 Encourage evaluation of climate risk integration and its effectiveness, utilizing the findings for future planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage partners to conduct evaluations that assess climate risk integration and the effectiveness of implemented climate-related anticipatory actions and adaptation • Share partners' evaluation reports and tools among partners and others • Advocate for the allocation of funding for evaluation with donors and the HPC • Make use of findings from evaluations for the next HPC, the sector strategy revision, and other opportunities for strategic planning related to your sector
Core Function 5: Building national capacity in preparedness and contingency planning	<p>5.1 Meaningfully contribute to climate-inclusive preparedness planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share key information with those responsible for emergency preparedness and national contingency planning in your country • Facilitate access for your local partners to participate in the emergency preparedness and contingency planning process

	<p>5.2 Strengthen local and national partners' capacity for climate-responsive action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a clear commitment in sector strategies to enhance the capacity of local and national partners in addressing the climate crisis • Identify community-based organizations, including women-led organizations, organizations for persons with disabilities, and key service providers at risk of climate-related disasters • Conduct a capacity needs assessment related to the climate-related anticipatory actions, adaptation and climate-responsive actions • Implement the capacity-building plan for your local and national partners • Develop simple action plans for key adaptation activities
<p>Core Function 6: Supporting robust advocacy</p>	<p>6.1 Identify key climate-related issues and gaps for evidence-based collective advocacy on the climate crisis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate consultations with your partners to identify key issues and gaps affecting their ability to address climate risks, present the key advocacy positions of your platform • Identify actors and donors who can facilitate the changes you advocate • Develop an advocacy strategy or plan for your sector with clear advocacy messages tailored for different audiences • Include a clear plan to create opportunities for local and national partners to engage with in-country donors and enhance their visibility in your advocacy strategy or plan
	<p>6.2 Implement the advocacy strategy or plan in collaboration with other sectors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your partners to align their advocacy messages with yours by sharing your advocacy strategy/plan, and materials for collective advocacy • Organize targeted engagements with your target audience to present key advocacy messages • Collaborate with other sectors and OCHA for collective advocacy on common issues • Leverage your influence to advocate for pooled funding allocations and donor funding for local and national partners • Monitor the advocacy efforts and make necessary adjustments to the strategy, plan, and key advocacy messages

ANNEX B. MODEL SURVEY: ASSESSING PARTNER CAPACITY ON CLIMATE CRISIS

Purpose: This short survey aims to understand how your organization is engaging with the climate crisis, including existing knowledge, capacities and needs. The information will help identify areas for support and strengthen collaboration on climate action.

Estimated time to complete: 10–15 minutes

1. Basic information

1.1. Name of organization:

1.2. Country or region of operation:

1.3. Type of organization:

- Local NGO
- National NGO
- Community-based organization
- Other (please specify):

1.4. Main area(s) of work:

2. Understanding and awareness

2.1. How familiar is your organization with climate change and its impacts?

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not very familiar
- Not familiar at all

2.2. Does your organization consider climate risks in its programming or strategy?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

2.3. What types of climate-related hazards have affected your work or the communities you serve? (select all that apply)

- Floods
- Drought
- Heatwaves
- Storms
- Landslides
- Wildfires
- Other (please specify):

3. Current activities and capacity

3.1. Is your organization currently engaged in any activities related to climate change?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please briefly describe:

3.2. Does your organization have staff with knowledge or training on climate issues?

- Yes, several
- Yes, a few
- No
- Not sure

3.3. Have you partnered with other organizations or networks on climate-related work?

- Yes
- No

If yes, who with and in what context?

4. Capacity-strengthening needs

4.1. In which of the following areas would your organization like to strengthen its capacity? (select all that apply)

- Understanding climate risks and impacts
- Climate-sensitive programme design
- Accessing climate funding
- Community-based adaptation
- Measuring climate resilience
- Advocacy and policy engagement
- Other (please specify):

4.2. What kind of support would be most useful to your organization? (select top 3)

- Training/workshops
- Peer learning/networking
- Technical assistance
- Access to tools and data
- Flexible funding
- Policy guidance
- Other (please specify):

5. Additional input

5.1. What barriers has your organization faced in engaging with climate issues?

5.2. Is there anything else you would like to share about your organization's experience or priorities related to the climate crisis?

ANNEX C. RESOURCES: TRUSTED NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SOURCES FOR CLIMATE FORECASTING AND EARLY WARNING

You and your partners can access climate forecast information from a range of meteorological and humanitarian sources to support decision-making, preparedness and anticipatory action.

1. Regional forecasting centres

These centres provide seasonal outlooks, early warnings and technical climate support for groups of countries. All are part of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Regional Climate Centre (RCC) network which helps standardize climate services across regions (*access the full list at [WMO Regional Climate Centre](#)*):

- ACMAD – *African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development* (Africa-wide) www.acmad.org. Supports continent-wide seasonal forecasting, early warning and technical coordination across African National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs).
- ICPAC – [IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre \(East Africa\)](#). Provides seasonal forecasts, risk maps and advisories for Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) member states (e.g. Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan).
- SADC CSC – [Southern African Development Community \(SADC\) Climate Services Centre](#) (Southern Africa). Provides regional climate monitoring, seasonal forecasts, early warning information, and training for SADC member states (e.g. Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia).
- RIMES – [Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System](#) (South and Southeast Asia). Offers climate forecasts, hazard early warnings, and capacity-building for member countries across Asia.
- CIIFEN – [International Research Centre on El Niño](#) (Latin America and the Caribbean). Focuses on climate monitoring and El Niño-related forecasts for Andean and coastal countries in Latin America.

- ArabCOF – *Arab Climate Outlook Forum* (Middle East and North Africa) Seasonal forecasts coordinated through the WMO RCC network. ArabCOF does not have a dedicated website; its products are disseminated via [national meteorological agencies](#) and through [WMO RCC](#).

2. National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS)

Most countries have an NMHS that provides:

- Seasonal climate forecasts
- Short- and medium-term weather outlooks
- Extreme event alerts (floods, storms, droughts)
- Agro-meteorological updates

Search by country via the [WMO Member Directory](#).

Note: In fragile or conflict-affected settings, NMHS may be under-resourced or inactive. Always verify their functionality on the WMO website. Where gaps exist, coordinate with regional centres, humanitarian partners, or technical NGOs.

3. Humanitarian and inter-agency sources

These organizations and tools help interpret climate information for planning and early action:

- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Humanitarian Needs Overviews often include climate risk profiles

- [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification](#)
- [Assessment Capacities Project \(ACAPS\)](#) provides risk updates, forecast-based analyses, scenario planning support
- [Anticipation Hub](#) provides guidance on forecast-based financing and early action
- UNICEF
 - [Children's Climate Risk Index \(CCRI\) report](#)

- [Global CCRI Interactive Atlas](#): explore here
- [Subnational Disaster Risk Model \(CCRI-DRM\) overview](#)
- [GeoSight Platform](#)
- [CCRI-DRM Model Spreadsheet](#)

In-country OCHA offices or Inter-Cluster Coordination Groups often serve as hubs for sharing seasonal briefings or regional climate outlooks, even where NMHS capacity is limited.

ANNEX D. CLIMATE-INFORMED NEEDS ASSESSMENT: SUGGESTED QUESTIONS AND INDICATORS

Existing humanitarian assessment tools typically consider immediate weather and climate impacts. However, **climate-informed assessments** add value by explicitly including forward-looking climate projections, deeper analysis of vulnerability, community adaptive capacity, and identification of adaptation-focused needs. They ensure humanitarian programming is proactively aligned with both current and anticipated climate-related risks.

1. Climate exposure and risk identification

- Which climate hazards (floods, droughts, heatwaves, storms, etc.) most frequently affect your community?
- Have you observed changes in the frequency or severity of these hazards in recent years?

Indicators:

- Number of climate-related hazard events experienced in the last five years.
- Specific geographic areas most frequently impacted by these hazards.

2. Forecasting and early warning

- What short-term forecasts or seasonal climate predictions are currently available to your organization or community?
- Do communities and humanitarian actors regularly receive timely and understandable climate forecasts and early warnings?
- How effectively are these forecasts and warnings used to prepare for potential climate hazards?

3. Impacts on essential services and livelihoods

- How have recent or current climate hazards impacted essential services such as water, sanitation, health, agriculture, and education?
- Are there particular groups or sectors within the community that are disproportionately affected by these impacts?
- Based on available forecasts, what potential impacts could upcoming climate hazards have on these essential services?

4. Adaptive capacity and coping strategies

- What coping strategies or adaptive measures are communities currently using to manage climate-related hazards?
- Are these strategies effective in addressing current climate hazards? Please explain why or why not.
- Are the same strategies likely to be effective against anticipated or forecasted climate hazards? If not, what adjustments or additional strategies are needed?

5. Gaps, capacities, and support needs

- What specific resources, training, or support do communities or humanitarian organizations require to enhance their preparedness and response to climate-related hazards?
- Have any significant gaps in capacity been identified that limit effective climate risk management and response?

ANNEX E. 3/4/5WS FOR ADAPTATION

Enhanced 3/4/5Ws adapted for climate-responsive coordination could be useful to monitor and track activities. The table below offers some suggestions for adaptation.

W	Standard 5Ws field	Climate-enhanced addition
Who	Implementing partner or agency	Include a climate-focused organization to determine if the platform includes partners with climate experts.
What	Activity type	Adapt the list of activities to include climate-adapted and responsive actions. For example, climate-adapted latrines, climate-adapted safe spaces, etc.
Where	Location	Create a new category or tag (e.g. flood prone, extreme heat prone etc.) to record whether the area is hazard-prone or not, if feasible.
When	Timeline	No change

Abbreviations: 3/4/5Ws = who, what, where, when and why, HPC = Humanitarian Planning Cycle, [IASC = United Nations Inter-Agency Standing Committee](#), OCHA = United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs