

*Adaptation Forum at
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Communicating findings of national adaptation M&E systems

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Making sure M&E is useful

➤ Aims of M&E

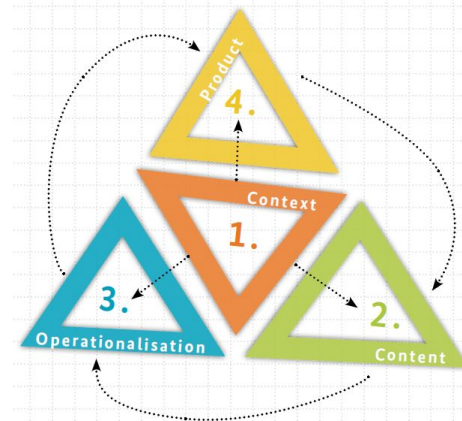
- Informing decision making

➤ Communication – a building block of NAP M&E systems

- M&E supplementary material on NAPs (GIZ & IISD, 2015)
- Developed in collaboration with the LEG and the Adaptation Committee

➤ Development process of the M&E system

- What is the **purpose** of M&E?
- What **information** is needed?
- **Who** needs to get it?
- **How** will it be communicated?



Global stocktake of NAP M&E systems

Download is free

➤ At least 70 countries have a NAP

- A detailed adaptation planning instrument
- Different titles (not all are called “NAP”)

➤ How many countries are tracking NAP implementation?

- Global Stocktake based on:
 - UNFCCC documents (including the NAP progress reports)
 - Reports from support organisations (GIZ, IIED, IISD, UNDP-UNEP)
 - Country reports
 - Information from country representatives and NAP support experts

➤ Evidence-based stocktake

- Seeking evidence that M&E is:
 - Being under development
 - Operational, i.e. progress reports or evaluations have been published

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Do governments track the implementation of national climate change adaptation plans? An evidence-based global stocktake of monitoring and evaluation systems

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Climate change adaptation
National adaptation plan
Adaptation policy
Global stocktake

ABSTRACT

Although over 70 countries adopted a national climate change adaptation plan (NAP), little is known about the extent to which these plans are implemented. NAP monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems can play an important role in tracking implementation but have rarely been studied. Based on a systematic review including networks to country representative and international organisations, a comprehensive inventory of NAP M&E systems is compiled documenting government practices from over 60 countries. In contrast to previous studies, this stocktake does not rely on stated intentions of M&E but requires evidence such as monitoring and evaluation reports. The extent of NAP M&E involvement globally and countries' respective status are determined and compared to a baseline from the 2017 Adaptation Gap Report of the United Nations Environment Programme. Results show a 40% increase in the number of countries that are developing or using NAP M&E systems and almost a doubling of published NAP evaluations. However, over 50% of countries that adopted a NAP do not systematically assess its implementation, leaving a critical gap in understanding the impacts of NAPs. These findings support calls for greater attention to the quality of adaptation planning and for assessing its implementation and effectiveness.

1. Introduction

Adaptation to climate change has been recognized as an important policy matter by more than 170 countries (Vachani et al., 2019). Since its adoption in 2015, the Paris Agreement has provided additional momentum by encouraging all countries to pursue national adaptation planning (UNFCCC, 2015, Article 7.9). The 2020 progress report on national adaptation plans (NAPs) by the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) found that 125 of the 154 developing countries had undertaken activities related to the process to formulate and implement NAPs¹ (UNFCCC, 2020a, paragraph 16). However, little is known about the extent to which these plans have been implemented and even less about their effects. Literature on adaptation governance has traditionally examined processes of adaptation planning and mainstreaming rather than their impacts on adaptation action (e.g., Invern et al., 2012; Molloy et al., 2013). More recently, attention has shifted to the quality of planning and its potential effectiveness (Möller et al., 2021; Olazabal and De Goguel, 2021; Runkhaar et al., 2018). The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) likewise observed: “There is a minority of academic literature that provides information on the implementation of adaptation plans. In contrast with the large accumulation of literature that discusses concepts, strategies, and plans of adaptation” (IPCC, 2014, p.677). In addressing this gap, this article examines if countries are tracking the implementation of their NAP and if they report on progress made. To date, literature on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of adaptation has predominantly focused on the level of projects or communities rather than at the national level (Boots et al., 2014; Adaptation Committee, 2016). Very few articles have addressed mechanisms that countries use to assess the implementation of their NAPs (Leiter, 2015; Klostermann et al., 2018). This article therefore conducts a global stocktake of NAP M&E systems and compares it to a baseline from 2017. In contrast to previous studies, it assesses the actual evidence of M&E practices rather than stated intentions of M&E in government documents. The article concludes by discussing the implications for our

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1462-9011/© 2021 The Author. Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

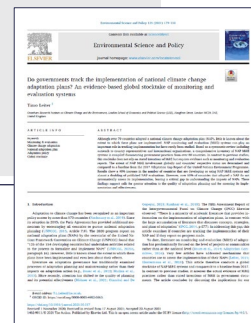


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Global stocktake of national adaptation M&E systems

Development phase				Application	
Early stage: 6	Stalled prior to 2015: 6	Advanced: 22	Approved: 5	NAP progress report published: 23*	NAP evaluation published: 15
Benin, Cook Islands, Jordan, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, Uganda	Australia, Mongolia, Nepal, Poland, Tanzania, Tunisia	Albania, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Grenada, Ireland, Moldova, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Peru, Rwanda, Senegal, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Vietnam	Finland, Indonesia, Philippines, St. Lucia, Turkey	Austria, Belgium (Flanders), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Cyprus, France, Germany, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands (Delta Programme), Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, South Africa, South Korea, Switzerland, United Kingdom *+ Sweden = 24	Belgium, Cambodia, Chile, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Netherlands, Philippines, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom



Communication format and frequency

➤ Formats

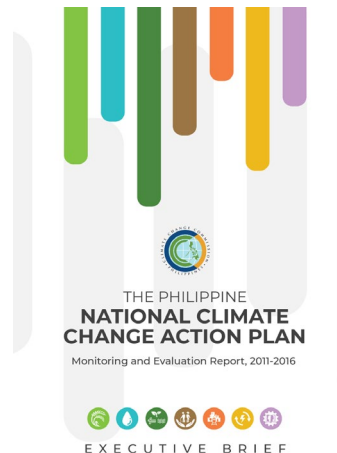
- **Most common: Written reports**, from 40 to >200 pages
- Typically every 2, 4 or 5 years
- Annual monitoring often aspired, but rarely done

➤ Accessibility

- Reports often hidden on Ministry websites
- Hard to find, shifting URLs

➤ Gaps

- Very limited use of **other publication formats**, e.g. Factsheets
- To reach different audiences
- **Social media**: e.g. via Twitter by the UK by the Committee on CC, but generally more scope for outreach on social media





Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Adaptation

The Department of Environmental Affairs National Desired Adaptation Outcomes (NDAO) was designed to monitor and track South Africa's progress on climate change, to that end, nine desired adaptation outcome goals were developed to establish progress across the country.

Where do you stand?

[Submit your Contribution](#)

Climate Change Adaptation Status Across South Africa

A simple pragmatic approach has been developed to monitor and evaluate the progress being made in achieving individual desired adaptation outcomes using traffic light colours as a scoring system to summarise progress.

RED indicates that no or only preliminary work has begun towards a goal, **AMBER** indicates that significant progress is being made towards a goal, and **GREEN** indicates that work on a goal is in an ideal state.

[DOWNLOAD DAO DATA](#) [SUBMIT YOUR CONTRIBUTION](#)

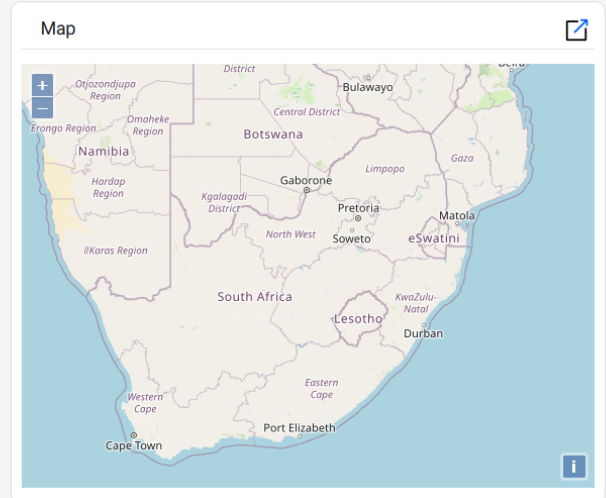
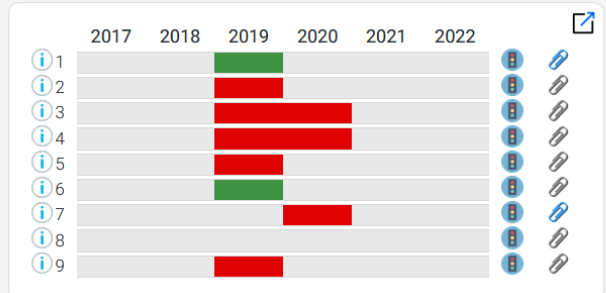
[More Information...](#)

Region (National) Sector (Any) Organisation/Institution (Government)

Goal-1: Plans, policy and actions Year: 2021 [CLEAR FILTERS](#)

Goal Details

Goal 1. Robust/integrated plans, policies and actions for effective delivery of climate change adaptation, together with monitoring, evaluation and review over the short, medium and longer-term.



NAP M&E websites

- Easier access
- More frequent outreach
- Link to social media

But rarely used so far

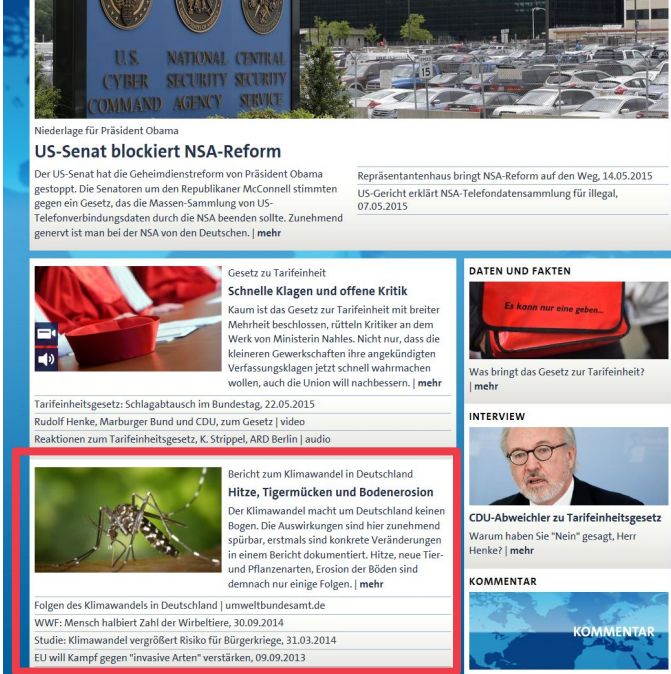
<https://ccis.environment.gov.za/ndao/#/>



Media campaigns

- Inform the audience
- Launch event with the press
- Interviews with the Minister

Example:
Germany's 1st NAP monitoring
report 2014 featured on the
German news website
www.tagesschau.de



The screenshot shows a news website interface. At the top, there is a banner image of the U.S. National Central Cyber Security Agency building. Below it, a headline reads "US-Senat blockiert NSA-Reform" with a sub-headline "Niederlage für Präsident Obama". To the right, a date "14.05.2015" is visible. Below the main headline, there is a short article snippet: "Der US-Senat hat die Geheimdienstreform von Präsident Obama gestoppt. Die Senatoren um den Republikaner McConnell stimmten gegen ein Gesetz, das die Massen-Sammlung von US-Telefonverbindungsdaten durch die NSA beenden sollte. Zunehmend genevnt ist man bei der NSA von den Deutschen. | mehr".

Below this, there are several smaller article snippets:

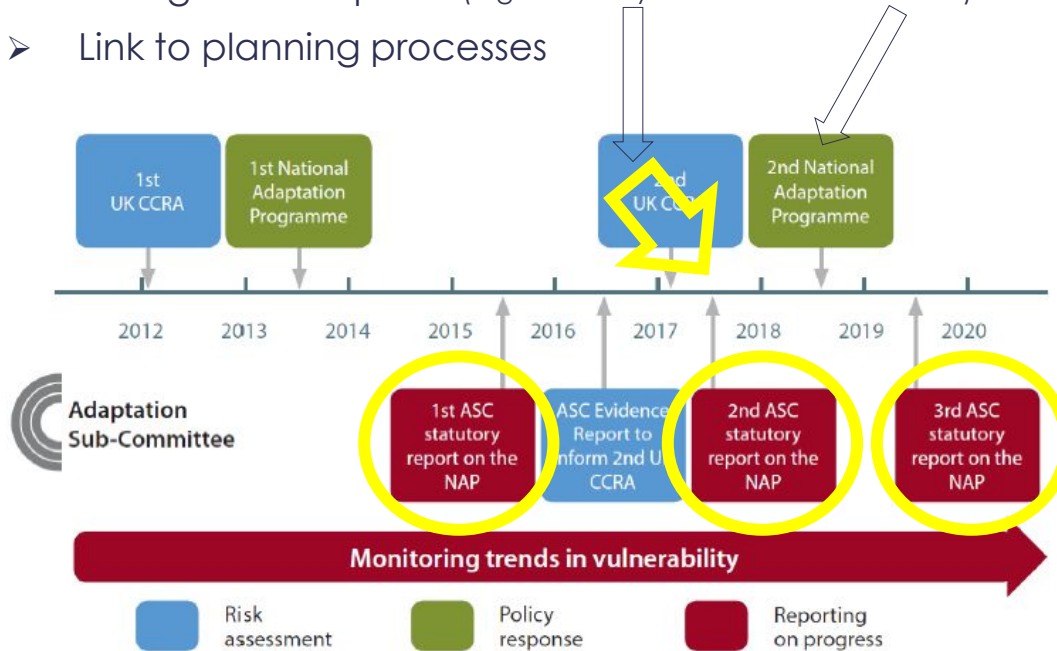
- Schnelle Klagen und offene Kritik**: "Gesetz zu Tarifeinheit". "Kaum ist das Gesetz zur Tarifeinheit mit breiter Mehrheit beschlossen, rütteln Kritiker an dem Werk von Ministerin Nahles. Nicht nur, dass die kleineren Gewerkschaften ihre angekündigten Verfassungsklagen jetzt schnell wahr machen wollen, auch die Union will nachbessern. | mehr".
- CDU-Abwechler zu Tarifeinheitsgesetz**: "Warum haben Sie 'Nein' gesagt, Herr Henke? | mehr".
- Hitze, Tigermücken und Bodenerosion**: "Bericht zum Klimawandel in Deutschland". "Der Klimawandel macht um Deutschland keinen Bogen. Die Auswirkungen sind hier zunehmend spürbar, erstmals sind konkrete Veränderungen in einem Bericht dokumentiert. Hitze, neue Tier- und Pflanzenarten, Erosion der Böden sind demnach nur einige Folgen. | mehr".

A red box highlights the "Hitze, Tigermücken und Bodenerosion" article snippet. Below it, there are more links: "Folgen des Klimawandels in Deutschland | umweltbundesamt.de", "WWF: Mensch halbiert Zahl der Wirbeltiere, 30.09.2014", "Studie: Klimawandel vergrößert Risiko für Bürgerkriege, 31.03.2014", and "EU will Kampf gegen 'invasive Arten' verstärken, 09.09.2013".

On the right side of the page, there are sections for "DATEN UND FAKTEN" (with a red bag icon and the text "Es kann nur eine geben..."), "INTERVIEW" (with a photo of a man), and "KOMMENTAR" (with a world map icon).

Link to decision making processes

- Timing of the reports (e.g. UK: one year before the next NAP)
- Link to planning processes



- Link becomes even stronger when it is mentioned in law
- E.g. UK Climate Act (2008) established the Committee on Climate Change and the duty for the government to respond to its policy recommendations

Conclusion

- **Making M&E useful:**
 - what information is needed, by whom, and how it reach the target audience?
- **Use different formats**
 - In addition to main reports: factsheets, briefings
 - Website (if feasible)
 - Social media
- Make sure reports are **easily findable** and remain available
- Launch events and campaign
- **Link to policy making processes**

More info: 



Open access:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1462901121002379?via%3Dihub>

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Do governments track the implementation of national climate change adaptation plans? An evidence-based global stocktake of monitoring and evaluation systems

Time Letter¹

Jonathan Borchers *Journal of Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom*

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Adaptation, monitoring and evaluation, climate change adaptation plans (CCAPs), data to inform action, the future in which low-carbon development (LCD) monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems can play an important role in tracking implementation for low-carbon development (LCD) based on a systematic review including evidence from energy organisations and international organisations, a comprehensive literature of M&E systems, a targeted literature search, government websites from 48 countries, 10 expert interviews, 10 case studies, and 10 interviews.

ABSTRACT

Background: The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) requires countries to monitor and evaluate their progress in implementing their national climate change adaptation plans (CCAPs). However, the extent of M&E systems (including data and systems) reported across the world is limited and fragmented. This paper provides a global stocktake of M&E systems (including data and systems) reported across the world and compares it to the UNFCCC requirements. The paper also provides a global stocktake of M&E systems (including data and systems) reported across the world and compares it to the UNFCCC requirements. The paper also provides a global stocktake of M&E systems (including data and systems) reported across the world and compares it to the UNFCCC requirements.

1. Introduction

Adaptation to climate change has been recognised as an important policy response to more than 170 countries (Dixon et al., 2015). Since the adoption of the 2015 Paris Agreement, the global attention has increased on monitoring and evaluating the progress of national climate change adaptation plans (CCAPs) (UNFCCC, 2015). The UNFCCC requires countries to monitor and evaluate their progress in implementing their national climate change adaptation plans (CCAPs) by the provision of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (UNFCCC, 2015).

Jonathan Borchers, PhD, is a senior research fellow at the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, which has been jointly funded by Imperial College London and the Grantham Foundation for the Prevention of Deserts and Droughts in the Developing World. He is also a senior research fellow at the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, which has been jointly funded by Imperial College London and the Grantham Foundation for the Prevention of Deserts and Droughts in the Developing World. He is also a senior research fellow at the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, which has been jointly funded by Imperial College London and the Grantham Foundation for the Prevention of Deserts and Droughts in the Developing World.

Footnotes:

¹ This article is part of the special issue 'Monitoring and Evaluation of Climate Change Adaptation Plans'.

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More information



adaptation
community.net

► Under Monitoring & Evaluation



Developing national adaptation monitoring and evaluation systems: A guidebook

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Adaptation made to measure

A handbook to the design and results based monitoring of climate change adaptation projects

Second edition

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Impact Evaluation Guidebook for Climate Change Adaptation Projects

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ResearchGate: Timo Leiter

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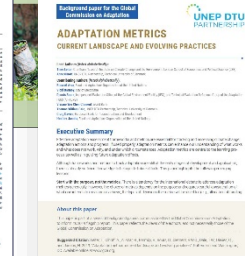
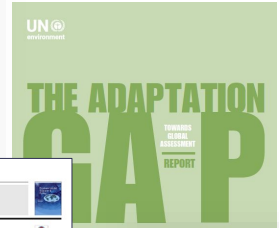
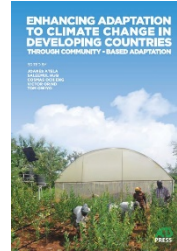
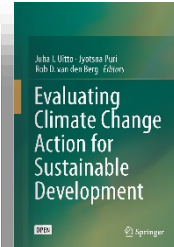
Pitfalls and potential of measuring climate change adaptation through adaptation metrics

Abstract

The need to understand progress climate change adaptation interventions, such as improved agricultural and forestry practices, is growing. However, the lack of standardised metrics and indicators, and the lack of clear guidance on how to use them, can lead to misleadingly assessing the impact of adaptation interventions. This paper identifies the pitfalls and potential of adaptation metrics by reviewing the international literature and key contributions to the field.



Adaptation Gap Report 2020





Publications on **ResearchGate**: Timo Leiter



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