

BRIEFING NOTE

Key Messages for COP 22

Call to Action on Water in the NDCs



Overall objective: *To support Parties in the implementation of Article 4 (e) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which commits the Parties to develop appropriate and integrated plans for coastal zone management and water resources, and to support the implementation of water and adaptation in NDCs as part of the Paris Agreement*

Key messages

The Global Water Partnership urges Parties to:

1. Develop and implement roadmaps and investment plans for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
2. Support project preparation and climate finance for water in NDCs and NAPs
3. Promote coherence between water-related actions under the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
4. Involve youth in the formulation and implementation of adaptation action

Key Message 1. Develop and implement roadmaps and investment plans for NDCs and NAPs

Purpose: To accelerate development of implementation roadmaps and investment plans for inclusive growth and climate resilient development

A wide range of water actions are proposed in the NDCs to meet different climate challenges. In addition, water is a key priority for adaptation action under other national development processes of countries.

Most NDCs are currently well embedded in these national development processes, and majority NDCs confirm that adaptation planning is underway, either with national adaptation plans, as a distinct exercise or part of national climate change strategies. This is key, and further work is required to turn the planned actions into implementable projects.

Key Message 2. Support project preparation and climate finance for water in NDCs and NAPs

Purpose: To ensure access to diversified financing for climate resilience and water security

Water has emerged as one of the key priority sectors in 75% of the submitted intended NDCs¹. However, financing is still lacking. In the Green Climate Fund portfolio of pipeline and approved projects reported on in its 14th meeting of the GCF Board, only 12% are specific to water. In addition,

a weak project pipeline at country level constrains the flow of finance to water.

An analysis made by GWP (forthcoming) shows that 66% had a broad profile of proposals for future action. Only 10% of 80 NDCs reviewed by GWP had detailed project proposals that could be turned into fundable projects. This gap needs to be narrowed through support to project preparation for financing.

Key Message 3. Promote coherence between water actions under the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Purpose: To ensure coherence and coordination of the implementation of water-related adaptation action under the Paris Agreement and the SDGs

The opportunity for change has been instituted at the heart of the UNFCCC system with NDCs as central to implementation of the Paris Agreement. SDGs on water and climate resilience

offer opportunities for progress. But the temptation to duplicate efforts must be resisted. Development planning frameworks need to enhance coherence across ministries and sectors in implementation of the NDCs and SDGs. Most NDCs that have been prepared recognize development priorities and align with national development planning.

Key Message 4. Involve youth in the formulation and implementation of adaptation action

Purpose: To unleash the potential of youth in addressing water and climate challenges

Young people – 50% of the population in certain regions – can and do play an important role in transforming societies. Involving youth and empowering them can create a deeper and active sense of ownership and responsibility, contributing to sustained interventions, building

trust and social capital in the community, and enabling them to become effective drivers for environmental and economic change. In order to achieve the renewed global ambitions of SDGs and the Paris Agreement, a renewed global partnership between generations is needed. Water-related youth networks and other partners need to shift gear and bring their collaboration to the next level.

Pay attention to water

Water is key to the world's ability to cope with climate change, and the impacts range from severe floods, droughts, changes in seasonality and precipitation regimes.

2015 marked a key milestone in the international development agenda:

- The international community adopted a global water goal as part of the 2030 sustainable development agenda and water is key to achieving the other 16 goals.
- 'Water crises' led the World Economic Forum's top 10 global risks to business and economic development
- Under the Paris Agreement, in the INDCs, water emerges as the lead priority sector for adaptation actions-in view of the climate hazards

¹ Aggregate effect of the intended nationally determined contributions: an update (FCCC/CP/2016/2)