

Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda

The global transformations towards
adaptive and resilient development

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Foreword - COP 27 Presidency

Extreme weather events from heat waves, floods, and forest fires have become an everyday reality of our lives. Enhanced global action on adaptation and resilience is an utmost priority.

Recognising that progress towards adapting to climate consequences and enhancing resilience is crucially needed, the COP 27 Presidency presents the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda. This agenda portrays a total of 30 global adaptation outcome targets by 2030 that are urgently needed to increase resilience of 4 billion people to accelerate transformation across five impact systems: food and agriculture, water and nature, coastal and oceans, human settlements, and infrastructure, and including enabling solutions for planning and finance.

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda will serve as aspirational adaptation outcomes for global adaptation action towards 2030, and to inform state and non-state adaptation agendas. The 30 global adaptation outcome targets will continue to be enhanced and refined based on scientific results.

The COP 27 Presidency, through the collaboration with High-Level Champions, Marrakech Partnership and a number of specialised UN agencies, is keen to follow-up on the progress achieved in implementing Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda. It is our aspiration that adaptation and resilience be placed at the forefront of global action.

1. THE SHARM-EL-SHEIKH ADAPTATION AGENDA

1.1. The Challenge

Global climate action towards 1.5°C is accelerating across the economy, from deforestation-free supply chains to electric vehicles from green steel to green hydrogen. Pledges on mitigation by businesses, investors, cities, regions, civil society and national governments demonstrate the power of collective ambition and innovation towards a net zero world. Yet emissions continue to rise and climate devastation continues to intensify. The momentum behind 1.5°C needs to translate urgently into implementation.

Solving for decarbonisation is not enough; it is only part of the equation. Past emissions have already pushed our planet into the danger zone. We are approaching five disastrous climate tipping points with potential cascading effects.¹ The IPCC AR 6 report is clear that climate impacts are increasing and that most of them are interconnected and often irreversible.²

We need to simultaneously muster efforts behind adaptation and resilience implementation solutions as millions of people globally are already experiencing the economic, social and ecosystem impacts of climate change. In 2021 alone, extreme weather driven by climate change caused over USD 170 billion in damages.³ Urgent action is needed now at an unprecedented pace and scale.

Global adaptation action and finance is growing - but not fast enough, not equally across geographies, and mostly comes from the public sector. For example, 39% of the average USD 29.5 billion in climate finance for Africa in 2019 and 2020 went towards adaptation. Yet just 3% of those funds came from the private sector.⁴

To deliver climate action, whole-scale transformations are needed on two fronts:

- To get to net zero emissions as soon as possible to prevent incremental damage;
- To significantly increase actions and investments to adapt now to the current and unavoidable impacts of climate change, putting people and nature first in pursuit of a resilient world where we don't just survive climate shocks and stresses but thrive in spite of them.

¹ Armstrong McKay DI, Staal A, Abrams JF, Winkelmann R, Sakschewski B, Loriani S, Fetzer I, Cornell SE, Rockström J, Lenton TM. Exceeding 1.5°C global warming could trigger multiple climate tipping points. *Science*. 9 September 2022.

² IPCC, *Climate change: a threat to human wellbeing and health of the planet*, posted on 28 February 2022.

³ Christian Aid, "Counting the cost 2021: a year of climate breakdown," 2021.

⁴ Global Center on Adaptation, *Financial Innovation for Climate Adaptation in Africa*, 2022.

Adaptation refers to the process for human and natural ecosystems to adjust to actual or expected climate change and its effects in order to moderate harm or exploit potential benefits. Adaptation is needed to ensure the safety of populations and the security of assets.⁵ Resilience is the capacity of social, economic and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event, trend or disturbance, responding or reorganising in ways that maintain their essential function, identity and structure while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning and transformation.

Recognising that adaptation implementation and resilience is lagging compared with mitigation, a consolidated action agenda across stakeholders is required.

Many different actors across the world are working to deliver adaptation actions and enhance resilience across several thematic priorities, but without common and tangible targets. Resilience is needed globally but starts with local adaptation solutions that depend on the specific context of geographies and communities, and takes into account the needs and preferences of the most vulnerable people. A set of intermediate milestones are needed to help give direction to these transformative solutions for tangible and attainable outcomes for adaptation of both natural and human systems.

In response to this challenge, hereby, the COP 27 Presidency launches the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda in partnership with the High-Level Champions and a number of UN specialised agencies.

1.2. The Opportunity

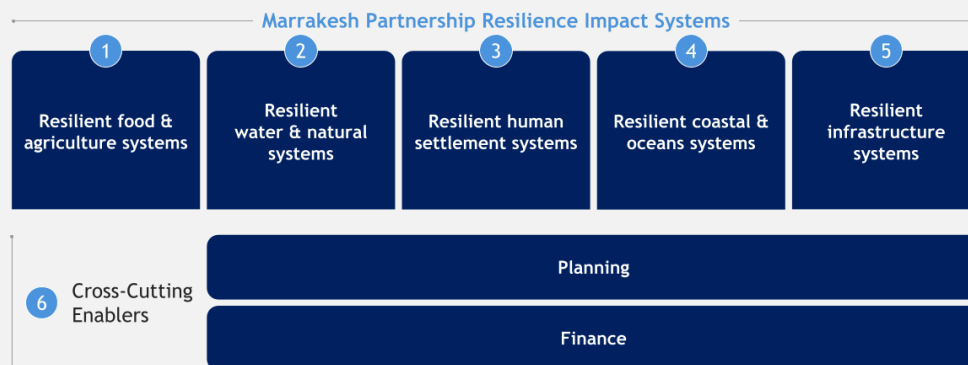
Accelerating adaptation action and building a resilient world at pace and scale requires alignment, collaboration and common vision. Incremental changes to gradually adapt to the different climate hazards and recover essential functions within society is no longer sufficient; societies need to rapidly accelerate action creating what the IPCC calls transformative solutions and building climate resilient development through a more holistic approach. The individual efforts of regions, cities, businesses, investors and civil society taking climate action is critical – but racing in their tracks alone will only get us part of the way. We need coordinated action from different players across economic, natural and social systems to achieve a genuine step-change in progress towards adaptation and resilience.

Adaptation and resilience transformative solutions are advanced when multiple sectors and actors move in synchronisation to deploy ideas and manage climate risks, mutually reinforce sectoral transformations, and enhance innovation on how finance, governance, policy and access to technology and information are delivered. When many of these groups of actors across several sectors see each other working towards a common milestone, their actions and progress mutually reinforce to overcome obstacles, break silos, enhance synergies and create catalytic action.

⁵IPCC, [Annex](#), 2022.

1.3. Defining Impact Systems

The Marrakech Partnership defined five key *impact systems* to structure Resilience initiatives globally as part of the Climate Action Pathways; the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda defines attainable outcome targets across the impact systems and cross-cutting enablers.⁶ Building on the [Global Commission on Adaptation Flagship Report](#) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals and bringing together global aspirations, these adaptation outcomes present a guiding star for the long-term ambitions of a resilient world.



Each impact system under the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda counts with **tangible and trackable measures of our progress to accelerate adaptation towards resilience and of the work being done within the non-State actor (NSA) community.** To that end, specific targets have been identified based on existing targets based on science with an emphasis on delivering action by 2030. These targets consolidate the work of existing and new adaptation and resilience initiatives. Collectively, they articulate what key actors must do, and by when, to deliver systems change. This creates a shared vision for how all the different players in a system can contribute to the whole.

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda is informed by an analysis of the hazards that vulnerable communities face and actions needed to build resilience against those hazards. The intensity of these hazards varies globally but they represent an existential threat to billions of people. The major threats can be summarised as:⁷

1. Ocean warming and acidification;
2. Coastal flooding;
3. River flooding;
4. Extreme wet weather events (e.g. storms, cyclones);
5. Droughts;
6. Extreme heats (e.g. wildfires);
7. Soil erosion.

Climate risks are a combination of hazards, together with the vulnerability and exposure of communities and ecosystems. Each adaptation outcome addresses at least one of the hazards and seeks to reduce the vulnerability and exposure to that hazard to improve the resilience of communities and ecosystems.

⁶ Marrakech Partnership Climate Action Pathways, 2021.

⁷ McKinsey, The Climate Resilience Challenge, 2021.

1.4. The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda has Adaptation Outcomes at the core.

Adaptation outcomes define simple, specific, measurable indicators delivered through specific high-impact solutions that are applicable on a large-scale, impacting many people across multiple geographies. They guide progress, focusing on people protected and the finance mobilised towards that goal. Given their complexity, they need collective action to deliver - depending on NSAs, governments and other important stakeholders across geographies.

Below is the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda with global Adaptation Outcome targets, and in line with the ambitions of regionalisation and localisation there is a spotlight on Africa which includes the Africa commitments supporting the 2030 Adaptation Outcome targets as well as reference to the COP 27 Presidency initiatives. The Adaptation Outcome Targets have been identified in consultation with NSAs across sectors. These lists are not exhaustive, we recognize the set of Adaptation Outcome targets can be expanded and improved. We welcome feedback and suggestions to further refine and expand them.

GLOBAL	
Impact System	Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda with Global 2030 Adaptation Outcome Targets
1. Food Security and Agriculture Systems	Climate resilient, sustainable agriculture increases yields by 17% and reduces farm level greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 21%, without expansion of the agricultural frontier.
	Halve the share of food production lost, and per capita food waste (relative to 2019).
	Healthy alternative proteins capture 15% of the global meat and seafood market.
	The global consumption of fruits, vegetables, seeds, nuts and legumes increases 1.5 times.
2. Water and Nature Systems	Protection of 45 million hectares (lands and inland waters), 2 billion hectares sustainable management and 350 million hectares restoration of land securing legal indigenous and local communities with use of nature-based solutions to improve water security and livelihoods.
	By 2025: financial institutions contribute to halting land conversion by eliminating commodity-driven deforestation from portfolios and tap into nature-based solutions investment opportunities of USD 354 billion/year needed by 2030.
	Water systems are smart, efficient and robust with a reduction in water loss through leakage.*
	Wastewater systems maximise recycling and reuse alongside natural wetland filtration with zero environmental spillage.*
	Sustainable irrigation systems are implemented across 20% of global croplands to preserve water availability whilst supporting yield growth.
3. Human Settlements Systems	1 billion people have better design, construction and access to finance to live in decent, safe homes. ⁸
	Smart and early warning systems reach 3 billion people.

⁸ Incorporating from concept through to architectural design, planning and delivery of buildings

	<p>USD 1 trillion invested in nature based solutions for communities in urban areas.</p> <p>Harden social infrastructure to ensure access to basic and essential community services.*</p> <p>Increased use of waste as a secondary resource boosts the livelihoods of informal workers and reduces open waste burning by 60%, lowering pollution levels and improving the health of local communities.</p>
4. Ocean and Coastal Systems	<p>Invest USD 4 billion to secure the future of 15 million hectares of mangroves globally through collective action on halting mangrove loss, restoring half of recent losses, doubling protection of mangroves globally and ensuring sustainable long-term finance for all existing mangroves.</p> <p>Halt loss, protect and restore coral reefs to support people in tropical communities.*</p> <p>Halt loss, protect and restore seagrass, marshes, and kelp forests to support people in temperate communities.*</p> <p>Urban coastline is protected by grey and hybrid solutions⁹.*</p>
5. Infrastructure Systems	<p>A diverse set of energy generation sources enable affordable access to electricity for 679 million unconnected people and higher quality access for 1 billion underserved people through climate resilient energy systems.</p> <p>2.4 billion people with access to clean cooking through at least USD 10 billion/year in innovative finance for clean cooking action worldwide.</p> <p>585 GW of battery storage capacity and extension of transmission and distribution networks enable decentralised generation and consumption.</p> <p>2.2 billion people access low-cost, clean vehicles and mobility solutions through the expansion of affordable public and private transport services.</p> <p>Transport infrastructure is resilient to climate hazards through adoption of new technology, design and materials.*</p>
6. Cross-cutting: Planning	<p>10,000 cities and 100 regional governments have evidence-based, actionable adaptation plans.</p> <p>2,000 of the world's largest companies developed actionable adaptation plans.</p> <p>Universal access to the tools and information required to integrate climate risks into decision making from local to global levels.</p> <p>Operationalisation of National Adaptation Plans and Locally-Led Principles, enabling adaptation in a country-driven localised and consultative manner.</p>
7. Crosscutting: Finance	<p>Private sector integrates physical climate risks into investment decisions and continues to innovate mechanisms for financing adaptation and resilience so as to enable the mobilisation of the USD 140 to USD 300 billion that will be needed across both public and private sources.</p> <p>Public finance actors increase provision of climate finance and allocate 50% of climate funds to adaptation and resilience.</p> <p>Global property and casualty insurance sector has an industry capabilities framework, actively supports project implementation, and institutionalises a longer-term industry approach to climate adaptation.</p>

⁹ 'Grey' solutions are entirely non-natural. Hybrid measures or approaches use a combination of green and grey (natural and non-natural) elements and offer related co-benefits (e.g., sea walls that are designed synergistically with ecosystem restoration and/or provide wildlife habitat). Anderson et al, [Green, hybrid or grey](#), 2022

Non-state actors have a key role in delivering climate action and catalyzing high ambitions. We are recognising African initiatives and partners that support these 2030 outcome targets and elevating their work in the table below.

AFRICA	
Impact System	Africa Commitments supporting the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda and 2030 Adaptation Outcome Targets
1. Food Security and Agriculture Systems	<p>The Africa Food Systems Transformation Initiative drives finance towards development of sustainable agriculture and food value chains.</p> <p>AIM4C doubles investment from USD 4 to 8 billion (COP 26 pledge).</p>
2. Water & Nature Systems	<p>African Cities Water Adaptation Fund (ACWA Fund)- leverage USD 5 billion in finance by 2032 to jumpstart transformative urban water resilience projects in 100 African cities, with at least USD 3 million committed for immediate piloting in two African cities.</p> <p>Impact: Water resilience for 29 million people in 100 African cities improved; 69,000 jobs created and 137 million cubic metres of water saved.</p>
3. Human Settlements Systems	<p>Phase out open waste burning from Africa by 2050 through addressing the systemic deficiencies of waste management and promotion of circularity through reuse and recycling.</p>
5. Infrastructure Systems	<p>One billion people with clean power, 4 billion tonnes GHG emissions avoided, 150 million green jobs created.</p> <p>A focus on Green Hydrogen through the Africa Green Hydrogen Alliance (AGHA).</p>
	<p>1 billion people with access through USD 8 billion in innovative finance for clean cooking action on the African continent.</p>
7. Crosscutting: Finance	<p>Stimulate disaster risk finance to de-risk the increased climate shock vulnerabilities through an Africa risk premium fund: build resilience with USD 2 billion worth of insurance premium for a total of USD 14 billion worth of risk transfer covering 1.4 billion people against floods, droughts, and tropical cyclones.</p>
	<p>Double Africa's issuance of carbon credits in the global market at a value creating price above USD 10/tonne.</p> <p>An efficient African carbon and biodiversity credit market with a determined price floor, integrity credits, interoperable platforms and transparency which provides significant value on the African continent to power green development and livelihoods.</p>

The Adaptation Outcomes are currently at different levels of maturity - some are supported by a number of effective projects or initiatives, others have fewer and more nascent initiatives behind them. Despite efforts, no global targets have been defined in many of these areas (denoted with a *) to propel action towards systems resilience. The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda therefore calls on all non-state and state actors to rally around these critical solutions for adaptation and resilience, to help define the need and the targets for these solutions, and to implement them at scale.

See Section 3 for more details on the partners and programmes driving implementation of these outcomes.

1.5. Radical Collaboration

Cities, regions, businesses, investors and civil society play a critical role in accelerating adaptation action that builds resilience. Non-State actors provide financing and insurance, implement adaptation solutions with nature, hybrid or hard engineering, build knowledge and capabilities, collaborate in partnerships, support communities and deliver technology to improve risk management, among others. Non-State actors understand the direct impacts of climate change and recognise the urgent need of taking immediate action. The opportunity lies in the coordinated efforts among non-State actors and national governments. However, as with progress on mitigation, a holistic effort is required to make a real impact. Non-State actors are critical to ensuring that systemic change occurs to reach adaptation goals and enhance resilience.

The Champions and the COP 27 Presidency have framed the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda as the agenda of solutions that bring together the adaptation transformative actions and system level resilience. Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda defines the need and opportunity, and provides specific targets at a system level - but with the flexibility for local application. They place people at the centre and are focused on the highest impact solutions that target a large number of the most vulnerable coastal, rural and urban communities by addressing the most pressing climate risk and hazards. The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda consolidates efforts across the Champions and other resilience actors to unite behind clear actionable targets and solutions needed to achieve the Race to Resilience goal of making 4 billion vulnerable people more resilient by 2030.



The transition to a climate resilient world will occur through system transformation across sectors and the harmonised response of multiple actors across multiple levels towards common goals. The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda is organised around clear 2030 outcome targets of adaptation and resilience action that are measurable and attainable. The aim is to further mobilise NSAs and facilitate and strengthen their coordination and in support of state efforts to increase resilience.

The goal of the Race to Resilience is ultimately about people: making 4 billion vulnerable people more resilient by 2030. In order to tangibly connect the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda to this goal, we are working with NSAs to identify specific impact targets for the number of people to benefit, and where possible, the finance required to better mobilise actors towards each outcome.

System transformation cannot happen at the pace and scale required if individual entities work in isolation from one another. The challenges of competition and inertia often deter ambition, where individual actors cannot make the first move without putting themselves at a distinct disadvantage in the near term. Rather, transformative adaptation happens when different actors - across sectors - move in synchronisation to support a resilient transition in a way that ultimately benefits them all, including activating the positive ambition loop between State and Non-State actors.

The role of the Champions, working with the Marrakech Partnership, is to help catalyse the climate action ecosystem towards these adaptation outcomes. The Champions will do this by encouraging radical collaboration across actors to showcase the highest impact initiatives and projects currently in operation, identifying priority areas that require more impactful projects, highlighting bottlenecks and helping channel additional funding into initiatives.

2. MOBILISING ADAPTATION OUTCOMES

Achieving adaptation outcomes requires mobilising partners and initiatives across the ecosystem towards these shared targets. In the section below, we detail the momentum behind these targets, as well as the actors and partners working towards outcomes. We also spotlight Africa-specific solutions, outcomes and initiatives from the Marrakech Partnership and the COP 27 Presidency, as well as broader Race to Resilience Partners.

2.1. Food and Agriculture Systems

Climate change poses significant risks to food and agriculture systems across the full value chain (production, processing, distribution, consumption), affecting food security and negatively impacting the planet, nutrition and health, social equity, and the economy. Extreme weather and drought can decrease water inputs thereby decreasing agricultural yields - drought frequency and duration has increased by ~33% globally since 2000.¹⁰ This has knock-on effects on the four pillars of food security: availability, access, utilisation, and stability. The decrease in food security results in negative impacts on the planet and people - including increased land usage and deforestation and decreased biodiversity, increased malnutrition, hunger and political instability, and the economy.

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda for Food and Agriculture focuses on four outcomes:

- a. Climate resilient, sustainable agriculture increases yields by 17% and reduces farm level GHG emissions by 21%, without expansion of the agricultural frontier.¹¹** This should include:
 - Diversifying production towards more resource-efficient and climate resilient crops
 - Implementation of regenerative practices to improve soils and ecosystems, crop yields, and nutrient density

- b. Halve the share of food production lost and per capita food waste (relative to 2019).¹²** This should include:
 - Reducing food loss in the global south (45-83% of total loss and waste) through improved harvesting techniques and post-harvest storage and logistics
 - Reducing food waste in the global north (57-68% of total loss and waste) through improved use of treatments, consumer education, labelling, and expanded composting infrastructure

¹⁰ United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Drought in Numbers, 2022.

¹¹ WRI's Creating a Sustainable Food Future Report, 2019, outlines the 2030 challenge of nutritiously feeding 10 billion people, on the same amount of land, while reducing farm level emissions in line with Paris Agreement goals. The Breakthrough Agenda State of Systems Transition Report, to be launched 16 September 2022, estimates yield increases of 17% and emission reduction requirements of 21%.

¹² The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 seeks to "ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns." The third target under this SDG (Target 12.3) calls for cutting in half per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer level, and reducing food losses along production and supply chains (including post-harvest losses) by 2030. See further guidance on SDG 12.3 through Champions 12.3.

c. Healthy alternative proteins capture 15% of the global meat and seafood market.¹³ This should include:

- Increasing production of healthy plant-based proteins, plant-based meat alternatives, and cultured meat
- Improving consumer education and food marketing to drive consumer demand

d. The global consumption of fruits, vegetables, seeds, nuts and legumes increases 1.5 times.¹⁴ This should include:

- Increasing production of nutrient-dense foods
- Improving distribution and access to nutritious foods, particularly in the global south

Achieving these adaptation outcomes will require substantial policy action and mobilisation of funds. On policy, actions should include incentivising scaling of green technology (e.g. subsidising organic fertilisers and precision agriculture), creating a policy framework to drive change in consumer demand (e.g. subsidising fruit and vegetables), and transitioning away from policies that promote unhealthy practices (e.g. re-purposing and increasing agricultural subsidies to support regenerative practices). On funding, actions should include investment from the global north in subsidies to drive regenerative practices, support for the global south's transition in adaptation and resilience, and creation of a safety net for the global south's response to climate shocks. Across policy and funding, accelerated development of credible carbon markets are needed to accelerate the transition.

Africa Spotlight

There is a specific need for relevant and localised targets for Africa, particularly around finance. 2030 outcome targets include:

- By 2030 the gap of USD 40 - 200 billion/year is filled by blended finance, through 10 times increased in private sector commercial investment to climate-resilient, sustainable food and agriculture
- AIM for Climate (AIM4C) doubles investment and number of overall innovation sprints

The COP 27 Presidency and the Champions, especially through their Africa team, are working with the Africa Food Systems Transformation Initiative (AFSTI) to channel blended finance to value chains through agribusinesses. AFSTI aims to implement concrete actions that would result in improving the quantity and quality of climate finance contributions to transform the agrifood system by 2030, to support adaptation to maintain a 1.5-degree pathway whilst supporting food and economic security.

Egypt as COP 27 Presidency, in partnership with World Health Organization (WHO) and partners are also launching **I-CAN: Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition** - a multistakeholder, multisectoral global flagship initiative that will help foster

¹³ In "Food for Thought, the Protein Transformation", Boston Consulting Group anticipates alternative proteins could capture up to 15% of the global protein market (by volume), with supportive regulation and technological step-changes. Additional analysis from Ernst and Young also suggests growth in the alternative protein market. Health considerations need to be accounted for, and were raised during consultation on this breakthrough. They estimate a baseline market share of 2% in 2020.

¹⁴ In the EAT-Lancet Commission Report, the authors state that, by 2050 "global consumption of fruits, vegetables, nuts and legumes will have to double". By 2030, we need to prioritise access and consumption of these healthy, core food items, at a global scale. Various policy tools, such as fruit and vegetable subsidies and national nutrition guidelines will assist in this transition to healthier, sustainable diets.

collaboration, accelerate transformative action that addresses the critical nexus of health, nutrition and climate change. I-CAN aims to achieve a 20% increase in the nutrient component of the school meals by 2030 through shifting towards affordable, sustainable and healthy diets, with a focus on Africa and developing countries.

Beyond Africa, the Marrakech Partnership is working with multiple organisations that are advancing these solutions. These include: Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM4C); Africa Food Systems Transformation Initiative (AFSTI); Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), EAT Foundation and the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition. The Sustainable Consumption and Diets Platform, Global Alliance for Future of Food and Good Food Institute have also been championing this agenda - and we encourage more organisations to support this critical work.

Race to Resilience Partners are developing a wide range of solutions that aim to support food and agriculture businesses and improve climate resilience at the production level. Other partners are focused on elevating farmer driven agendas, ensuring that effective solutions are widely shared and seeking to scale up regenerative agricultural practices, such as Agriculture for 1.5. There are also partners like Scale for Resilience focused on guiding financial flows to create the conditions to finance nature-based solutions at scale through innovative digital tools, smart data and collaboration.

2.2. Water & Nature Systems

Nature and water - and the communities that depend on them - are highly exposed and vulnerable to climate shocks. Agriculture lands, wildlands and rural communities are exposed to extreme heat, causing wildfires that destroy ecosystems and droughts that lead to famine. Riverine communities may face river flooding and soil erosion that destroys ecosystems and infrastructure. As ecosystem degradation continues, we are likely to hit 'tipping points' beyond which the earth cannot sustain itself, and the rate of degradation is likely to accelerate with devastating consequences for people and nature.

To protect people we must protect nature - and nature itself can also hold the solution to building resilience. The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda focus on five outcomes for water and nature resilience:

- a. **Protection of 45 million hectares (lands and inland waters), 2 billion hectares sustainable management and 350 million hectares restoration of land securing legal indigenous and local communities with use of nature-based solutions to improve water security and livelihoods¹⁵**
- b. **By 2025: Financial institutions contribute to halting land conversion by eliminating commodity-driven deforestation from portfolios and tap into Nature-based Solutions investment opportunity of USD 354 billion/year**

¹⁵ [New York Declaration of Forests](#) call for global action for forest protection, restoration and sustainable use includes 10 goals such as restoring degraded lands, this is supported by the [Bonn Challenge](#) which adds 150m ha of land into restoration by 2020. [IPCC & IPBES](#) reports stress the importance of protection of nature. The [Campaign for Nature](#) collaborates with partners such as [Business for Nature](#), to promote the [30 x 30 goal](#) to protect 30% of the Planet's [Land and Water by 2030](#).

needed by 2030¹⁶

- c. **Water systems are smart, efficient and robust with a reduction in water loss through leakage**
- d. **Wastewater systems maximise recycling and reuse alongside natural wetland filtration with zero environmental spillage**
- e. **Sustainable irrigation systems are implemented across 20% of global croplands to preserve water availability whilst supporting yield growth¹⁷**

Despite efforts and successes to implement resilience solutions, no global targets exist for water loss or wastewater systems to propel action. The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda therefore calls on all non-state and state actors to rally around these critical solutions for water loss and wastewater systems, to help define the need and the targets for these solutions, and to implement them at scale.

Africa Spotlight

In Africa, there is a specific need for relevant and localised targets that accelerate action on water and nature. 2030 outcome targets include:

- At COP 26, >USD 2 billion was assigned by COP 27 to the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) towards restoration of degraded land, with a target to raise an estimated USD 70 billion per year to restore 128mHa of degraded land by 2030
- Deforestation free supply chains of key commodities (palm oil, soy, beef, leather, pulp and paper, and rubber) must be delivered, with a target to recruit more than 10 African financial institutions to join the deforestation free commitment

Further, there is a specific need for water and nature solutions that integrate with emerging urban infrastructure on a fast-growing continent. The [African Cities Water Adaptation Fund](#) (ACWA Fund) led by WRI and the ACWA Platform (a growing coalition of over 20 organisations and African cities), aims to leverage USD 5 billion in finance by 2032 to jumpstart transformative UWR projects in 100 African cities. The ambition is to build water resilience for 29 million people in 100 African cities, create 69,000 jobs and save 137 million cubic metres of water.

The COP 27 Presidency is also endorsing the **Action on Water Adaptation and Resilience (AWARe)**, an initiative championed with a goal to catalyse inclusive cooperation for water, including decreasing water losses and improving water supply.

¹⁶ [Accountability Framework](#): a common approach for ethical supply chains in agriculture and forestry, the SBTi FLAG and other scientific efforts support tackling commodity driven deforestation by 2025. The Finance and Deforestation advisory group (including the High Level Champions) have rallied 35 financial institutions to [sign up to a Commitment to Increase Investments in NBS and eliminate agricultural commodity-driven deforestation](#) from their portfolios. The [State of Finance for Nature](#) report finds that approximately USD 113 billion/ year currently flows into nature-based solutions (using 2020 as a base year). The report finds investment ought to at least triple by 2030 if the world is to meet climate change, biodiversity and land degradation targets.

¹⁷ Rosa et al, Global Agricultural Economic Water scarcity, 2020, estimate that 15 to 25% of the global croplands could be irrigated sustainably contributing to future food security. A sustainable irrigation expansion into these areas could increase global food production by 6 to 8% and feed an additional 620 to 840 million people while avoiding agricultural expansion into natural ecosystems.

Race to Resilience Partner, the **Global Evergreening Alliance** runs the Restore Africa programme, which directly supports 1.5 million small-scale farming households to restore 1.9 million hectares of degraded land across 6 countries in East and Southern Africa. Restore Africa will accelerate and massively scale-up the adoption of contextually appropriate agroforestry practices whilst drawing down and storing globally significant volumes of carbon in the landscape. The initiative is being jointly launched at COP 27 with AFR100, and will deliver more than 5% of the aggregate land restoration targets of participating countries.

There are many Marrakech Partnership and Race to Resilience partners as well as others leading organisations working globally that are already contributing to these outcomes and delivering results.

- The [Water Resilience Coalition](#) aims to build resilience of the freshwater basins on which we all depend, and address the issues affecting the health of the world's fresh water resources. Formed by CEOs from seven major companies together with the UN Global Compact's CEO Water Mandate, this Race to Resilience Partner convenes companies who have pledged to make the needed investments in their own operations, as well as work together through collective action, to accomplish three overarching commitments by 2050.
- The [Transforming Investment in Africa's Rainfed Agriculture \(TIARA\)](#) initiative, run by the Stockholm International Water Institute,, aims to change the patterns for water investments in Africa to match existing structures and realise better rainwater management. Enhanced rainfed agriculture can bring much needed food security and climate resilience for smallholder farmers whilst regenerating rural economies.
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Africa Water Association (AfWA), SIWI and other regional partners have developed Source Water Protection Partnership for Africa (SWAPP) to scale out Watersheds Investment work in Africa through policy review, financing and engagement of local communities who are the key watershed keepers. This draws lessons from the success of the [Upper Tana - Nairobi Water Fund](#) (UTNWF), which is working with over 50,000 small holder farmers in protecting Nairobi's source watersheds and Greater Cape Town Water Fund, where local communities work to remove invasive species in watersheds saving 56 billion litres each year enough to provide 2 months of city water needs.
- The [Nature for Water Facility](#) is a collaboration between The Nature Conservancy and Pegasys. It provides technical assistance to local clients developing watershed investment programmes that employ nature-based solutions for water security, biodiversity, climate and livelihood outcomes. Over a 4-year period, the initiative aims to execute 40+ watershed investment programs and will open source its tools and learnings to scale nature-based solutions within the broader water sector.
- [WWF - The Blue Heart of Africa](#) is a framework initiative that will ensure that Africa's freshwater resources are effectively managed and conserved to sustain locally and globally important ecosystems, biodiversity and provide a foundation for sustainable development and secure livelihoods. Advocating for implementation of large scale nature-based solutions to accelerate adaptation and resilience building against freshwater related risks of climate change including flooding, droughts, rise in sea water levels and city storms.

Under **Cities Race to Resilience**, a number of cities are undertaking and reporting on actions aimed at increasing water resilience. Examples include:

- **Tagum City** (Philippines) recognizes the need to promote the proper harvesting, storage and utilisation of rainwater, since power and water interruptions are two of the pressing problems in the city. Rainwater harvesting facilities are now required in government buildings and encouraged in individual residential buildings and commercial establishments.
- **Nottingham** (United Kingdom) runs efficiency projects installed at three city locations, delivering reduced consumption, reducing overall water demand. Water efficiency is being actively promoted through internal and external media channels. WELS is internally funded by the council and will operate as a cyclical fund with money loaned to fund projects and repaid back into the fund from the utilities savings. The city also focuses on the increased water demand in the region, by ensuring timely, accurate metering is obtained and working to reduce leakage across the council estate. Phase 2 of the project will support water efficiency retrofits, rainwater harvesting and reclamation projects and explore alternative private supplies. Water efficiency education will be delivered to improve knowledge and deliver a behaviour led reduction in water consumption.
- The **London** Resilience Strategy (United Kingdom) promotes ways of decreasing water wastage to use water sustainably. This action aims to explore collaborative ways of promoting water saving measures, building on existing programmes and initiatives with stakeholders. The action will provide data on the feasibility of wider public awareness initiatives that promote actions to help manage water scarcity. Lessons learned from the trial will be used to develop better targeted policies, including potential scale ups that will allow London to move towards communicating larger scale water efficiency initiatives.

2.3. Human Settlement Systems

Human Settlements encompass places, spaces and networks made for humans, by humans, and to be used for human activity. Ranging from buildings, parks or green spaces to rural neighbourhoods and urban developments - all human settlements will be affected by climate change. Populations tend to be focused in cities, but extend into rural and coastal areas, each with specific needs in regards to climate hazards. The degree to which human settlements will be impacted by climate change depends on the exposure to different types of hazard - from flooding and sea level rise to extreme heat and wildfires - and the vulnerability of people living there. Cities are under-resourced and under-prepared for climate change, with major gaps in adaptation planning, difficulties in understanding of climate risk, and barriers in mobilising capital.

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda focus on five outcomes for human settlement resilience:

- 1 billion people have better design, construction and access to finance to live in decent, safe homes¹⁸**

¹⁸ Roof Over Our Heads campaign seeks secure, climate resilient housing that is - available, accessible and affordable for 1 Billion urban poor worldwide. The Extreme Heat Resilience Alliance aims to provide 500 million people worldwide with heat resilience solutions by 2030. With some overlap between these ambitions of two critical partners, the overall target of 1bn has been selected.

- b. **Smart and early warning systems reach 3 billion people**¹⁹
- c. **USD 1 trillion invested in nature-based solutions for communities in urban areas**²⁰
- d. **Harden social infrastructure to ensure access to basic and essential community services**²¹
- e. **Increased use of waste as a secondary resource boosts the livelihoods of informal workers and reduces open waste burning 60%, lowering pollution levels and improving the health of local communities**²²

Achieving these outcomes requires planning, funding, and enabling policy. Cities and human settlements will need to implement a portfolio of tailored and localised solutions that help create resilient housing and infrastructure, ensure resilient people and communities, and improve risk management and crisis response. Beyond the plan, implementing solutions will require capacity building, governance & monitoring, and enabling policy, as well as mobilising capital from the public and private sector. Most importantly, solutions must be targeted at the most vulnerable communities, particularly in the global south, use the indigenous knowledge provided by these communities, and ensure applicability to the local context. Across all, cities and human settlements should consider sustainable nature-based solutions with dual mitigation and adaptation benefits.

Africa Spotlight

The COP 27 Presidency is advancing these adaptation outcomes through the launch of cornerstone initiatives in Africa. The Marrakech Partnership is advancing this agenda with a particular focus on phasing out open waste burning by 2050 through addressing the systemic deficiencies of waste management and circularity through reuse and recycling. This includes the 50 by 2050 initiative, below.

- **The 50 by 2050 waste initiative** aims to treat and recycle at least 50% of the solid waste produced in Africa by 2050. By achieving this target, Africa would contribute to increasing the global waste treatment rate above 50% and reduce overall effects of waste pollution on human health, biodiversity, food systems, and resource scarcity. The initiative will catalyse greater investment and effort to develop waste management ecosystems and resources, and rapidly address the rooted challenges by increasing solid waste treatment and recycling capacities, setting the necessary level of policy-making and raising global contribution and involvement.
- **Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe)** aims to strengthen the implementation of the climate agenda in and with cities, unlock urban climate finance, build capacity, accelerate technology and innovation in cities, and ensure equity. The initiative works across building

¹⁹ The [World Meteorological Association](#) asserts that 100% of people will need coverage from an Early Warning System. [UN-REAP](#) aims to protect 1B more people with EWS by 2025. Assuming linear scaling, this reaches 3bn by 2030.

²⁰ RMI predicts a global investment gap in urban nature of \$135 billion per year. Current investments in urban nature were around \$28 billion in 2019, so need to be scaled by 5x. This adds up to a \$1 trillion investment gap from 2023-2030.

²¹ No target for this breakthrough yet exists due to a lack of research and consensus on the need to invest in hazard proof infrastructure, and the scale at which access to services will be affected by increasing climate hazards. The Champion's team calls on sector stakeholders to work with us in bringing attention to this much needed area of climate resilience and help to create global targets in this space.

²² The Global Waste Initiative 50 by 2050 sets the ambition to treat and recycle at least 50% of the solid waste produced in Africa by 2050.

and housing, urban energy, urban waste and consumption, urban mobility and urban water to help advance adaptation outcomes across human settlements for the most vulnerable.

- **Decent Life for a Climate Resilient Africa** aims to integrate climate action into sustainable urban development in Africa through connecting adaptation, resilience, mitigation and access to innovative solutions to improve the quality of life of Africa's rural communities. This ties closely with the SIS to provide resilient social infrastructure, including basic services, economic opportunities and eradicating poverty. This initiative builds on Egypt's National Sustainable Development Strategy (Egypt's Vision 2030) initiative "[Hayah Karima](#)" which targeted 60 million habitants (58% of Egypt's population) living in 4,658 villages across the country, at a total cost reaching 800 billion EGP, and led to an increase in the percentage of green investments by 20% (2021/2022) of the public investment plan.

Through their commitments to the [Cities Race to Resilience](#), multiple African cities are working to advance these outcomes:

- The City of **Yaoundé**, (Cameroon) focuses on reforestation of the commune through awareness campaigns, the dissemination of seedlings to the local population and the launch of a prize for schools (primary and secondary) implementing a reforestation and nature protection policy. It is part of the activities for the protection and participatory development of the Mingo River area against erosion, pollution, flooding and disaster prevention.
- Sanitation and development in precarious neighbourhoods and dwellings at risk in **Cocody** and the 14 communes of the Autonomous District of **Abidjan** (Côte d'Ivoire), have been completed. 1,000,000 social housing units in the Project Region, including 200,000 in Cocody, were built to improve the daily lives of the population. Further, **Quelimane** (Mozambique) constructs resilient houses with community involvement and risk mapping (creation of risk management and calamities). In addition, Quelimane has implemented the construction of drainage systems that help relieve the population from flooding in urban quarters.
- **Lusaka City Council** (Zambia) initiates monthly clean ups at ward level, working with communities. This is not only linked to pollution management, but more importantly, to flooding response, as Lusaka suffers from heavy rainfall and flooding which can result in health and sanitation issues for citizens (e.g. cholera due to standing water) when the city's drainage systems are blocked.
- The **County Government of Nakuru** (Kenya) has enacted the Nakuru Climate Change Act, Nakuru Water and Sanitation Act, and Nakuru Waste Management Act (2021) to combat climate change through adaptation measures, increase water efficiency and access and improve waste management in the County.

Furthermore, there are many organisations working at global scale that have already been contributing to these adaptation outcomes and delivering results.

- [Roof Over Our Heads](#) (ROOH) seeks to deliver resilient, low carbon and affordable homes and improve public infrastructure through finance (public and private funds so people can build and retrofit homes), design (innovation for better designed houses that are decent and low carbon), construction (working with industry to provide the homes in informal settlements) and

governance (planning, administration, policy implementation).

- **Extreme Heat Resilience Alliance** aims to tackle the growing threat of extreme urban heat for vulnerable people worldwide. The Alliance aims to reach 500 million people with heat resilience solutions by 2030 by educating decision makers linked to vulnerable communities about risks and impacts of extreme heat, developing policy recommendations that enable effective heat risk reduction interventions, creating tools to support the implementation of heat resilience measures, and providing better access to affordable capital for long-term intervention.
- **Build Change** and the Climate Resilient Housing Initiative are at the forefront of ensuring access to disaster- and climate-resilient housing globally. Since 2004, Build Change has made over 2 million people and 200,000 buildings safer in over 24 countries worldwide. Build Change addresses the three major barriers to resilient housing - people and policy, money, and technology - to drive systems change in resilient housing. The Climate Resilient Housing Initiative, powered by Build Change, forges partnerships, catalyses action and drives investment to ensure climate resilient housing for all.
- **UN REAP** works to ensure that 1 billion more people are covered by new or improved Early Warning Systems, including heat wave warning, connected to longer-term risk management systems and supported by effective risk communication and public stakeholder dialogue to prompt informed action.
- **Cities Race to Resilience** are undertaking and reporting on resilience actions across the world:

Nature-based solutions:

- **Dipolog** City's Riverbank Bamboo Plantation (Philippines) is reducing the risk of river flooding by planting 78,302 bamboos along the riverbanks of the city.
- **Whitby** (ON, Canada) runs a Backyard Tree Planting Programme to encourage planting native species in a location and under conditions where they can thrive and provide community benefits. The program is offered at a subsidised rate for Whitby residents ranging from USD 180-220 per tree. The property owner pays approximately 50% of the full value of the service; the difference is paid by the program's founding partners.

Housing:

- **Barcarena** (Brazil) is establishing a housing policy with the relocation of families in areas vulnerable to flooding.
- **Edinburgh** (United Kingdom) includes climate change adaptation into the construction and retrofitting of buildings via its Design Guidance. It promotes climate change risk assessments of historic estates, and guidance for maintaining and repairing historic buildings in a changing climate and nature-based solutions to provide natural windbreaks.

Early warning systems:

- **Nashville** (TN, United States) established the Metro Emergency Alert & Notification System allowing safety agencies to directly communicate to the people of Nashville in times of emergency. This includes safety instructions via cellphone, landline, text/SMS, or text telephone for localised emergencies such as flooding or public health emergencies. Residents can sign up for this free alerting service.
- The **City of Salvador** (Brazil) monitors meteorological systems that cause rainfall through radar and satellite images and has a Civil Defence Preventive Plan including a Warning and Alarm System in 10 risk areas for landslides and floods as well as designated resident reception points.

42 Centres for Protection and Civil Defence were created in various risk neighbourhoods, directly benefiting more than 2,000 people.

- **Tagum City** (Philippines) established an early warning and information dissemination campaign, constructed Barangay evacuation centres and preparedness trainings, drills and seminars for responders, volunteers and the community.

2.4. Coastal & Ocean Systems

A vibrant, equitable and sustainable ocean economy is essential to the inclusive wellbeing of people around the world. Ocean covers 71% of the Earth’s surface and houses an abundance of marine life that supports the diets of billions of people. Yet coastal and ocean ecosystems are susceptible to climate hazards - notably sea level rise, ocean acidification, and extreme weather events. Communities living in coastal zones are most exposed to these hazards and often face vulnerabilities that leave them unable to face climate risk. Adaptation Outcomes that deliver both for nature and for people living in coastal areas are a key part of building global resilience in a warming world.

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda focus on four outcomes to build ocean and coastal resilience:

- Invest USD 4 billion to secure the future of 15 million hectares of mangroves globally through collective action on halting mangrove loss, restoring half of recent losses, doubling protection of mangroves globally and ensuring sustainable long-term finance for all existing mangroves²³**
- Halt loss, protect and restore coral reefs to support people in tropical communities**
- Halt loss, protect and restore seagrass, marshes, and kelp forests to support people in temperate communities**
- Urban coastline is protected by grey & hybrid solutions**

Despite efforts and successes to implement resilience solutions, no global targets exist for coral reefs, temperate ecosystems, or urban coastline protection. The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda therefore calls on all non-state and state actors to rally around these critical solutions for coastal and ocean resilience, to help define the need and the targets for these solutions, and to implement them at scale.

Africa Spotlight

In Africa, there is a specific need for coastal and ocean outcomes that recognise local needs and varied ecosystems. 2030 outcome targets include:

- Protect 30% of the ocean
- Achieve net gain of critical blue ecosystems
- Create millions of jobs by supporting local communities through funding, training and technical assistance.

²³ From analysis by the [Global Mangrove Alliance, State of Mangroves, 2021](#).

Cities Race to Resilience signatory **Cocody Municipality** (Côte d'Ivoire) is implementing the sustainable restoration of its mangrove ecosystems, flora and biodiversity, focusing on afforestation and the sustainable development of the lagoon shores, bays and riverbanks, with a view to increase resilience and carbon sequestration. Actions towards a sustainable restoration of its forest biodiversity ecosystems include tree planting and protecting medicinal plants, wild food and aromatic plants.

Globally, Race to Resilience partners are innovating science based solutions to accelerate action on ocean and coastal ecosystems. The Ocean Risk and Resilience Alliance (ORAA) convenes the international finance and insurance sectors, governments, non-profits, and stakeholders from the Global South to catalyse the investment of at least USD 500 million into coastal and marine natural capital through the development and deployment of financial products. The Global Mangrove Alliance and Global Fund for Coral Reef are mobilising actors and resources to protect and restore mangroves and coral reefs respectively, setting targets and working with a wide range of stakeholders.

2.5. Infrastructure Systems

Infrastructure systems - in particular energy and transport systems - are critical to human livelihoods, health and resilience to climate change. Resilience can be defined as universal access to quality power and mobility from systems capable of absorbing climate shocks and changes including climate induced supply disruptions (e.g. hydropower or rail assets damaged by flooding) and demand shocks and changes (e.g. consumption increases driven by heat waves). Around 65% of energy systems are currently at risk from climate hazards, increasing to ~80% by 2030.²⁴ Nearly 75% of roads and 65% of rail will be at risk from hazards by 2030.²⁵ Risk is driven by the exposure of power plants and transport infrastructure to heat and flooding (e.g. ~60% of solar at risk of extreme heat), and of grid infrastructure to heat and wildfires (e.g. ~50% of lines and towers at risk of riverine flooding). Furthermore, access to reliable power is critical for people to access basic services and generate income - and people with high vulnerability are more likely to be adversely affected by climate hazards in their ability to access this critical infrastructure

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda focus on five outcomes to build infrastructure resilience through energy and transport:

- a. A diverse set of energy generation sources enable affordable access to electricity for 679 million unconnected people and higher quality access for 1 billion underserved people through climate resilient energy systems²⁶**
- b. 2.4 billion people with access to clean cooking through at least USD 10 billion/year in innovative finance for clean cooking action worldwide²⁷**

²⁴ McKinsey Analysis; IEA, 2019;

²⁵ McKinsey Analysis; Meijer et al, 2018

²⁶ SDG 7 targets universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy for all by 2030 - but 679 million people will be without access to electricity in 2030. 2.8 billion people are without enough reliable power - GEAPP aims to extend clean, productive-use energy to 1 billion underserved people

²⁷ The Clean Cooking Alliance targets universal access to clean cooking by 2030. Pachauri et al. 2021 (IIASA and Climate Analytics) state that 'Even under our most optimistic reference growth scenario SSP1, close to 38% of the global population could continue to remain cooking poor in 2030'. With a global population of 8.6 bn, 3.3bn people will remain without clean cooking in 2030

- c. 585 GW of battery storage capacity and extension of transmission and distribution networks enable decentralised generation and consumption by 2030²⁸
- d. 2.2 billion people access low-cost, clean vehicles and mobility solutions through the expansion of affordable public and private transport services
- e. Transport infrastructure is resilient to climate hazards through adoption of new technology, design and materials²⁹

Africa Spotlight

In Africa, the Champions team is advancing this agenda with a particular focus on clean cooking and energy access. 2030 outcome targets include:

- 1 billion people with clean power and 150 million green jobs created
- 1 billion people gain access through USD 8 billion in innovative finance for clean cooking action on the African continent.

The Marrakech Partnership works with the Clean Cooking Alliance alongside the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the United States EPA and the International Coalition of Sustainable Infrastructure (ICSI) to advance the clean cooking agenda.

Likewise, the COP Presidency's **Africa Just and Affordable Energy Initiative** (AJEAI) aims to make just and affordable energy transitions in all African countries financially viable, including ensuring that 300 million Africans gain access to affordable energy - both electricity and clean cooking - by 2027.

There are many organisations working globally that have already been advancing these adaptation outcomes and delivering results. The [International Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure](#) (ICSI) aims to mobilise the engineering community to build and enhance climate resilience of infrastructure. One example is the [Mozambique Roads and Bridges Management and Maintenance Program](#), which has improved coverage and conditions of roads and bridges in the territory; strengthened the institutional capacity to manage and administer the road sector; established financing mechanisms for road maintenance; promoted the use of local resources in road construction and management; and improved road transport safety. The programme resulted in the percentage of roads in good or fair condition increasing to 72%, the percentage of the rural population living within 2 km of an all-season road increased to 29.3% and beneficiaries from rural communities were 4.66 million.

²⁸ IEA [Net Zero by 2050](#) estimates that 585 GW of battery storage will be required by 2030

²⁹ There are no globally set targets for this solution

2.6. Cross-cutting enablers: Planning and Finance

Planning and finance play a critical role in closing the gaps on risk awareness and understanding, help improve decisions and allocate the resources necessary for implementing, accelerating, and realising climate adaptation. As such they create the enabling conditions for resilience across all the impact systems defined above, and require universal action. Integrated adaptation and resilience planning can support decision makers to assess risks and develop portfolios of adaptation and resilience solutions needed to protect people, economies, and ecosystems against physical impacts of climate change.

Yet adaptation is often fragmented, small in scale, incremental, sector-specific and with a near-term focus. Less than ~20% of countries have comprehensive adaptation and resilience plans. Of the few that do, many have not translated plans to adaptation action. At the same time, adaptation resources are unequally distributed across geographies, and finance allocations do not match real costs. Estimates of the adaptation financing requirements range from USD 140 to USD 300 billion by 2030 in developing countries alone (UNEP), to USD 590 billion globally (IMF). Above all, adaptation needs of the low income and vulnerable populations go unmet.

There is a growing appreciation by both public and private sector investors of the imperative to finance adaptation and resilience. Innovations in financial instruments, including insurance, evolutions in adaptation and resilience financial disclosures, as well as growing capabilities and willingness by public funders to deploy more catalytic forms of financing are creating unique opportunities to mobilise more and better forms of financing for adaptation and resilience. As physical impacts from climate change continue to accelerate, the investment case to protect both lives and livelihoods is stronger. In light of the deteriorating macro economic conditions commitment, innovation and collaboration across public and private sector financiers are largely needed to ensure finance reaches the most vulnerable communities.

The Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda focuses on six outcomes to build enablers of planning and finance:

- a. **10,000 cities and 100 regional governments have evidence-based, actionable adaptation plans**
- b. **2,000 of the world largest companies have developed actionable adaptation plans**
- c. **Universal access to the tools and information required to integrate climate risks into decision making from local to global levels**
- d. **Operationalisation of National Adaptation Plans and Locally-Led Principles, enabling adaptation in a country-driven localised and consultative manner**
- e. **Private sector integrates physical climate risks into investment decisions and continues to innovate mechanisms for financing Adaptation and Resilience so as to enable the mobilisation of the USD 140 to USD 300 billion by 2030 that will be needed across both public and private sources**
- f. **Public finance actors increase provision of climate finance and allocate 50% of climate funds to adaptation and resilience**

g. Global property and casualty insurance sector has an industry capabilities framework, actively supports project implementation, and institutionalises a longer-term industry approach to climate adaptation

Africa Spotlight

In Africa, the Champions team and members of the Marrakech Partnership are advancing this agenda with a particular focus on finance and carbon markets.

Priorities include restructuring of debts to increase financial flows for nature based solutions, establishing fiscal policies that facilitate green private investment capital flows into national economies, and building USD 1.3 trillion for adaptation and resilience by 2030. Specific targets include:

- Driven by the **Nairobi Declaration on Sustainable Insurance** signatories led by Africa Risk Capacity; the African insurance sector re-affirms its triple role - that of a risk manager, risk carrier and investor through its commitment to a USD\$2billion Africa Climate risk management fund that will transfer USD 14 billion worth of risks from the most vulnerable African populations through insurance solutions , US\$14bn of risk transfer through products and solutions to address climate and nature-related risks covering over 1.4 billion people in Africa against floods, droughts, and tropical cyclones.
- The **African Carbon Markets Initiative** (ACMI) aims to build the foundations for a thriving voluntary carbon market ecosystem in Africa by 2030. Its four core objectives are to (i) grow African credit retirements by 19-fold; (ii) issue carbon credits with a USD \$10/tonne price floor, at a minimum ensuring equitable and transparent distribution of carbon credit revenue; (iii) create or support 30 million jobs by 2030 and more than 100 million by 2050 through the development of quality projects; (iv) mobilise up to \$6 billion by 2030 and more than \$100 billion per annum by 2050 through trading African credits

Through their commitments to the [Cities Race to Resilience](#), multiple African cities are working to advance these outcomes:

- **Lagos State** (Nigeria) has adopted an integrated and systematic approach to reducing vulnerabilities to climate change, promoting sustainability and increasing the well-being of its people. Lagos State has identified 5 goals and 26 high potential actions that together form a comprehensive strategy to reduce sensitivity, mitigate risks, increase adaptive capacity, and build resilience.

There are many other organisations working globally that are advancing these adaptation outcomes and delivering results. For example, [COP²](#) is a growing network of more than 225+ organisations coordinated and facilitated by the Billion Minds Project at the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University. It has begun to grow regional hubs and networks as platforms for engaging a range of experts, international agencies, NGOs and civil society, research centres, and other stakeholders, with an aim to help grow the capacity to support the emotional and psychological resilience of 4 billion people by 2030. This goal will be met by integrating such capacity across the key pathways, modes for mobilising and implementing adaptation progress, and specific geographies and partnerships, of the Race to Resilience. By COP 28 they will complete a Roadmap that details how to achieve this goal, with early adopters identified to progress this work.

3. GOVERNANCE

The COP 27 Presidency is keen to develop a governance arrangement to secure continuity in scope, priorities and reporting of the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda. This governance arrangement includes the following key elements:

- The COP 27 Presidency will lead the work building on: a) the adaptation focused initiatives launched by COP27 Presidency at COP27 that shall accelerate action across system interventions, b) the adaptation and resilience outcome targets identified by the High-Level Champions.
- The Marrakech Partnership, the High-Level Champions and a number of specialised UN agencies will work together- as partners- to accelerate an agenda of global adaptation action through following up on the implementation of Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda.
- The Marrakech Partnership will continue to establish the relevant non-state actors coalitions and initiatives to collaborate with UNFCCC and the Champions Team to support the delivery of the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda. The work plan for the Marrakech Partnership shall ensure the integration of the Adaptation Agenda into the Partnership's ongoing work and using the regional climate weeks, the UNFCCC regional collaboration centres, the Marrakech Partnership stakeholders action plans and the Champions' regional teams to catalyse more action.
- The High-Level Champions will focus on mobilising and aligning non-state actors' climate action, including through the race to resilience, to rapidly achieve these Agenda and Outcome Targets, further enhance the ambition loop and contribute to the mobilisation of financial flows for adaptation and resilience.
- Following COP 27, we will continue our consultation process to review and improve these solutions and define adaptation outcome targets where they do not yet exist
- The COP 27 Presidency will receive - before COP 28 - from the High-Level Champions, the Marrakech Partnership and a number of specialised UN agencies a report on the progress achieved in implementing the Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda. Overall progress on implementation will be reported back to COP 28.