

# Water: IPCC WGII Climate Change 2022 Report

Our planet and society experience the impacts of climate change primarily through changes in the water cycle. Droughts, storms, and urban and coastal flooding occur with more frequency and higher intensity as the climate changes. This has severe consequences for health, food security, and political stability. Implementing water adaptation solutions is one of the most effective ways we can tackle the impacts of the climate crisis.

The Working Group II contribution to the newest [IPCC report](#) outlines seven enabling principles for achieving water security as well as sustainable and climate resilient development through systems transitions.

## 1. Appropriate Technologies

Successful adaptation across all sectors depends on access to technology. Technology transfer can play an essential role in increasing adaptive capacity, especially those that reduce carbon emissions by promoting water efficiency.

## 2. Adequate and Appropriate Finance

Water receives a significant share of current adaptation funds. However, financing often focuses on returns, and so local needs, especially those of the poor, are not always adequately represented. Investments in flood and drought management, as well as water and sanitation, are critical elements of successful water adaptation.

## 3. Gender, Equity and Social Justice

The capacity to adapt to water insecurity and hazards is determined by gender, class, race, age, physical ability and education level. Therefore, careful consideration for equity and justice in adaptation strategies is central to increase adaptive capacity for all.

## 7. Strong Political Support

Despite the ongoing scientific evidence of the impact of climate change on water resources, government action has not always been effective. Evidence suggests that water adaptation failure is due to policy and regulatory failures. International donors and legislation can support governments to act and remove the implementation barriers to water adaptation policies.

## 4. Inclusion of Indigenous and Local Knowledge

Integrating Indigenous and local knowledge provides context-specific solutions for effective climate change responses, improving water security. Gender inclusivity is vital to adaptation as women often hold much of the local and traditional knowledge needed to design and implement effective change.

## 5. Participative, Cooperative and Bottom-up Engagement

Participation, cooperation and bottom-up engagement are critical to effective adaptation. Effective participation in adaptation planning from countries and social groups most threatened by climate change can contribute to more fair and just adaptation actions.

## 6. Water Governance

Cooperation and coordinated actions at all governance levels are vital to transparency, capacity-building and participation among different actors. Historical inequities and injustices, due to settler colonialism, have resulted in long-standing water insecurity in many communities. To prevent worsening existing inequities, governments must actively involve traditionally marginalized populations in decision-making processes.

## Adaptation Action Coalition

**The Adaptation Action Coalition (AAC) is a state-led coalition of 40 (and counting) member countries driving adaptation action to achieve a climate-resilient world by 2030. By accelerating global action on adaptation, the AAC will help people, economies and the planet become more resilient and equitable.**



To find out more visit the AAC website.

To learn more about joining, contact [AAC@wri.org](mailto:AAC@wri.org)

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