

# PATHWAYS TO REGIONAL COLLABORATION - MAPPING SYNERGIES FOR ADAPTATION PLATFORM

Report for the First Adaptation Convening at the 62<sup>nd</sup> SBs  
Under the Project 'Scaling the Nexus Approach – Adaptation and Loss & Damage'



**Date: 22 June, 2025**



**Time: 5-6.30 PM**

## BACKGROUND

The most recent SB session (SB 60) took place in Bonn, Germany, in June 2025, where discussions focused on the Global Stock take outcomes from COP28, adaptation finance, and operationalizing the Loss and Damage Fund. The UNFCCC's Subsidiary Bodies (SBs) convene twice a year to forward climate discussions by laying the groundwork for that year's COP. These meetings bring together country negotiators, observers, and experts to discuss issues like adaptation, mitigation, climate finance, and transparency in a structured yet often tense environment where the smallest text change can carry weight for millions affected by climate change. While progress was made in technical dialogues and ironing out certain methodologies, many noted that negotiations were slow, with gaps remaining on climate finance commitments and delivery mechanisms for adaptation. Despite the challenges, the SB sessions continue to be a critical space for pushing technical progress, maintaining momentum, and keeping countries accountable on climate action in the lead-up to COP29.

ICCCAD hosted a convening for its partners and members titled 'Pathways to Regional Collaboration - Mapping Synergies for Regional Collaboration' with the support of CECG project. For the methodology of the event, it was mapped to be an interactive and participatory gathering of personnel working or affiliated with existing adaptation platform. The event started by giving a quick overview of the event structure. Later with informing the members about current stocktaking of ICCCAD regarding this adaptation platforms led to the introduction about the scoping done till now to introduce a novel regional adaptation platform of its own. To engage the participants, group sessions were conducted. These sessions focused on gaps and challenges identification of adaptation platforms through 'roots to response' simulation and also aimed to generate solutions to these problems. Based on the scoping done till now, there was a systematic survey conducted through interactive mentimeter poll. This was to ensure the active participants of the event. Lastly, the findings that were generated through the group discussions, were presented by the participants that led to new findings and added value to the adaptation platform development endeavor.

## OBJECTIVES

- To reflect on experiences and engagement with adaptation-related platforms
- To explore existing gaps and challenges in the adaptation platforms of all spheres
- To take into consideration members' and partner organization's feedback on how to improvise the gaps existing
- To gather a holistic idea as to what new measures/ themes/ aspects were needed to be incorporated in the new platform
- Lastly, to inform ICCCAD's ongoing effort to map and strengthen the adaptation platform landscape globally and regionally

## FINDINGS

### · Mentimeter session

Among all the 37 participants there were people from Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, North America. People hailing from countries like LDC countries, Sweden, Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Vanuatu, Nepal, Malawi, Madagascar, Gambia, USA were present in the meeting.

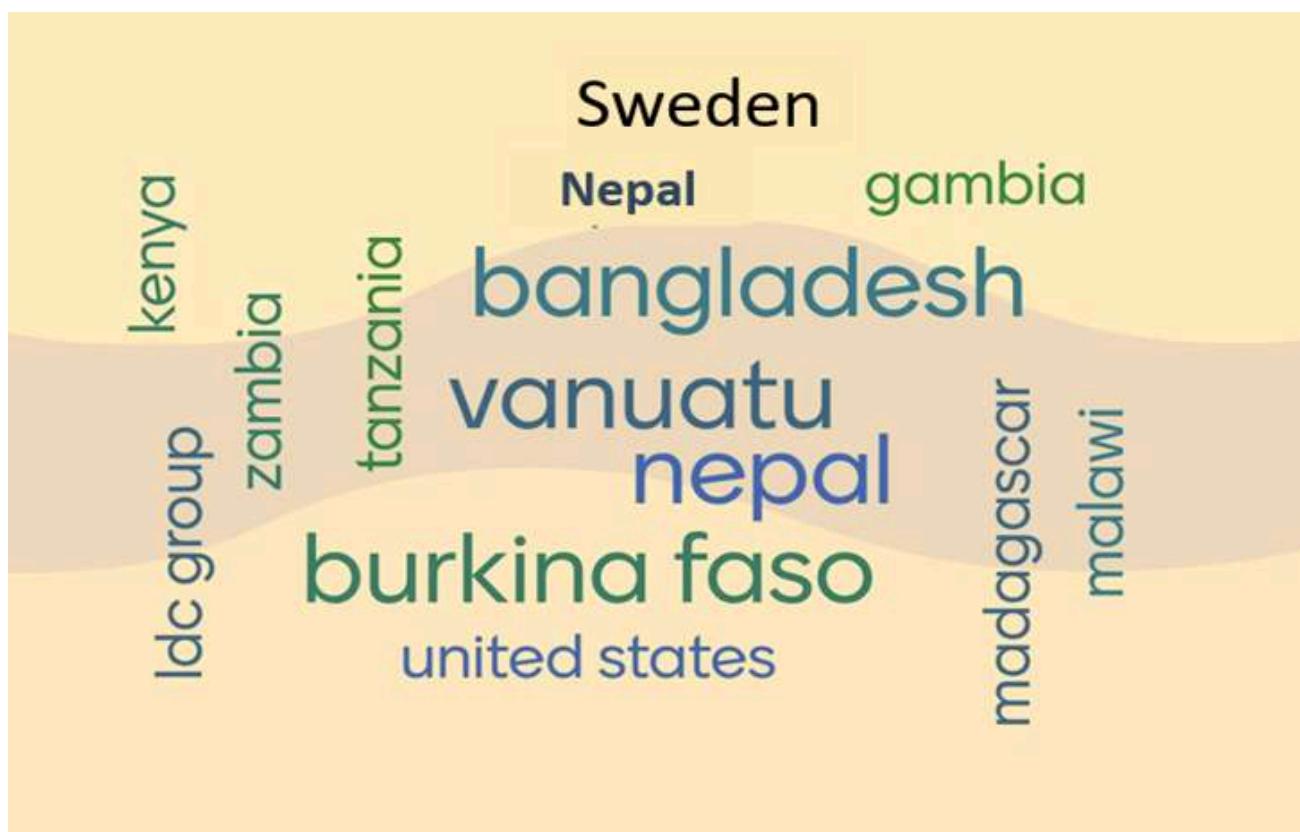
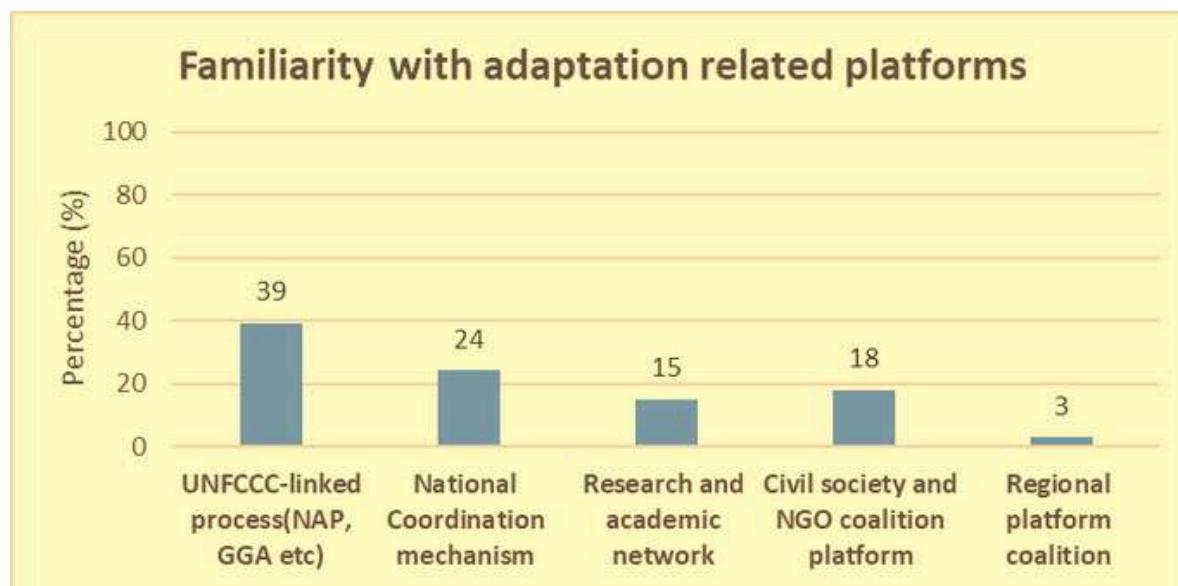
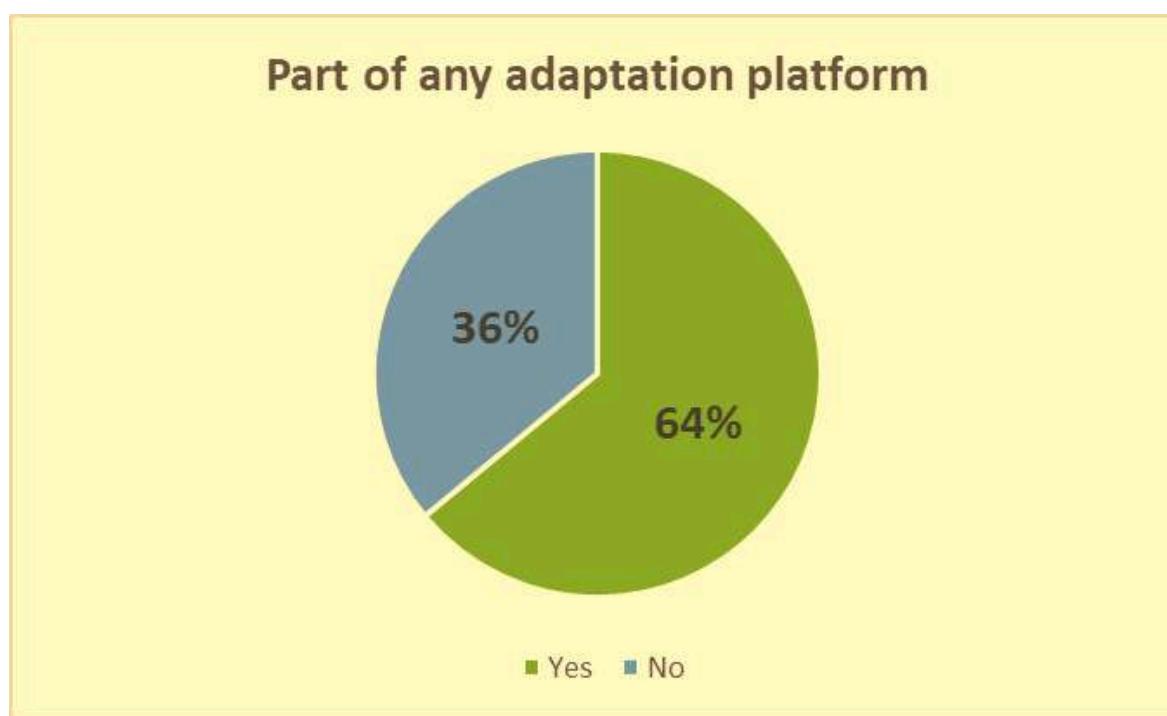


Figure 1: Countries who represented in the session

33 participants responded when asked about their familiarity to adaptation related platform. Majority (39%) of the participants responded to have familiarity with UNFCCC linked processes. 24% of the participants asserted to be familiar with national coordination mechanism. While others know about research and academic network (15%), while others know about regional coordination mechanism (3%).



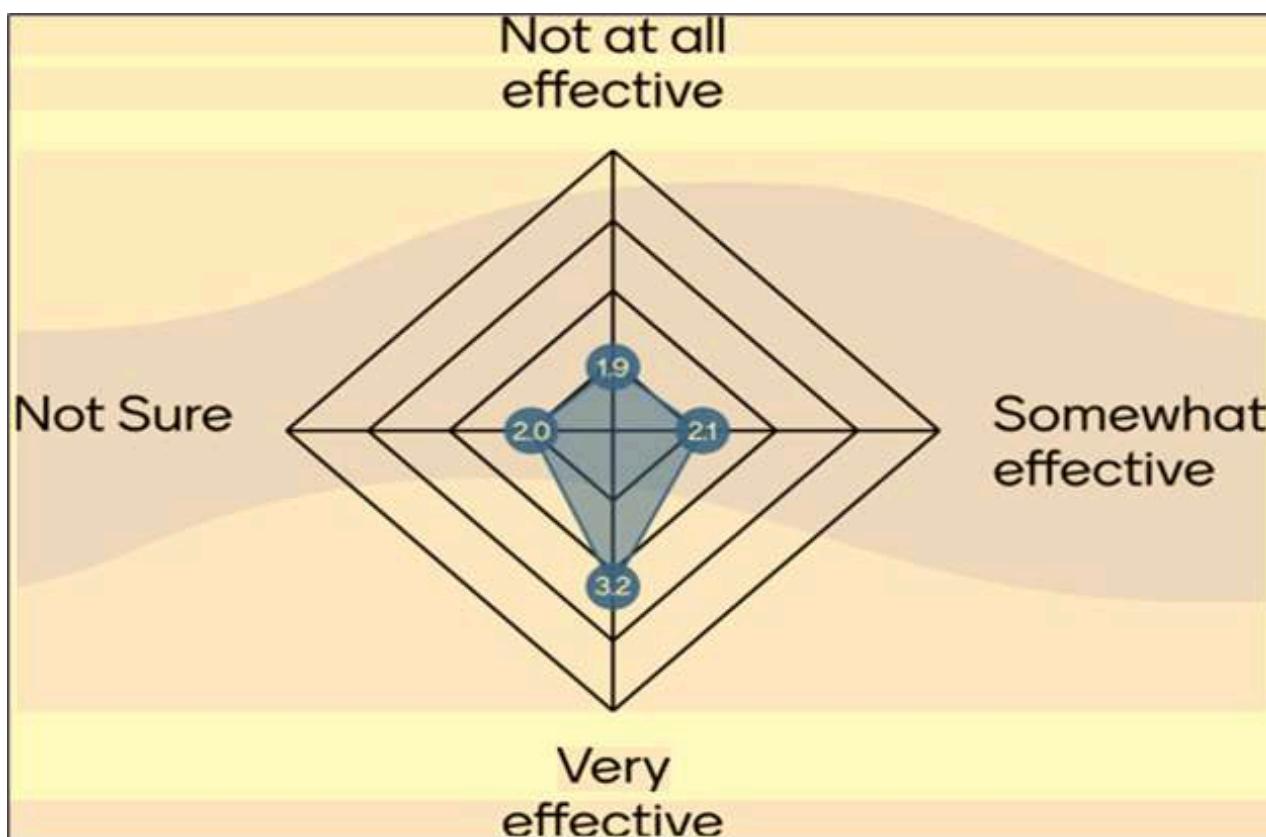
When asked if they were part of any adaptation platform, 64% of the participants responded to be a part of such platforms while 36% of people were not.



Those who responded positive later shared the names of the platforms they are affiliated with. The platforms that these partner organizations are affiliated with are-

- National Advisory board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Resilience Hub
- NAP
- Movement for Environmental Action
- Vanuatu Climate Action Network
- Civil Society Damage and Loss Platform
- Friends of Climate and Health
- Women platform of Green Wall

To measure the effectiveness of such adaptation platform, respondents were asked to score. On the scale of 1-4, where the values were allocated for following responses, 'Not effective at all', 'Not sure', 'Somewhat effective', 'Very effective'. Where an average score of 3.2 were recorded for 'Very effective', the highest score recorded as per people's perception. 2.1 was the score for adaptation platforms to be 'Somewhat Effective' in policy influence. 'Not effective at all' got the poorest response among them all.



When asked for challenges that these platforms face, keywords surfaced like 'communication', 'coordination', 'financial expert', 'funding', 'lack of capacity building', 'lack of community engagement', 'resource gap', 'political process', 'silos', 'accessibility' etc. The word cloud generated depicts that capacity, finance, and coordination are perceived as the biggest challenges adaptation-related platforms face in delivering meaningful impact. Participants highlighted financial constraints, resource gaps, and bureaucratic and political processes as barriers that limit effective adaptation efforts. The lack of technical expertise, clear adaptation measurement, and capacity-building opportunities further hampers progress, alongside issues such as working in silos and limited internet or local access. These challenges indicate that without adequate resources, better coordination among stakeholders, and strengthened local capacities, adaptation platforms will continue to struggle to create the intended transformative change on the ground.

With challenges identified now the participants were asked about the improvements that these adaptation platforms can bring about so a paradigm shift can be brought on this. Capacity building and communication are perceived as the most critical areas where adaptation-related platforms could improve to enhance their relevance and effectiveness. Respondents emphasize the need for better community engagement, partnerships, and participation, ensuring that adaptation knowledge is accessible at the local level. Calls for innovation in technology, simplification of access, and interactive, inclusive approaches suggest that platforms should not only share information but also actively involve communities in shaping adaptation actions. Additionally, there is a clear need for financial support, knowledge sharing, and youth training, alongside bridging the knowledge gap between global and local actors. By focusing on these areas—particularly through coordinated, participatory, and locally tailored capacity-building initiatives—adaptation platforms can strengthen their role in supporting effective climate actions can reduce the vulnerabilities of local and marginalized people.



### • Roots to Response session

In this session the participants were divided in groups and they had to identify the roots of problems when it comes to adaptation platforms at the same time finding solutions to those problems so adaptation platforms can be more effective. Based on the findings of that session the responses were-

Roots	Response/solutions
Structural barriers restricting local people accessing these platforms	Community led adaptation planning
Letting the community people be in complete darkness even if involved	Maintaining gender representation
Local people left behind when it comes to representation	Capacity building of locals
Complexity of the adaptation mainstreaming process	Policy engagement

Roots	Response/solutions
Lack of adaptation finance often led to the failure of such initiatives	Eliminating third party organizations between platforms and local people
Monitoring and reporting are not thorough	Initiate a tracking system of climate change adaptation process and spread through national reporting mechanism
Lack of adaptation practices data over the world, lack of research	Funding availability
Lack of governance to mainstream this adaptation notion and policies are not comprehensive	Adaptation literacy for local people
A gap in knowledge sharing	Region and place wise data availability depicting the adaptation practices and
Gender focused adaptation initiatives incorporation due to lack of policies and implementation	Help on building community resilience by capacity building
No index/ measurement system in place that can track of measure adaptation and advancement made in this sector	Improved disaster risk knowledge, detection, monitoring analysis and forecasting
Coordination gap relating to climate action	Establish a technical committee composed of different actor including state and non-state actors including CSOs

### EMERGING PATHWAYS AND CONCLUSION

Both the sessions and activities conducted revealed a clear recognition among participants of the diverse pathways available for regional collaboration in climate change adaptation and related fields. Key structures identified include national coordination mechanisms, regional platforms or alliances, UNFCCC-linked processes such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), as well as research and academic networks, civil society coalitions, and donor or programmatic platforms. This diversity underscores the richness of the current ecosystem while highlighting opportunities for intentional linkages across these pathways to amplify collective impact.

A recurring theme in participant inputs was the importance of accessibility and influence within regional collaboration spaces, particularly concerning climate finance and decision-making processes. Participants highlighted that civil society actors, local communities, and grassroots networks often face barriers in accessing critical information and resources, limiting their ability to contribute meaningfully to national and regional dialogues. Consequently, there is a strong call for mechanisms that improve the flow of knowledge and facilitate bottom-up influence, ensuring that regional initiatives are grounded in the lived experiences and priorities of vulnerable communities.

The findings also emphasize the need for effective knowledge sharing mechanisms across countries and sectors within the region. Participants see research and academic networks as crucial allies in generating and disseminating evidence to inform policy and practice, while civil society and community networks bring contextual knowledge and innovation from the ground. Donor and programmatic platforms, in this context, are recognized as enablers that can align funding flows with grassroots needs, supporting scalable, locally-led adaptation initiatives across countries. Scaling up civil society and community involvement emerged as a critical pathway to effective regional collaboration. Participants expressed a desire for regional platforms that facilitate cross-country learning and foster south-south cooperation, enabling communities to draw from shared experiences in addressing climate risks. They also highlighted the value of linking local knowledge systems with formal processes under the UNFCCC, creating opportunities to anchor regional efforts within global frameworks while maintaining relevance to local contexts. Additionally, there is a recognized need for improved communication and coordination across actors within the regional landscape. The current fragmentation across initiatives risks diluting collective efforts, and participants indicated interest in exploring structured platforms that foster synergy among civil society actors, governments, academia, and donors. This approach would help to avoid duplication, leverage each actor's comparative strengths, and strengthen advocacy for equitable and effective climate action at the regional level.

Finally, the discussion reflected an understanding that regional collaboration should be designed to be both relevant and effective, emphasizing accountability to the communities served. Participants are interested in models that can meaningfully influence decision-making processes while facilitating the flow of resources to the local level, ensuring that regional efforts translate into tangible outcomes on the ground. These insights provide a strong foundation for designing or strengthening regional adaptation platforms, particularly under initiatives aiming to foster multi-stakeholder, inclusive, and locally grounded climate action.