

# **Preparing the adaptation chapter of biennial transparency reports: A template for countries**

Introducing the guide

Executed by:



copenhagen  
climate centre

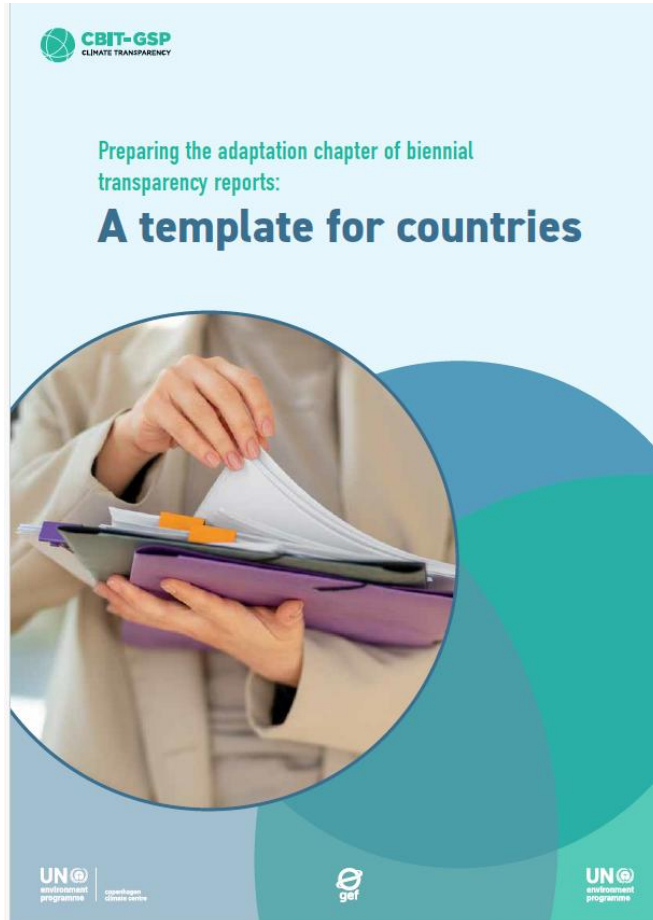
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# Why did we produce this guide?



The guide was developed to supplement and build on the official guidelines provided by the modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) contained within decision 18/CMA.1.

The official guidelines provide a clear overview of **what** information to include in the adaptation chapter of the BTR (A-BTR), but very little guidance on **how** this information should be provided.

How, and the extent to which, countries present information related to adaptation is important for several reasons:

1. it will determine the extent to which the **global stocktake** can track global progress in adaptation,
2. it will determine the extent to which:
  - their efforts will be recognised,
  - they are able to share knowledge about best practice, and
  - they can effectively communicate important information to key stakeholders.

Executed by:



Funded by:

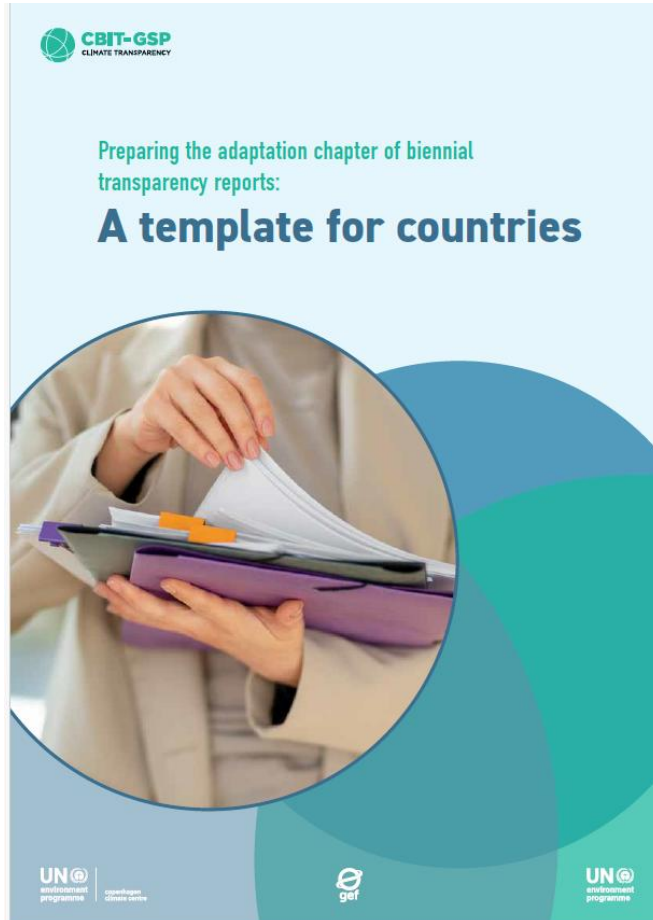


Implemented by:



copenhagen  
climate centre

# Why did we produce this guide?



Therefore, the guidance provided in this guide has been developed with the following in mind:

- How can adaptation reporting be tailored to so assessments (e.g. the global stocktake) have the information they require to effectively and comprehensively assess global progress in adaptation?
- How can adaptation reporting be tailored to perform other important functions – e.g.:
  - ensure that the adaptation efforts of developing countries receive recognition,
  - enhance the collective understanding of the adaptation support needs, and
  - facilitate the sharing of good practices, experience and lessons learned.

Executed by:



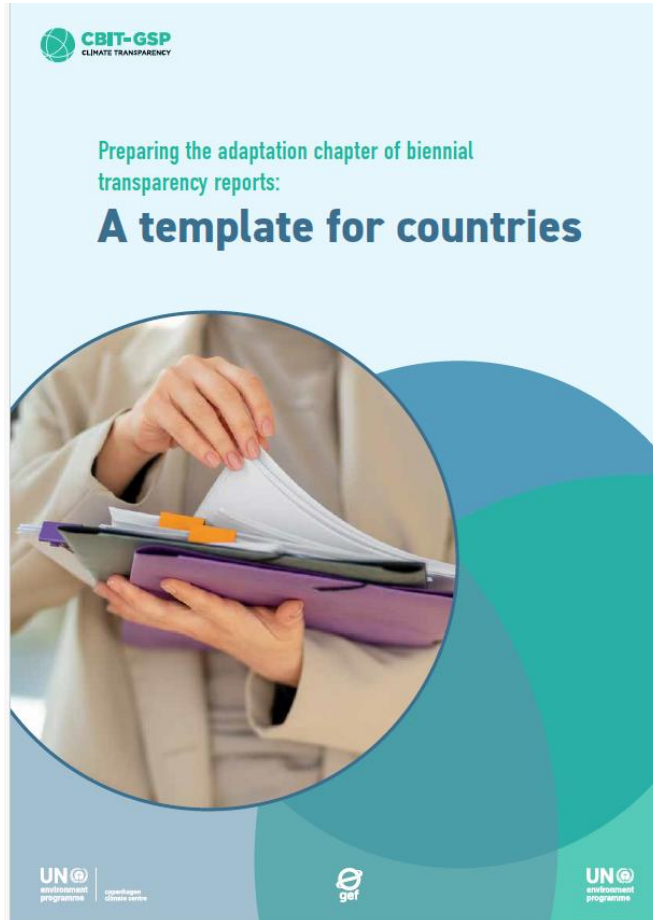
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# What is in the guide?



To support users to prepare A-BTRs, this guide contains two parts.

**Part I** provides important context about adaptation reporting under the UNFCCC, including:

- its purpose and functions,
- its success up to now on performing these functions,
- what countries should consider before preparing their A-BTRs, and
- how adaptation reporting can be tailored to support tracking of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.

**Part II** provides the guidance, which includes:

- a template that can be applied for structuring the A-BTR, and
- guidance about the information countries should try to provide in each section of the proposed template (including why the suggested information is important and how it can be presented).

Executed by:



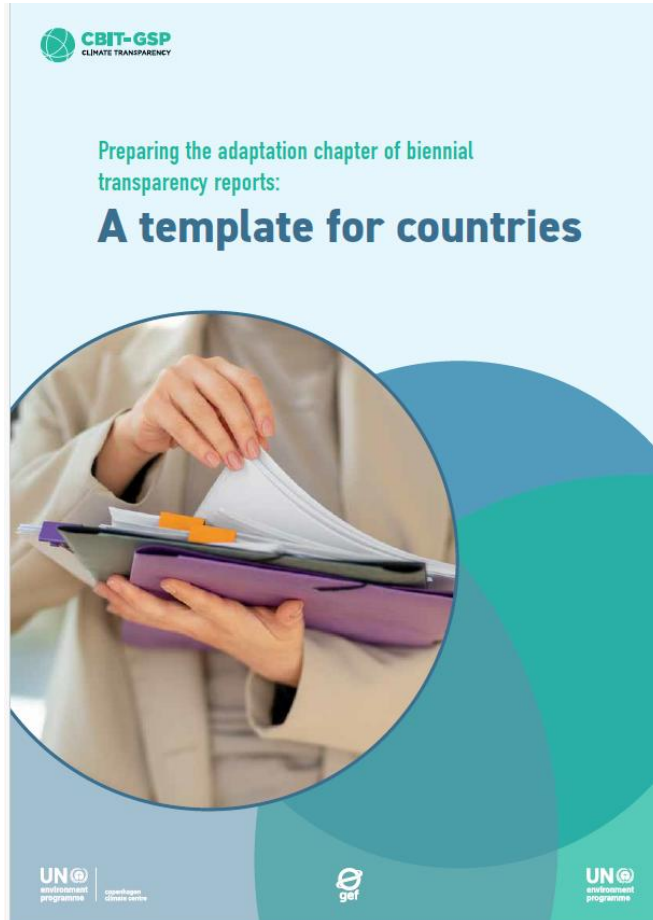
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# How can users apply Part II of the guide?



Users can use Part II of the guide in two ways.

1. apply the proposed template and use the guidance to populate each section, or
2. alternatively, countries can ignore the proposed template and use the guidance provided for each section as a source of ideas/inspiration when preparing their BTRs

Executed by:



Funded by:



Implemented by:



# The template

**Tab. 1** The sections of the proposed template

Section	Basis in the MPGs
1. National circumstances, institutional arrangements and legal frameworks	Section A
2. Climate trends, hazards, impacts, risks and vulnerabilities	Section B
3. Adaptation priorities and barriers	Section C
4. Adaptation policy processes and actions	Sections D–F
5. Integrating gender perspectives into adaptation	Section D, 109(c)
6. Integrating Indigenous, traditional and local knowledge into adaptation	Section D, 109(c)
7. Monitoring, evaluation and learning	Section F
8. Loss and damage	Section G
9. Cooperation and knowledge sharing related to adaptation	Section H
10. Any other information related to climate change impacts and adaptation under Article 7 of the Paris Agreement	Section I

Executed by:



Funded by:

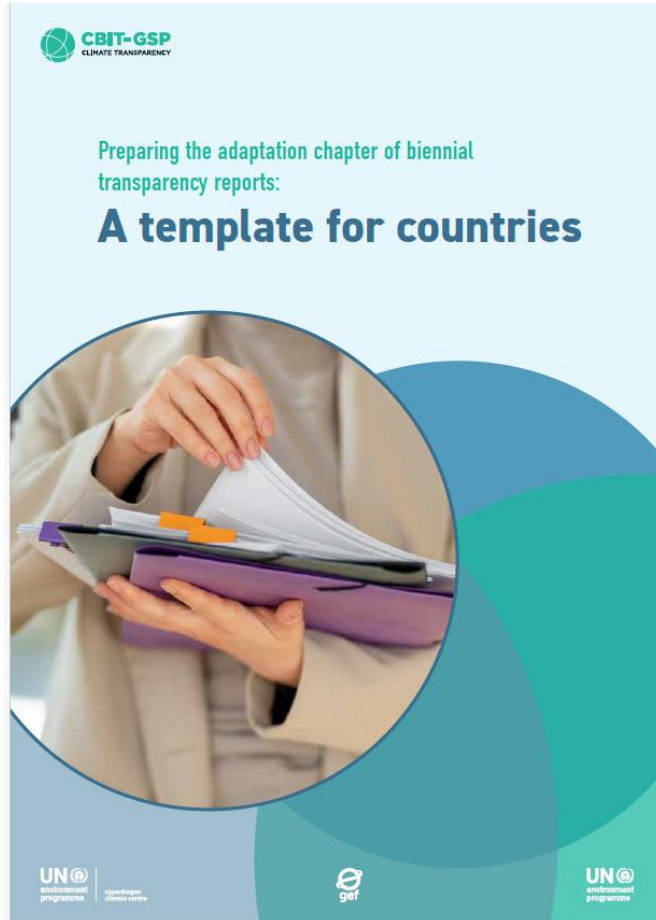


Implemented by:



copenhagen  
climate centre

# Why should I use the guide?



Reading **Part I** of the guide will provide users with a better understanding of what adaptation reporting can achieve.

This important background information can help users think strategically about how they want to approach the development of their A-BTR.

The template and guide in **Part II**, will support users develop reports that:

1. adhere to chapter IV of the MPGs (the official guidelines),
2. meet the information needs of the global stocktake for adaptation, and
3. achieve other communication objectives (e.g. receive recognition for adaptation efforts, highlight adaptation support needs, communicate with domestic stakeholders, etc.).

Executed by:



Funded by:



Implemented by:



# Recommendations for reporting on adaptation policies and actions

Extract from the guide

Executed by:



copenhagen  
climate centre

Funded by:

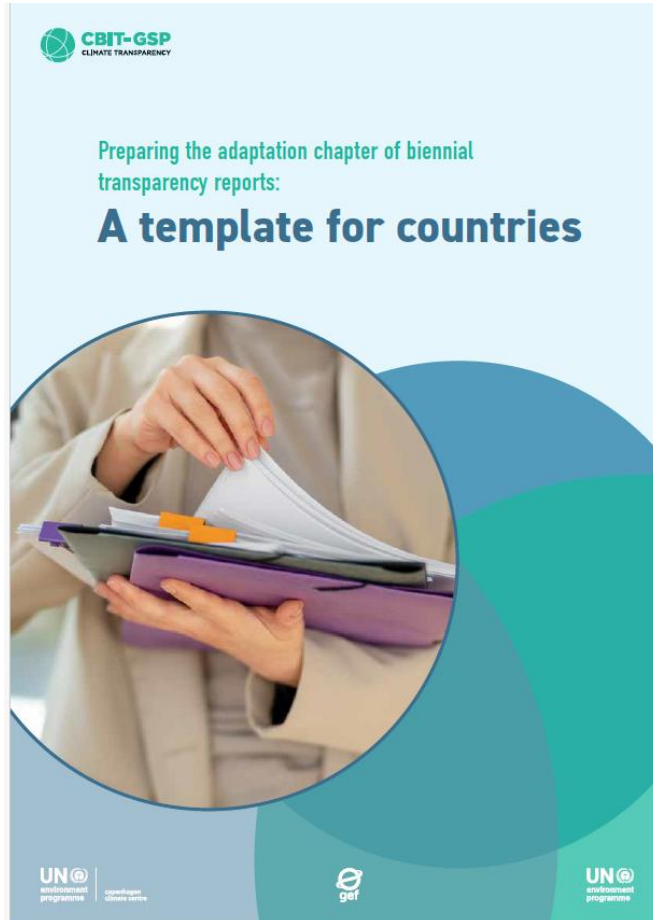


Implemented by:





# Reporting on adaptation policies and actions



## Rationale for reporting on adaptation policies and actions

The purpose of reporting on adaptation policies and actions is to inform the report's audience about **what the country is doing to achieve the Paris Agreement and convention's objectives on adaptation**, including **whether these efforts are on track** and **are leading to the desired results**.

In addition to this, reporting on adaptation policies and action can be leveraged by countries to:

- highlight specific adaptation policy processes and actions for **recognition**, and
- Share **good practices, experiences and lessons learned**.

Executed by:



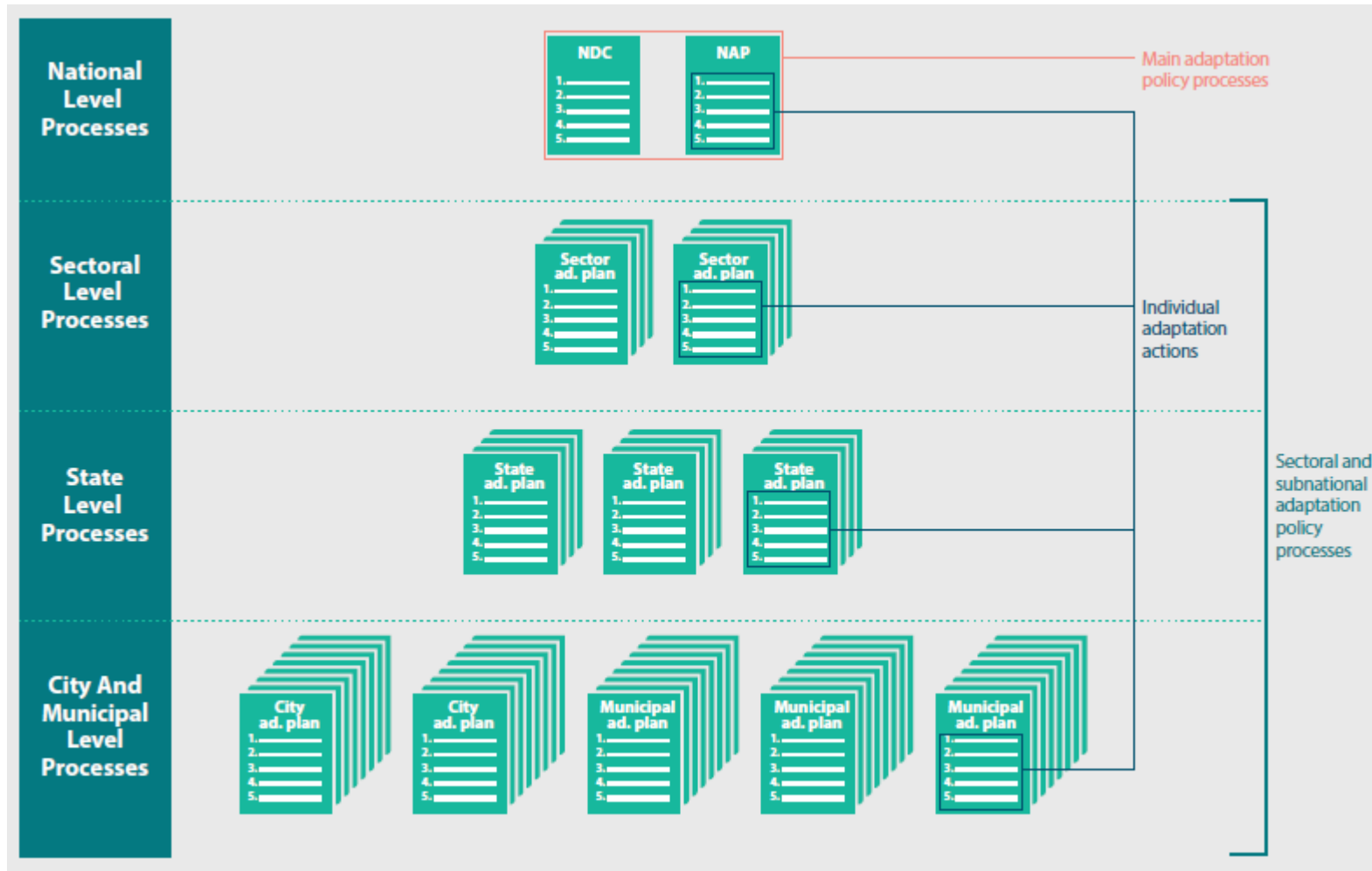
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# Reporting on adaptation policies and actions



A country's national adaptation process is conducted via numerous processes on many levels by countless actors.

The figure (left) illustrates that adaptation planning will be occurring at every level of administration in a country, with the number of planning processes increasing exponentially as we move from the national level to the local level.

Considering that this illustration does not capture mainstreaming efforts and adaptation planning by non-state actors, it should be clear that **you cannot report on everything that is ongoing** in the country in one report.

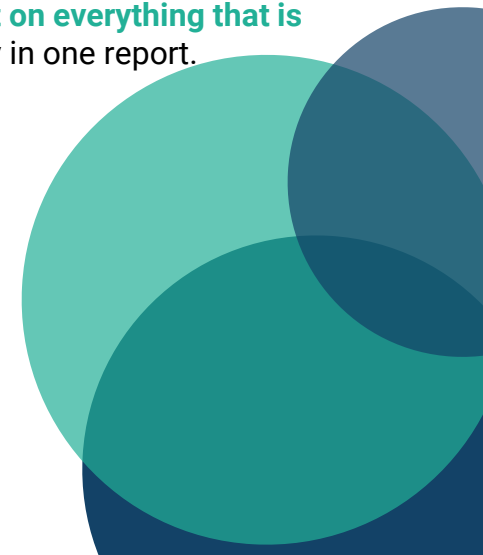
Executed by:



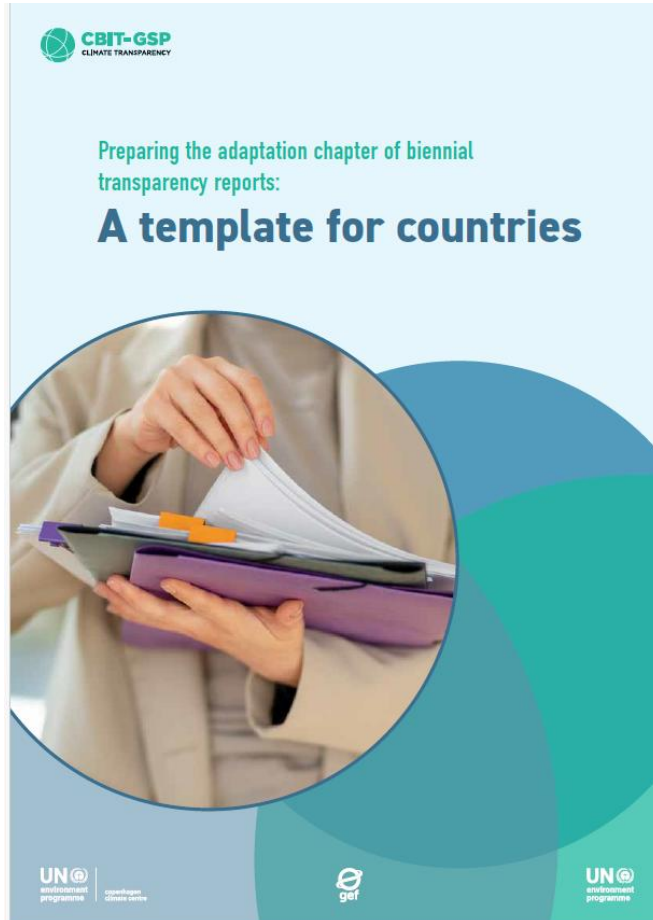
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# Reporting on adaptation policies and actions



To overcome this challenge, **the guide recommends that countries prioritise reporting on their main national adaptation policies** (e.g. NDCs, NAPs, etc.).

Reporting on their main adaptation policy processes should be prioritised as these processes represent the “highest-level” adaptation policy processes in the country and play crucial role in enabling, coordinating and driving adaptation.

Therefore, reporting on these instruments will provide the report’s audience with an understanding of the main systemic steps the government is taking to facilitate and advance adaptation in the country.

**This does not mean countries should not report on policies and actions outside the “main” national adaption policy processes.**

Reporting on sectoral and subnational plans, strategies and policies, individual adaptation projects, or adaptation mainstreaming is also important for providing insights into progress being made to adapt to climate change.

Executed by:



Funded by:

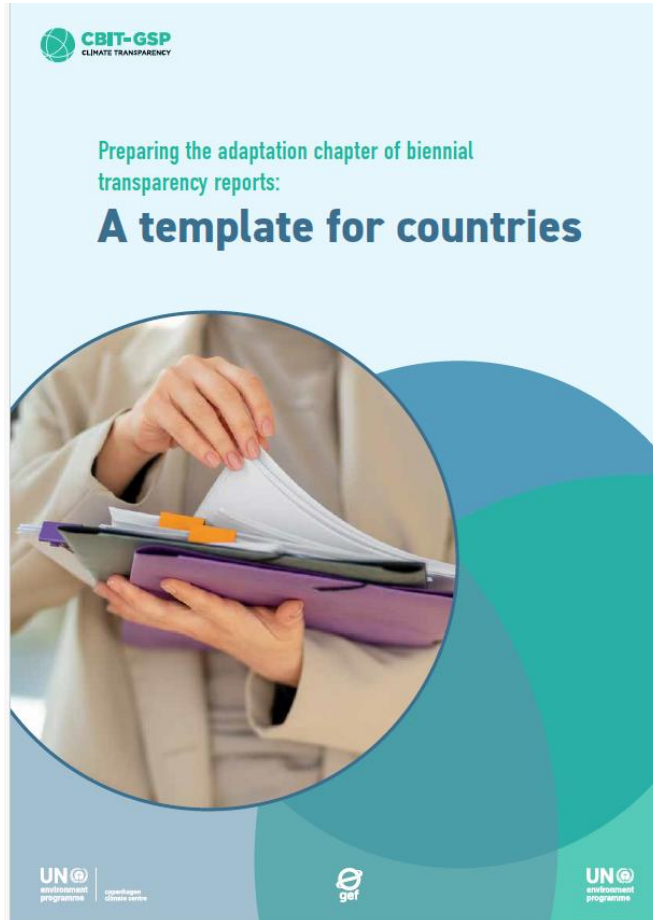


Implemented by:



copenhagen  
climate centre

# Reporting on adaptation policies



When reporting on their main adaptation policy processes (e.g. NDC, NAP, or equivalent), we recommend that countries provide detailed information not just about their contents (i.e. the priorities and actions they include) but also about the preparation process and follow-up.

In the guide, we recommend countries provide:

- background information about the policy
- information about the contents
- information about the preparation process
- information about the enabling environment for implementing the policy
- information about implementation and results
- information about the next steps

Executed by:



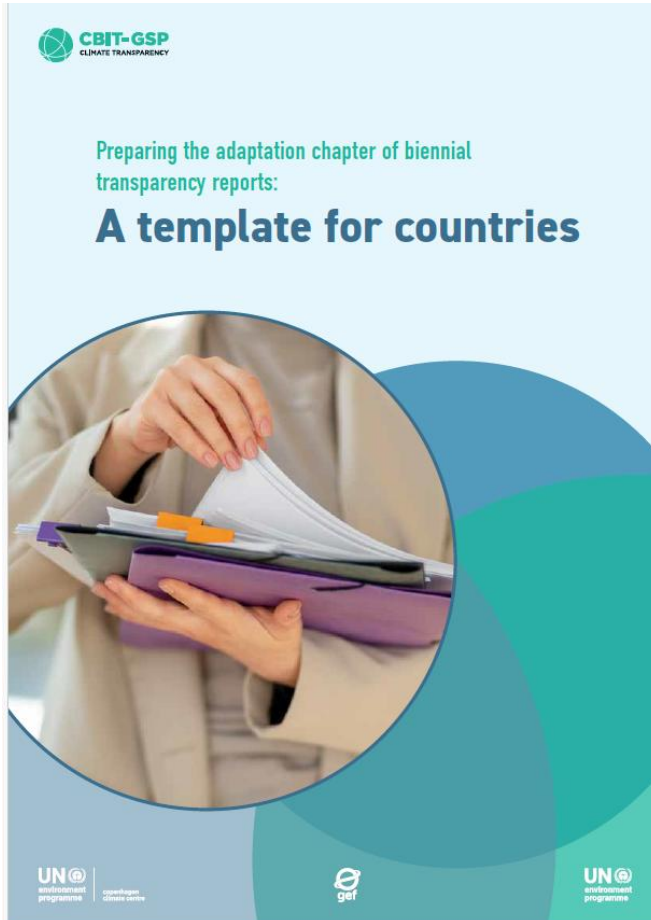
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# Reporting on sectoral and subnational adaptation policies



Given that the recommendations for reporting on NAPs, NDCs etc. is very space intensive, it is clearly not feasible to replicate this for each sectoral and subnational adaptation policy process ongoing in the country.

Therefore, when reporting on sectoral and subnational policy processes (incl. Mainstreaming efforts) we recommend a different approach.

This could involve reporting on:

- how many state or municipal governments have prepared adaptation plans or strategies for their jurisdictions, or
- how many line ministries in charge of priority sectors have mainstreamed adaptation considerations into their sectoral development plans.

The benefit of this approach is that it allows countries to provide the report's audience with a clear overview of the extent to which adaptation policy processes are ongoing at different levels in a concise manner.

It is important to recognize that when adopting this approach, countries can still provide detailed information about – for example – specific sectoral adaptation plans, which they may want to do if they want to draw attention to a particularly ambitious plan. This, however, would be done alongside the broader overview and not instead of it.

Executed by:



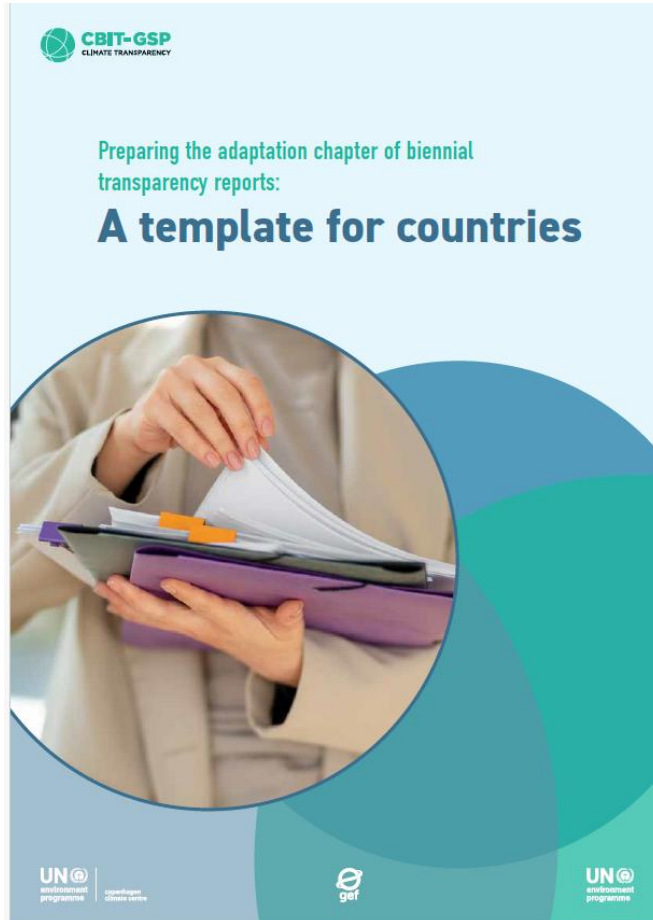
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# Reporting on adaptation actions



The best way to report on individual adaptation actions (i.e. individual projects or initiatives) will depend on why a country wants to include these actions in their report.

Reporting on individual adaptation actions can be utilised by countries to:

- provide an overall flavour of the adaptation actions that are being implemented across different sectors and levels,
- demonstrate that certain types of adaptation action are being implemented (e.g. ecosystem-based adaptation)
- draw attention to actions that are deserving of recognition, and
- share good practices, experiences and lessons learned.

Executed by:



Funded by:

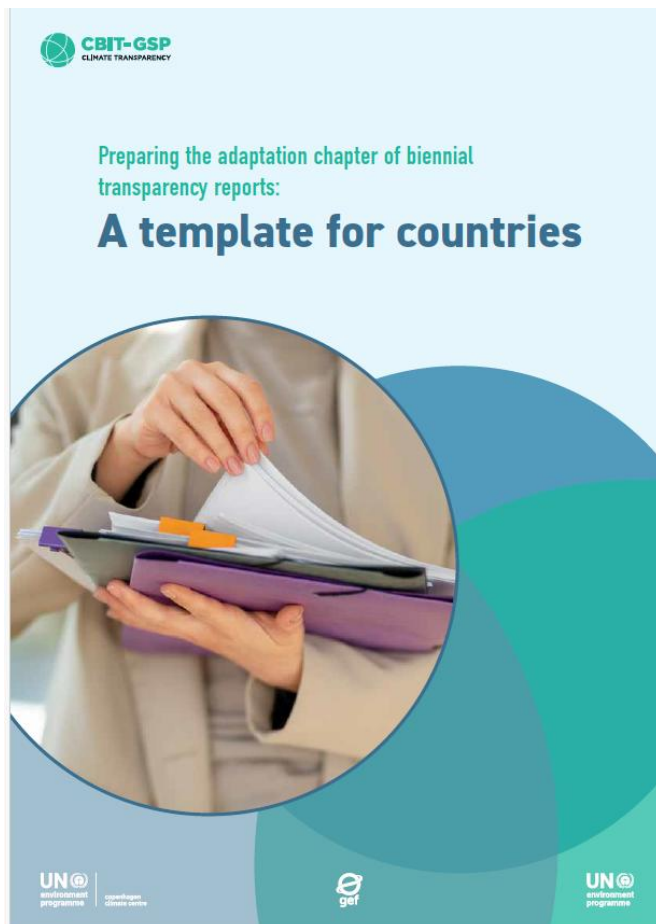


Implemented by:





# Reporting on adaptation actions



If countries want to provide (i) a flavour of adaptation actions being implemented, or (ii) demonstrate that certain types of adaptation action are being implemented, **providing basic information about the actions being reported on should be sufficient.**

This would involve providing: its name/ title, objectives, implementation status, and (if available) high-level information about results.

However, if the objective is to get recognition for an action, or share good practices, experiences or lessons learned, **countries should aim to provide more detailed information.**

Specifically, they should seek to describe:

- why the action is particularly interesting, and
- why the action has been successful

Executed by:



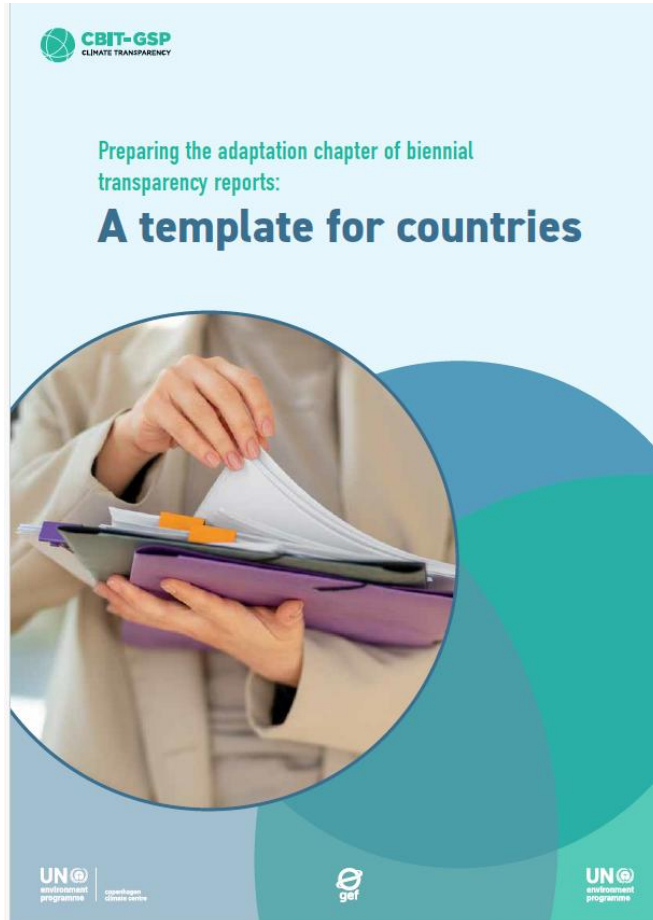
Funded by:



Implemented by:



# Reporting on adaptation actions



Doing this would require countries to provide information about:

- The action itself
- Important information about the context within which the action is being implemented
- Why the action is particularly ambitious or innovative (*if relevant*).
- If/How the action was successful – i.e. what were the outcomes of the action and why do they qualify as a success.
- The factors that have contributed to the action being successful.

Executed by:



Funded by:



Implemented by:





# Thank you!

**Thomas Dale**  
**UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre**  
**[thomas.dale@un.org](mailto:thomas.dale@un.org)**

Executed by:



Funded by:



Implemented by:



copenhagen  
climate centre