



WWF

CLIMATE
&
ENERGY

2019

WWF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GLOBAL COMMISSION ON ADAPTATION


The Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA) seeks to accelerate adaptation action and support by elevating the political visibility of adaptation and focusing on concrete solutions.

WWF supports these important aims and highlights that it will be crucial for the GCA's **flagship report** to advocate the adaptation strategies and actions that utilize nature to help people and address climate change risks to nature. The GCA should also acknowledge that avoiding maladaptation to climate change is the first important principle towards sustaining adaptation benefits.

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), Global Assessment, highlighted that nature and the services nature provides, are deteriorating worldwide, and that nature is essential for human existence and quality of life. Most of nature's contributions to people are not fully replaceable and some are irreplaceable. Nature across most of the global has now been significantly altered by multiple human drivers, with the great majority of indicators of ecosystems and biodiversity showing a rapid decline. Diversity in nature provides humanity with multiple adaptation options to choose from in the face of an uncertain future. As we lose nature, we lose options. This course needs to change and the GCA can play a key role in doing this.

WWF strongly encourages the GCA to consider three key recommendations in its flagship report and the action tracks:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <h1>1</h1> <p>Avoid harming nature and promote nature-friendly adaptation.</p> | <h1>2</h1> <p>Use nature to help people to adapt.</p> | <h1>3</h1> <p>Help nature adapt.</p> |
| <p>Each of the GCA action tracks should promote nature-friendly adaptation actions that avoid harming nature. Actions that are maladaptive for nature will ultimately undermine the resilience of people.</p> | <p>Each action track should use the services that nature provides as a tool to help people to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Nature-based solutions to climate change provide both cost-effective adaptation and mitigation benefits. Nature-based solutions should be considered first before integrating other approaches.</p> | <p>Climate change is already having negative impacts on nature, eroding the important services that people need to sustain their livelihoods. If we rely on nature to provide adaptation and mitigation benefits for people, it is critical that we help nature itself adapt to the changing climate. Therefore, GCA should adopt a principle of addressing climate risks on nature, a dedicated nature action track with adequate financial and technical capacity allocated for implementing the track.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
|  <p>WWF</p> | <p>Why we are here To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature. panda.org/climateandenergy</p> |
|--|---|

For further information contact:

Sandeep Chamling Rai

Senior Advisor

Global Climate Adaptation Policy

WWF Climate and Energy Practice

scrai@wwf.sg