



Joint submission of CGIAR and the Eastern Africa Farmers Federation in response to Decision 2/CMA.5, Paragraph 41 regarding the United Arab Emirates – Belém Work Programme on indicators

CGIAR¹ and EAFF² commend the adoption of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Framework for Global Climate Resilience (henceforth referred to as, ‘GGA framework’) at CMA 5. We welcome the opportunity to provide input into the UAE – Belém Work Programme on indicators for measuring progress towards the GGA framework.

Key messages

- **Impact pathways** are a scientifically sound method for identifying and contextualizing activities and outcomes and can serve as the basis of indicator selection.
- **Existing indicator databases** provide a valuable reference point but additional development and capacity strengthening effort is needed to support countries to identify, select and cost indicators.
- **Well-selected indicators** can help build coherence between thematic and dimensional targets.

Impact pathways offer a science-based approach to contextualize the targets and identify indicators.

The GGA framework outlines eleven broad thematic and dimensional targets. The targets need to be unpacked to be operational. For example, Target 9 (b) on food and agriculture highlights elements critical to resilient food production, distribution, and consumption. The focus on resilience captures the outcomes that should collectively be achieved. However, it omits elements that are more practical to measure, including the adaptation practices and strategies that must be implemented across scales to achieve these outcomes. It will be essential to use a framework that can help identify the actions, outcomes, their connections, and corresponding indicators that are relevant and can be tailored for various vulnerability contexts. [Impact pathways/ theories of change](#) provide a scientifically validated and well-known approach to do so. For example, CGIAR’s analysis of investment priorities articulated in national investment plans across Africa distilled [key impact pathways for adaptation and resilience](#). These impact pathways guided the selection of indicators corresponding to specific actions and expected outcomes. They also helped uncover diverse adaptation priorities of countries and their ambitions and the indicators for assessing progress at the farm, subnational, and national scales. The indicators also cover social, economic, and ecological components of agricultural systems, underscoring the linkages between the thematic targets of the GGA framework. The consideration of the contextually relevant hazards, adaptation actions, and expected outcomes also helped identify indicators corresponding to the dimensional targets.

Existing indicator databases need to be enhanced to support GGA Framework

Many [indicator databases](#) already exist, including those serving other international agreements, such as the [Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals](#). CGIAR’s analysis of Africa’s NDCs and NAPs identified [1075 indicators in 22 countries](#). More than a fifth of the indicators (n=222) are relevant to the agriculture sector (food, fiber, and other ecosystem products); 177 are linked to cross-cutting themes; 144 to cities, settlements, and key infrastructure; 96 to water, sanitation and hygiene; 92 to terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems; 55 to

¹ CGIAR, including its constituent institutions such as the Alliance of Bioversity-CIAT and International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), delivers science and innovation to advance the transformation of food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis. CGIAR works closely with national governments and the private sector to enhance their capacities to track adaptation.

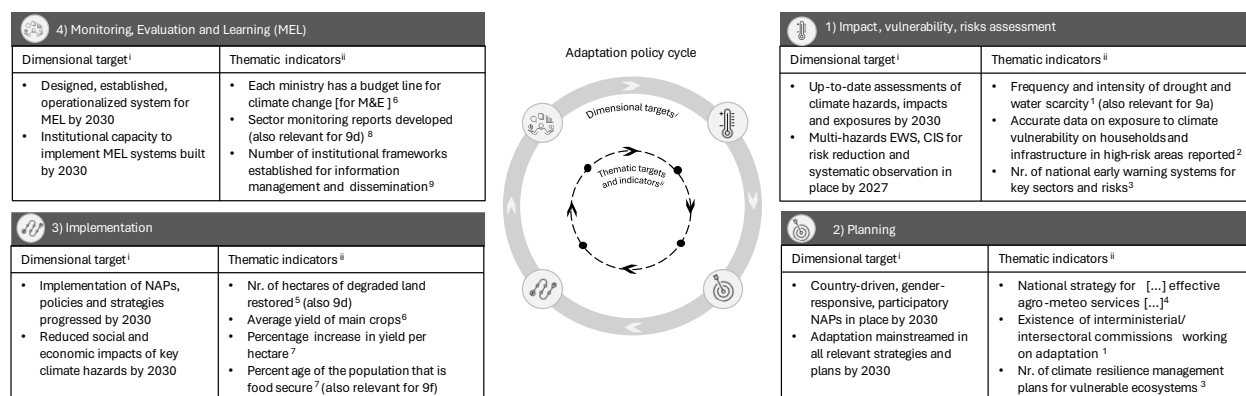
² EAFF is a regional organization representing 25 million smallholder farmers in 10 countries in Eastern Africa. EAFF’s work focuses on building the capacity of its member organizations on climate-related issues and advocating for inclusion, fairness, and equity.

livelihoods, poverty and sustainable development; 50 to health, wellbeing, and communities and 17 to oceans and coastal ecosystems. It is also worth noting that 222 indicators were not mapped to a specific sector. These databases could be a useful reference point when identifying indicators for the GGA targets. However, it would still require a participatory process to evaluate and select these indicators based on their relevance to the GGA targets, sensitivity to measure collective adaptation progress, data availability, cost, and other critical criteria. Such an approach will enhance synergies between the GGA framework and other global processes. It would also help optimize the use of available resources for monitoring and reporting on adaptation.

Indicators can build coherence between thematic and dimensional targets.

Thematic targets, corresponding to outcomes in various economic sectors, and dimensional targets, pertaining to the adaptation cycle, are currently considered independently. However, they are interlinked in practice. The food and agriculture sector is a good example (Figure 1). Indicators should capture this interdependency, where possible. Doing so will have cascading effects on efficiency and costs in monitoring GGA. The UAE Belém Work Programme should focus on developing clear methods, guidance, and indicators to assess coherence across targets. While we recognize that not all sectors will track contribution to dimensional targets and that some sectors will require targets that go beyond dimensional targets, we believe that the UAE- Belém Work Programme should further explore these synergies to leverage countries' ongoing work.

Figure 1 Examples of indicators based on CGIAR-led review of African NDCs and NAPS. ⁱ Dimensional targets as defined by the UAE Framework; ⁱⁱ Thematic indicators as identified in NDCs and NAPS; Data sources: ¹Angola NDC; ²Rwanda NDC; ³South Africa NAP; ⁴Benin NDC; ⁵ Burkina Faso NDC; ⁶Madagascar NAP; ⁷ Ethiopia NAP; ⁸Cameroon NAP; ⁹ Democratic Republic of Congo NAP)



Conclusion

CGIAR and EAFF remain committed to advancing the measurement of adaptation. Many actors will be calling for consultative processes, working groups, and workshops to incorporate the perspectives of diverse stakeholders, including local practitioners and research organizations in selecting indicators. To support these efforts, strategic partnerships with organizations like the CGIAR and EAFF can play an instrumental role in providing the necessary resources to facilitate consultations and engage local stakeholders effectively, particularly around food and agriculture, and water sectors. CGIAR, as the world's largest science-based body for agricultural research and development, and EAFF as the body representing farmers in East Africa, stand ready to engage in the UAE-Belém Work Program in any supportive capacity, to help operationalize the GGA, including in identifying and setting targets and indicators for measuring adaptation progress.

For more information, please contact Dr. Aditi Mukherji, a.mukherji@cgiar.org and climate@cgiar.org