



# **NAP Global Network**

Coordinating  
Climate-Resilient  
Development

Introduction: High-Level Political  
Support for NAP Processes  
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# Why focus on high-level political support?

- Insufficient support seen as a barrier to implementing & scaling-up adaptation
- Frequently-cited but under-examined
- **Classic examples / indications:**
  - **“Weak” vs. “powerful” ministries**
  - **Support on paper but not much action**

We understand it's an issue, but not necessarily what to do about it





# What is high-level political support?

- Political commitment
- Measured along three dimensions:
  - Expressed commitment: Verbal declarations of support for the issue of adaptation
  - Institutional commitment: Policies and organisational infrastructure in support of adaptation
  - Budgetary commitment: Earmarked allocations of resources towards adaptation
- Expressed without Institutional or Budgetary = Rhetorical commitment





# How to build it?

- Must understand factors that shape support – i.e. lead policymakers to prioritize the issue and take action
  - Barriers / challenges
  - Opportunities
  - How to manage each?
- Must also understand the actors you need on board – targets and allies



# What shapes political priority

Factor	Explanation
Norm promotion	Efforts by international agencies to establish a global norm on adaptation
Resource provision	Financial and technical resources by agencies to address adaptation
Civil society mobilization	Network of actors -- academia, NGOs, media -- committed to raising the profile and advocating for adaptation
Policy community cohesion	Agreement within core policy community on choice, priority and sequencing of actions
External framing	Public portrayal of adaptation that resonates with political leaders
Political champion	Presence of respected and capable individuals willing to promote issues
Credible indicators	Evidence demonstrating the existence of the problem – i.e. need to adapt
Focusing events	Large-scale happenings – crises, conferences– that bring visibility
Clear policy alternatives	Proposals that convince policymakers that a problem is surmountable
Political transitions	Political changes that affect prospects for adaptation action – give new actors power, introduce new processes
Competing priorities	Priority for other causes that divert attention away from adaptation
Others??	





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