

Climate-resilient water management approaches: Application towards climate  
the 2030 Agenda 26-28 October 2021

Priorities and ambitions for COP26 and beyond: Aligning  
climate policy and finance policies

Helping to bridge gaps by identifying  
water-climate investment portfolio: the  
Water Tracker

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## *NYT Oct 12, 2021: Climate Change Poses a Widening Threat to National Security*

- Include warnings from the **intelligence community** about how climate change can work on numerous levels to sap the strength of a nation.
- The national security warnings **came on the same day that top financial regulators for the first time [flagged climate change](#)** as “an emerging **threat**” to the American economy.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency, said it will start making climate change a focus of its **preparedness grants for state and local governments**. It will also **incorporate the changing science into the guidance** it provides to the public and private sectors on **how to manage risk**
- Forecast suggesting that climate change could lead to almost **three percent** of the populations of Latin America, South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa moving within their countries by 2050 — more than **143 million people will migrate**

**Water** has been recognized as a “**climate connector** allowing for greater collaboration and coordination across most targets for sustainable development, climate change, and disaster risk reduction”, UN World Water Development Report 2020

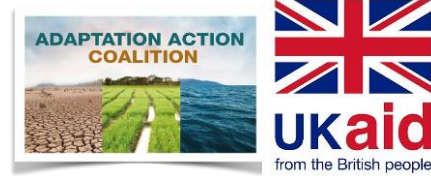
Complementary resilient water management **tools and approaches** that work to **address climate risks** and other uncertainties in a manner that can be **integrated within existing planning, design, and operational decision processes.**



## The Water Tracker



# Water Tracker: Objectives



- **Identify how water is included or omitted** in all aspects of a country's national climate planning
- Lead a new generation of **credible, ambitious, and effective climate planning instruments** and **provide guidance for strengthening water-related adaptation** commitments and plans through national planning
- Contribute to a project pipeline **connecting multi-sector water resilience projects** to climate finance institutions
- **Guide adaptation and resilience action** – including peer-to-peer learning – under the water sector workstream of the Adaptation Action Coalition

2021 - 7 countries  
2022 - ~20 countries

Costa Rica

## Water Tracker application

Egypt

Rwanda

Uganda

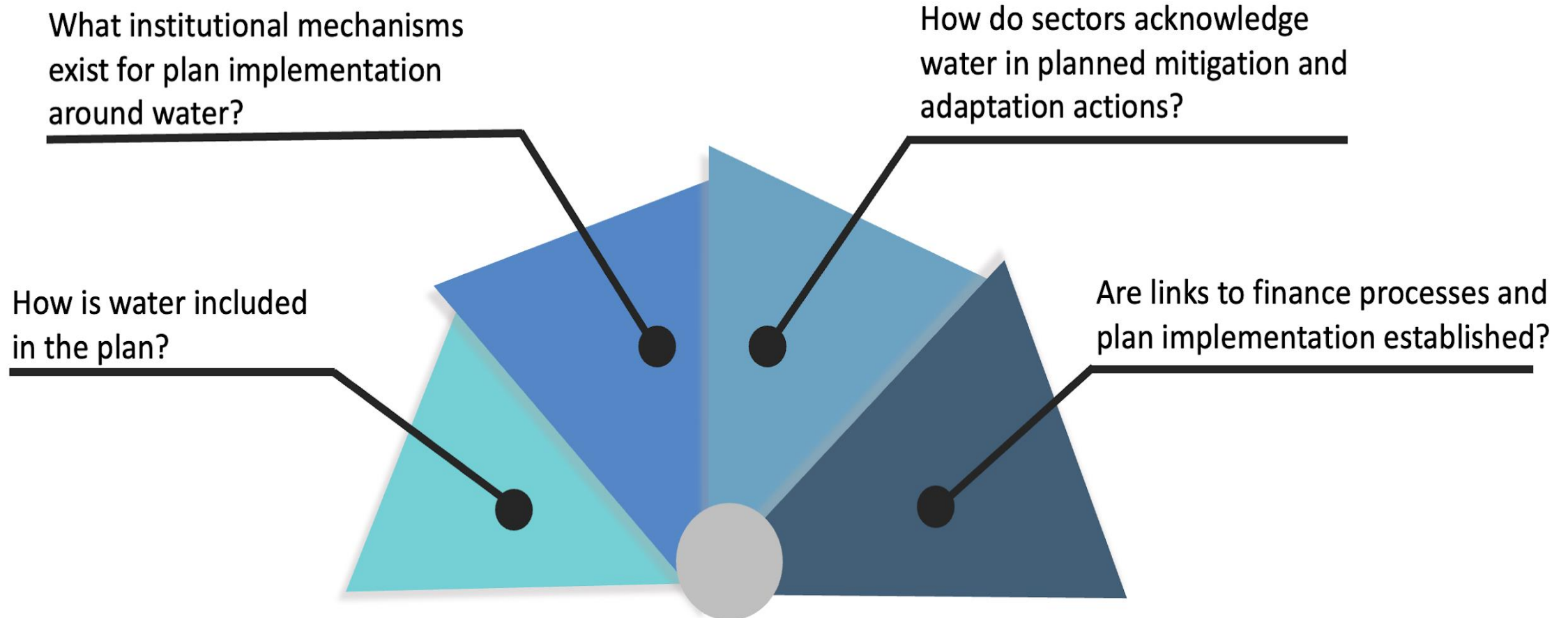
Malawi

Nepal

Indonesia



# Components to apply the Water Tracker (WT)



# Initial general key findings

- 5 Climate instruments (NDC, NAP, NAS) reflect the clear commitment of Costa Rica towards climate action and include water considerations to some degree
- They all have good initiatives, valuable principles and ideas. They are mentioned throughout the documents but sometimes they are not strongly reflected in the proposed actions
- The revision of the National Development Plan, Disaster Risk Reduction and National Water Plan confirm the climate risk priorities embedded in the national planning as guiding objectives and strategies

# Initial components key findings

## Water in national climate plans

Water resources are well understood but water is not always explicitly seen as an opportunity / resource

Link between hydrological-ecological systems and socioeconomic systems is implicitly embedded. Its inclusion aids identification and prioritization of root causes for water risks

## Water in national planning and governance

Recent documents are more sensitive to the importance of local participation and the inequities faced by women. However, community-based approaches are not always approached.

Costa Rica's commitment towards biodiversity and ecosystem conservation is usually translated into recognizing ecosystems as stakeholders.

## Water and climate connections in specific sectors

Water contributions are not fully exploited and water requirements are not specified in sector actions. However, actions to secure or strengthen water supply are always included

Clear link between forests and water resources. Proposed nature-based solutions benefit from the strong system of payment for environmental services that the country has.

## Links to climate financing and project implementation

Coupling of public budgets is encouraged and strengthened to potential of public-private investments

Aligned with funding by national and international sources but role of the finance institution is not always clearly stated.



# Lessons for countries towards the types of projects more likely to receive funds for implementation

- The WT identifies the gaps in the climate plans between the adaptation/mitigation measures with water as a risk, resource or sector
- The WT improves how the next Climate plans should be redesigned considering climate risk - water resilience
- Assessing water use, allocation, and trade-offs across multiple sectors help to armonize the Sectoral and Climate National policies and plans
- **A water - climate project portfolio is the obvious result of the application**
- The WT is a practical and actionable tool turning climate commitments into effective, bankable investments that meet national and global climate targets.

# Ideas & process of working with countries and financing/funding groups for their mutual benefit.

- Outreach and strengthen capacity building on bankable projects tools and criteria (e.g. CRIDA, World Bank Decision Tree Framework, etc)
- Support the development and application of tools to identify climate water resilient project portfolio, like the WT
- Allocate specific resources to transform ordinary projects into climate water resilient bankable projects
- Develop an instrument to track investments in climate change (water) risk management projects
- Underpin cases studies experience exchange workshops

# Take away message to reflect

Climate mitigation strategies and adaptation responses alike often require:

- Intensified water use considerations
- Recognition that water is also a less certain resource and is impacted by Climate Change both water use and management
- Water acknowledged as sectoral connector

## What is next for the WT?

- Extend its implementation to 20 additional countries in 2022
- 2021 countries portfolio translate it into a project pipeline connecting multi-sector water resilience projects with climate finance institutions
- Help countries to bridge identified gaps in Climate, Disaster Risk and Water Plans

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