



## Side event at CoP29 in Baku

# Advancing the UAE Belem Work Programme: The Critical Role of Adaptation Metrics

## Rationale

The International Platform on Adaptation Metrics (IPAM) was established in 2020, building on adaptation metrics discussions initiated by the Moroccan Presidency of the 22nd Conference of Parties (COP22) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. IPAM has grown into a global network comprising 140 individual experts from 39 countries spanning 5 continents.

### IPAM is supported by 16 member organizations:

- International organizations = Centre International d'Agriculture Tropicale (CIAT), and Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International (CABI)
- African Scientific, Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC, an African Union body)
- The Higher Ground Foundation (HGF) in London, UK
- The Basque Center for Climate Change (BC3) in Bilbao & Predictia in Salamanca, Spain
- IUAV University of Venice in Italy
- AAA Initiative, IMAL Initiative, University Mohammed VI Polytechnic (UM6P) & Center for Climate Change Competency (4C) in Morocco
- The Africa Research and Impact Network (ARIN), in Nairobi, Kenya
- The Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), in Bangalore, India
- Adaptation Leader, in Washington, USA
- Center for Peaceful and Sustainable Futures (CEPEAS) at Hiroshima University, in Japan
- African Disaster Mitigation Center (ADMIR) in Cairo, Egypt

This diverse coalition brings together a wealth of expertise to advance the development and implementation of climate adaptation metrics worldwide, serving as an international reference clearing house on adaptation measurement. It co-develops targeted metrics and tools for emerging needs. Work is structured in task groups with a determined duration and objective.

### IPAM's collaboration to the UAE-Belem Work Programme

IPAM proposes a collaboration program to support the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) and 2028 Global Stocktake (GST), alongside other global adaptation frameworks this decade. In addressing the many and varied needs for global scale adaptation metrics, IPAM proposes a coordinated and flexible program of analytical work in conjunction with other initiatives that are considering adaptation metrics that serve global adaptation decision making.

IPAM recommends adopting a systematic approach to evaluating indicators based on the proposed criteria of identification, applicability, and scalability. We advocate for developing more outcome-focused indicators, particularly in the agriculture and water sectors, and addressing the methodological challenges and data gaps identified in urban adaptation metrics. It is crucial to consider the interconnections between different thematic areas when developing indicators.

As an independent, member-led network of Southern and Northern experts, IPAM serves as a neutral reference platform to advance adaptation metrics, representing diverse technical perspectives rather than any specific party or industry.

IPAM welcomes and supports the UAE-Belem process, looking to identify suitable and shareable indicators to assess progress in adaptation to climate change. IPAM created dedicated task groups that already submitted twice to the work program. In parallel, IPAM members have contributed to other indicators framing efforts like the Ex-Post Evaluation Toolkit for Climate Change Adaptation Projects of the Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG), or the Sharm Adaptation Agenda (SAA) Tracking Framework established within the Race to Resilience campaign launched by the UN Climate Action High-level Champions in January 2021.

Finally, out of the 78 The experts convened by the SB Chairs to assist in the technical work under the United Arab Emirates–Belem work programme, 7 are registered as IPAM individual members.

### IPAM CoP29 side event goals

This COP29 side event will showcase contributions to the UAE Belem Work Programme and facilitate dialogue between contributors, end-users, and implementers. The agenda includes:

1. Overview of UAE-Belem Work Programme submission objectives
2. Introduction to the Adaptation Fund toolkit
3. Presentation of the SAA Tracking Framework
4. Update on recent UAE-Belem Work Programme sessions
5. Panel discussion: Identifying indicator needs and implementation strategies

The event aims to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing among adaptation practitioners, policymakers, and researchers, advancing the development and application of effective climate adaptation metrics. This side event will be hosted by the AAA Initiative Foundation, which provides the secretariat support for IPAM.

## Agenda for the side event

**Venue: Moroccan Pavilion, Blue Zone at COP29; Baku, Azerbaijan**  
**Date & Timing: Saturday, Nov 16th; 11:00 - 12:15 local time**

11:00-11:05	Welcome word and introduction to the side event	-Riad Balaghi (AAA Initiative)
11:05-11:10	Summary of IPAM's role and work	-Karim Anegay (IPAM secretariat)
11:10-11:15	Why IPAM is engaged on the UAE Belém Work Programme and other Global Adaptation Measurement Initiatives	-Karl Schultz, IPAM chair (Higher Ground Foundation)
11:15-11:25	The Ex-Post Evaluation Toolkit for Climate Change Adaptation Projects	-Debbie Menezes (Chair, Adaptation Fund - TERG)
11:25-11:35	The Sharm Adaptation Agenda Tracking Framework	-Daniela Palma (Climate Champions-SAA) and Marco Billi (Race to Resilience)
11:35-11:40	IPAM partnerships with AF-TERG and SAA	-Samraj Sahay (independent consultant)
11:40-11:50	Feedback from IPAM experts who participated in the 2nd UAE-Belem workshop on indicators	-Charles Tonui (ARIN, on Food), -Ousmane Seidou (University of Ottawa, on Water), -Nega Emiru (independent consultant on Poverty & Livelihood) Moderated by Catherine Simonet (AFD)
11:50 -12:15	Q/A from participants and wrap up discussion	Moderated by Srijita Dasgupta, IPAM vice-chair (CABI)

## Intended participants and audiences

- IPAM Member Representatives
- Broader IPAM network experts
- Government negotiators and policymakers
- Scientific and research community
- Related adaptation initiatives and alliances
- Development institutions and donor agencies
- UNFCCC Secretariat and affiliated programs
- Technical experts involved in indicator development
- Private sector - financial institutions, corporates with adaptation interests
- Civil society groups - NGOs, youth movements, community organizations
- Media organizations covering climate adaptation and global policy issue

## Virtual access for remote participants

- ***For those unable to attend COP29 in-person, this event will be live-streamed to enable global virtual participation. Live stream link will be provided to participants 24 hours before the event.***
- ***Post-event, a video recording and presentation materials will also be made available on the IPAM website as enduring resources about this vital discussion advancing adaptation measurement.***