

IPAM's Global Newsletter N°9

May 2024



**The International Platform
on Adaptation Metrics**

*Forging common metrics to monitor, evaluate,
and foster adaptation to climate change*

www.adaptationmetrics.org

IPAM's Global Newsletter N°9



Newsletter

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Introduction

The International Platform on Adaptation Metrics (IPAM) is a diverse global community dedicated to advancing the field of adaptation metrics. This newsletter highlights IPAM's recent activities, publications, and engagement efforts.

Key Achievements:

- IPAM's membership spans 36 countries across five continents, with individuals drawn from universities, private sector, NGOs, government agencies, and more, bringing in a wealth of perspectives and knowledge.
- 16 member organizations, including research centers, think-tanks, NGOs, and intergovernmental bodies from 11 countries provide vital support to implement the IPAM goals and priorities.
- Major publications released include the Adaptation Metrics Mapping Evaluation (AMME) Framework, a systematic review of urban adaptation indicators, the African Agriculture Adaptation Tracking Tool, and four policy papers ahead of CoP28.
- IPAM actively contributes to the UNFCCC process, participating in the Global Stocktake Technical Dialogues, responding to calls for submissions, and hosting side events at COP26, COP27, and COP28.
- A dynamic communication strategy kept the community engaged through the website, newsletters, webinars, and social media channels.
- With its diverse expertise and global reach, IPAM is well-positioned to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the development of effective adaptation metrics to combat climate change.

1. IPAM participation at the conferences of parties (CoP)

Since its creation in 2020, IPAM held various side events at CoP26, 27 and 28.

1.1. IPAM shone the light on Metrics in Glasgow (CoP26)

IPAM organized three side events at CoP 26:

IPAM's first side event, hosted by UNFCCC and called by the Kingdom of Morocco, tackled the issue of Adaptation Metrics challenges and perspectives since CoP22.

In this event, the general secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change invited IPAM members to be expert reviewers of IPCC work, while exhorting IPAM to “start publishing peer reviewed research on adaptation metrics as soon as possible so that IPCC can use it for better research, outcomes and delivery plans”.

Two panels discussed the science and innovation perspectives and the donors perspective, with representatives from ARA, CGIAR, IDDRI, OECD, R2R and the UNEP-DTU Partnership, African Development Bank, British Columbia Government, Foundation Mohamed VI for Environment Protection, Islamic Development Bank, University of Regina, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and the World Bank Group.

IPAM's second side event launched IPAM's Adaptation Metrics Mapping Evaluation Framework, with an expert panel with representatives from CGIAR, FAO, IDDRI, OECD and R2R discussing the IPAM proposal, before a good engagement with the audience with questions and comments.

The third IPAM's side event consisted of a hybrid general meeting in the Moroccan Pavilion in the blue zone of CoP26, including both in person and online participants and allowing IPAM to present its general structure, governance and activities. Several associate members (from India, Kenya, Morocco and Spain) presented project ideas to be integrated in the IPAM work plan.

The concept notes and agendas for these three events can be found on our [website](#).

CoP26 - Impressions from the UNFCCC event on Adaptation Metrics.



Representatives of IPAM, ARA, CGIAR, IDDRI, OECD, R2R and UNEP-DTU debating the science and innovation perspective of Adaptation Metrics



Welcome word from Mr Nizar Baraka, Moroccan Minister for Equipment and Water, former CoP22 Scientific Committee director



Keynote by Mr Abdalah Mokssit, IPCC General Secretary



Representatives of FM6E, IsDB, AfDB, British Colombia and UN SDSN AndeS debating government and civil society perspective



Audience view inside the UNFCCC Derwentwater room

CoP26 - Impressions from IPAM events presenting AMME



Members of IPAM, IDDRI, CGIAR, OECD
and R2R discussing the AMME Framework



Presenting the AMME Framework
implementation plan



Audience view inside the Moroccan Pavillion

CoP - 27 Impression from the side event on measuring frameworks for agricultural systems



Panelists from Climate Policy Initiative, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation,
UCLG Africa and Global Green Growth Initiative

1.2 IPAM Concentrated on food systems (CoP 27)

In Sharm Es Sheikh, IPAM was represented by many individual members and several member organizations (**AAA Initiative**, **ASRIC**, **Adaptation Leader**, **CABI**, **CGIAR**, **The Higher Ground Foundation**, **4C Maroc**) that will sponsor some events and participate in others, contributing to the Goal on Adaptation and the Global Stocktake.

IPAM held a side event in the Blue Zone under the title “A framework for measuring and evaluating adaptation to climate change: perspectives from the public and private sectors”. After a brief presentation of IPAM and concrete examples of agriculture projects using adaptation metrics, an open debate discussed the existing tools and the possible needs for identifying and implementing these and others in the public and private sectors.

The recordings of this event are accessible on our [website](#).

1.3 IPAM proposals to support GGA and GST at CoP28

Many IPAM members journeyed to Dubai to participate in the 28th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Pursuing diverse agendas, they participated in various events, each adhering to distinct dates and times.

The main IPAM side event revolved around the presentation of the four policy papers meticulously prepared for CoP28.

These insightful presentations laid the groundwork for defining a proposed work program for IPAM, aligning with the vision and objectives of the UNFCCC.

You can watch the recording of this event [here](#).

Another dedicated event presented the digital adaptation tracking tool, created by the AAA Initiative in collaboration with CIAT and contributions from IPAM members. This tool will serve as a platform for disseminating knowledge within the IPAM community and globally.

Impressions from CoP 28



**Side event on the Digital Adaptation Tracking Tool :
Opening words by the director general of AAA Initiative, in front of Moroccan Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development and representatives from GiZ and GCA**



IPAM panelists from Morocco, the USA, the UK and Kenya presenting the policy papers

2. Adhering to the UNFCCC process

IPAM closely monitors the progress made within the UNFCCC framework on adaptation, and actively contributes, whenever opportunities arise, to advance the concept and application of metrics in climate change adaptation.

2.1. Technical assessment of the first Global Stocktake

IPAM responded in July 2022 to the guiding questions by the SB Chairs for the Technical Assessment component of the first Global Stocktake.

[Click here to find these IPAM's answers to the questions](#)

2.2. Global Stocktake Technical Dialogue TD 1.3

A 'Global Stocktake' takes place every five years under the Paris Agreement to understand progress towards meeting the goals of the Agreement, including explicit attention to adaptation efforts, their adequacy and effectiveness and support, in particular to achieving the 'global goal on adaptation'.

2023 was the year for the first Stocktake, and followed a series of technical dialogues and consultations.

In June 2023, IPAM was invited to participate in the Third Technical Dialogue at the final major UN conference before the Stocktake is to be finalized at the COP 28.

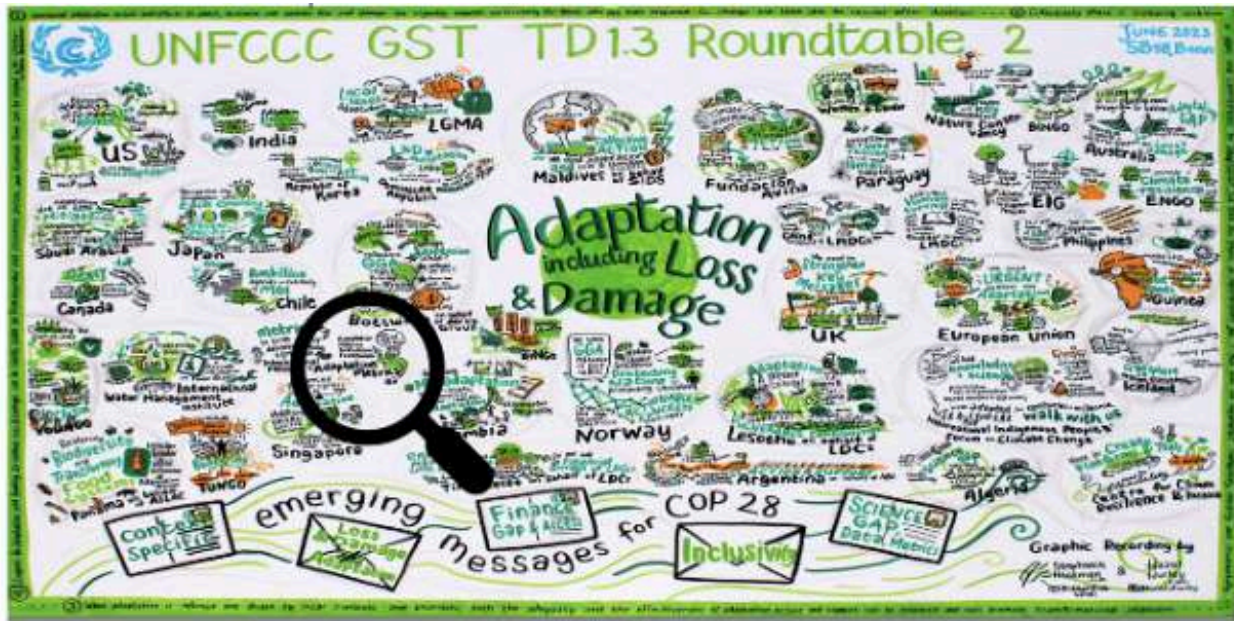
The Chair of IPAM's Steering Committee, Karl Schultz, focused his intervention at the dialogue on the imperative of metrics evaluation.

"An analytically robust process of evaluating adaptation metrics and metrics frameworks for the Global Stocktake is a necessary, if not sufficient, element in its effective development and evolution" was IPAM's key message.

The Chair further noted that "IPAM stands ready to support such a process for the First Global Stocktake and beyond."

[Click here to read the intervention of IPAM chair at the SB58 GST Roundtable on Adaptation/Loss and Damage.](#)

Impressions from IPAM's participation at the technical dialogue of the first GST



Technical Dialogue of the first GST



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Global Stocktake (GST)

Closing plenary

The third meeting of the technical dialogue of the first global stocktake under the Paris Agreement (TD1.3)

Harald Winder and Farhan Akhtar, co-facilitators of TD of GST1

13.06.2023



2.3. Submission to the UAE-Belem Work Programme (March 2024)

COP28 adopted the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) framework, called the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience. As part of the UAE framework, a two-year UAE-Belém Work Programme on indicators has been established.

In response to the call for inputs outlined in decision 2/CMA.5, IPAM formed two dedicated work groups to provide a comprehensive contribution.

The first work group focused on proposing modalities, timelines, work approaches, and expected outputs for the UAE-Belem Work Programme process itself.

Concurrently, the second work group developed a proof of concept for assessing indicators to be used in evaluating progress towards achieving the Global Goals on Adaptation.

IPAM Submission to the UAE-Belem Work Programme



Non-admitted entities (NAEs)		Submission date
Regenerate Africa	Submission on GGA Target Indicators by Regenerate Africa	English 04/04/2024
Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP)	REAP Belem Submission March2024_Final	English 04/04/2024
IPAM	IPAM Submission UAE-BelemWP	English 26/03/2024

The screenshot shows the UNFCCC Submission Portal interface. At the bottom left is the UNFCCC logo and the text 'SUBMISSION PORTAL'. At the bottom right is a 'Login' button. The table lists three submissions from non-admitted entities (NAEs): Regenerate Africa, REAP, and IPAM. Each entry includes a document icon, the submission title, the language (English), and the submission date.

[Click here to read IPAM submission on UNFCCC portal.](#)

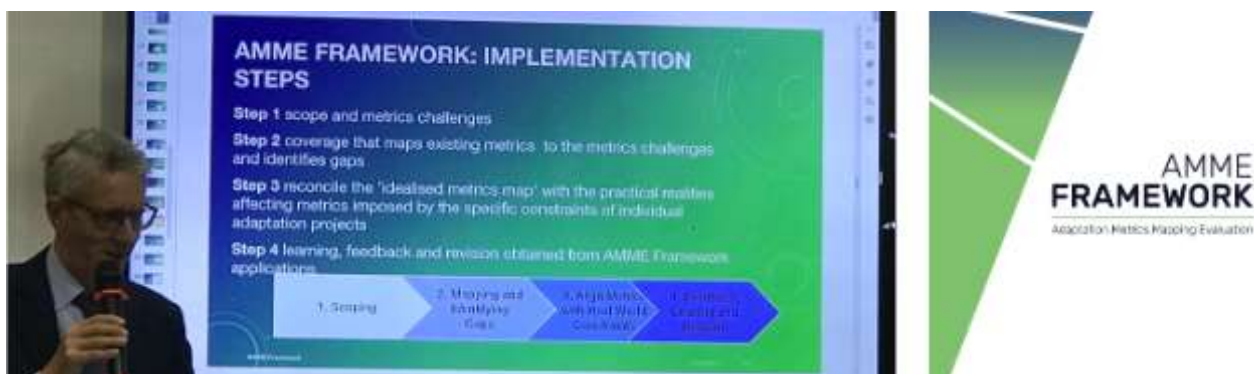
3. Our recent productions

IPAM productions stem from three primary sources: the activities of our sectoral committees, the work of specially formed task groups, or commissioned studies awarded to member organizations.

3.1. The Adaptation Metrics Mapping Evaluation Framework

The AMME Framework is a common vision of IPAM, defining guidelines for evaluating the progress of an adaptation project. IPAM's founding members developed the terms of reference, and the actual Framework was drafted by Karl Schultz and Paul Forte, experts from the IPAM member organization "the Higher Ground Foundation."

The funds for this endeavor were provided by the North African Technical Assistant Fund (NATAF) at the British Embassy in Rabat, mobilized by the AAA Initiative Foundation, which provides IPAM secretariat.



This AMME Framework was presented in a dedicated side event at CoP26 in Glasgow. It provides a rational procedure and practical guidance for mapping and evaluating available metrics, as well as identifying the potential for developing new ones.

The Framework comprises a series of 'metrics mapping evaluations.' The outputs of these exercises are intended for use in various adaptation applications, including specific projects, policymaking, and monitoring and evaluation. These mapping evaluations are supported and guided by the AMME Framework itself – a methodology for evaluating and deploying metrics. Since 2021, it has been tested in several projects, including for the French ADEME agency's ACT Adapt Framework, and for the African Agricultural Adaptation Tracking Tool.

[Download the AMME Framework here.](#)

3.2. IPAM Cities systematic review of indicators and metrics to assess adaptation to climate changes in urban areas

Under the leadership of IPAM member organization “Basque Center for Climate Change” (BC3), the IPAM sectoral committee on Cities has undertaken a two-year systematic review and analysis of the vast and scattered scientific literature regarding Indicators and Metrics (I&M) to assess adaptation to climate change in urban areas.

Focusing specifically on I&M targeted to measure urban climate change adaptation, 838 relevant publications were identified from the openly accessible and multi-sourced LENS database. Across a set of 137 publications capturing indicators that measure climate change adaptation in urban areas, a total of 901 I&M was collected and examined.

[This study is available here.](#)



Search preprints



Analysis

Current indicators and metrics hinder effective urban climate adaptation

3.3. The African Agriculture Adaptation Tracking Tool

The two IPAM member organizations chairing the IPAM Agriculture committee, the “AAA Initiative Foundation” and the “Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT”, collaborated to develop a project supported by a GiZ grant facilitated by the Global Center on Adaptation. The project aimed to conceive a tool to help foster the adaptation of agriculture in Africa.

The Tool has the two following essential features:

- A Projects and Partners Platform:

A comprehensive continental catalog detailing ongoing and past adaptation projects, partners, and beneficiaries.

- An Adaptation Tracking Platform:

A dynamic repository offering diverse methods and approaches for tracking adaptation across various scales, enriched with invaluable lessons learned.

Click [here to learn more about the African Agriculture Adaptation Tracking Tool.](#)



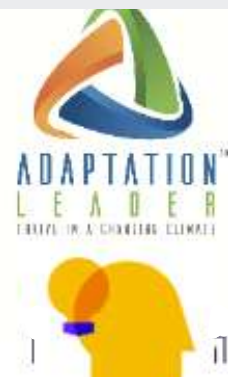
3.4. Assessment of GGA options identified in the UNFCCC compilation and synthesis document.

Under the leadership of IPAM's member organization "Adaptation Leader", this document is the first of the four policy papers prepared by IPAM task groups to be submitted at CoP28 in Dubai.

This expert policy analysis provides timely insights into the complex ongoing negotiations on operationalizing the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), with a view to elevating climate-vulnerable communities. It examines the comprehensive UNFCCC compilation & synthesis document, highlights crucial recommendations across pivotal measurement dimensions, and offers coherent guidance on pathways to consensus.

ASSESSMENT OF GGA OPTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE UNFCCC COMPILATION AND SYNTHESIS DOCUMENT

A policy paper from IPAM members
Led by IPAM's member organization
Adaptation Leader
adaptationleader.org



3.5. Thematic targets and indicators for the global goal on adaptation (GGA): Perspectives from IPAM

Under the leadership of IPAM's member organization IMAL Initiative for Climate and Development, this particular policy paper attempts to bring IPAM's sectoral expertise from its three Committees (Cities, Agriculture, and Water) to bear in the elaboration of the GGA's thematic targets and indicators.

THEMATIC TARGETS AND INDICATORS FOR THE GLOBAL GOAL ON ADAPTATION : PERSPECTIVES FROM THE IPAM

A policy paper from IPAM members
Led by IPAM's member organization
IMAL Initiative for Climate and Development
twitter.com/IMAL_In

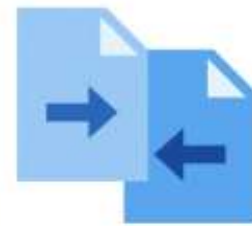


3.6. Navigating the fine line: Defining boundaries between adaptation and loss & damage in a changing climate

Under the guidance of IPAM's member organization CSTEP, this white paper critically examines the nuanced distinctions between adaptation and L&D, aiming to uncover the pivotal reasons behind establishing a clear demarcation between the two. It navigates through the complexities inherent in these distinctions, emphasizing their profound impact on shaping policies, fortifying resilience initiatives, managing financial considerations, and influencing international climate agreements. Further, the paper endeavours to illuminate the intricate consequences of blurring the lines between adaptation and L&D, emphasizing the need for delineating these foundational elements of climate change response.

DEFINING BOUNDARIES BETWEEN ADAPTATION AND LOSS & DAMAGE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

A policy paper from IPAM members
Led by IPAM's member organization CSTEP
Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy
cstep.in



3.7. IPAM statement on adaptation metrics for global goals

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 to serve global adaptation decision making.

IPAM STATEMENT ON ADAPTATION METRICS FOR GLOBAL GOALS

Prepared by the Working Group on Global Goals
Approved by the IPAM Steering Committee
on November 29, 2023



[These four policy papers are freely accessible on our website.](#)

4. IPAM webinars



One of IPAM's main objectives is to “create a space for dialogue to connect experts, practitioners and decision-makers through the organization of events”. To that end, IPAM organized numerous webinars since its creation, that can be divided in three categories

4.1. General IPAM webinars

The IPAM webinars represent a collaborative effort involving various IPAM members. These webinars serve multiple purposes:

- 1. IPAM Introductory Webinars:** Some virtual webinars have been dedicated to introducing IPAM to the general public, showcasing our mission, objectives, and activities.
- 2. UNFCCC Event Participation:** IPAM actively participates in UNFCCC events, primarily the Conferences of Parties (CoPs), where our events are typically held in a hybrid format, combining virtual and in-person elements.
- 3. Presentation of IPAM Publications:** IPAM regularly organizes webinars to present and disseminate its own publications, such as policy papers, providing in-depth explanations and insights.

4.2. Focused IPAM webinars

IPAM often provides a platform for partners to showcase their work, specifically if it pertains to Adaptation Metrics.

1. Member Organization Presentations: IPAM provides a platform for its member organizations to share their work, research, and initiatives related to adaptation metrics and other relevant topics.

2. Guest Speaker Presentations: IPAM invites guest speakers actively working on adaptation metrics or related fields to share their expertise and findings with the broader community.

All IPAM webinars from both the General and Focused categories are automatically uploaded and accessible on our dedicated webpage, ensuring widespread visibility and accessibility for our global audience.

www.adaptationmetrics.org/index.php/events

4.3. Internal IPAM webinars

Similar to our standard committee and task group gatherings, certain general webinars are reserved exclusively for IPAM members.

These sessions may entail discussing project outcomes that are yet to be published, whether stemming from IPAM committees or external collaborators, or delivering specialized training on particular subjects, typically arranged by one of our member organizations.

Access to recordings of these webinars is restricted to IPAM members and can be found on dedicated channels accessible only to them.

5. Our communication strategy

In addition to our engaging webinars, IPAM utilizes various communication channels to keep our community informed and connected.

- **Website:** Our website (<https://adaptationmetrics.org>) serves as a dynamic hub, regularly updated with our latest developments and offerings, presented in both English and French for broader accessibility.
- **Newsletters:** We maintain two types of newsletters. External newsletters, like the one you're reading now, are typically issued biennially, targeting a global audience to showcase our achievements. On the other hand, internal newsletters are produced monthly, exclusively shared with our members, providing detailed insights into the current progress of our activities.
- **Social Media Engagement:** In addition to sharing internal newsletters on our LinkedIn channel to keep our members informed and engaged, we also utilize X (formerly Twitter) to announce major events, ensuring our broader audience stays updated and connected with IPAM's ongoing endeavors.



6. IPAM members

6.1. Who is an IPAM individual member?

An IPAM member is an individual who is passionate about furthering the cause of improving adaptation metrics and contributing to the development of effective and widely accepted measurement and processing tools. Whether affiliated with a university, the private sector, a non-academic research center or think tank, a dedicated NGO, initiative or network, a government agency, a private investment or development funding organization or another donor institution, or working as an independent consultant, IPAM members bring a remarkably diverse array of viewpoints and perspectives. This diversity enriches the discourse and captures the complexity inherent in defining adaptation to climate change, let alone quantifying and measuring it.

Hailing from 36 countries across five continents, they bring diverse geographical interests and expertise spanning various sectors and thematic interests. These include tools and techniques, urban adaptation, water resources, agriculture, disaster risk reduction, climate science and modeling, ecosystem-based adaptation, health impacts, digital and AI solutions, and numerous other areas. Their collective breadth of knowledge and perspectives enriches the discourse on adaptation metrics and captures the complexity inherent in defining adaptation to climate change, let alone quantifying and measuring it.

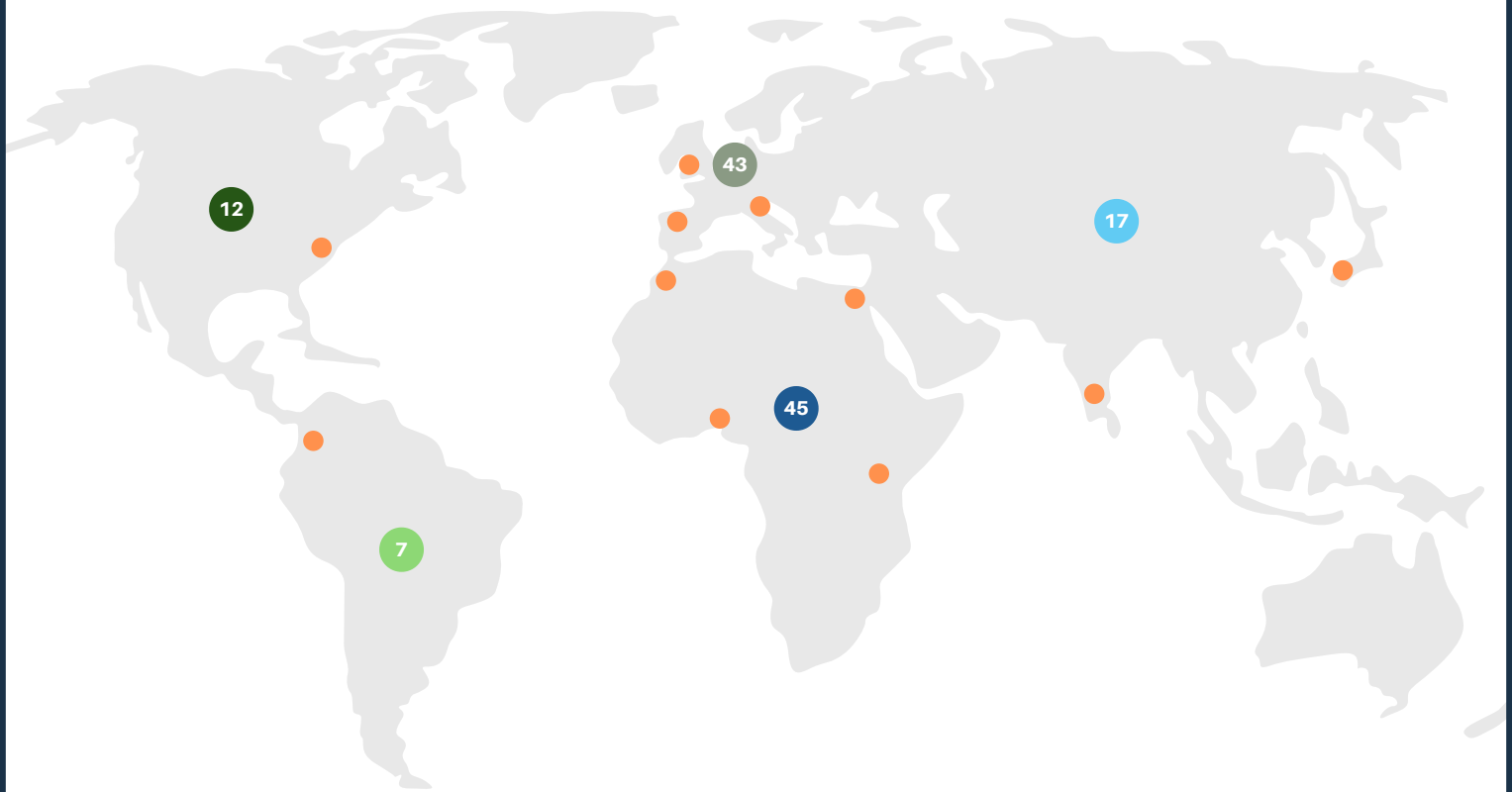
Each IPAM member has access to a comprehensive databank listing all members, along with their contact information (email address, affiliation, position, and primary areas of interest). Additionally, they receive a monthly newsletter highlighting all ongoing IPAM activities, which might include job offers or news from different partners.

In addition to the resources shared publicly on its website, IPAM periodically offers exclusive training sessions or informational workshops that are available only to its members.

With its membership comprising almost equal representation from both the global North and South, IPAM primarily functions as a platform to foster networking, knowledge sharing, and collaborative efforts among individuals dedicated to advancing adaptation metrics.

If you have an interest in Adaptation Metrics, we warmly invite you to join our community. Membership provides valuable networking opportunities without any constraints, allowing you to connect and collaborate with like-minded individuals from around the globe.

IPAM Global Member Network *(As per April 30, 2024)*



Number of member organizations per country



Country	Members	Country	Members	Country	Members
South America = 7		Europe = 43		Africa = 45	
Chile	5	Spain	11	Morocco	21
Colombia	1	UK	10	Kenya	6
Peru	1	Italy	6	Nigeria	5
North America = 12		France	5	Egypt	3
USA	9	Belgium	3	Ethiopia	2
Canada	3	Germany	3	Ghana	2
Asia = 17		Austria	1	Cameroun	1
India	10	Czechia	1	Mali	1
Bangladesh	1	Georgia	1	Malawi	1
Hong Kong	1	Netherlands	1	South Africa	1
Japan	1	Romania	1	Niger	1
Nepal	1			Togo	1
Pakistan	1	Total IPAM countries		Total IPAM members	
Syria	1	36		124	
Turkey	1				

6.2. Who is an IPAM member organization?

The International Platform on Adaptation Metrics (IPAM), as an informal network of individuals, currently has no legal entity status.

A major consequence of this is that IPAM cannot directly manage funds.

However, IPAM is supported by member organizations that possess legal entity status. These institutions constitute the Steering Committee, chair Committees or Task Groups, manage IPAM's funds or provide financial support, represent IPAM at international or national events, or contribute to IPAM's communication efforts.

IPAM's sixteen member organizations encompass research centers (university-affiliated and non-academic), think tanks, NGOs, governmental agencies, intergovernmental bodies, and private companies. These members are based in eleven countries across four continents, with eleven of them forming the Steering Committee.

Click on the logos to find more about our member organizations



Conclusion

As the grave consequences of climate change intensify globally, the urgency to develop and implement effective adaptation metrics has reached unprecedented heights. The International Platform on Adaptation Metrics (IPAM) stands at the vanguard of this critical endeavor, propelling progress through its diverse technical expertise and collaborative approach.

IPAM's strength emanates from the collective knowledge of its members across disciplines and regions. This multifaceted perspective enables robust, contextualized technical solutions. Through cutting-edge research, IPAM shapes the global discourse on adaptation metrics and wields influence in developing effective policies and measures.

IPAM's commitment to knowledge dissemination amplifies its impact. By equipping organizations and bodies with tools to measure adaptation progress, IPAM actively contributes to resilience and sustainability. Its dedication to technical excellence and collaboration make IPAM indispensable for driving innovation in adaptation metrics across sectors and geographies.

IPAM's role as a technical proposing force is paramount for addressing climate change. By joining forces with like-minded bodies, IPAM can unlock adaptation metrics' full potential, ensuring rigorous frameworks and actionable recommendations guide efforts to combat climate change.

This newsletter invites readers to join this growing community and explore partnership opportunities.

Please join here:
<https://www.adaptationmetrics.org/join-ipam>