COP30 Report

by the

French Water Partnership

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I. Introduction : Ambitions Displayed by the Brazilian Presidency for COP30

The thirtieth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP30) ended on November 22 after 12 days of fierce negotiations between States to decide on the steps to follow to fight against climate change. 56,000 registered participants gathered in Belém.

A. COP30 : Challenge Met For Multilateralism in a Taxing Geopolitical Context

This year, COP30 took place in a particularly taxing geopolitical context and served as a test for the international community's capacity for action.

With multilateralism under fierce attack in many quarters, climate-skepticism on the rise, and security themes swallowing funding, this Climate COP itself took on a particular defensive dimension. In this regard, it particularly stood out.

Even if we can regret a half-hearted mobilization of heads of state, with the notable absence of large emitters (China, India, United States), the adoption of a final agreement alone remains a victory for multilateralism.

The "Global multirão", an indigenous term with the symbolic meaning "collective effort toward a common goal," is a reaffirmation of the shared desire of States to make this multilateralism work. Despite their deep differences and the very pronounced clashes between blocs and alliances, they all granted concessions to reiterate their commitment to the UNFCCC process.

However, these deep fractures and the adoption of a “bare-minimum” agreement—the content of which will be developed below—severely compromise States’ ability to meet the challenges of the fight against climate change.

B. COP30: The First COP of Implementation?

This COP also marked ten years since the Paris Agreement and carried with it the ambition of the Brazilian presidency to make it the "COP of implementation." The time is no longer for negotiating normative texts but for defining action plans, operational solutions, and indicators leading to tangible results.

This objective, hammered throughout the duration of the COP, was nevertheless difficult to translate into reality, as evidenced by the failure of negotiations on the roadmap for phasing out fossil fuels and that of the roadmap on deforestation. The presidency did not manage to have binding action plans adopted by consensus but announced that it would continue these efforts outside the official UNFCCC processes. On this point, the COP was unsuccessful.

C. COP30: The COP of Truth?

During his inaugural speech, Brazilian President Lula presented COP30 as a "COP of truth," calling for a resolute fight against disinformation and climate-skepticism, but also for a lucid recognition of persistent inequalities. This clearly articulated ambition

encouraged a conference focused on reality, clarity, and dialogue. How did this materialize in practice?

First, it should be noted that this COP has undeniably been a breath of fresh air. The general framework has allowed for renewed visibility for civil society and provided spaces for collective expression, helping to restore meaning to public debate.

These notions of truth and transparency were nevertheless illustrated to a lesser extent within the framework of the negotiations. Access to formal discussions proved limited; public plenary sessions were rare and were mainly devoted to the presentation of proposals developed by the presidency. In this context, it was difficult for observers and participants alike to obtain a comprehensive understanding of each party's priorities and red lines.

Furthermore, the mode of conducting discussions in the form of "shuttle diplomacy," relying largely on successive bilateral consultations, contributed to restricting the flow of information between delegations. While this approach aimed to facilitate the emergence of a compromise, it also generated a sense of limited transparency and, at times, mistrust.

This technique led to the adoption of an agreement of limited scope, making it difficult for parties to fully appropriate its final outcomes. Notably, several delegations expressed reservations once the text was adopted, illustrating the difficulties encountered in reaching a fully shared consensus.

Thus, the approach chosen by the presidency did not allow for a reproduction of the dynamics of transparency and collective deliberation that had marked the adoption of the Paris Agreement ten years earlier. This experience serves as a reminder of how negotiation modalities influence not only the substance of the agreements but also their legitimacy.

II. Beyond the Process : Did COP30 Meet the Climate Urgency?

No fewer than 55 decisions were adopted at COP30. The most important among them are contained in the "Belém Political Package". This includes notably the mechanism for a just transition, the global goal on adaptation, the mitigation work program, and above all the Global multirão, a sort of umbrella decision. This section does not claim to be an exhaustive account, but aims to highlight the major issues and developments that characterized this COP.

A. The Elephant in the Room: Fossil Fuels

- **The Failure of the Roadmap for Phasing Out Fossil Fuels**

If the characterization of a "bare-minimum" agreement is illustrated in any particular area, it is indeed in that of fossil fuels. Initially absent from the official COP agenda, the call for a roadmap on fossil fuels quickly became one of the major elements of the negotiations in Belém.

First proposed by President Lula, then taken up by numerous coalitions (AILAC, EIG, AOSIS), the subject quickly gained visibility and became an official negotiation element when it was included in the first draft of the Global multirão. Since then, the idea of a roadmap for phasing out fossil fuels has attracted attention, supported by the publication of a list of 88 countries in favor of the initiative.

However, the COP director, Ana Toni, quickly tempered enthusiasm by labelling such a proposal as a "red line" for the "vast majority" of groups consulted. The battle between blocs was tough, with a group of 29 states going as far as declaring they could not support a result that did not contain this "roadmap." However, at the end of the Friday night negotiations, the text was adopted without any reference to a roadmap for phasing out fossil fuels due to a lack of consensus.

- **What Lies Ahead?**

To address the disappointment of many concessionary countries and achieve the imperative mitigation goal, discussions will continue in two distinct processes:

- The Brazilian presidency announced the development within the year of a roadmap for a just and equitable phase out from fossil fuels, the results of which will be presented at COP31.
- Colombia and the Netherlands announced they would hold the first international conference for the phase out from fossil fuels on April 28 and 29.

These two initiatives nevertheless fall outside the formal UNFCCC process.

B. The COP of the Amazon and Forests?

Although symbolically held on the edge of the Amazon rainforest, COP30 also failed to reach a consensus among countries on the need for an action plan to end deforestation by 2030. The Global multirão contains no mention of the drivers of deforestation or the necessary transition of food systems. Yet, forest preservation is essential to any credible claim to remaining under the 1.5°C global warming limit. Here too, the Brazilian presidency announced it would design a roadmap to fight deforestation in the following year.

The forest agenda still progressed thanks to the launch of the Tropical Forest Facility fund, an initiative led by Brazil. This financial instrument aims to collect $25 billion from sponsor countries and philanthropic organizations to attract more than $100 billion from private investors on the global bond market. Seventy-four tropical forests could benefit from it.

C. An Insufficient and Divisive Finance Package

For several COPs now, climate finance has crystallized tensions between blocs, as it constitutes a tangible application of the principles of climate justice and differentiated responsibilities. It enables developing countries – those most affected by the impacts of climate change - to finance their development and adaptation through support from developed countries, which are attributed a historical responsibility for greenhouse gas

(GHG) emissions. Last year, States agreed on a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) of USD 300 billion per year from public funds, alongside a more loosely defined objective of USD 1.3 trillion by 2035.

This NCQG covers both public funds and contributions from the private sector and other sources of finance. Some developing countries argue that this wording allows developed countries to circumvent their obligations under Article 9.1 of the Paris Agreement, by meeting these targets while reducing their public budgets.

This year again, negotiations were paralyzed by these tensions and a genuine "battle of figures." These fundamental disagreements blocked many other dossiers. Given the outcome of the negotiations, the decision to triple funding dedicated to adaptation cannot be considered a significant step forward. Indeed, the deadline for this goal was postponed by five years; its formulation is not binding; and the baseline year is not specified, which limits its scope at this stage.

The Global multirão provides for a work program on climate finance to resolve differences in interpretation of Article 9, and *in fine* the question of identifying those responsible for the climate debt. It also places the modalities of financing instruments at the heart of the debate, with strong demands from developing countries for the promotion of grants and concessional loans.

D. Climate Justice Finally Acknowledged in the Just Transition Mechanism

At COP30, it was truly through the adoption of the Mechanism for a Just Transition (JTWP) that the concept of climate justice was became clear. Following a long campaign led by civil society in favor of creating a "mechanism," negotiations focused on its scope. Many reluctant States tried to reduce its reach, proposing for example the creation of an action plan, which is less binding. At the end of the debates, it was the creation of a mechanism for a just transition that prevailed, albeit without any link to the notions of "critical minerals," "trade measures," and "fossil fuels." Its mission will be "to accompany States in the transformation of their economies, including on issues of extractivism and human rights." Thus, this negotiated outcome explicitly integrates for the first time the rights of workers, small agricultural producers, rural communities, and the most marginalized people.

E. A Win for Gender

Following the renewal of the Lima work program during COP29, COP30 had the official mission of adopting a new action plan for gender. It aims to define concrete actions to implement gender-sensitive climate action, as well as indicators to measure progress in this regard. Given the disparity of opinions among the 194 parties on the subject, this was no easy task. Nevertheless, the plan was finally able to be adopted by consensus and made it possible for the introduction of new measures relating to health, violence against women, and the protection of female environmental defenders.

F. (Partial) Publication of NDCs: Limited Progress on the Ambition Gap

COP30 also marked the third cycle of submission of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0). The Paris Agreement requires State Parties to communicate their climate ambitions every 5 years, as well as the actions undertaken to reach them. These actions play a determining role in the implementation of the Paris Agreement goals and achieving a timely global peaking of GHG emissions.

However, this third cycle highlights an alarming reality: a global lack of ambition and the serious jeopardization of the possibility of limiting global warming to 1.5°C, or even 2°C. Beyond the content of the NDCs, it is first their partial and late publication that raises concerns about the lack of political will. To date, only 119 of 194 Party States have submitted their NDCs. Major G20 emitting countries are still missing, including India and Argentina.

- **A Significant Gap between Science and Ambition**

On the first day of the COP, science took center stage. The day's aim was to review updated knowledge on climate change and GHG emissions. Numerous international scientific organizations participated (WMO, GCOS, UNEP, IPCC...). The 2025 report by the World Meteorological Organization highlighted the worsening effects of weather and climate (droughts, floods, melting ice, typhoons, etc.), as well as the imminent exceedance of an average global warming level of 1.5°C.

Considering this observation, the content of the NDCs does not appear to be commensurate with the urgency of the situation and will not sufficiently reduce global warming. The 2025 UNEP report is clear: even if all countries that have submitted their NDCs were to implement them in full, there would remain a substantial gap in GHG emission reductions to be closed in order to stay on track for the +1.5°C or +2°C targets.

At this stage, it would be necessary to reduce our collective emissions by an additional 12 gigatons of CO2 by 2030 to stay on track for +2°C, and by an additional 20 gigatons of CO2 to stay on track for +1.5°C.

Thus, collective efforts would need to be increased by 2.4 or 3.5 times to reach the agreed climate objectives. Based on the current level of ambition contained in the NDCs 3.0, global warming by 2100 would be +2.5°C. This is despite the fact that countries insisted on reaffirming their commitment to maintaining the primary goal of limiting global warming to +1.5°C.

- **The Key Role of the G20**

The G20 has a key role to play in addressing this lack of ambition. Currently, it accounts for 77% of global GHG emissions, while the least developed countries contribute to only 5% of total emissions. The biggest emitters remain China, the United States, and India. This is a worrying observation, with the United States completely disengaging from multilateral processes, and India and Saudi Arabia opposed to phasing out fossil fuels. Some positive developments should nevertheless be highlighted: for the first

time, China has committed to reducing its GHG emissions by 2035. Furthermore, the European Union is the only one of the top 6 emitters to have recorded a 2.1% decrease in its emissions in 2024. Finally, the G20, under the South African presidency, mentioned the effects of climate change in its joint declaration, although this was strongly criticized by the Trump administration, which boycotted the summit.

- **Context of Continuous Rise in Global Emissions**

This ambition gap is all the more concerning in a context of continued rise in global emissions. The year 2024 saw a record high in GHG emissions, with an increase of 2.3% compared to 2023 emissions. The rate of increase in emissions is today four times higher than in the 2010s, when it averaged +0.6%. However, this bleak assessment must be put into perspective to counter potential critics of climate multilateralism: in the absence of the Paris Agreement, global GHG emissions would have seen an increase between 20% and 48% by 2030.

- **Global Implementation Accelerator and Belém Mission toward 1.5° C**

The COP30 in Belém thus struggled to address this lack of ambition, launching instead two voluntary initiatives: the Global Implementation Accelerator and the Belém Mission for 1.5° C. These initiatives aim to support and accelerate the implementation of NDCs and national adaptation plans to stay on a 1.5°C pathway. Neither of these two initiatives mentions the phase-out of fossil fuels, which were responsible for 69% of global GHG emissions in 2024. Both initiatives will present their findings during COP31.

Nevertheless, for the first time in a COP decision, negotiators acknowledged the probability of exceeding 1.5°C, as well as the need to ensure such an overshoot is temporary and minimal. It is crucial to remember that every fraction of a degree avoided reduces the magnitude of damages, losses, and impacts.

G. Fewer Global Goal on Adaptation Indicators, but Water's Role Secured

Among the most important negotiated outcomes of this COP is also the adoption of a list of indicators by States parties to measure progress towards the Global Goal on Adaptation ("GGA" for Global Goal on Adaptation).

The GGA, enshrined in Article 7.1 of the Paris Agreement, is a technical process aimed at defining measurable targets and guidelines for assessing progress on climate change adaptation. However, this ambitious goal faces many obstacles, first and foremost the lack of data and the absence of monitoring systems. During COP28, a two-year action plan was launched to develop a set of indicators to be presented at the end of COP30. In the last two years, the number of potential indicators has been reduced to 100. This list was presented to negotiators at COP30 for deliberation.

At the end of the process, only 59 of the 100 indicators were retained. Most of them were also modified in terms of their content. Their lukewarm adoption reflects the general dissatisfaction with climate finance: these retained indicators are perceived by

the African Group and the Arab Group as a means of transferring the burden of financial responsibility to developing countries.

This alteration of the initial list compromises the utility, effectiveness, and credibility of the indicators, which had been carefully thought out by a group of 78 experts to cover the subject of adaptation in all its complexity and dimensionality. It will therefore be difficult to bring proof of our progress toward a more resilient world at the second Global Stocktake. This is all the more true since these indicators are not binding.

This new list of indicators, although approved, is not final but will constitute the basis for the resumption of work. The indicators will be progressively refined and will need to be operationalized. They will also be reviewed in 2029 following the 2nd Global Stocktake.

However, the adoption of these indicators marks a major step forward for the role of water in climate processes, which will be detailed in section (III).

H. The Emergence of Trade in the Climate Arena

For the first time, the COP presidency managed to bring the contentious issue of international trade onto the climate negotiation table, and in particular the subject of unilateral trade measures.

The Global multirão thus provides for the creation of three annual dialogues organized during the Bonn intersessions and reaffirms that climate measures—including unilateral measures—must not constitute "arbitrary" or "discriminatory" barriers to international trade.

This reminder on the eve of the entry into force, on January 1, 2026, of the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). This mechanism requires importers of carbon-intensive goods to purchase certificates corresponding to the carbon price that would have been paid if these goods had been produced within the EU market.

While the EU insists that this mechanism complies with World Trade Organization (WTO) law and does not constitute a trade barrier, it faces strong opposition from the BRICS countries, foremost among them Russia, which referred the matter to the WTO Dispute Settlement Body last May. Once again, the subject of international trade highlights deep differences between hemispheres on the core concept of climate justice. If the Northern Hemisphere sees them as simple tools to promote climate action, the Global South views them as protectionist and punitive measures that run counter to the spirit of solidarity.

I. Local Actors and Communities in the Spotlight

This year, the geopolitical context and the significant, abrupt setbacks linked to changes in administration have highlighted the role of more localized and closely connected actors as an insurance policy for the climate.

COP30 was marked by strong momentum in favor of the urban agenda: over 14,000 local authorities attended the Local Leaders Forum in Rio ahead of the COP. 185 cities joined the "Beat the Heat" initiative, which aims to accelerate the deployment of local solutions to cope with extreme heat. This is a concrete example of how bridges can easily be built between actors close to the ground.

Another notable example of the key role of local actors: the intervention of California Governor Gavin Newsom helped to offset, to a certain extent, the absence of the Trump administration. As the fourth-largest economic power in the world, California sought to reassure stakeholders by reaffirming its role as a reliable partner in climate action and green technologies.

III. Focus on Water: What Was The Role of Water and the FWP at COP30?

A. The Role of Water at COP30

The COP in Belém was characterized by the growing importance of adaptation and resilience issues, and with them, the prominence of water. The Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action and the adoption of 9 of the 10 initially proposed water indicators under the GGA framework reflect progress in strengthening the water-climate nexus.

However, while water is gaining visibility, this is still largely limited to the "risks and resilience" dimension, and too little attention is given to the solutions it offers in the fight against climate change—an area that requires improvement. Experts also lament the disappearance of the concept of food systems from official negotiations. Since food security and water security are intrinsically linked, this also negatively impacts the visibility of water.

- **The Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action**

At COP30, freshwater was included on the official negotiation agenda. The Baku Water Dialogue on Climate Action (BWD), launched at COP29, creates a mechanism to ensure that the interconnections between water and the notions of climate adaptation and resilience are formally embedded within the UNFCCC process. This dialogue ensures the continuity of discussions from one COP to another and recognizes the role of water as an important intersectoral connector, as well as an "integrator" of resilience solutions—truly a step forward.

The BWD event at COP30 demonstrated strong enthusiasm on the part of the signatory States to the initiative. France, which is not a signatory to date due to diplomatic tensions with Azerbaijan, expressed its interest in the process.

Nevertheless, the BWD also highlighted some sticking points. First, Turkey reiterated its categorical refusal to consider any form of transboundary cooperation. Second, the BWD highlighted the apparent lack of collective and institutional memory regarding initiatives, tools, approaches, and policies that are already well-developed. For example, the BWD made no mention of the 2016 Moroccan summit on water and climate. It is

hoped that the inter-COP dialogue will address these gaps and establish a real follow-up mechanism.

- **Water Indicators: A Negotiated Outcome Confirming the Role of Water in Adaptation Processes**

To define the Global Goal on Adaptation, only 6 thematic areas were retained. Water was identified as the first of these, which gives it a prominent place within this process.

9 of the 59 indicators of the GGA that were adopted specifically relate to water. They can be found in this document, on pages 7 and 8. They make it possible to assess progress toward target 9(a), which aims to significantly reduce climate-induced water scarcity and strengthen resilience to water-related hazards, with a view to ensuring water supply, sanitation, and access to safe and affordable drinking water for all. Only the indicator relating to transboundary cooperation was not retained.

This represents a significant victory. In addition to sending a strong political signal and providing a clearer framework for addressing water-related challenges, it confirms the place of water within official climate processes. Although non-binding, these indicators constitute a negotiated outcome adopted by consensus. They also offer hope for strengthening knowledge and, by extension, practices in support of resilience. While some indicators are closely aligned with the SDG indicators (e and f), others fill existing gaps. For example, indicator (c) aims to identify the proportion of essential water supply and sanitation infrastructure that is resilient to climate change. Other indicators not directly categorized under the "Water" theme will also take into account the impacts of climate change on water.

These potential benefits remain contingent on the operationalization of the indicators and their integration in national adaptation plans and decision-making processes. Discussions will continue in Bonn.

B. The Water for Climate Pavilion at COP30

As it has done every year for the past five years, the "Water for Climate" pavilion brought together more than 70 organizations to unify and strengthen the voice of the international water community in climate spaces. This flagship venue in the Blue Zone, of which the FWP is a founding member and financial partner, provided a platform for constructive dialogue between stakeholders to encourage sustained collective action to support water's role as an accelerator of climate action.

This year, the pavilion targeted several priority areas of action aligned with the official agenda: urban water resilience, freshwater resource resilience, the water-food nexus, and climate-resilient WASH. As with COP30 as a whole, the emphasis was clearly placed on adaptation and resilience, to the detriment of mitigation.

C. The FWP's Active Contributions to Water-related Issues

The FWP's participation in COP30 aimed at strengthening the visibility of water within climate processes, to advocate for ambitious commitments and appropriate financing,

to promote concrete solutions linking water and climate, as well as to connect French water stakeholders with their international partners.

This year, in light of the climate agenda, the FWP focused mainly on contributing to discussions on the indicators for the Global Goal on Adaptation, particularly the inclusion of water within these indicators. To this end, the FWP collaborated closely with its partners at the Water for Climate Pavilion and organized high-impact advocacy events to promote the integration of water issues. These events included the following sessions:

- **Session 1: "Water and Sanitation Indicators under the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)," Water for Climate Pavilion**

As part of the Water for Climate Pavilion, the FWP co-organized a session on the integration of water and sanitation indicators within the framework of the GGA. The adoption of the list of 100 indicators proposed by experts was then under negotiation.

Co-organizers: WaterAid, French Water Partnership (FWP), Sanitation and Water for All (SWA), Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), UNICEF, Water for People, UNDRR, Ministry of Integration and Regional Development of Brazil, Government of the Netherlands, INBO (International Network of Basin Organizations), Water for Women, Simavi, Deltares.

The objectives of this session were to:

- Advocate for the retention of balanced water and sanitation indicators in the COP30 negotiations.
- Explain the technical and political challenges of multi-sectoral integration.
- Position water and sanitation stakeholders as key partners in the operationalization of the GGA indicator framework.

Speakers:

- Tom Slaymaker, UNICEF
- Lucy Njuguna, Climate Adaptation Expert
- Nishadi Eriyagama, Negotiator for Sri Lanka
- Sonja Koepel, UNECE
- Animesh Kumar, UNDRR
- José Gesti, SWA
- Israel Santos Cosquer, Action Against Hunger
- Tove Lexén, WaterAid

Content: WaterAid first presented the key messages of the water sector, namely:

- The 100 indicators are necessary to cover all components of the GGA; adopting only some of them would create major gaps in monitoring.

- According to the IPCC, it is very difficult to isolate the effects of climate change on water.
- The indicators must strengthen transparency and access to data.
- Sectoral integration is a major challenge: water and sanitation are central to other sectors (investment, technology, inclusion).
- Technical agencies must support States.

Nishadi Eriyagama, speaking on behalf of Sri Lanka, emphasized that indicators are essential and require support and capacity-building, as many countries lack methodologies, data, and resources.

UNICEF presented the process behind the development of the list of 100 indicators, highlighting the advantage of producing comparable national data using low-cost approaches.

The UNDRR also presented three key reasons for adopting these indicators. First, they allow for the operationalization of the GGA's ambition into concrete action. Second, they enable the quantification of outcomes, thereby justifying funding for adaptation. Finally, they require significant national capacity for their implementation.

UNECE underscored the importance of transboundary cooperation by presenting a positive example of the gradual adoption of SDG indicator 6.5.2.

SWA presented a definition of the concept of resilience following consultations and illuminated the need for implementation of this concept by actors on the ground.

SWA noted the strong interest among sanitation stakeholders in gaining a better understanding of resilience issues.

Action Against Hunger concluded that these indicators need to incorporate the social and environmental realities of adaptation, beyond purely economic considerations.

Key Messages: Four additional messages emerged from this session:

- Developing countries' fear of not being able to report quickly on indicators due to lack of resources.
- The risk of partial adoption of indicators reducing the scope of the GGA.
- The importance of international technical support to facilitate data collection.
- The adoption of a comprehensive framework is considered urgent and necessary to move forward on adaptation.

This event was filmed and can be viewed via this link:
https://www.youtube.com/live/EIV_LOK8IIE?si=3PjcbjbZ4D2-AWOJ

- **Session 2: "From Targets and Indicators to Action on the Ground: Implementing the UAE Global Framework for Climate-Resilient Water and Sanitation", Water for Climate Pavilion**

This session aimed to highlight the need to implement the GGA targets and indicators, with a focus on water and sanitation. The central objective was therefore to define what needs to be done after COP30 to transform political commitments into real, measurable, and inclusive adaptation actions.

Co-organizers: WaterAid, French Water Partnership (FWP), Sanitation and Water for All (SWA), Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA), Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), UNICEF, Water for People, UNDRR, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Ministry of Integration and Regional Development of Brazil, Government of the Netherlands, INBO, Water for Women, Simavi, Deltares.

Speakers:

- José Gesti, SWA
- Tove Lexén, WaterAid
- Emilie Beauchamp, IISD
- Catherine Simonet, AFD
- Chris Adamo, Danone
- Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio, UN Foundation
- Rojina, NWP / LEG Chair / Adaptation Committee Co-chair
- Mirindra Andrianantenaina, WaterAid Madagascar
- Manuel Eckert, SIWI
- UNECE
- UNICEF

Content: WaterAid first presented the key messages from the water sector:

- The adoption of indicators is only a first step; their operationalization will be critical.
- Operationalizing indicators requires a common understanding of methods, tools, and pathways for action.
- Implementing indicators requires the mobilization of all stakeholders and increased cooperation between institutions, communities, experts, and actors.
- The UAE framework must be aligned and effectively coordinated with existing mechanisms of the UNFCCC and water sector in order to maximize its impact.
- Water and sanitation are levers for transformation: they strengthen resilience in all areas of adaptation and create the conditions for systemic change.

AFD demonstrated the key role played by development banks in achieving adaptation objectives. AFD allocates 50% of its financing to climate change, 40% of which is dedicated to adaptation. Emphasis was placed on the co-benefits derived from the implementation of adaptation measures, as well as on the key role of the water sector in achieving the objectives.

The UNECE supported the need to break out of national silos and accelerate transboundary cooperation in the water sector in order to achieve adaptation objectives. Cooperation also enables states to share the costs of adaptation more effectively and maximize their impact.

UNICEF insisted on the human rights perspective and the need to act despite the imperfect nature of the tools available. Given that Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector is comparatively more advanced in integrating climate considerations, this experience should be leveraged.

Danone shared two key messages: the need to overcome the "language barrier" between the private and public sectors, as both sectors talk about adaptation but in different terms. Emphasis was also placed on the need for governments to create environments that enable the private sector to respond effectively to adaptation challenges.

Finally, civil society highlighted the example of Brazil and the importance of integrating water and sanitation into NAPs, which are too often treated separately from climate issues.

Key Message: The event underscored that COP30 is only one step in a longer process. The decisive factor will be the ability to transform the indicators and targets of the UAE framework into concrete local actions, supported by partnerships, funding, shared definitions, and alignment with existing mechanisms. Water and sanitation appear to be a central pillar for rapid and transformative adaptation.

This event was filmed and can be viewed via this link:
https://www.youtube.com/live/DYWrqSITdps

- **Session 3: Water Management and Climate Adaptation: the Dual Challenge of Knowledge and Cooperation, France Pavilion**

Co-organizers: INBO, OiEau, INRAE, French Water Partnership (FWP), One Water Vision, French Guiana Water Office, French Guiana Water and Biodiversity Committee.

Speakers:

- Éric Tardieu, INBO/ OiEAU
- Patrick Twenke, Traditional Chief, Taluen, Grand-man of the Wayana people
- Jean-Paul Ferreira, Territorial Authority of French Guiana (CTG)
- Patricia Ferraz, State of Amapá, Brazil
- René Somopawiro, Foundation for Forest Management, Suriname
- Barbara Pompili, Ambassador for the Environment, France
- Patrick Lecante, Water and Biodiversity Committee of French Guiana (CEB)
- Murielle Trouillet, INRAE
- Jean-Michel Martinez, Spatial Hydrology Researcher, Institute of Research for Development

- Éric Brel, Applications Engineer, CNES / Guiana Space Centre
- Marie-Laure Vercambre, French Water Partnership (FWP)

Content: This event demonstrated how improved water management, based on both scientific knowledge and cooperation between stakeholders, can strengthen adaptation to climate change. It highlighted the central role of data, derived from both satellite monitoring and *in situ* observations, in better understanding the impacts of climate change on the water cycle and in improving decision-making. Through the presentation of the One Water Vision and Bio-Plateaux initiatives, the event provided concrete illustrations of how science, data sharing, and dialogue between institutions and States can contribute to more resilient and cooperative management of water resources, particularly in transboundary basins. Finally, it provided an assessment of actions taken and outlined perspectives for future dynamics, emphasizing the potential of these approaches to strengthen trust, knowledge, and collective action in the face of climate challenges.

- **Session 4: From Soil to Orbit: Combining *In Situ* and Satellite Monitoring of Water and Forest Resources for Climate Adaptation, Blue Zone**

Co-organizers : INRAE, INBO, COMIFAC, French Water Partnership (FWP).

Speakers:

- Éric Tardieu, INBO
- Thierry Caquet, INRAE
- Edouard Boinet, INBO
- Afke Van Rijn, Director-General for the Environment and International Affairs, Netherlands
- Stefan Uhlenbrook, WMO (World Meteorological Organization)
- Éric Brel, Applications Engineer, CNES / Guiana Space Centre
- Jean-Michel Martinez, Space Hydrology Researcher, IRD
- Hironori Maejima, JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency)
- Clément Albergel, ESA (European Space Agency)
- Marie-Laure Vercambre, French Water Partnership (FWP)

Content: This session illustrated how satellite data can complement field measurements to improve knowledge and management of water and forest resources in the face of climate change. Satellites enable near-real-time global monitoring, including in hard-to-reach areas, thereby enhancing the capacity to anticipate climate risks and adapt management strategies. The event also highlighted the importance of combining these space-based observations with *in situ* data to increase the accuracy of operational decision-making, particularly in forested watersheds, where interactions between forests and the water cycle are critical. International experts presented technical advances, collaborative experiences, and concrete applications arising from cooperation between scientific organizations and operational institutions, thereby helping to strengthen the resilience of territories to climate change impacts.

- **Session 5 : “Rivers in a Climate Crisis: Solutions for a Sustainable Future”, France Pavilion**

Co-organizers: Initiatives for the Future of Great Rivers (IAGF), INBO, IRD.

Partners: CNR, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), OiEau, HYBAM Observatory, Water Agencies, French Water Partnership (FWP).

Speakers:

- Alain Bernard, INBO / OiEau
- Gilles Mulhauser, Ecological Biologist, IAFG Expert (Initiatives for the Future of Great Rivers)
- Franz Rojas, Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean
- Hervé Gilliard, Loire-Brittany Water Agency
- Katherine Daniell, Professor at the Australian National University
- Clémence Aubert, CNR (National Rhône Company)
- Niokhor Ndour, OMVS (Senegal River Basin Development Organization)
- Maria Apostolova, Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization
- Jean Michel Martinez, HYBAM Observatory
- Naziano Filizola, Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM), Brazil
- Barbara Pompili, Ambassador for the Environment, France

Content : The event aimed to strengthen knowledge, share concrete experiences, and encourage collaborative river governance as essential levers for addressing current climate challenges. It served as a call to action for all stakeholders, providing examples of solutions that can be mobilized to strengthen climate resilience at the local level. The session was structured in several segments, beginning with an introduction by a water and climate expert, followed by three main components: first, discussions on the incubation and financing of water- and climate-related projects; second, exchanges on adaptation and participatory governance solutions in local territories; and third, a focus on synergy and integrated river basin management, with examples of international cooperation, notably in the Amazon. A question-and-answer session facilitated dialogue with the audience, before concluding remarks by the French Ambassador for the Environment, Barbara Pompili.

- **FWP Analytical Project on the Place of Water in NDCs**

As part of its Water & Climate Working Group, the FWP is conducting a study to evaluate the status of water in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0). Its objective is to understand how states are integrating water-related issues into their climate commitments.

IV. Bibliography

Below are some useful links to resources that were used in the preparation of this report, or that will allow you to further explore certain aspects.

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