

Bridging the Gap: Assessing China's Adaptation Policies in a Multi-Hazard Climate Risk Context

Supplementary Material

In view of factors such as original record keeping and the availability of information on the implementation processes and effectiveness of adaptation policies in China, and to provide more objective and comprehensive statistics, assessment, monitoring, and evaluation of the progress of China's climate change adaptation work, this assessment adopts the framework developed by Preston et al. for assessing the components of adaptation policies. The framework divides adaptation policy development into four stages, namely, objective setting, adaptive capacity and resource assessment, decision-making, and implementation and evaluation, and further refines these stages into 19 processes. Based on these stages and processes, we designed an indicator system for assessing China's adaptation policies (see Table X, Indicator System for Adaptation Policies).

Table. Indicator System for Adaptation Policies

Objective		Index	
Stages	Definition	Processes	Definition
Objective setting	Objectives reached by decision makers through adaptation and identifying indicators to determine whether those objectives have been met	Adaptation objectives or priorities	Setting adaptation objectives
		Defining indicators of success	Identifying indicators to determine whether objectives have been met
		Human capital assessment	Considering the skills, knowledge and experience of those implementing adaptation policies
Adaptive capacity and resource assessment	Assessing the availability or adequacy of human, social, natural, physical and financial resources needed to achieve adaptation objectives, or to implement adaptation policies	Social capital assessment	Considering the existing regulatory and policy environment relevant to adaptation, and relevant adaptation institutions, organizations and business enterprises
		Natural resource assessment	Considering climate-sensitive natural resources and ecosystem service functions
		Physical capital assessment	Considering climate-sensitive physical culture, assets and infrastructure
		Financial capital assessment	Consider the mobilization and flow of financial resources
Decision-making	Assessing adaptation policy options and identifying appropriate adaptation policies	Participation of stakeholders	Stakeholder or community involvement in the adaptation decision-making process
		Assessment of climate factors	Considering historical climate trends, variability and future climate projections

Implementation and evaluation	Implementing adaptation policies and assessing their effectiveness	Assessment of non-climate factors	Considering variability and trends of other environmental, social and economic factors
		Impact, vulnerability and risk assessment	Assessing the impacts, vulnerability and risks of climate change
		Be clear about scientific assumptions and uncertainties	Be clear about the scientific assumptions and uncertainties affecting risk assessment
		Comparison and identification of adaptation policy options	Comparing and selecting different adaptation policy options
		Consistency with existing policies	Identifying consistency between the implementation of adaptation policies and existing plans and policies
		Mainstreaming	Identifying institutionalized climate change adaptation
		Communication and promotion of adaptation policies	Communicating and issuing adaptation policies
		Identifying those responsible for policy implementation	Clarifying who is responsible for the adaptation policy
		Implementation mechanisms	Establishing mechanisms to implement adaptation policies
		Monitoring, evaluation and review	Establishing monitoring systems and conducting assessments and reviews
