



RESOLUTION PAPER

NORTHERN GHANA LAUNCH OF THE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN (NAP)

Pioneer Guest Lodge, Tamale | 9th April 2026

1. Preamble

We, the participants of the Northern Ghana Launch of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), comprising representatives from Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), farmer groups, youth and women groups, private sector actors, academia, media, development partners, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and government institutions, convened in Tamale on 9th April 2026;

Recognizing the growing threats of climate change to agriculture, livelihoods, and food security in Northern Ghana, where climate vulnerability is particularly pronounced and adaptive capacity remains limited;

Acknowledging the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) as a key framework for building climate resilience and reducing vulnerability at both national and subnational levels;

Appreciating the role of the National Adaptation Plan Secretariat, Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST), and Changing Lives in Innovative Partnerships (CLIP) in advancing climate adaptation efforts and convening this Northern Ghana launch;

Further recognizing the importance of local evidence from climate risks and vulnerability assessments conducted across 17 districts in Northern Ghana in shaping responsive adaptation strategies;

2. Key Observations

Following presentations, panel discussions, and three thematic breakout sessions involving diverse stakeholders from government, civil society, private sector, academia, and community groups, participants noted that:

- Awareness and understanding of climate change policies, strategies and plans remain limited among local stakeholders, particularly at district and community levels;
- Need for vigorous awareness creation on the National Adaptation Plan (NAP)
- Need for experts to ensure effective implementation of the National Adaptation Plan;
- Access to adequate and predictable climate finance is a major constraint for local governments and communities;
- Youth, women, and persons with disabilities are underrepresented in climate decision-making processes, facing systemic barriers to meaningful participation;
- Coordination among stakeholders remains weak and fragmented, with unclear roles and responsibilities reducing the effectiveness of adaptation interventions;
- There is a persistent disconnect between national climate policies and local-level implementation, limiting the translation of policies and strategies into practical action;
- Opportunities exist to leverage financial institutions, local knowledge, community-based financing, youth innovation, women's leadership, and existing coordination platforms to drive adaptation at scale.

3. Resolutions

3.1 Climate Adaptation Financing

Drawing on deliberations from Breakout Session 1, participants resolved to:

- Advocate for increased and dedicated funding for climate adaptation, including effective utilization of the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) and alignment of district budgets with adaptation priorities;
- Strengthen district-level capacity for climate-responsive planning, budgeting, and financial management;
- Promote transparency and accountability in climate finance utilization through improved reporting and community oversight mechanisms;
- Explore innovative and blended financing mechanisms, including public-private partnerships and community-based financing models, to diversify adaptation funding sources;
- Improve access to national and international climate funds by building the technical capacity of local actors to develop bankable proposals and comply with reporting requirements.
- MMDAs should collaborate regionally (group several assemblies) to aggregate vulnerabilities and submit stronger joint proposals.

- Prioritize information dissemination and a simple searchable database of funding streams and donor criteria.
- Leverage small, visible pilots to unlock larger investments; document impact and financials.
- Build consortium-based proposals to increase scale and competitiveness.
- Engage local financial institutions for blended financing and seed funding for marketable climate solutions.
- Integrate community-driven needs into budgets through participatory planning to ensure relevance and sustainability.

3.2 Youth and Women in Climate Adaptation

Drawing on deliberations from Breakout Session 2, participants resolved to:

- Promote inclusive and meaningful participation of youth, women, and persons with disabilities in climate adaptation planning, implementation, and monitoring at all levels.
- Support youth-led and women-led climate enterprises, innovations, and initiatives in climate-smart agriculture and green livelihoods, while recognizing and leveraging opportunities for green and climate-resilient livelihoods.
- Integrate gender-responsive and youth-inclusive approaches into the design and implementation of all NAP activities in Northern Ghana, including tailoring capacity-building efforts to these groups.
- Address systemic barriers including cultural, economic, and institutional constraints that limit the participation and leadership of marginalized groups in adaptation processes.
- Ensure that young people understand the contents of district adaptation plans and are meaningfully involved in climate decision-making processes at all levels.
- Strengthen climate communication by tailoring messages to different groups and delivering them through appropriate, accessible, and localized platforms.
- Ensure the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) document is published in accessible formats, and build the capacity of persons with disabilities to engage with and implement it.
- Match the implementation of policies with the required infrastructure to enable effective climate action.
- Align existing small-scale initiatives and interventions with the NAP to strengthen coordination and effectiveness.
- Promote partnerships among youth, women's groups, persons with disabilities, and other stakeholders to enhance adaptation efforts.
- Ensure sensitization and awareness campaigns are localized and contextually grounded in community realities.
- Expand networks for dissemination of the NAP, with youth, women, and persons with disabilities serving as community advocates and representatives.

3.3 Strengthening Multi-Stakeholder Coordination

Drawing on deliberations from Breakout Session 3, participants resolved to:

- Establish and strengthen multi-stakeholder coordination platforms at regional and district levels to facilitate joint planning, information sharing, and accountability for NAP implementation;
- Clearly define and harmonize the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders

including MMDAs, CSOs, academia, private sector, and development partners to reduce duplication and improve coherence;

- Leverage and strengthen existing coordination mechanisms established by RAINS, Urbanet, and MMDA platforms to avoid reinventing structures and build on established relationships;
- Pool and coordinate resources to implement common climate adaptation interventions.
- Strengthen collaboration among CSOs, development partners, and MMDAs to ensure alignment of development initiatives with local-level plans and avoid duplication of efforts.
- Develop industry-specific solutions to address climate adaptation challenges at all levels.
- Mobilize funding for climate adaptation through proposal writing and resource mobilization by academia and other stakeholders.
- Use research and evidence generation by academia to strengthen knowledge and support effective implementation of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP).
- Pilot and test the implementation of the NAP at the local level to inform broader rollout and scaling.
- Promote regular multi-stakeholder dialogue, joint planning processes, and shared monitoring systems to track progress and strengthen accountability.

4. Commitments and Way Forward

In line with the “Way Forward and Commitments” session, and building on the actionable recommendations generated across plenary discussions and all three breakout sessions, participants committed to:

- Promoting and strengthening ownership of the NAP implementation process;
- Supporting the localization and dissemination of the NAP across districts and communities, ensuring it reaches frontline actors and decision-makers;
- Strengthening cross-sectoral partnerships to drive coordinated, locally-led climate action in Northern Ghana;
- Integrating climate adaptation priorities into district development planning processes, including District Medium-Term Development Plans (DMTDPs);
- Promoting continuous stakeholder engagement, inclusive dialogue, and mutual accountability in NAP implementation;
- Contributing to the monitoring and evaluation of NAP implementation, providing feedback from communities, districts, and regions to the national level.
- Northern Development Authority (NDA) will continue stakeholder and funding mapping and develop/maintain a database of funding opportunities and interventions.
- MMDAs to form a consortium to develop joint proposals and share vulnerabilities/evidence.
- Capacity building for proposal writing and meeting donor requirements will be prioritized (NDA and partners to assist).
- Promote pilot projects (small grants) to create proof-of-concept that can attract larger funding.

5. Call to Action

Participants call on:

- **Government (MEST, EPA, MMDAs):** To ensure adequate resourcing, policy coherence, and decentralization of NAP implementation, including ring-fencing budget lines for climate adaptation at the district level;
- **National Adaptation Plan Secretariat:** To strengthen coordination, disseminate the NAP to subnational actors, and provide sustained technical guidance to regional and district implementers;
- **Development Partners:** To increase funding and technical support for locally-led adaptation, with a focus on strengthening the capacity of community-level actors;
- **Civil Society and Media:** To sustain advocacy, awareness creation, community mobilization, and accountability efforts around climate adaptation;
- **Private Sector:** To invest in climate-resilient solutions, partnerships, and innovations that support adaptation in Northern Ghana;
- **Farmer Groups and Communities:** To actively engage in adaptation actions, local planning processes, and decision-making platforms.
- **Northern Development Authority:** To coordinate development across five northern regions; map stakeholders/interventions; maintain a database of opportunities; convene partners and open doors to financiers; support capacity building rather than doing implementation for assemblies.

6. Adoption

This Resolution was developed through open discussions and three facilitated thematic breakout sessions and ratified during the plenary session at the Northern Ghana Launch of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), held at Pioneer Guest Lodge, Tamale, on 9th April 2026.

Adopted at Pioneer Guest Lodge, Tamale

Date: 9th April 2026