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ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Research & Innovation (R&I) Gaps Report

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Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of key Research and Innovation (R&I) knowledge gaps identified by the EU Mission on Climate Adaptation Community of Practice (referred to as Mission Community), through its activities during 2023-2025. It also summarises existing implementation challenges and suggestion priorities, many of them transversal across different research themes. These R&I knowledge gaps are based on a compilation of insights from across various Mission Community activities (detailed in Annex I), with participation of Mission-funded Projects, regions and local authorities (RLAs), and other stakeholders and experts in the climate adaptation space.

Key messages:

- **Indicators and metrics specific to climate adaptation:** There is a pressing need for standardized indicators and metrics to support climate adaptation investment and long-term financing mechanisms, support monitoring and evaluation of climate adaptation outcomes, and to improve understanding and reduce risks of maladaptation. Clear metrics and communication can reduce community distrust surrounding trade-offs between mitigation and adaptation measures for environmental hazards and risks.
- **Work is needed to develop robust business cases which can support climate adaptation investment** and the creation of long-term financing mechanisms with stakeholder buy-in.
- **Enhancing communication and knowledge sharing:** Novel, effective methods are required to improve collaboration among scientists, policymakers, and citizens, particularly at local and regional levels, and across knowledge and data platforms.
- **Supporting transformational adaptation:** Experts agree that transformational adaptation approaches are essential to achieve long term climate adaptation success. This requires institutional and governance reforms to enable systemic change and mainstream adaptation into decision-making, as well as further research into effective methodologies which define transformational adaptation and allow measuring success.
- **Promoting interdisciplinary and behavioural research:** Understanding social dynamics, behavioural change, and community engagement is crucial for the success of adaptation initiatives. Further work is needed to represent vulnerable communities in climate adaptation.
- **Implementation challenges remain related to effective public-private-partnerships** for climate adaptation.

The insights point to a clear need for improved communication between scientists, stakeholders, and citizens, the development of robust evaluation frameworks to allow monitoring and evaluation of climate adaptation activities, and the establishment of clear, long-term financing mechanisms to accelerate climate adaptation efforts, amongst others. These challenges are deeply interconnected and require a systemic approach in order to create synergies and maximizing the impact of adaptation efforts.

1. Introduction: Purpose of this Report

As part of the Mission Implementation Platform (MIP4Adapt) activities, the Research and Innovation Node has collected feedback, expert knowledge, and data to identify potential research and innovation gaps, with the objective of outlining priorities and guidance for the European Commission research and funding strategies, at the mid-point in the EU Mission (2021-2027).

This report consolidates the Community of Practice's most recurrent Research & Innovation (R&I) gaps and needs emerging across Mission on Adaptation activities from 2023 to October 2025. It draws on (i) structured insights from MIP4Adapt events and training, (ii) outputs from the six Thematic Working Groups (TWGs), (iii) a targeted R&I gaps survey, (iv) a Mission Projects TWG members-based review, and (v) validation and participatory discussion at the 2nd Thematic Dialogue for Mission Projects (23 October 2025).

Across sources, thematic analysis reveals seven families of gaps, which are interdependent (in no specific order):

1. Stakeholder engagement & societal dimensions
2. Monitoring, evaluation & indicators
3. Finance & investment
4. Data, tools & platforms
5. Governance & policy
6. Knowledge sharing, communication & capacity
7. Advancing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for climate adaptation

This report is designed to be a first review of key research and innovation gaps and related implementation challenges emerging from the Mission Community of Practice. The findings can support strategic identification and direction of research and innovation priorities for the Mission's

Secretariat, ensuring that future efforts are targeted and impactful (see Section 3, From Capability Gaps to Research Needs: Enabling Conditions and Implementation Challenges).

2. Key Research & Innovation (R&I) Knowledge Gaps

This section details the **critical research and innovation gaps and needs that have been identified by the many activities undertaken under the Mission Community of Practice (2023-2025) of the EU Mission on Climate Adaptation**, which, if addressed, can transform how adaptation measures are planned, funded, and implemented. The information compiled points to a holistic need for change that extends beyond technical solutions to encompass governance, finance, and societal engagement.

Key research & innovation (R&I) knowledge gaps are summarised and structured into themes which emerged during thematic analysis across several data sources.

- **The themes** directly represent the topics and information related to R&I gaps and needs in Climate Adaptation as identified by the Mission Community of Practice. For each specific gap, the most relevant source informing it is indicated in parentheses. The identified themes are interconnected, so that some of the gaps may recur in more than one theme.
- **The sources** include insight collected through the Mission Community of Practice online events, insights from participants of MIP4Adapt Thematic Working Groups (TWGs), an R&I gaps survey disseminated to the TWGs, a review process by Mission projects and break out room discussions during the MIP4Adapt event “Bridging Research & Innovation Gaps for Climate adaptation”¹, among others (for further details, refer to ANNEX. Methodology).

To represent all the feedback and data collected from the Mission Community of Practice, both R&I knowledge gaps (described in this Section) and implementation gaps (described in Section 3. From Capability Gaps to Research Needs: Enabling Conditions and Implementation Challenges) were identified. These are often related but require different recommendations for action.

¹ For further details on this event, visit the following [link](#).

2.1. Stakeholder Engagement

The Community of Practice identified several R&I knowledge gaps related to the lack of engagement with key stakeholders, such as local communities, and the need for stronger governance frameworks to support implementation and uptake of climate adaptation strategies.

Key R&I knowledge gaps identified are:

- Developing **science-society approaches** and further research into tipping points and thresholds in climate adaptation²;
- Research and methodologies for **ethical and inclusive climate adaptation strategies** which involved and represent marginalised communities³;
- **Mistrust and misinformation** are under-studied and under-rated risks in climate adaptation. Together with engagement fatigue, this hinders participation⁴;
- Limited understanding and research into **long-term behavioural change** and its impact on climate adaptation⁵.

2.2. Monitoring, evaluation and indicators

A high variety of challenges related to Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for climate adaptation have emerged from the Mission Community of Practice. These are mainly related to the complexity of the adaptation domain, which spans across different sectors, impacts, ecosystems, scales and timeframes, highlighting the need for continuous engagement, transparent communication, and continued learning and improvement as a result of M&E outcomes.

Key R&I knowledge gaps identified are:

- **Methodologies are needed to identify, define and quantify the impacts, benefits and effects of adaptation measures over time.** Attribution of adaptation outcomes over time remains challenging, since the attribution of long-term changes in ecosystems might not

² Source: R&I Gaps survey; anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

³ Source: R&I Gaps survey; inputs from projects: Pro-CLIMATE and IMPETUS; anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

⁴ Source: inputs from projects: Pro-CLIMATE and GREENGAGE.

⁵ Source: R&I gaps survey; anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

be univocally attributed to specific adaptation measures, especially if outcomes manifest several years after their implementation⁶.

- There is a need for **development and testing of well-established standards and ‘best practice’ methodologies for M&E** (Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning) methodologies, frameworks, indicators, and baseline data for adaptation. Currently, this lack of standardization limits the ability to make the business case for adaptation, due to dispersed evaluation knowledge and lack of robust metrics⁷.
- Need for advancing **Risk Assessment methodologies for complex and dynamic systems**⁸.
- There continues to be too much **variation among global and local indicators for measuring climate adaptation**. Projects often use global frameworks (like SDGs) but these should ideally be adapted to local needs, since accessing appropriate regional or local data is crucial. The added value of site-specific indicators is that they can offer more relevant insights. The drawback is that they can potentially reduce comparability across regions⁹.
- Better **integration of qualitative and quantitative data**, for example, to support the inclusion and analysis of social and cultural aspects¹⁰.
- The potential of **monitoring using digital technologies**, including AI-driven predictive modelling, to improve adaptability and responsiveness, requires further research. For example, to support efficient implementation and utilization of real-time meteorological, hydrological and ecological data (such as remote sensing data)¹¹.
- Lack of standardised approaches to assessing **maladaptation**, and evaluation of mitigation–adaptation synergies/trade-offs¹².

⁶ Source: R&I Gaps survey; anonymous sources on Mission Community of Practice online events.

⁷ Source: R&I Gaps survey; inputs from project: GREENGAGE; anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

⁸ Source: R&I gaps survey; anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

⁹ Source: R&I Gaps survey; anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; [Monitoring and Evaluation TWG Output](#).

¹⁰ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; [Monitoring and Evaluation TWG Output](#).

¹¹ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; [Monitoring and Evaluation TWG Output](#).

¹² Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

2.3. Finance and Investment

Results conclude there is a need for continued R&I to identify and test methodologies which support the involvement of private sector stakeholders, such as banks, businesses and insurance sector in climate adaptation, including methodologies for the monetization of climate adaptation benefits and Nature-based Solutions (NbS).

Key R&I knowledge gaps identified are:

- Lack of **methodologies for developing and testing revenue models and dedicated financing mechanisms** for climate adaptation¹³.
- Lack of **metrics, standards and strategies to support investment decision-making**, including cost-benefit analyses¹⁴.
- Difficulty in **monetizing the benefits and co-benefits of adaptation measures**. Financial institutions lack capacity to value long-term benefits and co-benefits of adaptation. More evidence is required (collection, collation, dissemination) on efficiency of green financing options, helping to improve climate adaptation outcomes (reducing risks of e.g. greenwashing)¹⁵.
- **Public-private partnerships (PPPs) remain underdeveloped**, lack of collaboration, and governance. Research and evidence needed on why these challenges remain and how to overcome them¹⁶.
- Lack of sustainable business models for **scaling climate services**, living labs, and pilots¹⁷.
- Difficulty in **translating risks into quantitative/economic terms** – more research and evidence required on effective methodologies¹⁸.
- The knowledge concerning **insurance for climate risks** (covering businesses, citizens, and public bodies) is not yet widespread, representing a research and implementation gap¹⁹.

¹³ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

¹⁴ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; TWG Output; TWG review of draft report – suggestions by GREENGAGE Project.

¹⁵ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

¹⁶ Source: [Financing Climate Action TWG Output](#); R&I Gaps survey.

¹⁷ Source: Climate Services TWG Output. This TWG output is not yet available to the public. A review of the draft “Report - Use and Upscaling of climate services in EU mission projects” was undertaken for the drafting of this report.

¹⁸ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

¹⁹ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

2.4. Data, tools, platforms

There is a proliferation of information available online on the subject of climate change, with a variety of tools, dashboards and repositories. This can be confusing for users who have to navigate this complex set of information, and can lead to duplication of effort, and reduce engagement due to stakeholder fatigue, lack of trust, or lack of clarity on objectives and key users (see for example Nienaber et al 2021²⁰). Key feedback from the Mission Community of Practice is the **need to harmonize work done across different projects, standardizing processes and frameworks, and facilitating knowledge sharing**.

Key R&I knowledge gaps identified are:

- Need for methodologies and **clear guidance and dissemination on the use** and adaptation of existing tools and methods for **Climate Risk Assessments (CRAs)** to specific contexts, especially for cities and regions with limited expertise. Access to climate risk data is crucial, enabling evidence-based decision-making and prioritisation of adaptation measures²¹.
- **No standardised frameworks or clear methodologies for multi-hazard modelling**, evaluation, and uncertainty estimation²².
- Lack of real-life data and evidence (e.g. collation of case study information and dissemination) on the **effectiveness of adaptation interventions** (linked to M&E)²³.
- Limited understanding and lack of evidence on **the use of different existing data and knowledge platforms and online tools by researchers and projects**, and need for participatory methodologies and approaches to **harmonise data and platform use**. There is a lot of data (e.g. COPENICUS), but we lack information on how this is being used, and by who²⁴.
- Further research is required to develop and test integrated models (or software) which allow **interdisciplinary data analysis**, representing complex risk scenarios and socio-economic impacts²⁵.

²⁰ Nienaber, A. M. I., Woodcock, A., & Liotopoulos, F. K. (2021). Sharing data—not with us! distrust as decisive obstacle for public authorities to benefit from sharing economy. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 576070.

²¹ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

²² Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

²³ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

²⁴ Source: [Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement TWG Output](#); R&I Gaps survey.

²⁵ Source: R&I Gaps survey.

2.5. Governance and Policy

Fragmented governance and lack of multi-actor and interdisciplinary approaches (with experts from SSH fields such as anthropology, sociology, law, political science) **can lead to poor alignment between climate adaptation goals, implementation and stakeholder engagement** at local, regional, national, and EU levels. Better and centralised channels for communication and collaboration between science and policymaking are required, and built-in governance models which are defined early on and fit the socio-ecological context to address integrated mitigation and adaptation challenges, through a whole-system approach.

Key R&I knowledge gaps identified are:

- Lack of community awareness and **distrust surrounding mitigation and adaptation measures for environmental hazards and risks** (e.g. improve dissemination and communication of climate risk assessment and early warning systems)²⁶.
- Need for more clarity and guidance on each step of the adaptation process ([Regional Adaptation Support Tool](#) (RAST)). A significant challenge identified is the lack of a central database for project tools, which leads to overlap and confusion for regions – there continues to be a need for **technical assistance and clarity on tools (e.g. for RLAs²⁷) tailored to different stages of implementation of adaptation projects²⁸**.
- Limited understanding of and reflection of **maladaptation risks** in climate adaptation policies²⁹.

2.6. Knowledge sharing, communication and capacity building

Novel and trans- or interdisciplinary approaches for improving communication across the science-policy-community networks are required and are becoming ever more important in the face of growing challenges across Europe related to disinformation, polarisation of environmental and climate policies, and increased climate risks affecting populations.

²⁶ Source: inputs from project: Pro-CLIMATE; anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events.

²⁷ More information of the EU Mission on Climate Adaptation's work with RLAs at the following links: [Futurium: Mission Adaptation Community](#); [Mission Adaptation stories: real-life examples of regional or local actions and good practices](#); [Mission success stories](#)

²⁸ Source: MIP4Adapt event - Third Synergy Workshop (Financing Climate Adaptation break-out room; [Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement TWG Output](#))

²⁹ Source: inputs from project: CARDIMED.

Key R&I knowledge gaps identified are:

- Climate science and adaptation remain too technical, with **insufficient translation into practical or emotional language for citizens and policymakers**, and the risk of climate disinformation and denial are increasing. There is a **need for evidence on methodologies and case studies to bridge the science–society gap**, for example via Climate Assemblies, narratives, climate stories, and local co-development³⁰.
- **Weak inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups** (as highlighted in sub-section 2.1. Stakeholder Engagement). More effective and tested methodologies and evidence on results to include and drive change in diverse community groups required, including further work to develop methods which reduce stakeholder fatigue³¹.
- Limited institutional support and **evidence of long-term policy uptake derived from citizen involvement and evidence on results of effective stakeholder engagement**³².

2.7. Advancing Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and other climate adaptation solutions

There remain significant challenges in integrating NbS and climate adaptation solutions into planning, financing, policy and practice. These challenges are linked to barriers such as making the business case for NbS, quantifying benefits and changing behaviours and understanding of the role of NbS.

Key R&I knowledge gaps identified are:

- Challenges in **quantifying benefits of investing in ecosystem services and NbS**. Difficulty in demonstrating scalability, long-term effectiveness, and economic value of NbS. This stronger scientific evidence base is required to communicate NbS effectiveness to policymakers and investors³³.

³⁰ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey; [Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement TWG Output](#); inputs from project: GREENGAGE.

³¹ Source: anonymous sources during MIP4Adapt events; R&I Gaps survey; [Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement TWG Output](#); inputs from projects: MAGICA and CARDIMED.

³² Source: R&I Gaps survey; inputs from projects: MAGICA and CARDIMED.

³³ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; inputs from project: DRYAD; R&I Gaps survey.

- **Insufficient criteria and indicators for measuring ecosystem services/natural capital beyond carbon** (where research is further developed) (e.g., water storage, biodiversity, soil health)³⁴.
- Limited **standardisation** in NbS assessment and evaluation approaches³⁵.
- Methodologies and evidence required on how to handle the **upscaling of NbS**. Specifically, there is a need for R&I concerning the transition from implementing NbS at the pilot farming scale (farm level) to the regional scale (regional level/landscape)³⁶.

³⁴ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

³⁵ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; R&I Gaps survey.

³⁶ Source: anonymous source on Mission Community of Practice online events; inputs from project: DRYAD.

3. From Capability Gaps to Research Needs: Enabling Conditions and Implementation Challenges

The transition from identifying R&I knowledge gaps to creating an effective framework for climate adaptation requires a concerted focus on identifying implementation gaps, strengthening the enabling conditions and addressing persistent challenges.

This section summarises key implementation gaps, related to the R&I knowledge gaps above, and provide recommendations across the science-policy-practice interface. The implementation challenges and priority actions are grouped thematically, as many relate to multiple R&I gaps and themes in Section 2. Key Research & Innovation (R&I) Knowledge Gaps. The structure does not imply any hierarchy of importance.

The recommendations presented here draw on the full set of insights and feedback gathered across all Mission Community of Practice data sources (see ANNEX. Methodology).

3.1. Strengthening Participatory Governance and Societal Adaptation

A significant priority is **strengthening participatory governance** to build trust (across stakeholder groups, the public, etc), legitimacy, and citizen ownership of adaptation actions and policies. Collected inputs underline that many climate adaptation policies fail due to a lack of public buy-in, and that deliberative democracy—through mechanisms like Climate Assemblies, participatory budgeting, and local dialogues—can improve policy effectiveness. An essential component of this is ensuring **the inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups who are disproportionately impacted by climate change, such as low-income communities, the elderly, youth groups, and disabled individuals**. Currently, these groups are often underrepresented in decision-making processes, which can lead to policies that reinforce existing inequalities. Effective adaptation requires robust governance models that promote climate resilience across sectors and ensure social equity (one example are [DeepChange models](#)).

Research and policy action must focus on developing inclusive and just decision-making processes that ensure adaptation policies which reflect diverse perspectives and do not exacerbate social harm. To support this, enhanced citizen involvement in development and

implementation of adaptation strategies is required (with key gaps in urban adaptation and representing marginalised communities) as well as the design of systematic feedback and transparent reporting methodologies for adaptation policy implementation.

Societal adaptation also depends on increasing and **improving collaborations between public and private stakeholders for climate adaptation.**

3.2. Communicating Data and Knowledge

An implementation obstacle related to most R&I knowledge gaps is the **compilation, dissemination and effective communication of knowledge and evidence for adaptation options.** Although a lot of information and data are available at the European level (e.g., via European platforms), a key knowledge gap lies in understanding how and who can utilise this data, and designing collaborative integrated platforms across countries which facilitates this knowledge exchange. The Mission Community of Practice also identified insufficient or limited knowledge exchange across borders, limiting the cross-national collaborations and replication of successful monitoring practices in different socioeconomic and climatic conditions. The knowledge base should be "fit for purposes", meaning a knowledge base linked specifically to data on climate adaptation. **A diversity of actors increasingly require information and data on climate adaptation,** from actors involved in landscape planning and management, such as land managers, landowners, and farmers, to municipalities, public administrations, educators, civil society groups, etc. These actors face **several administrative, bureaucratic, and financial obstacles, and work should focus on closing these data communication gaps, better communicating results and data to the users who require that understanding.**

Key implementation recommendations at the science-policy-practice interface identified by the Mission Community of Practice include supporting the creation and dissemination of integrated databases with past/ongoing EU Mission projects and the wider Mission Community to avoid duplication, and improved access to climate and environmental data/tools at local and regional scale. They highlight the **importance of integrating data into existing platforms and climate services for better decision-making.** This requires engagement strategies across different stakeholder groups. Lastly, Mission Community member also highlighted that scientists and policymakers tend to focus primarily on (traditional) scientific data and knowledge; a broader view on the use and development of data could include local knowledge exploiting e.g. stakeholder engagement.

3.3. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

To ensure that adaptation efforts are effective, a major research priority is the **development of a clear implementation, monitoring, and impact measurement framework specifically for climate adaptation.**

Currently, there is a **lack of a well-established "best practice M&E methodology" for climate adaptation and universal indicators for adaptation interventions.** Projects often lack a dedicated budget for long-term monitoring, hindering a systemic understanding of climate change impacts and adaptation outcomes. Adaptation requires integration into longer programmes of work, beyond the current 3–4-year project lifespan, to be effective.

Research is needed to develop a mixed-methods approach using both quantitative and qualitative indicators to thoroughly understand adaptation activities.

3.4. Financial and Economic Enabling Conditions

Research, policy and practice should explore financial mechanisms and governance arrangements that can drive transformative change, leading to a more **robust and accessible financing ecosystem.** This includes developing new revenue streams and methodologies to **demonstrate the "bankability" of adaptation actions, quantifying their future cost-avoidance potential, and valuing their direct and indirect benefits.** There is also a need for innovative financial products that accommodate the risks associated with sustainability transitions and for strategies that reduce investment risks, such as guarantees or insurance, to make projects more attractive to private investors³⁷.

Research is needed to build financial models tailored to local contexts while maintaining scalability and long-term impact. This is particularly critical for Nature-based Solutions (NbS), where the adoption of these projects depends on creating strong business cases and improving metrics to quantify and monetize their benefits. From an implementation point of view, the Mission Community of Practice identified weak engagement of private sector (banks, insurers, businesses). This is often related to regulatory rigidity for climate adaptation funding, outdated

³⁷ Further details on enabling conditions and implementation barriers can be found here on the Financing Climate Action TWG Output, ["Mobilizing local resources for climate adaptation through innovative Public-Private partnerships"](#).

standards, inflexible grant agreements, burdensome administrative processes, and bureaucratic hurdles in public procurement and outdated regulatory frameworks that slow adaptation.

3.5. Bridging the Science-Policy-Practice Gap through novel communication and participation

A fundamental challenge remains in the disconnect between scientific findings and the practical needs of policymakers and stakeholders. Work is urgently needed to **develop strategies that bridge this communication gap**. Participants emphasized that **platforms and tools are often not sufficiently customized for user needs, and data from various sources are not harmonized, making them difficult to use and unpractical**³⁸. This issue is compounded by a need for a better explanation of the adaptation process and the lack of technical assistance tools available at each stage.

Furthermore, there is a recognized gap in how to deal with uncertainty and tackle disinformation. Stakeholders often challenge scientific outcomes, and current approaches to countering misinformation are not effective. Research is needed to **develop effective methods for debiasing misinformation** and for communicating uncertainty in a way that provides stakeholders with enough information of high quality to make informed decisions without overwhelming them. For this, it is **recommended to draw on existing research on behavioural science, sociology, anthropology, environmental psychology, and mistrust**, moving beyond “preaching to the converted” to broader societal engagement approaches and reducing risk of stakeholder fatigue.

The Mission Community of Practice also highlights the importance of more **training and guidance for engaging governments, educational institutions (e.g. schools and universities), and citizens**, and peer-to-peer learning and capacity building for municipalities/regions with limited expertise, with a focus on reducing barriers to engagement (e.g. language).

³⁸ Further details on the use of platforms and engagement of stakeholders in climate adaptation can be found on the Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement TWG Output, [“Briefing Note - Improving Collaboration and Experience Sharing of Citizen & Stakeholder Engagement Approaches for Climate Adaptation”](#)

3.6. Institutional and Organizational Transformation

A major remaining challenge is the **slow pace of institutional and organizational change**. The **transition from successful pilot projects and demonstration sites to large-scale solutions is cited as a difficult and complex process**, which would require a continuous flow of funding rather than discontinued project-based funding. Changing this requires **strengthening the links between research, demonstration, and implementation**, as well as developing **empowerment programs** that help communities take ownership of ongoing efforts (such as peer-led dissemination). Showcasing the broader benefits of these actions and aligning investments with stakeholder interests are crucial enabling conditions for scalability. The Mission Community of Practice highlights the need for a “transformational adaptation” approach, which deal with barriers to adaptation, such as lack of incentives; politics and power dynamics; transitional costs; uncertainty and long-term vision; governance barriers.

Table 1 Summary of the main research and innovation gaps identified and priority actions to overcome them.

Theme	Key R&I gaps identified	Potential research and action priorities
Stakeholder Engagement & Governance	• Lack of SSH disciplines in adaptation. • Limited engagement with marginalised groups. • Mistrust, misinformation and engagement fatigue.	• Develop and support science-society approaches. • Strengthen public-private collaboration for climate adaptation and engagement. • Enhance citizen involvement, especially urban and marginalised communities. • Interdisciplinary collaborations for understanding long-term behavioural change in relation to climate adaptation.
Monitoring, Evaluation and Indicators	• No standardised M&E frameworks for climate adaptation. • Lack of standardised indicators and baselines for climate adaptation measures. • Attribution of outcomes to climate adaptation measures is challenging.	• Develop EU-wide M&E frameworks and site-specific indicators for climate adaptation. Support Mission Funded projects to carry out M&E within project lifetime. • Integrate digital technologies/AI for advancing risk assessment and monitoring in complex dynamic systems. • Enable knowledge exchange and multicriteria assessment methods. • Improve use of mixed methods approaches (qualitative and quantitative data).
Finance and Investment	• Difficulty in quantifying risk. • More evidence is required (collection, collation, dissemination) on efficiency of green financing options and quantifiable sustainable business models.	• Develop metrics/standards for investment monitoring and decision-making.

Theme	Key R&I gaps identified	Potential research and action priorities
	● Difficulty monetizing benefits.	● Improve enabling conditions for PPPs³⁹, such as predictable, transparent policy environments, and development of PPP guidance documentation. ● Support to overcome regulatory rigidity and simplification of bureaucratic barriers. ● Support private sector engagement, specifically in the analysis of climate risk for the insurance sector.
Data, Tools, Platforms	● Duplication of data platforms. ● Lack of standardization and guidelines for Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) tools and methodologies. ● Lack of integrated / standardized databases. ● Research and testing of integrated models for climate adaptation.	● Harmonise and integrate data and knowledge platforms. Reinforce need for Mission Funded projects to avoid duplication and utilize existing platforms. ● Standardize methodologies and include stakeholder engagement and dissemination in platform and data management plans. ● Improve access to climate and environmental data across all regions.
Governance and Policy	● Fragmented governance. ● Poor alignment between goals and implementation. ● Limited understanding of maladaptation risks.	● Develop clear adaptation guidance and continue to disseminate and assist in implementing RAST. ● Improve stakeholder involvement at all steps and levels. ● Create new governance structures for multi-actor initiatives.

³⁹ For further details, see the following [link](#).

Theme	Key R&I gaps identified	Potential research and action priorities
Knowledge Sharing & Capacity Building	● Weak communication science-policy-community. ● Barriers to inclusive participation. ● Ineffective translation of adaptation science. ● Research needed on the impact of mistrust.	● Shift from practice-based to results-based policies to incentivize effective climate adaptation. ● Develop novel effective communication approaches, such as narratives/climate stories. ● Provide training and guidance for governments and citizens and include communication and SSH professionals.
Advancing Nature-based Solutions (NbS)	● Challenges in quantifying benefits and scalability of NbS. ● Insufficient standardized criteria/indicators. ● Lack of evidence base on impact of NbS implementation.	● Develop standard tools, criteria and metrics for NbS implementation, assessment and evaluation. ● Compile and communicate evidence of NbS impacts and cost-benefits to all stakeholders. ● Integrate NbS into financing and policy frameworks.

4. Conclusion

The report serves as a key reference for shaping future research and innovation strategies within the EU's climate adaptation agenda. The insights from the Mission Community of Practice reveal a pressing need for a coordinated effort to address systemic gaps in climate adaptation.

The key challenges are interconnected and require a holistic approach and trans- and inter-disciplinary collaboration. Building trust among stakeholders emerges as a crucial enabling factor, without which participatory governance, engagement of citizens and acceptance of policy measures, effective PPPs, and other collaborative action cannot succeed.

By focusing R&I efforts on developing enabling conditions for **transformational adaptation**, strengthening **trust** and **participatory governance**, improving **communication**, and creating robust frameworks and **standardised guidance for climate finance, monitoring, evaluation and learning frameworks, and NbS**, we can build the capacity necessary to move from planning to effective, long-term action. Supporting such long-term action through focused research and funding programmes which allow for adaptation continuity will showcase Europe as a leader in climate adaptation and building resilience across its regions and communities.

ANNEX. Methodology

The methodology involved a multi-step process to systematically identify and analyse research and innovation (R&I) gaps within the Mission's Community of Practice, which are summarised in Section 2. The process was designed to be iterative, incorporating feedback and information from MIP4Adapt activities in 2023-2025, and adding new insights from the Mission Community of Practice between June and October 2025. Here we provide further details on the data collection and review process:

A. DATA COLLECTION

The data compiled and analysed for this report comes from several sources, as outlined below.

MIP4Adapt Events

Insights were collected by reviewing 60 event summary reports⁴⁰ from MIP4Adapt events held between May 2023 and October 2025. These included:

- Thematic webinars organized to discuss key topics of interest to the EU Mission on Climate Adaptation.
- Webinars and workshops organized to discuss topics and themes with the Mission Community of Practice, focusing on the science-policy-practice interface, and research and innovation
- Events and meetings to support co-learning between regions.
- Events centred around joint activities with other EU Missions.
- Events organized to explore topics related to climate adaptation finance.
- Training sessions: Events aimed at building capacity with Regional and Local Authorities (RLAs) on Climate Adaptation topics and Mission themes.

Of these, information related to R&I gaps was found and extracted from 44 reports.

⁴⁰ Note: in this version of the R&I Gaps Report, events up to 23 October 2025 have been reviewed (60 summary reports), those for which summary reports were available at time of writing.

List of MIP4Adapt events analysed for this report, and corresponding available recordings and summary reports:

1. 2023 Dialogue among Nodes. A Vision for the Community of Practice.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GYg8uzXfXog>
2. 2023 Dialogue among Nodes. Information Session for Regions and Local Authorities: MIP4Adapt Technical Assistance Call.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xkjBip_2QA
3. 2023 R&I node. MIP4Adapt meeting with projects.⁴¹
4. 2023 Dialogue among Nodes. Adaptation Planning Cycle
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/mt/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/adaptation-planning-cycle-event-organised-mip4adapt>
5. 2023 Dialogue among Nodes. Introduction to Stakeholder and Citizen Engagement
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/introduction-stakeholder-and-citizen-engagement-event-organised-mip4adapt>
6. 2023 Dialogue among nodes. How the MIP4Adapt Technical Assistance works in practice. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wTTCgmqV0M>
7. 2023 Task 2c Finance. Introduction to finance
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/introduction-finance-climate-change-event-organised-mip4adapt>
8. 2023 Task 2c Finance. How to access private funds for adaptation projects
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/how-access-private-funds-adaptation-projects-event-organised-mip4adapt>
9. 2023 Dialogue among Nodes. Preparing the Ground for adaptation
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/preparing-ground-adaptation-event-organised-mip4adapt-0>
10. 2023 EU level node. Fostering Synergies through the EU Missions for Climate-Neutral Cities and Adaptation to Climate Change <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/fostering-synergies-through-eu-missions-climate-neutral-cities-and-adaptation-climate-change-event>
11. 2023 R&I node. Mission Projects Seminar <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/mission-projects-seminar-event-organised-mip4adapt>
12. 2023 R&I node. Synergy Workshop <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/synergy-workshop-mission-projects-event-organised-mip4adapt>
13. 2023 Interregional node. Matchmaking for Joint Proposals: Propose Together, Thrive Together! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AHrjiBonxX0>
14. 2023 Dialogue among Nodes. Learning from each other_ Identifying, assessing and selecting options <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/learning-each-other-identifying-assessing-and-selecting-options-event-organised-mip4adapt>

⁴¹ This was a dedicated, internal working meeting between the MIP4Adapt team and various projects. Due to its specific and collaborative nature, the session was not recorded. Notes from the meeting were reviewed.

15. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. Nature-based Solutions as an Adaptation Option.
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/nature-based-solutions-adaptation-option-event-organised-mip4adapt>
16. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. Assessing climate change risks and vulnerabilities
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/learning-each-other-assessing-climate-change-risks-and-vulnerabilities-event-organised-mip4adapt>
17. 2024 Interregional node. Peer Learning Programme - 1st Cycle meetings' details of each group.⁴²
18. 2024 Interregional node. Peer Learning Programme - 2nd Cycle meetings' details of each group⁴³
19. 2024 R&I node. Thematic Dialogue <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/mission-projects-space/events/thematic-dialogue-mission-projects-event-organised-mip4adapt>
20. 2024 R&I node. 2nd Synergy workshop. <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/second-synergy-workshop-mission-projects-event-organised-mip4adapt>
21. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. Adapting now: From planning to action
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/adapting-now-planning-action-event-organised-mip4adapt>
22. 2024. Dialogue among Nodes. RAST Step 6 - "Tracking Progress: Monitoring and Evaluation in Climate Adaptation" <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/rast-step-6-tracking-progress-monitoring-and-evaluation-climate-adaptation-event-organised-mip4adapt>
23. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. Igniting awareness: Strategies for Wildfire Resilience and Readiness
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/igniting-awareness-strategies-wildfire-resilience-and-readiness-event-organised-mip4adapt>
24. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. Heatwave Chronicles: Strategies for Resilience in a Warming World <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/heatwave-chronicles-strategies-resilience-warming-world-event-organised-mip4adapt>
25. 2024 Interregional node. Matchmaking regions and R&I actors for the 2024 Mission calls <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/matchmaking-regions-and-ri-actors-2024-mission-adaptation-call-event-organised-mip4adapt>
26. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. Drying Landscapes
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/drying-landscapes-embracing-water-resilience-changing-climate-event-organised-mip4adapt>

⁴² This session was conducted as a peer learning group involving Charter Signatories (CS) and RLAs. In line with the nature of these sessions, they are not recorded to foster a confidential and collaborative environment.

⁴³ This session was conducted as a peer learning group involving Charter Signatories (CS) and RLAs. In line with the nature of these sessions, they are not recorded to foster a confidential and collaborative environment.

27. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. Flood Resilience: Strategies and Solutions for a Safer Future <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/flood-resilience-strategies-and-solutions-safer-future-event-organised-mip4adapt>
28. 2024 EU level node. Joint event Mission Ocean <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/integrated-approaches-build-coastal-resilience-joint-workshop-mission-adaptation-and-mission-ocean>
29. 2024 R&I node. Second Mission Projects Seminar <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/second-mission-projects-seminar-event-organised-mip4adapt>
30. 2024 Dialogue among Nodes. RAST 3&4 Building Tomorrow Today - Selecting Adaptation Measures <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/building-tomorrow-today-selecting-adaptation-measures-event-organised-mip4adapt>
31. 2024 Task 2c Finance. EU Grants for Climate Resilience <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/eu-grants-climate-resilience-opportunities-regions-and-local-authorities-event-organised-mip4adapt>
32. 2024 Task 2c Finance. How to combine public and private funding/Financing <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/how-combine-public-and-private-funding-event-organised-mip4adapt>
33. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Building Back Better <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/building-back-better-event-organised-mip4adapt>
34. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Adaptation solutions in buildings <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/adaptation-solutions-buildings-organised-collaboration-mission-cities-event-organised-mip4adapt>
35. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Assessing climate risks and vulnerabilities_RAST Step 2 <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/assessing-climate-risks-and-vulnerabilities-event-organised-mip4adapt>
36. 2025 Task 2c Finance. Leveraging funding for climate adaptation <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/leveraging-funding-climate-adaptation-innovative-funding-options-climate-adaptation-projects-event>
37. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Adapting the health sector to climate impacts <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/adapting-health-sector-climate-impacts-event-organised-mip4adapt>
38. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Joint Event With REACHOUT: Heatwave Risk Assessment Tools <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/joint-event-reachout-heatwave-risk-assessment-tools-are-they-needed-event-organised-mip4adapt>
39. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Urban Agriculture and Sustainable Land Planning <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation->

- [community/events/urban-agriculture-and-sustainable-land-planning-event-organised-mip4adapt](https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/urban-agriculture-and-sustainable-land-planning-event-organised-mip4adapt)
40. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Regenerative agriculture practices
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/regenerative-agriculture-practices-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 41. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Adapting transport infrastructure
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/adapting-transport-infrastructure-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 42. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Adapting Energy Infrastructure
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/adapting-energy-infrastructure-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 43. 2025 R&I node. 2nd Thematic Dialogue for Mission Projects: TWG Outputs Event
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/enhancing-adaptation-actions-outputs-twgs-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 44. 2025 R&I node. Third Mission Project Seminar
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/third-mission-projects-seminar-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 45. 2025 Interregional node. Matchmaking regions and R&I actors for the 2025 Mission calls
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/matchmaking-regions-local-authorities-and-ri-actors-2025-mission-call>
 46. 2025 EU Level node. Joint event with Mission Soil: Climate-Smart Land Use & Resilient Food Systems
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/online-joint-workshop-mission-adaptation-and-mission-soil-climate-smart-land-use-resilient-food>
 47. 2025 Task 2d Training Programme. Success stories on engaging citizens and stakeholders in climate adaptation
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/success-stories-engaging-citizens-and-stakeholders-climate-adaptation-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 48. 2025 Task 2d Training Programme. Tips for creating your awareness raising campaigns
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/tips-creating-your-awareness-raising-campaigns-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 49. 2025 Task 2d Training Programme. Learning from best practices in Living Labs for adaptation
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/learning-best-practices-living-labs-adaptation-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 50. 2025 EU Level node. Public procurement in buildings
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/public-procurement-buildings-organised-collaboration-mission-cities-event-organised-mip4adapt>
 51. 2025 EU Level node. Joint event Mission Cancer
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/resilient-health-systems-cancer-joint-event-mission-adaptation-and-mission-cancer-event-organised>
 52. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Preparing the ground for adaptation_RAST Step 1
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/preparing-ground-adaptation-event-organised-mip4adapt>

53. 2025 Fourth Forum Pre-Forum Workshop: Results of the poll reviewed.⁴⁴
54. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Securing more resources and political support for the implementation of climate adaptation measures (16.09.2025)
<https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/adaptation-options-actions-preparing-implementation-event-organised-mip4adapt>
55. 2025 Task 2d Training Programme. Participatory public budget allocation for adaptation projects (18 September 2025) <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/addressing-complexity-financial-management-green-participatory-budgets-event-organised-mip4adapt>
56. 2025 Task 2c Finance. Engaging the private and insurance sectors to invest in climate adaptation projects (30.09.2025) <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/engaging-private-and-insurance-sectors-invest-climate-adaptation-projects-event-organised-jointly>
57. 2025 R&I node. Mission Projects Workshop: Shaping the Future of the Thematic Working Groups (01.10.2025) <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/synergy-workshop-shaping-future-twgs-event-organised-mip4adapt>
58. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Water resilience and the role of electricity production (08.10.2025) <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/water-resilience-and-role-electricity-production-event-organised-mip4adapt>
59. 2025 Dialogue among Nodes. Conserving and restoring water ecosystems (17.10.2025) <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/conserving-and-restoring-water-ecosystems-event-organised-mip4adapt>
60. 2025 R&I node. 3rd Thematic Dialogue for Mission Projects (23.10.2025) <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/eu-mission-adaptation-community/events/bridging-research-innovation-gaps-thematic-dialogue-mission-projects-event-organised-mip4adapt>

Thematic Working Groups

Data and information on R&I gaps were collected by reviewing the outputs generated by the six MIP4Adapt Thematic Working Groups⁴⁵ (TWGs), available on Futurium⁴⁶ (see Annex I.C. for full details on the TWG outputs reviewed). The **Thematic Working Groups (TWGs)** are a cornerstone of collaboration within the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change, bringing together experts from EU-funded projects to

⁴⁴ This was an in-person event and, as such, was not recorded.

⁴⁵ The MIP4Adapt Thematic Working Groups (TWGs), up until October 2025, are: Climate Services; Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement; Financing Climate Action; Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation; Transformational Adaptation; Monitoring and Evaluation. A new TWG on Climate Adaptation Platforms (CAPs) has just been established and will have its inception meeting in November 2025.

⁴⁶ [Resources and outputs](#).

exchange knowledge, align efforts, and maximise impact. These groups focus on key adaptation themes and play a vital role in generating practical resources to support regional and local adaptation efforts. Some TWGs did not have publicly available outputs at time of analysis, however their work even in draft format, was still reviewed, and future iterations or update of this report should consider new TWG outputs as they become available.

Table A1. TWG outputs analysed for identification of research and innovation gaps.

TWG	Output analysed	Details
Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement	Briefing Note – Improving collaboration and experience sharing of citizen & stakeholder engagement approaches for Climate Adaptation.	Futurium Link
Climate Services	Survey on “use and upscaling of climate services in EU mission projects” and associated peer-reviewed publication and policy brief.	Outputs not yet publicly available on Futurium
Financing Climate Action	Publication - Mobilizing local resources for climate adaptation through innovative Public-Private partnerships	Futurium Link
Financing Climate Action	Publication - Sharing knowledge and inspiring the adoption of innovative financial structures and instruments	Futurium Link
Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation	Position Paper: Gaps and Opportunities for Better Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation	Futurium Link
Monitoring and Evaluation	Insights Document on monitoring challenges and lessons learned	Futurium Link
Transformational Adaptation	Policy Brief: Understanding Transformational Adaptation	Futurium Link

Research and Innovation Gaps Survey

A "Research and Innovation Gaps survey" was distributed to all members of the 6 MIP4Adapt TWGs using the EU Survey tool. Data was collected between March and June 2025, to gather additional, structured input from TWG members, thus providing

input from the scientific and academic community specifically. 22 responses were received from across all six TWGs (see Annex I for further details).

Table A2. Survey responses by TWG and project participation

TWG	Number of responses	Projects represented
Citizen and Stakeholder Engagement	3	CLIMAS, GREENGAGE, NATALIE project
Climate Services	5	IMPETUS, Climate, CARMINE, VALORADA, GREENGAGE
Financing Climate Action	3	NATALIE, CLIMATEFIT, DRYAD
Integrating Mitigation and Adaptation	2	SPARCCLE, REGILIENCE
Monitoring and Evaluation	4	CARDIMED, CREDIBLE, Pathways2Resilience, VALORADA, DRYAD
Transformational Adaptation	5	TRANSCEND, Pathways2Resilience, CLIMATEFIT, REGILIENCE, GREENGAGE
TOTAL	22	

B. REVIEW AND FEEDBACK VIA FROM MISSION PROJECTS WITHIN THE TWGS

A draft report compiling the initial analysis and interpretation of R&I Gaps was shared with volunteers from Mission Projects within the TWGs who expressed interest in reviewing and providing feedback, in September 2025. A total of 17 volunteers from across the following TWGs expressed interest and were given 2 weeks to review the report. This included projects from the following TWGs; Citizen & Stakeholder Engagement; Integrating Climate services; Integrating mitigation and adaptation; Monitoring and evaluation; Transformational Adaptation. Finally, nine volunteers reviewed the report and provided feedback. Their contributions are reflected throughout the document, and they are mentioned in the acknowledgement section as co-authors of the report.

C. RESULTS PRESENTATION AND VALIDATION DURING MIP4ADAPT WORKSHOP

During the MIP4Adapt event “Bridging Research & Innovation Gaps for Climate Adaptation: Working with Mission Projects to set priorities for action”⁴⁷ on 23 October 2025, the preliminary findings of the report were presented and validated through a participatory exercise using Break Out rooms where participants could propose 3 key R&I knowledge gaps and 3 key priority actions to advance knowledge in climate adaptation. Feedback from the event was incorporated to the final version of this report.

D. COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS

All the insights from MIP4Adapt events from 2023 to September 2025, TWG outputs, the R&I Gaps Survey were collected in a qualitative database, and thematic analysis was conducted to group results into R&I gap themes. Additional inputs were added following the review by TWG members in September 2025, and the presentation and discussion of preliminary findings with participants of the 2nd Thematic Dialogue for Mission Projects (“Bridging Research & Innovation Gaps”) workshop on 23 October 2025⁴⁸. The final report (available in November 2025) synthesizes all findings, providing a comprehensive and up-to-date overview of the R&I needs and priorities of the Community of Practice, and contributing to the MIP4Adapt legacy and Mission programme or work.

⁴⁷ Details and recording of the event [here](#).

⁴⁸ More information [here](#).