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# Climate change adaptation reporting: Information request

Following the release of the first National Climate Change Risk Assessment, we are requesting information on behalf of the Minister for Climate Change from reporting organisations under section 5ZW of the Climate Change Response Act 2002.

We are asking you to provide high-level information about how your organisation is preparing for the impacts of climate change. The purpose of this request is to inform the development of the National Adaptation Plan, which will respond to the most significant risks identified in the National Climate Change Risk Assessment.

We will use the information to provide a snapshot of how prepared reporting organisations are for climate change. We will also use it to decide whether we will send a second, more targeted request to your organisation.

## What will happen to the information provided in this survey?

The Minister for Climate Change is required to share the information received in response to this request with the Climate Change Commission.

We do not intend to publicly disclose the information gathered through this survey. Neither the Minister for Climate Change nor the Climate Change Commission can publicly disclose any information received in response to this request unless its disclosure is necessary to perform a function or duty imposed by Part 1C of the Climate Change Response Act 2002.

Information gathered through this survey may be subject to requests under the Official Information Act 1982. Note there is provision for the protection of commercial or trade sensitive information in Section 9 of the Act.

## Personal information

Any personal information you supply will only be used by the Ministry in relation to information requests under the Adaptation Reporting Power. You have the right to request access to or to correct any personal information you supply to the Ministry.

If you would like to access or correct any personal information you have supplied, please email info@mfe.govt.nz. Providing personal information is not mandatory.

## Survey questions

1. What is your name?

2. What organisation do you work for?

3. What is your role?

4. Please provide contact email.

5. Please indicate if you are happy for the Ministry for the Environment to use the contact details provided above for broader climate change-related communications. Yes/No

### Risks and impacts

These questions are intended to test general awareness and understanding of impacts and risks from climate change.

6. Is your organisation aware of the impacts that climate change may have on its ability to carry out functions and deliver services? For example, impacts from increased flooding, sea-level rise, more heat waves, more intense storms, more droughts and wildfires.

a) Climate change impacts are well understood and documented

b) Climate change impacts are acknowledged but only partially understood or documented

c) Climate change impacts are poorly understood and not documented or considered

d) We have not considered climate change impacts to date

e) Unsure.

7. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did. For example, links to reports.

8. Does your organisation have access to data related to the impacts from climate change?

1. Yes – at a regional, local and asset level
2. Yes – at a regional and local level
3. Yes – at a regional level
4. No
5. Unsure.

9. Please provide details on any data gaps you are aware of for specific climate change impacts.

10. Specifically, has your organisation assessed its exposure to climate change impacts, in terms of its ability to continue to carry out functions and deliver services? Note: this includes the exposure of the communities to which these services are provided.

1. Yes, accurate (quantitative) exposure data is held for all relevant climate change impacts
2. Accurate exposure data is held for some climate change impacts
3. No accurate exposure data, but climate change impacts relevant to our organisation are documented
4. Limited or no understanding and assessment of exposure to relevant climate change impacts
5. Unsure.

11. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did. For example, links to reports.

12. Specifically, has your organisation assessed its vulnerability to climate change impacts, in terms of its ability to continue to carry out functions and deliver services? Note: this includes the vulnerability of the communities to which these services are provided.

1. Yes, vulnerability to climate change impacts is well understood and integrated into decision-making processes
2. Some assessment of vulnerability to climate change impacts has been done, but this is not well embedded in organisational processes
3. Limited or no assessment or understanding of vulnerability to climate change impacts
4. Unsure.

13. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did? For example, links to reports.

### National Climate Change Risk Assessment

The recently published National Climate Change Risk Assessment identified the 10 most significant risks that New Zealand faces from climate change. The risks are grouped according to five value domains: natural environment domain, human domain, economy domain, built environment domain and governance domain.

For each of the risks listed below, indicate to what extent they are expected to impact the quality or consistency of services delivered by your organisation, or impact infrastructure or capital investments owned or used by your organisation. Note: this question also refers to risks affecting the communities to which these services are provided.

14. Risks to coastal ecosystems, including the intertidal zone, estuaries, dunes, coastal lakes and wetlands, due to ongoing sea-level rise and extreme weather events.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

15. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

16. Risks to indigenous ecosystems and species from the enhanced spread, survival and establishment of invasive species due to climate change.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

17. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

18. Risks to social cohesion and community wellbeing from displacement of individuals, families and communities due to climate change impacts.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

19. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

20. Risks of exacerbating existing inequities and creating new and additional inequities due to differential distribution of climate change impacts.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

21. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

22. Risks to governments from economic costs associated with lost productivity, disaster relief expenditure and unfunded contingent liabilities due to extreme events and ongoing, gradual changes.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

23. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

24. Risks to the financial system from instability due to extreme weather events and ongoing, gradual changes.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

25. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

26. Risk to potable water supplies (availability and quality) due to changes in rainfall, temperature, drought, extreme weather events and ongoing sea-level rise.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

27. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

28. Risks to buildings due to extreme weather events, drought, increased fire weather and ongoing sea-level rise.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

29. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

30. Risk of maladaptation across all domains due to practices, processes and tools that do not account for uncertainty and change over long timeframes.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

31. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

32. Risk that climate change impacts across all domains will be exacerbated because current institutional arrangements are not fit for adaptation. Institutional arrangements include legislative and decision-making frameworks, coordination within and across levels of government, and funding mechanisms.

1. Potential for significant impacts
2. Potential for minor to moderate impacts
3. Unlikely to impact my organisation or the services it delivers
4. Unsure.

33. Please provide further details on why you selected the option you did.

34. What are the most immediate / urgent climate change risks to be managed from your organisation’s perspective?

35. Please list any other risks identified in the National Climate Change Risk Assessment that are significant for your organisation.

### Strategy, governance and metrics

These questions are designed to gather information about internal governance and decision-making processes.

36. Does your organisation have a plan or strategy to improve its resilience and/or the resilience of the community it serves to climate change impacts?

1. Yes, specifically for resilience to climate change impacts
2. Yes, but it is not focused exclusively on climate change (e.g. risk and resilience strategy)
3. A plan is in development
4. No
5. Unsure.

37. Please provide more information and/or a link to the plan, and comment on its effectiveness.

38. What are the barriers to developing a plan?

39. Does your organisation have any indicators, or measures to help it monitor and manage its risks from climate change impacts? For example, from increased flooding, sea-level rise, more heat waves, more intense storms, more droughts and wildfires. Note: this question includes risks affecting the communities to which these services are provided.

1. Yes
2. These are in development
3. No
4. Unsure.

40. Please list the indicators or measures.

41. Are risks to your organisation’s ability to carry out functions and deliver services from the impacts of climate change reported to your organisation’s governance board?

1. Yes, more often than annually
2. Yes, annually
3. Yes, less often than annually
4. Not at all
5. Unsure.

42. Any comments?

43. In the box below, please briefly describe the role that management plays within your organisation in responding to risks from climate change.

44. Does your organisation require the impacts of climate change, and adaptation options to address these impacts, to be assessed and considered in decision-making? For example, will climate change be considered before making a decision to invest in a physical asset. Note: this does not refer to requirements for mitigation/carbon emissions reduction.

1. Yes
2. For some projects
3. Not yet, but this is in development
4. No
5. Unsure.

45. If applicable, please provide details about the requirements and their effectiveness.

### Support and resources

46. Which actions or resources would help your organisation to better prepare for the impacts of climate change? Tick as many as apply:

1. More information about how climate change is projected to impact a region or a district
2. Guidance on how to assess and consider the impacts of climate change on your organisation
3. Tools to help quantify impacts from climate change on your organisation
4. Methodology for assessing and quantifying climate change risks
5. Legislative requirements to consider/plan for the effects of climate change
6. Legislative requirements to publicly report on your organisation’s climate risks and adaptation plans
7. Opportunities to engage and learn from others
8. Training to develop skills/capabilities
9. Improved and centralised data repository e.g. flooding
10. Good practice guides, bench-marking and assessment tools
11. Funding to implement a strategy and deliver on-the-ground adaptation actions

47. Any other actions or resources?

48. What are the barriers to an effective adaptation response that are faced by your organisation? Tick as many as apply:

1. Lack of awareness/education regarding the impacts of climate change by decision-makers/the wider community
2. Lack of political will or desire from the community for change
3. Lack of tools/methods by which to engage decision-makers/the community
4. Inflexibility of current legislation

49. Any other barriers?

50. Is there any further information you would like to provide about your organisation’s response to the risks and impacts of climate change? Please let us know in the box below.

### Sensitive information

Is there any further information you would like to provide about your organisation’s response to the risks and impacts of climate change? Please let us know in the box below.