



United Nations
Climate Change

Join

THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

under the Nairobi Work Programme



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Welcome to the UN Climate Change Universities Partnership Programme.

The programme is a pioneering initiative that connects graduate students and universities with knowledge and know-how needs of the global policy process under the UN.



Credit: SamHawleywood Flickr

Connecting graduate students and universities with real-world adaptation priorities

All graduate students from accredited universities in all regions have the opportunity to deliver context-specific knowledge to address real-world climate adaptation priorities under the UN Climate Change Universities Partnership Programme.

Established under the [Nairobi Work Programme](#) in 2018, the [UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice \(SBSTA\)](#) has recognised the importance of the Programme and mandated the UN Climate Change secretariat to scale it up and build partnerships to help activate context-specific knowledge across all regions.

Credit: Pcess609, iStock

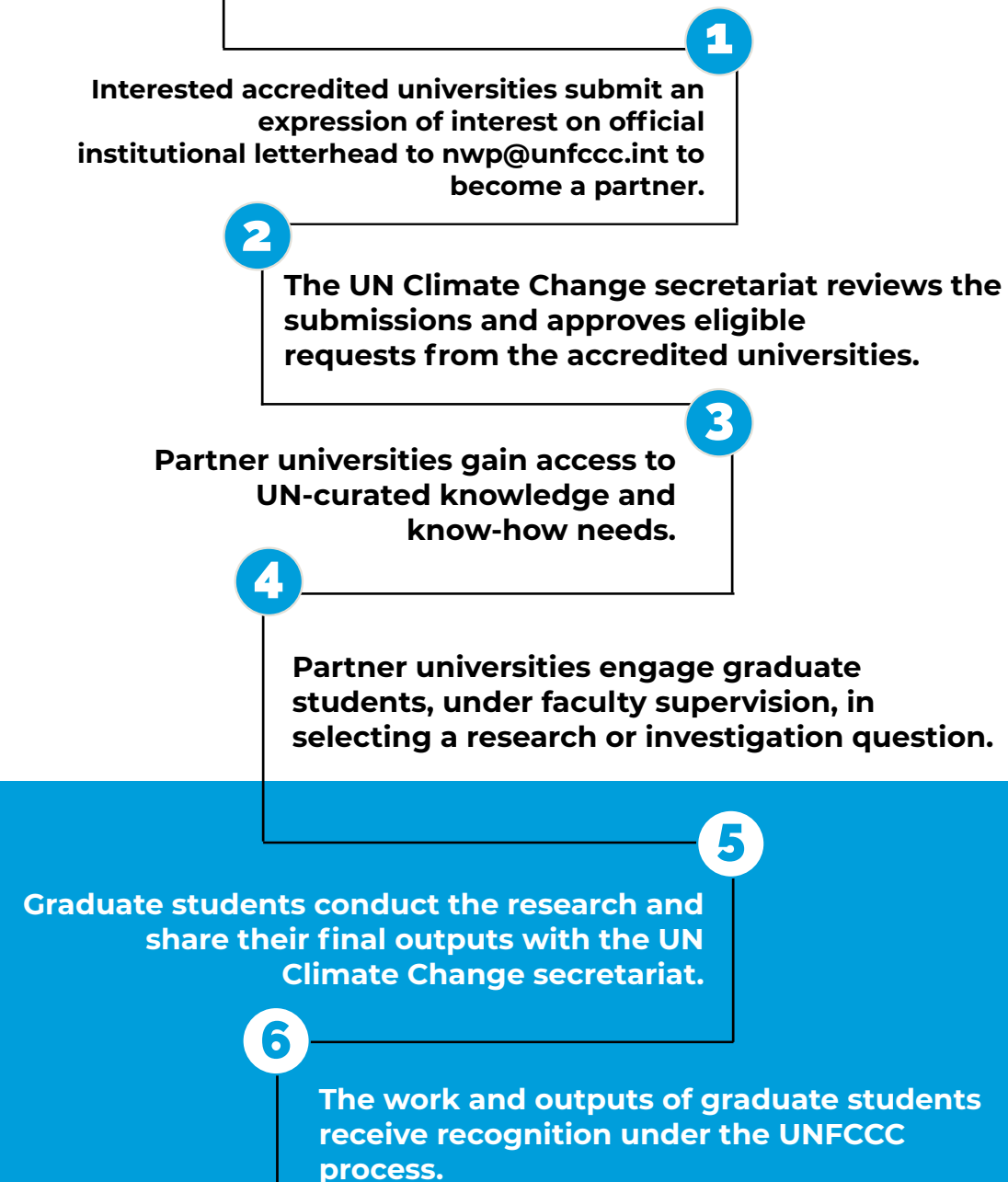
JOIN THE UN CLIMATE CHANGE UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

To make an impact in advancing real-world adaptation priorities, apply to join the UN Climate Change Universities Partnership Programme.

The impact you can make

- ✓ **Enhance** your university's engagement with the United Nations system - the partnership programme offers an opportunity to be part of a unique UN-led initiative at the intersection of research, innovation, policy and practice.
- ✓ **Contribute** to global efforts on climate adaptation - the programme connects universities and graduate students to deliver practical, context-specific solutions for countries and communities in response to real, demand-driven needs.
- ✓ **Elevate** adaptation and raise the profile of student research - the research and investigation outputs feed directly into the UNFCCC process, raising the profile of adaptation globally and raising the profile of student research.
- ✓ **Support** capacity-building and resilience through graduate research - the programme encourages graduate research and innovation, including the use of emerging technologies to build resilience around the world.

6 Steps to become part of the UN Climate Change Universities Partnership Programme



Call for accredited universities worldwide to engage

For accredited universities, faculty, and graduate students, this programme offers a clear pathway to make real contributions: choosing research and investigation questions anchored in real adaptation priorities, collaborating with communities, governmental and regional partners and producing usable outputs which feed directly into policy and decision-making.



Credit: Yale University project in Latin America and the Caribbean region



Credit: Jawaharlal Nehru University project in Hindu Kush Himalayan region

These are not just academic exercises, the work has already been used to inform decision-making, build resilience in vulnerable communities, and build knowledge that enables better adaptation planning.

Building on this foundation, there are opportunities for universities and graduate students to contribute to the [Global Goal on Adaptation \(GGA\)](#) and [National Adaptation Plans](#). By aligning research projects with national and local adaptation needs, academic partners can co-develop practical context-specific knowledge that guides climate-resilient development under the UNFCCC process.

Successful Pilot

Since 2018, the programme has engaged 13 universities spanning Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Pacific in creating targeted solutions and ideas that are informing the UNFCCC dialogue processes and supporting the implementation of adaptation actions on the ground.



Credit: Mikhail Nilov, Pexels



Credit: University of Michigan project in Southern Africa region

These vital projects include work on sea-level rise and storm surge in the Seychelles; early warning systems for multi-hazards in the Hindu Kush Himalayan region; ecosystem-based adaptation in the Peruvian Andes, and climate-smart agriculture in Namibia.

The innovative solutions arising from the partnership range from case studies, toolkits, frameworks, and guidelines, which have directly contributed concrete knowledge that informs national adaptation planning and resilience building under the UNFCCC process.



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Email nwp@unfccc.int for any questions
and expressions of interest.