

# Draft National Adaptation Plan

Consultation response, June 2022



New Zealand Council Of  
Christian Social Services

Contact Name:	Nikki Hurst Rachel Mackay
Organisation Name:	New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS)
Organisation description:	<p>The New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft National Adaptation Plan.</p> <p>NZCCSS has six foundation members; the Anglican Care Network, Baptist Churches of New Zealand, Catholic Social Services, Presbyterian Support and the Methodist and Salvation Army Churches.</p> <p>Through this membership, NZCCSS represents over 250 organisations providing a range of social support services across Aotearoa. We believe in working to achieve a just and compassionate society for all, through our commitment to our faith and Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Further details on NZCCSS can be found on our website <a href="http://www.nzccss.org.nz">www.nzccss.org.nz</a>.</p>

## Tirohanga Whānui | Overview

We strongly support the kaupapa to develop and implement a national adaptation plan for climate change in Aotearoa.

NZCCSS's members deal with vulnerable communities all over the motū. These communities are more heavily at risk of not only the direct effects of climate change, but also the follow-on effects of financial and food insecurity. As the locked-in effects of climate change become part of daily life, we urge the continuation of a strong climate justice lens in legislation and policy to ensure there is not further disenfranchisement of already marginalised communities.

## Taunakitanga | Recommendations

### Item One – Maintain and promote a strong Climate Justice lens in the NAP

Climate Justice is defined as the equitable distribution of burdens and benefits of the effects of climate change. This also provides scope for additional supports to those who would otherwise be disproportionately affected by climate change.

We anticipate the strongest burden of the impacts of climate change upon those with the fewest resources. As such we applaud the Supporting Actions in the NAP that targets support for these

groups. While not labelled as such, the emphasis on this part of the plan ensuring that the effects of climate change are not disproportionately experienced by those already disenfranchised is firmly within the scope of Climate Justice.

Ensuring that the focus is human centred is integral to ensuring our successful adaptation to the locked-in effects of climate change.

**Comment 1:** We support a continuation of climate justice actions.

**Item Two - Engage fully in systems-wide changes and reforms to ensure a consistent and united response to climate change**

In the face of the overwhelming challenge of managing our national response to climate change adaptation, we cannot afford to be fragmented and inconsistent in our approach. Strategic planning, management, and leadership must all be consistent and unified in mission and message. He waka eke noa, and as such we cannot afford to have some elements rowing in disharmony to the others.

A systems-wide approach to institute unifying and clarified purpose in this area are integral and supported.

While elements of this have been controversial, such as the Three Waters backlash, the overall concept of ensuring systems-wide change and institutional reform are necessary as we face the threats of the locked-in effects of climate change.

**Comment 2:** We agree with priorities in institutional reform as a first step toward climate adaptation

**Item Three – Ensure that Te Tiriti and Māori kaitiakitanga of Te Taio is respected and preserved**

The co-establishment of the Rauora Framework creates a strong and respectful paradigm to engage on the topic of climate adaptation through a Māori lens. However, it must be ensured that this is not the extent of the integration.

Māori are the kaitiaki of Aotearoa, and any plan to adapt the whenua and tāngata to the effects of climate change must ensure it is aligned with Te Ao, Mātauranga, and Tikanga. A comprehensive understanding of values, lead by Māori, is critical to ensuring that policy settings are appropriate.

We cannot allow any plan to impact on traditional and cultural access or occupation, and so careful consultation and collaboration is critical.

**Comment 3:** Ensure that the mana of Māori worldview and leadership is upheld throughout Māori-Crown negotiations regarding climate change and associated action.