1. What is the Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (AAAP) and why is it different from other adaptation programs?

The Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program is an Africa-owned and Africa-led response to the continent's expressed needs and priorities to reduce its vulnerabilities to climate change and accelerate adaptation. African leaders have asked for this program and have endorsed the design of the AAAP. The Chair of the African Union, President Felix Tshisekedi, endorsed the program at the largest gathering ever of African Heads of State of Government solely focused on adaptation in April 2021. President Ali Bongo of Gabon, the African Union Champion for Adaptation, praised the AAAP for actualizing the vision of the Africa Adaptation Initiative. No other adaptation initiative has achieved this level of consensus in the continent. AAAP is the Program that Africa wants.

As the global solutions broker on adaptation and resilience, the Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) has joined forces with the African Development Bank to raise the climate adaptation challenge of the region and develop effective solutions with African countries and partners. Unlike other adaptation plans in Africa, the AAAP is a comprehensive adaptation program that addresses the nexus of climate change, Covid-19, and the economy. The AAAP will support all African countries in designing and implementing transformational adaptation of their economies and post-Covid recovery development paths.

2. What will the AAAP do?

The speed and scale of adaptation action in Africa are grossly insufficient to meet the urgent needs. What Africa requires are actions that bring adaptation to the space and scale needed by
overcoming current blockages and using the untapped potential of the continent. Through broad consultation with African countries and regional institutions, four critical areas for urgent action at scale have been identified:

- Climate-Smart Digital Technologies for Agriculture and Food Security.
- African Infrastructure Resilience Accelerator.
- Empowering Youth for Entrepreneurship and Job Creation in Climate Adaptation and Resilience.
- Innovative Financial Initiatives for Africa.

3. What are the financing needs of the AAAP?

The AAAP aims to mobilize $25 billion over five years ($5 billion per year). The African Development Bank has already committed half of the total, $12.5 billion, by 2025. This funding is expected to be mobilized through different financial instruments, such as grants, loans, guarantees, and risk-sharing mechanisms. The AAAP will mobilize and deploy new climate finance instruments to de-risk and crowd in additional private finance.

Even at this level of financing, the AAAP is only the first step to cover Africa’s adaptation financing gap. The Nationally Determined Contributions of 40 African countries estimate that adaptation will cost roughly $331 billion through 2030. Based on the average financing breakdown in the Nationally Determined Contributions, African countries expect to contribute around $66 billion (or $6.6 billion annually) from their national budgets. International donors and domestic and international financiers must meet the gap of $265 billion (or $26.5 billion annually). Just over $6 billion per year was provided for 2017 and 2018, and the Covid-19-linked economic crisis may have reduced this amount. If this trend continues through 2030, total finance would only amount to $66 billion, far
short of the $265 billion expected from donors and financiers. Adaptation flows to Africa must increase from $6 billion to $26.5 billion per year. **The AAAP is the floor, not the ceiling, of adaptation financing.**

4. **How will the AAAP be implemented?**
The AAAP will be implemented through two mechanisms. First, **an Upstream Facility** at the country level, which will provide research and policy support, and monitor progress to apply lessons at the regional level. Second, **an Investment Facility** to finance the projects and programs developed under the four pillars of the AAAP, bringing in multiple financing sources through innovative financial instruments.

**The Upstream Facility** will be housed and implemented by the GCA. GCA has a unique role in the global climate architecture as the only institution uniquely focused on adaptation. With its research and policy capabilities, program design expertise, and unique global and regional partnerships, the GCA will bring the best science and resilience practice to support the national and regional adaptation plans, programs, and projects in Africa. The resource envelope required for this Facility is $250 million for the first five years.

**The Investment Facility** is being developed by the African Development Bank under the direct leadership of President Akinwumi Adesina. The Facility is expected to raise $12.5 billion that, together with the $12.5 billion African Development Bank capital, will complete the AAAP investment envelope of $25 billion for the first five years. The Facility will use these resources to unlock financing from African national governments, impact investors, foundations, and other innovative sources, such as resilience bonds and debt for climate adaptation swaps, in a coordinated program. Official development assistance in the form of grants, credit, loans, and guarantees will be an indispensable element of the AAAP Financing
Facility to unlock all other sources. The Investment Facility is expected to become operational shortly after COP26 in Glasgow.

5. Are there other ways donors and partners can contribute to the AAAP?

The AAAP welcomes donors and investors interested in supporting adaptation at scale in Africa. This support needs robust coordination platforms at the national and regional levels. Fragmented action with overlapping areas of work drains the limited resources of African nations and institutions. The AAAP is designed as a welcoming platform, and the GCA and African Development Bank will support African countries taking the leadership of active and decisive coordination of related programs. The Upstream AAAP Facility intends to support these coordination efforts and provide the analytical and policy basis for African countries to make informed decisions on the transformational climate-adapted development paths that are most appropriate for their societies.

6. What must Glasgow deliver to boost adaptation in Africa?

Glasgow must coalesce around the Africa-owned and Africa-led AAAP and deliver the first round of financing of $6 billion to 8 billion. Glasgow should also recognize Africa’s enormous adaptation financing needs and should mobilize an even larger envelope of resources from public, private, and philanthropic sources to support a coordinated and closely-knit action.

The "Friends of Africa’s Adaptation Leaders Event" at COP26 in Glasgow will bring together partners who want to see a step-change in how adaptation is financed and delivered in Africa. Co-organized by the UK COP26 Presidency, the African Union, the GCA, the African Development Bank, and the United Nations, the event will show strong solidarity with Africa, through a significant financial commitment. A year late as a result of the pandemic, COP26 must
deliver the $100 billion per year that developed countries have committed to fight climate change. With a clear emphasis on a 50-50 balance between mitigation and adaptation in the Paris Agreement, this means that $50 billion per year must be made available for adaptation. The AAAP is Africa's preferred mechanism to make good use of this money.

This will be at the center of attention during the "Friends of Africa Adaptation Leaders Event." Speakers will include those who will make substantial announcements related to the AAAP Upstream and Investment Facilities.