

Overshoot Proofing Self-Assessment Tool

For adaptation planners & policy-makers

Steps for self-assessment

- 1 Determine your subject for assessment. This may be a specific policy or plan, which is specific to a certain sector, geography, or adaptation option.
- 2 Go through the table below, one criterion at a time, to evaluate how comprehensively they are taken into account.
- 3 After noting the degree of assessment for all five criteria, determine where improvements can be made in policies or plans as follow up.
- 4 Review the second section 'More on each criterion' to access guidance on the five criteria and how to better assess them, including based on resources provided in the climate risk dashboard.

Assessment level → Criterion ↓	Not assessed	Awarenes around but not assessed	Partially assessed	Comprehensive assessment	Comprehensive assessment & prioritized
Are limits to adaptation identified? (e.g. maximum number of days above x degrees during a heatwave)					
Are uncertainty ranges linked to projected impact considered? (e.g. 90% confidence interval for the range of models considered)					
Are unavoidable impacts identified? (e.g. committed sea level rise)					
Are overshoot scenarios considered? (i.e. where temperatures peak over 1.5°C to then descend towards that level again by 2100)					
Is impact reversibility vs. irreversibility after overshoot considered? (e.g. species extinction)					

More on each criterion

- Limits to adaptation** Certain adaptation options can become ineffective as climate impacts intensify. With increasing warming, more limits to adaptation will be reached. Considering limits to adaptation is essential information to capture in adaptation planning to ensure its effectiveness and avoid maladaptation
- [🔗 More on limits to adaptation](#)
- Uncertainty ranges** Uncertainty ranges should ideally be stated regarding any impacts referenced in adaptation decisions. Understanding such ranges can improve adaptation decisions based on scenarios considered.
- [🔗 See uncertainty ranges in impact projections](#)
- Unavoidable impacts** Some impacts of further climate warming are unavoidable, no matter peak warming temperature, while the emergence of others can still be avoided altogether by stringent near-term mitigation. Establishing unavoidable impacts is essential to identify the minimum level of adaptation action required.
- [🔗 See impact \(un\)avoidability](#)
- Overshoot scenarios** Overshoot scenarios are emissions reductions pathways that peak temperatures above 1.5°C before descending again towards this threshold by 2100.
- Selecting overshoot scenarios to help you assess adaptation options depends on various factors, including the type of planned adaptation, availability of relevant scientific data, and the time horizon covered - more information on each scenario is included at the link below. We advise to consider impacts in both optimistic and pessimistic scenarios.
- [🔗 See overshoot scenario list](#)
- Reversing climate impacts** Impact irreversibility implies that the climate impacts triggered at peak warming levels are not able to be reduced or reverted even if global temperatures are in decline. The reversibility of impacts may be relevant information for long-term adaptation, such as infrastructure-based measures.
- [🔗 More on reversibility of temperature and precipitation impacts in overshoot scenarios](#)