

## APG SECTORS

The APG uses 11 key sectors as an organizing framework for discussions of potential vulnerabilities and example adaptation strategies consistent with the 2018 Safeguarding California plan. Appendix A of the APG provides summaries of each sector and its vulnerabilities. Communities can use these sectors or follow an organizational approach that best fits their implementation needs.



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



ENERGY



LAND USE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



PUBLIC HEALTH



TRANSPORTATION



AGRICULTURE



BIODIVERSITY AND HABITAT



FORESTS



OCEAN AND COAST



WATER



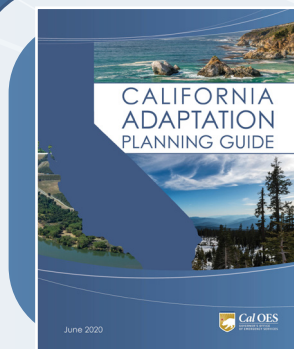
PARKS, RECREATION, AND CALIFORNIA CULTURE

## OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Engaging stakeholders is essential to creating and effectively implementing equitable adaptation policies and strategies. Community and stakeholder engagement builds commitment and consensus between local decision-makers and community members. Each phase of the adaptation planning process in the APG includes community and stakeholder outreach and engagement.

## EQUITY

Equity means that all people are justly and fairly included in society and that everyone is able to participate, prosper, and achieve their full potential. It recognizes that everyone enjoys different advantages and faces different challenges, and that everyone should be treated justly and fairly according to their circumstances. Equity is a critical component of all planning, including climate adaptation planning. Equitable climate adaptation planning identifies people who are most vulnerable to climate change, and it ensures that planning processes, distribution of resources, and efforts to address systemic wrongs are all conducted justly and fairly.



### Download the APG

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

[caloes.ca.gov/climate](http://caloes.ca.gov/climate)



# CALIFORNIA ADAPTATION PLANNING GUIDE

## WHAT IS THE ADAPTATION PLANNING GUIDE?

The APG is a resource for local governments engaged in adaptation and resiliency planning. This updated APG addresses the passing of SB 379, requiring cities and counties to include climate adaptation and resilience in the safety element of their general plan, local hazard mitigation plan, or climate adaptation plan.

This APG supports community-level climate change adaptation planning in compliance with state requirements. It provides helpful resources, describes adaptation plans and processes, and explains how to integrate them with other local and tribal planning and operations.

## WHO SHOULD USE THE APG?

Local governments, regional planning agencies, and tribal governments. It could also be useful to nongovernmental and private-sector adaptation planning efforts.

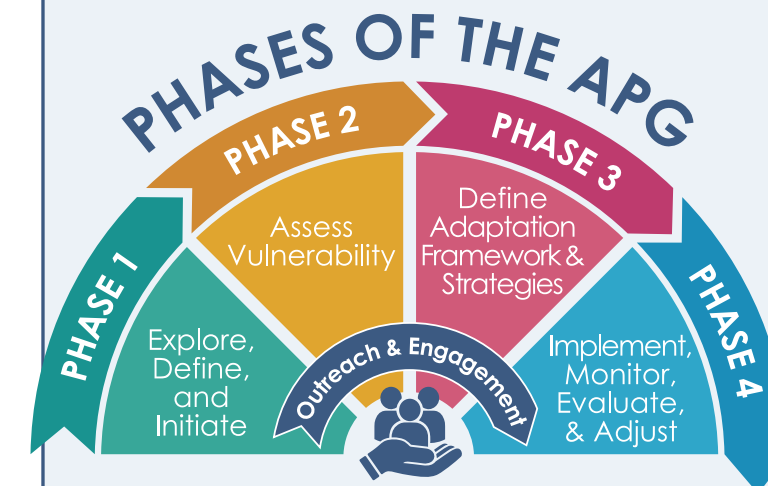
## WHAT IS CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANNING?

Climate adaptation planning identifies ways that communities might be harmed by the effects of a changing climate and finds strategies to reduce that harm. It does not reduce the GHG emissions responsible for causing climate change.



## WHAT DOES THE APG DO?

The APG offers a four-phase approach that can be modified to suit the unique needs of each community. The commitments of time, staffing, money, and scope are flexible. Communities can follow a basic process with readily available data and minimal staff commitment or take a more in-depth approach. Each phase has an outreach and engagement component.



### Phase 1: Explore, Define, and Initiate.

Scope the process and project—potential climate change effects, important assets in the community, and the key stakeholders in local government and the community.

### Phase 2: Assess Vulnerability.

Analyze potential impacts and adaptive capacity to determine the vulnerability of populations and community assets.

### Phase 3: Define Adaptation Framework and Strategies.

Create an adaptation framework and develop adaptation strategies.

### Phase 4: Implement, Monitor, Evaluate, and Adjust.

After implementing the adaptation framework, consistently monitor, evaluate, and adjust based on continual learning, feedback, and/or triggers.

**PHASE 1**

**Define, Explore, and Initiate**

Phase 1 helps establish the scope of the adaptation work and why the community is doing it. It identifies the basic aspects of the planning effort, the issues it will address, and who will be involved. It is the foundation of the adaptation planning process.



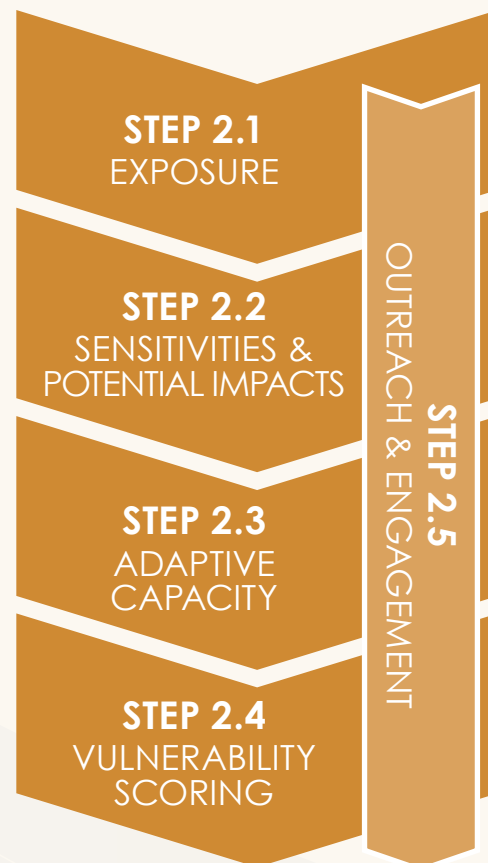
Phase 1 outlines steps for exploring, defining, and initiating the adaptation planning process. The steps do not need to be completed in order but can be completed simultaneously.

This initial phase includes figuring out who will be part of the work, the tools and resources available, and the types of analyses to conduct. As part of this phase, communities also identify the desired outcomes of the effort and the goals and visions for adaptation planning. Making these decisions at the beginning of the process helps make the rest of the work more efficient, ensures that the process follows a set of consistent and inclusive guidance, and puts all participants on the same page with a clearly-defined mission.

**PHASE 2**

**Assess Vulnerability**

Phase 2 involves a vulnerability assessment that identifies and characterizes the climate hazards and other climate effects likely to affect a community. The approach is designed to meet safety element requirements, as updated by SB 379 and SB 1035.



Each step is laid out methodically and illustrated with figures and examples. This phase defines such terms as "exposure" and "sensitivity" and the difference between them.

A community can define its exposure to current and projected climate hazards; identify past and potential climate impacts; and characterize its current ability to cope with climate impacts.

Vulnerability scoring identifies which hazards pose the greatest impacts and where the community is most vulnerable.

Collaboration with community members can reveal neighborhood strengths, assets, and climate change effects.

**PHASE 3**

**Define Adaptation Framework and Strategies**

The goal of Phase 3 is to prepare the community's adaptation framework—specific policies and implementable strategies that make the community more resilient to climate change.



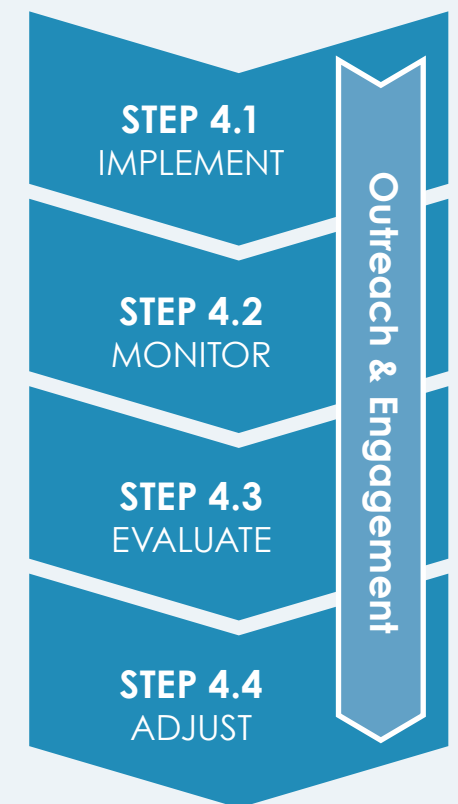
This phase works from the vulnerability assessment, especially the major climate vulnerabilities, to develop adaptation strategies within a policy framework that confirms the community's vision for adaptation and resilience. Strategies are prioritized based on factors such as vulnerability, co-benefits, and equity.

Outreach and engagement in this phase uses the information about climate change effects and the vulnerability assessment to develop solutions.

**PHASE 4**

**Implement, Monitor, Evaluate, and Adjust**

Phase 4 uses the adaptation framework to prepare an implementation program. Communities should monitor, evaluate, and modify strategies as needed based on their observed effectiveness, local changes, and new science. Consistent communication is key to this phase.



Phase 4 does not end the process but starts an ongoing cycle to implement, monitor, evaluate, and adjust the adaptation strategies, engaging previous stakeholders as well as new stakeholders that could be important voices and partners during implementation.

Communities can publish a regular adaptation report, place the information on an interactive website that is regularly updated, or report the results through other means. As monitoring and evaluation information comes in, the adaptation strategies can be adjusted.