



Race to Resilience

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# RtR's METRICS FRAMEWORK

White Paper#1

**(CR)<sup>2</sup>** | Center for Climate  
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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Race to Resilience (RtR) worldwide Campaign is led by the High-Level Champions and it is supported by a Resilience Team that includes a Technical Secretariat from the Center for Climate Resilience Research (CR)<sup>2</sup> at the University of Chile. The Campaign is also supported by two independent advisory bodies: the Methodological Advisory Group (MAG) and the Expert Review Group (ERG).

The Campaign aims at catalyzing a step change in global ambition and action for climate resilience, by mobilizing action from non-Party stakeholders towards building the resilience of four billion people and ensuring that the voices of front-line communities are heard.

Race to Resilience has developed a people-centered resilience Metrics Framework for non-state actors to report climate resilience actions and to quantify and validate their impact under a common framework. The Framework offers a comprehensive toolkit for effectively monitoring and evaluating actions aimed at building resilience, with a specific emphasis on Non-State actors.

This White Paper is the first official illustration of the RtR Metrics Framework. The document begins by introducing the risk diagnostics on which RtR is based and a general overview of the Campaign. Following this, the design criteria, analytical approach, methodological streamflow, and metrics that constitute the Framework are outlined. Additionally, the document features the preliminary results from the test-run application of the Framework on RtR partner initiatives, showcasing their commitment to the Campaign, and the suitability of the Framework as a world-class reference for the tracking of resilience-building efforts.

# FOREWORD

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing human society. To confront it, it is essential to build and strengthen resilience and capacity to adapt to climate change, ensuring that society and nature are able to anticipate, cope, and recover from its impacts in a timely and efficient manner while pursuing decreasing vulnerability. This is especially critical as current efforts to reduce greenhouse gases are expected to be insufficient in meeting the global temperature goals. This is because climate impacts are already locked in, despite mitigation efforts. As a result, global climate change-related risks continue to grow.

Although increasing efforts are being carried out to respond and adapt to climate change, it remains a major challenge to evaluate and monitor the impact of these efforts on increasing resilience and its main attributes. There is a growing consensus that adaptation and resilience-building are strongly context-dependent endeavors. Therefore, the design and assessment of these efforts must be adjusted to the characteristics of specific initiatives, sectors, realities and territories. In this realm, a coherent and robust resilience framework is needed to evaluate resilience efforts, aggregate and validate outcomes, and favor collective learning and cross-fertilization between initiatives that are implementing resilience. To address all these challenges the Metrics Framework developed by the Race to Resilience Campaign combines global-level needs for data comparability and aggregation alongside the flexibility required for the heterogeneity of resilience-building efforts.

The Framework presented here acts as a cornerstone of the RtR Campaign, serving as a guide for both the actions that partners take and for the HLC Team on how to manage and foster their work. At the same time, it aims to become a point of reference for the global climate action and resilience community for the monitoring, evaluation, and learning of adaptation and resilience-building. This is fundamental in pushing forward the global effort to accelerate action on resilience, assessing global progress towards protecting people, aligning objectives and resources towards the most effective solutions, and raising awareness on the contribution of NSAs to build resilience. In the future, the Framework may potentially allow the Champions to support national governments in their commitment to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement<sup>1</sup>. This includes enabling collaboration between governments and NSAs towards adaptation and resilience outcomes, helping to define a global goal on adaptation, and the periodic assessment of progress under the Global Stocktake.

<sup>1</sup> Available at: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement>

# 01

# INTRODUCTION

The White Paper presents the Metrics Framework for the Race to Resilience (RtR) Campaign, which is part of the High-Level Champions Team's efforts.

This Framework is utilized by the Campaign to monitor and evaluate the progress of its partner initiatives towards the primary objective of the RtR, which is to enhance the resilience of 4 billion people to climate change. The Framework aims to be a leading methodology for high-level tracking, monitoring, and evaluation of resilience-building efforts by non-state actors. It offers a thorough perspective on the commitments, advancements, and evidence-based results of the RtR Campaign partner initiatives, encompassing a variety of sectors, scales, and types of action. This is crucial in providing a collective view of the diverse initiatives' progress towards resilience and in pinpointing opportunities, deficiencies, and lessons to expedite climate action globally.

The document begins by providing context on the necessity of the Campaign and its Framework, summarizing the key findings of the RtR Risk Assessment conducted at the beginning of the Campaign to inform and steer its direction. Following this, a concise summary of the Campaign, its objectives, and internal governance is provided. Subsequently, the Framework is described in depth, including its design principles, conceptual definitions, analytical methods, methodological process, and metrics. The document concludes with some final remarks.



## 02

**CONTEXT****Race to Resilience's Risk Assessment****2.1. Climate hazards could become more widespread globally**

Climate change exacerbates multiple interconnected hazards globally, with rising temperatures acting as a catalyst for these risks. The Climate Champions Team, through McKinsey Climate Analytics' 2021 assessment<sup>2</sup>, highlighted the compounded threats of heat stress, agricultural drought, urban water stress, and flooding—each magnified under a warming scenario of 1.5°C and 2.0°C by 2050. This multi-hazard assessment, based on conservative estimates, cautions that surpassing the 2°C threshold would significantly increase the number of individuals facing these climate hazards.

To illustrate, drought-prone areas could expand by 48%, affecting water supply and agricultural productivity. Heat stress could increase by 37%, impairing health and labor efficiency. Cumulatively, these hazards could impact up to 5.0 billion people under the 2°C scenario, with severe risks to over half of them.

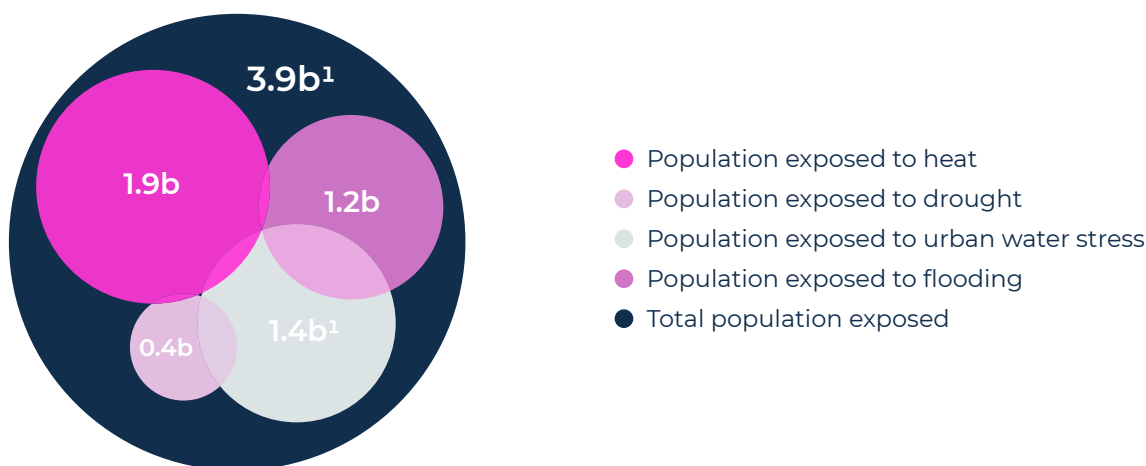
The 2°C warming scenario sets out an increase in the number of people exposed to heat stress from 1.5 to 3.1 billion people compared to the present situation, while the population exposed to urban water stress would increase from 1.0 to 1.8 billion people, considering the greater demand for the population growth and urbanization, as well as declining supply due to climate change. Likewise, the population exposed to floods would increase from 1.0 to 1.4 billion people (Figure N° 1).

The assessment, consistent with the latest report from the IPCC<sup>3</sup>, underscores the urgency of integrated climate action to mitigate these interconnected threats, aligning with the Paris Agreement's goals to prevent surpassing critical temperature thresholds and to safeguard vulnerable populations from the multiplying effects of climate change.

<sup>2</sup> McKinsey (2021) "Protecting people from a changing climate: The case for resilience", available at: <https://www.mckinsey.com/capabilities/sustainability/our-insights/protecting-people-from-a-changing-climate-the-case-for-resilience#/>

<sup>3</sup> IPCC, 2023: Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, H. Lee and J. Romero (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 184 pp., doi: 10.59327/IPCC/AR6-9789291691647.

Figure N° 1: Exposure to a 1.5°C warming scenario by 2030, based on 2030 population<sup>4</sup>



(Source: McKinsey (2021))

## 2.2. Climate hazards disproportionately affect vulnerable populations

Climate hazards have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations, with the majority residing in low-income countries that have historically contributed the least to global emissions. Notably, countries with high vulnerability indices are responsible for just 13% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 1997 to 2017, which illustrates a significant imbalance in climate change's causes and consequences<sup>5</sup>. Regions dealing with development difficulties are more prone to climate-related dangers, leading to more severe impacts. Notably, from 2010 to 2020, areas highly at risk of floods, droughts, and storms saw a human mortality rate 15 times greater than regions with very low vulnerability<sup>6</sup>.

Under a 2°C warming scenario, the number of highly vulnerable people could double to 2.5 billion, compared to 1.2 billion with lower vulnerability<sup>7</sup>. This disparity underscores the need for targeted resilience-building in the most affected regions across various locations in Africa, Asia, Central and South America, as well as in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Islands, and the Arctic.

<sup>4</sup> McKinsey Climate Analytics based on Woodwell Climate Research Center (heat stress), NASA NEX (drought), World Resources Institute (flooding and water stress), International Labour Organization (present employment data), IHS Markit (present GDP and future projections), SEDAC (GPW v4, male to female population ratios), NCAR IAM (current population and future projections).

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> IPCC, 2023: Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, H. Lee and J. Romero (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 184 pp., doi: 10.59327/IPCC/AR6-9789291691647.

<sup>7</sup> McKinsey Climate Analytics based on Woodwell Climate Research Center (heat stress), NASA NEX (drought), World Resources Institute (flooding and water stress), International Labour Organization (present employment data), IHS Markit (present GDP and future projections), SEDAC (GPW v4, male to female population ratios), NCAR IAM (current population and future projections)

Worldwide, the impacts of climate change are heavily felt by Indigenous Peoples, small-scale food producers, and low-income households, both in rural and urban areas<sup>8</sup>. Ongoing socio-demographic changes, such as population growth, urbanization, land use change, and water overexploitation, are anticipated to heighten exposure and vulnerability to these hazards, further amplifying their effects. Populations living in urban areas are increasingly at risk as urbanization intensifies. In a 1.5°C scenario, 55% of urban dwellers are likely to face increased climate impacts, which could rise to 70% under a 2.0°C scenario. This trend indicates a potential shift in the relative severity of different hazards due to their varying impacts in urban versus rural settings. An example is the increased intensity of hot extremes<sup>9</sup>, affecting urban systems such as transportation, water, sanitation, and energy, resulting in economic losses, service disruptions, and negative impacts on health and well-being.

### 2.3. The Need for the Race to Resilience Campaign

Considering these trends, it is urgently necessary to escalate, accelerate, and deepen the efforts to take just and transformative climate action centered not only on mitigation but also on adaptation. In this sense, the Marrakech Partnership for Global Action<sup>10</sup> launched at COP22 highlights resilience-building actions as a cross-cutting area for fulfilling the Paris Agreement through the “Resilience Climate Action Pathway”, which provides a future vision centered on communities not only surviving climate change consequences, but also thriving in spite of them.

Subsequently, a roadmap for adaptation was launched at COP27 with the “Sharm-el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda”<sup>11</sup> program on the global goal on adaptation<sup>12</sup>, featuring outcome targets across five impact systems aligned with the RtR campaign's ultimate goal of increasing the resilience of 4 billion people.

While responsibility has traditionally been with governments to act, it is increasingly clear that Non-State Actors, as emphasized in the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action<sup>13</sup>, are both opportune and necessary players to create a more climate-resilient world alongside action by States. This is where the RtR Campaign steps in, with the goal of articulating the leadership and support of companies, cities, regions, and investors for the generation of resilience at different levels, focalizing on human beings to face the current context and projections under the different possible scenarios that climate change is laying out for us.

<sup>8</sup> IPCC, 2023: Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, H. Lee and J. Romero (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, 184 pp., doi: 10.59327/IPCC/AR6-9789291691647.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<sup>10</sup> Available at: [https://unfccc.int/files/paris\\_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech\\_partnership\\_for\\_global\\_climate\\_action.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/paris_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech_partnership_for_global_climate_action.pdf)

<sup>11</sup> Available at: [https://climatechampions.unfccc.int/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/SeS-Adaptation-Agenda\\_Complete-Report-COP27\\_FINAL-1.pdf](https://climatechampions.unfccc.int/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/SeS-Adaptation-Agenda_Complete-Report-COP27_FINAL-1.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> See COP27 decision 7/CMA.3, available at <https://unfccc.int/documents/460952>

<sup>13</sup> Available at: [https://unfccc.int/files/paris\\_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech\\_partnership\\_for\\_global\\_climate\\_action.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/paris_agreement/application/pdf/marrakech_partnership_for_global_climate_action.pdf)



## 03

# PRESENTATION

## Of Race to Resilience

### 3.1. The Race to Resilience Campaign

The Race to Resilience campaign - the sibling campaign to Race to Zero - is the race to catalyze a step-change in global ambition, to accelerate the investment and implementation of adaptation solutions, and to put people and nature first in pursuit of a resilient world where we do not just survive climate shocks and stresses, but thrive in spite of them. The Campaign was launched by the UN Climate Action High-level Champions in January 2021 at the Climate Adaptation Summit, alongside the State-driven Adaptation Action Coalition.

The ultimate goal of the Race to Resilience is to increase the resilience of four billion people<sup>14</sup> living in vulnerable communities, in collaboration with partner organizations from around the world, while developing tools to support them in their work. It prioritizes the vulnerable communities facing climate risks and elevates the potential and actions that NSAs (e.g. businesses, cities, regions, finance sector, CSOs, local communities) are already pursuing toward system transformations enhancing resilience. The convening power of the campaign is geared towards increasing the ambition loop by delivering resilience breakthroughs and mobilizing and increasing financial flows for resilience.

#### **This Global Campaign is focused on:**

- **Convening:** There is a broad range of adaptation solutions and resilience efforts happening in all parts of the world, but often these are disconnected. Unfortunately, many efforts are duplicative or not properly articulated, leading to missed opportunities for collaboration and creating gaps in understanding and measurement. The Race to Resilience Campaign aims to convene all these organizations under a common unanimous goal, catalyzing radical collaboration to enhance the resilience of people.

<sup>14</sup> This figure was selected to reflect the number of people expected to be exposed under the most optimistic scenario: in this sense, it should be taken as a bottom line: hopefully, the race can raise its ambitions over time to reflect the increasing risk of Climate Change emerging with more information.



- **Credibility:** The Race to Resilience Campaign has developed an aggregated global resilience metrics framework with the purpose of measuring, tracking, and informing the results of partner's implementation of adaptive solutions based on science. The framework recognizes previous efforts and is designed to adjust periodically, based on science and verification.
- **Climate Stories:** The Campaign showcases the experiences, solutions, and best practices implemented by partners to increase resilience in vulnerable communities. Through this effort, it elevates the opportunities to transform the systems across food/agriculture, water, oceans, infrastructure, and human settlements in which the livelihoods of people are anchored, spearheading breakthroughs that address risk in a multidisciplinary and intersectoral way.
- **Communities:** Through their partners, the initiative connects with communities facing climate risks and shocks. This connection is critical for thoroughly understanding the day-to-day challenges that vulnerable people encounter due to climate change. It is through this understanding that efforts can be directed to support evidence-based, data-driven, and locally adapted solutions. Working closely with organizations on the ground and showcasing their work and their voices remains a key objective of the Race to Resilience.

The Race to Resilience is composed of a number of initiatives and partners such as environmental foundations, trade associations, and local initiatives, as well as members that are individual and collective entities such as companies, associations, universities, banks, local and subnational governments, and international groups. While many of these initiatives have been active since 2015, their commitment to the Race to Resilience has inspired a renewed dedication. Since joining, numerous partners have pledged to amplify their impact, aspiring to set more ambitious goals. Crucially, they are leveraging the campaign's metric framework to meticulously measure and track their progress.

### 3.2. Technical and Advisory Bodies

The Campaign has three technical bodies. The Technical Secretariat is an academic body, part of the Race to Resilience (RtR) Executive Team, which provides technical support to the High-Level Champions and acts as Secretariat to the other two technical bodies: the Expert Review Group (ERG) and the Methodological Advisory Group (MAG).

The **Technical Secretariat** is based at the Center for Climate and Resilience Research (CR)<sup>2</sup> of the University of Chile, and is responsible for ensuring the credibility, transparency, and robustness of the RtR Campaign. It is in charge of the RtR Metrics Framework and its improvements, and of collating, collecting, and interpreting the inputs from RtR partner initiatives following that Framework. Moreover, it articulates with other entities that are developing complementary frameworks on resilience or adaptation.



The **Expert Review Group (ERG)** is one of the two advisory bodies of the Campaign. It provides advice to the Race to Resilience Campaign and the High-Level Champions on issues such as which initiatives should be included in the Campaign, and how those initiatives and their members could improve their procedural criteria. They also advise on the overall progress of the Race to Resilience and make recommendations to Champions on how the Campaign can be strengthened. The ERG is an advisory body composed currently of 14 experts from different geographies, backgrounds, and expertise. They were selected through an open call for applications from a competitive pool of applicants. They are members of academia, subnational governments, the private sector, and civil society organizations, representing 10 countries worldwide. 43% of them are women and 57% are men. Together, they hold vast experience as practitioners or researchers working on resilience and adaptation to climate change.

The **Methodological Advisory Group (MAG)** is the second advisory body and provides advice to the Technical Secretariat and the Campaign on topics related to the Race to Resilience Metrics Framework. It is co-led by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), the University of Maryland and the Alliance of Bioversity International and International Center for Tropical Agriculture - CGIAR. It is composed of 18 experts from the following organizations: Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, 3BL Associates, CONICET - National University of Rosario, NITI Aayog, Government of India (Central Government Policy and Planning Body), UN Environment Programme (UNEP), World Bank, UK Government, South-SouthNorth/CDKN, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Basque Centre for Climate Change, BC3., SEWA Cooperative Federation, International Platform on Adaptation Metrics/The Higher Ground Foundation, British International Investment, InsuResilience Global Partnership Secretariat, Corte de Apelaciones.

# 04

## CAMPAIGN FRAMEWORK

### 4.1. Why a metrics framework for measuring resilience

Resilience is conceptualized as the structural capacity of a complex adaptive system to maintain a certain level of functionality despite experiencing disturbances on its critical components. The term 'Increased resilience' is subsequently characterized as the outcome of adaptation actions that bolster the ability of individuals or groups to cope with climate-related hazards, to which they are exposed and vulnerable. This enhancement can occur through direct intervention or by modifying their physical and socio-economic environments.

The primary goal of the Race to Resilience is to encourage actions that lead to a measurable increase in resilience to climate change. To track progress toward this goal, understand what strategies are effective, and manage partner initiatives, the Campaign requires a way to measure 'increased resilience.' This measurement is the impact of partners' activities on improving the resilience of their beneficiaries. The fundamental aim of the Metrics Framework is to provide a method to record, monitor, and evaluate the growth of resilience, enabling learning from these processes.

The complexity of resilience, which stems from the diversity of actors involved and the myriad of contexts in which they operate, poses significant challenges to measurement. Unlike quantifiable emissions reduction in mitigation efforts, resilience cannot be directly measured due to its multifaceted nature. Resilience functions by mitigating the impact that disruptive events or stressors have on entities, assisting in their capacity to cope, adapt, and recover.

Given these challenges, the Metrics Framework must employ proxy measurements to ascertain 'increased resilience.' This method entails recognizing changes in attributes commonly associated with resilience—termed 'Resilience Attributes'—which act as indirect markers of a system's or community's improved adaptive capacity. The development of this Metrics Framework is crucial for thoroughly evaluating the range of resilience-building activities spearheaded by the Race to Resilience campaign.

## 4.2. Framework objectives

The Race to Resilience Metrics Framework stands as an essential tool, meticulously crafted to gauge the varied and complex efforts of non-state actors dedicated to building resilience. Its design is a testament to an innovative approach that aligns with the dynamic and multifaceted nature of climate action. The Framework offers a panoramic view of an extensive range of activities from a diverse set of partners, elucidating their commitment, strategic planning, and the progress they've achieved.

**In detail, the Framework's objectives, as seen in Figure N° 2, are:**

- **To monitor the dedication and advancements of partners,** offering tailored support to enhance their impact and ensuring that their journey towards building resilience is not only acknowledged but also strategically supported at each step.
- **To facilitate the exchange of knowledge among partners and with stakeholders.** This exchange is not a mere dissemination of information; it's a two-way street of insights that fosters community-specific best practices and encourages a shared understanding of lessons learned.
- **To report on the global NSA community's advancement in building resilience.** Here, the Framework serves as a narrative that weaves together the successes and ongoing challenges faced, identifying gaps and charting a course for potential opportunities.
- **To contribute to shaping global adaptation and resilience-building goals.** The Framework doesn't just report on activities; it actively informs and influences the global goals and targets, ensuring that the initiatives under its purview are contributing effectively to the broader climate action narrative.

Each objective contributes to a comprehensive impact strategy, which is essential for the sustained success and relevance of the campaign in the broader context of global sustainability efforts.

As the Framework transitions from objectives to implementation, it confronts various challenges and considerations, encapsulated in the detailed design criteria.



Figure N° 2: Framework objectives



(Source: Own elaboration)

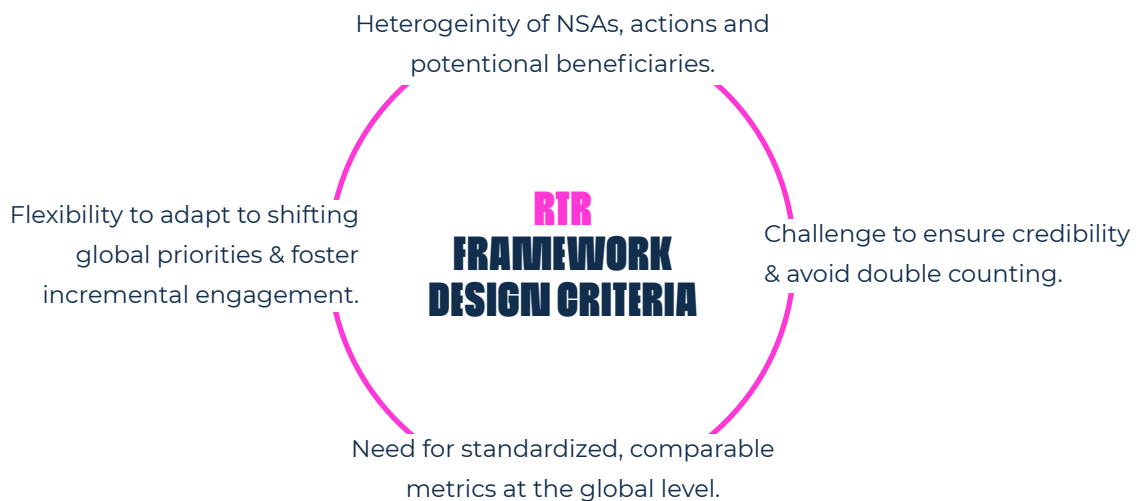
### 4.3. Design criteria

Building a framework of this nature is not an easy task. Several challenges must be considered, intrinsic to the ambitious goal that the framework sets for itself, the novelty of the feat, and the specific context of the campaign in which the framework is to be applied. Consequently, a set of design criteria, as seen in Figure N° 3, was carefully defined, serving as the foundation and inspiration for the framework's development. In particular, there was a need for a framework that was:

- **Adaptable:** Non-state actors are very heterogeneous, ranging from subnational public administrations such as cities, counties, regions, to private companies, NGOs, public-private partnerships, and various forms of coalitions composed of these categories or a combination thereof. Resilience actions are also very heterogeneous, involving different types of activities, at multiple scales, aiming to impact different dimensions of the problem. Additionally, the potential beneficiaries of resilience-building are also heterogeneous, including individuals, households, communities, human settlements, companies, or entire states. Therefore, the framework needed to be adaptable and scalable to grasp these different contexts and manifestations of resilience-building actions.
- **Standardized:** While acknowledging the diversity of resilience, the importance of building one coherent, generalizable set of metrics that could be used to assess resilience-building actions across different contexts, interventions, and manifestations was recognized. This aimed to achieve the objectives for the framework: firstly, offering a unified and consistent tracking of resilience-building actions that take part in the campaign; secondly, helping compare results, best practices, lessons learned, and impacts between initiatives and projects, thus favoring shared learning; and finally, seeking to aggregate impacts, take stock of adaptation, and identify gaps and opportunities to prioritize further efforts.

- **Gradual:** Aside from being heterogeneous in scope and approaches, not all resilience-building actions from NSAs are at the same stage of development. Some are well-established with strong results, while others are in nascent stages. Moreover, the tracking of adaptation and resilience-building actions is a new field, where learning must occur among partners and stakeholders to adjust definitions, methodologies, and expectations. As global priorities and targets are yet to be clearly set, the framework needed to be progressive to foster gradual learning and alignment with the RtR's partners' conceptual and methodological approaches, while showing and fostering steady progress through the race.
- **Credible:** With the growing importance of adaptation and resilience, the scrutiny they face increases, along with the risk of perverse incentives leading to potential cases of green-washing. This could have disastrous effects not only for the campaign but for the entire adaptation and resilience-building effort. Thus, the framework was built to provide robust, transparent, and accountable tracking of resilience-building actions. It also needed to devise a way to attribute resilience outcomes to actions, or vice versa, to validate the impact on resilience that actions claim to have.
- **Simple/Complex:** Due to the above considerations, the framework could not be simplistic. Analytical complexity is needed to accurately track resilience. However, the framework strives to distill this complexity, making it accessible for decision-makers and the public through clear reporting outlets.

**Figure N° 3: Metrics Framework's Design Criteria**



*(Source: Own elaboration)*

## 4.4. Resilience Increase Index

In alignment with the previously outlined design criteria, the Race to Resilience Campaign introduces the Resilience Increase Index. This Index stands at the core of the Metrics Framework, serving as a proxy to gauge the increase in resilience resulting from various interventions. It offers a structured approach to understanding the multifaceted nature of resilience-building activities, distinguishing between the qualitative and quantitative advances made through these efforts.

**The Resilience Increase Index is comprised of two sub-indices:**

- **Depth Index:** This qualitative measure assesses the extent to which an intervention fosters change in fundamental conditions demonstrably related to increased resilience. It evaluates the depth of impact and the transformational quality of actions towards resilience-building.
- **Magnitude Index:** This quantitative measure offers a count of the beneficiaries impacted by the changes brought about by interventions, aligning with the campaign's flagship goal of enhancing the resilience of 4 billion people.

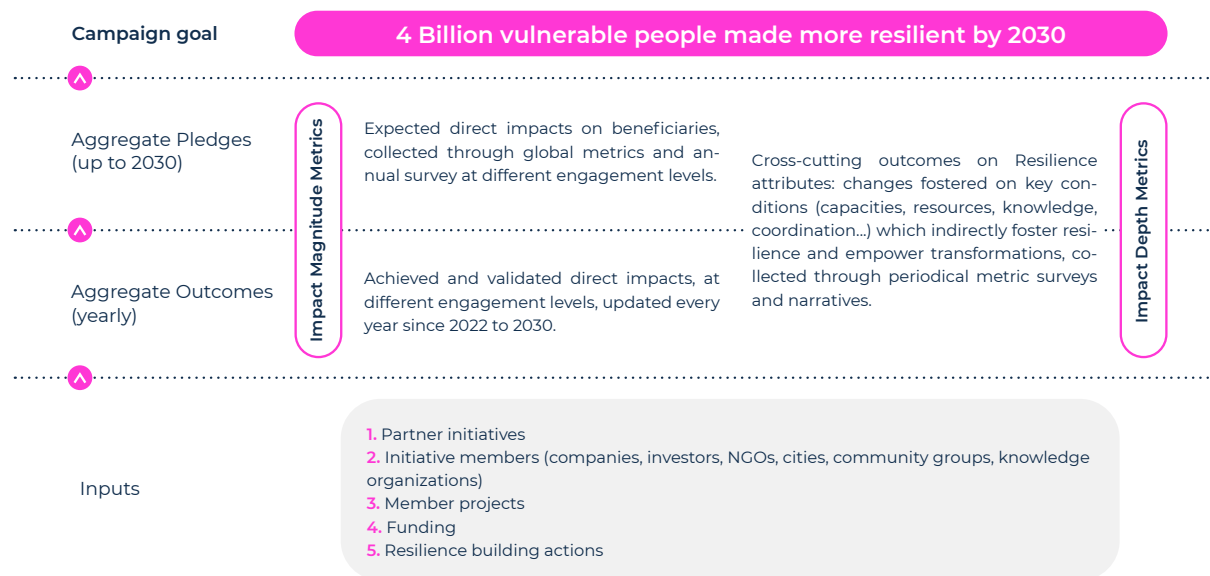
The Index is shaped by a set of 'Resilience Attributes'<sup>15</sup>, which are critical qualities enabling systems to withstand, adapt, and recover from adverse conditions. These attributes serve as a framework for measuring the uplift in resilience. Interventions that positively impact these attributes are seen to improve the capacity of climate-vulnerable beneficiaries to respond to and adapt to changes. Essentially, these attributes act as indicators of successful interventions aimed at enhancing resilience, where strengthening them signals an increase in the capacity of systems and communities to manage and overcome the impacts of climate change.

Within the broader context of the Metrics Framework, the Theory of Change serves as a foundational tool for identifying the presence of Resilience Attributes and understanding how they contribute to increasing resilience. This theory outlines the expected pathway of change initiated by resilience-building actions, detailing how these interventions can lead to desired outcomes and long-term goals. It offers a narrative that connects the dots between actions taken, the gaps they aim to fill, and the broader impact on resilience.

Figure N° 4 illustrates the Theory of Change, capturing the envisioned transformation and the strategic planning involved in resilience-building actions. It represents the dynamic process through which actions are identified, gaps are addressed, and contributions to resilience are measured.

<sup>15</sup> For a comprehensive overview of Resilience Attributes, including their detailed definitions and the methodology of their development, please refer to the following link [Resilience Attributes RtR.pdf](#)

**Figure N° 4: RtR Theory of Change**



(Source: Own elaboration)

By integrating the Resilience Increase Index, the Theory of Change, and the MEL cycle, the Race to Resilience Campaign ensures a comprehensive and evidence-based approach to fostering resilience. This structured methodology enables a clear depiction of the campaign's progress and a deeper understanding of how to enhance resilience effectively and sustainably.

### 4.4.1. Magnitude Metrics

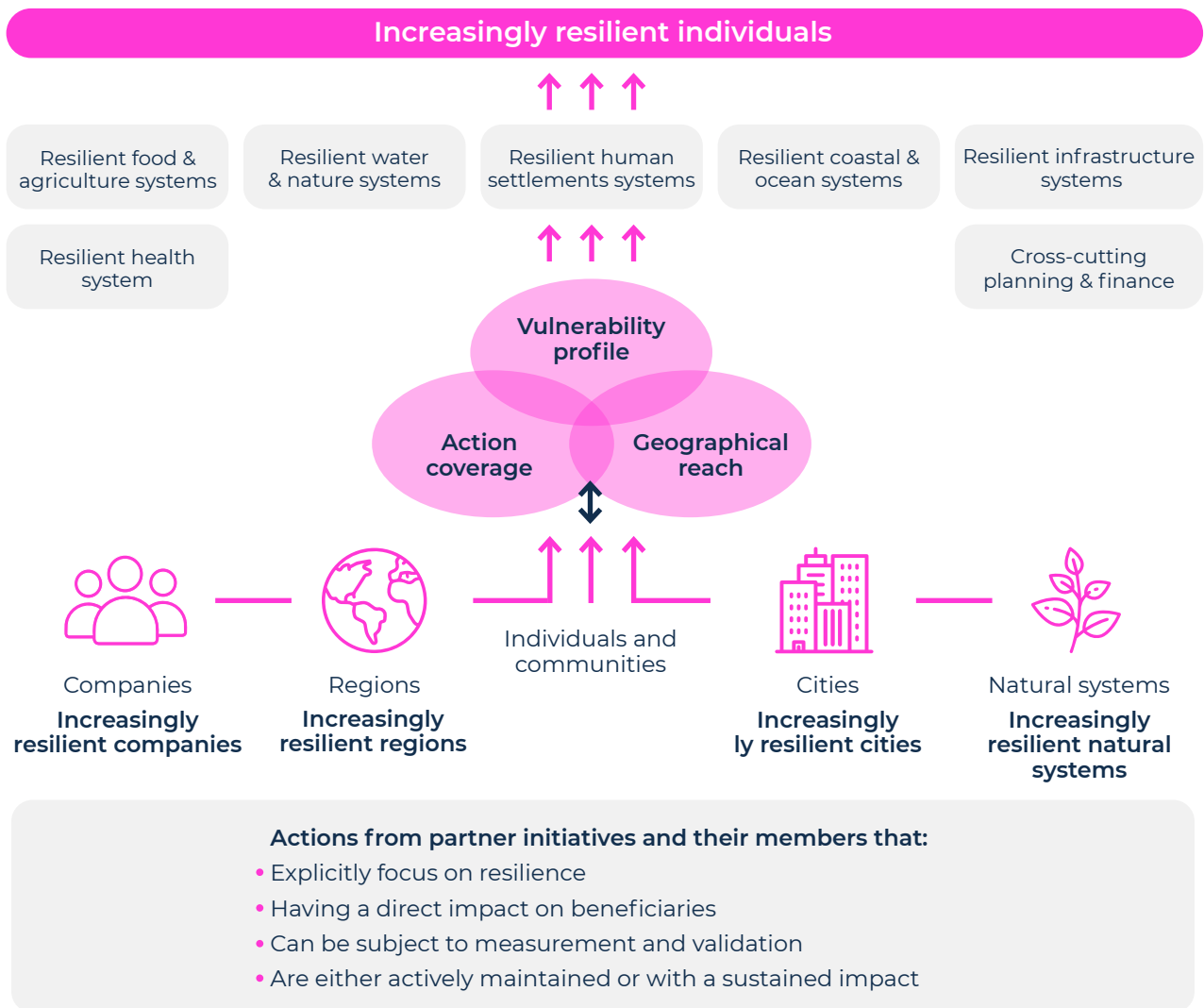
The Race to Resilience Campaign employs Magnitude Metrics as critical quantitative tools to assess the impact of resilience-building activities. These metrics are vital for gauging the scale of initiatives and understanding their reach across various beneficiary categories, such as Companies, Regions, Cities, Natural Systems, and Individuals. The key objective is to quantify the number of people who will become more resilient due to the actions taken by the Campaign's partners. Figure 5 depicts the RtR key beneficiaries for quantifying increasingly resilient individuals.

To achieve this, there is a systematic process of identifying beneficiaries within each category and estimating the number of individuals who will benefit from these initiatives, assessed per country and beneficiary type. This meticulous process is crucial in tracking the progress towards the Campaign's overarching goal of enhancing resilience at the individual level on a global scale.

These Magnitude Metrics also provide a direct link to the Campaign's primary target: making 4 billion people more resilient by 2030. This ambitious goal is grounded in a commitment to strategic action coverage, ensuring that efforts are not only widespread but also directed towards populations and areas with the highest vulnerability to climate impacts.

Furthermore, by aligning these metrics with the impact systems identified in the Sharm-el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda, the Campaign ensures that its initiatives are in concert with larger systemic adaptation and resilience-building goals. This strategic alignment underscores the Campaign's focus on geographical areas and populations that are most susceptible, tailoring actions to impact systems crucial for global resilience.

**Figure N° 5: Race to Resilience's key beneficiaries**



Ultimately, these metrics serve a pivotal role in the Race to Resilience Campaign, allowing for the quantification of resilience enhancement in terms of the number of people impacted. This approach provides a clear, measurable insight into the Campaign's reach and influence, guaranteeing that each initiative substantially aids in fortifying the resilience of communities around the globe. However, merely quantifying the reach is insufficient for a comprehensive Resilience Increase Index due to the intricate nature of resilience as a concept. It is multifaceted, encompassing more than just numerical growth—it includes qualitative improvements in adaptive capacity, systemic changes, and the strengthening of underlying Resilience Attributes within individuals and communities. Therefore, while these metrics are indispensable for charting progress, they are part of a larger suite of tools required to capture the full spectrum of resilience-building efforts.

#### 4.4.2. Depth: Metrics

Depth Metrics within the Race to Resilience Campaign serve as a comprehensive tool to qualitatively measure the intricacies of resilience-building efforts. These metrics delve into the substantive changes and long-term impacts that actions have on Resilience Attributes, offering a nuanced understanding of the depth and quality of resilience enhancement.

Resilience Attributes (RAs) are key qualities that strengthen the capacity of systems and communities to resist, adapt, and recover from adverse conditions. The identification and definition of these attributes and corresponding sub-categories were the result of an exhaustive collaborative process involving a literature review and expert consultations including the Race to Resilience's Methodological Advisory Group and stakeholders from the Resilience Knowledge Coalition. These attributes act as the bedrock for assessing the progress and effectiveness of resilience-building actions.

Interventions aimed at increasing resilience have a direct impact on these Resilience Attributes. Action designers and implementers are expected to self-report on how their interventions influence each sub-category of the attributes. This reporting is complemented by narrative descriptions that articulate how the interventions tangibly, durably, and inclusively enhance these attributes across the defined dimensions. The self-assessment and narratives provided by the partners are then juxtaposed with the theoretical contributions and weightings established by the Methodological Advisory Group. This comparison helps determine whether the interventions are in alignment with the expected theoretical contributions to each attribute, ensuring that the actions are adhering to the envisioned framework of resilience enhancement.

By comparing the self-reported impact on Resilience Attributes with expert weightings, it becomes possible to discern whether an intervention disproportionately affects one attribute while neglecting others. This analysis is crucial for ensuring that resilience-building efforts are integrative and balanced across all attributes, avoiding an overemphasis on certain areas at the expense of a holistic approach.

Ultimately, Depth Metrics are not merely about checking off a list of resilience activities; they seek to measure the qualitative depth of resilience that is being fostered. By utilizing these metrics, the Race to Resilience Campaign can scrutinize not just the presence of Resilience Attributes, but their quality and the extent to which they are being enhanced. This process ensures that the actions are not only theoretically sound but also practically effective, contributing to a holistic and integrative approach to resilience. Through this rigorous evaluation, the Campaign can confidently assert that the resilience it is building is profound, sustainable, and aligned with the multifaceted nature of the challenges it aims to address.

The list of Resilience Attributes with corresponding sub-categories is shown in Figure N° 6.

**Figure N° 6: Resilience Attributes and Subcategories**



## 4.5 MEL Cycle

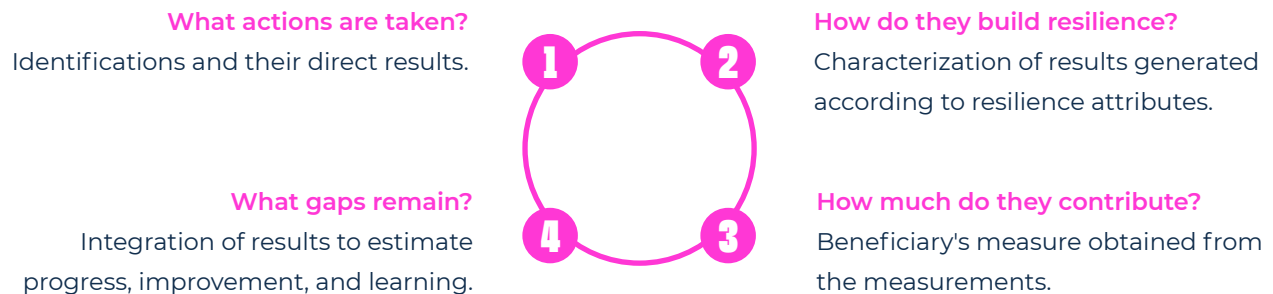
With the previously described Magnitude and Depth metrics, the MEL cycle (Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning) integrates them into a continuous cycle of implementation and learning, transforming these metrics from static calculations to dynamic elements. This integration is pivotal for embedding the framework's metrics into the Theory of Change, enhancing not only the comprehensive understanding and verification of the impact on Resilience Attributes but also fostering a collaborative and adaptive approach to resilience strategies.

This systematic process promotes an environment of constant review and assessment, focusing on both the breadth and depth of actions. It highlights the importance of identifying opportunities for enhancement and acting upon them. The MEL cycle, illustrated in Figure N° 7, showcases this iterative process in detail, emphasizing the key stages of monitoring, evaluating, identifying gaps, and learning.

The framework, with its focus on Magnitude and Depth metrics, goes beyond merely tracking the reach and impact of resilience actions. It fosters a collaborative learning environment among stakeholders, encouraging them to engage deeply with the process. This approach fosters a shared understanding, continuous enhancement of resilience strategies, and effective governance within the campaign. By recognizing common frameworks in Resilience Attributes and action identification, the framework facilitates evaluation and collaboration, allowing for the examination of complementarities and differences to improve interventions.

As such, integrating the MEL cycle into the Race to Resilience campaign ensures that strategic actions are informed and adapted. This dynamic cycle enables partners to collectively refine their actions and contribute meaningfully to the campaign's evolving goals, thereby empowering communities globally in the face of climate challenges and contributing to more effective governance within the campaign.

**Figure N° 7: MEL Cycle**



*(Source: Own elaboration)*



## 05

# THE PATHWAY

## Through the race

### 5.1. The 5-Step Progression

Partners engage with the RtR Campaign through a 5-step Progression (Figure N° 8): one step dedicated to apply and be selected for the Campaign, and four steps to advance through the Campaign (also dubbed the 4Ps: Pledge, Plan, Proceed and Publish). In what follows, each is described in detail.

Figure N° 8: RtR 5-step Progression



(Source: Own elaboration)

#### 5.1.1. Apply

To enter the Campaign, Partners first have to Apply. For that, they will have to submit an Expression of Interest (Eoi) stating their goals and forms of organization and governance. The purpose of the Eoi is, on the one hand, to explain why the initiative is a good candidate to be part of RtR; and on the other, to commit themselves to take up RtR's membership rules and criteria. This includes pledging to engage actively with the Campaign across all its phases, as described below.

Due to its core focus on credibility and transparency, RtR takes special measures to ensure the external assurance for both, its activities and those of its partners'. In the application stage, each candidate manifests its willingness to join the Campaign by filling out an Expression of Interest (Eoi) form. The Eoi is composed of four sections: <sup>16</sup>:

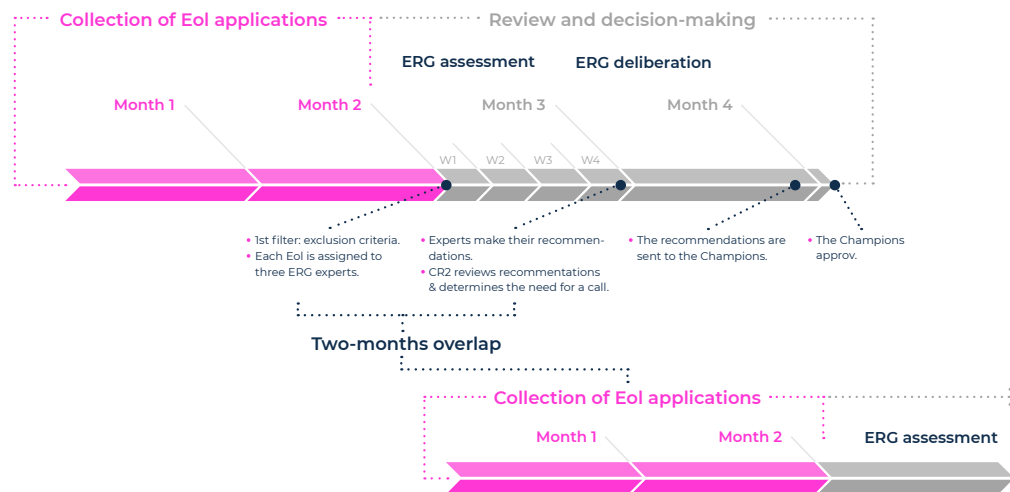
- **Section I:** General information;
- **Section II:** Specific information related to RtR;
- **Section III:** general eligibility criteria;
- **Section IV:** Eligibility criteria based on the Metrics Framework.

Each application is reviewed by three experts of the Expert Review Group (ERG) based on the eligibility criteria set up by the High-Level Champions.

As seen in Figure N° 9, an Eoi round is a four-month process, divided into two periods: the collection of Eoi applications (2 months) and the review and decision-making by the ERG (2 months). There is an overlap over time; the review and decision-making period (the third and fourth months) will be a period of collection of Eoi applications for the next round (the first and second months). This means that initiatives can apply at any time but the moment in which they are reviewed will change depending on when they apply.

Upon approval of initiatives to be included in the campaign, it is time for them to start the initial step of the reporting tool: "The General Information Survey." This survey's purpose is to gather general information about the initiatives and their members.

**Figure N° 9: Eoi round four-month application and assessment process**



(Source: Own elaboration)

<sup>16</sup> Based on the insights gained during the "Apply" stage in 2023, the technical secretariat has initiated a collaborative process to enhance this methodology in conjunction with both of our advisory bodies.

### 5.1.2. Pledge

After they are selected to be part of RtR, partners are expected to set or refine a target for resilience action for themselves and their members. This is a formal commitment to the Campaign, which will be tracked throughout the period they will be taking part in RtR. While the commitment can be eventually updated, it is usually expected to be maintained or raised over time, and not lowered unless something unexpected happens (this is a Race, after all).

Therefore, partners are encouraged to go through a thorough process of internal assessment before formally issuing a Pledge, directed to:

- Align their goals and targets with the Framework, particularly in terms of terminology and requirements for reporting and validation of outcomes.
- Engage their members, to make sure they are fully on board with the Pledge (mostly it will be on them where the responsibility to execute the Pledge will befall). For this, each member is expected to sign a formal Pledge Statement to be collected by their affiliated Initiative.
- Check the feasibility of the Pledge considering the Initiative's resources and the commitments of its members.

This phase is supposed to end with the submission of a formal Pledge Statement from the Initiative to the Race. A Pledge Statement is expected at most 6 months after an Initiative has been accepted into the Campaign. The RtR team will qualitatively validate this Statement with the partner, checking its coherence with the partner's publicly available information. Also, a permanent process of Partner Engagement will ensure alignment of the team with each partner, in this stage and the following ones.

### 5.1.3. Plan

After they submit a Pledge, Partners are expected to draft a clear and evidence-based plan to take action towards this commitment. This is meant to show to the Campaign and its stakeholders that concrete strategies have been designed to achieve the Pledge and to identify key actions whose delivery may be tracked in the following stages.

At this moment, if they have not done so before, Initiatives are expected to have collected evidence on needs and solutions (e.g., through a vulnerability assessment in their target territories), and to have agreed upon a theory of change and action agenda with their members. This information is needed to back a Plan Statement that each Partner Initiative is expected to submit to give a conclusion to this stage. A Plan

Statement is expected at most 6 months after the Pledge Statement has been submitted. Also, in this stage, the partner should be able to identify its Resilience Attributes that support its claim to be making an impact on resilience.

Again, the RtR team will validate this information, checking its coherence with the partner's publicly available information, and with the information published at the Pledge stage. Also, as explained above, based on this, the RtR team will work with the partner to create an RtR-adjusted Theory of Change which will be used for the MEL of the following stages.

#### 5.1.4. Proceed

When Plans are in place, Partners should take effective and immediate action toward achieving the actions they have planned. Progress may take more or less time depending on the nature of the committed actions, so there is not a standardized timeline to complete this stage. Instead, a custom timeline will be defined based on the Plan Statement each Partner has issued. Partners are expected to steadily progress toward their stated goal, and report against this progress. For that, they should be able to:

- Monitor the progress of their members on their actions.
- Collect information on expected & achieved outcomes.

This information should be submitted periodically to the Campaign as an update on the Action Plan<sup>17</sup>. The RtR will closely follow the reporting made by the partners to ensure it is coherent with the information published at the Plan and Pledge stages.

#### 5.1.5 Publish

In this last stage, Partners are expected to report on the results and outcomes that they have achieved through their actions and supply evidence to back them. This information should be made available both to RtR and to the general public (in the latter case, using the Partner's own website or similar means). To be published, outcomes must be validated, that is, robust checks must be made to ensure that they have really and reliably occurred<sup>18</sup>.

<sup>17</sup> Ideally, the Campaign would expect an update every 6 months, but this will be adapted on a case-by-case basis depending on the pertinence for each specific Action Plan.

<sup>18</sup> Pledges and Plans are subject to initial validation via feedback from the Technical Secretariat, with further RtR-guided validation during the Publish stage and continuous ERG oversight.

Each Partner should develop a robust method to validate outcomes. The Campaign will provide suitable guidelines for this. Partners are responsible for collecting and reporting all the evidence needed to describe and validate their outcomes. The Campaign will only publish outcomes of a Partner's actions when these are accompanied by an acceptable validation method and supporting evidence.

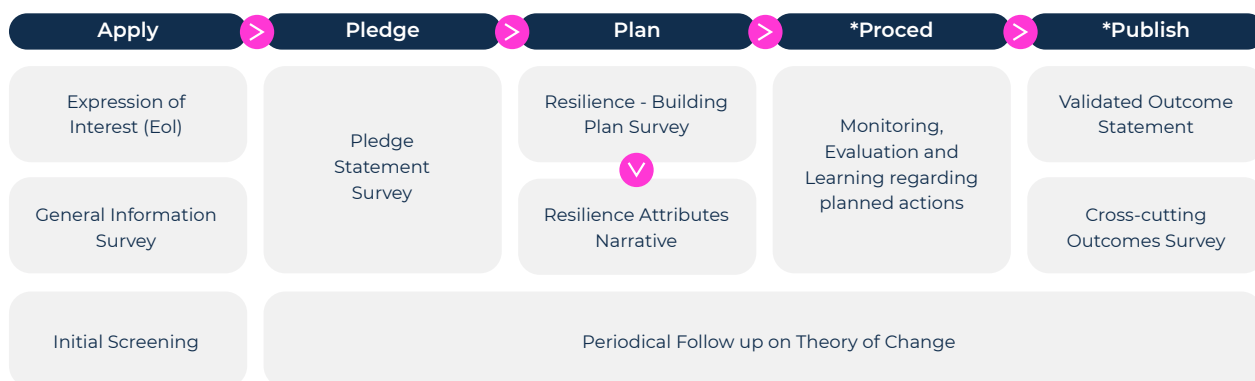
## 5.2. Reporting Tool

The campaign has launched three surveys integrated into the Reporting Tool for the quantitative and qualitative:

- 1) **General Information Survey:** A survey collecting general information about each initiative and its members;
- 2) **Pledge Survey:** A Pledge Statement, collecting the commitments of the partners in terms of number and type beneficiaries they aim to reach; and
- 3) **Resilience-Building Plan:** A Plan Statement on the actions they seek to put in place to achieve the Pledge.

As seen in Figure N° 10, for each of these stages, RtR uses a number of different strategies to collect information. In most cases, the information is reported by Partners to RtR, and they are responsible for obtaining and aggregating information from their members. Partner Engagement protocols will be used to support partners in setting up suitable and tailored MEL frameworks to collect the information required for the Campaign. At the present moment, only some of the stages are equipped with reporting tools, such as surveys for collecting information. The stages marked with an asterisk are currently in development for their corresponding tools.

**Figure N° 10: Stages and Reporting Tools**



**\*The reporting tools for these stages are currently in development.**

*(Source: Own elaboration)*

As previously explained, initiatives are not expected to provide all information from the outset. Instead, they will be required to furnish this information progressively as they advance through the four phases, commonly referred to as the 4Ps. At present, since no initiative has progressed beyond the planning stage, the focus is on developing three surveys that will be incorporated into the reporting tool used by the initiatives:

### 5.2.1. General Information Survey

The general information survey is the first step in the Reporting Tool, and it seeks to collect general information from the initiative and its members. The initiative should complete this before moving on to the Pledge and Plan statements and will be able to update the information provided as frequently as necessary. This survey includes questions describing the initiative, its objectives, target vulnerable groups, and areas of impact related to the Impact Systems and cross-cutting enablers from Sharm-El-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda. Partners are also required to identify the Resilience Actions Clusters<sup>19</sup> that apply to their work, as well as the number of their members and information about them. Along with this, it contains screening-oriented questions about the ability of partners to provide Pledges and Plans.

### 5.2.2. Pledge Statement Survey

In the Pledge Statement of the Reporting Tool, part of the 'Pledge' phase in the RtR Campaign, initiatives detail their commitments and estimated impacts on various groups, including direct individuals, companies, regions, cities, and natural systems. This estimation involves specifying the scope of their pledge in terms of the number of entities or individuals expected to be directly benefited.

The partners are required to identify their target beneficiaries and quantify the expected impact, providing details about the number of beneficiaries, their geographic locations, and the specific environmental risks their actions are designed to address. The tool also asks for more detailed information depending on the type of beneficiary, adherence to principles of locally-led adaptation, financial mobilization, and climate risk assessments associated with the pledge.

To determine the number of beneficiaries in each country, the 'Magnitude Index' is used. The index takes into account the reported data and relates it to the total population of the country. To minimize double counting, the index is adjusted using a Boolean algebra product sum.

Additionally, the 'Confidence Index' plays a crucial role in this calculation. This index evaluates data reliability considering whether the initiative performed a risk assessment or vulnerability evaluation, and consulted its members during the formulation of the pledge. The inclusion of these elements in the pledge-making process is seen as an indicator of the pledge's thoroughness and robustness.

<sup>19</sup> For more information on the resilience actions, their definitions, and the process of their development, please refer to the following link [Resilience Action Clusters RtR.pdf](#).

Each partner thus obtains a country-specific Magnitude Index, which is combined with the Confidence Index to provide a more nuanced and reliable assessment. When calculating the overall pledge of the campaign, a product sum between the indices of different countries is utilized to offer a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the campaign's impact.

The Pledge Reporting Tool<sup>20</sup> plays a critical role as the primary method for tracking and quantifying commitments and expected impacts of the RtR Campaign's initiatives. It ensures accountability and offers a systematic approach to measure progress against set goals, with the Magnitude and Confidence Indices providing depth and reliability to these measurements.

### 5.2.3. Resilience-Building Plan

The 'Resilience-Building Plan'<sup>21</sup> is the third step, aligning with the 'Plan' stage of the initiative. This stage is crucial as it focuses on gathering information on how each initiative and its members intend to fulfill the commitments made during the 'Pledge' phase. Initiatives are asked to outline their intended actions, the approach to implementation, timing, and an estimation of the potential beneficiaries.

To provide a comprehensive plan, partners must include information on the resilience attributes they aim to strengthen (Depth metrics) and the number of people who will benefit from this increased resilience (Magnitude metrics). They must also identify any barriers they anticipate and the governance mechanisms they will put in place to ensure the successful execution of their Resilience-Building Plan.

Recognizing the diversity of initiatives, the Reporting Tool requires that different lines of work be reported separately, each as an individual 'action plan.' This segmentation allows for a more granular and accurate reporting process, as partners may complete the survey multiple times for each distinct plan. A prepared list of recognized resilience-building actions, categorized by action area as established by the Marrakech Partnership, guides this process. Should an action not align with the listed options, there is provision for proposing a new category.

The survey also seeks details on the types of hazards targeted by the actions, as well as the timing of the impact—distinguishing between actions with lasting benefits and those with benefits that will cease without ongoing intervention.

In subsequent sections, similar to the approach in the Pledge Statement, partners are asked to specify the impact of each action on the 5 beneficiary types identified by the Campaign and to update on the progress of the action plan's implementation. Selections should correspond to the beneficiaries only, ensuring that primary beneficiaries are accurately reported.

<sup>20</sup> For additional information on the structure and implementation of the survey, please consult the following link [Guide Pledge Statement Survey.pdf](#).

<sup>21</sup> For additional information on the structure and implementation of the survey, please consult the following link [Guide\\_ Resilience-Building Plan Submission \(2023\) \(2\).pdf](#).

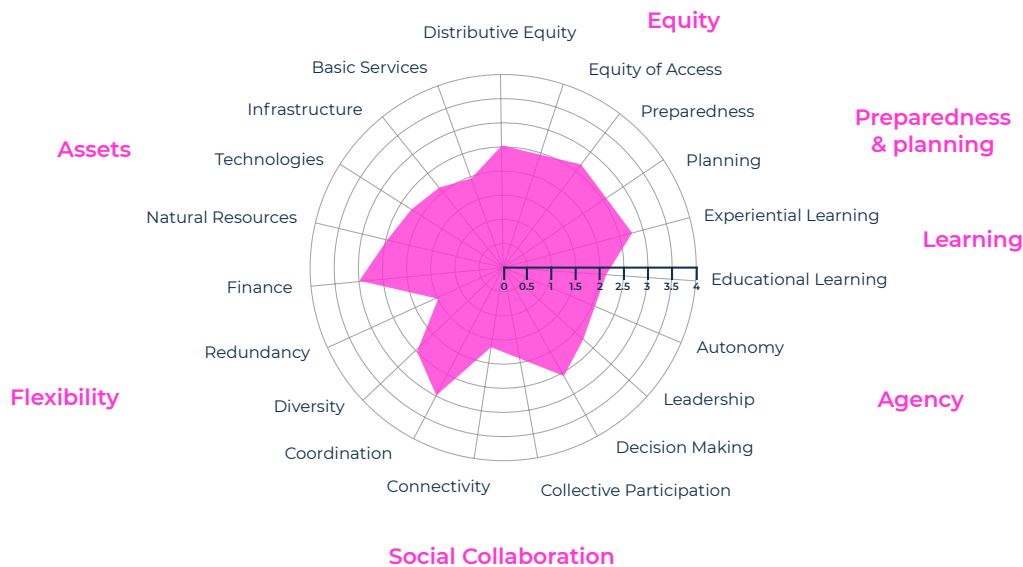
For example, a partner facilitating institutional-led climate adaptation planning for cities in the global south would be benefiting both the cities and their residents. However, 'cities' would be identified as the beneficiaries. Nonetheless, an estimation of the number of individuals indirectly benefiting through the initiative's work with cities—such as vulnerable residents within administrative boundaries—should also be provided.

The calculation for the 'Resilience-Building Plan' incorporates the same Magnitude Index as used in the 'Pledge' phase, refined with the Boolean algebra product sum to ensure precision and reduce double counting. This is combined with the Confidence Index, which assesses the data's reliability based on whether risk and vulnerability assessments were conducted and whether consultations were held to formulate the plan.

Furthermore, the 'Plan' stage introduces the 'Depth Index,' which measures the alignment of planned actions with the resilience attributes. The overall calculation for the plan becomes a product of the Magnitude, Confidence, and Depth Indices, offering a multidimensional view of the initiative's scope, reliability, and depth of impact on resilience building. This comprehensive approach ensures that each initiative's plan is not only ambitious but also grounded in realistic and strategic methodologies.

Figure N°11 depicts results from the 2023 Resilience-Building Plan Survey on the partners' work and actions related to each of the seven resilience attributes.

**Figure N° 11: Illustration of Resilience Attributes results at an aggregated level**



*(Source: Own elaboration based on the results of 20 partners reporting information about resilience attributes on the 2023 Resilience-Building Plan Survey)*



# 06

## FINAL REMARKS

As the first White Paper of the Race to Resilience Campaign, this document aimed to provide a foundation for the Campaign's further work.

More precisely, it tried to answer the following key questions:

### 6.1. What is the importance of RTR?

The Risk Assessment, which motivates and drives the Campaign, proves that even under very optimistic scenarios, climate change is due to have an impact on billions of people worldwide by increasing the frequency and severity of key risks. Moreover, these impacts will be higher on the most vulnerable populations, with poorer countries often being at once more exposed and more vulnerable to these hazards. Current trends are prone to further intensify these risks and inequalities if urgent and transformative action is not taken. Non-State Actors have a key role in pushing forward the effort to create a more resilient world in the face of climate change and RTR is needed to help push and articulate such effort.

### 6.2. What is RTR?

RTR is a worldwide Campaign aimed at increasing resilience for four billion people living in vulnerable communities, in collaboration with partner organizations from around the world, while developing tools to support them in their work. It is the sibling Campaign to Race to Zero, with a cross-cutting focus on convening, credibility, climate stories, and communities.

Race to Resilience is promoted and led by the High-Level Champions Team, with the support of the Technical Secretariat, which provides technical support to the High-Level Champions, and two technical bodies: the Expert Review Group (ERG), screening the Partners entering the Campaign and overseeing their progress and the overall one of the Campaign, and the Methodological Advisory Group (MAG), providing feedback and advice on the Metrics Framework.

### 6.3. How does RTR define and track increases in resilience?

RTR's Metrics Framework provides the key guidelines for the Campaign, establishing its conceptual definitions, analytical approach, methodological streamflow, and tracking metrics. The Framework strives to balance the complex nature of resilience-building and the need for flexibility and progressivity required to

adapt to the heterogeneity of NSAs working on creating resilience worldwide, with the importance of ensuring a standardized, credible, and simple-to-read depiction of the progress and gaps in resilience-building efforts. For this, it adopts a dual approach combining quantitative (magnitude) metrics focused on how much resilience is created, measured by the number of individuals directly or indirectly benefited by the actions of RtR partners, with qualitative (breadth) metrics focusing on understanding how this resilience is created, as manifested by changes produced by RtR partners on key resilience attributes of the targeted systems and communities. Both kinds of metrics are applied throughout the 5 steps in which the Campaign is articulated: Apply, Pledge, Plan, Proceed, and Publish. Specific Application and Reporting Tools were created to gather and analyze data from the Partners at each of these steps.

Updated results of the Campaign, based on this Framework, can be found on Race to Resilience's website.

#### 6.4. Why is it important to keep working on this Framework?

Aside from being a key tool for the RtR Campaign, the Framework illustrated in this document also aims to be a pioneering and exemplary effort to push forward the agenda to create robust, transparent, and scalable tools to track resilience and adaptation. In future White Papers, it will report the challenges, opportunities, and possible strategies to advance in this direction.

In closing, it is also important to point out some limitations of the Framework presented in this document.

First, at current, it is only designed to be applied to Race to Resilience partners, which are highly capable and strongly committed organizations, with which the Race to Resilience Technical Secretariat can maintain open and continuous channels of communication. Applying the Framework at a more generalized scale would require adjustments and possibly a selection of indicators that are suitable to that context. This also connects with the issue of data availability: The Framework requires a significant amount of data, time, and effort from the Technical Secretariat and partners. It also requires learning, and that is why finally, the Framework still needs refining and complementing on what respects several aspects such as its resilience attributes, validation strategy, or methodology to foster reflection and learning.

The Framework is still a work in progress and thus many aspects still need to be further developed, tested, or fine-tuned. However, it offers a solid and ambitious approach that can inspire and contribute to the global debate on advancing towards a robust MEL on adaptation and resilience-building, to guide and motivate action, gauge progress, avoid greenwashing, and promote reflexivity and learning in the global arena.

## 07

# ANNEX: GLOSSARY

## Cities

Cities are open complex systems that continually evolve and exchange resources, products and services, waste, people, ideas, and finances with the broader world. Cities also encompass multiple actors with varying responsibilities, capabilities, and priorities, as well as processes that transcend the institutional sector-based approach to city administration. The systemic function of cities cannot be viewed in isolation from the wider power relations, ecological, economic, technical, institutional, legal, and governance structures within which they are embedded<sup>22</sup>.

## Companies

Companies are entities that carry out activities to achieve their strategic goals, objectives, and decisions within their business operations<sup>23</sup>.

## Hazards

The potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced physical event or trend that may cause loss of life, injury, or other health impacts, as well as damage and loss to property, infrastructure, livelihoods, service provision, ecosystems, and environmental resources. Hazards events are exacerbated by climate change and may cause adverse consequences for society and ecosystems<sup>24</sup>.

## Individuals

Although the concept of the individual is defined in particular legal contexts<sup>25</sup>, in this document it is utilized to describe the minimum and distinctive natural persons, rather than groups of people or organizations. This includes human individuals, households, and individuals that are part of communities, among others.

<sup>22</sup> IPCC, 2019: Annex I: Glossary [Weyer, N.M. (ed.)]. In: IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, V. Masson-Delmotte, P. Zhai, M. Tignor, E. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegria, M. Nicolai, A. Okem, J. Petzold, B. Rama, N.M. Weyer (eds.)]. In Press

<sup>23</sup> The United Nations Human Rights Council (2011), "Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, John Ruggie. Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework"", 21 March, available at [http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Business/A-HRC-17-31\\_AEV.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Business/A-HRC-17-31_AEV.pdf)

<sup>24</sup> 'Reisinger, Andy, Mark Howden, Carolina Vera, et al. (2020) The Concept of Risk in the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report: A Summary of Cross-Working Group Discussions. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Geneva, Switzerland. pp15

<sup>25</sup> Adriano, E. A. Q. (2015). NATURAL PERSONS, JURIDICAL PERSONS AND LEGAL PERSONHOOD. Mexican Law Review, 8, 101-118. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mexlaw.2015.12.005>

## Natural systems

The natural environment consists of physical and biological components that function without human interference. However, human activities have impacted most, if not all, natural systems to varying degrees, and these systems interact with human systems, providing important services for resilience<sup>26</sup>. Natural systems can be categorized into different types of ecosystems.

## Regions

Regions are areas or territories that are grouped together based on similar characteristics within specific criteria. These characteristics can include any attribute that helps to identify the region as a beneficiary, such as physical, economic, or administrative aspects, as well as frameworks and conventions like geographic regions, UN development groups, and World Bank income groups, among others<sup>27</sup>.

## Resilience

Different definitions of resilience exist, varying much in terms of how they understand the term, what kind of conditions or factors consider to be part of resilience, and how they relate the term to other complementary concepts, such as vulnerability or risk. This Framework uses the official definition of resilience provided by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which is both one of the most diffused ones and one of the most comprehensive, as it offers a systematic and holistic approach on the concept. The IPCC defines resilience as “the capacity of social, economic and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event or trend or disturbance, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity and structure while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning and transformation”<sup>28</sup>.

## Risk assessment

The qualitative and/or quantitative scientific estimation of the potential for adverse consequences for human or ecological systems, recognizing the diversity of values and objectives associated with such systems. In the context of climate change, risks can arise from potential impacts as well as human responses. A risk assessment commonly includes the following components: <sup>29</sup>:

<sup>26</sup> IPCC, 2022: Annex II: Glossary [Möller, V., R. van Diemen, J.B.R. Matthews, C. Méndez, S. Semenov, J.S. Fuglestedt, A. Reisinger (eds.)]. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 2897–2930, doi:10.1017/9781009325844.029

<sup>27</sup> United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. (2022). Definition of Regions. Retrieved from <https://population.un.org/wpp/DefinitionOfRegions/>

<sup>28</sup> IPCC, 2018: Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty [Masson-Delmotte, V., P. Zhai, H.-O. Pörtner, D. Roberts, J. Skea, P.R. Shukla, A. Pirani, W. Moufouma-Okia, C. Péan, R. Pidcock, S. Connors, J.B.R. Matthews, Y. Chen, X. Zhou, M.I. Gomis, E. Lonnoy, T. Maycock, M. Tignor, and T. Waterfield (eds.)]. In Press.

<sup>29</sup> Reisinger, Andy, Mark Howden, Carolina Vera, et al. (2020) The Concept of Risk in the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report: A Summary of Cross-Working Group Discussions. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Geneva, Switzerland. pp15

- **Hazard:** As previously mentioned, a hazard refers to the potential occurrence of a natural or human-induced event that can lead to various negative impacts<sup>30</sup>.
- **Exposure:** the presence of people; livelihoods; species or ecosystems; environmental functions, services, and resources; infrastructure; or economic, social, or cultural assets in places and settings that could be adversely affected<sup>31</sup>.
- **Vulnerability:** It refers to the susceptibility of targeted beneficiaries to be adversely affected by the impacts of climate change, it involves sensitivity due to different aspects that can heighten susceptibility to harm and hinder coping capacities<sup>32</sup>.
- **Impacts:** The adverse or beneficial consequences of realized risks on natural and human systems, usually referring to effects on lives, livelihoods, health and wellbeing, ecosystems and species, economic, social, and cultural assets, services, and infrastructure<sup>33</sup>.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid.

<sup>31</sup> IPCC, 2023: Annex I: Glossary [Reisinger, A., D. Cammarano, A. Fischlin, J.S. Fuglestedt, G. Hansen, Y. Jung, C. Ludden, V. Masson-Delmotte, R. Matthews, J.B.K. Mintenbeck, D.J. Orendain, A. Pirani, E. Poloczanska, and J. Romero (eds.)]. In: Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II, and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, H. Lee and J. Romero (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland, pp. 119-130, doi:10.59327/IPCC/AR6-9789291691647.002.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

