

#AdaptationForLife



# UNGA 81 CLIMATE ADAPTATION EVENT GUIDE

SEPTEMBER 20-27, 2026 | NEW YORK CITY

Side events at diplomacy's biggest gathering.  
Collectively sourced from the Adaptation Campaign Hub community.

# SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

**2:45 - 5:00 PM EDT**

**RESILIENCE WITHOUT BORDERS: COMMUNITY-LED COASTAL  
REGENERATION THROUGH NATURE, INNOVATION, AND LOCAL ACTION**

Aga Khan Foundation USA, Open House New York, Waterfront Alliance

*Ismaili Jamatkhana, 160 East 35th Street, Manhattan, New York, NY, 10016*

This panel explores how communities advance coastal resilience through ecosystem restoration, innovative design, and local strategies. Featuring insights from New York's Jamaica Bay to the Indian Ocean, speakers will discuss how these initiatives protect shorelines, strengthen local economies, and create workforce opportunities.

[Register here.](#)

# MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21

**8:00 - 9:30 AM EDT**

## **CLIMATE RESILIENCE REFRAMED: ARE YOU ASKING THE WRONG QUESTIONS?**

Bain & Company, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

*Bain Offices, 335 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10017*

Many businesses focus on insurance, improving property resilience, and supply chain diversification as tools to respond to growing climate impacts and disruptions. While helpful, these familiar approaches can create false confidence, overlook indirect and long-term impacts, and miss opportunities to build advantage and enable value creation. During this panel discussion, Bain & Company and WBCSD bring together senior leaders across industries, investment, insurance, and financial services for a candid, cross-industry discussion on the questions you might not be asking that should shape resilience strategy and investment decisions.

[Register here.](#)

**10:00 - 11:00 AM EDT**

## **SUSTAINING ACTION ON EARLY WARNING FOR ALL BY 2027**

Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES)

*Covington and Burling, 30 Hudson Yards, New York, NY 10001*

What progress has the world made toward achieving the first Global Stocktake goal of protecting everyone on Earth with early warning systems by 2027? This event will convene senior leaders from across the UN system and national governments to assess global progress under the UN Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All initiative and discuss how the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process can help accelerate implementation and enhance international cooperation.

[Register here.](#)

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM EDT**

## **RESILIENT AND REGENERATIVE DESIGN - ARCHITECTS AND POLICYMAKERS ON BUILDING THE FUTURE**

Solutions House NYC

*Register to see the address*

Join Solutions House for a very topical conversation on how regenerative design can meet multiple needs on resilience, ecosystem restoration, disaster risk reduction, public health, and community well-being, including practical examples where smart city and community design practices and federal policy have worked together.

[Register here.](#)

# MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21

**3:00 - 5:00 PM EDT**

## **LAUNCH OF THE COP 31 GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION AGENDA**

COP 31 Presidency

*UN Headquarters – ECOSOC Chamber, 405 E 45th St, New York, NY 10017*

COP 31 will take place at a critical moment for translating climate commitments into concrete implementation. Against this backdrop, the COP 31 Presidency is developing an Action Agenda focused on mobilizing practical cooperation, partnerships, and delivery across its priority areas. Building on consultations with Parties and non-Party stakeholders, the Action Agenda will connect political priorities with implementation pathways, while building on existing initiatives and the work of previous COP Presidencies.

New York Climate Week provides an important opportunity to introduce the strategic direction, priority areas, and implementation approach of the COP 31 Action Agenda to an international audience. The event will serve as a mobilization milestone on the road to Antalya by presenting the emerging framework, inviting stakeholder engagement, and setting out the pathway towards concrete Action Agenda outcomes at COP 31.

[Livestream here.](#)

**3:00 - 3:30 PM EDT**

## **HOW MODERN FIDUCIARIES NAVIGATE CLIMATE RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES: FINANCING CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGIES**

TransitionIQ

*New York Yacht Club, 37 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036*

TransitionIQ's annual Climate Week NYC forum features leading experts discussing the role of policy in climate-risk disclosure, climate risk scenario planning, developing net-zero strategies, and opportunities to finance climate and natural capital solutions. It's become a highly anticipated and trusted source of unbiased intelligence for asset allocators that are addressing climate change risks and investing in the transition to a more sustainable economy.

Key themes include: approaches to climate resilience by integrating adaptation strategies, sustainable investments, systemic transition financing, and what parts of climate adaptation are investable.

[Register here.](#)

# MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21

**3:30 - 4:45 PM EDT**

**PITCHING FOR THE PLANET: LIVE SOLUTIONS, REAL STAKES**

Regen House

*Register to see the address*

Four nature-based solutions for climate adaptation, implemented in countries around the world, will be pitched live to a panel of philanthropic, multilateral, and corporate judges, in a high-energy, "shark tank" style session hosted by CARE and the CARE/WWF Alliance. The pitches will be evaluated on whether it delivers measurable results, especially for women, can work at scale, and can attract real investment, with attendees invited to question the pitchers and vote for an audience favorite.

[Register here.](#)

## TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22

### **8:30 AM - 6:30 PM EDT (FROM SEPT 22-24)** **ADAPT2WIN ACTIVATION AT NEST CAMPUS** Adapt2Win

*The NEST Campus, Javits Center, North Building, Booth 540, 445 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001*

Adapt2Win is hosting a three-day, interactive half basketball court and climate center at The NEST Campus at the Javits Center with interactive programming focused on the urgency of climate adaptation through the lens of sport. Professional athletes joining include 3x NBA champ Rick Fox, 6x TEAM USA and former WNBA player Lennae Harper, TEAM Great Britain and former NBA player Pops Mensah-Bonsu, and Liverpool FC legend Lucas Leiva. Throughout the week, Adapt2Win will bring together climate experts, youth leaders, and content creators for conversations bringing new audiences into the climate adaptation conversation.

[Register here.](#)

### **8:30 AM - 12:00 PM EDT** **FROM LAB TO MARKET: ACCELERATING ADAPTATION** **AND RESILIENCE TECHNOLOGIES FROM UNIVERSITIES**

Activate, Foley Hoag, Hazelwood Network, New York Climate Exchange, Tailwind Futures

*Cisco Systems, 9th Floors, 1 Pennsylvania Plaza, New York, NY 10119*

This half-day convening explores opportunities to leverage university-originated research to scale up the commercialization of adaptation and resilience technologies. University-generated IP is an underutilized pipeline of resilience solutions to help businesses and communities navigate the disruption, health risks, and costs from climate change.

[Register here.](#)

## TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22

**9:00 AM - 6:00 PM EDT**

### **THE URBAN SYSTEMS SYMPOSIUM**

New York University

*40 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012*

At this symposium, participants will delve into how cities operate as complex systems, exploring the intersections between people, technology, and the environment. The event will explore questions such as: How can we design urban spaces that are livable and resilient? What role do information and technology play in optimizing city services? How well can we model the interaction of physical, natural, and human systems? How can cities offer the opportunity to design for equity?

[Register here.](#)

**10:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT**

### **DATA-DRIVEN CLIMATE GOVERNANCE: MOBILIZATION, AI, AND RESILIENCE FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION**

Columbia Global Center Rio, Instituto Decodifica

*Columbia University, International Affairs Building Room 802, 420 W 118th St, New York, NY 10027*

The conversation will explore how different approaches to producing and using data, including Citizen-Generated Data, monitoring systems, and AI, can support more effective and inclusive public policies and decision-making.

[Register here.](#)

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM EDT**

### **THE FUTURE OF HEAT INSURANCE IS HERE**

HERA

*The Penn Club of New York Tarnopol Room, 30 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036*

A conversation with leaders across insurance, finance, philanthropy, and implementation will explore the rapidly evolving landscape of heat insurance including: What is working, what we are learning, what it will take to the next level of scaling meaningful heat relief, and what the new generation of heat insurance can unlock, with a focus on heat, pregnancy, and reproductive health.

[Register here.](#)

## TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22

**1:00 – 2:00 PM EDT**

### **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN 300,000 POOR WOMEN WORKERS HAVE HEAT, FLOOD, AND CYCLONE INSURANCE?**

HERA

*The Penn Club of New York Tarnopol Room, 30 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036*

A conversation with HERA and SEWA about three years of putting multi-peril climate insurance into practice in India. More than 300,000 poor women workers have participated in a pioneering model that combines financial protection with women's lived experience and needs. Together, participants will explore what poor women have taught us, what HERA and SEWA have learned about designing and delivering inclusive income insurance at scale, what has surprised us, and what it will take to reach millions more.

[Register here.](#)

**3:00 - 4:00 PM EDT**

### **EXTREME WEATHER AND CREATIVITY**

Solutions House NYC, Sustainable Entertainment Alliance, TED Countdown

*Register to see the address*

This session brings together leaders from across the creative industries to explore how extreme weather is reshaping the way cultural moments are made. Through examples ranging from the FIFA World Cup and Coachella to major Netflix productions, the discussion will examine the practical realities of producing at scale, the growing need for climate resilience, and what these changes mean for the future of creativity.

[Register here.](#)

**3:30 - 6:00 PM EDT**

### **CLIMATE UNDER PRESSURE: A CORPORATE FISHBOWL ON RISK, RESILIENCE, AND FINANCE**

The Conference Board

*875 3rd Ave, Manhattan, New York, NY 10022*

Whether you're leading sustainability, corporate citizenship, or ESG strategy, this discussion will provide practical insights into turning climate ambition into durable business action.

[Register here.](#)

## TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22

**5:00 - 8:00 PM EDT**

**ADAPTATION IN ACTION!**

Brown Rudnick, Burnt Island Ventures, Stepchange Ventures, Streetlife Ventures, Tailwind Futures

*Register to see the address*

How we invest in resilient buildings, water systems, cooling infrastructure, insurance mechanisms, and community preparedness will determine the livability of our cities in the decades to come. It also represents a multi-trillion dollar investment opportunity. This session will bring together climate adaptation startups, investors, corporate buyers, and policymakers to discuss how adaptation is being implemented in cities across the globe.

[Register here.](#)

## WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

**8:30 AM - 1:00 PM EDT**

### **AON'S RISK AND RESILIENCE SUMMIT**

AON

*Aon New York Office, One Liberty Plaza, New York, NY 10006*

This year's summit is the most important yet, reflecting the increasing priority of climate risk that reaches far beyond sustainability. From the future of food systems and the resilience of cities to the hidden climate risks behind the AI revolution and the energy transition, the summit will explore how organizations can navigate uncertainty, attract investment, and deploy capital effectively whilst building resilience for the future.

Join leading voices from across (re)insurance, finance, corporates, and academia as they examine the evolving risk landscape and the practical solutions needed to make better decisions, unlock growth opportunities, and create long-term value in a changing climate.

[Register here by September 18.](#)

**10:00 - 11:00 AM EDT**

### **FROM READINESS TO RECOVERY: FRONTLINE SOLUTIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

American Red Cross, Futerra, L'Oreal Group, Solutions House NYC, The Solutions Project

*Register to see the address*

Discover how cross-sector collaboration is empowering communities across the U.S. to prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate-related disasters. This conversation highlights the critical role of early warning systems, local readiness, and equity-driven solutions in building long-term climate resilience.

[Register here.](#)

## WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM EDT**

### **EXTREME HEAT AND BEYOND: POWER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A MORE DEMANDING FUTURE**

C2ES

*Glass House on the Park, 54 West 40th St New York, NY 10018*

As rising power demand and extreme heat put greater pressure on critical systems, reliability and affordability are becoming central to economic and community prosperity.

Register for “Extreme Heat and Beyond: Power Infrastructure for a More Demanding Future,” a panel discussion hosted by C2ES and featuring members of the Business Environmental Leadership Council. This conversation will bring together leaders across power, technology, finance, research, and local government to explore how innovation and investment can help keep essential services, from electricity to water, operating under increasingly demanding conditions.

[Register here.](#)

**12:00 - 2:00 PM EDT**

### **CAPTURING THE CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE OPPORTUNITY**

McKinsey Sustainability

*Register to see the address*

As climate hazards intensify, the case for adaptation is clear: It is a good buy that strengthens the resilience of companies and economies. Yet a significant resiliency gap remains, and adaptation needs are rising. Drawing on McKinsey Global Institute research, this session will explore what is holding adaptation back, how to scale investment, and how to capture the opportunity today. A presentation of the latest McKinsey perspectives will be followed by a panel discussion featuring leaders from across industries to share how they are advancing adaptation and resilience in practice. Lunch will be provided.

[Register here.](#)

## WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

**1:20 - 1:50 PM EDT**

### **THE HIDDEN ADAPTATION ECONOMY: WHERE IS THE OPPORTUNITY RIGHT NOW?**

Morgan Stanley Capital International

*Convene, 6th Floor, 360 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10007*

The adaptation investment opportunity is larger and more accessible than many investors realize, but unlocking it requires better visibility into where resilience is being built. Hear perspectives from investors, researchers, and public finance leaders on where capital is flowing today, where the gaps remain, and what the data reveals about investable opportunities.

[Register here.](#)

**1:30 - 5:30 PM EDT**

### **SCALING RESILIENCE THROUGH POLICY, PARTNERSHIPS & CAPITAL**

Duke University

*The NEST Campus, Javits Center, North Building, Booth 540, 445 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001*

Communities across the U.S. know more than ever about the climate risks they face — and increasingly know what solutions are needed. Yet too many resilience and adaptation efforts still struggle to move from plans and promising pilots to implementation at scale. Scaling resilience requires more than funding alone. It requires an enabling policy environment, institutions, and partnerships capable of developing and delivering solutions, and financial strategies that recognize and capture the value of reduced risk. This Climate Week program brings those pieces together.

[Register here.](#)

## WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

**2:00 – 4:00 PM EDT**

### **FRONTLINE DEFENDERS: HEALTH, WORKER RIGHTS, AND CARE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE**

Climate & Care Initiative, Fundación Avina, Solidarity Center

*Midtown Manhattan, New York (venue shared upon confirmation)*

As climate impacts place increasing pressure on health and care systems worldwide, health workers, community caregivers, childcare providers, domestic workers, and other frontline care workers are helping communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from climate-related shocks, their contributions remain largely absent from climate adaptation planning, financing discussions, and just transition strategies.

This conversation will bring together worker leaders, labor rights advocates, and care and climate experts to discuss why investing in workers, labor rights, and care systems is essential for climate resilience. The session will explore how centering worker rights within climate adaptation and just transition strategies can improve health outcomes and better support those on the front lines of climate resilience — from the local to the global level.

[Register here.](#)

**3:30 – 6:30 PM EDT**

### **THE RESILIENCE DIVIDEND: PROVING CLIMATE ADAPTATION PAYS**

American Family Insurance Institute for Corporate and Social Impact (AmFam Institute)

*Register to see the address*

Floods, fires, and heat are already reshaping where we build, what we insure, and what gets funded, but resilience and adaptation still lag far behind mitigation when it comes to investment dollars. This New York Climate Week, AmFam Institute is convening the investors, funders, scientists, and founders working to close that gap

Join AmFam Institute for an afternoon built to get specific and bring three rarely-combined perspectives to one stage: the science of what actually reduces loss, the public and philanthropic capital that funds what venture alone can't, and the founder's-eye view of building a resilience company from the ground up.

[Register here.](#)

## WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23

**6:00 - 7:00 PM EDT**

### **IS THE UNITED NATIONS READY TO DEAL WITH CLIMATE TIPPING POINTS?**

C2ES

*Glass House on the Park, 54 West 40th St New York, NY 10018*

The world is entering an era of climate overshoot, with a significant risk of crossing various planetary boundaries and tipping points with the potential to result in large-scale climate shocks, impacting water, food, and ecosystems. As global temperature increase surpasses 1.5°C, impacts will increasingly cascade across borders. No country can deal with these problems alone. This panel will explore whether the UN system, including the UNFCCC, can deal with the consequences of crossing tipping points and resultant climate impacts, or if a new approach is needed.

[Register here.](#)

**THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 24**

**FEATURED EVENT**

**8:00 - 10:00 AM EDT**

**ADAPTING TO THE NEW CLIMATE REALITY: WHY ACCELERATING  
IMPACTS DEMAND NEW RESPONSES**

United Nations Foundation, DanChurchAid, E3G, Instituto Talanoa

*Industrious Nuveen, 730 Third Ave, Second floor, Rooms 2C+2D, New York,  
NY 10017*

Over the past year, the new climate reality has become impossible to ignore: record-breaking heat, intensifying floods and droughts, and compounding shocks are outpacing the capacity of governments, communities, and financial systems to cope. These impacts are no longer a distant risk to plan for — they are actively undermining economic stability, food and water security, and the resilience of states across every region. This accelerating reality demands a fundamentally new strategic response, one that positions adaptation action as core to today's global, national, and local prosperity, human security, and stability, rather than a future planning consideration. At the same time, the large economic, financial, and job benefits of investment in adaptation and resilience have also become clearer, with an emerging “resilience economy” set to grow to \$1 trillion by 2030.

This high-level event, moderated by Megan Rowling, Editor of Climate Home News, will showcase how critical actors from national and sub-national governments, civil society, the private sector, and more are responding to the heightened urgency to act on adaptation and resilience through concrete commitments in the lead up to COP 31.

[Register here](#) to attend in-person or online.

# THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

## 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM EDT ADAPT2WIN AT NEST CAMPUS Adapt2Win

*The NEST Campus, Javits Center, North Building, Booth 540, 445 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001*

Throughout the week, Adapt2Win will bring together climate experts, youth leaders, and content creators for conversations bringing new audiences into the climate adaptation conversation.

[Register here.](#)

## 9:25 - 9:50 AM EDT CLIMATE ACTION IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT Adapt2Win

*Main Stage @ The NEST Campus, Javits Center, North Building, Booth 540, 445 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001*

An athlete-led conversation exploring the cultural power of sport to bring new audiences into the climate conversation and build support for greater investment in adaptation.

Featuring Ulrich “Rick” Fox, Linnae Harper, and Lucas Leiva, alongside experts from across the climate field.

[Register here.](#)

## 11:00 AM - 2:45 PM EDT PROJECT FRAME 2026 CONVENING: ASSESSING ADAPTATION IMPACT Prime Coalition, Tailwind Futures

*Register to see the address*

Join Prime Coalition and Tailwind Futures for a convening dedicated to the future of adaptation impact. This session brings together a select group of stakeholders to collaboratively assess a draft case study and explore actionable strategies for systemic resilience.

[Join the waitlist.](#)

## THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

**11:15 - 11:40 AM EDT**

### **THE BUSINESS OF SPORT IN A CHANGING CLIMATE**

Adapt2Win

*Momentum Stage @ The NESTCampus, Javits Center, North Building,  
Booth 540, 445 11th Avenue, New York, NY 10001*

A conversation examining the growing business risks climate change poses to the global sports industry and how investment in adaptation can protect athletes and communities, reduce financial risk, and safeguard the industry's long-term growth.

Featuring leaders from Liverpool FC, the NBA, and the World Meteorological Organization.

[Register here.](#)

**12:00 - 4:00 PM EDT**

### **THE INVISIBLE CRISIS: INNOVATING FOR THE AGE OF EXTREME HEAT**

Anywhere Ventures, Campus Deep Tech, Hazelwood Network, Tailwind Futures

*7 Pennsylvania Plaza, Floor 9, New York, NY 10001*

Anywhere Ventures, Campus Deep Tech, the Hazelwood Network, and Tailwind Futures are bringing together a curated group of startups, investors, industry leaders, and academics during Climate Week NYC to explore the mounting challenges posed by extreme heat globally and novel technologies being developed to help people and industries adapt.

[Register here.](#)

**1:00 - 6:00 PM EDT**

### **RESILIENCE AT SCALE: FROM RISK DATA TO REAL DECISIONS**

Moody's

*Moody's Headquarters, 7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich St, New York, NY 10007*

As extreme weather events intensify and insurance protection gaps widen, the pressure on financial institutions, investors, and policymakers to act has never been greater. During Climate Week NYC, Moody's will bring together senior leaders from across finance, insurance, and the public sector to explore what resilience really means, and what it costs when it fails. From the latest flood modeling and credit impact analysis to capital mobilization strategies and the innovations reshaping risk transfer, this event delivers the insights that move markets.

[Register here.](#)

## THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24

**3:00 - 5:00 PM EDT**

### **ONE MAP, FIVE DECISIONS: BUILDING A COMMON OPERATING PICTURE FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

Cognizant, Esri

*Cognizant New York Office, 55 Hudson Yards, New York, NY 10001*

Join Cognizant and Esri during Climate Week NYC for an immersive executive session exploring how organizations can build a common operating picture for climate resilience. Powered by Esri's geospatial technology and Cognizant's resilience expertise, attendees will see how a single climate event can affect critical infrastructure, insured assets, supplier networks, public services, and financial outcomes — and how leaders can use that intelligence to make more informed decisions.

[Register here.](#)

**3:00 PM EDT**

### **CLIMATE ADAPTATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK**

Schroders

*7 Bryant Park, New York, NY 10018*

Join Schroders' panel presentation introducing the Climate Adaptation Investment Framework, followed by networking and light refreshments. This session will explore the framework's findings, discuss practical applications for portfolios, and examine how investors can better assess and capture the growing adaptation opportunity set.

[Register here.](#)

## FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25

**9:00 AM - 1:30 PM EDT**

### **MAXIMIZING THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE POTENTIAL OF NEW YORK CITY'S NATURAL AREAS**

Natural Areas Conservancy (NAC)

*102nd Street Field House, Riverside Park, New York, NY 10025*

During this Climate Week NYC event, NAC will bring together practitioners, researchers, and policymakers to discuss what's happening in our forested natural areas in the age of climate change and other environmental challenges. Attendees will also see a sneak peek of the Forest Management Framework Status Update ahead of its release. Come learn what the NAC and its partners are seeing on the ground and what's in store for forest management in the future.

[Register here.](#)

**12:00 - 2:00 PM EDT**

### **ADDRESSING THE COST OF CLIMATE IMPACT: ACTIONS AT THE SCALE OF THE CITY**

C40 Cities, Climate Solutions International

*Building Energy Exchange Inc, 31 Chambers Street, Suite 608, New York, NY 10007*

Join C40 Cities and Climate Solutions International to discuss their landmark report, "Mainstreaming Climate Adaptation in City Financial Planning and Budgeting," this high-level panel brings together policy architects and municipal finance leaders. Moving beyond theory, the session will unpack how pioneering cities are using the report's foundational frameworks to institutionalize climate resilience across all levels of urban governance.

[Register here.](#)

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