

Evaluate, learn and set intentions

Stage 1: Initiate

Who is this question set for? This question set is designed for groups who are exploring whether they wish to establish an adaptation partnership for their place, or are in the process of creating one - Maturity stage 1 of the Capability Maturity Model (CMM). It can be used to help groups reflect on progress and identify strengths and weaknesses.

When should the questions be used? The questions will help you assess progress as you work through the early stages of scoping out an adaptation partnership - represented by stage 1 of the *Capability Maturity Model*. The questions are probably best used after you have completed some initial informal discussions with stakeholders, however, you should feel free to use them whenever you feel they would be most helpful. You can also use the survey a couple of times to track progress as work progresses.

How should the questions be used? The questions can be issued as a survey to individuals involved in developing the partnership. The results can then be collated to show how the group has responded. Responding individually and anonymously can limit bias and encourage openness, particularly where there is disagreement or an imbalance of power among the group that might prevent group members from sharing freely during group discussions. As an alternative to a survey you could also consider using an interactive digital tool such as [slido.com](https://www.slido.com) to post the questions in a group setting where people have access to the internet allowing for instant, anonymous feedback.

The questions can also be used as a tool for group discussion and reflection where appropriate. You could also ask the questions in survey form and follow up with a group discussion to reflect on key messages and discuss next steps.

You can add to or alter the questions to meet the unique needs of your group and context.

What will I learn from the questions?

The questions explore different aspects of partnership working including:

- The overall health of the partnership – covering diversity, inclusion, power, decision making and shared vision.
- Progress with tackling climate adaptation challenges – for example; developing a shared evidence based, agreeing the purpose and priorities to be addressed and resources required.

Feedback from the questions will help pinpoint weaknesses in your current approach to developing the partnership and will also identify where good progress is being made.

Acknowledgements: This project is funded under the EPA Research Programme 2014-2020. The EPA Research Programme is a Government of Ireland initiative funded by the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

Disclaimer: Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the material contained in this document, complete accuracy cannot be guaranteed. The Environmental Protection Agency does not accept any responsibility whatsoever for loss or damage occasioned or damages claimed to have been occasioned, in part or in full, as a consequence of any person acting, or refraining from acting, as a result of a matter contained in this document.

Questions

Question 1: Does the partnership include diverse representation?

- *Membership of the partnership reflects the diversity of our place and communities:*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *Disadvantaged groups, including those who may be most impacted by climate change are supported to be involved in the partnership:*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

Question 2: Have all partners contributed meaningfully to the vision of the partnership?

- *The views of all partners have been included in the partnership vision*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *All partners have contributed to shaping how the vision will be achieved*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

Question 3: How fairly is power and influence shared by partners?

- *The partnership is a safe place to raise conflicting views and priorities*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *We work through conflicting views and priorities constructively*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *Power and influence are shared equally among partnership members*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *The process for making decisions and choosing priorities is transparent and fair*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

Question 4: How effective are we at drawing together evidence and insights on climate risks?

- *Existing evidence on climate risks has been brought together, shared and communicated effectively*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *Lived experience and local knowledge of climate risks is valued and included*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *We understand the priorities in our place and how these connect to climate adaptation*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

Question 5: How much progress has been made to build the case for working together?

- *We have set out why the partnership is needed and what we will achieve together*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *There is consensus from diverse stakeholders that the partnership is needed and, the aims/ priorities/ projects that we have identified are supported.*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *We have identified how we will monitor, evaluate, and learn as the partnership develops*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

Question 6: How well do we understand the resources that we currently have and the resources we will need in future?

- *The resource and capacity of all partners has been mapped and recorded*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *We have identified the resources (finance, skills, communication) needed to deliver the work of the partnership*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

- *We have secured the resources needed to deliver the work of the partnership*

STRONGLY DISAGREE 1 2 3 4 5 STRONGLY AGREE

Use the space below to reflect on your responses above:

- What areas do you need to develop to strengthen the partnership approach to climate adaptation?
- What can you contribute and what is needed from others?