

# ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE – POLICIES, TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGIES

**Tailored Course under the DFC Scholarship Programme**



## **Dates**

The learning programme will take place in the period June – December 2026, with a mandatory online phase from June – August 2026, a 3-week programme in Denmark **7 – 25 September 2026** and an online follow-up phase from October-December 2026.

## **Where**

Copenhagen and Aarhus, Denmark — including field visits to climate adaptation sites.

## **Management**

**Programme Manager:** Annegrete Lausten, NIRAS, **Email:** [agl@niras.dk](mailto:agl@niras.dk)

**Co-Manager:** Henrik Borgtoft Pedersen, NIRAS.

## Target group

This learning programme accommodates approximately 25–30 participants. Participants must be affiliated with Danish-supported development activities, including Danida development programmes, Danish-supported NGOs, or Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) partner institutions. Participants should:

- Hold a relevant bachelor's degree (minimum requirement)
- Have a strong command of English (spoken and written)
- Work professionally with climate change, adaptation, resilience, urban development, agriculture, water or related fields
- Ideally participate in pairs/groups from the same organisation to support Action Plan work

## Introduction

Climate change is one of the most pressing global challenges and disproportionately affects the Global South. Adaptation is essential to protect vulnerable communities, ecosystems and livelihoods. Adaptation limits have already been reached in some places across the globe with more to emerge as temperatures rise. This learning programme provides participants with actionable knowledge, tools and practical insights to design and implement climate-resilient solutions.

This Learning Programme will examine both the problem and its causes, with a greater focus on practical responses and opportunities. Climate issues are global, but adaptation, resilience, and greenhouse gas reduction require action at every level, involving everyone.

The Learning Programme will provide participants with the knowledge, the tools, and not least the inspiration needed to adapt to climate changes in their own context. In this process, we will share knowledge and experience, meet important actors, and learn about practices and technologies – but also about how the changes may be facilitated, organized, and financed, and together we will investigate how the learnings may be applied in the widely varying contexts of the participants.

The programme builds on principles of Climate Compatible Development (CCD), highlighting synergies between adaptation, mitigation and development. Participants will work hands-on with the IPCC Risk Propeller, climate risk assessment tools, and adaptation planning methods. Learning takes place through blended instructional formats including case-based learning (CBL), excursions, peer learning, group exercises, and Action Plan development.

## Learning Objectives

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand climate science, global trends and localised climate impacts
- Conduct vulnerability and climate risk assessments using relevant tools
- Identify and design adaptation measures across key sectors
- Integrate adaptation, mitigation and resilience using CCD frameworks
- Develop a realistic Action Plan tailored to their context
- Strengthen cross-sector collaboration and professional networks.

## Course Content - Modules

### Phase I – Learning Programme activities in home country (online) – June-August 2026

Self-paced e-learning modules on Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation, Resilience; Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) (8-10 hours); and Human Rights-Based Approaches (HRBA) (2-3 hours). Total estimated time use 8-9 hours.

3 introductory Webinars and Action Plan topic submission.

These compulsory activities are a prerequisite for participating in Phase 2 in Denmark and will require a total of 2-3 workdays.

### Phase II – In Denmark 7-25 September 2026

Three weeks with face-to-face sessions, case-based learning, site-visits and Action Plan development. This phase is based on presentations and site visits related to climate change adaptation and resilience. The phase will be concluded with the participant's presentation of their Action Plans. This phase is intense with full-time sessions. The participant and their organisation should be aware that there is no time allocated in the schedule for other work assignments. Phase 2 includes the following thematics:

#### Climate Science & Risk Assessment

- Climate science foundations and scenarios
- Hazards, exposure and vulnerability
- Using climate data and tools
- Vulnerability and climate risk assessments
- Exercises using participants' home country datasets

#### Adaptation Options & Strategies

- Adaptation approaches in agriculture, water, urban and coastal systems
- Nature based Solutions (NbS) and Ecosystem based Adaptation (EbA)
- Community based DRR and local adaptation planning

#### Climate Finance

- Understanding adaptation finance
- Donor funding, insurance and blended finance
- Practical financing exercises

#### Action Planning & Organisational Change

- Theory of Change & stakeholder mapping
- Designing realistic Action Plans
- Peer feedback sessions with mentors
- Communication & change management.

### Phase III – Learning programme activities in home country – October-December 2026

- Action Plan implementation
- Follow-up webinars on key learning takeaways and Action Plan implementation
- Mentor sparring & surveys

Total estimated time use 6-8 hours plus Action Plan implementation time



## Learning Approach and Action Plan Development

The learning programme aims at inspiring participants to mainstream climate change considerations into their home organisation and the work it does. This will be achieved through a blend of training approaches, including compulsory e-learning activities before coming to Denmark, as well as the obligatory development and implementation of an Action Plan after the return.

During the stay in Denmark, the programme will include a number of keynote presentations. A major part of the programme will involve visits to public authorities, utilities, and private companies where technologies and practices addressing climate change can be experienced first-hand. The participants will work in groups to prepare for the visits by discussing and agreeing on learning goals. Following the visits, they will reflect on lessons learned and draw conclusions regarding the potential for implementing the ideas, concepts and technologies in their home organisations.

Also, while in Denmark, participants will prepare their **Action Plan** – individual or as a group – , supported by programme management and an assigned mentor. The Action Plan will address a challenge the participant will define in close coordination with the home organisation before going to Denmark. Action Plan activities include:

- Classroom sessions, cases and field visits
- Weekly peer learning & mind-mapping
- Draft Action Plan presentations in Week 3
- Mentor feedback and guidance

Post-course, participants are encouraged to implement their Action Plans in their home organisations, supported by follow-up webinars. Please note, that DFC will not provide any funds for the implementation of the Action Plan.



## Programme Manager and Key facilitators

- **Mrs. Annegrete Lausten**, NIRAS — Learning Programme manager & facilitator.
- **Mr. Henrik Borgtoft Pedersen**, NIRAS — Learning Programme Co-manager & facilitator.
- **Mr. Michael Juel**, NIRAS — Action Plan Manager.
- **Ms. Laura Schmid**, Consultant, NIRAS — Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessments.
- **Mrs. Sine Skov**, NIRAS — Organisational Change Management. Sparring Partner.
- **Ms Caroline Juel Fritzen**, NIRAS — Communication/Outreach, Climate resilient urban development
- **Mr. Lars Møller** — Climate adaptation, resilience and community-based disaster risk reduction
- **Dr. Jens Hesselbjerg Christensen**, Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen — Climate projections and scenarios
- **Mrs. Britt Pinkowski Tersbøl**, University of Copenhagen — Gender transformative CC Adaptation

## What is NIRAS?

NIRAS is one of the largest consulting engineering companies in Denmark and has over 3,000 employees. The company provides services within the fields of agriculture, forestry, environment, renewable energy, energy efficiency, climate change mitigation and adaptation, building and industry, civil works, social sciences and transport. NIRAS operates worldwide and has subsidiaries in several countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Europe. Further information at [www.niras.com](http://www.niras.com)

## What is Danida Fellowship Centre?

Danida Fellowship Centre (DFC) manages and implements the DFC Learning Programme, which provides learning opportunities in support of capacity building in Danish-supported development programmes and projects worldwide. DFC is responsible for the educational, administrative and logistical aspects of the learning programmes in Denmark, regionally and online. For more information, please refer to <https://dfcentre.com/>

## How to Apply?

Please note that it is not possible to apply directly to DFC for this programme. Applications must be submitted through our online application system: <https://dfcentre.smapply.io/>

Following the submission of your application, it will be reviewed and endorsed, if found relevant, by a Sector Counsellor or the respective Danish Embassy; the final selection of candidates for the learning programme will be carried out by DFC in collaboration with the Programme Manager.