

# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PLAN ADDENDUM 2025/26

Office of National Security

October 2024

**Part 1 - Introduction**

In September 2021, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released Climate Adaptation Action Plan which focuses Agency attention on priority adaptation actions it will take to fulfill EPA’s mission and increase human and ecosystem resilience even as the climate changes. Following the direction in this plan, EPA’s Office of Homeland Security (OHS), which is now called the Office of National Security (ONS), along with EPA’s major National Program and Regional Offices, released Climate Adaptation Implementation Plans in October 2022. In June of 2024, EPA updated its Climate Adaptation Action Plan. The following ONS Fiscal Year 2024 Priority Actions on Climate Adaptation (FY 24 Priority Actions) serve as an addendum to the EPA’s Office of Homeland Security’s Climate Adaptation Implementation Plan (2022 OHS CAIP).

**Part 2 – Priority Actions and FY 24 Commitments**

The remainder of this document covers the FY 25-26 Priority Actions. ONS added on priority action based on the importance of climate security being recognized across the government. ONS is removing its priority for the National Level Exercise, since it was completed in June 2024 and another priority on disseminating information on EPA’s role in recovery and mitigation because it was completed in FY24. ONS now has 4 priority actions for FY 25 and FY 26.

**ONS Priority Action 1**

<b>Title</b>		<b>Tracking EPA’s Involvement in Climate Security.</b>
<b>Description</b>	As the intelligence community (IC) and the national security community assesses the impacts of climate change, it has convened several committees to share information and deconflict agency actions. These committees include the Climate Security Working Group established by the National Security Council, the Climate Security Advisory Council established by the Office of the Director National Intelligence (ODNI)/National Intelligence Council (NIC) under the FY20 National Defense Authorization Act, and the Working Group on National Security (WGNS) established by the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP). Within EPA, ONS will work with the Office of Air and Radiation, the Office of Research and Development, the Office of International and Tribal Activities, and other offices as appropriate, to coordinate a common understanding of EPA’s role in climate security.	
<b>Lead</b>	ONS will facilitate EPA’s involvement in Climate Security meetings.	
<b>Timeframe</b>	ONS anticipates these meeting will continue throughout FY 24 and FY 25	
<b>Performance Metrics</b>	For FY 2025, ONS will track the number of meetings EPA attends involving climate security. For FY 2026, ONS will track the number of meetings EPA attends involving climate security.	

## ONS Priority Action 2

<b>Title</b>	<b>Working with other Federal agencies to include equity and nature-based solutions in their disaster mitigation and recovery efforts.</b>
<b>Description</b>	ONS represents EPA on the Recovery Support Function Leadership Group (RSFLG) and Mitigation Framework Leaders Group (MitFLG). As ONS coordinates with these Federal interagency groups, it will promote environmental protection efforts, such as environmental justice, improving stormwater management, nature-based/green infrastructures, estuary restoration and others. In particular, the RSFLG is currently re-writing the NDRF, which guides Federal disaster recovery management. EPA is assisting FEMA with its implementation of the Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act. This law requires FEMA to utilize a natural hazard risk assessment index to identify census tracts which are most at risk from the effects of natural hazards and climate change. EPA will continue to find ways to support such high-risk communities. ONS will ensure these revisions include necessary language to promote equity and climate change adaptation/climate resilience/future conditions.
<b>Lead</b>	ONS will represent EPA on the group re-writing the NDRF. ONS will consult, as necessary, EPA regional recovery coordinators and National Program contacts.
<b>Timeframe</b>	Re-writing the NDRF has commenced. A new NDRF to be in draft by November 2024.
<b>Performance Metrics</b>	For 2025, ONS will take part in 10 RSFLG and MitFLG meetings For 2026, ONS will take part in 10 RSFLG and MitFLG meetings For 2027, ONS will take part in 10 RSFLG and MitFLG meetings

## ONS Priority Action 3

<b>Title</b>	<b>Provide assistance to EPA regions to enhance disaster mitigation and recovery.</b>
<b>Description</b>	EPA's involvement in community-specific disaster mitigation and recovery efforts is generally led by the applicable EPA regional office. To facilitate this activity, Order 2074 established Regional Recovery and Disaster Mitigation Coordinators. ONS will work with these coordinators to enhance regional involvement in recovery and disaster mitigation efforts in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with AO Lead Region Coordinator to host monthly recovery and disaster mitigation conference calls.</li> <li>• Review training materials for regional personnel, including the need for additional training material.</li> <li>• Facilitate reporting of performance measures established under the EPA Strategic Plan.</li> <li>• Identify recent Presidentially Declared Disasters in region.</li> <li>• Promote environmental justice and nature-based solutions.</li> <li>• Promote the implementation of Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act.</li> </ul>
<b>Lead</b>	ONS with Regional Recovery and Disaster Mitigation Coordinators as well as National Program Offices.
<b>Timeframe</b>	Ongoing

<b>Performance Metrics</b>	<p>For FY 2025, host 10 meetings to enhance the capabilities of EPA's Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Regional Coordinators.</p> <p>For FY 2025, track the estimated number of hours EPA Regions spend on disaster recovery activities.</p> <p>For FY 2026, host 10 meetings to enhance the capabilities of EPA's Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Regional Coordinators.</p> <p>For FY 2026, track the estimated number of hours EPA Regions spend on disaster recovery activities.</p>
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#### ONS Priority Action 4

<b>Title</b>	<b>Tracking EPA's Involvement in Climate Security.</b>
<b>Description</b>	As the importance of climate security is being recognized across the government, the IC, led by the ODNI, and the National Intelligence Manager for Climate and Global Issues (NIM-CGI) have made it clear that climate security has evolved significantly in recent years and climate issues are an increasingly important part of intelligence analysis and assessment for national security and economic security, including military/defense posture, global health, effects of natural disasters and general environmental conditions that may cause migration of vulnerable populations, among other things. ONS will continue to review and explore opportunities for collaboration on intelligence products that have a climate component.
<b>Lead</b>	ONS will continue to engage with the IC and explore opportunities for collaboration on intelligence products that have a climate component.
<b>Timeframe</b>	ONS anticipates these engagements with the IC will continue throughout FY 25 and FY 26
<b>Performance Metrics</b>	<p>For FY 2025, ONS will track the number of engagements with the IC involving climate security.</p> <p>For FY 2026, ONS will track the number of engagements with the IC involving climate security.</p>

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