



8th International Adaptation Futures Conference (AF 2025)

Master Class on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Adaptation Evaluation

Wednesday, October 15th, 2025 | Christchurch, New Zealand

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM NZST (UTC +12)

Room: Exhibition Hall 4

Overview:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has the potential to transform the landscape of climate adaptation, offering new tools for data analysis, decision support, and evaluation. AI has the potential to significantly improve the quality and efficiency of evaluation processes. With the need and desire for adaptation finance and interventions to scale globally, robust evaluation is essential to ensure effectiveness, equity, and learning. The Technical Evaluation Reference Group of the Adaptation Fund (AF-TERG) together with the evaluation units of the other climate funds – CIFs, GCF and GEF - have been working together to explore both the promise and the challenges of integrating AI into evaluation work, emphasizing the need for responsible, ethical, and context-sensitive approaches.

This master class will take that joint work as a jump off point. It will focus on the cutting-edge application of AI tools for evaluating, and learning from adaptation projects. It aims to provide insights into how AI is transforming the landscape of climate adaptation assessment. By showcasing practical applications, highlighting current trends amongst major international development practitioners, and fostering critical discussions, this masterclass aims to empower participants with the ideas, resources, and connections to advance their own work.

Objective:

To strengthen the capacity of participants in the use of AI in evaluations to enable the efficient generation of robust and relevant evidence to inform more impactful climate change adaptation action.

Target audience:

Climate adaptation and development practitioners, policymakers, academia, knowledge institutions, civil society, and representatives from governments and funding agencies.

Facilitator:

Vladislav Arnaoudov, AF-TERG Secretariat Coordinator & Senior Evaluation Officer

Agenda:

Time	Session Segment
8:30 – 8:35 (5 mins)	Opening remarks and framing
8:35 – 9:00 (25 mins)	Presentation: “AI in Climate Adaptation Evaluations – State of Play and Future Directions”
9:00 – 9:15 (15 mins)	Demonstrating the use of AI Practical Applications of AI in Evaluations
9:15 – 9:50 (45 min)	Group Discussions Data challenge and use of AI in evaluations Ethical aspects and challenges
9:50 – 10:00 (10 mins)	Reflections & Closing Remarks