

# Monitoring progress on climate adaptation

July 2023

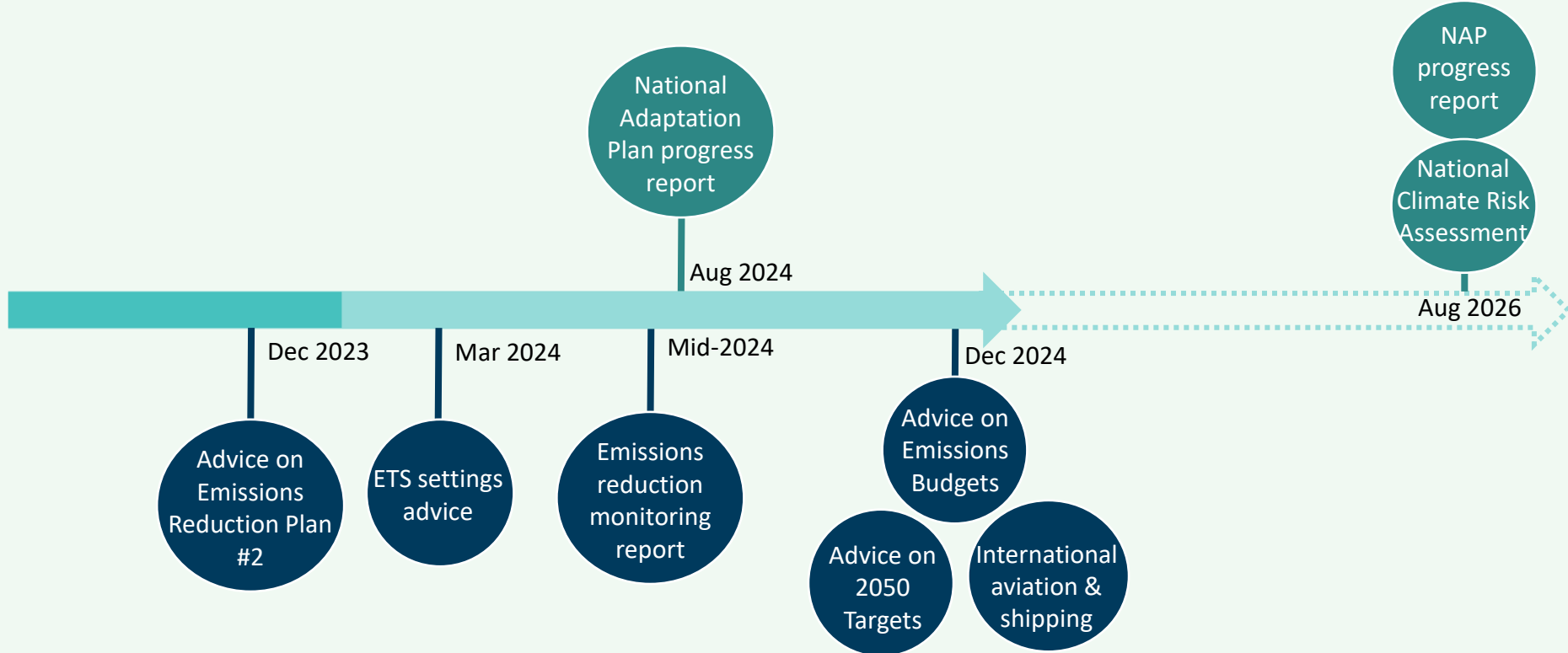
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Adaptation Manager

# The Climate Commission

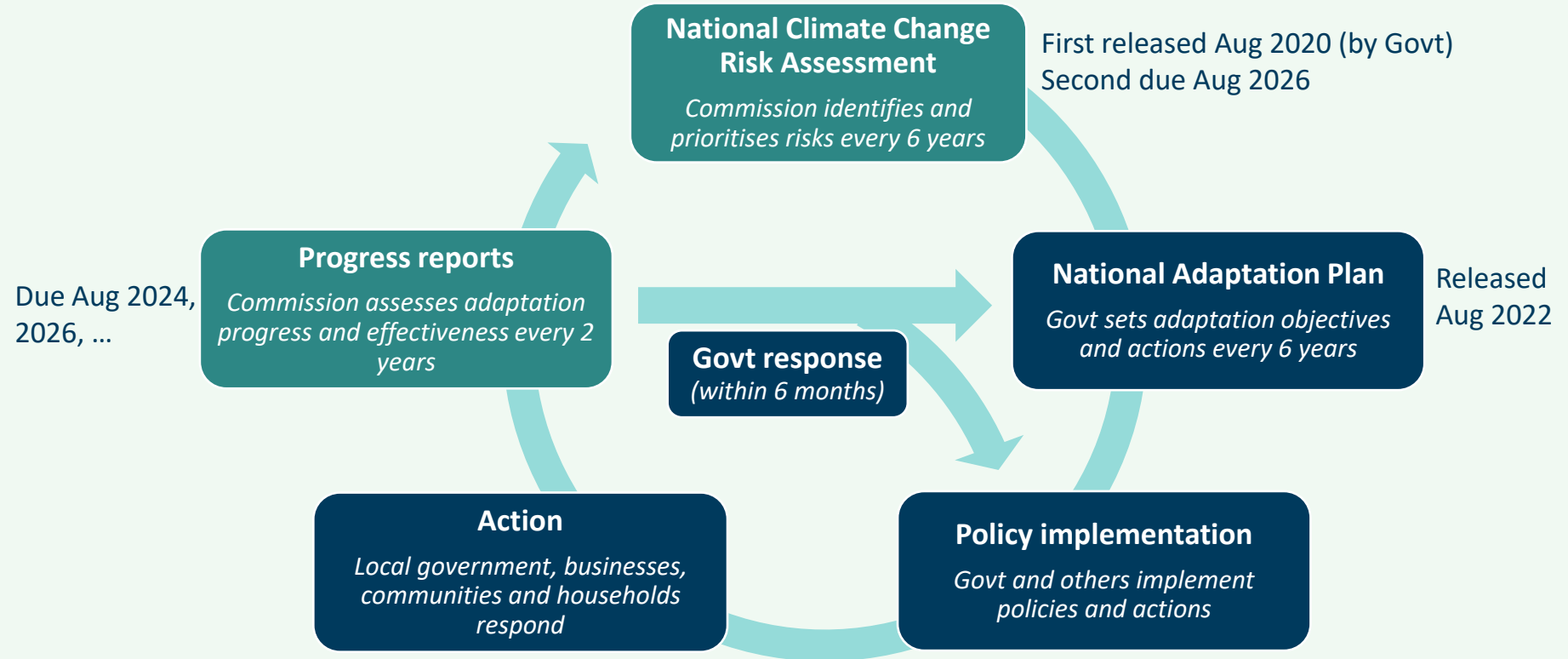
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- We were established under the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act in 2019
- We provide independent, evidence-based advice to Government
- We monitor the country's progress towards our climate change goals
- Our team are a group of experienced analysts and a board of 8 commissioners

# The Commission's statutory deadlines – next 18 months



# Climate adaptation policy cycle



# Assessing adaptation progress

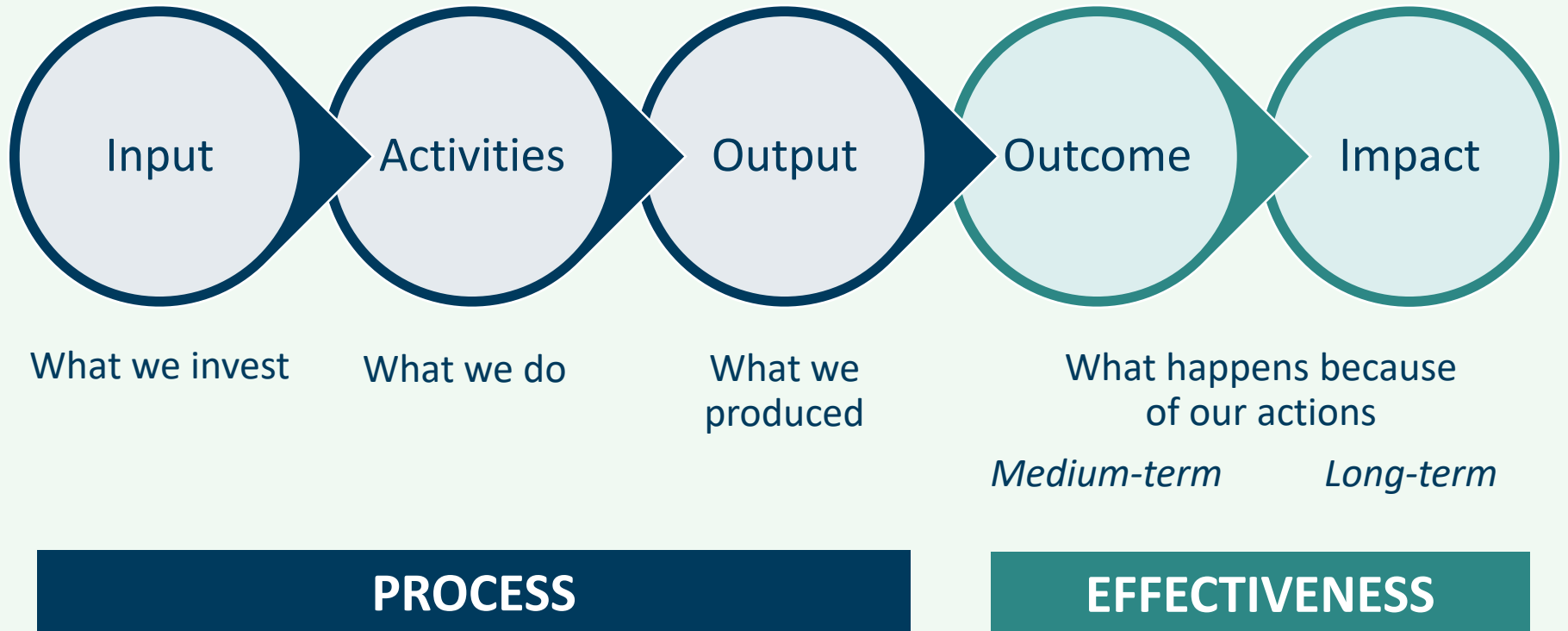
Progress assessments are important for supporting:

- Continual learning and improvement
- Accountability across the wider climate policy system

BUT they are complex:

- National level assessment, when adaptation is inherently local
- What is the adaptation goal?
- Data varies in quality, consistency and availability
- Qualitative information is important

# How do we assess if NZ is making meaningful progress?

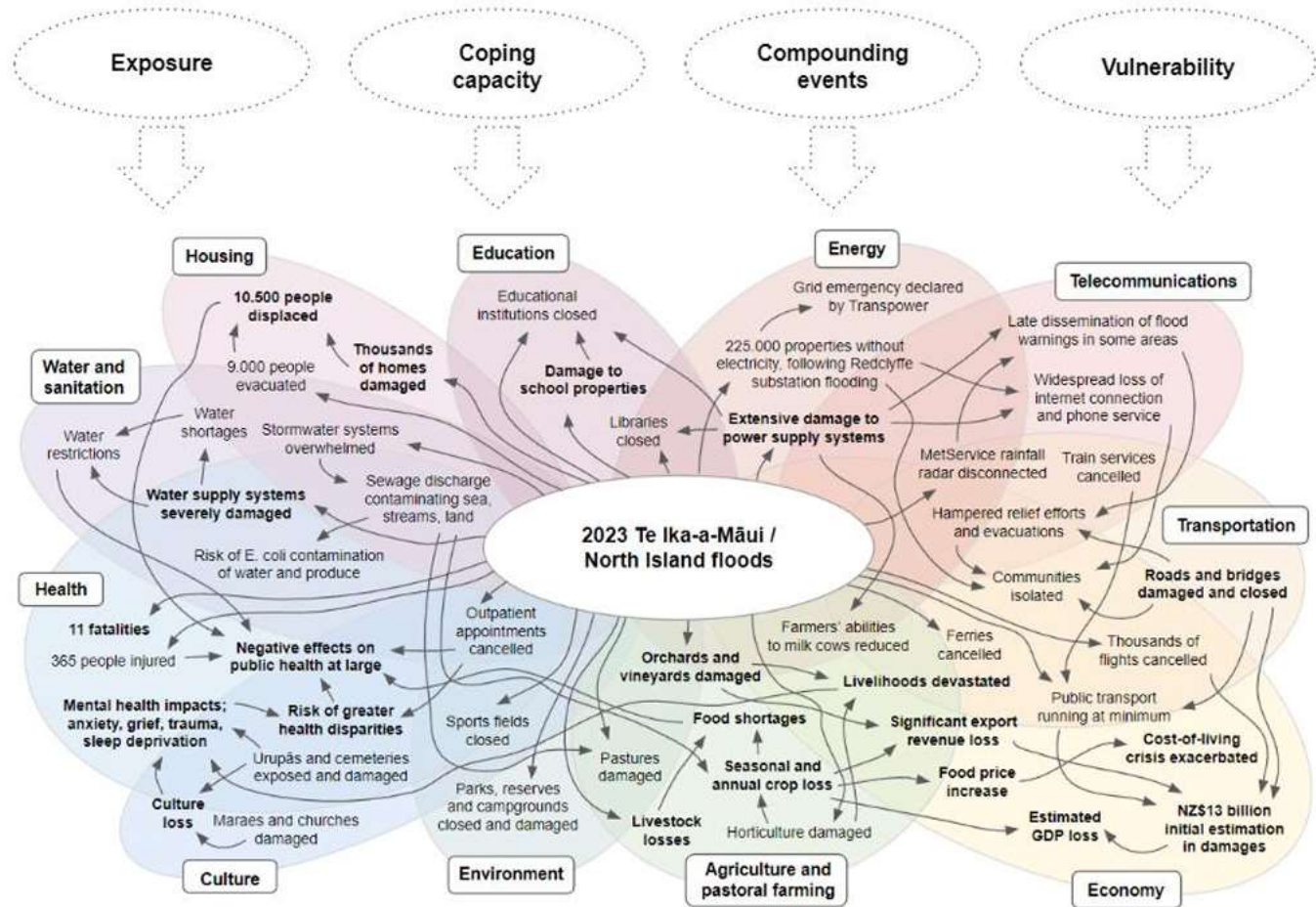


# The Commission's monitoring framework

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1. How likely is the National Adaptation Plan to achieve the necessary outcomes?
2. How well is implementation progressing?
3. Are we observing progress towards the necessary outcomes?

# How does public health and health equity fit in?



Source: Harrington et al. (2023). *The role of climate change in extreme rainfall associated with Cyclone Gabrielle over Aotearoa New Zealand's East Coast.*

Available from: <https://spiral.imperial.ac.uk/handle/10044/1/102624>



# How climate change impacts public health

## Human domain



- Risks to **social cohesion** and **community wellbeing** from displacement of individuals, families and communities
- Risks of **exacerbating existing inequities** and creating new and additional inequities
- Risks to **physical health** from exposure to storm events, heatwaves, vector-borne and zoonotic diseases, water availability and resource quality and accessibility
- Risks to **Māori social, cultural, spiritual and economic wellbeing** from loss and degradation of lands and waters, as well as cultural assets such as marae
- Risks to **Māori social, cultural, spiritual and economic wellbeing** from loss of species and biodiversity
- Risks to **mental health, identity, autonomy and sense of belonging and wellbeing**
- Opportunities for **lower cold weather-related mortality** due to warmer temperatures

# Public health and wellbeing actions in Govt's NAP

**Objective:** The health sector is prepared and can support vulnerable communities affected by climate change.

- **Action:** Develop the Health National Adaptation Plan
- **Action:** Assess healthcare service resilience
- **Supporting action:** Continue with the reform of the health and disability system

Public health and wellbeing outcomes are part of other objectives and actions

## Next steps...

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- Putting our monitoring framework into action
- When it comes to public health and climate adaptation:
  - What outcomes should we be focused on?
  - What gaps and barriers are there?
  - How can the Commission monitor in a way that is helpful for you?
  - What indicators will show if we are making progress?
  - What data is available to help with assessing progress?



# Thank you

Want to get in touch?  
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**He Pou a Rangi**  
Climate Change Commission