

Introduction of agenda item 4e

Report on the review of existing databases and clearing-house type mechanisms for national adaptation planning

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I: Background and context

- Building on discussions at 2nd Ac meeting, a review requested on existing databases and clearing house-type mechanisms
- AC-2 discussed desirable functions such as be one-stop-shop, flexible and dynamic management of the information, quality-controlled and verified, Easily accessible in all UN Languages.
- **Objectives:** to present a review of current information systems and databases that are hosted under the UNFCCC/Outside related to the NAPs to guide next steps in terms of whether to develop a new system or not.
- Review was approached by looking at key functions and how these are implemented by some sites – examples cited are not exhaustive, and mainly focused on the needs of national teams undertaking adaptation planning, as opposed to functions such as MRV of adaptation
- The scope of the key functions could be expanded to cover more topics



II. Brief summary

- **Multiple names:** Information system, portal, knowledge system, clearing house, database, etc. All considered
- **Useful to look at functions:** stocktaking of actions and projects; data gateway/access/bundling/visualization; Tutorials/information exchange/navigation; tracking of policies and plans (national/regional)
- **Most systems support regional networks/programmes, or independent efforts by adaptation researchers and practitioners**
- **No evidence of coordination between sites from different countries/regions; no clear standards or “certification”/”systematic screening of information” by multiple stakeholder groups**
- **Some reusable tools emerging**, such as for tagging information, searching remote databases, navigating
- **Obvious gaps:** overwhelming amounts of information, no clear structure for capturing “expert knowledge”, or guiding users to recommended “best” sources, no “joining/sharing” of data, no regular updates



III: Proposed next steps

- Agree on and issue general principles/guidelines/advice to developers of adaptation database and information systems
 - *Desirable functions*
 - *Interoperability (promote data sharing and a distributed/network approach)*
 - *Comparability (definitions of content)*
 - Issue surveys on information systems for adaptation
 - *to developers to garner information on sites and usage*
 - *to users, to better understand user needs*
 - *user profiles, and to evaluate utility of different types of information in practical terms*
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IV: Topics for further guidance

- Decide whether to partner with the LEG in producing NAP Central or to develop a separate system
 - *If yes, how to liaise with the LEG such as how and identify key additional elements to cater for all Non LDC?*
 - *If developing a new system, decide on next steps*

