IN THIS ONLINE GUIDE, YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT...

WARSAW INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM FOR LOSS AND DAMAGE

Executive Committee
Guiding the implementation of the functions of the Mechanism

- Technical arms of the Committee
- Workplan
- Paris mandates
HOW TO NAVIGATE

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COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Excom comprises 20 members, as follows:
- 10 members from Annex I Parties;
- 10 members from non-Annex I Parties, of which:
  - 2 members each from Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin American and Caribbean
  - 1 member from SIDS
  - 1 member from the LDCs
  - 2 additional members from non-Annex I Parties.

The current members of the Excom...
Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism

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As at July 2017
OVERVIEW

- SLOW ONSET EVENTS
- EXTREME EVENTS

- Drought
- Desertification
- Increasing temperatures
- Heatwave
- Glacial retreat
- Loss of biodiversity
- Tropical cyclone
- Storm surge
- Sea level rise
- Salinization
- Flood
- Ocean acidification

**ECONOMIC LOSSES**

- Income
- Physical assets

**NON-ECONOMIC LOSSES**

- Individuals
  - Life
  - Health
  - Human mobility
- Society
  - Cultural heritage
  - Indigenous knowledge
  - Societal/cultural identity
- Environment
  - Biodiversity
  - Ecosystem services
Impacts of climate change include slow onset events* and extreme weather events which may both result in loss and damage.

* As referred to in Decision 1/CP.16

** Those presented are examples
**NON-ECONOMIC LOSSES**

**ECONOMIC LOSSES**

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**Economic losses** can be understood as the loss of resources, goods and services that are commonly traded in markets.

**NON-ECONOMIC LOSSES**

**Non-economic losses** can be understood as the remainder of items that are not commonly traded in markets.

*Technical paper on non-economic losses, UNFCCC (2012)*
**MILESTONES**

### Initial technical work
- **COP 13** (2007): Consideration of means to address L&D launched
- **COP 16** (2010): Work programme on L&D established
- **COP 18** (2012): Role of the COP in addressing L&D agreed
- **COP 19** (2013): Warsaw International Mechanism & its Executive Committee established
- **COP 20** (2014): Workplan & organization of the Executive Committee approved
- **COP 21** (2015): Paris Agreement adopted
- **COP 22** (2016): Establishment of a clearing house for risk transfer & a task force on displacement mandated
- **COP 23** (2017): Warsaw International Mechanism reviewed
- **COP 24** (2018): 5-year rolling workplan approved
- **COP 25** (2019): Launch of a clearing house for risk transfer

### Implementation of the workplan of the Executive Committee
- **COP 13** (2007): Implementation of the workplan of the Executive Committee

### Implementation of workplan of the Task Force on Displacement
- **COP 13** (2007): Recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize & address displacement

**Next review of the Warsaw International Mechanism**
COP 16 (2010) established a work programme on loss and damage to:

• Consider approaches to address loss and damage, including impacts of extreme weather events and slow onset events in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable; and

• Strengthen international cooperation and expertise in order to understand and reduce loss and damage

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) undertook technical work in the areas of:

• Assessing the risk of loss and damage;

• A range of approaches;

• The role of the Convention.

More on the technical work under the work programme
Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

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The Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM) is the main vehicle in the UNFCCC process to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, in a comprehensive, integrated and coherent manner.

The WIM will, inter alia:
- Facilitate support of action to address loss and damage;
- Improve coordination;
- Convene meetings;
- Promote the development of, and compile, analyse, synthesize and review information;
- Provide technical guidance and support;
- Make recommendations.

Decision 2/CP.19, paras. 1 and 7
The implementation of the functions of the WIM are guided by the Executive Committee of the Mechanism.

- Enhancing knowledge and understanding of comprehensive risk management approaches
- Strengthening dialogue, coordination, coherence and synergies among relevant stakeholders
- Enhancing action and support, incl., finance, technology and capacity-building
The Paris Agreement recognizes the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage.

Overarching areas of cooperation and facilitation to enhance understanding, action and support:

- Early warning systems
- Emergency preparedness
- Slow onset events
- Events that may involve irreversible and permanent loss and damage
- Comprehensive risk assessment and management
- Risk insurance facilities, climate risk pooling and other insurance solutions
- Non-economic losses
- Resilience of communities, livelihoods and ecosystems

**Decision 1/CP. 21**, Paris Agreement, Art. 8
PARIS MANDATES

COP 21 in Paris requested the Excom to establish:

- A **clearing house for risk transfer** that serves as a repository for information on insurance and risk transfer, in order to facilitate the efforts of Parties to develop and implement comprehensive risk management strategies.

- A **task force** to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement, related to the adverse impacts of climate change.
  - The Task Force is to complement, draw upon the work of and involve, as appropriate, existing bodies and expert groups under the Convention including the Adaptation Committee and the LDC Expert Group, as well as relevant organizations and expert bodies outside the Convention.

[Decision 1/CP.21](#), paras. 48 and 49
About the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism

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COP19 (2013) established the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (Excom) in order to guide the implementation of the functions of the Mechanism.

The Excom meets at least twice a year, and reports annually to the COP.
The Excom comprises 20 members, as follows:

- 10 members from **Annex I Parties**;
- 10 members from **non-Annex I Parties**, of which:
  - 2 members each from Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin American and Caribbean
  - 1 member from small island developing States
  - 1 member from the least developed countries (LDCs)
  - 2 additional members from non-Annex I Parties.
TECHNICAL ARMS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Excom may establish expert groups, subcommittees, panels, thematic advisory groups or task-focused ad hoc working groups, to help execute the work of the Excom in guiding the implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism, as appropriate, in an advisory role, and that report to the Excom.  

Decision 2/CP.20, para. 8

The Excom has established the following substructures:

• **Expert group on non-economic losses** to develop inputs and recommendations to enhance data on and knowledge of reducing the risk of and addressing non-economic losses

• **Technical expert group on comprehensive risk management and transformational approaches** to provide technical support and guidance

• **Task force on displacement** to develop recommendations for integrated approaches to avert, minimize and address displacement related to the adverse impacts of climate change.
COP 20 (2014) approved the initial two-year workplan of the Excom.

The initial two-year workplan comprises 9 Action Areas, associated activities and expected results.

The initial two-year workplan
ACTION AREAS OF THE INITIAL TWO-YEAR WORKPLAN

AA1 | Particularly vulnerable developing countries, populations, ecosystems
AA2 | Comprehensive risk management approaches
AA3 | Slow onset events
AA4 | Non-economic losses
AA5 | Resilience, recovery & rehabilitation
AA6 | Migration, displacement & human mobility
AA7 | Financial instruments & tools
AA8 | Complement, draw upon the work of and involve other bodies
AA9 | Development of a 5-year rolling workplan
COP 22 (2016) approved the framework for the five-year rolling workplan of the Excom as the basis for developing corresponding activities, starting at the first meeting of the Excom in 2017.

The COP also requested the Excom to include relevant work for advancing the operationalization of Paris mandates: a task force for displacement and a clearing house for risk transfer.

Decision 3/CP.22, para. 3
Decision 1/CP.21, paras. 48 and 49
Excom Report to COP22, incl. the indicative framework
COP 22 review provided further guidance relevant to enhancing and strengthening the WIM, and recommended a process for periodic review.

The new review will be held 2019.

The COP requested the secretariat, as an input to the 2019 review, to prepare a technical paper elaborating the sources of financial support, as provided through the Financial Mechanism (FM) and outside of the FM for addressing loss and damage as described in relevant decisions, as well as modalities for accessing such support.
COP 22 recommended that the Excom invite interested Parties to establish a Loss and Damage contact point to enhance the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage at the national level.
DOCUMENTS

- Relevant decisions and conclusions
- Reports of the Excom to the COP
- Synopsis series on technical work
- Collaboration and outreach