

# **UNFCCC Expert Meeting**

**Range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather and slow onset events**

**27-29 August  
Bangkok, Thailand**

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# Session 1:

## Framing of the discussion

- SREX: Exposure to adverse effects of climate change as well as potential for loss and damage is significant in Asia (for both slow onset and extreme events)
- **Literature review:**
  - Addressing loss and damage requires **understanding of events** (hazards), **exposure** (population and assets), and **underlying processes** (vulnerability)
  - **Ongoing, sustained, integrated and standardized approaches** to address loss and damage are either non-existent or insignificant
  - Choosing **right combination of approaches** to loss and damage assessment requires understanding of different impacts at different levels, and what kinds of tools are available

# Session 2:

## Approaches to address slow onset events

- **Diversity of impacts exposing Asian region;** interaction of SOE and extreme events; tipping elements (Eg. GLOFs)
- **Shared experience:**
  - Context specific (Eg. Urban versus rural)
  - Challenges cross-sectoral, **impacts already happening but will intensify over time**
  - Tangible versus intangible
- **Priorities:**
  - **Transboundary cooperation** and replication
  - Strengthen decision making
  - Capacity building
  - **Assessment of potential loss and damage** is essential first step
  - Communication **with relevant stakeholders** and subsequent adaptation
  - Developing specific methods and technologies including revival and protection of **traditional and indigenous knowledge**
  - **Tools based on needs of community**, provide incentives for wider resilience

# Session 3:

## Approaches at local and subnational level

- **Priorities:**
  - Capacity to manage issues at local level (Eg. Capitalization)
  - **Supply must meet demand** (target to needs)
  - Ensure **participation of local actors**
  - **Learning** (from failures) and **upscaling** successfully implemented pilot projects
  - **Private/public partnerships** (and those between other stakeholders including CBOs and NGOs)
  - **Effective and appropriate communication** in end user's language
  - **Delivery to vulnerable strata** for informed decision making
  - Sustainable approaches (not *ad hoc*)
  - Target benefits including delivery

# Session 4:

## Approaches at national level

### Risk prevention/Adaptation measures

- **Linkage and integration** (top down and bottom up)
- **Uncertainty in decision making is not an excuse for inaction**
- Need for more **education/information** (forecasting)
- Understand, work with and integrate **knowledge lifecycle**
- Need to **move from predicting future solely based on past trends**
- But, **enough information to get started**

# Session 4:

## Approaches at national level

### Risk transfer

- Profound experience in the Asian region
- **Insurance approaches not stand alone solution** but one tool
- **Public social safety net** to cater for vulnerable people
- Creating risk analysis, institutional and regulatory framework has **benefits for wider adaptation agenda**
- **Priorities:**
  - Standardised approaches, development of regulatory frameworks, aligning risk transfer with climate resilient objectives
  - **Right partnerships** between public and private sector are key challenge
  - **Combination of approaches**, including DRR and resilience
  - National fund approach need further exploration

# Session 4:

## Approaches at national level

### Institutions and governance

- **Cross-ministerial coordination**
- Involvement and safeguarding of local level institutions
- Creation and communication of **data relevant to end users**
- Importance of **multi-stakeholder participation** including vulnerable groups
- Loss and damage may represent **new challenge for institutional arrangements**
- **Linkages and use of synergies between DRR,CCA and loss and damage**
- Provide understanding of roles and capacities

# Session 5:

## Approaches at the regional and international level

- **Priorities:**

- Regional cooperation sometimes based on ecosystem classes or at river basin level
- Sharing assessment information to inform national and transboundary decision making
- Using regional capacities (sharing expertise, experience, data, networks). This is also a gap in some areas of Asia.

- **Experience:**

- Many experiences with projects from int'l and regional finance institutions
- Some political obstacles to regional cooperation in Asia
- Mekong River Commission, other examples of regional cooperation on specific issues



# Session 5: Approaches at the regional and international level

- **Gaps:**
  - **Links between expert networks limited** (obstacle for creating synergies, e.g. each country does their own approach w/o coordination regionally)
  - Frameworks, legislation and regulations not harmonized in region
  - Capacity bottlenecks, limited understanding of or unrealistic expectations of different approaches to address loss and damage
- **Actions:**
  - Use of regional platform accounts for networks of regional organizations (link and build upon existing platforms that act in concert at the regional level)
  - Cases for international cooperation like establishing or fortifying regional platforms to address loss and damage

# Observations

- Acknowledge **specific issues and need for approaches to address loss and damage to slow onset events**
  - Substantial discussions on slow onset events
- Loss and damage is a **separate - but related to - adaptation**
  - Vagueness about definition of loss damage but emerging context of discussions
  - Different issues and approaches
- Loss and damage **depends on extent of mitigation and adaptation**
- **Synergies and linkages** (adaptation and mitigation) and question of institutional change
- Need to go **beyond adaptation** to address residual risk