



Working paper No. 2/Add.1 (2005)

Summary of the informal workshop on the SBSTA programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation. Specific activities.

Scope

1. This document includes a list of specific activities as discussed at an informal workshop (Bonn, Germany, from 17 to 19 October 2005) on developing the five-year programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. This paper is an addendum to the Working paper No. 2 (2005)¹ containing summary information on a general common understanding on the main elements of the programme of work which emerged during the discussion at the workshop.

2. The list presented below is not an exhaustive list of all specific activities mentioned by the participants of the workshop – it was prepared by the secretariat with the guidance of the co-facilitators and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) on the basis of the discussion, taking into account that the activities should be in line with the mandate of the SBSTA and guided by the requirements mentioned in paragraph 6 of the Working paper No. 2 (2005). The allocation of the activities under the sub-themes presents an understanding of the co-facilitators and the Chair of this matter. For each specific activity, the examples of possible modalities are provided; in addition the output from the regional workshops mandated as per paragraph 8 of decision 1/CP.10 could be used as input for the specific activities, where relevant. Not all modalities mentioned at the workshop, as listed in paragraph 11 of the Working paper No. 2 (2005), have been attached to the activities specified. The list was compiled also with the understanding that for each activity the specific target audience, as well as possible counterparts would be clearly identified, and that after the consideration of the results of the activities, the follow-up actions would be identified by the SBSTA.

Specific activities

Thematic area: A. Impacts and vulnerability

3. *Sub theme A (i).* Promoting development and dissemination of methodologies for impact and vulnerability assessments and sharing of experiences and lessons learned from undertaking such assessments.

4. Specific activities:

- Analysis of available ways and means for dissemination of information on methodologies, including analysis of the needs, possible ways and feasibility of further development of the UNFCCC Compendium on methods and tools. *Possible modalities:* submissions from Parties, organisations and developers based on a questionnaire. Synthesis of the information by the secretariat.
- Analysis of opportunities and agents for promoting development of methodologies for impact and vulnerability assessment. *Possible modalities:* an expert meeting with participation of relevant bodies and organisations organised by the secretariat under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA.

¹ <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/methodologies_for/vulnerability_and_adaptation/items/3509.php>.

- Sharing experiences and lessons learned on using methodologies on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation assessments, including Participatory Rapid Integrated Assessment of Vulnerability and Adaptation (PRIVA). *Possible modalities:* synthesis of information by the secretariat. Input from the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) and the Consultative Group of Experts (CGE). Workshop(s).
5. *Sub theme A (ii).* Improving access to high quality data and information on current climatic variability and likely future climate variability and change including extreme events.
6. Specific activities:
- Promoting implementation of the GCOS Implementation Plan² as it relates to the supply of data and information for vulnerability and adaptation assessment. *Possible modalities:* submission of information by relevant organisations. Synthesis by the secretariat.
 - Analysis of means of improving the availability of high quality climate change modelling and downscaling data to policy-makers at all levels. *Possible modalities:* an expert meeting with participation of relevant international organisations, modelling centers, and relevant regional and national agencies organised by the secretariat under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA to develop options for consideration by the SBSTA. Inviting input from CGE and LEG.
7. *Sub theme A (iii).* Promoting understanding of climate risks, key impacts, vulnerabilities and thresholds of climate change, in particular with regard to sea level rise, water, agriculture, health, energy, ecosystems and infrastructure.
8. Specific activities:
- Informing SBSTA on recent scientific findings about possible thresholds, including information on possible abrupt events. *Possible modalities:* Consideration of the findings of the Fourth Assessment Report of the IPCC. SBSTA special event(s).³
 - Sharing of approaches to improve understanding and communicating of key climate change impacts and risks as relate to sea level rise, water, agriculture, health, energy, ecosystems and infrastructure. *Possible modalities:* workshop(s) with participation of organisations and institutions relevant to the particular sectors.
9. *Sub theme A (iv).* Improving availability of socio-economic information on vulnerable sectors and on the socio-economic impacts of climate change.
10. Specific activities:
- A stock-take on what socio-economic information is needed for vulnerability assessment, and how the access to it can be improved. *Possible modalities:* submissions from Parties based on questionnaires. Synthesis by the secretariat.

Thematic area B. Adaptation, planning, measures and actions

11. *Sub theme B (i).* Promoting the development and disseminating of tools for analysis, decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of adaptation planning, measures and actions.

² <[http://www.wmo.ch/web/gcos/Implementation_Plan_\(GCOS\).pdf](http://www.wmo.ch/web/gcos/Implementation_Plan_(GCOS).pdf)>.

³ Here and hereafter, “the SBSTA special event” refers to a meeting conducted in the margins of a SBSTA session, e.g. the special UNFCCC side event, in-sessional or pre-sessional workshop, etc.

12. Specific activities:

- Analysis of availability of and information on tools for analysis, decision-making, monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness of adaptation planning, measures and actions (including that contained in the UNFCCC Compendium on methods and tools⁴). *Possible modalities:* Synthesis by an Ad Hoc Group of Expert of limited term for this specific task.

13. *Sub theme B (ii)*. Collecting and disseminating lessons learned from current practice, practical adaptation actions, and short and long-term adaptation strategies.

14. Specific activities:

- Analysis of the need and feasibility of developing a web-based interface for disseminating of information on existing experiences and case studies on adaptation planning, measures and actions, taking into account existing sectoral, national and other relevant databases and information sources. *Possible modalities:* feasibility study by the secretariat under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA in consultation with invited experts and relevant organisations. Invite input from LEG.
- Providing forum for exchange of information with relevant communities, in particular with sectoral, and disaster risk reduction and management communities. *Possible modalities:* workshop or a special SBSTA event with participation of practitioners and relevant organisations.

15. *Sub theme B (iii)*. Promoting research on adaptation solutions and the development and diffusion of technologies, know-how and practices for adaptation, including local and indigenous knowledge.

16. Specific activities:

- Analysis of opportunities and agents for promoting research and development on adaptation solutions. *Possible modalities:* encourage and use related output from the SBSTA work on research needs under the Convention. SBSTA special event with participation of relevant international research organisations and bodies. Synthesis of information by the secretariat.
- Encourage work on different aspects of technologies and know-how on adaptation, including early warning systems, and taking into account local and indigenous knowledge. *Possible modalities:* EGTT can be invited to take the lead on the work on technologies on adaptation and provide report to the SBSTA. Input from the LEG can be invited on the work on local and indigenous knowledge.

17. *Sub theme B (iv)*. Promoting cooperation among Parties, relevant organizations, business and civil society aimed at assisting countries in enhancing their resilience and managing climate change risks, giving priority to the most vulnerable countries.

⁴ <http://unfccc.int/adaptation/methodologies_for/vulnerability_and_adaptation/items/2674.php>.

18. Specific activities:

- Analysis of possibilities of, and a means for, cooperation among Parties and other relevant actors on managing climate change risks and impacts, in particular in the areas specified under sub-theme (iii). *Possible modalities:* workshop(s) or an expert meeting with relevant organisations organised by the secretariat. Synthesis and options paper prepared by an Ad Hoc limited term sectoral expert group.

Thematic area C. Integration

19. *Sub theme C (i).* Enhancing synergy and complementarities between actions to adapt to climate change with other sustainable development objectives.

20. Specific activities:

- Providing forum for exchange of information between international organisations, UN Conventions and other relevant actors on the activities relating to the programme of work. *Possible modalities:* in-session workshop or/and SBSTA special events.
- Analysis of opportunities, sharing of experiences and lesson learned (including from pilot projects on adaptation) relating to addressing climate change threats to sustainable development objectives, in particular in the areas identified in the sub-theme A (iii). *Possible modalities:* Submissions from Parties. SBSTA special side event.
