



### **NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**

#### **ON IMPACTS, VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Promoting understanding and the development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools including for economic diversification aimed at increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, especially for relevant categories of countries listed in Article 4, paragraph 8, of the Convention**

#### **GAP/NEED TO WHICH ACTION IS RESPONDING**

Economic diversification in the context of climate change is a strategy for risk reduction that aims to lessen exposure and increase options for adaptation to climate change by vulnerable countries. The economies of developing countries that are vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change are often heavily dependent on the primary sector, especially the agriculture sector, which is greatly affected by climate change. Increasing the potential of these countries to diversify economic activities requires, among other things, education; better access to vocational training for vulnerable populations; development of new skills and practices in relevant sectors (e.g. agriculture and fisheries); and development of new economic sectors (e.g. food processing and manufacturing).

Low levels of economic resilience to climate change in developing countries are exacerbated by factors that include weak institutional capacity, a poorly developed internal market, insufficient business and financial management skills, negative impacts of the globalized economy and reliance on a limited economic sector. Integrated approaches are required that take into account the multiple social, economic and environmental factors contributing to developing countries' vulnerability.

Enhancing economic resilience is critical at the community level, where climate change impacts are felt considerably. The lack of relevant information at this level is a major gap that leads to inadequate understanding by local people and other stakeholders of climate change impacts and adaptation options, including resilience measures.

To ensure the inclusion of marginal and vulnerable groups, it is important to communicate information in a locally appropriate manner, which includes using local languages. Women in some communities face difficulties in accessing education and training opportunities (including for business planning and financial literacy), assessing business opportunities or becoming involved in land ownership. Addressing these difficulties requires gender-specific resource allocation at multiple levels and facilitation of increased participation of women in decision-making and governance.

#### **NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE**

To assist all Parties, in particular developing countries including the least developed countries and small island developing States, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, and to make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socioeconomic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.

**Call for Action 09 – December 2009**

<http://unfccc.int/nwp>

**Pledge action or tell us about related work: [nwp@unfccc.int](mailto:nwp@unfccc.int)**

## ACTIVITIES

The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) has requested the secretariat to strive to engage a wide range of organizations, institutions, experts and communities in the implementation of the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The SBSTA has also encouraged relevant organizations and other stakeholders to develop specific activities at the national and regional levels in support of the objective and expected outcomes of the Nairobi work programme identified in decision 2/CP.11, and to share outcomes of these activities with the SBSTA at subsequent sessions, as appropriate.<sup>2</sup>

Activities identified under the focus area of **economic diversification** include:

### **Developing options to build economic resilience to climate change, including through:**

- Promoting multi-stakeholder participation;
- Identifying investment opportunities for alternative businesses and livelihoods, as well as markets for new products and services;
- Promoting the integration of socio-economic concerns into national development plans;
- Developing effective tools and processes to facilitate the incorporation of indigenous and local knowledge into decision-making at all levels;
- Further developing mechanisms for cost-benefit assessment of adaptation measures, including co-benefits of economic diversification options.

### **Strengthening economic resilience in vulnerable sectors at the community level, including through:**

- Providing information on alternative employment and livelihood programmes to broaden skills and retrain workers;
- Developing training materials on financial tools and mechanisms;
- Identifying mechanisms to link appropriate risk transfer tools (such as microinsurance) with existing social protection measures;
- Incentivizing the involvement of the private sector, including insurance companies, to facilitate resource (including technological and financial) transfer.

### **Promoting documentation and dissemination of good practices, measures and tools, including through:**

- Developing a 'case study library' of successful tools, good practices and lessons learned, including indigenous and local knowledge;
- Enhancing the engagement of existing knowledge networks, including non-governmental organizations, to reach community-level stakeholders, and ensuring communication materials are presented in an accessible, relevant and practical way.

### **Strengthening the institutional and technical capacity for economic risk management, including through:**

- Enhancing the effectiveness and adequacy of early warning systems;
- Creating vulnerability and resilience indices;
- Increasing the availability of climatic and non-climatic data.

### **Strengthening existing modalities for regional and international cooperation.**

The secretariat prepares calls for action following guidance from the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice. Calls for action aim to facilitate the implementation of recommendations resulting from the Nairobi work programme by a wide range of stakeholders. This call for action is derived from the report on the technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, held in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 30 April 2009. Details of related ongoing work are available at <<http://unfccc.int/4430.php>>.

<sup>2</sup> FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 30.