



Facilitator of the Nairobi Work Programme

c/o: UNFCCC Secretariat  
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Subject        **Inputs to Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) on matters relating to proposals for upcoming activities under the Nairobi Work Programme, taking into consideration the information included in the annex, as referred to in document FCCC/SBSTA/2011/L.13, paragraph 10 and Annex.**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) thanks the SBSTA for the opportunity to comment on the direction of the important work of the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP).

UNDP recognizes the value of the NWP and the importance of its focus on supporting all Parties, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and to make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change. In the context of the Cancun Agreements and the initiation of a number of institutional arrangements around the issue of Adaptation, particularly the Adaptation Framework, the Adaptation Committee, and the introduction of National Adaptation Plans, the activities under the NWP continue to be essential in grounding discussions and decisions on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation on a sound scientific, technical and socio-economic basis.

Overall, UNDP recommends to strengthen the NWP's focus on the links between climate change adaptation and development, particularly bringing in other relevant cross-cutting issues including poverty eradication and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The NWP offers an opportunity to engage the Parties and the broader adaptation community to identify, analyse, and measure the increasingly important relationship between adaptation and development, and bring out the socio-economic and cultural components of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation. The NWP efforts could include identifying key indicators and monitoring and evaluation guidelines for adaptation interventions with regards to development priorities (including MDGs).

With regards to the potential activities outlined in the Annex of document FCCC/SBSTA/2011/L.13, UNDP supports the suggestions as relevant to the needs identified by countries. The four key substantive areas highlighted in this list of potential activities are: indigenous knowledge and gender-sensitive approaches, sector-specific and cross-sectoral activities, climate data and scenarios, and economic aspects of adaptation.

In response to the first substantive focus area, UNDP has and will continue to support governments to prepare gender sensitive adaptation policy and programmes, through capacity building, awareness raising and technical advice. Addressing the gender dimensions of climate change is seen as an integral part of all UNDP's activities that support the implementation of the NWP. As such, given the wealth of knowledge available within marginalized communities and individuals, we wish to further emphasize the importance of incorporating both indigenous knowledge and gender dimensions into all activities of the NWP.

UNDP would also emphasize the need for more information on cross-sectoral and multi-sectoral activities, given the cross-cutting nature of climate change and the need to coordinate across sectoral areas. To support this aim, the activities the NWP will pursue on both sector-specific and cross-sectoral issues should incorporate information and approaches that are accessible to all experts and practitioners, regardless of their sectoral focus.

The mechanisms used to carry out these substantive activities, i.e., approaches, methods and tools, good practice and knowledge products, and training of trainers, are all appropriate and relevant under the NWP mandate. With this in mind, and based on UNDP's experience working in developing countries, we wish to highlight the need to focus all information, methods and tools, and particularly knowledge products, on the practical needs and realistic contexts of countries. This can be supported through active identification and assessment of country demands around knowledge and information.

In addition, UNDP supports the use of existing knowledge platforms and is prepared to engage through the work of the Adaptation Learning Mechanism (ALM)<sup>1</sup>. Given its long-standing role in facilitating online knowledge sharing and learning on adaptation, and a wealth of adaptation resources accumulated over the past 4-5 years, the ALM represents a great opportunity for the NWP to dovetail its planned expansion of online presence and activities.

Finally, UNDP supports the need to identify and optimize synergies between the NWP and the agreed Cancun Adaptation Framework, Adaptation Committee and National Adaptation

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.adaptationlearning.net>

Plans. Given the components of the Cancun Adaptation Framework, there are several opportunities for NWP to engage and provide a mechanism for organizing work -- particularly around assessments, research, data, information and knowledge systems, education and public awareness. In addition, there is an opportunity for the NWP to support the entire scope of areas under the Adaptaiton Framework, by providing both substantive technical support, as well as facilitating knowledge dissemination and sharing of good practices, for the other areas of the framework as well. As such, UNDP would suggest further aligning the activities of the NWP to the areas of the Adaptation Framework and explore opportunities to support the evolving Adaptation Committee.

UNDP strongly supports the importance and added value of the continued efforts of the NWP and its engagement of relevant organizations, vulnerable communities, and groups, particularly those from developing countries, including the LDCs and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Through UNDP's extensive experience, knowledge, and expertise, it stands ready to support the activities of the NWP and support its alignment with the emerging Adaptation architecture under the Cancun Agreements.