



March 28, 2011

Submission by the World Federation of Engineering Organizations on the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (SBSTA)

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations is pleased to submit our suggestions for NWP engagement communications and promotional activities that would be supportive by the NWP Secretariat in partnership with NWP Partners. We believe there is an under-utilized resource of people, resources and results from the NWP Partners whose work needs to be communicated effectively to decision-makers and end-users at a more local level where adaptation is ultimately implemented. Our challenge and opportunity is to effectively disseminate this information to this wider community that includes not only the UNFCCC and its various committees, but also to the member countries and their communities that could make good use of these findings in a localized and effective manner.

Our suggestions are listed as follows:

- The Secretariat, with the assistance of NWP Partners, should develop a list of contacts and organizations at the state local and community level that are responsible for the planning, design, operation and management of community resources including infrastructure, eco-systems, watersheds and so forth. This will provide NWP with an "end user" community of contacts to which engagement, communications and promotional activities can be directed.
- Organize webinars between focal point meetings that present and highlight the work of NWP Partners working in the country or region where the webinar is delivered. The target audiences should include the end-users but should also include, as appropriate, people and organizations that may deliver these services (i.e. local consultants) to the end users;
- Sponsor or endorse conferences, workshops, seminars or side events of member states holding their own events that will elevate the NWP "brand". This could include providing advice and support to local organizers for potential speakers and trainers from the NWP partners on subjects relevant to the event
- Since adaptation is implemented at the regional or community level, we suggest the NWP invite selected communities to present their needs, issues and concerns as well as their adaptation practices to forums where policy-makers are the target audience. This bottom-up approach would foster more informed policy-making and resource allocation at national and international levels.
- For future UNFCCC meetings, the NWP should develop and set up a dedicated information booth and invite partners to participate, perhaps on a rotating basis, over the time of the meeting. Furthermore, the NWP should consider organizing its own set of side events with the active participation of NWP partners and, if necessary, secure a dedicated area within the conference footprint to hold such events.

- The NWP should commence and facilitate an ongoing discussion of adaptation needs with NWP Partners that require climate science support so that the climate community develops a full appreciation of these needs. This discussion could also be extended to the regional and local end users with the help of NWP partners.

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations would be pleased to further discuss these ideas and participate in their implementation as appropriate, working in partnership with the NWP Secretariat, other NWP Partners and member countries.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input. The World Federation of Engineering Organizations remains very much committed to implementing our Action Pledge and to be an active contributor to the important work of the Nairobi Work Program.