

THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**1 METHODS AND TOOLS**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT DOES METHODS AND TOOLS REFER TO IN THE
CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

Work area 1 promotes development and dissemination of methods and tools for climate change impact and vulnerability assessment, and assessment and evaluation of adaptation options and actions. Identified needs include improved capacity for application of methods and tools at national and regional level and in and across different sectors. Engaging organizations and Parties in the development, dissemination and application of methods and tools is one of the priorities of the Nairobi work programme.

Methods and tools can be overarching, generic, and methodological frameworks that facilitate the entire assessment, planning, and evaluation process, or they can be specific techniques or tools for a specific task. Integrated assessments are a useful way to comprehensively assess social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change, accounting for the interaction between climate change and other processes.

HOW DO METHODS AND TOOLS CONTRIBUTE TO
THE EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in work area 1 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to develop and apply methods and tools for assessments, planning and implementation. The work area can assist stakeholders disseminate existing and emerging methods and tools. It can facilitate the sharing of experiences and lessons learned, such as those related to the evaluation of climate change impacts and adaptation, and the costs and benefits thereof.



METHODS AND TOOLS

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes:

- Submissions by governments and organizations to the UNFCCC secretariat on related activities and applications;
- A synthesis report based on submissions;
- An expert meeting in Mexico City, March 2008.

Additional activities mandated during 2008 – 2010 include:

- Development of an interactive, user-friendly web resource to help governments and organizations access and understand the methods and tools available;
- Consideration of relevant issues from this work area, along with information on data and observations and climate modelling, downscaling and scenarios, in different fora, including a technical workshop on how regional centres and networks that are undertaking work relevant to climate change can collaborate.

A Call for Action relating to this work area is available that highlights gaps and needs, and aims to catalyze a number of activities by stakeholders. These include: guidance on different approaches; types and applications of methods and tools; assisting stakeholders with coordination and information-sharing; helping to strengthen networks; promoting assessments and comparisons; and creating more stakeholder-driven approaches to adaptation.

At the beginning of 2009, 19 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on methods and tools, and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3922.php>



THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME

2 DATA AND OBSERVATIONS

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT DOES DATA AND OBSERVATIONS REFER TO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

Work area 2 assists in improving the collection, management, exchange, access to, and use of data and observations for understanding and assessing impacts, vulnerability and adaptation. Data and observations are required to monitor the climate, to detect and attribute climate change, and to assess the impacts of climate variability and change. They are used to support research towards improved understanding, modelling and prediction of the climate system. Support is needed, particularly in developing countries, to maintain observation networks, recover historical data, provide training, and improve capacity for managing data and information. This includes taking stock of national data holdings and developing integrated management and collection systems.

HOW DO DATA AND OBSERVATIONS CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Work area 2 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels with the implementation of systematic observation relating specifically to impacts and vulnerability. Taking the data-needs of stakeholders into account is very important in the Nairobi work programme, as is the need to enhance capacity for supplying and using data, especially at the regional and national levels. Work area 2 can assist stakeholders to improve their capacity for collecting, managing and using observational data, and identify practical ways to enhance technical capacity. It can also help them exchange information on observed climate change impacts, including those provided through traditional knowledge.



DATA AND OBSERVATIONS

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes:

- Submissions and activities undertaken by a number of partner organizations including the World Meteorological Organization and the Global Climate Observing System to help forward the work of the Nairobi work programme.
- An expert meeting in Mexico City in March 2008.

Activities mandated during 2008 – 2010 include:

- Consideration of relevant issues from this work area, along with information on methods and tools and climate modelling, downscaling and scenarios, in a technical workshop on how regional centres and networks that are undertaking work relevant to climate change can collaborate.
- Increased web-based links and sources of information on the UNFCCC website to identify, describe, apply and make accessible terrestrial, atmospheric, oceanic, climatic and other relevant data and observations.

A Call for Action relating to this work area is available that highlights gaps and needs, and aims to catalyze a number of activities by stakeholders. These include: defining needs for data and observations; recommending networks to deal with adaptation needs; evaluating data from an adaptation perspective; improving awareness of data and information already available; creating regional web-based resources; engaging with, and promoting dialogue between, stakeholders; and incorporating local and indigenous knowledge into adaptation.

At the beginning of 2009, 14 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on data and observations, and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3923.php>



THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**3 CLIMATE MODELLING, SCENARIOS
AND DOWNSCALING**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT ARE CLIMATE MODELS AND SCENARIOS,
AND DOWNSCALING IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI
WORK PROGRAMME?

Work area 3 promotes the development of, improved access to, and use of information and data from climate models, scenarios and downscaling techniques, in order to effectively facilitate the assessment of climate change vulnerability, impacts and adaptation. This ensures a sound basis for adaptation planning and implementation. Climate models offer estimates of climate variables under a changing climate. However, they often operate at a much larger spatial scale than that required for adaptation decision making. Climate scenarios are constructed to characterize the likely states of climate parameters within an uncertain future climate, mostly based on outputs from climate models. Downscaling techniques are required to derive region- or location-specific climate information to support assessments.

HOW DOES THIS WORK AREA CONTRIBUTE TO THE
EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in work area 3 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to share knowledge and identify gaps and opportunities to improve the temporal and spatial resolution and uncertainties of scenarios and model outputs and assist in the development and dissemination of regional and national scenarios to support policy-relevant assessments. It can help Parties and organizations identify practical ways to improve the availability of, access to, and use of climate model and scenario outputs, including through training and capacity building.



CLIMATE MODELLING, SCENARIOS AND DOWNSCALING

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes:

- Submissions by governments, modelling centres and agencies, and organizations including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on related activities.
- An in-session workshop in June 2008, Bonn, Germany.

Activities mandated during 2008 – 2010 include:

- Consideration of relevant issues from this work area, along with information on methods and tools and data and observations, in a technical workshop on how regional centres and networks that are undertaking work relevant to climate change can collaborate.

The IPCC Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA) aims to enhance their outreach. It shares information on the development of new scenarios with a view to increasing awareness on ways in which these scenarios can, and will, be used for impacts, vulnerability and adaptation assessments. A Call for Action relating to this work area is available that highlights gaps and needs, and aims to catalyze a number of activities by stakeholders. These include: continuing to develop and disseminate climate information to help governments with decision-making for adaptation; increasing the availability of high-quality data; increasing the understanding of models and their outputs; improving the accuracy of climate projections; and strengthening the role of regional centres.

At the beginning of 2009, 8 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling, and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3989.php>



THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**4 CLIMATE RELATED RISKS
AND EXTREME EVENTS**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT DOES CLIMATE RELATED RISKS AND EXTREME EVENTS REFER TO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

Work area 4 aims to promote understanding of impacts of, and vulnerability to, climate variability and change and the frequency, intensity and impact of extreme events. Risks include changes in temperature and precipitation causing drought or crop loss as well as events occurring at a particular location and time such as tropical storms, wildfires and flash floods. The work area assists in sharing, analyzing and using this information for assessing, planning and implementing risk management in the context of adaptation and sustainable development. It also considers new and novel mechanisms for climate risk assessment and management.

HOW DOES THE WORK AREA OF CLIMATE RELATED RISKS AND EXTREME EVENTS CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

The disaster risk reduction approach to adaptation is important as it focuses on the assessment and reduction of impacts. Undertaking activities in work area 4 can assist integration of this approach into risk management and development planning by stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels, particularly in the most vulnerable countries. The work area promotes sharing of experience and knowledge on methods and tools, improving access to information on risk sharing mechanisms such as insurance, exploring and expanding risk management measures such as early warning systems, and integrating traditional knowledge including via partnerships.



CLIMATE RELATED RISKS AND EXTREME EVENTS

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

- Submissions from governments and organizations to the UNFCCC secretariat;
- A workshop in Cairo, Egypt in 2007;
- A technical paper on integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programme;
- A technical paper on physical and socioeconomic trends in climate-related risks and extreme events, and their implications for sustainable development;
- Availability of traditional knowledge via the UNFCCC's local coping strategies database.

Related work under the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention includes:

- A technical paper on mechanisms to manage financial risks from direct impacts of climate change in developing countries;
- An in-session workshop on risk management and risk reduction strategies, including risk sharing and transfer mechanisms such as insurance, held in Poznan, Poland, 2008.

A Call for Action on this work area is available that highlights gaps and needs, and aims to catalyze a number of activities by stakeholders. These include: linking the adaptation and risk management communities, building capacity for the integration of traditional knowledge, and climate based and socio-economic information to assist planning and risk management, and exploring novel mechanisms for coping with climate variability and risk, including insurance.

At the beginning of 2009, 14 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received by the secretariat. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of this work area and the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on climate related risks and extreme events, and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3952.php>



THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHY IS SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION
RELEVANT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI
WORK PROGRAMME?

Socio-economic information can highlight social and economic conditions that impact and are affected by vulnerability to climate change, the ability to adapt, and the effectiveness of adaptation in different regions, countries and communities. Work area 5 considers information on socio-economic issues that are exacerbated by climate change and vice versa. These include human adaptive capacity, poverty, population growth, health and health services and economic livelihood alternatives. Population growth, as one example, may lead to more people and property at risk from the increased frequency and intensity of extreme climate events; and poverty, as another example, makes people more vulnerable to climate change and less able to recover from its impacts.

HOW DOES THIS WORK AREA CONTRIBUTE TO THE
EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in work area 5 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to take stock of socio-economic information and its implications for adaptation planning, and consider what needs to be done to ensure better integration of socio-economic information into impact and vulnerability assessments.



SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFORMATION

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes:

- Submissions by governments and organizations on existing socio-economic information and ways and means to improve understanding, availability and integration of socio-economic information into assessments;
- An expert workshop in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, March 2008.

Activities mandated during 2008–2010 include:

- A technical paper reviewing the existing literature on the potential costs and benefits of adaptation options;
- A technical workshop on the costs and benefits of adaptation options;
- Submissions by governments and organizations on efforts undertaken, including methods used to assess the costs and benefits of adaptation options, as well as views on lessons learned, good practices, gaps and needs.

A Call for Action relating to this work area is available that highlights gaps and needs, and aims to catalyze a number of activities by stakeholders. These include: prioritizing data needs; developing incentive schemes to encourage data-generation; disseminating original data collected at sub-district level to assist assessment at different levels; collecting and storing data in a more standardized way; developing guidance on methods for translating existing data into relevant information; and creating and maintaining information databases.

At the beginning of 2009, 7 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on this work area,
and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3990.php>



THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**6 ADAPTATION PLANNING
AND PRACTICES**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT DOES ADAPTATION PLANNING AND PRACTICES REFER TO, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

Work area 6 of the Nairobi work programme aims to collect, analyze and disseminate information on past and current practical adaptation actions and measures so that governments, relevant organizations, business, communities, decision makers, and other regional and national stakeholders can learn from each other to reduce vulnerability and adapt to the impacts of climate change in the most effective manner. The range of potential adaptation actions include short- and long-term strategies and projects involving changes in lifestyle and behaviour, resource management such as farming, food and water storage and changes in regulatory frameworks and laws such as for housing and infrastructure. The effectiveness of a practice tends to be context-specific, although there is still much value in sharing knowledge and information on practices so that they can be considered, replicated, improved and/or adapted to suit different needs, scales and geographic locations.

HOW DOES THE WORK AREA OF ADAPTATION
PLANNING AND PRACTICES CONTRIBUTE TO THE
EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in this work area can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to share information on lessons learned and good practices from past and current adaptation measures and actions, and the implications for sustainable development. Exposure to a wide range of options enables consideration and adoption of successful practices and avoidance of maladaptation.



ADAPTATION PLANNING AND PRACTICES

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes:

- Submissions on activities related to this work area by governments and organizations;
- A synthesis report based on submissions;
- A report on relevant outputs from expert groups that function under the UNFCCC;
- A workshop in Rome, 2007, on issues related to this work area;
- Two web-based interfaces providing information on existing adaptation practices and local coping strategies for adaptation.

Additional activities mandated during 2008 – 2010 include:

- A technical paper and technical workshop on integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programmes;
- A technical workshop on advancing the integration of various approaches to adaptation planning, including scaling up of local and community-based adaptation;
- Parties and relevant organizations have been invited to submit information on a range of aspects including integrating, implementing and expanding adaptation planning and practice.

Calls for Action relating to this work area are available that highlight gaps and needs, and aim to catalyze a number of activities by stakeholders. These include a range of recommended activities in and across sectors and across different levels ensuring the involvement of communities, targeted research, capacity building, training and better understanding of adaptation options.

At the beginning of 2009, 30 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received by the secretariat. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of this work area and the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on adaptation planning and practices, and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3991.php>



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THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**7 RESEARCH**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT DOES RESEARCH REFER TO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

Under the Convention, Parties are called on to promote and cooperate in climate observations and research on the factors affecting the climate system in order to increase knowledge of and project climate change, and better understand the vulnerability of humans and ecosystems to climate change impacts. Work area 7 promotes research on adaptation options and the development and diffusion of technologies, know-how, and practices for adaptation. Work area 7 particularly addresses identified adaptation priorities and builds on lessons learned from adaptation projects and strategies. It promotes research on adaptive capacities and adaptation practices that increase resilience to climate change impacts.

HOW DOES THIS WORK AREA CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in work area 7 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to identify the opportunities and means to plan and implement adaptation practices that increase resilience to unavoidable climate change impacts. Better understanding of the numerous and complex interlinkages of climate change vulnerability and impacts can promote opportunities for stakeholders to better understand climate-related risks and extreme events and increase resilience, and hence assist in effectively planning adaptation actions.



RESEARCH

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes a synthesis report on ongoing and planned adaptation research and adaptation research needs identified in submissions by Parties and relevant organizations.

Activities mandated and requested during 2008–2010 include:

- Greater consideration of adaptation in the research dialogues, which will take place in June 2009 and June 2010, organized under the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). This can include further discussion on adaptation-related research needs by the Parties and information on the activities carried out by the research community. The dialogues address such issues as emerging scientific findings, research planning activities, research priorities and gaps, research capacity-building activities particularly in developing countries, regional climate change research networks, and relevant communication issues.
- Relevant institutions are encouraged to carry out further research on vulnerability mapping for analysis of the impacts associated with climate change in key areas, including terrestrial and marine ecosystems, in light of economic, environmental and social indicators.

At the beginning of 2009, 16 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received by the secretariat. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on this work area,
and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3992.php>



THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**8 TECHNOLOGIES FOR ADAPTATION**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHY IS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IMPORTANT WITHIN
THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

Needs-based technology transfer is important as it helps countries to adapt to climate change. Most methods of adaptation involve one or more forms of technology, including hard forms such as sea walls and irrigation systems and soft forms such as insurance and crop rotation. Promoting the development and diffusion of technologies, know-how, and practices for adaptation are important activities for improving and enabling adaptation to climate change. Those technologies that address identified adaptation priorities and build on lessons learned from current adaptation projects and strategies are particularly valuable.

HOW DOES THIS WORK AREA CONTRIBUTE TO THE
EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in work area 8 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to enhance work on different aspects of technologies and know-how for adaptation, as well as on opportunities for their development and diffusion, and transfer. It also assists stakeholders to take into account local and indigenous knowledge and experiences, as well as ongoing activities and projects.

Stakeholders can also benefit from the work of the Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT) and the Technology Information Clearing House (TT:CLEAR) which informs this work area of the Nairobi work programme.



TECHNOLOGIES FOR ADAPTATION

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes:

- Submissions on technologies for adaptation, as part of submissions on adaptation planning and practices by governments and organizations;
- A synthesis report based on the information contained in the submissions.

Activities mandated during 2008–2010 include:

- Consideration of outcomes from the Nairobi work programme by the EGTT, under relevant aspects of its work programme for 2008–2009;

Related activities on technologies for adaptation under the Convention include:

Completed activities

- A guidebook on preparing technology transfer projects for financing;
- A publication on technologies for adaptation;
- A technical paper on the application of environmentally sound technologies for adaptation;
- A seminar on the development and transfer of environmentally sound technologies for adaptation, in Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago, June 2005;
- A workshop on best practices with conducting technology needs assessments, in Bangkok, Thailand, June 2007.

Ongoing activities

- Update of the handbook for conducting technology needs assessments;
- Use of TT:CLEAR and the network of technology centres in order to share technical information on technologies for adaptation, and to build associated capacity to meet the needs for technology information of vulnerable communities and countries.

At the beginning of 2009, 9 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received by the secretariat. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of this work area and the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on this work area,
and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3995.php>



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THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME**9 ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION**

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT IS ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION?

Work area 9 aims to promote understanding and development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools for economic diversification aimed at increasing economic resilience and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, especially for vulnerable countries, particularly those where national circumstances make alternative economic activities difficult. Economic diversification is a process through which a growing range and number of economic outputs is produced. More specifically, it can refer to the diversification of markets for exports, the diversification of income sources away from domestic economic activities, and the diversification of products and/or practices within an economic activity. Work area 9 promotes public participation in all processes that increase the resilience of, and decrease reliance on, vulnerable sectors, and also encourages participation by the private sector in these efforts.

HOW DOES THIS WORK AREA CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in work area 9 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to share experiences and opportunities on the development and dissemination of measures, methodologies and tools aimed at increasing economic resilience, including by addressing vulnerabilities in specific sectors. It can also assist them to share lessons learned related to economic diversification, such as on ways to develop institutional capacity and improve understanding of how economic diversification can be integrated into sustainable development plans.



ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE, AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes:

- Submissions by governments and organizations on examples of measures, methodologies and tools to increase the economic resilience of, and reduce reliance on, vulnerable sectors;
- A synthesis report based on the information contained in the submissions.

Activities mandated during 2008–2010 include:

- A technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification, held in April 2009 in Egypt;
- Submissions by governments and organizations on measures, methodologies and tools for increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification.

Stakeholders are encouraged to engage in activities to respond to gaps and needs, including those identified in submissions by Parties and organizations to the secretariat. These include improving understanding and advancing dissemination of measures and tools for increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors; promoting and improving measures and tools to assess sectoral vulnerability; and enabling public participation to increase the resilience and decrease the reliance on vulnerable sectors, and involving the private sector in these activities.

At the beginning of 2009, 3 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received by the secretariat. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of this work area and the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on this work area,
and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3994.php>

