

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Lessons and opportunities, tools, resources, and programmes relevant to the loss and damage stream of work and the Santiago Network

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UNEP's role in the United Nations: Introduction

- UNEP has a unique role within the United Nations system for addressing climate-related impacts, loss, and damage, through a combination of science, policy, and action, along with the convening power of member states, governments, and other stakeholders.
- UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy and climate change sub-programme prioritise support to government and non-government development partners to ensure that actions are compatible with the long-term mitigation and resilience goals of the Paris Agreement.
- The following slides summarize the main lessons and opportunities to take forward on loss and damage, and the resources and programmes developed by and in partnership with UNEP that can address the loss and damage work stream.

Four lessons and opportunities to take forward in addressing loss and damage

Access to international climate funds remains a significant challenge for developing countries – **dedicated and additional finance is critical** to enhance approaches to limit climate related loss and damage.

Enhancing systematic awareness of loss and damage is important, as non-economic impacts (on culture, tradition, ecosystem, mental and emotional wellbeing) are poorly understood -- there is an opportunity to build a holistic consideration of all climate change impacts into adaptation and mitigation programmes.

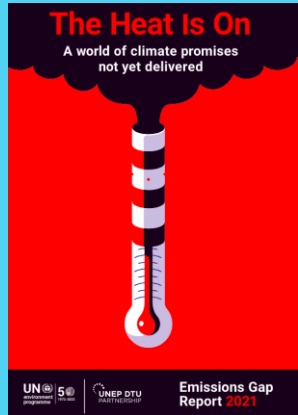
Some losses driven by climate change are already irreversible -- ecosystem-based management and ecosystem protection approaches to address loss and damage **need to employ large-scale, integrated, and multi-sectoral solutions.**

The Glasgow Climate Pact encourages the strengthening of partnerships between developing and developed countries, funds, technical agencies, civil society and communities to enhance understanding of how approaches to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage can be improved – therefore, **support for knowledge and co-creation is necessary.**



UNEP contributions to loss and damage work streams: *IPCC, UNEP Flagship reports*

- UNEP-hosted Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Secretariat launched the Working Group II contribution to Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation report in February 2022.
- Through the IPCC, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and its flagship UNEP flagship reports (e.g., the Adaptation and Emissions Gap Report), UNEP is deploying the most up-to-date, state-of-the-art knowledge on sectoral impacts, science on impacts of climate change and supporting UNFCCC policy process.



UNEP contributions to loss and damage work streams:

Generation and provision of scientific knowledge

UNEP is supporting demand-driven technical assistance to climate information, early warning systems and capacity building in **Pacific Small Island Developing States, Timor-Leste, Azerbaijan, El Salvador, Ghana, Maldives and Sudan.**

The assistance deploys an integrated package of support to develop national capacity for climate information services and impact-based **multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS)** that advances anticipatory action on loss and damage, such as:

- transforming and strengthening policies, legislation and delivery models for climate services and MHEWS to mainstream climate information into climate-responsive planning and development;
- enhancing technical, technological and infrastructural capacity for observations, monitoring, forecasting and analysis of weather and climate data;
- increasing generation and use of relevant, science-based data and information for decision making;
- establishing people-centred, impact-based MHEWS tailored to specific needs and vulnerabilities of countries, including gender considerations, as a foundation for strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced exposure to climate induced loss and damage;
- and improving awareness and understanding of climate induced impacts to inform better preparedness, disaster risk reduction and anticipatory action.

UNEP contributions to loss and damage work streams:

Ecosystem-based adaptation and NAPs

- UNEP is supporting countries in identifying **Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) opportunities** that promise major co-benefit and adaptation payoffs through the restoration and protection of key ecosystems and their services.
- Key approaches implemented in countries to address loss and damage include:
 - improved agriculture practices,
 - resilient infrastructure standards,
 - city design, integrated coastal zone planning,
 - soil and water conservation,
 - eco-system restoration,
 - infrastructure-related adaptation,
 - and ecosystem protection approaches.
- UNEP is currently supporting over 50 Ecosystem-based Adaptation projects (USD330 million) aiming to **restore around 113,000 hectares of ecosystems while benefitting 2.5 million people around the world.**
- UNEP is assisting vulnerable developing countries in their efforts to develop **National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)**.
 - Currently supporting 19 countries to advance NAPS that integrate EbA and strengthen countries with institutional arrangements to undertake climate risk assessments across sectors.
 - A dedicated **Guideline1 for Integrating EbA into NAPs** was launched in September 2021 for integrating ecosystem-based options within the formulation, implementation, and review of NAPs.



UNEP contributions to loss and damage work streams: *Global Adaptation Network (GAN) and UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration*

Global Adaptation Network (GAN)



- UNEP convened Global Adaptation Network (GAN), a worldwide platform to support exchange of climate change knowledge in a variety of ways
- GAN hosts regional networks and partners who broker knowledge services to enable early action on loss and damage, feeding into UNFCCC processes.
- GAN has developed regional nodes that could be useful to the WIM such as the Asia Pacific Adaptation Network, Regional Gateway for Technology Transfer and Climate Action in Latin America and the Caribbean (REGATTA) and Ecosystem-based Adaptation for Food Security in Africa Assembly (EBAFOSA).



UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

- UNEP is supporting efforts to prevent, halt, and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide.
- UNEP and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, as the lead UN agencies, have jointly established a Multi-Partner Trust Fund for the implementation of core activities of the UN Decade.
- The partner network has grown to 90+ including a range of development partners and institutions.

UNEP contributions to loss and damage work streams: *Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)*

- Hosted by UNEP, the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) has collaborated with **107 developing countries** and has received a total of **321 requests for technical assistance to date, including 14 multi-country requests**, to implement technology development and transfer technical assistance.
- The CTCN is a **potential model** for the operationalisation of the Santiago Network with 8 years of experience in identifying, disseminating and assisting with developing analytical tools, policies and best practices for tech transfer.
- For example, in Asia-Pacific, the **CTCN support has focused on water-related adaptation measures** (e.g., nature-based solutions and integrated water resource management, gravity driven membrane technology, gallery infiltration systems, monitoring system design, agro-met DSS) and **deployment of local climate information systems and early warning systems** (e.g., impact-based forecasting, coastal risk mapping, multi-hazard platforms, wave modelling).
- **The CTCN offers the world's largest digital platform of climate technology information** (www.ctcn.org), providing access to thousands of technology descriptions, case studies, national plans, publications, and webinars, searchable by sector and country and in the 6 official languages of the United Nations.

UNEP contributions to loss and damage work streams: *Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), continued*



- Approaches relevant to addressing loss and damage implemented in countries include *capacity building, technology transfer mechanisms, corporation and coordination on technology transfer, gender mainstreaming, stakeholder engagement, youth engagement, and project/programme development.*
- **The CTCN engages with the GCF and GEF** to identify ways to enhance information-sharing among country focal points (NDEs, NDAs, and GEF focal points).
- Countries are invited to seek CTCN support to develop and submit technology-related projects to the Financial Mechanism
- The CTCN is engaged in a delivery partner work programme with the GCF under the **Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme**

UNEP contributions to loss and damage work streams: *UNEP's new Copenhagen Climate Center and other initiatives*

- UNEP's recently established **Copenhagen Climate Centre** will extend further support to vulnerable developing countries on climate and sustainable development with **active projects in 71 countries**.
- Additionally, UNEP is engaged in **other areas of technical assistance** to countries in addressing loss and damage resulting from slow-onset events, extreme disaster events, non-economic and economic losses, and socio-cultural impacts
- Relevant technical assistance and approaches to address loss and damage in vulnerable developing countries and of interest to the WIM Excom include:
 - *impact modelling, disaster and emergency preparedness;*
 - *social protection;*
 - *Reconstruction;*
 - *alternative/climate-resilient livelihood provision;*
 - *mainstreaming of climate induced risks and vulnerabilities;*
 - *design of financial instruments; and*
 - *national finance and funding instruments.*

Thank You