United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Agenda item 5.a.v

Identifying potential areas for future work of the TEC on emerging and transformational adaptation technologies

Technology Executive Committee, 26th meeting and TEC-CTCN Joint session 21-23 and 24 March 2023, Songdo, Korea



Background

- TEC work on emerging climate technologies under rolling workplan for 2019–2022:
 mapping exercise and work on mitigation technologies (energy supply and transport sector)
- TEC rolling workplan for 2023–2027: Activity A.3.1 on emerging and transformational technologies for adaptation (e.g. early warning systems and disaster risk management) including the role of finance and the private sector in supporting their deployment, with a related knowledge product due 2024
- Scoping activity: deep-dive discussion on early warning systems at the 2023 Global Sustainable Technological and Innovation Community (GSTIC) conference, in collaboration with YOUNGO



Summary of deep-dive discussion on early warning systems at G-STIC Rio

The 'early warning for all' initiative, was launched in 2022 by the UN Secretary General to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years. The associated action plan is spearheaded by WMO and contains 4 pillars:

disaster risk knowledge; observations and forecasting;

preparedness and response; communication of early warnings.

Experts discussed the use of following technologies for early warning systems:

- Artificial intelligence (AI), e.g. to develop forecast products and action-able climate information
- Remote-sensing and space technology, e.g. to help with mapping and assessing risk
- Cell-broadcast and location-based SMS, e.g. to assist with geo-locate communications in at-risk areas
- Internet of things (IoT), e.g. to generate automated warning and evoke swift community response



Summary of deep-dive discussion on early warning systems at G-STIC Rio

Opportunities and recommended approaches in deploying transformative adaptation technologies for early warnings

- Standard operating procedures
- Fostering innovation
- Local-level awareness raising, training, education, and capacity-building
- Coordination and alliance building among actors
- Monitoring and evaluation of early warning systems
- Integrating nature-based solutions in disaster risk reduction

To ensure inclusiveness and human-centered design in early warning systems, localization, inclusivity and actionability, accountability and cross-sector collaborations are key.



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Looking ahead: potential focus areas for the TEC work on emerging and transformational adaptation technologies

Option 1

Continuing the work on **early warning systems**, and narrowing down the focus based on:

Emerging technologies	Potential partners
 Artificial intelligence (AI) Remote-sensing and space technology 	G-STIC
 Cell-broadcast and location-based SMS Internet of things (IoT) 	WMO and other 'early warning for all'
Pillars of the 'early warning for all initiative' executive action plan	partners: UNDRR, GSMA , ITU
Disaster risk knowledgeObservations and forecasting	Group on Earth Observation

- Preparedness and response
- Communication of early warnings

Sectors Agriculture and forestry

- Water resources and coastal regions
- Cities and human settlements



FAO

WIPO



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Option 2

Initiating work on examining emerging technologies in **climate services**, including those powered by **digital technologies**, narrowing down the focus based on type of technologies, e.g.

Digital transformation technologies such as AI for providing digital climate advisory products and services, and making them available to downstream applications e.g. local governments and communities

Earth observation and space technologies including drones and satellites for assessing and monitoring climate change impacts and adaptation in ecosystems e.g. in the context of NAPs

Potential partners WMO, Group on Earth Observation

Option 3

Focusing on **nature-based** and **nature-inclusive solutions** and **systems** for transformational adaptation, narrowing down the focus based on sectors, e.g.

Exploring **agroecology and agroforestry** solutions with transformational adaptation impact

Exploring innovative ocean solutions and nature-based technologies in the coastal zones

Exploring nature-based solutions and green and blue infrastructure in urban areas with transformational impact for adaptation and resilience building

Potential partners IUCN, Ocean Visions, Climate Resilient Food Systems Alliance



Additional information and consideration

- The interest expressed by the GEF and GCF on transformative financing solutions and accelerating adaptation innovation
- The interest expressed by other UNFCCC bodies and processes to the TEC, including suggestion by the Adaptation Fund, PCCB and LCIPP FWG
- Potential linkages to and alignment with relevant UN initiatives and activities, in particular the work the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM)
- Potential linkages to other activities of the TEC rolling workplan, namely on digital technologies (A.4.1), water-food-energy nexus (C.1.1), and innovative ocean solutions (C.1.3)



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Thank you!

