



Technology Executive Committee

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Twenty-first meeting

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Draft key messages and recommendation to COP and CMA on technologies for averting, minimizing and addressing address loss and damage in coastal zones

Cover note

I. Background

1. As per activity 1 of the thematic area Collaboration and stakeholder engagement of its workplan for 2019–2022, the TEC is to develop a joint policy brief, in collaboration with the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism on loss and damage (WIM ExCom) on the topic of technologies for averting, minimising and addressing loss and damage in coastal zones. The work has been undertaken by a joint working group comprising members from TEC and the WIM ExCom established by the two bodies. At TEC 19 (September 2019), the TEC agreed to finalize the joint policy brief at TEC 20 and to prepare recommendations on this matter for COP26 and CMA 3.

2. The draft joint policy brief was endorsed by the WIM ExCom during its virtual meeting that took place from 10–12 March 2020. At TEC 20 (April 2020), the TEC also endorsed the joint policy brief and subsequently the publication¹ was launched by the TEC in July 2020.²

3. Based on this joint policy brief, the TEC task force on Collaboration and stakeholder engagement developed draft key messages and recommendations to COP 26 and CMA 3.

II. Scope of the note

4. The annex to this note contains the draft key messages and recommendations of the TEC to COP 26 and CMA 3 on technologies for averting, minimizing and addressing address loss and damage in coastal zones.

III. Expected action by the Technology Executive Committee

5. The TEC will be invited to consider and agree on these key messages and recommendations.

¹ <https://unfccc.int/ttclear/coastalzones/>.

² https://unfccc.int/ttclear/events/2020/2020_event02.

Annex

Draft key messages and recommendation to COP and CMA on technologies for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage in coastal zones

1. The Technology Executive Committee (TEC) welcomes the collaboration with the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage in developing a joint policy brief on technologies for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage in coastal zones.

2. Drawing from this joint work, the TEC highlights the following:

(a) Various technologies and combination of technologies – hardware, software, and orgware – currently are available to assess and manage climate change related risks and to identify recovery and rehabilitation measures to address climate-related impacts in coastal zones. Experiences of using such technologies exist, and lessons learned and opportunities for improvements can be drawn from these experiences;

(b) For **technologies for risk assessment**, there are a number of areas where further improvements can be made: increased awareness of existing technologies, availability and accessibility of high-quality and timely data, appropriate methods and tools required to consider multiple types of hazards (rapid and slow onset events), and appropriate scale of governance. These areas of improvements also provide opportunities for stakeholders to engage. Scientific dialogues and ongoing efforts by international organizations and partnerships in providing capacity building training and support mechanisms to help disseminate the coastal risk assessment technologies are examples of such opportunities;

(c) **Technologies for risk retention** provide measures for the protection, retention and long-term adaptability of coastal zones. They may take several forms, including structural/engineered measures, organizational and financial planning, legal and regulatory measures, ecosystem-based approaches, and contingency planning and innovation. These measures essentially require an integrated cross-sectoral approach to the management of coastal zones. Improving technologies for coastal risk retention is a continuous process and should be supported by sharing of knowledge and practices in a systematic manner;

(d) The complex nature of efforts to avert, minimize, and address loss and damage on coastal zones requires different **technologies for recovery and rehabilitation**, since recovery and rehabilitation happen over multiple time scales, and priorities may shift as a situation progresses. Policy and regulatory tools that enable a system and community to recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner are available, as well as international programmes and mechanisms to support the recovery and rehabilitation. These tools should be complemented by national-level disaster recovery frameworks, which can also incorporate the use of indigenous and local knowledge. Investing in technologies to reduce disaster risks with a focus on prevention and preparedness, while also ensuring effective emergency response and rehabilitation, is crucial for averting, minimizing, and addressing potential loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in coastal zones.

3. The TEC recommends that the COP and CMA invite Parties to take into consideration the findings of the joint policy brief:

(a) As they consider and seek technological solutions to assess climate-related risks, to retain and manage risks, and to recover and rehabilitate from climate-change related impacts in coastal zones;

(b) In formulating a more comprehensive and long-term approach for rehabilitation and recovery that harmonizes with national adaptation plans and disaster risk reduction strategies;

(c) In stimulating enabling environments that can facilitate the sharing of knowledge and experiences among countries, build capacity, and scale up the dissemination of technologies that avert, minimize and address loss and damage in coastal zones. This could be done through

collaboration with international organizations and in close partnerships with local communities in coastal areas.
