

CALL FOR ACTION



NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME

ON IMPACTS, VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Promoting understanding of impacts of, and vulnerability to, climate change, current and future climate variability and extreme events, and the implications for sustainable development

Promoting the development and dissemination of methods and tools for assessment and improvement of adaptation planning, measures and actions, and integration with sustainable development

Collecting, analysing and disseminating information on past and current practical adaptation actions and measures, including adaptation projects, short- and long-term adaptation strategies, and local and indigenous knowledge

GAP/NEED TO WHICH ACTION IS RESPONDING

Practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies need to be integrated into national policies and programmes. If climate risk assessment and management and DRR are not internalized and integrated within the development planning process, they will be of limited efficiency and are unlikely to be sustainable in the long run. The gaps identified in promoting integration are wide-ranging. They include the lack of simple methods and practical tools, the lack of enabling environments, such as good education, adequate awareness and improved institutional framework, and the insufficient attention to action at community level. Tools are needed to create enabling environments and enable the integration process. These tools further require a system of institutional and policy frameworks, technical capacity and dedicated resources within which they can be applied effectively.

Sustainable development in the face of increased climate-related risks is an important element in all three disciplines: adaptation, DRR and national development planning; it provides a common goal for actions in these disciplines. Strong coordination and cooperation at all levels is needed to link national policy frameworks to adaptation strategies, poverty reduction strategies and DRR strategies and so address the diverse range of risk drivers.

There is a requirement for enhanced understanding of the urgent need for action on climate risk assessment and management and DRR, through addressing the underlying causes, including: inadequate communication of risk and uncertainty; the short-term nature of the political process; and the uncertainties associated with risks due to climate change and its impacts.

ACTIVITIES

The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) requested the secretariat to strive to engage a wide range of organizations, institutions, experts and communities in the implementation of the Nairobi

NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE

To assist all Parties, in particular developing countries including the least developed countries and small island developing States, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, and to make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socioeconomic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.

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work programme. The SBSTA encouraged relevant organizations and other stakeholders to develop specific activities at the national and regional levels in support of the objective and expected outcomes of the Nairobi work programme identified in decision 2/CP.11, and to share outcomes of these activities with the SBSTA at subsequent sessions, as appropriate.¹

Activities identified under the work area of **adaptation planning and practices**² include:

Creating an enabling policy environment including incentive mechanisms

- Promote public education, awareness-raising and advocacy, particularly at a high political level;
- Develop examples of model legislation and implementation guidelines that can be adapted at national and local levels;
- Encourage elaboration of national plans for integrating climate-related risk management into development planning.

Improving availability, accessibility and relevance of knowledge and information

- Incentivize and continue support for enhancing observation systems, data collection and dissemination, and developing modalities for information/data/knowledge management and sharing;
- Enhance the technical capacity for data processing and analysis;
- Increase the relevance of knowledge and information to varying stakeholder groups, including through deconstructing and repackaging scientific knowledge and information in ways that stakeholders understand and can act upon;
- Improve communication with stakeholders, such as by making information available in languages other than English; ensuring common understanding of the terms and concepts used.

Engaging multiple stakeholders

- Identify the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders within the context of development planning;
- Engage stakeholders with relevant implementation mandates and capacity, and ensure national-level dialogues on risk to be centred on sectoral and/or thematic issues.

Enhancing regional cooperation and networks

- Recognize the roles and contributions of regional institutions and networks as a mechanism to increase visibility and provide support for their processes so as to generate and share experiences, knowledge and information;
- Promote the sharing of knowledge and information between regional networks and countries within the region.

Developing and disseminating practical methods and tools

- Develop practical tools and promote distribution to, and application by, all levels and sectors;
- Identify good practice and document and promote the pragmatic application of tools.

The secretariat prepares Calls for Action following guidance from the Chair of the SBSTA. Calls for action aim to facilitate the implementation of recommendations resulting from the Nairobi work programme workshops and expert meetings by a wide range of stakeholders. This call for action is derived from the preliminary report of the technical workshop on integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programmes, held on 10-12 March 2009, Cuba. Details of related ongoing work is available at <<http://unfccc.int/4430.php>>.

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2006/11, paragraph 17..

² This is the third call for action under the Nairobi work programme work area adaptation planning and practices. Activities referred to in this Call for Action link to those aimed at promoting the integration of climate risk assessment and management and DRR strategies into national policies and programmes and, therefore, link to the Nairobi work programme work area on climate-related risks and extreme events.