

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.

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

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

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