

Least developed country Group submission on the Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change:

Proposals on upcoming activities under the NWP

1. Background

The LDCs welcome the opportunity to provide submissions on further possible activities under the Nairobi Work Program (NWP), according to the conclusion of the 34th session of the subsidiary body of Implementation (SBI). In alignment with the FCCC/SBSTA/2011/2, LDCs hereby submit the proposals of the group for upcoming activities under the Nairobi Work Programme (NWP).

The LDCs, as the most vulnerable countries to climate change acknowledge the importance of the NWP to provide support and input to better understand the issues related to impacts, vulnerability and impact of climate change. The group is supportive of the continuation of the Work Program and invites the SBSTA to agree on a **third phase of the program** to take over the current ongoing interim activities, with the aim to ensure the improvement of activities and to provide necessary and relevant knowledge generation to support understanding of the vulnerability and adaptation actions in developing countries, particularly in LDCs.

Recalling decision 1/CP.16 that affirms that enhanced action on adaptation should follow a country-driven, gender sensitive, participatory and fully transparent approach, taking into consideration vulnerable groups, communities and ecosystems, and should be based on and guided by the best available science and, as appropriate, traditional and indigenous knowledge, with a view to integrating adaptation into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions, where appropriate, the LDCs Group believes that Nairobi Work Programme in its future activities need to give special consideration to the specific situation of the Least Developed Countries in order to facilitate access to information which will very soon be needed by this Group for developing and implementing significantly important adaptation activities (*e.g.* LDCs' process (NAPs)). The LDCs Group in this submission suggests different types of activity that could be undertaken in line with the areas of work suggested by Parties and included in Annex 1.

2. Further activities

Proposals on further activities are related to following issues regarding (1) dissemination of information, (2) capacity building under the program, (3) indigenous and traditional knowledge, (4) understanding of cost-effectiveness of adaptation, (5) gender, (6) cross-sectoral issues and (7) the length and content of the program.

2.1. Efficient dissemination of information and knowledge products under NWP

Because of the particular vulnerability of the LDCs Group NWP's information need to be (as possible) synthesised based on vulnerabilities, sectors, regions etc. and in addition to that and for the information to be user friendly and useful the Knowledge products must be translated to all the official UN languages. In each country, one person at national government level needs to be identified as a focal point for ensuring dissemination of information (generated by previous and upcoming activities of NWP and other relevant programmes).

The NWP secretariat is invited to enhance the work regarding provision of knowledge products to be made available to Parties and adaptation planners and practitioners. The information should be provided via appropriate tools and in a form suitable for the purpose and the target group. It should include practical and user friendly publications, to be widely disseminated via different channels, highlighting step by step approaches, lessons learnt, best practices and challenges in implementing adaptation activities. It should be developed in the different areas and for the different sectors that have been identified to be most affected by climate change in developing countries, as those mentioned above.

Research and tool development and approaches under the Work Program must be designed to address the needs of the target group. LDCs invite partners to develop practical guidelines, tools and methodologies, examining among others processes for adaptation planning and its integration into development plans at all levels of the countries; approaches to consider and integrate cross cutting issues (e.g. gender). For this purpose, the LDCs invite the SBSTA and the NWP to consider the organization for a **stocktaking meeting** at the very beginning of the new phase, which will allow discussion of needs and how partners can effectively cooperate to address them.

The knowledge sharing practices under the NWP should be enhanced with a collaborative action with the actions undertaking under the Article 6 of the Convention. Furthermore, the list of countries to be invited to further workshops of the NWP should be broadened and efforts should be undertaken to invite different Parties on a rolling basis during the whole duration of the work program, to allow inclusiveness.

2.2. *Need for specialised training (including training of trainers) in order to achieve capacity building.*

Developing countries in general and LDCs in particular require a lot of support regarding modelling and scenarios. High resolution climate change scenarios are required for planning of adaptation actions. LDCs have limited abilities to develop adaptation scenarios and accordingly they require facilitation of access to climate modelling output. Capacities could be enhanced through efficient training programmes and through provision of access to relevant software during training session as well as provision of online access supported by technical support hotlines. LEG should be involved in discussions on how to bring together the most appropriate people to such events.

2.3. *Enhancing the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge practices for adaptation*

The LDCs call upon the NWP to promote the use of traditional knowledge by enhancing collaboration with organizations developing the use of such knowledge and to support knowledge sharing of these endogeneous and traditional knowledge and how it assists community in building resilient and adapt to climate change.

2.4. *Enhance understanding of cost effectiveness of adaptation*

There is need for information sharing on practical examples on cost effectiveness of adaptation related issues. Up to date very few studies were carried to address this issue, there is need for tools and methods in order to make it comprehended for integration in adaptation planning.

2.5. *Application of gender –sensitive approaches*

Up to date the issue of gender has been addressed in very shay manner, it need to be given satisfactory emphasis in order to make it visible. The latter could be achieved through consideration stocktaking of gender as cross cutting issue, identification of gender sensitive issues etc. reanalysis of relevant document and reports (NAPAs, TNAs, NCs etc.) could be targeted in NWP's workshop for synthesis of relevant gender information. Case studies consideration for recommendations of very specific areas for implementation of adaptation actions

2.6. *Strengthening sector-specific and cross-sectoral activities to address impacts, vulnerability and adaptation issues relating to, inter alia:*

- (i). Water (including drought, floods and glacial melt);
- (ii). Food security (including agriculture and subsistence livelihoods);
- (iii). Ecosystems (including mountain ecosystems and coastal and marine ecosystems);
- (iv). Infrastructure and human settlements.

These sectors are of utmost important for LDCs almost all of them were addressed in the LDCs NAPAs. The latter need to be addressed by the upcoming NWP activities/programmes analysis and synthesis of informations as well as challenges facing countries need to be targeted. Participation in the upcoming workshops/activities should be broaden to involve appropriate stockholders (*e.g.* representatives of related national institutions, NAPA implementers etc.). The LDCs Expert Group (LEG) should be involved in discussions and consulted on how to bring together the most appropriate people to such events.

2.7. *Length and size of programme*

Length

LDCs Group suggest that the next phase of the NWP should be a further 5 years, to allow sufficient time for planning and implementing the wide variety of activities that Parties have included in Annex 1, with annual review through a report to the COP.

Size of programme

Even though all nine (9) areas are still relevant for the Work Program, enhanced action should be initiated in the areas related to “***Adaptation planning and practices***” and “***Research and systematic observation***”. Furthermore, the sectors that are the most vulnerable in developing countries should be given appropriate consideration, among which, Agriculture and food security, Water resources, Energy, Coastal zones and ecosystems, as mentioned above.