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Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability
and adaptation to climate change

**Progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme
on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change**

Note by the secretariat

Summary

This report provides an overview of the progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. The elements of the second phase of the Nairobi work programme were defined by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) at its twenty-eighth session. The report describes progress made under the different areas of work and how organizations, institutions, experts and the private sector have been engaged in the activities under the work programme during the period from SBSTA 29 up to the date of publication. It also contains summary accounts of how the secretariat is disseminating outcomes to stakeholders, and highlights of activities relating to the work programme undertaken outside the UNFCCC process. The report concludes with an overview of next steps envisaged to further the work of the Nairobi work programme in the near future.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), at its twenty-eighth session, requested the secretariat to provide a report for consideration at each of its sessions, starting from SBSTA 29, on progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.¹

B. Background

2. The overall objective of the Nairobi work programme is to assist all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS), 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 socio-economic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.²

3. A comprehensive set of activities³ to be implemented by SBSTA 28 was agreed upon at SBSTA 25. A summary of the results of the implementation of the Nairobi work programme during this first phase is contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2008/12.

4. At its twenty-eighth session, the SBSTA agreed on further activities for inclusion in the Nairobi work programme to be implemented by the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP), taking into account the views of Parties on further activities, the report of the meeting of representatives from Parties on the outcomes of completed activities under the Nairobi work programme,⁴ the outcomes of additional activities completed by that session, information presented in the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other new scientific information, as well as relevant activities of international and regional institutions.⁵

5. Since SBSTA 29, the secretariat has received financial contributions from the Governments of Japan and New Zealand to support the mandated activities under the Nairobi work programme.

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

6. In accordance with its conclusions at its twenty-eighth session, the SBSTA may wish to consider this progress report at its thirtieth session.

II. Progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

7. The activities and expected outputs envisaged in the second phase of the Nairobi work programme build upon the results of its first phase. They continue to be structured around the two thematic areas “impacts and vulnerability” and “adaptation planning, measures and actions”, as set out in

¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 18.

² Decision 2/CP.11, annex, paragraph 1.

³ FCCC/SBSTA/2006/11, paragraphs 13–71.

⁴ The report of this meeting is contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2008/5.

⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraphs 10–74.

the annex to decision 2/CP.11, and the nine areas of work identified at SBSTA 25.⁶ Progress made in the different areas of work between SBSTA 28 and 29 were described in the previous progress report.⁷

A. Progress made under the areas of work of the Nairobi work programme

1. Adaptation planning and practices

8. At its twenty-eighth session, the SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, a technical workshop on integrating practices, tools and systems for climate risk assessment and management and disaster risk reduction strategies into national policies and programmes, with a view to facilitating the identification of successful examples of using such tools and integrating such practices into national policies and programmes.⁸ This workshop took place in Havana, Cuba, from 10 to 12 March 2009 and involved representatives from Parties, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the private sector and individual experts. It was held in collaboration with the Inter-agency Secretariat of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

9. The SBSTA further requested the secretariat to prepare a report on this workshop, to be made available by its thirty-first session.⁹ The chair's summary and an informal summary of the workshop, presentations given during the workshop as well as other relevant background documentation are available on the UNFCCC website.¹⁰

10. The mandate for this workshop helped to link the areas of work on adaptation planning and practices with those on climate-related risks and extreme events under the work programme.

11. A proposal for a new call for action, based on recommendations made by participants during the technical workshop, is included in the annex (see also paras. 44 and 45 below).

12. At the same session, the SBSTA invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 20 March 2009:

- (a) Views and information on approaches to and experiences in integrating and expanding adaptation planning and action at national, subnational, community and local levels, including scaling up of local and community-based adaptation;
- (b) Views on lessons learned, good practices, gaps, needs, barriers and constraints to adaptation, including implementation of adaptation projects.

13. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to compile these submissions into a miscellaneous document to be made available by SBSTA 30, and to prepare a synthesis report based on the submissions as well as on other relevant sources, including experiences gained during the national adaptation programme of action process, by SBSTA 31.¹¹ These submissions are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.4.

14. The SBSTA also requested the secretariat to enhance the web-based interface on adaptation practices by its thirtieth session, in order to provide access to information on specific adaptation practices; enable adaptation practitioners to share information on and experiences with different adaptation

⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2006/11, paragraphs 32–71.

⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/INF.5.

⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 57.

⁹ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 58.

¹⁰ <<http://unfccc.int/4742.php>>.

¹¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 60.

practices; and disseminate information on good practices and lessons learned in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of adaptation practices.¹²

15. This enhanced interface is now fully operational. It provides information on adaptation practices, as well as associated activities, publications, assessment tools and adaptation outcomes, such as national adaptation strategies. It identifies adaptation plans and adaptation activities already implemented by Parties and Nairobi work programme partner organizations, as well as by other relevant organizations, at community, national and international levels. The information can be searched according to the type of organization undertaking the adaptation practice, regional focus, work focus and means of delivery. The interface currently holds over 130 entries and is regularly updated. The secretariat encourages users to provide new entries and/or updates to the existing entries; the relevant form can be downloaded from the interface.¹³

2. Research

16. The SBSTA encouraged greater consideration of adaptation in future dialogues on research needs between international and regional research bodies and programmes and Parties.¹⁴ It noted the research needs identified in document FCCC/SBSTA/2007/12, and invited bodies and programmes involved in this type of research to inform the SBSTA of their activities, including during the research dialogues to take place at its thirtieth and thirty-second sessions.¹⁵

17. The dialogue to take place during SBSTA 30 will cover developments in research activities relevant to the needs of the Convention, with the focus on adaptation, including in the areas of: emerging scientific findings; research planning activities, including those undertaken in response to key uncertainties and research needs identified by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change or raised by Parties; research priorities and gaps in the implementation of these priorities; research capacity-building activities, particularly in developing countries; and regional climate change research networks. The dialogue will also cover relevant communication issues.

3. Technologies for adaptation

18. The COP, by its decision 3/CP.13, requested the Expert Group on Technology Transfer to make available a report on future financing options for scaling up technology development and transfer,¹⁶ to address, inter alia, different aspects of technologies for adaptation, for consideration by the subsidiary bodies at their thirtieth sessions.

19. By the same decision, the COP adopted a set of actions for enhancing the implementation of the framework for meaningful and effective actions to enhance the implementation of Article 4, paragraph 5, of the Convention, contained in annex I to that decision. In this context, the secretariat was requested to prepare a synthesis of the information on technology needs, including prioritized needs for technologies for adaptation by developing country Parties, identified by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention in their technology needs assessments, second national communications and other national reports for consideration by the SBSTA.¹⁷ The secretariat will make this report available for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirtieth session.¹⁸

¹² FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 65.

¹³ <<http://unfccc.int/4555.php>>.

¹⁴ A dialogue on research needs relating to the Convention is taking place under the SBSTA in the context of decision 9/CP.11.

¹⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 67.

¹⁶ This report is contained in document FCCC/SB/2009/2. The EGTT also prepared two other reports (FCCC/SB/2009/3 and FCCC/SB/2009/1), which address a wide range of technology issues including both mitigation technologies and technologies for adaptation.

¹⁷ Decision 3/CP.13, annex I, paragraph 8 (c).

¹⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/INF.1.

4. Economic diversification

20. The SBSTA invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 20 March 2009, additional information on examples of measures, methodologies and tools on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification. It requested the secretariat to compile the submissions into a miscellaneous document to be made available to the SBSTA by its thirtieth session.¹⁹ These submissions are contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.6.

21. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to organize, before SBSTA 30 and under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, a technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors, including through economic diversification, with the participation of representatives from Parties, business, communities and experts.²⁰ This workshop took place in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 30 April 2009 and was held with a view to promoting the understanding, and the development and dissemination, of measures, methodologies and tools for increasing economic resilience, including the understanding of social aspects. The workshop took into account:

- (a) Previous submissions from Parties²¹ and relevant organizations²² on this matter and the synthesis report thereon,²³
- (b) The submissions referred to in paragraph 20 above.

22. The SBSTA requested the secretariat to prepare a report on this workshop, to be made available by SBSTA 31.²⁴ A call for action resulting from the workshop recommendations will also be made available at that session.

23. The chair's summary and an informal summary of the workshop, presentations given during the workshop as well as other relevant background documentation are planned to be made available on the UNFCCC website.²⁵

B. Engaging organizations, institutions, experts, communities and the private sector

1. Organizations, institutions, experts and communities

24. The Nairobi work programme is implemented through catalysing action on adaptation by ensuring that products and deliverables target stakeholders at all levels and across all sectors.

25. One of the focus areas of the second phase of the Nairobi work programme is the continuation of efforts to engage organizations, institutions, experts, communities and members of the private sector, including those active at the community level and those undertaking education, training and awareness-raising.²⁶ Emphasis is also placed on encouraging organizations and institutions that have national and regional representation to develop specific activities at the national and regional levels in support of the Nairobi work programme, and to make information on the results achieved available to the SBSTA for its consideration.²⁷

¹⁹ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 72.

²⁰ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 73.

²¹ FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.15 and Add.1.

²² FCCC/SBSTA/2007/MISC.16.

²³ FCCC/SBSTA/2007/14.

²⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 74.

²⁵ <<http://unfccc.int/4781.php>>.

²⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 26.

²⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 30.

26. The SBSTA recognized that regional centres and networks undertaking work relevant to climate change play an important role in enhancing adaptation through supporting adaptation planning and practices, the application of models and tools, the development of adaptation projects and their regional integration, and through providing other forms of technical support related to capacity-building and information sharing.²⁸

27. The secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, has further enhanced the process of engaging organizations in the implementation of the Nairobi work programme, taking into account the provisions outlined in paragraphs 25 and 26 above.²⁹ Positive feedback and constructive input has been received during workshops and at the second forum of focal points, as detailed in paragraphs 35–37 below. A more expansive approach on how to implement these mandates is being developed under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA. Chapter IV of this document provides more details on this. Progress made will be reported by the Chair in a side event planned to be held during SBSTA 30.

28. Eleven more organizations and institutions have appointed a focal point since SBSTA 29 and expressed their interest in participating in the Nairobi work programme, bringing the total number of partner organizations to 133 as at 1 May 2009.

29. The newly joined partner organizations are: CAB International, the Forum for Rural Welfare and Agricultural Reform for Development, the Global Canopy Programme, the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee, the International Livestock Research Institute, Inwent, Satkhira Unnayan Sangstha (SUS), the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, Uppsala University and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations.

2. Action pledges

30. The SBSTA, at its twenty-ninth session, reiterated its appreciation of the actions undertaken by organizations in support of the objective of the Nairobi work programme. It encouraged organizations to further enhance their efforts towards this end, including through the submission of action pledges, and to make the information on the results achieved available to the SBSTA.³⁰ The SBSTA noted that activities undertaken by these organizations have furthered the understanding of scientific and technical knowledge under all areas of work of the Nairobi work programme.

31. During the period between SBSTA 29 and the publication date of this report, the secretariat has received 21 new action pledges from the following 14 organizations: the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change convened under the Convention on Biological Diversity, Christian Aid, Community Enterprise Forum International, Environmental Development Action in the Third World, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training, the International Trade Union Confederation, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative, SUS, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), the World Federation of Engineering Organizations and the World Health Organization.

32. A list of all action pledges received to date (82 pledges from 32 organizations), as well as the full details of all pledges, can be found on the Nairobi work programme web pages.³¹

33. The figure below provides an overview of the action pledges for the nine areas of work of the Nairobi work programme.

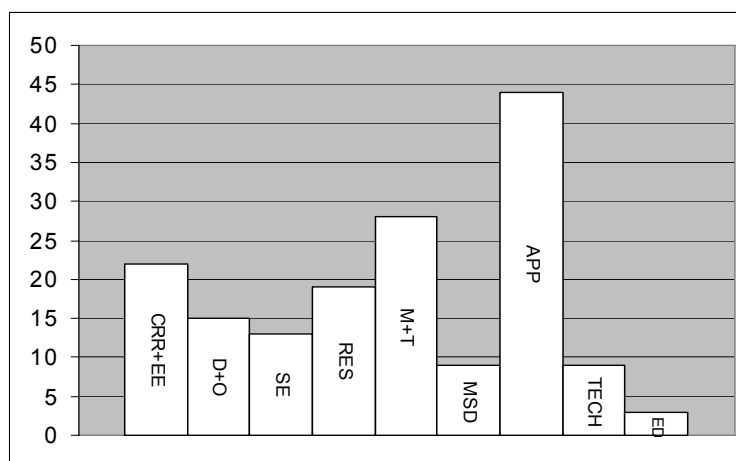
Action pledges under the Nairobi work programme by area of work

²⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 31.

²⁹ See previous progress report contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2008/INF.5.

³⁰ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/13, paragraph 14.

³¹ <<http://unfccc.int/3996.php>>.



Abbreviations: CRR+EE = climate-related risks and extreme events, D+O = data and observations, SE = socio-economic information, RES = research, M+T = methods and tools, MSD = climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling, APP = adaptation planning and practices, TECH = technologies for adaptation, ED = economic diversification.

34. In accordance with the mandate referred to in paragraph 30 above, several organizations have provided an update on progress made on their submitted action pledges in order to make the information available to the SBSTA. An overview of the updates received is contained in the table below. Full details of the progress reports provided by organizations to assist Parties are available on the Nairobi work programme web pages.

Progress reports on pledged actions under the Nairobi work programme

Organization	Project/activity	Progress reported
Environmental Development Action in the Third World (ENDA)	Community- and field-based knowledge management and research focusing on adaptation and low carbon development	<p>A mapping exercise across Africa that contributes to a network of skills, training, research and information on all themes relating to climate and development</p> <p>Work on methodologies for an African indigenous knowledge bank in progress</p> <p>Global community-level communications network being expanded</p> <p>Extension of the ENDA community-based adaptation to climate change programme</p>

Table (continued)

Organization	Project/activity	Progress reported
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	<p>Development of methods and tools related to agro-climatology</p> <p>Assistance to Nigeria in assessing adaptation requirements in the agriculture sector</p>	<p>Publication of a technical report <i>Rapid Agricultural Disaster Assessment Routine (RADAR)</i>, available on <http://www.fao.org/nr/climpag/nat_1_en.asp></p> <p>In response to the request of the Nigerian Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources for assistance in the assessment of the possible impacts of climate change on agriculture, food security and environment in Nigeria, FAO built up a technical team with the aim of outlining the climate variability and climate change impacts on agricultural production in the context of the various agroecological zones of Nigeria. A preliminary mission was carried out in September 2007 by a team of experts</p>
Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training (START)	START facilitates and supports a large number of projects under all nine work areas	Progress has been made in all of the work areas, and additional actions have been pledged
Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD)	<p>Non-governmental organization group in Nepal</p> <p>Awareness-raising activities</p> <p>Capacity-building</p> <p>Action research</p> <p>Field testing of various community-based adaptation tools</p> <p>Contribution to national adaptation programmes of action</p> <p>Interaction with Constituent Assembly members about climate change challenges as a national concern</p> <p>Publication</p>	<p>Group active, number of member organizations further increased</p> <p>Global Climate Campaign Day</p> <p>South Asian regional pilot training on community-based adaptation to climate change</p> <p>Assessing the environmental stress-tolerant neglected and underutilized species in the context of changing climate</p> <p>Several tools were tested, case studies on climate change impacts were carried out</p> <p>A study was carried out on existing policies on the wider use of agro-biodiversity in Nepal</p> <p>A meeting was held on the incorporation of climate change issues into a new national policy and strategy document in Nepal</p> <p>A second information sheet addressing the need for policy related to climate change was issued</p>
Practical Action	<p>Documenting and publishing relevant experiences from work on community-based adaptation in South Asia</p> <p>Producing and disseminating audio-visual material that could help enhance the knowledge and skills necessary to adapt to climate change</p>	<p>Publication of a book, <i>Understanding Climate Change Adaptation: Lessons from Community-Based Approaches</i> (Ensor J and Berger R. 2008. Practical Action Publishing). It documents eight case studies, from South Asia, Peru and Africa, analysing them within a conceptual framework</p> <p>DVDs of Practical Action's first projects in four South Asian countries on community-based adaptation have been produced. Copies have been widely circulated in the countries, and versions run at conferences and workshops</p> <p>DVDs of work on disaster risk reduction through strengthening livelihoods are being prepared for circulation on <www.youtube.com> and on <http://www.practicalaction.org/></p>

Table (continued)

Organization	Project/activity	Progress reported
	<p>Plans to build upon Practical Action's current experience in using participatory video to help capture local knowledge in a manner that is owned by and shared with communities</p> <p>Continued work on identifying and documenting best practice</p> <p>Work to develop an analytical framework to guide planning and analysis of adaptation</p>	<p>Currently working with the International Institute for Environment and Development using participatory video to capture the impact of climate change on communities, and then monitor and evaluate programmes to increase their resilience and adaptive capacity</p> <p>Seeking funding to undertake more community-based programmes on adaptation</p> <p>Funding has recently been secured for new work in Nepal and Bangladesh</p> <p>New funding proposals for work in Peru are also being prepared</p> <p>The framework is included in the book on community-based adaptation; it will also be published as a stand-alone paper, and circulated widely to the academic, donor and other development institutions for comment. A version more suitable for practitioners will also be prepared</p>
World Health Organization (WHO)	A work plan was adopted by the 124 th session of the WHO Executive Board in January 2009	<p>In meeting the objectives of the work plan, WHO will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out advocacy and raise awareness of the health implications of climate change • Engage in partnerships with other United Nations organizations, and in sectors other than the health sector, to ensure that health protection and health promotion are central to climate change • Promote and support the generation of scientific evidence on the links between climate change and health <p>Strengthen health systems to cope with the health threats posed by climate change</p>
World Meteorological Organization	<p>Methods and tools</p> <p>Data and observations</p> <p>Climate-related risks and extreme events</p> <p>Adaptation planning and practices</p> <p>Research/Climate modelling, scenarios and downscaling</p>	<p>Steps taken towards establishing Climate Watch System in the Americas</p> <p>An improved Climate Data Discovery is on track</p> <p>Under way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster risk reduction programme • Initiative to support climate adaptation <p>The following meetings were organized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Symposium on Climate Change and Food Security in South Asia • Workshop on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation to Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries at the National and Regional Levels • International Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change in West African Agriculture <p>The World Climate Research Programme carries out activities in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving climate models and projections • Regional climate downscaling • Decadal climate predictions • Capacity-building

3. Dialogue among focal points and Parties

35. At its twenty-eighth session, the SBSTA requested the secretariat to regularly organize meetings of focal points of engaged organizations and institutions with representatives of interested Parties during the sessions of the COP, with a view to taking stock of activities undertaken by organizations and institutions in support of the objective of the Nairobi work programme and to promoting a periodic dialogue between Parties and partner organizations and institutions.³²

36. The second forum of focal points and Parties took place on 9 December 2008, on the margins of the fourteenth session of the COP. The meeting focused on the new activities under the Nairobi work programme as adopted at SBSTA 28, including those mentioned in paragraphs 25 and 26 above. A number of key messages emerged from the forum:

- (a) The Nairobi work programme is an effective mechanism for catalysing action on adaptation, and it has been successful in facilitating the exchange of experiences, knowledge and information among partner organizations;
- (b) There is a need to measure the impact of the Nairobi work programme (e.g. through the use of partnerships, knowledge and information generated) in supporting rigorous climate risk assessment, adaptation planning and decision-making;
- (c) Significant efforts are required for Nairobi work programme partners to produce and share practical, accessible and policy-relevant knowledge and information in order to support and scale up adaptation planning and implementation;
- (d) There is a need to create additional opportunities for partners to exchange experiences and knowledge and to explore possibilities for collaboration, such as:
 - (i) Convening the focal point forum more than once a year;
 - (ii) Establishing a database of experts in impacts, vulnerability and adaptation;
 - (iii) Organizing thematic online discussions;
 - (iv) Establishing regional focal points.

37. An informal report on this forum is available on the UNFCCC website.³³

2. Private sector

38. Since the beginning of 2008, the secretariat has been furthering the engagement of the private sector in line with decision 2/CP.11, and has developed an initiative to enhance relations with that sector.³⁴ An approach has been developed that caters to the specific situation and objectives of the private sector, whilst ensuring that the work carried out in this context supports the objective of the Nairobi work programme. The engagement of private-sector companies has produced a number of insights that have been utilized in the development of the initiative.

39. The private sector is already engaged in a number of adaptation-related activities. Often businesses do not refer to these activities as adaptation to climate change per se. They are activities carried out as core business strategy or under corporate social responsibility. However, the initiative has helped to highlight that businesses are implementing activities that help enhance adaptive capacity, and

³² FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 29.

³³ <http://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/fpf_report_final.pdf>.

³⁴ Decision 2/CP.11, annex, paragraph 3 (b) (iv), and FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 26.

further aims to provide details of the adaptation activities already being undertaken and to raise the private sector's awareness of adaptation and enhance its actions in this regard.

40. The initiative aims to provide a platform to address three threads of work:
- (a) The contribution that the private sector is making and can potentially make to adaptation, including in the most vulnerable countries, in particular LDCs and SIDS;
 - (b) The opportunities for businesses that may be affected by climate change;
 - (c) The strategies that should be put in place by businesses to ensure that their practices and operations are climate-proof and sustainable.

41. Twenty-one companies have joined the Nairobi work programme private-sector initiative. A web page has been developed which outlines the activities of these companies and explains the modalities of private-sector participation in the Nairobi work programme.³⁵ The web page also showcases examples of best practice regarding the work on adaptation being carried out by partners of the initiative.

42. As at the publication date of this report, the following enterprises of the private sector have engaged in the work of the Nairobi work programme by nominating focal points:

2 Degrees – German CEOs for Climate Protection	MicroEnsure
Allianz Group SE	Munich Re Group
Caisse des Dépôts	Ricoh Co. Ltd
Cisco Systems Inc.	Roland Berger Strategy Consultants GmbH
Daiwa Securities Group Inc.	Sagawa Express Co. Ltd
Deutsche Bahn AG	Siemens AG
Deutsche Bank AG – Asset Management	Suntory Holdings Ltd
Deutsche Post AG	Thames Water Ltd
Google Inc.	Thomas Cook Group PLC
International Union of Railways	Veolia Environment
McKinsey & Company	

C. Dissemination of outcomes

43. The SBSTA, at its twenty-eighth session, welcomed the wide dissemination to relevant stakeholders of outputs resulting from the implementation of the Nairobi work programme. It requested the secretariat to carry out the following activities: to continue, in consultation with Parties, to develop user-friendly outputs and accessible forms to disseminate these outputs; to enhance the Nairobi work programme pages of the UNFCCC website; and to develop further activities aimed at reaching adaptation practitioners at national and subnational levels, in particular in developing countries.³⁶

Calls for action

44. The SBSTA agreed to promote, both within the UNFCCC process and among relevant organizations, institutions, experts and communities, the consideration of recommendations and calls for action that result from workshops and expert meetings, with a view to undertaking activities at international, regional, national and subnational levels aimed at addressing the gaps and needs

³⁵ <<http://unfccc.int/4623.php>>.

³⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 34.

identified.³⁷ Wide dissemination of the calls for action is planned for different Nairobi work programme activities and relevant partner organization events.

45. In addition to the seven calls for action that have been endorsed, one new call for action has been produced since SBSTA 29. It is based on the recommendations made by participants during the technical workshop mentioned in paragraphs 8 and 9 above. This call for action is contained in the annex. All calls for action produced to date are available on the Nairobi work programme pages of the UNFCCC website.³⁸

Website

46. The Nairobi work programme web pages serve as a central platform for collecting and disseminating relevant information on adaptation. The pages are regularly updated to reflect the latest contributions and activities of partner organizations and the most recent outcomes of the negotiation process under the SBSTA, as well as new and forthcoming activities.

47. The secretariat plans to present the information provided by Nairobi work programme partner organizations in a more user-friendly and accessible way. This will include additional details, such as listing partner organizations according to type, and regional and thematic focus. As a first step in this direction, the secretariat is gathering further information from the partner organizations. A form has been made available on the secretariat website³⁹ for organizations to complete and return to the secretariat.

Publications

48. The secretariat produces an electronic newsletter (eUpdate), which is widely distributed. The latest issue was made available in early April 2009. It is also available on the UNFCCC website.⁴⁰

49. A publication entitled *Climate Change: Scientific, Technical and Socio-economic Aspects of Adaptation* is planned to be issued in 2009. It will reflect the substantive outcomes of the activities undertaken under the Nairobi work programme. The objective is to make available to the wider public the knowledge generated and shared in the implementation of these activities so far.

50. In addition to an overview leaflet on the Nairobi work programme, prepared for SBSTA 28, the secretariat is producing individual leaflets on each area of work. The purpose of these leaflets is to raise awareness of the Nairobi work programme among a wide range of stakeholders. The secretariat aims to make all the leaflets available before SBSTA 30. In order to reach a wider readership the overview leaflet will be made available in all official United Nations languages. Work area related leaflets will also be disseminated at workshops and expert meetings mandated under the Nairobi work programme, as well as during other events organized by partner organizations. Electronic versions of the leaflets are available on the UNFCCC website.⁴¹

III. Other relevant information relating to the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

51. Parties and organizations are increasingly undertaking activities in support of the objective of the Nairobi work programme, independently of activities carried out by the secretariat. For example,

³⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 15.

³⁸ <<http://unfccc.int/4430.php>>.

³⁹ <<http://unfccc.int/3633.php>>.

⁴⁰ <<http://unfccc.int/4628.php>>.

⁴¹ <<http://unfccc.int/4628.php>>.

UNISDR, through its Regional Office for the Americas and with support from the Government of Spain, has undertaken to translate several Nairobi work programme documents and publications into Spanish and Portuguese for dissemination in Latin and Central American countries. The World Resources Institute is planning to hold an informal meeting of Nairobi work programme partners to exchange experiences and discuss lessons learned from the work programme that may assist in designing future mechanisms for adaptation learning and knowledge sharing.

52. The Nairobi work programme is becoming increasingly well recognized as a catalyst for actions and a knowledge-sharing mechanism on adaptation among a wide range of stakeholders, including Parties and international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations involved in climate change issues. This growing awareness of the work programme is reflected in the way it is mentioned in public statements, declarations, publications and presentations.

53. At the fifth meeting of the Adaptation Fund Board, held from 24 to 27 March 2009, the Chair of the Adaptation Fund Board invited the Chair of the SBSTA to report on experiences from the Nairobi work programme that could be useful for the operations of the Adaptation Fund.

54. As another example, the Ibero-American Network of Climate Change Offices (RIOCC) has structured its wide-ranging adaptation activities around the nine areas of work under the Nairobi work programme. During the first session of the Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Americas, RIOCC presented its work planned within the framework of the Nairobi work programme to an audience made up of communities concerned with climate change adaptation as well as disaster risk reduction in the Americas.

55. In addition, the *Progress Report on the Implementation of the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC 2004–2008*,⁴² has, inter alia, helped to identify the priorities for climate-related observations to address issues related to data and observations under the UNFCCC and the Nairobi work programme.

IV. Next steps

56. This section provides a brief preview of activities to be undertaken between SBSTA 30 and SBSTA 31, as well as relevant ongoing work in the different work areas of the Nairobi work programme.

57. As mentioned in paragraph 27 above, the secretariat, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, is in the process of developing a more expansive approach to implementing the activities referred to in paragraphs 15, 26, 30 and 35 of the report of the SBSTA at its twenty-eighth session.⁴³ These paragraphs focus on:

- (a) Promoting the consideration of recommendations and calls for action that result from workshops;
- (b) Engaging a wide range of organizations active at the community level and those undertaking education, training and awareness-raising;
- (c) Encouraging specific activities at the national and regional levels;
- (d) Enhancing outreach, promoting existing networks and encouraging the establishment of new networks.

⁴² Global Climate Observing System. 2009. *Progress Report on the Implementation of the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC 2004–2008*. Available at <<http://www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/gcos>>. This report is also contained in document FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.7 and Add.1.

⁴³ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6.

58. This approach is intended to further the reach of the wealth of knowledge, information and expertise gathered under the Nairobi work programme to all stakeholders in adaptation, in particular those at national and subnational levels in developing countries. It also aims to effectively capitalize on the results of actions pledged by the partner organizations in such a way as to contribute towards the objective of the Nairobi work programme.

59. Activities and relevant ongoing work in the different areas of work include:

*Socio-economic information*⁴⁴

- (a) Preparation of a technical paper reviewing the existing literature on the potential costs and benefits of adaptation options;
- (b) Submissions from Parties, by 18 September 2009, of information on efforts undertaken, including methods used, to assess the costs and benefits of adaptation options, as well as their views on lessons learned, good practices, gaps and needs; compilation by the secretariat of these submissions into a miscellaneous document;

*Adaptation planning and practices*⁴⁵

- (c) Preparation of the report on 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, as described in paragraphs 8 and 9 above;
- (d) Preparation of a synthesis report based on:
 - (i) Submissions received on approaches to and experiences in integrating and expanding adaptation planning and action at national, subnational, community and local levels, including scaling up of local and community-based adaptation;⁴⁶
 - (ii) Submissions received on lessons learned, good practices, gaps, needs, barriers and constraints to adaptation, including implementation of adaptation projects;⁴⁷
 - (iii) Other relevant sources, including experiences gained during the national adaptation programme of action process;
- (e) Organization, under the guidance of the Chair of the SBSTA, of a technical workshop to consider how to advance the integration of various approaches to adaptation planning, including scaling up of local and community-based adaptation. This workshop should involve representatives from Parties, relevant organizations, communities and experts. It should be held with a view to making informed decisions on integrated practical adaptation actions and measures at various levels and for various sectors and livelihoods, taking into account the miscellaneous document and the synthesis report referred to in paragraph 59 (d) above;
- (f) Preparation of a report on this workshop, to be made available by SBSTA 32;
- (g) Submissions from Parties and relevant organizations, by 18 September 2009, of information on efforts undertaken to monitor and evaluate the implementation of adaptation projects, policies and programmes and the costs and effectiveness of

⁴⁴ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraphs 50–52.

⁴⁵ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraphs 57–64.

⁴⁶ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.4.

⁴⁷ FCCC/SBSTA/2009/MISC.4.

completed projects, policies and programmes as well as views on lessons learned, good practices, gaps and needs; compilation of these submissions by the secretariat into a miscellaneous document;

*Economic diversification*⁴⁸

- (h) Preparation of a report and a call for action on the technical workshop on increasing economic resilience to climate change and reducing reliance on vulnerable economic sectors mentioned in paragraph 21 above;

60. The secretariat will provide its next report on progress made in implementing activities under the Nairobi work programme, including calls for action, for consideration by the SBSTA at its thirty-first session.

⁴⁸ FCCC/SBSTA/2008/6, paragraph 74.

Annex**Call for action under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change¹**

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 limited understanding of the urgent need for action on climate risk assessment and management and DRR. Political support can be further strengthened 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 work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change. 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

¹ The secretariat has prepared this call for action following guidance from the Chair of the SBSTA. It aims to facilitate the implementation of recommendations resulting from the Nairobi work programme workshops and expert meetings by a wide range of stakeholders. The information is taken from the summary by the Chair of the workshop on adaptation planning and practices, held from 10 to 12 March 2009 in Cuba. Details of related ongoing work is available at <<http://unfccc.int/4430.php>>.

identified in decision 2/CP.11, and to share outcomes of these activities with the SBSTA at subsequent sessions, as appropriate.²

Activities identified under the work area of **adaptation planning and practices**³ include:

Creating an enabling policy environment including incentive mechanisms

- Promote public education, awareness-raising and advocacy, particularly at a high political level;
- Develop draft model legislation and implementation guidelines that can be adapted at national and local levels;
- Develop an instrument similar to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, or an institutional arrangement or legal mandate, calling for the elaboration of national plans for integrating climate-related risk management into development planning.

Improving availability, accessibility and relevance of knowledge and information

- Continue providing 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

- Define 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

- Formally 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;
- Ensure 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 ensure even distribution to, and application by, all levels and sectors;
- Identify good practice and document and promote the pragmatic application of tools.

² FCCC/SBSTA/2006/11, paragraph 17.

³ Activities under the adaptation planning and practices focus area, in this call for action, relate to those identified to promote the integration of climate risk assessment and management and DRR strategies into national policies and programmes and, therefore, they are strongly related to the Nairobi work programme focus area on climate-related risks and extreme events.