

Introduction of the work of the Consultative Group of Experts on non-Annex I National Communications

Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage, Bonn, Germany, 25 - 28 March 2014



What is the CGE?

- The Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) has the objective of **improving the process of and preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties to the Convention by providing technical advice and support.**
- Originally established at COP 5, by decision 19/CP.19 Parties continued the CGE for an additional 5 year mandate, from 2014-2018.
- As stipulated in the CGE's revised terms of reference, in fulfilling its mandate the CGE shall:
 - Identify and provide technical assistance regarding **problems and constraints** that have affected the process of and preparation of national communications (natcomms) and biennial update reports (BURs) by non-Annex I (NAI) Parties;
 - Provide technical assistance and support to NAI Parties to **facilitate the process of and preparation of their natcomms and BURs**;
 - Provide technical advice to **facilitate the development and long-term sustainability of processes of the preparation of natcomms and BURs**, including the elaboration of appropriate institutional arrangements and maintenance of national technical teams;



What is the CGE? (continued)

- As stipulated in the CGE's revised terms of reference, in fulfilling its mandate the CGE shall...
 - Provide recommendations on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of natcomms and BURs from NAI Parties;
 - Provide technical advice and support to Parties, and information on existing activities and programmes to facilitate and support the preparation of natcomms and BURs by NAI Parties;
 - Provide technical advice and support to Parties on steps to integrate climate change considerations into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions;
 - Provide information and technical advice on lessons learned and best practices in the process of and preparation of natcomms and BURs, including in relation to finance and other support available;
 - Provide guidance and periodic advice to the secretariat to assist in fulfilling the selection criteria for the composition of the team of technical experts that will conduct international consultation and analysis of BURs; and
 - Develop and organize appropriate training programmes for nominated technical experts.



NAI national communications guidelines – linkages to loss and damage

- The [non-Annex I national communication reporting guidelines \(17/CP.8\)](#) include provisions for reporting on adaptation to climate change.
- In particular, under the “[Programmes containing measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change](#)” section, non-Annex I Parties are to report the following:
 - Steps taken or envisaged towards formulating, implementing, publishing and regularly updating national and, where appropriate, regional programmes containing measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change;
 - Information on their vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change, and on adaptation measures being taken to meet their specific needs and concerns arising from these adverse effects.



NAI national communications guidelines – linkages to loss and damage (continued)

- Regarding **methodological approaches**, non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to:
 - Use appropriate methodologies and guidelines they consider better able to reflect their national situation for assessing vulnerability and adaptation to climate change;
 - Use appropriate methodologies to evaluate their adaptation strategies and measures.
 - Regarding **reporting of adaptation programmes**, non-Annex I Parties are encouraged to:
 - Provide information on the scope of their vulnerability and adaptation assessment, including identification of vulnerable areas that are most critical;
 - Include a description of approaches and tools used, including scenarios for the assessment of impacts of, and vulnerability and adaptation to, climate change;
 - Provide information on their vulnerability to the impacts of, and their adaptation to, climate change in key vulnerable areas;
 - Provide information on strategies and measures for adapting to climate change in key areas; and
 - Report on the use of policy frameworks for developing and implementing adaptation strategies and measures.
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CGE activities of relevance to loss and damage and the exec committee

- The CGE has developed, and occasionally updates, **training material for NAI Parties to improve their ability to undertake vulnerability and adaptation assessments** as part of the process of preparing their national communications.
- This training material is online available in 3 UN languages, and includes a synopsis of some of the **main methods used by NAI Parties to assess vulnerability and adaptation to climate change**.
- The material includes training on the following topics:
 - Planning, including selecting V&A frameworks;
 - Defining socioeconomic and climate change scenarios;
 - Conducting V&A in the following areas: coastal resources, water resources, agriculture, and human health;
 - Integration, mainstreaming, monitoring and evaluation; and
 - Communication of V&A analysis in natcomms.



CGE activities of relevance to loss and damage and the exec committee

- Using this training material, the CGE has conducted several regional hands-on training workshops.
- From 2011-2013, three [regional hands-on training workshops on vulnerability and adaptation assessments](#) were held, training a total of 137 NAI experts.
- In developing its [draft work program for the period 2014-2018](#), the CGE plans to conduct the following activities relating to adaptation and vulnerability assessments:
 - Update CGE training materials;
 - Conduct regional hands-on training workshops on vulnerability and adaptation assessments in Latin America, Africa, and Asia and the Pacific.

