

QUESTIONNAIRES SUMMARY

Prior to the workshop, the secretariat distributed to the participants a fact-finding questionnaire to assess national priorities to climate change education, training and awareness, and to reveal opportunities and constraints in promoting climate change outreach in the regions. UNEP undertook the analysis of the completed questionnaires. The presentation is a graphic outline of the major findings of this survey, which highlighted the following points:

- Public participation, training and education are ranked as the top priorities among Article 6 elements, followed by public awareness and international cooperation. General public was considered the key target audience to work with; policy makers in ministries and parliamentarians were also important because of their crucial role in developing national climate change policies. Television and radio were identified as the best communication tools in disseminating climate change information

- Countries in the regions have well-established climate change focal points that are known to the public and are easily accessible. Citizens also have adequate access to national and regional climate change information. On the other hand, civil society may be more actively involved in climate change policy-making.

- In terms of potential for strengthening international cooperation on climate change outreach and education, respondents gave multilateral donors, United Nations bodies and developed countries the highest, and cited synergy with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as playing an important role.

- There was consensus that lack of funding is the major impediment to successful implementation of climate change education and outreach work in the region. Other constraints mentioned included inadequate expertise of staff and inadequate political and institutional support.

- Respondents highly appraised on-going New Delhi work programme on Article 6, highlighting that it contributed to better awareness of climate change, stimulated new climate-related activities and promoted better compliance with provisions of the Convention. Regarding major elements of perspective extended New Delhi work programme, responses focused on defined time frame and milestones, measurable indicators of implementation, specific references to the needs of target population groups, synergies with outreach programmes with other major Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).