

Canada's input for the initial two-year workplan for the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage

Canada welcomes the opportunity to present its views on the initial two-year workplan for the implementation of the functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts. The March 2014 initial meeting of the interim Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism allowed for a constructive and inclusive discussion on the workplan and Canada looks forward to continue this exchange with the objective to have, by Lima, a two-year workplan that is conducive to achieving the mandate of the Warsaw International Mechanism.

General comments on the workplan

- The workplan should be based on guidance provided in decisions 3/CP.18 and 2/CP.19, which define the mandate and functions of the Warsaw International Mechanism.
- The 2-year workplan should be realistic in term of workload and be built in a way that will allow the executive committee (Excom) to take ownership in 2015.
- Activities should be comprehensive and build on each other. They should also build on the outcomes of the work programme on loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change (technical papers, expert workshops, etc.).
- Activities should also build on existing knowledge, approaches and institutions under and outside of the Convention and actively engage with experts from relevant fields. The workplan should also seek new and innovative strategies to address slow onset events.
- Addressing climate change impacts, including loss and damage, should be thought of in the context of sustainable development. There are no quick fixes when you are talking about transforming processes that have been developing for decades and are still evolving to address new challenges like climate change impacts.
- Coordination and collaboration between different communities of expert offer a key opportunity to avoid complications in the national implementation of agreements and to improve efficiency across implementation efforts. The workplan should seek to build these synergies and encourage the development of comprehensive and effective processes that facilitate their implementation by national governments.

Activities

As examples of how Canada perceives the input mentioned above translating into the workplan, Canada would like to propose the following set of activities for the workplan.

Area: Integrating loss and damage considerations into climate resilient development processes.

Activities:

- Technical Paper on how loss and damage elements are already being considered in National Adaptation Plans and National Communications and identify potential gaps.
- Workshop with experts to explore ways to fill gaps identified in technical paper and to develop tools/guidance on how to integrate missing loss and damage elements in National Adaptation Plans, when possible.
- Support developing countries in using these tools/guidance through LEG and CGE training and/or through GEF global support programme.

Area: Finance

Activities:

- Excom to invite Parties and relevant organizations to make submissions to the secretariat, on a wide and inclusive range of tools to address loss and damage from all sources and relevant work streams, and at all levels (international, regional, and national).
- Invite the SCF to develop a technical paper based on the submissions referred above.
- In collaboration with the SCF, organize an expert meeting on a wide and inclusive range of tools to address loss and damage from all sources and relevant work streams, and at all levels (international, regional, and national).
- Explore financing opportunities with the insurance and reinsurance industry and other relevant investments institutions, to reduce investment risk for the most vulnerable populations through insurance and other green investments.