

THE NINE WORK AREAS OF
THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME

7 RESEARCH

WHAT IS THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

The Nairobi work programme, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aims to assist countries that are party to the Convention, particularly developing countries, to improve their understanding and assessment of impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and to make informed decisions thereon.

WHAT DOES RESEARCH REFER TO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME?

Under the Convention, Parties are called on to promote and cooperate in climate observations and research on the factors affecting the climate system in order to increase knowledge of and project climate change, and better understand the vulnerability of humans and ecosystems to climate change impacts. Work area 7 promotes research on adaptation options and the development and diffusion of technologies, know-how, and practices for adaptation. Work area 7 particularly addresses identified adaptation priorities and builds on lessons learned from adaptation projects and strategies. It promotes research on adaptive capacities and adaptation practices that increase resilience to climate change impacts.

HOW DOES THIS WORK AREA CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFORTS OF STAKEHOLDERS?

Undertaking activities in work area 7 can assist stakeholders at international, regional, national and local levels to identify the opportunities and means to plan and implement adaptation practices that increase resilience to unavoidable climate change impacts. Better understanding of the numerous and complex interlinkages of climate change vulnerability and impacts can promote opportunities for stakeholders to better understand climate-related risks and extreme events and increase resilience, and hence assist in effectively planning adaptation actions.



RESEARCH

WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE AND WHAT UPCOMING ACTIVITIES CAN BE EXPECTED?

Progress includes a synthesis report on ongoing and planned adaptation research and adaptation research needs identified in submissions by Parties and relevant organizations.

Activities mandated and requested during 2008 – 2010 include:

- Greater consideration of adaptation in the research dialogues, which will take place in June 2009 and June 2010, organized under the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA). This can include further discussion on adaptation-related research needs by the Parties and information on the activities carried out by the research community. The dialogues address such issues as emerging scientific findings, research planning activities, research priorities and gaps, research capacity-building activities particularly in developing countries, regional climate change research networks, and relevant communication issues.
- Relevant institutions are encouraged to carry out further research on vulnerability mapping for analysis of the impacts associated with climate change in key areas, including terrestrial and marine ecosystems, in light of economic, environmental and social indicators.

At the beginning of 2009, 16 Action Pledges related to this work area had been received by the secretariat. Action pledges provide an interactive way for Nairobi work programme partners to contribute actions towards the goals and objectives of the Nairobi work programme.

For the latest information on this work area,
and accompanying documentation:

<http://unfccc.int/3992.php>

