

Methods and approaches for assessing adaptation, adaptation co-benefits and resilience

Adaptation Committee

Bonn, Germany, 17-18 June 2019



Overview: The Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC) is the principal body under the UNFCCC tasked with promoting the implementation of enhanced action on adaptation in a coherent manner under the Convention through providing authoritative technical advice and guidance to Parties



Overview of relevant AC work

Work undertaken in the context of providing technical support and guidance to the Parties:

1. On assessing, monitoring and evaluating adaptation at national level
2. On reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support at global level
3. On enhancing adaptation, resilience and co-benefits:
 - 2016 Expert meeting on promoting livelihoods and economic diversification
 - 2018 workshop on fostering the engagement of the agri-food sector in resilience to climate change
 - Upcoming 2019 paper on linkages between adaptation and mitigation



Work on assessing, monitoring and evaluating adaptation at national level: activities

- 2013 workshop on the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of adaptation
- 2016 Inventory of ongoing monitoring and evaluation work of adaptation prepared for the AC under the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change
- 2018 M&E event during NAP Expo
- 2018 workshop on national adaptation goals and indicators, and their relationship with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- By June 2020: AC, in collaboration with LEG, NWP and others, to develop an inventory of methodologies for assessing adaptation needs
- By February 2021: Parties and observer organizations to submit views and information on the development and application of such methodologies
- By November 2022: AC, with engagement of IPCC WG II, to prepare a technical paper on such methodologies



Work on M&E of adaptation action at national level: findings

- **M&E of adaptation serves different purposes**, including contributing to learning about what works and what does not, providing evidence of results and impacts, ensuring accountability and allowing for reporting, including to the UNFCCC
- Need to **distinguish between the M&E of process of adaptation and the outcomes of adaptation interventions** (i.e. has vulnerability been reduced and capacity been enhanced)
- There are **no global universal adaptation metrics and indicators** but only country-specific M&E systems reflecting different development planning and adaptation policies



Work on M&E of adaptation action at national level: findings cont.

- When considering a national adaptation M&E framework, **build on existing M&E frameworks, indicators and institutional arrangements**, to the extent possible, to ensure that they are adaptation sensitive and integrative across sectors and levels rather than creating new frameworks
- Although full and complete harmonization among the Paris Agreement, the SDGs and the Sendai Framework may not be feasible nor useful, some degree of **synergy could be beneficial** for:
 - Building resilience comprehensively across societies
 - Saving resources, time and enhance efficiency
- **Strengthening the linkage of the M&E systems vertically from local to national and even regional levels** is expected to further improve countries' understanding of implementation across the three agendas



Work on reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support at global level: activities

- 2016-2018: based on COP 21 request, AC and LEG, together with SCF, work on methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support as input to the Global Stocktake (assessing the collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the Paris Agreement and its long-term goals):
 - Desk reviews and background papers
 - Submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders
 - Expert meetings
- 2019 and onward: AC, LEG and others to continue compiling existing methodologies for reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support
- By April 2020: Submissions from Parties and non-Party stakeholders on this matter



Work on reviewing the adequacy and effectiveness of adaptation and support at global level: findings

- **Mechanisms exist at global level to share information, to monitor progress and to allow for learning on adaptation** (including the NAPs, NDCs, national communications, adaptation communications, BTRs and the proposed modalities for recognizing efforts)
- **Difficult to aggregate national-level assessments to capture collective global progress** towards strengthened adaptive capacity and reduced vulnerability. Metrics are slowly evolving but require further testing.
- **Further technical work and political discussions are needed to evaluate adaptation progress at global level**, including to allow for reviewing progress towards the global goal on adaptation



Information on the AC's work is available at

<https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/constituted-bodies/adaptation-committee-ac>

