

Adaptation Committee's regional activities in 2023 and options for regional engagements in 2024

Informal Note

Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

The Adaptation Committee (AC), at its 25th meeting, will be invited to consider the outcomes of the regional events in 2023 as contained in this informal summary, and discuss possibilities of further regional engagement, subject to the availability of resources.

1. Introduction and background

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) by decisions [8/CP.27](#) and [10/CMA.4](#), encouraged the AC to make further use of the organization of regional events as ways to improve the dissemination, understanding and use of its knowledge products by organizations and practitioners within and outside the UNFCCC process and in all geographical regions.
2. During AC 24 in September 2023, the AC deliberated on and duly noted a status update presented by the chair of the thematic working group regarding regional initiatives. The AC welcomed the progress achieved through regional efforts and directed the secretariat to provide a comprehensive progress report on the 2023 initiatives during AC25. This report aims to identify potential opportunities and regional engagements for the year 2024.

2. Regional engagements in 2023

3. In response to a mandate to enhance its role in providing coherence and guidance on adaptation, the AC organized a series of workshops aimed at fostering engagement with national, regional, and international organizations, centers, and networks. These workshops, titled "Boosting Region-wide Coherence on Adaptation," were conducted in the latter half of 2023.
4. In these workshops, the AC engaged with region-wide and international organizations, centers, and networks, promoting synergies among multi-country and transboundary initiatives in line with global efforts. These efforts included organizing region-wide engagement events to facilitate exchanges with key stakeholders. The objective was to co-create an understanding of region-wide and transboundary adaptation actions and support, fostering collaboration among relevant organizations, development banks, and other stakeholders.
5. The workshops were integrated into larger events, including Regional Climate Weeks, across different continents. This integration provided an opportunity for broader participation and collaboration:
 - a) Korea Global Adaptation Week, Incheon City, Republic of Korea (workshop for Asia-Pacific (AP) region, held on 28-29 August);
 - b) Africa Regional Climate Week, Nairobi, Kenya (workshop held on 5-6 September);
 - c) Middle East & North Africa (MENA) Regional Climate Week, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (workshop held on 8 October);

- d) Latin America & the Caribbean (LAC) Regional Climate Week, Panama City, Panama (workshop held on 26-27 October).
6. The AC prepared informal summary reports on each workshop, ensuring transparency and accessibility of information for stakeholders. These reports are available for reference through provided on the dedicated web portal.¹
7. A highlight of these events was the "Setting the Scene" segment featuring high-level speakers who provided insights into the ongoing work of the AC and its connections with global developments such as on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA), and the first Global Stocktake (GST), as well as the main climate change impacts and risks presented by a representative of the the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).
8. Over 145 organizations participated in these workshops, highlighting the significance of regional platforms in advancing adaptation actions.
9. AC members played various roles in organizing and participating in these events, including designing agendas, suggesting presenters, conducting openings and closings, and representing the AC in outreach activities during the Regional Climate Weeks (RCWs).²
10. Parallel to the workshops, a comprehensive online public survey was launched to complement the findings, and on-site interviews were conducted to gather further insights.
11. The workshops aimed to achieve several outcomes, including enhancing understanding of ongoing adaptation efforts, exploring collaboration opportunities, strengthening linkages among key actors, engaging stakeholders in longer-term collaboration efforts, and facilitating information exchange between the AC and relevant stakeholders.
12. Each workshop concluded with the publication of the summary reports encompassing various components such as agendas, highlights from discussions, featured projects, adaptation priorities, gaps and needs, opportunities for collaboration, outcomes and suggestions for future AC work, and key regional takeaways. The individual websites also feature the PowerPoint presentations and interviews from the events.
13. The progress of these regional activities was presented at AC 24 during the week of 8 September 2023. At that meeting, the AC acknowledged the value of regional work in preparation for a 2024 stocktaking and ongoing engagements.
14. While each region had its unique aspects, several shared elements emerged in terms of adaptation priorities, gaps and needs, enablers of collaboration, and opportunities for AC support. These included resilient agriculture and water management, early warning systems, ecosystem-based adaptation, disaster risk reduction, human mobility, insufficient funding, technical capacity, climate information and technologies, lack of strong institutions and inter-agency coordination mechanisms, common monitoring and evaluation frameworks, sharing of good practices, peer-to-peer learning, multi-stakeholder coalitions, strengthening of policy and legal frameworks, and harmonizing different agendas such as disaster risk reduction.
15. Apart from organizing these workshops, the AC contributed to regional conferences and meetings, such as the 2023 regional climate weeks and the 2023 regional workshop of LEDSLAC.³ This network focuses on promoting, designing, and implementing low-emission development strategies in Latin America and the Caribbean.

3. Possibilities for regional engagement in 2024

16. At the time of considering this document, the regional climate weeks for 2024 have not yet been announced. Currently, the secretariat is in the process of reviewing and revising its approach, and will

¹ <https://unfccc.int/AC-boosting-region-wide-coherence-on-adaptation>

² <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/regional-climate-weeks>

³ <https://www.ledslac.org/taller-regional-2023/>

promptly share information via the website. However, this does not impede the AC from continuing its work, fostering networks, and disseminating outputs in regional settings.

17. Additionally, the potential expansion of the work carried out by the UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centers (RCCs)⁴ in 2024 regarding adaptation presents an opportunity for the AC to enhance its engagement at a regional level. Subject to the availability of resources, their work plans for 2024 may encompass various potential activities, such as:
- a) **Data and intelligence gathering:** Supporting the amplification of the visibility of the Adaptation Committee by raising awareness of the Adaptation Agenda and gathering inputs regarding needs and gaps to tailor policy tools. This includes initiatives such as the State of Adaptation Action and country profiles, which serve as repositories for adaptation efforts centralized in an interactive dashboard. Additionally, there is a provision for ad-hoc support for events and outreach activities, including during side-events at SBs, COPs and RCWs.
 - b) **Raising awareness and networking:** Focusing on the implementation of the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience in terms of giving visibility to the development of AC technical guidance and trainings and other relevant recommendations. This involves supporting visibility and outreach efforts such as the Adaptation Forum through RCC newsletters and networks. Additionally, RCCs can support by facilitating regional substantive inputs, mapping strategic actors, identifying experts, speakers, initiatives, and partners, as well as providing logistical support as needed.
 - c) **Events organization support:** Assisting in the organization of events in various regions, which includes tasks such as identifying panelists and partners, managing logistics, and communications. There's also provision for on-the-ground support to AC members during side-events at SBs, COPs, and RCWs.

4. Next steps

18. The AC, at its 25th meeting, may wish to discuss possibilities of further regional engagement, subject to the availability of resources.

19. At AC 26, the secretariat will present a progress report on the RCWs and any other collaboration activities with the RCCs relevant to the AC, as outlined in the aforementioned points, subject to agreement by the AC at the current meeting.

Documentation information

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
0.1.0	06 March 2024	AC 25 The AC is invited to consider the information contained in this document and provide further guidance as needed.

Keywords: Regional cooperation, Resilience, Adaptation Committee.

⁴ <https://unfccc.int/RCCs>