

## Monitoring, evaluation and learning

### Draft concept note

#### Recommended action by the Adaptation Committee

At its 29<sup>th</sup> meeting the AC will be invited to consider the information contained in this concept note and provide guidance to the secretariat on the next steps in continuing the work on the monitoring, evaluation and learning of adaptation action.

## I. Background

1. Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation has been one of the priority areas of work of the Adaptation Committee (AC) since its first workplan. The most recent progress was the publication of a technical paper on monitoring and evaluation of adaptation at the national and subnational levels in 2023.<sup>1</sup> Subsequently, the AC agreed to collaborate on the development of a Toolkit on monitoring, evaluation, and learning for national adaptation plan processes (MEL Toolkit), upon invitation by the NAP Global Network (NAP GN). The toolkit was launched in May 2024 as a product of the AC and the NAP Global Network.<sup>2</sup> Since its launch the toolkit has been promoted via webinars<sup>3</sup> and served as a basis for respective training and outreach activities by the two bodies, including the AC's training on gaps and needs related to NAPs at the NAP Expo 2024,<sup>4</sup> and the NAP GN's online course on Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning for National Adaptation Plan Processes,<sup>5</sup> amongst others.
2. The AC's flexible workplan for 2025-2027 contains a placeholder for further activities on monitoring, evaluation and learning, including follow-up work from the technical paper and the toolkit, as appropriate.
3. At its 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AC discussed options for such activities. These options included undertaking MEL-related work in the context of other relevant mandates such as the ones on supporting the implementation of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Framework for Global Climate Resilience with technical guidance and training materials thereon (decision 2/CMA.5, paragraph 44), on developing recommendations on how to improve reporting on adaptation action and progress (decision 2/CMA.5, paragraph 45) and on considering and addressing the gaps and needs of developing country Parties in the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (decision 8/CP.24, para 18 and following). It agreed that concept notes to be prepared in the context of these mandates could include relevant activities on MEL.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/AC\\_TechnicalPaper\\_AdaptationMandE\\_2023.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/AC_TechnicalPaper_AdaptationMandE_2023.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/napg-n-en-2024-mel-toolkit-nap-processes.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> See, for example <https://napglobalnetwork.org/event/webinar-unveiling-toolkit-monitoring-evaluation-and-learning-national-adaptation-plan-processes/>.

<sup>4</sup> See document FCCC/SB/2024/4, para. 62.

<sup>5</sup> Available at <https://naphglobalnetwork.org/2025/03/course-monitoring-evaluation-learning-nap/>.

4. In addition, the AC agreed on the need to update the MEL Toolkit. In its discussion, it considered seeking feedback from practitioners on its current version, possibly at the 2026 NAP Expo or by gathering input through virtual channels, and updating the toolkit in light of the CMA 7 outcomes on the UAE-Belém work programme on indicators.
5. The NAP GN also envisioned to periodically update the MEL Toolkit with the aim of supporting countries in operationalising national MEL systems for NAP processes, and sustaining capacities for maintaining these. This aligns with the AC's vision to undertake MEL-related activities in the context of supporting countries in implementing NAPs and the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.
6. An update of the MEL Toolkit in 2026 would help support countries in taking into account the recently adopted Belém Adaptation Indicators in their national MEL systems, and in enhancing efforts to report on the adaptation component in biennial transparency reports by December 2026.
7. The update would be implemented in collaboration with the NAP GN.

## II. Possible steps to update the MEL Toolkit

8. The AC may wish to consider the following possible approach to updating and disseminating the MEL Toolkit in collaboration with the NAP GN:<sup>6</sup>
  - (a) Seek feedback on the toolkit:
    - a. As part of the AC event which is planned to take place on 25 April 2026 during the third climate week in Yeosu, Republic of Korea, on the topic "From data to decisions: MEL systems inform policy, investment and adaptive management for climate resilience;
    - b. As part of events during the 64<sup>th</sup> sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies;
    - c. From organised virtual consultations through the NAP Global Network with national actors and other relevant stakeholders.
  - (b) Update the MEL Toolkit based on the following possible elements:
    - a. Adding the 59 Belém Adaptation Indicators, and elements for disaggregation, along with considerations for their implementation and alignment with national MEL systems taking into account their country-driven and non-prescriptive nature;
    - b. Providing stronger linkages with the recommendations contained in the 2025 update of the NAP Technical Guidelines;
    - c. Integrating lessons and good practices from the first round of review of the Biennial Transparency Reports into the reporting section;
    - d. Adding and updating country case studies to reflect new developments and good practices that have emerged over the past two years;
    - e. Adding and revising the key resources and links to reflect new guidance and literature and to integrate best available science;
    - f. Including guidance on how to build and attract capacities, finance, and technology to sustain the implementation of national MEL systems over time;

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<sup>6</sup> The proposed steps are subject to the availability of resources and the outcome of the AC's consideration of its new guidelines on collaboration with external experts and entities (see AC 29 agenda item 15 (c)).

- g. Providing information on linkages and synergies between the different UN Conventions in the context of MEL;
  - h. Including other types of updates based on the feedback received.
- (c) Disseminate the updated MEL Toolkit at key events including the Adaptation Forum and COP 31, among others.
- (d) Leverage the updated MEL Toolkit, and the free online MEL course, for supporting the implementation of NAPs and the UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience.

### **III. Next steps**

9. At its 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, the AC may wish to consider the following next steps in updating the MEL Toolkit and provide further guidance to the secretariat, as appropriate:
- (a) The AC and the NAP GN to seek feedback from users of the MEL Toolkit via the means listed in paragraph 6 (a);
  - (b) NAP GN to prepare a first draft of the update for the AC's intersessional consideration;
  - (c) NAP GN to prepare the final draft for the AC's consideration at AC 30, taking into account the inputs received from the AC intersessionally.
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