



Fact Sheet

The UNFCCC Programme Budget 2020-21

The UNFCCC budget is adopted by Parties every two years. In June 2019, Parties will consider the 2020-21 budget proposal in Bonn at SBI 50 and forward a recommendation for adoption at COP 25 in December in Chile.

A budget for a new era of the climate change process

The proposed budget - With the entry into force of the Paris Agreement and the successful outcomes of the implementation guidelines in Katowice, the climate change process has entered a new era of climate action. The proposed UNFCCC budget for 2020-21 has been developed to specifically respond to the requirements of the new era.

To ensure a predictable and adequate resource base for the implementation of mandated activities, the **proposed core budget for 2020-21 is EUR 68.7 million** (2018-19: EUR 56.9 million). The 2020-21 budget is based on a transparent, participatory and inclusive process to ensure a balanced allocation across all programmes and operations.

The secretariat undertook a thorough review of its activities and structures to ensure that the 2020-21 budget transparently and comprehensively responds to mandates by and expectations of Parties. In doing so, the secretariat focused on ensuring that there are no redundancies or duplications.

Zero nominal growth budget - As mandated by COP decision 21/CP.23, a zero nominal growth scenario of EUR 56.9 million is also presented. However, the zero nominal growth budget will not be sufficient to deliver on all mandates in a balanced, sustainable manner.

The increase of EUR 11.8 million over two years in the proposed 2020-21 budget relates mainly to three areas:

1. Correcting structural and programmatic imbalances that have existed in the secretariat:
 - Dedicated support to specific thematic areas (Loss and Damage, Gender and Action for Climate Empowerment);
 - Oversight of workstreams on cooperative implementation under the Convention and the Paris Agreement, previously funded by Kyoto Protocol fees;
 - The minimum number of meetings of constituted bodies and mandated events, including the NAP Expo and the Standing Committee on Finance forum.
2. New tasks mandated in Paris and Katowice:
 - A new workstream and constituted body on compliance;
 - A new body for Indigenous Peoples;
 - A new body for response measures;
 - Support to the preparation for the global stocktake.
3. Statutory staff cost increases of approximately 2.5 per cent.

Strengthening the climate regime in the new era

The proposed budget is necessary for the UNFCCC secretariat to provide the services and activities required by the Parties in support of the intergovernmental climate change regime. Advancing this regime into the new era is critical to building trust among all Parties and ensure transparency.

Secretariat activities that respond directly to the Parties and the climate change regime in 2020-21 include:

1. **NDCs and national climate action** - supporting the intergovernmental framework that ensures transparency of climate action and support to governments. This includes the processing of over 100 national reports and inventories and increasing numbers of national adaptation plans and long-term strategies.
2. **Constituted bodies** - support to thirteen technical bodies and to the implementation of their work programmes, including on adaptation, loss and damage, mitigation, climate finance and climate technology. This involves planning of, logistical and substantive support to and follow-up on over 50 meetings in the biennium.
3. **Data and knowledge management** - providing complex information, knowledge and technical guidance to governments and other stakeholders through the secretariat website and nine portals on various thematic areas, such as adaptation knowledge, sources of finance and technology, national plans and tracking of international cooperation.
4. **Global stocktake** - supporting the review of the long-term global goal and preparations needed for the design of the global stocktake, which is critical to governments to assess collective progress. This involves enhanced coordination and integration of information from all UNFCCC bodies and processes to be made available to Parties.
5. **Observer organizations** - engagement of a broad range of stakeholders to complement and support the efforts of governments, which includes managing the admission and participation of around 2,400 observer organizations in meetings of the process including the COPs.

The above activities support Parties by:

- **Facilitating** the understanding by all Parties of the status of global efforts to address climate change and to communicate the nature of the global challenges.
- **Connecting** Parties with each other and with support and expertise from a broad range of stakeholders.
- **Supporting** information sharing and the identification of best practice in national implementation and international cooperation.

Sustainable and predictable funding for the secretariat

To fund the mandated activities of the secretariat, there has been an increasing trend in the past of supporting many essential and long-term activities from supplementary contributions. This is not a sustainable means of funding a global intergovernmental process of significant political importance.

Following the universal agreement of the outcomes in Paris and Katowice, it is critical to ensure a balanced and predictable treatment and implementation of all aspects of the intergovernmental climate change process.

Bonn, May 2019