



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change

GST INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF OUTPUTS

Reflections by the co-facilitators of the technical
dialogue of the first GST

Farhan Akhtar and Harald Winkler

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Where we are in the Technical Dialogue (in context of GST 1)

- Completed two of three meetings – will conclude at TD1.3 in June 2023
- Aim is to lay a strong technical basis for political consideration
 - Listening during this consultation
- Assessing collective progress and reflecting on how to realise opportunities
- Ambition and equity, based on best available science - lay foundation for implementable outcomes
- Emerging messages are part of summary report 2:
 - published on 31 March 2023 on GST web-site - https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GST.TD_2023.SummaryReport2_31March2023.pdf
- Information note on TD1.3 will be published next week; virtual informal consultations will follow



Arc of discussions from TD1.1 to 1.3



June 2022 TD1.1: Good interactive exchanges, many written submissions; laid information base, incl. on well-known gaps and discussions on what is being done. We know we are not on track on climate action



November 2022 TD1.2: Detailed discussions on how to bridge gaps; how to shift focus to implementation



March 2023: Summary report following TD1.2



June 2023 TD1.3: Discussion on emerging messages and remaining issues: What is next? What messages are you taking home from the GST? Focus on steps to accelerate collective progress and more effective implementation of actions and support



Early September 2023: TD synthesis report captures key findings, based on TD1 and drawing on summary reports and inputs



Co-facilitators' reflections: Emerging messages in summary report 2

- CF reflections on overall context (section II.A) and on what we see as emerging messages across clusters from discussions so far:
 - Mitigation, including response measures (section II.B)
 - Adaptation, including loss and damage (II. C)
 - Means of implementation and support (II.D)
 - Integrated and holistic approaches (II. E).
- 16 bolded statements, followed by longer narratives
- Emerging messages ≠ final; yet political CO has some sense of what is emerging in TD



Emerging message in bolded font, followed by supporting statements and information

2. **Collectively, there is increasing ambition in plans and commitments for adaptation, but there also remains an implementation gap, in that plans are implemented inadequately, unevenly and incrementally.**

Adaptation planning and implementation

60. Many governments are coming forward with diverse portfolios of adaptation actions, policies and goals, tailored to the national and local adaptation needs. There is extensive action on adaptation reflected in NAPs – well beyond what has been officially communicated.

61. Some 139 developing countries have embarked on the formulation of NAPs although progress on developing and implementing NAPs has been slow, especially among LDCs. Yet there is only modest progress on adaptation and risk management, because the implementation of NAPs is at an early stage with limited demonstrable progress. Concerningly, efforts are failing to keep pace with increasing climate impacts and risks and plans on paper are not necessarily being implemented in practice. In addition, there is increased evidence of maladaptation across many sectors and regions as well as broader development decisions that are driving increases in climate-related risks.

62. Parties and non-Party stakeholders need to put in place durable, long-term reforms that integrate climate change risks into all aspects of planning and decision-making. The adaptation cycle can be broken down into an iterative approach for developing durable adaptation actions:

(a) Risk assessment: assessments of climate change induced risks, impacts and vulnerabilities lay the foundation for the planning and subsequent implementation of actions to adapt to these risks and impacts. Of the 80 per cent of Parties that included an adaptation component in their NDCs, 91 per cent describe key climatic changes and how these impacts affect vulnerable sectors and groups (FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/4);

(b) Planning process/mainstreaming: planning for actions that respond and reduce assessed risks from climate change are developed through an inclusive process and instituted in a policy or practice. As of 31 August 2022, at least 84 per cent of Parties have at least one adaptation planning instrument (a plan, strategy, law or policy) in place;¹⁸

(c) Implementation of adaptation actions: adaptation plans are put into practice either proactively or retroactively in response to climate change impacts. Progress on implementation is taking place across all sectors and regions, but is unevenly distributed with observed adaptation gaps (IPCC AR6 WGII contribution);

(d) Monitoring, evaluating and learning from progress: adaptation efforts are monitored and evaluated for their effectiveness in reducing risks of climate-related impacts. While monitoring and evaluation of, and learning from, adaptation progress is fundamental for effective, iterative adaptation, the implementation of monitoring and evaluation is currently limited (IPCC AR6 WGII contribution). Indeed, as of August 2021, only around a quarter of countries had a monitoring and evaluation system in place;¹⁹

(e) Iterations: based on information from the monitoring and evaluation phase, further adjustments are needed to the planning processes based on lessons learned.

3. **When adaptation is informed and driven by local contexts and priorities, both the adequacy and the effectiveness of adaptation action and support can be enhanced and can promote transformational adaptation.**

67. In order to understand the risks faced and to be able to adjust accordingly, decision makers at all levels must continually evaluate the country's particular climate change

²⁰ Decision 11/CMA.1, section II.

hazards, exposure and vulnerability. There is no single endpoint where a community can be declared fully resilient, because the contexts and risks for a community change over time. Adaptation planning and implementation entails a continuous process with iterations building on previous actions and experiences, and managing new risks as they are identified, as well as exchanging best practices with other countries and subnational governments.

68. Accordingly, there is no single process or procedure to measure progress in terms of adequacy and/or effectiveness of adaptation and support for adaptation. The adequacy of adaptation actions can be measured in stages and by the degree to which adaptation results in resilience that is sustained over time.

69. In contrast, the amount of international financial support for adaptation can be measured, although the adequacy of such support is limited compared with the scale of needs. Realigning financial flows away from maladaptation towards mainstreaming adaptation into decision-making is also a critical component in scaling up finance for adaptation to effectively support iterative and sustained adaptation actions. Adaptation efforts and support for adaptation can be undermined, or made less effective, through other decisions and circumstances that affect vulnerability and exposure to climate hazards. This underscores the need for systemic capacity-building and comprehensive risk management approaches where the risks from climate change are incorporated in decision-making at all levels.

Begin with the end in mind

- End: what GST is to inform: strengthened NDCs and enhanced international cooperation
- End: of Technical Dialogue
 - TD1.3 final meeting (June)
 - Summary report (proceedings) of TD1.3
 - Synthesis report (TD SYR) including findings (aiming at early Sept)
 - CFs present findings – at October workshop?
- CO considers *implications* of findings
- Negotiated and non-negotiated outputs
 - As CFs, were thinking to keep technical annex technical, i.e. appended to TD SYR



Laying a strong technical basis for political consideration

- What is next? – Requires technical and political components to be well connected
 - Political signals very important for momentum (answer ‘why?’)
 - Technical important for implementation (‘how to?’)
 - Both are important for ‘what is next’
- Technical-political connection is key to delivering implementable, equity- and science-based outcomes of the first GST
- ... and for strong follow up – more ambition in NDCs and enhanced international cooperation





THANK YOU

Emails: harald.winkler@uct.ac.za | akhtarfh@state.gov | gst@unfccc.int