



## Input from the Climate Resilience Network and Initiative

*Current members include: UN Climate Resilience Initiative (A2R), Global Resilience Partnership (GRP), Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), Climate Justice Resilience Fund (CJRF), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Global Adaptation and Resilience Investment (GARI) Working Group, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), ICF, ICLEI – Local governments for sustainability, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Lightsmith Group, Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program, Red Cross Climate Centre, SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Center, UN Environment, Wetlands International, Willis Towers Watson, World Bank, World Economic Forum.*

### QUESTIONS FOR STRUCTURING INPUTS TO THE MARRAKECH PARTNERSHIP FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

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#### PRIORITIES AND FOCUS AREAS

##### 1. Priorities

As described in the indicative work programme for 2019 of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, the priorities for this year are:

- a) Strengthening **interaction between Parties and non-Party stakeholders** and promoting integration of action, among all levels of government and sectors, with a view to catalysing concrete action on high-impact issues, in particular related to cross-cutting areas, and leveraging, inter alia, the collaborative experience of the Talanoa Dialogue process;
- b) **Broadening the participation** of non-Party stakeholders in the Marrakech Partnership in regions and sectors in order to ensure a more balanced representation and to realize greater potential for action, in particular in developing countries;
- c) Providing **follow-up, continuity and coherence** with and between major milestones. Engagement activities and milestones should not be viewed in isolation but build on one another;
- d) **Communicating with impact** the work of the Marrakech Partnership and developing coherent messages that are tailored and delivered to different audiences.

**Q1. Do the above priorities adequately reflect what needs to be done to accelerate pre-2020 action and support enhanced ambition, adaptation, resilience and support? If not, how could they be refined? In the context of the priorities, could specific actions be taken to achieve the desired outcomes?**

In order to enhance ambitions on adaptation and resilience, the MPGCA priorities could be further refined and be enacted as proposed below;

- a) Strengthening **interaction between Parties and non-Party stakeholders** and promoting integration of action, among all levels of government and sectors, with a view to catalyzing concrete action on high-impact issues, in particular related to cross-cutting areas, and leveraging, inter alia, the collaborative experience of the Talanoa Dialogue process;  
*Proposed specific actions:*



- Establish necessary spaces and means of communication and interaction between parties and non-party stakeholders, during COP negotiations. A timeslot could be negotiated with UNFCCC for the presentation of the outcomes of each of the thematic high-level events of the MPGCA days, in order to guarantee that Parties are informed on the priorities and actions taken by non-Party stakeholders including public-private and community perspectives.
  - Include in high-level events, not only ministerial level speakers, but also representatives across all government levels and sectors, including technical speakers, as well as private and local actors to showcase ongoing and convergence of collective action for scaling up evidence-based solutions (with return investments) across and within key sectors (especially for the agriculture and food related sectors).
  - Guarantee coverage of the most relevant sectors as part of the thematic sessions of the MPGCA, including agriculture, energy, transport, industry, health, human settlements, natural resources (water, land use or terrestrial areas, and oceans and coastal zones), and infrastructure. In addition ensure that cross-cutting theme such as resilience and finance are also addressed in view of their importance for facing climate change. Each theme should be structured around Governance-Policies, Finance and Technology-Innovation as well as resilience (new entry) for the enhancement of implementation of climate action linking mitigation, adaptation and resilience across sectors, as done already in 2017 and 2018. And each theme should systematically indicate to which SDGs it contributes. This structure would also help to feed to the different ministries in which the different Parties are usually structured, and with whom non-Party actors lobby and advocate.
  - Directly engage private sector investors, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders to focus on mobilizing finance through specific instruments and investments, including in the development of technologies and solutions to generate climate resilience and adaptation across and within sectors. Support should be provided for the identification, development, and scaling up of SMEs in developing countries that can provide these climate resilience technologies and solutions (especially for the agriculture and food related sectors that provides more than 70% of the livelihoods in developing countries and is estimated to more than 2,5 billion people).
  - Finally, overall the MPGCA thematic and cross-cutting priorities could be revisited or aligned to the wording and priorities for transformation as indicated in the latest IPCC report on 1.5 degree. This would greatly help to sharpen our language and focus on priority actions across and within key sectors most at risk.
- b) **Broadening the participation** of non-Party stakeholders in the Marrakech Partnership in regions and sectors in order to ensure a more balanced representation and to realize greater potential for action, in particular in developing countries;
- Proposed specific actions:*
- In addition to the points mentioned above on having a broader representation of speakers from public-private and community actors, it is important to show-case climate actions across and within sectors from the different regions of the world, including from the developed and developing countries (or the North and South). This is because many climate actions, especially adaptation and resilience interventions are context specific and need to be tailored and adjusted to the local conditions at household, farm, enterprise, and landscape or ecosystem levels for example.
  - Speakers should show-case climate actions in favour of the different population group bases on different gender and vulnerability, including actions focused on women,



indigenous people, people with disabilities, youth, local producer cooperatives and other local associations, etc. And when possible, the climate actions with and by these different population groups should be presented by their own representatives.

- Speakers should also be engaged from the private sector – both investors and companies (SMEs and others) that can be sources of capacity and solutions in developing countries for climate resilience and adaptation.

- c) Providing **follow-up, continuity and coherence** with and between major milestones. Engagement activities and milestones should not be viewed in isolation but build on one another;

*Proposed specific actions:*

- Additional to the proposed thematic structure of the MPGCA, convergence of efforts towards the common and overarching 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should be clear and systematically maintained across the different events on Climate Action through a converging narrative. Addressing different SDGs during the COP processes should not be done through separate events or sessions but should be framing the various thematic days or events of the MPGCA to ensure synergies and convergence of efforts where climate actions are essential elements for sustainability and not another silo and reporting line (including on indicators).

- d) **Communicating with impact** the work of the Marrakech Partnership and developing coherent messages that are tailored and delivered to different audiences.

*Proposed specific actions:*

- Knowledge management: Documenting good practices and evidence and returns on investment on climate action for mitigation adaptation and resilience across and within sectors should be done and all actors are responsible for this. Donor could play a key role in the promotion of knowledge management and allocation if additional small resources, as they could make of this exercise a request when funding climate resilience programme and interventions.
- Donors and sector-leading agencies could also facilitate knowledge platforms, accessible to the different audiences for climate actions by public-private and community actors and across and within priority sectors.
  - FAO has a standard and quite simple approach for documenting and sharing good practices for the resilience of the agriculture and food related sector that can be made available for the MPGCA (see KORE platform: <http://www.fao.org/in-action/kore/en/> ) and can be adopted for documenting and sharing climate action at different levels and in different sectors.

**Q2. How could interaction and communication between Parties and non-Party stakeholders be enhanced? How could the high-level champions contribute to that enhancement?**

*Refer to answer 1. A)*

**Q3. What obstacles and barriers do you face in taking enhanced action and engaging stakeholders?**



- Promote better communication and collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders during various events in and outside the COP processes, in order to enhance convergence of engagement and action with a common understanding of the sense of urgency and interdependency on one another. For this, access to relevant experts and resources could be facilitated during the COP and SB and regional climate weeks, but also during the High Level Political Forum for the SDGs.
- Promote the collection, validation and dissemination and access of climate resilience good practices at all levels for knowledge management driving decision making, policies and investment.
- Assist in developing a common narrative on climate action for mitigation, adaptation and resilience across and within key sectors to foster better understanding and collaboration between interconnected sectors on which development and well being depend.
- Mobilize medium to long term finance for climate action that would facilitate the upscale of most relevant interventions across and with priority sectors such as energy, water and agriculture and food systems.
- Provide support for the development and investment in specific instruments for climate resilience and adaptation to address the continued adaptation finance gap where less than 5% of total climate finance is attributable to adaptation.

***Q4. What could the high-level champions and the Marrakech Partnership do to increase Parties' access to relevant experts and resources?***

- All the high-level events should have interpretation services that are not depending on the funds of the different organisers, in order to guarantee accessibility to all and all should be web streamed and made more easily available over time on the UNFCCC website.
- An open access directory of different stakeholders could be made available online, providing general information of the work and resources that the different stakeholders could offer to the Parties to support their efforts in enhancing climate action across levels and sectors.
- Linkages between Koronivia on agriculture and the MPGCA Land Use discussions and outcome document should be made. At the moment these are parallel discussions isolating parties in Koronivia and non-parties on MPGCA land use event.

***Q5. How can non-Party stakeholders best support Parties and vice versa in the implementation of the Paris Agreement?***

- Multi-stake holder platforms at national and sub-national levels could be established for the design of policies and strategies and for the implementation of climate action at local level and for priority themes or sectors and for feeding the bottom-up UNFCCC process at global and regional levels.
- Thematic teams could play a more systematic role as broker/facilitator... or knowledge sharing, type of funding sources etc. The MPGCA thematic themes and cross-cutting resilience and finance themes could make available through dedicated sites or platforms a directory on sources of funds (public and private), providing areas of support, focus regions-countries and main requirements and information on calls for proposals on climate action.



## 2. Thematic and cross-cutting areas

The Marrakech Partnership is structured around seven thematic areas (energy, land use, human settlements, industry, transport, water, and oceans and coastal zones) with specific cross-cutting areas (finance, health, resilience, gender, education and decent work) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) being focus areas for a particular year. As outlined in the indicative work programme, the focus in 2019 will be on finance and resilience, in addition to on four specific SDGs<sup>1</sup>. Efforts will also be made to engage with media and communication specialists and networks and to reach out to the constituted bodies, as appropriate, to facilitate greater collaboration between Parties and non-Party stakeholders, promoting integrated approaches to adaptation and mitigation and highlighting innovative technologies and capacity-building opportunities.

**Q6. *Considering each of the thematic areas, cross-cutting areas, SDGs and priorities outlined in the indicative work programme, should any specific high-impact topics that address the greatest needs of Parties be discussed?***

- Refer to answer 1. A)
- It would be also important to try to extract from each MPGCA thematic priority and outcome document, what are the similar type of action in order to regroup some of these and identify some solutions that are generating several benefits (i.e. sequestration of carbon in soil by increasing organic matter through some appropriate conservation agriculture farm practices, leading to increased soil fertility and production, mitigation, adaptation and resilience to climate extreme and variability).

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## OPERATIONAL APPROACH

### 3. Regional climate weeks

The high-level champions began their engagement in the regional climate weeks in 2018 and the lessons learned from their experience will be taken forward this year. The intention is to catalyse concrete climate action on the ground, in particular in developing countries, and to facilitate regionally relevant discussion and interaction among and between Parties and non-Party stakeholders. Although the list remains open, the following regions have been scheduled so far for climate weeks in 2019:

- a) Africa (to take place in Accra, Ghana, from 18 to 22 March 2019);
- b) Latin America and the Caribbean (to take place in Salvador, Brazil, from 19 to 23 August 2019);
- c) Asia-Pacific (to take place in China or Bangkok, Thailand (TBC), from 2 to 6 September 2019).

**Q7. *Why do you attend the regional climate weeks and what would incentivize you to participate regularly?***

- 1) The Regional Climate Weeks provide the opportunity to ensure consistence of the MPGCA work throughout the year and mainstream the seven thematic and specific cross-cutting areas, such as resilience and the SDGs, into local climate action in a given region and its different contexts. A closer alignment of the thematic areas of the MPGCA and the respective Climate

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<sup>1</sup> SDG 6: clean water; SDG 7: affordable and clean energy; SDG 14: life below water; and SDG 15: life on land.



Weeks would be helpful to further ensure a continuity of climate actions and make an ongoing participation even more fruitful. For example the African Climate Week is only taking up two themes of the MPGCA (Cities and Energy) while other themes like land use, resilience and land use are missing. The agenda or programme of the regional climate weeks should be coherent with the themes of the MPGCA to promote continuity in its narrative and climate actions.

- 2) The events provide the important opportunity to link global climate policy making to regional, national, sub-national and local actors and initiatives, comprising public, private and community stakeholders. They provide a platform to promote and showcase local solutions and good practices and enable initiatives, entrepreneurs and youth to link up with regional and local policy makers, businesses and organizations, which can facilitate the scaling up of their climate actions.
- 3) They further enable to promote a thematic coherence and synergies between the global agendas and conferences like the Paris Agreement, the Global Platforms for DRR and the HLPF for the SDGs, and in 2019 also the SG Climate Summit. Thus, they should enable coherent, ongoing work on climate action, which builds upon outcomes and solutions across regions, policy and implementation levels as well as sectors. The regional weeks should also take up priorities and local solutions into the global climate policy processes in order to create a two ways flow.
- 4) From a sectoral perspective, participation in the Climate Weeks provides the opportunity to further promote climate resilience as a main cross-cutting theme in global and local climate action, thus strengthening sectoral ambitions and actions for building resilient agriculture and food systems together with local actors.

**Q8. Who would you like to meet at such events?**

In order to best merge global climate ambition and concrete local action and to enable a scaling up of those actions, the regional Climate Weeks should link up regional and national policy makers, regional businesses with entrepreneurs, initiatives, local organization, small scale farmers, women, indigenous people and the youth. This would facilitate and enable blended measures and blended financial investments of public and private actors, the development and facilitation of locally owned solutions and provide a joint forum for businesses, initiatives and various authorities at all levels.

It would be essential that the regional climate weeks enable the understanding and ownership of the climate processes by local actors. Through their participation, local actors of a given region should feel that this is their platform to allow them to promote their own priorities and solutions and interact with the parties also.

Engagement with local private investors and sources of capital as well as with local SMEs and entrepreneurs involved in climate resilience technologies and solutions across and within sectors can also begin to demonstrate the return on investment for adaptation and climate resilience and the development of private sector capacity to drive climate resilience in those sectors most at risk.

**4. Technical examination processes on mitigation and adaptation**



In accordance with decision 13/CP.23, the high-level champions will continue to support the technical expert meetings by, inter alia, recommending appropriate expert organizations, practitioners and other non-Party stakeholders from the Marrakech Partnership that can highlight case studies and solutions to enhance the technical discussion and exchange, including at the regional level, through the regional climate weeks. The policy options and opportunities identified at the meetings will inform the development of the relevant summaries for policymakers. The most recent summary for policymakers was published in October 2018<sup>2</sup>.

**Q9. Are the messages and recommendations in the summaries for policymakers useful and clear? How could they be enhanced and made more effective?**

- The messages and recommendations for policymakers could be more impactful if structured in line with the MPGCA themes and cross-cutting issues.
- The messages and recommendations of the most recent summary are not referring at all to land use or agriculture and its subsectors. This can create diversion and the wrong impression among policymakers.
- Overall, it is important to make sector-specific recommendations because this is matching the institutional and policy structure of the parties and would fit their decision making, policy and funding processes.
- The need to strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable to climate shocks and stresses could be highlighted more strongly. Overall, the need to enhance resilience to climate shocks and stresses is missing in the recommendations.
- The need to engage private investors and private companies in investment and development of technologies and solutions to climate resilience should also be noted.

## 5. Tracking and reporting voluntary action

The second edition of the *Yearbook of Global Climate Action 2018*<sup>3</sup> was released before COP 24 in November 2018 and aimed to synthesize the key messages and trends in relation to climate action from that year. To facilitate distribution and accessibility, it was published solely in electronic format on the UNFCCC website. Meanwhile, a revamped version of the NAZCA portal<sup>4</sup> was launched in September 2018. The NAZCA portal should be further enhanced to provide a continuously evolving picture of the voluntary commitments, action and progress of non-Party stakeholders and initiatives.

**Q10. Is the Yearbook, as currently formatted and presented, a useful tool for Parties? Are the key messages clear and useful? How could it be improved?**

- Although case studies are presented in the Yearbook 2018 by thematic areas, the overall structure of the document and table of contents does not indicate any clear linkage to the thematic areas and cross-cutting themes of the MPGCA, unlike the 2017 Yearbook.

<sup>2</sup> See <http://unfccc.int/resource/climateaction2020/spm/introduction/index.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Available at [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GCA\\_Yearbook2018.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/GCA_Yearbook2018.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> <http://climateaction.unfccc.int/>.



- The content structure of the 2017 and 2018 Yearbooks would benefit from alignment (similar structure of chapters), building on the respective key messages of the past year, so that progress can be measured throughout time scales.
- Cross-cutting themes such as resilience to climate shocks and stresses are not presented at all and feature only under thematic areas and general recommendations.
- It would be useful to link the MPGCA outcome document key messages of the previous year with the messages developed for the next year Yearbook. Something is not working in the sequence of yearbook and culmination of the MPGCA dialogue?
- The key messages for pre-2020 action in the 2018 Yearbook would be more useful to Parties if they are sector-specific and structured alongside the thematic areas and cross-cutting themes of the MPGCA and linked to the SDGs.
- Overall, the key messages of the 2018 Yearbook are only one page in total and very general, not action-oriented and/or practical, thus not very useful for policy makers from a sector perspective.
- On global policy processes, synergies with The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the role of DRR, essential for the achievement of the Paris Goals and overall SDGs, is not featured at all, and needs to be included. That applies also for linkages with the Biodiversity Convention-CBD, and the desertification Convention-UNCCD, etc.

***Q11. What is your feedback on the revamped NAZCA portal? Is the information useful for Parties? What other types of information and features should be added? What do you need to promote NAZCA and help mobilize non-Party stakeholders and initiatives to register their actions?***

- This is a very good initiative and similar to other tracking systems such as the OCHA Financial Tracking System, etc.
- It is very important to be able to verify if registered actions are not just pledges, but real ones being actually funded and implemented.
- In order to improve quality and reliability of information, it would be useful to add web links to and a short abstract of the featured actions as a minimum condition to register action so that interested parties and non-party stakeholders can further explore the registered actions and not just looking at a title and some statistics.
- The types of stakeholders could be further expanded, including: national and local governments, academia etc.
- The types of action filter list is not capturing the full range of interventions needed across and within sectors and it would be good to have an in depth face to face discussion to shape this up together and perhaps during the next MPGCA partners meeting?
- The cross-cutting themes filter list is including mitigation and resilience, but not adaptation. It is also much broader than the cross-cutting themes of the MPGCA. It should not include any sector which are already part of the MPGCA themes.
- The SDG filter list is very useful.
- The climate resilience team is ready to assist the UNFCCC team for further improving and sharpening this good initial NAZCA portal across and within sectors. And it should also be promoted during the regional climate weeks to capture more regional national, sub-national and local climate actions.

## 6. Marrakech Partnership activities at COPs





Since COP 22 the high-level event on global climate action, complemented by a full programme of action events and round tables, has been convened during sessions of the COP to highlight the progress made throughout the year, showcase transformational action and provide a space for dialogue between Party representatives and non-Party stakeholders. In addition, convening activities to take place during the regional climate weeks may help to distribute those activities and engagement with Parties throughout the year.

**Q12. Are the high-level and action events and round tables held at the COPs in their current format useful? How could they be made more impactful and accessible?**

- 1) The high-level events and especially the high-level roundtables provide important conversations and outcomes with essential guidance for the work on climate action around the year. The broad involvement of actors from private and the public sectors, initiatives and organizations as well as the most vulnerable, thereby enable the development of shared narratives that can boost climate actions continuously over several years. The outcome documents, providing their framing is remaining over time and not change too much from one year to the next, can therefore provide common ambition, reference and targets which can be used as benchmarks for the development further actions while at the same time track progress.
- 2) However, the events could benefit from further interlinkages and stronger synergies and coherence. A closer alignment of focus areas, discussion points and outcomes between the different thematic events could allow to further break sectoral silos, inform on respective actions and enable closer alignment of concrete initiatives and interventions. More references to and discussion of outcomes from other events during the roundtables or panel discussions could ensure mutual awareness and understanding between the thematic areas and allow for more combined and coherent climate action.
- 3) High-level roundtable format is extremely useful if it brings private-public and community perspectives together and allow for a greater involvement of the most vulnerable and tailor solutions and climate action to their needs and together with them and by them.
- 4) A greater interlinkage of the respective themes and outcomes between the MPGCA events, other side events and negotiations could additionally reinforce ambitions and enable coherence and cooperation between sectors and different actors.
- 5) Continued engagement with private investors, strategic corporate actors, and SMEs around finance, innovation, and local capacity is a useful feature of the roundtable format, which enables the private sector to share perspectives and align action with policy and practices.

#### **7. The United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Summit in 2019<sup>5</sup>:**

The high-level champions and Marrakech Partnership stakeholders will proactively engage to prepare for the United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Summit in 2019 and demonstrate their contribution to the Summit of a broad set of impactful initiatives, solutions and action.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.un.org/en/climatechange/>



**Q13. How can the high-level champions and the Marrakech Partnership best contribute to the Secretary-General's 2019 Climate Summit?**

- The SG Summit organizational structure is not matching with the MPGCA themes and cross-cutting issues, and the land use or agriculture and food sectors are missing. The role of agriculture and food system is a key for climate resilience and for delivering across the SDGs. At present it is indicated as a sub-set of Nature-based-Solutions and this is misleading, creating non-coherence within the global discussions such as COP24 and 25 and the MPGCA.
- Make sure, sectors that are most affected and at the same time significantly contribute to Climate Change, such as agriculture, are featured prominently. While in MPGCA, agriculture is part of the land-use theme, in the SG Summit it is divided under NbS and Resilience which is not reflecting the vital role and much needed transformation of the agriculture and food sectors.
- Make sure, COP24 outcomes and key messages from the MPGCA events are driving the agenda and are mainstreamed into the Climate Summit discussions.
- Mainstream key outcomes from the Climate Summit into the COP25 MPGCA and negotiations and subsequent regional climate weeks.
- Since the Summit will not have a negotiated outcome, the high-level champions' role is to actively engage in promoting the Chair's Summary of the concrete outcomes delivered during the Summit, in particular in regards to concrete action on the ground serving the needs of the most vulnerable and leaving no one behind. Thus bridging the gap between global ambition and local level action.
- Ahead of the UNSG climate summit, continue to support engagement with private investors, companies, and SMEs as part of the focus on building climate resilience and adaptation finance. A consistent message including the private sector across climate resilience activities would be very welcome.

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**LOOKING AHEAD**

**8. Post-2020 outlook**

Ramping up pre-2020 action remains a top priority and focus. In addition, as the mandate for the high-level champions ends in 2020, this may also be a good time to receive some initial views on the potential role of the high-level champions beyond 2020, reflecting on experience so far.

**14. Is there a need to discuss the possibility of a post-2020 role for the high-level champions? How could the current champions facilitate such discussion?**

- With a growing role and responsibility of non-state actors in scaling up climate action across and within sectors and putting pressure on parties to take decisions that support the achievement of the Paris Agreement for the overall 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, we see an increasingly important role of the Climate Champions in supporting the non-state actor MPGCA and to bridge parties and non-party stakeholder interests. The mandate of the high level champions post-2020 should be revisited and much reinforced for the benefit of all and in particular for bringing the views from private and community actors altogether.



**Q15. Could the high-level champions be more helpful in the implementation of the Paris Agreement beyond 2020?**

- Yes absolutely, the champion's role and help will be even more meaningful beyond 2020.

**Q16. What key functions of the high-level champions would be useful to take forward beyond 2020?**

- Provide a platform and facilitate dialogue between state and non-state actors, public, private and community stakeholders across and within sectors most at risk from climate change
- Strengthen the voice of non-state actor stakeholders through the MPGCA
- Champion and raise the ambition of climate action at scale in a coherent manner across and within sectors and based on a shared narrative, creating a common language for climate adaptation and resilience
- Emphasize on the different and most urgent needs of most vulnerable countries and people, such as SIDS, Sub-Saharan countries and LDCs.