

Information note on the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation by the Chairs of the Subsidiary Bodies

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8 February 2023

I. Introduction

A. Background

1. The Paris Agreement, in its Article 7.1, established the global goal on adaptation (GGA) of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2 of the Agreement. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) decided, at its third session, to establish and launch a comprehensive two-year Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation (hereafter, the GGA work programme), to start immediately after CMA 3 and be carried out jointly by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) (decision 7/CMA.3) with the support of the secretariat.

2. In 2022, four workshops were convened under the work programme, alongside negotiation sessions on the work programme during SB 56 and SB 57, and under CMA 4. CMA 4 welcomed progress made in the first year of the work programme and provided guidance for the second year, which will conclude at CMA 5, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in November–December 2023.

3. This information note seeks to provide further clarity on the implementation of the GGA work programme in 2023, and could act as a guide for Parties and observers as they continue contributing to the work programme.

4. The note should be read in conjunction with decision 3/CMA.4, as well as all previous documents related to the work programme, which are available on the [GGA web page](#).¹

5. We see a successful and ambitious outcome on the global goal on adaptation as one of our key priorities for 2023. We want to work with all Parties and will be fully engaged throughout this year, and we look forward to following the work programme and negotiations closely. We will be working with the secretariat to ensure the workshops fulfil the objectives of the work programme, and that they provide a strong substantive basis for the global goal on adaptation. Finally, we would like to thank the former SB Chairs, Mr. Tosi Mpanu Mpanu and Ms. Marianne Karlsen for their leadership during the first part of the work programme.

II. Overview and objectives of the work programme

6. Decision 7/CMA.3 established the two-year Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation, to be carried out by the subsidiary bodies. As agreed, the objectives of the work programme should be to, inter alia:

¹ <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/glasgow-sharm-el-sheikh-WP-GGA>.

(a) Enable the full and sustained implementation of the Paris Agreement, towards achieving the global goal on adaptation, with a view to enhancing adaptation action and support;

(b) Enhance understanding of the global goal on adaptation, including of the methodologies, indicators, data and metrics, needs and support needed for assessing progress towards it;

(c) Contribute to reviewing the overall progress made in achieving the global goal on adaptation as part of the global stocktake referred to in Article 7, paragraph 14, and Article 14 of the Paris Agreement with a view to informing the first and subsequent global stocktakes (GST);

(d) Enhance national planning and implementation of adaptation actions through the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans and through nationally determined contributions and adaptation communications;

(e) Enable Parties to better communicate their adaptation priorities, implementation and support needs, plans and actions, including through adaptation communications and nationally determined contributions;

(f) Facilitate the establishment of robust, nationally appropriate systems for monitoring and evaluating adaptation actions;

(g) Strengthen implementation of adaptation actions in vulnerable developing countries;

(h) Enhance understanding of how communication and reporting instruments established under the Convention and the Paris Agreement related to adaptation can complement each other in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

7. In accordance with the mandate, four workshops were conducted in 2022 under the guidance of the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies with the support of the secretariat, as follows:

Workshop 1: Enhancing understanding of the global goal on adaptation and reviewing progress towards it, 8–9 June 2022.

Workshop 2: Enhancing adaptation action and support, 30–31 August 2022.

Workshop 3: Methodologies, indicators, data and metrics, monitoring and evaluation, 17–18 October 2022.

Workshop 4: Communicating and reporting on adaptation priorities, 5 November 2022.

8. Prior to the four workshops in 2022, at SB 57, an IPCC event on the contributions of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report was held.

9. Parties and observers were invited to submit views on the work programme and on specific workshops via the UNFCCC submission portal, which contributed to the substantive and logistical aspects of the work programme.

10. The previous workshop reports, as well as other documents, can be found at the GGA work programme [web page](#).²

11. Decision 3/CMA.4, provided further guidance on substance, modalities and timing of the workshops and their deliverables, including:

(a) Initiating the development of a framework for the global goal on adaptation to be undertaken through a structured approach under the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme in 2023 (paras 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the decision);

² <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/workstreams/glasgow-sharm-el-sheikh-WP-GGA>.

(b) Identifying areas to be taken into account when designing the workshops (para 20 of the decision);

(c) Specifying timelines and modalities for the workshops, submissions and reports (paras 12, 13, 14 and 15 of the decision);

(d) Setting out timelines for submissions (paras 16, 17, and 18, of the decision).

III. Planning for 2023

A. Modalities

12. In line with the mandate from decision 3/CMA.4, the GGA workshops will take place in March, June (in conjunction with SB 58), August and late September or early October 2023. The dates and venues are yet to be finalized, but it is our intention that this information will be shared well in advance of the workshops to allow participants adequate preparation time.

13. Each workshop will take place in person, with the option of active virtual participation. We will strive to ensure balanced geographical representation and that logistical and time zone challenges are considered during planning.

14. Following concerns raised by some participants regarding the 2022 workshops, and to ensure equal participation for those attending virtually from different time zones, the 2023 workshops will be spread over longer time periods but with fewer hours per day, for example, 4–6 hours per day, over 3 days. Further information will be made available in due course.

15. The workshop modalities will include breakout groups, facilitated panel discussions, and presentations by Parties, relevant UNFCCC constituted bodies, organizations, experts, and practitioners. We welcome new modalities suggested by Parties and observers for greater interaction and inclusivity.

B. Themes

16. Taking into account the guidance provided in decision 3/CMA.4 paragraph 20, we propose the following preliminary themes and timeline for organizing the workshops to take place in 2023. In these preliminary themes, we have incorporated all the issues included in paragraph 20 of decision 3/CMA.4. We foresee starting with the theme of changing mindsets and then continuing with the theme of zooming in and zooming out, and concluding with taking stock of the work programme.

17. **Workshop 5:** Changing mindsets and worldviews towards transformation in adaptation, with the inclusion of indigenous peoples' wisdom, values and knowledge and consideration of cross-cutting issues included in paragraph 20 (g) (e) of decision 3/CMA.4.³

18. This workshop theme covers the proposals in 3/CMA.4 paragraph 20(g) Changes in mindsets and world views towards transformation in adaptation, with the inclusion of indigenous peoples' wisdom, values and knowledge; and (e) Gender-responsiveness; intergenerational and gender equity and social justice; ecosystem- and community-based adaptation; governance at the local, national and regional level; transboundary approaches; private sector engagement; traditional, local and indigenous peoples' knowledge; and human rights.

19. Additionally, we took into consideration that Working Group II of the IPCC AR6 highlighted transformative adaptation as a major opportunity and that “transformations are often considered to involve deeper and more fundamental changes than transitions,

³ Short title: Transformational adaptation: changing mindsets, indigenous wisdom, and cross-cutting issues.

including changes to underlying values, worldviews, ideologies, structures, and power relationships”, and it is our assessment that an ambitious GGA should have transformation at its centre. Therefore, we believe that this aligns with the objectives of the work programme.

20. **Workshop 6:** Zooming in: Target-setting, metrics, methodologies and indicators for the GGA as well as steps of an iterative adaptation cycle and means of implementation, taking account of the systems and sectors set out by the IPCC, and of options for enhancing efforts to mainstream adaptation in national priority areas or sectors (para 20(a)(b)(c)(d) of 3/CMA.4).⁴

21. This workshop theme covers the areas in decision 3/CMA.4, paragraph 20(a), Target-setting, metrics, methodologies and indicators for the global goal on adaptation; (b) Means of implementation for achieving the global goal on adaptation; (c) The steps of an iterative adaptation cycle: risk and impact assessment; planning; implementation; and monitoring, evaluation and learning; and (d) The systems and sectors set out in the contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, with a focus on exploring options for enhancing efforts to mainstream adaptation in national priority areas or sectors.

22. In designing the workshop, it is important to build on and explore further relevant work under the GGA work programme, including the compilation and synthesis of indicators, approaches, targets and metrics for reviewing overall progress in achieving the global goal on adaptation,⁵ which built on the 2021 technical report by the Adaptation Committee⁶, as well as relevant deliberations of the 2022 workshops.

23. **Workshop 7:** Zooming out: Interfacing the GGA with other processes, including a specific focus/session on the GST process (para 20(i) of decision 3/CMA.4).⁷

24. This workshop theme covers the areas in decision 3/CMA.4 paragraph 20(i) the global stocktake. How the GGA provides input to the GST has been a common theme raised throughout the work programme so far, and therefore we believe it would be beneficial to have a dedicated workshop on this topic. The GGA must provide at least some substantial input to the first GST this year, and while we recognize the challenge of the concurrent GST and GGA timelines, holding this workshop after the completion of the technical assessment phase would provide participants with the best available knowledge and understanding on this issue.

25. **Workshop 8:** Taking stock of the Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme: transforming towards an adapted/resilient world, building on:

- recent scientific research/knowledge/assessment/understanding
- action and support towards that transformation (para 20(f)(h) of 3/CMA.4).⁸

26. This workshop theme covers the areas in decision 3/CMA.4 paragraph 20(f) The stocktake of the Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme and (h) Recent scientific research relevant to the global goal on adaptation. As the final workshop before CMA 5, we believe it would be beneficial to assess progress made during the two-year work programme. Alongside this, having the opportunity to examine the latest science and research, and to understand what actions are needed to reach an adapted and resilient world will be vital in informing the overall outcome of the GGA. Our hope is that this workshop will feed into the GGA annual report, and for all participants to be prepared and informed before the negotiations in Dubai, to ensure an ambitious outcome is reached.

⁴ Short title: Mainstreaming adaptation: Target-setting, methodologies and indicators.

⁵ <https://unfccc.int/documents/613843>.

⁶ <https://unfccc.int/documents/309030>.

⁷ Short title: Interfacing the GGA with other processes.

⁸ Short title: Taking stock of the Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme.

C. Communication of information and views

27. To help improve the free flow of ideas and views on the implementation of the work programme, we would like to maintain and improve the continuous flow of communication between us, the SB Chairs, and Parties and observers during and between sessions. Our hope is for greater mutual understanding and increased engagement of Parties and observers. Thus, as part of ongoing activities for the GGA:

(a) The work programme [webpage](#) has been updated to help effective navigation and keep the interface simple.

(b) The secretariat, under our (the subsidiary body Chairs') guidance, will publish the concept note, including guiding questions, no later than two weeks before each workshop, taking into account Parties' and observers' views from their submissions. Following each workshop, a summary report will be published; an annual report will also be published three weeks prior to CMA 5 (9 November), and will include an analysis of the outcomes of the eight workshops.

28. The Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme is ultimately part of a Party driven process, and thus Parties' and observers' views are vital to this process. Decision 3/CMA.4 established the timeline for submissions, and we would like to encourage both Parties and observers to use this opportunity to contribute their views. Submissions should be uploaded via the UNFCCC submission portal.

29. The timeline is structured around these deadlines:

(a) By end February 2023: General views on the 2023 workshops, including questions related to the themes of those workshops;

(b) Throughout the year, but no later than three weeks before a specific workshop: Any additional views on that workshop, such as guiding questions or suggested topics for discussion. Submissions received less than three weeks before may not be taken into account;

(c) Following the final workshop: Views on the outcomes of and work conducted under the Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme.

30. We recognize the importance of identifying discussion topics in the concept notes early enough to allow Parties to nominate the most relevant experts. In this regard, please note that any delay in making submissions by Parties and observers will also likely delay the preparation of concept notes by the secretariat, which will consequently leave Parties with less time to prepare before each workshop.

D. Timeline for 2023

31. In accordance with the timing identified in decision 3/CMA.4, the timeline of the activities and deliverables of the GGA work programme in 2023 is as follows:

Activity and deliverables	Indicative Date
Parties and observers to provide views via the submission portal on the 2023 workshops	By end of February 2023
Parties to provide additional views via the submission portal on specific workshops	Three weeks before each workshop
Concept note for each workshop	Two weeks before each workshop
Fifth workshop	March
Sixth workshop	June, SB 58
Negotiations under the subsidiary bodies	June, SB 58
Seventh workshop	August
Eighth workshop	Late September / early October

Summary report of each workshop	Three weeks following each workshop
Parties to provide views via the submission portal on the outcomes of work conducted under the work programme	Prior to CMA5 and well in advance of annual report publication (9 Nov 2023)
Annual Report	9 November
SBs to report to CMA 5	30 November–12 December
